# TRIALS OF ELECTRIC DEATH.

### MR. BROWN TELLS WHY HE DOESN'T EXPERIMENT ON CATS.

**He is Sure that a Painless and Instant Death Can Be Administered to Kemmler by the Current—Mr. Gerry Won't Come.**

Eleven o'clock yesterday morning found the lawyers all gathered in Bourke Cockran's big cool office in the Equitable Building ready to go on before Referee Becker and find out whether the execution of the death sentence on William Kemmler by electricity will or will not be a cruel and unusual punishment. Harold P. Brown, the young electrical expert, who thinks so highly of the alternating current for killing purposes, was there, pleasant and smiling. Lawyer Cockran had on a big black alpaca coat, which came pretty nearly to his knees, and which made him look like a parson. Referee Becker wore a flannel shirt. Lots of electrical experts took voluminous notes solemnly.

Elbridge T. Gerry, Chairman of the State Commission which devised the electric killing of murderers, telegraphed from Newport that he couldn't think of coming back to New York in this weather to testify. Mr. Cockran said that Commodore Gerry ought to come back, and Referee Becker telegraphed to him that he ought to. Then Mr. Brown took the stand, and Mr. Cockran resumed his researches.

Mr. Brown said that he knew of ninety-one people who had been killed by electric light currents. He did not know of a case where a man got the full benefit of an electric light current and survived. He had experimented to find out which was deadlier, the alternating or the continuous current. He said:

I worked for the honor of electrical science as much as anything else. In court trials and at coroner's inquests over people killed by electric light wires experts came up and swore that the kind men must have died by their own care essness, or that it was impossible to see how they were killed and so forth. I believed that this alternating current was unusually dangerous and that this was the great cause of death. Then my own reputation was at stake. I had been attacked in the newspapers. It was said that I was owned by several electric light companies. I wanted to prove those scientifically, so that there could be no doubt as to the facts.

Mr. Cockran seemed to suspect that Mr. Brown did have a financial interest in contending that the alternating current is dangerous. Mr. Brown denied that he had any interest in any electric light company. He was a warm personal friend of Thomas A. Edison, whose company uses the continuous current.

Mr. Cockran—You made these experiments, then, from a highly philanthropic standpoint?

Mr. Brown said that he did not know but that this was the case. Then, after the cross-examination, his direct examination by District Attorney Quinby of Erie county began. Mr. Brown described his experiments at killing animals. He had experimented on from forty to fifty dogs, six to ten calves, and two horses. On July 24, 1888, at the Edison laboratory, they had a strong, young and vigorous bloodhound, which weighed fifty-six pounds and measured forty-five inches from his nose to his tail. Wet cotton waste was tied around the dog's left hind leg and his right fore leg, and was held down by light copper wire. The resistance of the dog was found by the recognized Wheatstone method with the Wheatstone bridge to be 27,500 ohms. An electric current of 181 volts was passed through him, the current dropping to 160 volts. Contact was closed for five seconds. At the end of this time the dog's muscles relaxed and he was quite dead.

On Dec. 5, 1888, at the same laboratory, before the Committee of the Medico-Legal Society, a horse weighing 1,230 pounds was experimented upon. The cotton waste, wet with a solution of sulphate of zinc, was moved about the horse's forelegs. Seven 100 volt lamps were then placed across the terminals of the alternating current dynamo. The resistance of the horse was found to be 11,800 ohms. The current was closed and left closed two minutes. At the end of that time the horse's muscles gradually relaxed, the horse not uttering a murmur. The horse had been killed instantly.

On the same day a calf weighing 145 pounds, having a resistance of 1,800 ohms, was subjected to a current of 250 volts. The hair on the forehead of the calf was clipped short and wet with a solution of zinc sulphate. An electrode two inches in diameter and sponge covered was applied here. The same process was gone through with on the calf's spine back of the shoulders. When the alternating current was turned on the calf was killed like a flash. Death was instantaneous and evidently painless.

Q.—Now, Mr. Brown, will you state whether or not in your opinion just such an instantaneous and painless death can be produced in man by the use of this method? A.—It certainly can.

Asked to explain the method to be used in killing Kemmler, Mr. Brown said that he understood that the prison authorities had adopted the plan of the Medico-Legal Society here.

"The hair of the criminal is to be cut short," said Mr. Brown, "and a large electrode five inches in diameter, sponge covered, flexible, so as to fit the shape, and wet with salt and water, is to be fastened upon his head. Just back another electrode is to be placed under his bare leg. Then the current is to be turned on."

Q.—Will there be any difficulty in determining the resistance of the man? A.—No more than of any other animal.

Q.—How do you account for the widely varying resistance in different animals? A.—We found that the hair had a great deal to do with it. Among dogs the resistance was less in the spaniel, curly haired dog than in the pointer, which has short, closely clipped hair. The follicles of hair in the epidermis have a great deal to do with the conductivity of the latter.

