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The Sun.

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VOL. LV.—NO. 175. NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1888. PRICE TWO CENTS.

ALL WANT THE CONVENTION.

SAN FRANCISCO, CHICAGO, AND ST. LOUIS IN A SCRAMBLE.

William Steinway to be Made a Member of the Committee—New York's Turn Will Come when the Other Cities have Destroyed Each Other's Chances—The California Boom Depressed—Chicago Claims Everything, and So Does St. Louis—The April 30 Constitutional Amendment in Suspense—Other Live Washington News.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21.—William Steinway will be elected as New York's member of the National Democratic Committee at to-morrow's meeting, unless there is an unexpected change in the situation.

He represents neither of the city factions and his name stands for Democratic harmony. Richard Croker, ex-Register Reilly, James Martin, and the other Tammany leaders, and all the other New York Democrats in Washington say, the selection will give satisfaction to the entire party. Edward Cooper's name was mentioned at one time by some of his friends, but as he is an active member of the County Democracy and a member of the State Committee, it was thought best to take an outside man. The New Yorkers will go before the committee to-morrow prepared to make a strong case for New York as the Convention city.

The Hon. S. S. Cox will be their eloquent spokesman. The New Yorkers will tender the use of Madison Square Garden rent free for a convention hall; the hotel men will present seductive schedules of low rates and unlimited rooms, and the Tammany Committee will offer to defray all the incidental expenses of the Convention. Mr. Croker says they can and will do more to make the Convention comfortable and happy than any other city in the country. Coney Island and its breezes lie at the door, and the other attractions that will be offered are innumerable.

The New York men are not trying to secure pledges of votes from the committeemen, and put forth no claim. They will let Chicago, St. Louis, and San Francisco fight it out, in the hope that when the break comes New York may stand a chance. It is only a slim chance, it must be confessed.

The situation to-night leaves Chicago ahead and St. Louis close behind her, with San Francisco's strength waning and uncertain. The Californians started their boom too soon, and it shows signs of collapse. Chicago and St. Louis both grew alarmed at San Francisco's strength this morning, and united in attacking it. They were successful in stealing away several votes between them, and the delegation from the Pacific city is greatly depressed over the losses to-night.

The St. Louis men feel somewhat elated over the situation, and expect to profit most when the San Francisco votes break. The Chicago canvass is well in hand, however, and insiders predict the choice of the Lake City as the outcome of the contest. It is pretty certain that no city will have over a third of the committee on the first ballot, and the three leading ones will be pretty nearly even in strength, with three or four votes for New York and one or two for Cincinnati.

The powerful influences are all for Chicago. Bradley B. Smalley of Vermont, who has named the winning city for sixteen years in succession, and who has a great deal to do in helping select such a place, says Chicago is sure to get it. Mr. Gorman's bid for San Francisco is admitted, but against him are set Scott, Barnum, and the proxies of Dickinson and Vilas—managing talent enough and sound sense. There are four votes in the Chicago list, as trotted up by the enthusiastic canvassers, are also the votes of Colorado, Delaware, Georgia, and on the second ballot Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Vermont, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. The Chicago men count on Arizona and New Mexico on the second ballot, and declare that the District of Columbia delegate, Senator McPherson's man from New Jersey, and Maine are to be their legacies as the contest goes on.

Capt. Dawson of the Charleston *News and Courier* speaks opening chime in San Francisco, and will probably get in the Chicago car before the fight is over. The St. Louis men are all beginning to find that their "pledged" men are many of them exceedingly doubtful, and that proxies and promises are not always synonymous.

Dr. Shields, the manager of the St. Louis boom, was rather quiet to-day, even amid the great noise and confusion which came from behind the row of evergreen trees, where the free bar was managed. Proprietor Staples glided by with a sad smile.

"Maybe he thinks our bar hurts his business," said the Doctor, thoughtfully.

Mayor Francis was out most of the evening, seeking men whom he knew. The room was filled with a jam, such as shut off all effective work, and grew noisier as the night progressed.

The St. Louians claimed to have as much right to grow jubilant over the bursting of the 'Frisco bubble as the Chicago men. They met this morning and, for an hour or so, discussed the situation, figured up the number of votes they would get on the first ballot and perfected their arrangements.

The St. Louis delegation was augmented last night by the arrival of Dr. Mumford, proprietor of the Kansas City *Times*, and Editor J. N. Edwards of the same paper.

Their canvass clashes with that of Chicago, but it may be given for the sake of comparison. The St. Louis folks put down Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, Texas, and the district on the first ballot. It will be seen that Chicago holds two of these already, and will be likely to keep them.

What the St. Louis folks are doing now is devoting themselves ardently to urging an early date on the Convention. The decision by the touch influential of the members last night that a late date was the one practicable, is fortified by the committee, as it seems likely to be, will effectually decide the case.