Mr. Brown declared that death ensued most quickly when the current was applied to the head. When the current was applied to the forelegs of animals the muscles contracted, but when applied to the head the muscles relaxed and showed that all nervous force in the body had instantly departed. He thought that the death machine at Auburn would do its work admirably.

Mr. Brown said further on that the resistance of an living organism depended largely on the amount of surface in contact with the electrodes. He had found animals whose resistance was greater than that of men. The average resistance of a man was 2,500 ohms. The authorities were pretty well agreed on that, but a man's resistance might be very much greater. The maximum resistance was 40,000 ohms. The resistance of a man when subjected to the electrical current continually tended to decrease, because the skin became all the while a better conductor, and because of the continual contraction of the muscles. In the experiments at the Edison laboratory, the highest resistance of an animal killed was 30,000 ohms. The experimental current when applied for the purpose of determining resistance was imperceptible except when applied at the cheeks. In this instance it was noticeable to a man's tongue in the mouth, which none but an expert would know came from the passing of the electric current. Nearly all the accidents from electric light wires had been cases where the subject only received a part of the current. It was very difficult in these cases to tell the force of the current which killed the man. The conditions were so various that it was practically impossible to measure the voltage.

Mr. Cockran got up and presented the pamphlet written by Mr. Brown giving the detailed account of his experiments. He asked Mr. Brown if his only idea in writing the pamphlet was not to show that the alternating current was dangerous. Mr. Brown admitted that was about it. In answer to questions he said that the Westinghouse company used the alternating current and the Edison company the continuous.

Q.—Do you know that there is a bitter controversy between these two companies as to the electric lamps? A.—I have heard so.

Q.—Why did you go down to Edison's laboratory to make these experiments? A.—Because he offered it to me, and it was the only laboratory I could get anyway.

Q.—Now then are you aware of any experiments in regard to the effects of electricity on human life prior to those I refer to? A.—I have heard that Dr. Wilks of Buffalo, a member of the State Commission—

Q.—Oh, well, now I don't want to know what you heard. Tell me, kind sir, what you know. You didn't have any positive knowledge of such experiments.

Q.—Are the vitality of an animal and its size related? Does it stand to reason that the larger animal is invariably self? A.—I don't think so.

Q.—As a matter of fact, sir, don't you know that some of the smaller animals are the hardest to kill? As for a solemn pause in which the room became very still—Well, I suppose that bears are very hard to kill—harder, perhaps, than quadrupeds.

There was a laugh, and Mr. Cockran's face became red. Then he said:

Q.—Well, let's talk about quadrupeds. You seem to have made a great experiments on dogs. Why didn't you experiment on cats? Don't cats have heads? Tell me, Mr. Brown, don't cats have heads? A.—Yes, sir, I do. Q.—Don't you think that a cat is peculiarly susceptible to electric influences? That it is something that every body has witnessed—really in all cats? A.—Yes, sir. A.—(slowly and apologetically)—We did not all—I mean that because a cat walks on and it is also very hard to bind the wet cotton waste properly on a dog's leg—and so prepare it to receive the electrodes. And then besides a cat has claws all over it which all—scratch people who touch it with cats.

Q.—Severely? A.—Yes. Q.—Now, about execution in the electric chair, and the fact that judgment has been passed upon the electrical fluid for the Westinghouse broiler? A.—I object. Mr. Cockran—Don't you know that the electrical fluid has been adopted in Western cities, and I had to do it myself? Don't you know that? The witness—I don't think so. Mr. Cockran—Well, then, I think you would have to search for the hermetic seal which is necessary to make the vacuum of the instruments of the electrocution.

Q.—Do the current was strong enough and the electrodes firmly fastened to cause wounds burn into the man until the current was shut off? Don't they? A.—They might, but it is not likely to be probable.

Mr. Cockran read the new statute, which provides that the current shall be kept up until the man is dead, and asked what the executioner would do, should he burn the man to death, or could he mercifully shut off the current? Mr. Brown said he didn't know.

Then Mr. Cockran turned to Mr. Brown's knowledge of the way in which electricity caused death. He asked Mr. Brown if he knew just how the current worked. Mr. Brown said that he was not a physiologist, but that death might be caused in this method by heart failure, by a change in the circulation of the blood, or by hemorrhages in the nervous system, and doubtless by other means.

Q.—When man is burned by the electrical current is he unconscious? A.—He is if the current is powerful enough. If the current is feeble he suffers pain.

Mr. Brown told how he himself was once rendered unconscious by a severe shock, so much so that he was burned and bruised without knowing anything about it.

Q.—What's the difference between the strength of an artificial electrical current and that of a stroke of lightning? A.—We can generate a current of the same strength—the same horse power—as the lightning, but we can't get it into the same shape so as to produce the same instantaneous effect.

Q.—You have heard of people being struck by lightning and not being killed? A.—Yes.

Q.—Do you really think a stroke of lightning is less powerful than one of those currents which you could generate by the alternating system? Mr. Brown, could you by all the means known to science generate a current of electricity one one hundred thousandth part as strong as the natural current? A.—Yes, in the manner in which I say it, we can reach the force of the lightning approximately.