The St. Louis men are doing an enormous amount of coddling among the California men, and firing strong shots of all sorts at Chicago. The claim that it is a Republican city in a Republican State under Republican government was put out again to-day. One form of it actually was that Chicago's Republican Mayor and police would do all they could to lock up visitors, get the Convention into trouble, and thus make a general discord.

The Chicago men will go into committee to-morrow well prepared to answer this. They got a telegram from Mayor Roche this afternoon which promises the fullest protection the city can afford to any strangers.

The New Britain delegation has been reenforced by the Hon. Don Carlos French and Miles Tobey Granger, who presided at the Malley trial. They claim that William H. Barnum is with them, and, under Mr. Barnum's advice, they have effected a coalition with the St. Louis delegation. This probably accounts for the *entente cordiale* between the New York and San Francisco committees. Robert B. Vance and Col. Healy of New Haven are confident that when the break comes New Britain will come to the front.

After removing the injunction of secrecy from the fisheries treaty to-day, the Senate debated for more than an hour the policy of having the treaty considered with open doors. The Senate adjourned without action to-day, but enough was said to show that a majority of Senators are in favor of discussing this treaty at least with open doors.

The Judiciary Committee reported to-day a joint resolution proposing the following amendments to the Constitution:

1. Polygamy shall not exist or be lawful within the United States, or in any place subject to their jurisdiction.

2. Polygamy shall consist in marriage relation, by contract or in fact, existing at the same time between one person of either sex and more than one person of the other sex.

3. Congress shall have power, concurrent with the several States, to enforce this act.

The Hoar amendment extending the term of the President and Congress to April 30, 1889, was not defeated in the House yesterday. It simply failed to pass under a suspension of the rules, and resumed its place on the calendar, to be taken up again at any time. It was advocated because the weather here is generally more favorable during the latter week of April than the first week in March, because Washington was inaugurated on that day, and because by the adoption the short session of Congress would be extended eight weeks. The first reason counted for nothing; the second, although sentimental, was of no high an order of sentimentality that it had a great weight, but the third reason, that plainly rolled upon by the friends of the measure, worked to its injury. The Crain amendment, which provides that Congressmen shall begin their term of service on Jan. 1 and then meet, is not only intended to do away with short sessions of Congress altogether, but to prevent any House from sitting and doing business after its successor, often, of different politics, is chosen, and also to bring Congress together within two months after election. These two Constitutional amendments are so antagonistic to each other, though both have been favorably reported from the House Judiciary Committee, that friends of the Crain amendment could not support the Hoar amendment. Whether those interested in the latter will support the former is an open question. Chairman Culbertson of the House Judiciary Committee said to-night that he did not believe that either amendment could get the necessary two-thirds vote. He was confident that no proposition to make the terms of the President and Congress commence at different times could possibly get through. He did not think that the House regarded as an evil a session of a Congress after its successor had been elected. Most of the important legislation of late years had been perfected during the short session, and he supposed it would always be so. He had heard to-day of a compromise proposition which he thought might, perhaps, be substituted for both amendments.

The bill to incorporate the Washington Cable Electric Railway of the District of Columbia was taken up in the Senate to-day. Mr. Gorman moved to increase the proposed rate of taxation from four per cent. of the gross receipts to ten per cent. The history of street railroads in New York within the last couple of years showed that the proposed rate was moderate, he said. If the charter were put up for sale at auction it would sell for half a million dollars with ten per cent. on the gross receipts.

Mr. McPherson argued that the amendment was exceedingly liberal to the company, and thought that if the tax was put at twenty per cent., the company would willingly pay it.

Mr. Riddleberger denounced the amendment as meaning a railroad by Rock Creek and as being in the interest of Baltimore, "the Jew store of the country," and he referred to Mr. Gorman several times as the "Chairman of the Congressional Committee of the Democratic party," who desired, he said, "to make Washington an outlying suburb of Baltimore."

Finally the amendment was rejected by a tie—21 to 21.

Mr. McPherson congratulated the Democratic party of the country on the record made on this bill. No better campaign literature could be circulated on the Democratic side than the report of Saturday's proceedings. There never had been an issue so directly and distinctly drawn or so finely and decisively determined. On the one side of the chamber, with one or two exceptions, were Senators voting to give a great franchise to a corporation without adequate taxation, and on the other side were Senators voting for a moderate tax.

Mr. Riddleberger said there was no use in denying the fact that there was politics in the question, and the Senate adjourned without a final vote.

Senator Hiscock introduced a bill to-day appropriating $75,000 for the purchase of a site and the erection of a public building at Yonkers. He also introduced into the Senate the bill which Felix Campbell has assumed charge of in the House appropriating $100,000 for a monument at Fort Greene, Brooklyn, to victims of prison ships.

A WIFE'S FOOLISH ESCAPADE.

Mrs. Corning Goes Off with an Old Lover, but is Captured by her Husband.