Mr. Brown admitted that the force of the lightning itself has only been approximately measured. He thought that experimenters had produced an electric spark 36 inches long. He couldn't tell when or where. He had himself only seen a spark 12 inches long. Mr. Cockran smiled and intimated that all science had been able to do was to get a spark less than 20 inches long. The case goes on to-day.

### NEWS OF THE RAILROADS.

**Latest Information from All Quarters.**

The second quarterly meeting of the Inter-State Commerce Railway Association began in Chicago yesterday. The Presidents of all the roads in the association were present with the exception of the Alton and the Denver and Rio Grande. Gen. Dodge of the Fort Worth and Denver road explained why he had given notice of the withdrawal of his road. He stated his road came into competition with roads in southern Texas, and could not afford to be tied by any allegiance with the Inter-State Association. He promised, however, that the Fort Worth and Denver would do nothing to demoralize rates.

Committees were appointed to confer with the Alton and the Burlington to induce them if possible to join the association. A great effort will be made to induce the Alton to reconsider its notice of withdrawal, but it is almost certain that this will fail, as the withdrawal was sanctioned by the directors before it was announced. The representatives of the association will be satisfied if they can secure from the Alton an informal assurance that they will not demoralize rates, and this assurance will probably be given.

A despatch from New Haven says that the Derby Railroad, extending from that city to Ansonia, which was recently bought from the city of New Haven by Wm. H. Starbuck and then extended to Hawleyville to connect with the Housatonic and New York and New England system, was leased yesterday by the Housatonic Railroad Company for a period of ninety-nine years. By this lease the Housatonic Railroad secures control of an entrance into New Haven, with extensive terminal facilities and connection with the Sarah line of steamers to New York. The lease takes effect on July 16. The terms are $9,400 per year for the first three years, $14,400 per year for the second three years, and $18,800 per year for the remaining ninety-three years. The road, which is 22 miles long, will hereafter be known as the Derby division of the Housatonic road.

Leland Stanford and C. P. Huntington have decided to withdraw the Southern Pacific Railroad from Texas. A recent law in that State provides that no railroad company operating roads within its borders have any legal status unless it maintains its principal office therein. The Southern Pacific officials say that they do not comply with the law, and the three Texas and Louisiana roads that now form a part of the Southern Pacific main line to New Orleans will be operated as distinct roads, with different sets of officers.

After the Clearing House problem was taken out of the hands of the general passenger agents of the trunk lines, they were at a loss for something to do to keep on the dividends, and when all were present they drew up a set of by-laws, establishing a fine of $1 for every man who shouldn't attend the meetings. Commissioner Tuttle says that the proceeds shall be devoted to charities as often as the condition of the treasury will warrant. It is probable that there will be a dinner very soon. Yesterday was the third week of the new by-laws and there were four delinquents.

At yesterday's meeting it was said that the Lackawanna road would have until July 15 to arrange for returning to the Clearing House. It is with some difficulty that all about the failure of his road, but it is rumored that it is little less than the determination to withdraw from the association and continue to run its own immigrant business.

Commissioner Fink had many callers yesterday at his Broadway office, as it was his last day of service previous to leaving for Europe on the Alice. Second Vice-President Hayden of the New York Central Railroad will preside at to-day's joint meeting of the Central Traffic and Trunk Line Association.

Engineer Buchanan, in charge of the Chicago and New York limited on the New York Central road made a fine run one day last week, after being delayed 46 minutes by an accident to train 6 at Fort Byron. He came down from Albany, 143 miles, in 2 hours and 04 minutes. The run from Peekskill to New York, 42 miles, without stop, but slowing down at several places, was made in 39 minutes. This has maintained average speed of 50 miles an hour. The 143 miles was done at a speed of 49 miles an hour, not allowing for several stops. Conductor Rockwell was aboard and kept a record of the time, which tallied with the engineer's.

The Long Island road has introduced special baggage trains on Friday and Saturday as second sections to the Bay Harbor train. These trains have eight to ten cars of passengers bound for the resorts, and they are scheduled to make fast time, which would be impossible if several baggage cars were attached. A Pullman car has gone to Cedarhurst, Long Beach, William Mangin, with the latest engine, No. 124, has charge of the train.

Chief P. M. Arthur has several big meetings of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers on hand before the next convention in the fall, which is to decide whether he will be re-elected or not. One was held on Sunday in Tammany Hall, at which more than a score of divisions in this neighborhood were represented. Besides Chief Arthur, Grand Chaplain George E. Doherty was present. The meeting, like those held lately in Boston and Scranton, was called "fellowship meetings" of a purely social character, in which the engineers meet to get better acquainted and have a good time. As a matter of fact these meetings are planned by Mr Arthur in order to give him a chance to explain himself on certain questions and set himself right with the divisions.