AUBURN, Feb. 21.—There is a sensation now raging here over the elopement of Mrs. D. Erastus Corning, the young and pretty wife of the son of a wealthy shoe manufacturer, and D. Morris Kurtz, Auburn correspondent of the Syracuse *Sunday Herald*. The couple made off on Saturday afternoon, stopping in Syracuse, to which place the deserted husband and the father of the eloping wife followed them on a later train. They were located in a block on East Fayette street, and the aid of the police was invoked to effect an entrance. The latter did not dare to act without a warrant, and two special detectives were employed, but the couple made their escape and went to Elmira, where they registered at the Frazier House as "D. M. Taylor and wife, New York." Later the man purchased tickets for Chicago. At an early hour this morning Detective Seely of Syracuse arrived, accompanied by the woman's husband. The room was watched until 7½ o'clock, when Kurtz and Mrs. Corning made their appearance. The husband saw the sight of Kurtz and pulled his revolver, but the detectives prevented him from doing any damage. The wife met her husband very coolly, and, after an hour's pleading with her, Corning succeeded in persuading her to return with him to Auburn. The scene was a tearful one on the husband's part. Kurtz seemed to feel badly sold, and, after hanging around the hotel part of the day, left, he said, for Auburn. The utmost effort was made to keep the matter quiet.

Mrs. Corning had probably contemplated this step for some time, as she had removed nearly all her effects from her home at different times and shipped them to Syracuse. Her mother-in-law, with whom she made her home, told a reporter that she also missed all her son's jewelry and diamonds and $230 in gold. Mrs. Corning had engaged to go to a matinée with her on Saturday afternoon, but had pleaded a German lesson as an excuse for breaking the engagement. She then expressed her packages to her lover's rooms in Syracuse, and followed with him on the 3:15 train.

Kurtz is an old flame of Mrs. Corning, having met her during the roller skating craze, when they were constantly together at the Opera House Rink. This was before her marriage, and the couple have never associated since so far as the public knows. Mrs. Corning, whose maiden name was May Osborn, is a bright, vivacious, and pretty blonde, about 24 years of age. She has been married about two years. Mrs. Corning Sr., says that she had always appeared perfectly contented with her surroundings, seeming as happy as a bird. She had no domestic cares, took daily drives behind her own pony, and was a devoted patron of the theatre. Her good name had never been brought into question. Her home was in a rich quarter of the city, at 250 Genesee street.

BIG FAILURE IN PITTSBURGH.

A Firm of Iron Manufacturers Swamped by Heavy Investments.

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 21. Graff, Bennett & Co., iron manufacturers of this city, filed a deed of assignment to P. H. Miller of Pittsburgh to-day. The failure was a great surprise, as nothing of the kind was looked for. In 1883 the firm failed for about $1,200,000, and an extension was granted to them. Since then they have paid about two-thirds of their indebtedness, and were supposed to be doing well. The cause of the failure was the investment of all their profits in the extension of their plant. It is understood that the secured liabilities are about $600,000, and the unsecured liabilities from $600,000 to $800,000. The latter consist of notes for ore and other materials. Among the liabilities is a mortgage for $450,000 held by the New York Life Insurance Company, which is not yet due. The assets are believed to be about $800,000.

Mr. Bennett has been building a new mill at Millvale, Pa., which has been taking nearly all the cash receipts of the firm. He also bought a steel plant on Lake Champlain and iron works at Buffalo. The result of this policy, it is said, has been a heavy accumulation of indebtedness for material for the various works owned by the firm. This class of indebtedness, it is said, amounts to $500,000.

The banks with which the firm has been doing business are all well secured against any losses, and many of the principal bankers are confident that the difficulty will be tided over, and that everything will soon be satisfactorily arranged.

A Tie Vote Over the Babies' Hospital.

Judge Beach reserved his decision yesterday on the question whether or not the Babies' Hospital, which Mrs. Jane T. Smith proposes to establish on the northeast corner of Lexington avenue and Forty-sixth street, would be dangerous, offensive, and injurious to the neighbors, who think it would. Drs. Charles Schram, Charles Milne, Ellsworth Eliot, and Alexander testified that it would be a nuisance, and that the germs of disease and the odors of disinfectants might easily be communicated to neighboring dwellings. Drs. Abraham Jacobs, Walker G. Wylie, and Allen Starr testified as flatly that the hospital wouldn't be a nuisance. One of the pleasing duties of a judge of the Supreme Court is to decide when doctors disagree about their own art.

Lived Seventeen Weeks Without Food.

READING, Feb. 21.—Jacob Hollenberger, aged 20 years, died here to-day from starvation. Seventeen weeks ago, while at work, a quantity of molten iron flew down his throat. Since then he has not eaten a morsel of food. He weighed 165 pounds at the time of the accident, but was gradually reduced to 47 pounds. He suffered intensely and welcomed death.

FLOODS IN ALL THE RIVERS.

CONNECTICUT AND MASSACHUSETTS STREAMS OVER THEIR BANKS.