Jamestown, July 9.—A new railroad is to be built to run from Trenton Junction to North Asbury Park. The deposit to secure the State certificate under the general railroad law was made with Secretary Rusby to-day. The new road is said to be backed by Baltimore and Ohio project. The route chosen will reduce the time distance to forty minutes less than that now made by the Pennsylvania Railroad between these two points, and consequently from Philadelphia to the seashore.

The stockholders of the Hartford and Connecticut Western Railroad yesterday voted 14,874 shares "yes" to 167 "no" in favor of immediately extending its line from Tariffville to Springfield.

At a meeting of the Western Freight Association in Chicago yesterday the Alton's proposition to reduce rates was voted down. The Alton then gave the necessary ten days' notice that it would reduce rates anyway. The other roads then announced that at the same time they would adopt the new rates. The reduction in live stock rates from the Mississippi River is from 27½ to 12 cents, on dressed beef from 28 to 12½ cents, and on live hogs from 27½ to 22 cents.

The New York, Lake Erie and Western has met the cut in grain. The officers have announced a reduction in the rate on corn and wheat from Chicago to New York only, from 25 to 20 cents, to take effect on July 12.

### GOOD RECORDS FOR OUR BOYS.

**They Are Showing the British How to Shoot and Play Cricket.**

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LONDON, July 9.—At Wimbledon to-day the only competition outside the pool shooting for which the Americans entered resulted in good scores. Alfred in seven shots at 200 yards scored the highest possible, 35; Johnston, 32; Hinman, 31; Huddleston, 31; Bull, 30; Hussey, 29; Farrow, 29; Edes, 27.

During the day Hussey and Doyle secured one or two bull's-eyes at pool shooting, and to-morrow they will draw £1 for each bull's-eye.

Private Farrow has a grievance. He was credited with only 55 for the Alexandra, and declares that it should have been 57, which would have made him a prize winner. According to Farrow the marker signalled one of his shots at the second range as magpie three, and then altered it to bull five, and then to magpie again. Farrow has done all the appealing and protesting possible, but remains a prize loser.

In the cricket match at Edinburgh to-day the Philadelphias concluded the first innings for 308, without any remarkable display. Scotland's second innings realized 340, and the Yankees went in requiring 98 to win. Within forty minutes the score reached 100, Stoever 65, Brown 32; neither out. The visitors thus won by ten wickets.

### BROUGHT HIS BLACK WIFE HOME.

**A Dusky Belle Suddenly Transferred from Savage Africa to Paris.**

PARIS, July 9.—Mr. Crampel, one of De Brazza's assistants in the French Congo territory, has just surprised all his friends by bringing to this country a young black woman who was presented to him as a wife during his recent explorations east of the Ogowe River. She is a young savage of rather pleasing features and graceful form and carriage, who still feels decidedly queer in dresses and regards with open-mouthed astonishment about everything she sees.

When Mr. Grenfell married a native of Africa a while ago his choice was a coast girl who had been nurtured for years at a mission station, and who was a civilized and Christian young person. But the dusky flower that Crampel has brought home with him was plucked from the depths of savage Africa. Neither she nor any of her people had ever seen a white man before.

Crampel started eleven months ago with thirty carriers to make a journey through the unknown region northeast of the Ogowe. After weeks of travelling he reached a great forest region directly east of the district explored by Du Chaillu, where no white man had ever been before. This is the country of the M'fangs, whose language differs so greatly from any with which the explorer was acquainted that he had the greatest difficulty in communicating with the natives.

The M'fangs, however, gave Crampel a hospitable reception, and he spent several weeks with them. When he was about to go away one of the chiefs came to him, leading a very dark and nearly nude belle of the tribe. He told the white man that he liked him, and as a mark of his esteem he wished to present him with one of his own daughters. He said she was the daughter of a chief, and must not be made a slave, but if the white man would take her home with him he might have her. Offers of this sort are often made to African explorers, and they usually decline with thanks the delicate proposal. Crampel, however, said he would take the girl as his wife, and then some person, nothing loth, set out with the explorer for the sea, and has probably bid a last farewell to her native forests.

It is not known whether Crampel's choice is approved by his relations, but he seems to be satisfied, and of course he will take the girl back with him to Paris when he returns. Among the interesting discoveries made by Crampel is that of a large dwarf tribe, who are doubtless identical with or allied to the O Bongo dwarfs discovered by Du Chaillu.

### MONEY FOR YOUNG ROYALTY.

**A Committee of the House of Commons Will Consider the Question.**

LONDON, July 9.—In the House of Commons Mr. W. H. Smith, the Government leader, moved that the Committee on Allowances to Prince Albert Victor of Wales and Princess Victoria of Prussia, on the occasion of their marriage, consist of twenty-three members.

Mr. Dillwyn (Liberal) proposed a committee of twenty-five members, adding two Radicals to the number. He said the committee that Mr. Smith wanted would have a majority of three Government supporters instead of one, according to precedent.

Mr. Smith assured the House that the Government had no desire to precedent and that the views of every section were fairly represented in the proposed committee.