A Great Ice Mountain on the Thames Opposite Norwich Goes Down With a Crash—The Shetucket, Housatonic, Naugatuck, Quabaug, and Other Rivers Raging.

NORWICH, Feb. 21.—The Shetucket River, the most turbulent stream in New England, went on its annual spree to-day. At 4 o'clock this afternoon its roaring waters were flush with the stringpieces of wharves and the railroad tracks, and rising six inches an hour. Trees, timbers, fence rails, waste from mills, and thousands of tons of ice from up stream were hurled down on a giant flood. The Shetucket joins the broad expanse of the Thames River right opposite this city. The ice held in the Thames, and ice and débris from the Shetucket were piled in tumbling hills in front of the city.

At this time the track of the New London Northern Railroad on the west side was submerged for a mile under five feet of water. It went into the workshop and houses along the banks. Storekeepers on the east side became panic stricken and began to clear out their cellars, fearing a repetition of the disasters of 1876 and 1886.

At 4½ o'clock there was a tremendous accession of water and ice. The mountain of ice on the Thames River was suddenly upheaved and rent asunder with a loud explosion, and the whole mass rolled southward, a magnificent spectacle.

But before it went the torrent of pent-up water inundated the wharves and piled thousands of tons of ice, in jagged fragments and huge cakes, on the wharves and along the track of the Norwich and Worcester Railroad. Scores of men were put to work as soon as the rush of water subsided, and they hacked with pick and spade to get the mass of the banks into the river.

The track of the Northern Railroad is still under water and ice, and no trains will run before to-morrow.

The amount of the damage cannot be estimated now, as the river is still a raging torrent. On the west bank none of the numerous dams have yet burst on the Shetucket north of Norwich city, though several of them have been severely strained. Two years ago the big Ashland Company dam at Jewett City gave way, and the havoc wrought in the Shetucket River valley was over $1,000,000.

ANSONIA, Feb. 21.—The hard rains of yesterday, which continued late into the night, were accompanied by a heavy thunder storm. The storm broke up the ice in the Housatonic River from New Milford to the dam in Birmingham. At Squantuck, three miles above here, a gorge formed at 2 o'clock this morning. The river rose rapidly, and the scenes of last year were repeated. The water is two feet higher than ever known before, and the ice lies in piles for miles up the river.

Peter Tomlinson's sawmill was submerged this noon and his boiler fires were extinguished. The Methodist church on the bank of the river is completely surrounded with ice piled half way up to the roof. This afternoon a small portion of the gorge gave away, and the water is going down between Squantuck and Zoar bridge. Another gorge formed, and the ice is within three feet of the bottom of the bridge, which is thirty feet from low water mark.

Nicholas French lives in a two-story house near Zoar Bridge. The ice is piled up to the eaves of the house, and his family are living in the upper floor. They are entirely cut off from approach in any way.

At the Otter Rock the ice was lifted high above piles set in the bank to protect the road, and they are completely hidden. The road running along the bank is obliterated, the ice being twenty-five feet deep on it.

The scene far surpasses in grandeur anything that has ever been witnessed along the river. Days must elapse before roads can be cut through the mass of ice, and travel is suspended except on foot.

Eight Mile Bridge and Bidwell Bridge at Quaker Farms are both carried away.

In Naugatuck River the ice broke up during the night and partially destroyed the covered bridge connecting Ansonia and West Ansonia, so that traffic over it is suspended. The dam of the West Ansonia reservoir gave way during the night, but beyond the draining of the reservoir dry and the washing of the roads no damage was done.

PLAINS, Mass., Feb. 21.—The worst freshet in the annals of this section of western Massachusetts occurred last night. The banks of the Quabaug River were overflowed, causing great destruction. The meadows for a distance of five miles are covered with eight or ten feet of water, which has the ice piled up in some places twenty to twenty-five feet high. At noon the water was gradually subsiding and no further damage is liable to result. The cellars of houses on Water street, which runs parallel with the Quabaug, contain from five to seven feet of water, which in some instances has weakened the foundations. Quantities of provisions are stored in these cellars. The factory of J. S. Holden & Co., woollen manufacturers, is almost surrounded by water and business is suspended. A large amount of stock in the factory has been injured by water and the engine and boiler rooms are submerged in seven feet of water.

Near the factory, the large covered bridge over which the New London Railroad trains pass was lifted from its foundation and washed 200 feet from its original location. Passengers will be transferred around the washout.

The woollen factory owned by A. Smith & Co., which is located in the vicinity of Fay's Bridge, on the Monson road, was badly damaged. The ice jam tore down the brick walls of the dye house and boiler room, and did destructive work upon the interiors. Water stands upon the floors of the building 4 feet deep. The road to Monson is obstructed near Fay's Bridge, where a portion of the thoroughfare is washed away. Great damage has also been done to fruit trees in that section. Ice jams have blockaded nearly all the principal thoroughfares leading out of town. The cellar of the Union passenger station of the Boston and Albany, New London Northern, and Ware River Railroads was flooded with five feet of water this morning, washing away the floor, extinguishing the fire under the boiler, and damaging the gas meter, besides destroying some of the cellar's contents.