Mr. Gladstone approved Mr. Smith's distribution and said the Government was entitled to a majority of three on the committee.

Mr. Bradlaugh supported Mr. Dillwyn's amendment. He said no "was alone her opposed to such grants, and would raise every possible difficulty to prevent the voting of the proposed allowances.

After further debate Mr Dillwyn's amendment was defeated by a vote of 300 to 104.

### PUSHING INTO EGYPT.

**Another Fight Between the Dervishes and the Egyptian Troops.**

CAIRO, July 9.—Advices were received here to-day that Col. Wodehouse's cavalry occupied the camp of the enemy and found it deserted by all except several men, women, and children, who were dying from thirst and exhaustion. The enemy surprised and killed a picket belonging to the Ninth Battalion.

Other advices say that the Egyptian force under Col. Wodehouse arrived at Adendan last night. The dervishes occupied a position on the opposite bank. A sharp engagement ensued. The dervishes were after water, and managed to procure a supply, though many of their number succumbed to the fierce artillery and rifle fire kept up by the Egyptians. There were also several casualties among the Egyptians.

**The Parnell Commission.**

LONDON, July 9.—At the meeting of the Parnell commission to day Mr. Byrne, member of Parliament was a witness. He was questioned concerning a speech which, according to the Times, he had made at Waterford. Mr. Byrne declared that he had never been in Waterford, and therefore could not have made a speech there.

Mr. Mayne, M.P., testified that he believed in boycotting and would carry it to the extent of refusing to sell meat to persons who were boycotted.

John O'Connor, M.P., testified that he had denounced crime which he regarded as the enemy of the League. He had no sympathy with moonlighters, and had no reason to shield them.

**The Delagoa Bay Matter.**

LISBON, July 9.—The Portuguese directors of the company whose concession to build the Delagoa Bay Railway was cancelled by Portugal, have formally protested to the Government against the cancellation of the concession. A general meeting of the parties interested will be held here shortly, at which the English shareholders will be present.

**Floods in India.**

LONDON, July 9.—Despatches from India say that the River Indus has overflowed its banks, and that the adjacent country is under ten feet of water. Forty persons have been drowned at Lukkhana.

**Bernhardt Plays Though Ill.**

LONDON, July 9.—Sarah Bernhardt played Zaza to a critical and adoring audience at the Lyceum this evening. She was indisposed, and was obliged to ask the indulgence of the house.

**A Smash-Up in Servia.**

BUCHAREST, July 9.—A passenger train collided with a freight train near Vinitsa to-day. Fifteen persons were killed and many injured. The accident was due to a mistake of a switchman.

**Miners Again Striking.**

BERLIN, July 9.—The workmen at the Saar coal mines are again on the strike, owing to the dissatisfaction of delegates who attended the recent miners' conference.

**The Simplon Tunnel.**

LONDON, July 10.—Switzerland has agreed to refer to outside experts Italy's proposal that the Simplon tunnel open in Italian territory.

**Emperor William's Movements.**

BERLIN, July 9.—Emperor William will sail for England from Antwerp. At Antwerp he will meet King Leopold.

**Wissmann Occupies Pangani.**

ZANZIBAR, July 9.—Capt. Wissmann has occupied Pangani without loss. The natives withdrew to the interior.

**Suppressing German Teachers.**

LONDON, July 10.—Russia has suppressed the German teachers' seminary at the Dorpat University.

**Died From a Copperhead's Bite.**

PARKERSBURG, July 9.—Fifteen-year-old Mary Reed was bitten by a copperhead snake near Parkersburg this morning and died within an hour.

# LIVE WASHINGTON TOPICS.

### MR. PORTER'S STRUGGLE WITH THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION.

**He Has Practically Won the Privilege of Appointing the Clerks in the Census Bureau—Harrison Snatches Time from the Office Seekers to Devote to Weighty Questions—Gen. Agnus Gives Uncle Jerry the Horse He Rode at "Naciremn."**

WASHINGTON, July 9.—It looks very much as if Robert P. Porter, the Superintendent of the Census, had beaten the Civil Service Commission in the contest between them for the privilege of appointing the army of clerks that will be employed in the work of ascertaining the results of the tenth census. The struggle between Porter, backed by the Secretary of the Interior, First Assistant Postmaster-General Clarkson, and other anti-Mugwumps, on the one hand, and the Civil Service Commissioners on the other, has been going on all summer. Porter contended that there was nothing in the law organizing the Census Bureau giving control of the appointments to the Civil Service Commissioners, and he did not mean to let them have them. That patronage he claimed for himself. He said that the work of collecting census statistics was of a technical character, and as he was to be responsible for the work he desired to name his own men. The President found himself between the two horns of a dilemma in settling the matter. He desired to admit the justice of the claims set up by Superintendent Porter and his friends, and yet he felt that his repeated professions of civil service reform demanded that he should put as many Government employees as possible under the protection of competitive examinations. His friends, the Civil Service Commissioners, were becoming importunate. Having swallowed up the 3,000 employees of the railway mail service, their appetite would not be appeased until the census employees were given them also.

But they have been disappointed. The President has escaped his predicament by a sort of compromise. The census clerks will be named by the Secretary of the Interior, upon the recommendation of Mr. Porter, of course, and appointed after being subjected to an examination held by the men selected by Mr. Porter for the work. This is just what the Superintendent wants. Under this arrangement he will not only have the privilege of naming his men, but will see to it that they possess the qualifications necessary for the proper performance of their duties. Among department people here who fully appreciate the difficulty of getting competent clerks for technical work general satisfaction is expressed at the arrangements made for the appointment of the census force.

Gen. Felix Agnus of the Baltimore *American* was in Washington to-day, and presented to Secretary of Agriculture Rusk the horse which Uncle Jerry rode at the famous party at Gen. Agnus's country seat, Naciremn, a few weeks ago. Secretary Rusk says he will send the horse to his Wisconsin farm, although his friends want him to keep it here as a memento of his famous ride.

Secretary Noble has appointed E. L. Campbell, a law clerk in the office of the Assistant Attorney-General, to act in conjunction with Josiah C. Stoddard and William C. Hunt as a Board to pass upon the qualifications of applicants for appointment in the Census Office.

A conference of more than an hour's duration was held at the office of the Secretary of the Interior to-day between Secretary Noble, Assistant Secretary Bussey, and Commissioner of Pensions Tanner. None of the three would tell why the meeting was held, but it is said that the condition of the business in the Pension Office was a subject of discussion. Commissioner Tanner having just returned from an absence of about ten days in the West.

The President made the following appointments to-day:

Horace A. Taylor of Wisconsin, to be Commissioner of Railroads.

Thomas C. Mendenhall of Indiana, to be Superintendent of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Henry W. Harper of Indiana, to be Consul of the United States at Lepsic.

Mr. Taylor, the new Commissioner of Railroads, is editor and proprietor of the Hub in Wisconsin *Star and Times*. He was formerly United States Consul at Marseilles. His appointment was urged by Senators Spooner and Sawyer and by Secretary Rusk.

Mr. Mendenhall was born near Hanoverton, Ohio, in 1841. He was professor of physics and mechanics in the Ohio State University from 1873 to 1878, and then went to Japan as professor of physics in the Imperial University at Tokio. He organized the general meteorological system of the Japanese Government. He was also one of the organizers of the Seismological Society of Tokio. In 1881 he returned to the United States and resumed the chair of physics and mechanics at the Ohio State University. In 1882 he organized the Ohio weather business service, and subsequently devised a system of weather signals to be displayed on railroad trains. He became a professor in the United States Signal Service in 1884, and established stations for the systematic observation of earthquakes throughout the country. He resigned from the Government service in 1886 to accept the Presidency of the Rose Polytechnic Institute of Terre Haute, Ind.

Secretary Windom said this afternoon that Prof. Mendenhall had been a candidate for the office, and was appointed altogether without recommendation. His residence at Terre Haute, instead of being in his favor, was really, Mr. Windom said, an objection in the mind of the President.

Prof. Mendenhall took the oath of office this afternoon and entered upon the discharge of his new duties.

The President has appointed the following Postmasters:

Thomas J. Hunt, Fayetteville, Ark.; John W. True, Eureka Springs, Ark.; Robert P. Patterson, Memphis; George W. Tatten, St. Louis, Mo.; Vincent L. Tyler, Fort Niobrara, Neb.; Jacob Thomas, N. Merrill, Palmers Mills, Tex.; Jesse Tuttle, Berlin Falls, N. H.; Forrest W. Feasey, Wolfborough, N. H.; Charles H. Stacy, West Newton, Mass.; Edward Pamela, Sunburne, N. Y.; William A. Ferris, Lima, N. Y.; Joseph A. White, Deposit, N. Y.; Emerson W. Addis, Brewster, N. Y.; Thomas Lee, Bloomfield, Va.; Levi E. Ichiss, Hackettstown, N. J.; Samuel M. Long, Manheim, Pa.; Alfred C. Sawyson, Canal Dover, Ohio; Caspar G. Stephens, Escanaba, Mich.; Andrew S. Devers, Mount Vernon, Ohio; Jesse Toledo, Ia.; Levi S. Raymond, Hampton, Ia.; August F. Bergman, Spirit Lake, Ia.; Ruth L. Bearded, Dodge City, Kan.; Mrs. Clara L. Nichols, Fort Leavenworth, Kan.; Robert H. Gardner, Stanton, Kan.; Stanley W. Parker, Columbus, Kan.; W. H. Stewart, Geneva, Neb.; William F. Campbell, Tecumseh, Neb.; Henry S. Straight, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Harley A. Hoover, Greenwood Springs, Col.; James A. Miner, Santa Maria, Cal.; Fred. W. Eier, Vancouver, W. T.; George W. Reardon, Sumter Court House, S. C.