At North Wilbraham the grain elevator of Cutler & Co. contains considerable water, while the dam near the factory of Stillman Ellis has been partially swept away. No fears are entertained that further damage will result, as the flood is gradually subsiding, and the mammoth ice jams in the Quabaug are being removed as rapidly as possible. The tracks of the Athol branch road were washed out so that trains could not pass over them this morning, but this afternoon they have been making nearly schedule time. Trains on all the railroads centring here, excepting the New London Northern, will undoubtedly make schedule time to-morrow.

The aggregate loss on property will amount to over $20,000 at the lowest estimate.

The bridge at Three Rivers, and also Bailey's bridge, over which the New London Northern Railroad runs, have been weakened and are unsafe. The former has been moved from its position over two inches, and fears are entertained that it will be swept away. The tracks of the road in some places are badly washed away, and section men remained on guard all night to prevent any accident to early trains.

At Blanchardville, the flood has entirely washed away the bridge over the Quabaug River. The foundations under some of the buildings owned by the Fay Rubber Company have also been weakened. A cave-in on the Boston and Albany road in that vicinity has covered the track. The piers of the iron bridge on Commercial street have been weakened somewhat. The works of the Hampden Hat Company are inundated. The wood yard of A. J. Converse is surrounded by water, and many cords of wood have floated away. Large quantities of lumber belonging to F. F. Marcy have been carried away. The foundation to the pump house of the Boston and Albany Railroad is washed away.

SPRINGFIELD, Feb. 21.—The Dwight Manufacturing Company's stone dam in the Chicopee River, at Chicopee, was carried away this morning by the breaking of an ice jam. The stream rose rapidly last night in the heavy rain, and the ice moved down stream in huge cakes. Temporary jams were formed at several points, carrying away a foot bridge at Chicopee Falls and flooding the lower floor of the Chicopee Manufacturing Company's mill at that place. For half a mile above the Dwight dam the ice was hurled up in a pile twenty to thirty feet high, and soon the accumulating mass burst through the dam as if it were an egg shell, at the same time gorging the canal with a vast field of ice that men are now engaged in blasting with dynamite.

The dam has withstood many hard freshets. It was built in 1852. Two of the Dwight Company's seven mills run wholly by water, and must stop till a new dam is built. The other five mills can be run by steam, and the company will keep busy its 600 employees by running these mills at night. The Ames Sword Company also used the water, and will have to suspend part of their works till some other motive power is provided. The loss cannot fall short of $40,000.

Ready to Run the Fourth Avenue Cars by Electricity.

The New York and Harlem Railroad Company has asked the Aldermen to permit the substitution of electric power for horse power on the Fourth avenue surface line. The company has been experimenting, and is satisfied that the electric motors will be safe and successful.

The Best Photographer is Foreline.

If You are taken with it before you are aware.—Adv.

MRS. SMITH'S CHARGES.

She Says Intelligence Offices Send Girls to Houses of Ill Fame.

BOSTON, Feb. 21.—The Labor Committee of the Legislature gave a hearing to Mrs. Charlotte Smith and others to-day on her charges that several intelligence offices were sending girls who applied for employment to houses of ill fame. She said that she went to one office and asked if she could be supplied with girls to fit up a house of ill fame. She was told that she could be supplied with any number the next day at $2 apiece for good-looking girls. She charged Inspector Burleigh with being in league with the intelligence offices, knowing that they were engaged in such business. She submitted fifty written statements of women who had been sent to disreputable houses, most of the statements being sworn to. These statements were not read, but were left with the committee. The girls were all sent to these houses as servants, seamstresses, &c., and many were sent to other cities. She said that she went to the Board of Police Commissioners, and they expressed indignation at her having gone to the legislative committee. She had given to them as a reason that she well knew that no redress could be obtained from them, as the authorities were in league with these houses.

She charged one prominent police official, whose name she said she would disclose later, with being part owner of a house of ill fame which is supplied with girls from one of these intelligence offices. She introduced Mrs. Annie W. O'Leary, intelligence office keeper, who said she had been driven out of her business by the exactions of Mr. Burleigh. She had kept an intelligence office for twenty-six years. She had at one time spoken to Mr. Burleigh of the doings of the intelligence offices, but had been told to mind her own business.

Henry Chase, President of the Society for the Suppression of Vice, said a girl came to him whose experience was the same as those previously described. She had applied at an intelligence office, and was sent to one of the worst bagnios in the city. Her clothes were taken away on a pretext, and the first night she heard enough to know the nature of the house. She escaped next day on a promise of returning. On going again to the intelligence office the woman in charge said that she supposed that she understood what a "ladies' lodging house" was. On his taking up the case and asking legal advice he was told that the only law covering the case was that one regarding obtaining money under false pretences, and a conviction under that law would be very difficult. In view of these facts he asked legislation to prevent such crimes.

He said he was prepared to name five men in Boston of large business who have told women seeking employment they were expected to make part of their living by immorality, as the salary paid could not support them. There are at least 10,000 women in Boston who make their living immorally.

Francis French, keeper of an intelligence office, said he had never knowingly sent a girl to a house of ill fame. He was positive that Mr. Burleigh would revoke a license if he thought that anything of the sort was done. He denied the charges against himself and others in his business.

WHO WAS HER TEMPTER?

The Suspicion of Jennie Osborne's Friends Falls on Haskell.

Nellie Osborne, the sister of Jennie Osborne, who died in the Franklin House, in Easton, of malpractice, denied, in Newark yesterday, that she told Dr. Field not to speak to Mr. Smith and his companions about the case, and said that she did not say anything about the publicity of an inquest killing her mother. William Tribbals, her cousin, who with Smith accompanied Nellie and her aunt to Easton to identify Jennie's body, said that while Dr. Field was starting to tell Smith and the other gentlemen of the party all about the matter, the Doctor's electric bell rang furiously, and kept ringing until the Doctor went down stairs. After that he would not vouchsafe any information about the matter. Tribbals says that he surmised that somebody from the hotel came across the street to warn the young Doctor against telling anything to the Newarkers, and he knows positively that it was not Nellie who enjoined silence upon the Doctor. Mr. Tribbals is satisfied that the hotelkeeper knew that George Evans and Jennie were acquainted before the girl arrived in Easton, and that Evans made the arrangements for the girl's reception at the hotel. He does not know Evans, or tell anybody else in Newark say that he knows him. Tribbals believes, with Mrs. Osborne and many friends of her family, that Evans's friend and companion, who was known as Haskell, is the author of Jennie's trouble.

DANBURY, Conn., Feb. 21.—Charles Larne alias George Haskell, mentioned in the despatches from Easton, Pa., in this morning's papers as the friend of wayward Jennie Osborne, is proprietor of one of the leading jewelry establishments on Main street. He left here yesterday ostensibly to visit his wife, who is sick in New Haven, leaving word that he would be back this morning, but as yet he has failed to return, and no information as to his whereabouts can be had at his store.

Miss Osborne first met him while here visiting her aunt, Mrs. Charles H. Stevens of 7 Ellsworth avenue, last September. Miss Osborne knew him as Haskell until she pointed him out to Mrs. Stevens one day, and she at once recognized him as Mr. Larne.

Mrs. Stevens says he was very attentive to Jennie while she was here and gave her several costly presents.

When the girl knew she was dying she said the man who had ruined her was married, that he had given her a diamond ring, and that he would get for her anything she wanted. She would not, however, tell his name.

FIRE ENGINES SENT ASTRAY.

Long Distance Practice at the Piano Factory Fire.

The first signal rung at 1:15 yesterday morning for the piano factory fire at Fortieth street and First avenue was from box 467 at Thirty-fourth street and First avenue. It is not known who rang it. On the occasion of the Equitable Gas Works explosion an alarm was sent in from Thirty-ninth street and Lexington avenue in the same way, and it could not be learned who rang it.

About the same time that 467 was pulled yesterday morning, 487 at Forty-first street and First avenue was pulled by Policeman Cullen, who saw the flames in the piano factory. He also put in an alarm rap with his night stick, and Policeman Sullivan rang an alarm from box 466 at Thirty-eighth street and First avenue.

While this box was yet open, some one pulled down the hook and repeated the first alarm signal for 466.

Box 529 was next heard from, some one having pulled that at Forty-fourth street and First avenue, apparently in the belief that he was the discover of the fire. When the first engines found the fire it was already beyond the control of first alarm force, but the delay had been trifling. Engine 21 from Fortieth street had taken First avenue for the run down to Thirty-fourth street and stumbled on the fire, getting to work in two minutes.

Assistant Foreman Charles Margison went to box 487 to send out a second alarm. This is not an automatic signal, but is sent out from the inside box with a Morse key by tapping ten strokes and then the box number, 4—8—7. At Headquarters the signal rung by Margison was received "477," and was sent out that way to the department. It sent seven engine companies over to the Metropolitan Opera House at Thirty-ninth street and Seventh avenue. In this region of hotels they created a good deal of excitement, but found no fire. In the mean time Chief Fisher at the piano factory fire wanted them very badly, and on their return to quarters they were sent to him as fast as possible. A third alarm from box 487, sent out by Foreman Eagan, was the means of summoning them.

They saved the rest of the block on First avenue and the dwellings on Prospect place from destruction. The damage to the stock of Kratauer & Brother, pianomakers, is estimated at $5,000; $1,000 will cover the damage to Joseph Quinn's saloon. Green's carpenter shop, at 705, was damaged $800, and the dwellings of Moses Hellman and Moses Hogg, on Prospect place, about $500.