The following-named fourth-class Postmasters were appointed to-day:

William L. Cook, Rimerston, N. Y.; C. D. Smith, Berryville, Va.; Mrs. Mary A. Hopkins, Jenkinstown, Pa.; C. Williams, Orangeville, Pa.; R. W. Wilkins, Waterford, Pa.; Sandy Herring, Boalsville, Pa.; James Carter, Chatham, Va.; Mrs. Ann Overby, Clintwood, Va.; Jacob Anderson, Dublin, Va.; T. J. Mitchell, Dumfries, Va.; A. L. Gasscoigne, Maywood, Va.; Nellie T. Wood, Montlake, Va.; William F. Rush, Mount Solon, Va.; Mrs. J. L. Bigland, Newport, Va.; Mrs. Sarah A. Norris, Gerrard, Va.; S. C. Whitesell, Spring River, Ia.; A. B. Rice, Reeves, Va.; G. A. Scammons, Rochester, Va.; W. T. Russell, Scottsburg, Va.; D. M. Smith, Union Level, Va.

The War Department has made public the finding of the court martial in the case of Sergeant Gustavus A. Weber of the Signal Corps. He was charged with disobedience of orders and conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline in refusing to obey the order of his superior officer, who had a seat at a desk in the St. Louis office, and in using disrespectful language. The court found him guilty of the first charge and sentenced him in the following language:

"To be reprimanded by the reviewing authority. The court is thus lenient on account of the loose and peculiar state of discipline existing in the United States Signal Service, as shown by evidence before the court."

In reviewing the sentence, the Major-General commanding comments upon its inadequacy, and says that the court seems not to have been aware that not the Signal Service but Sergeant Weber was on trial. The proceedings and finding are, however, approved.

Secretary Tracy has appointed Lieut. P. B. M. B. Mason and Chief Clerks Merritt and Sailor of the Bureaus of Yards and Docks and Ordnance respectively members of a Board to examine into the methods of reception, treatment, and discussion of correspondence and other official matter in the Secretary's office and in the bureaus of the Navy Department. The Board is also to look into the regulations now in force, report in what respect they are not observed or are defective, and suggest any changes in them that will promote economy and despatch in the transaction of the public business.

**That an extra session of Congress is to be called is about as certain as anything can be which is that far in the future. The President told Senator Washburn yesterday, when he mentioned that he was going abroad, that he had better make his plans so as to be here the end of October. It is the general understanding among Senators and Representatives that they are to be called here in session about the first of November.**

President Harrison has recently admitted that he is exceedingly annoyed by the constant newspaper charge that he has done nothing since the fourth of March but make appointments. An evening caller to-day prints half a column, evidently inspired by Libe Halford, explaining in great detail that while twelve hours per day for six days each week is devoted to affairs of State put one hour in five days in the week is consumed in listening to the appeals of the office seekers and dealing out the patronage to them. The important questions of State mentioned as taking up the time of the President are the Samoan and Haytien situation and the work of the Civil Service Commission. It is admitted also at the White House by men close to the President that he returned from his Fourth of July trip thoroughly tired out, and that he is exceedingly anxious to get away to Deer Park to recuperate. He will probably go on Friday.

The President took care of two Indiana men to-day and gave them both good places. In the case of Mr. Deidrich made Consul to Leipsic the President is said to have been actuated by shrewd political motives. Deidrich is a prominent German Lutheran, the members of which sect are very powerful in a political way in Indiana, and have held the balance of power in many a contest. Both parties are continually angling for their vote. It is said that in Harrison's last Senatorial contest, and in the fight for delegates to Chicago, Deidrich was an element of great assistance. Prof. Mendenhall, who is made Superintendent of the Coast Survey was notified of his appointment some time ago and has been in the city several days.

### AFRAID OF HEBREW RULE.

**Why the Harlem Club Trustees are Expected to Blackball Senator Cantor.**

The Board of Trustees of the Harlem Club, whose handsome club house at Lenox avenue and 122d street was opened last month, will vote at its meeting to-morrow night on the admission of eighty new members. Among the eighty applicants for membership is State Senator Jacob A. Cantor. There are thirteen trustees, and three black balls keep an applicant out of the club. He is also kept out if the Committee on Applications for Membership reports adversely. The trustees adopt the report by a majority vote.

According to present indications Senator Cantor is to be blackballed. Although several Hebrews are already members of the club, there is a disposition to keep the number from growing larger. The Senator proposes to risk it and see. He attended, by invitation, the opening of the club house on June 13, and while there was asked to join by several members who were personal friends. He wrote his name on a proposition card. An hour or so later another member who had heard of this told him he had better withdraw his application, as he would be blackballed because he was a Hebrew. Senator Cantor asked Robert Bonynge, who was his proposer, if it would result in personal embarrassment to him to persist in proposing him in the face of the opposition that was threatened. On Mr. Bonynge insisting in the negative, Senator Cantor resolved to let his name stand, and thus test the question as to the eligibility of Hebrews to admission to the Harlem Club. He says that he is glad to know the nature of the objection to him, or otherwise he would have supposed it personal.