One engine didn't get to the fire at all. The horses of No. 19 became excited just before the harness was dropped on them, and dashed out of the quarters at Twenty-fifth street, between Eighth and Ninth avenues, at full speed, leaving the engine and firemen behind. They were captured about six hours later, a mile from the engine house. Last night a malicious false alarm was sent out from box 158 at South and Market streets. The box was found closed and locked. Engine 17 from Ludlow street broke down in answering this bogus call.

HE SHOT HIS WIFE DOWN.

FRANK BUCKINGHAM'S WAY OF ENDING A QUARREL.

He Visits his Wife at her Hotel and Accuses her of Receiving Attentions from Another Man—Her Wound Not Dangerous.

Frank Buckingham, a collector for a real estate agent, quarrelled with his wife Mary last night in the Hotel Mount Severn in Washington and Concord streets, Brooklyn, and finally shot her. A few months ago the couple separated, after a long period of domestic unpleasantness. The wife went to live in the hotel where the shooting occurred, and the husband took rooms in the Franklin House, in Fulton street. He is 50 years old, and she is 40. Mr. Buckingham, in spite of an arrangement he had made to live apart from his wife, was in the habit of calling to see her, and he also furnished her with money. Last night he called at about 8 o'clock, and was shown to the reception room, where he was soon joined by his wife. They were alone. The gas was not lighted, but the light in the hallway served to make things quite visible.

They had not been in the room more than a few moments when persons in the adjoining room heard them engaged in angry discussion, and very soon all the guests in the hotel were alarmed by the report of a pistol, followed by a woman's screams. Mrs. Buckingham rushed out of the room with her hands raised and blood trickling from a wound in the back of her head. Her husband stood near the centre of the room with a revolver in his hand. He seemed bewildered and made no attempt to escape. He was disarmed and guarded until Detective Reddy arrived from the Adams street police station, a few blocks distant. Mrs. Buckingham, although sorely wounded, remained perfectly cool, and requested that a cab should be summoned, so that she might be taken as soon as possible to a hospital. When asked by the detective to give some explanation of the shooting, she smiled and referred the detective to her husband, saying:

"He will tell you all about it."

She was taken to the Homœopathic Hospital in Cumberland street by Ambulance Surgeon Flemming. The bullet had entered the back of the head behind the right ear, and passing upward a few inches, lodged in the scalp. It was extracted with little trouble. The wound is not dangerous, but the doctors said the woman had very narrow escape. Mr. Buckingham, who is a fine-looking man, was taken to the Adams street police station. He was excited, and showed evidence of having been drinking. He said:

"There has been considerable trouble between me and my wife, and we have been living apart for some time. I have good reason to suspect that she was receiving the attentions of a young man at the hotel. I have frequently found him in her company when I called to see her, and she has given several explanations to me about his business. When I last spoke to her about him she said he was a sewing machine agent. My wife has a violent temper, and she has frequently threatened to kill me. I know that she has bought three revolvers for that purpose. The revolver with which I shot her was her last purchase. She threw it on me to-night, and I jumped toward her and unhammered after she struggled to take it from her. She ran away, and in the excitement of the moment I fired at her. I did not intend to shoot her, and it was more an accident than anything else. My wife has means of her own, but I have not refused to support her."

When told in the hospital of her husband's statement, Mrs. Buckingham refused to admit or deny its truthfulness, and would not give any explanation.

The shooting was witnessed by Caswell Le Clair of 48 Myrtle avenue, a scorer in the 24-hour walking match in the American Institute building. He was passing the house when he heard a woman's scream. He looked in the parlor window, he says, and saw a handsomely dressed woman trying to break away from a tall, good-looking man, who held her by the shoulders. She got away, and ran toward the hall door. Le Clair had pushed his way close to the window, and saw the man produce a revolver and deliberately shoot the flying woman. He did not see where the man took the revolver from. The woman fell, but rose again, and attempted to jump through the window. The man did not attempt to follow her. He laid the revolver down and lighted a cigar.

Sudden Death of Dr. Lorino.

Dr. Lorino, as he was known, died suddenly at the lodging house, 265 Bowery, yesterday. He had been sick with some heart trouble, but refused to see a doctor. He sat all day in his room alone, and there he was found dead yesterday. He had rolled from the lounge to the floor.

The Doctor was a bachelor. His friends were such as he made at the cafes and chess clubs. He was a member of the New York Chess Club, 46 Bowery, but he was not so much a player as he was an entertaining companion. An Italian by birth, with a German mother, he had travelled extensively in South America and elsewhere. Years ago he taught language in Washington. Within a couple of years he found out by a newspaper advertisement that a rich nephew of his lived in England, and he opened correspondence with him. The nephew shortly after sent his old uncle a hundred dollars a month, and for the last year he had been living on this allowance. He died alone in his room.

Upper Fourth Avenue Rechristened.

The Aldermen voted yesterday to change the name of Fourth avenue to Park avenue from Forty-second to Ninety-sixth street.