Erwin T. Rice, President of the club, said last evening that Senator Cantor's exclusion, should he be excluded, would not be due entirely to race prejudice, but to the fact that when Hebrews get in they are found in the organization they generally manage to get control of it. It is from fear of this result that the opposition to Senator Cantor is due. Mr. Rice added that he had recently been obliged to advise a young Hebrew protégé of his who was an applicant for admission to the club to withdraw his name, because of the dread of Hebrews rule in the club.

Another officer of the club said President Rice had voiced the feeling of the members in regard to Senator Cantor. There are enough Hebrews in the club already, he thought, and it would be running a risk to add to their number.

### CHRISTOPHER MEYER'S WILL.

**A Witness Produces a List of the Gifts he Has Received From Mr. Meyer's Relatives.**

NEW BRUNSWICK, July 9.—The case of Millionaire Christopher Meyer's disputed will was continued in the Orphans' Court to-day, with the nurse, Ernest Gerlach, on the stand. Gerlach said that he had refreshed his recollection by looking at a memorandum book. Gerlach was asked to produce the book. When he did so to-day, Gov. Abbett said to him:

"You have torn some pages from this book?"

"Yes, sir."

"And you told Mr. Williams, the lawyer, about it while coming over on the ferryboat this morning, did you not?"

"Yes, sir."

"And he told you to put them back?" "Yes, sir."

"Now, why did you tear them out?" "I thought they had nothing to do with the case." Judge Depue examined an inspection of the leaves, and long argument ensued between Mr. Scherer and the other counsel for the executors, and ex-Surrogate Hoffman, Gov. Abbett, and Mr. Budd, who demanded an inspection of the leaves, as the mere fact that torn leaves were in the book might show an animus in the case. Judge Depue finally decided to admit the leaves, were they not in evidence. The papers were all written in German, but some of the lawyers deciphered them. The three leaves contained a record of gifts made to Gerlach by members of the Meyer family, all of whom were in favor of the probate of the will.

"These gifts," asked Gov. Abbett, "were all made in one year, were they not?" "No, some were made last year."

"They have all been made since Mr. Meyer's death, have they not?" "Yes."

These were repeated objections to these questions, but they were finally admitted, and the answers allowed to stand. The cross-examination was continued by ex-Judge Depue, and Judge Depue kept Gerlach on the witness stand while he was slightly questioned. Mr. Budd, in his cross examination, wished to compare Saturday's evidence with that given by Gerlach in the contest over the codicil, and in order to allow him to do so an adjournment was taken at 1 p. m. The testimony taken on Saturday fills nearly 100 typewritten pages.

It was impossible to call Felton Paul, the third witness to the will, to-day, as he is to fill to be present. The case was adjourned to July 18, when the cross-examination and redirect examination of Gerlach will be continued.

**A Street Car Hits Mr. Bloodgood's Trotter.**

John Bloodgood, Jr., the son of the broker, started from his home at 180 Fifth avenue at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon in a light buggy for a drive in Central Park with his trotter. He drove up the avenue behind one of the Fifth avenue stages. At Twenty-third street a cross-town car came along between the stage and the trotter, it hit the animal, and cut him on the chest.

Young Bloodgood called to Policeman Kane to arrest John Brennan, the driver of the car. Brennan protested that he had not purposely injured the horse, but Mr. Bloodgood insisted, and the policeman took Brennan to the fourteenth street station. Young Bloodgood made a complaint of carelessness against Brennan.

Coachman Sheridan told Mr. Bloodgood that he believed the car driver had run the horse down, and stated that the pushing of a complaint against him would probably cost the driver his job on the railroad. It hadn't struck Mr. Bloodgood in that light. He withdrew the complaint.

**A Criminal Practical Joke.**

John Trainor, a young Scotch laborer, who lives at 506 West Forty-ninth street, while under the influence of liquor entered John Cain's saloon at 504 West Forty-fifth street yesterday forenoon and sat down in a chair, and went to sleep. While Trainor was asleep a quantity of acid was poured down his neck. He awoke in agony and was taken in an ambulance to Roosevelt Hospital. His neck was found to be burned so severely on his back and breast. After his wounds were dressed he was taken home. Some time after Trainor was taken from the barroom the barkeeper, which barkeep disappeared, and the police have been looking for him, but so far he has not appeared. Trainor's friends say they believe that the barkeep did the job, as it is alleged that he very pointed that of some Trainor's boots as a practical joke, as the Roosevelt Hospital physicians were unable to decide what acid had been used.

**Mrs. Stevens Was Too Late.**

In the Supreme Court Charles G. Stevens and other trustees of the fund of $1,000,000 for Mrs. Paran Stevens brought an action against the executors of Paran Stevens's will to determine Mrs. Stevens's rights in the case. Mrs. Stevens applied for a stay until certain persons were made parties to the suit, which motion was denied. She appealed to the Supreme Court, yesterday Judge Barrett granted