A TALK WITH MR. DEPEW.

He Thinks Blaine will be Nominated, and he Does Not Fear the Soo Road.

CHICAGO, Feb. 21.—Chauncey M. Depew, who is to deliver an address at the Union League Club's celebration to-morrow afternoon, arrived in the city at 10½ o'clock to-night. In his room at the Richelieu Mr. Depew declared that if the Florence letter had never been penned Blaine would have been nominated on the first or second ballot, with a hurrah. "State after State would have gone for him," continued Mr. Depew. "As it is, there will be any number of names presented. Each candidate will have a solid delegation behind him, and after they have cast fifty ballots or more, and everybody is tired, some one will nominate Blaine. Then there will be a whoop and a yell, and the Maine man will be nominated by acclamation."

"Will he accept?" asked the reporter.

"One cannot very well decline a Presidential nomination," replied the New Yorker.

"Who will be the Democratic nominee?"

"Cleveland and his message will be their platform. The one they desire; the other thing cannot escape. When Cleveland wrote that message he departed from all precedents. He left to his heads of departments the duty of informing Congress as to our foreign relations, our fiscal condition, and other pressing matters of domestic and outside import. He laid down a policy, limited, it is true, but radical in the extreme. On it the Democratic party will have to stand or fall. If Cleveland is elected every one knows that he will sign a free trade bill. If, on the other hand, a Republican is elected, the country will know that he will veto such a bill."

Mr. Depew was then questioned about the new Sault Ste Marie Railroad. "Its influence will be very small," he said. "Every time a new route is started there is always a great deal of idle speculation as to the amount of business it is going to draw from the older roads. The Soo route is especially unfortunate. It is an attempt to carry grain by means of the Canadian routes around Chicago. The road will therefore have to fight against the influence of Chicago capital—an antagonist of immense power when you remember that this city is the grain market of the world."

"Did the new road receive differentials in order to avoid a war?"

"A railroad war is disastrous to all engaged in it. It not only hurts the railroads, but the country as well. What business men want most, and what the Inter-State Commerce law was especially framed to give them, is stable rates. Without them there will be ten rates quoted a day, and the result is the worst kind of discrimination. The Chicago roads certainly want no war with the Soo route, but it can also be truthfully said that they have no fear of its taking their trade."

MR. COOK'S PREDICAMENT.

He Will Know Better Another Time if he Stays Out Late at Night.

On the complaint of Leslie B. Cook, who is stopping at the Sinclair House, Capt. Reilly of the Thirtieth street police raided a disorderly house in West Twenty-ninth street at noon yesterday. Ida L. Thompson, the keeper of the house, and Dot Warner, Clara Alberta, Annie Conway, Lottie Brown, and Sadie Howard were arrested.

Mr. Cook met Dot Warner at 2 o'clock yesterday morning and went home with her. When Cook awoke at 9 o'clock yesterday morning he found that he had been robbed of his gold watch and chain, about $15 in money, and his coat, overcoat, vest, and trousers. He was embarrassed and irritated, especially as no one in the house knew anything of the theft. He threw open a window and shouted to a policeman, who summoned Capt. Reilly, and the house was raided. Mr. Cook had to send to his hotel for a change of clothing.

At Jefferson Market court in the afternoon Ida L. Thompson, the keeper, and Dot Warner, who was charged with the larceny of Mr. Cook's property, were held in $500 bail each for examination on Thursday. The others were held in $300 bail.

THEY WERE VERY DRUNK.

A Freight Train Runs Into Four Young Men as They Are Fighting.

NEW HAVEN, Feb. 21.—About 11:30 last evening four young men were struck by a freight train in the cut through which the tracks of the Consolidated Railroad pass, near the East street bridge. All of them were drunk. They were all injured, and were sent to the hospital. They appeared like tramps, and it was at first supposed that their injuries were received in attempting to board the train. The doctors at the hospital, however, investigated the case, and are now of the opinion that one of the men, whose name is Buckley and who died early this morning, was murdered. He had several deep cuts on the head, apparently made by a knife, and this, together with the fact that his three companions had several cuts on their faces, adds to the belief that there may have been foul play.

Owen McMullin, one of the four, belongs in this city, and Thomas Costello recently came here from Waterbury. Thomas Delaney, the fourth, belongs in Waterbury. None of the three now at the hospital are able to give any satisfactory account of their movements last night except Costello, who says that after visiting several saloons he and the others engaged in a fight, but he has no recollection of where it occurred. It is generally believed that the four had a drunken row on the railroad track, and that while they were fighting the freight train came along and ran into them.

Fairchild and Marsland Coming Out Ahead.

The charges against Local Steamboat Inspector Marsland went all to pieces yesterday. A sample was the charge of borrowing from his subordinates. Deputy Edward Croker, brother of Commissioner Croker, was called. He testified that Marsland once borrowed four postage stamps from him. Two