THE DYING MISER'S WILL.

STEUBENDORF SAID TO HAVE LEFT HIS ALL TO MRS. KUEHNER.

She is Housekeeper of the Tenement in Which the Old Bachelor Had Been Starving Himself to Death These Fifteen Years.

Four carriages followed a hearse yesterday from the small, clean tenement house at 329 East Tenth street to the Lutheran Cemetery. There was a crowd about the door of 329. The German tenants of all the houses around leaned from their windows or were grouped about the doors. All were talking excitedly. It was the funeral of a lonely old bachelor named Edward Steubendorf, and the housekeeper of 329 and her family were the only mourners. The people watching the funeral were discussing the sincerity of her tears, the life of the bachelor, and the will he had left behind.

Edward Steubendorf, who would have been 85 years old had he lived until April 27, came to this country about forty years ago with his mother and father. His mother's great-grandfather, the neighbors said, was physician to the King of Denmark, and the husband grew rich as a merchant through the patronage of the Duke of Mecklenburg, but came to grief and emigrated. The Steubendorfs moved into a few-room apartment on the third floor of this tenement. When the war broke out they were afraid the son would be drafted, and they returned to Germany for a few years.

Edward Steubendorf was then a handsome young man. He met his cousin Emma, the daughter of his mother's sister, and his father's brother, and fell in love with her. But all the relatives opposed the marriage bitterly, and it was abandoned. The war being over, the Steubendorfs came back to America to the same tenement house. Edward, the story goes, swore that, as he could not marry his cousin, he would marry no one, and would have nothing to do with women. It seems that Emily took some such vow herself, for she has never married.

The Steubendorfs had a little money, and the young man devoted himself to study and spent all his days and evenings among his books. He was silent, morose and suspicious. He would allow no young girls to come into the apartment. He grew more eccentric every year. In 1878 his father died and his mother was shortly afterward so ill that she made over all the property to the son, thinking she was about to die. But she got well, and then the neighbors began to talk about her miserly bachelor son. He had no desire to accumulate money, but he seemed to have a fear that the small income he had would get away from him. So he cut down the expenditure below the living point, and his old mother used to slip out quietly, to avoid the glances of the neighbors, and get sewing to do. For the four years before her death in 1880, the neighbors say, she supported both herself and her son, who hoarded his income and added it to the principal. His mother was sick several months before she died, and the neighbors brought her all the little luxuries she had during that time.

After his mother's death it was seven years, according to the tales that are told, before any one crossed the threshold of the little apartment Steubendorf occupied. Those of the tenement people who were astir very early used to see him go down stairs with a basket. He went to the butcher's and got a little cheap meat, then to the baker's for one loaf of bread. Then he went back to his rooms, bolted the door, and was seen no more until the next morning. If any one knocked, he made no answer. If his name was called, he asked, "What's your business?" and unless the reply was satisfactory he would not open the door. The neighbors could hear the steady rock, rock of the chair in which he sat reading all day. It is the custom in the tenement for the tenants to take turns at scrubbing the stairs. When his turn came he took a bucket and brush and did the scrubbing himself. He paid no attention to the jeers of the women and the children. The only other sound from his rooms besides the rocking chair's creak was the noise of his mother's sewing machine, on which he did his old bachelor sewing.

One day four years ago his next door neighbors heard a fall in his rooms, followed by groans. The door was burst open and they saw him lying on the floor in a faint. It was in the bitterest cold of the winter. He had no fire and had been sitting in his rocking chair with the feather bed around him to keep him warm. The doctor said he had fainted from weakness caused by starvation. He had been cutting down the amount of bread and meat since his mother's death, and had fallen away in flesh gradually, until at last his body refused to starve further. When the doctor explained to him that he would die unless he ate more, he said he would eat more. He was a materialist and an atheist, and held that, as this life was all, he would do well to live as long as possible. So after this for two years he grew in health, and strength, and size. He barely thanked the neighbors who had rescued him, and his door was barred as before.

It seems that about two years ago he began to starve himself again. For many months now the neighbors have been noticing and commenting upon his thinness and his sick, haggard face. Latterly he permitted the housekeeper to come up and attend to those wants to which he was not able to attend. This housekeeper is named May Kuehner. She has several children and a blond-moustached, excitable husband, who has strong convictions upon the subject of an equal division of property.

No one knows how long Steubendorf was down with his fatal illness, ulceration of the stomach from lack of food. But the housekeeper was attending him constantly. A week ago yesterday Dr. A. Shulman was called in. Steubendorf had but one suit of clothes and that was in rags. He was dressed in a ragged undershirt. His body was wasted to skin and bone and his face was terrible to be seen. The rooms were clean and arranged with preciseness. Until the fire the doctor ordered was built there had been no fire in the stove for four years and before that for seven years. The bachelor did his cooking on a little worn oil stove.

Dr. Shulman found that Steubendorf could not live, and on Tuesday told him that if he had any preparations to make he had better make them at once. Steubendorf said he wanted to make a will. The landlady brought a real estate dealer and notary, named A. Hermani, from 265 East Tenth street, and a will was made, which, so the housekeeper told the neighbors, left all the property to her. At 6 o'clock that evening Steubendorf died.

The other tenants do not like Mrs. Kuehner, and they were not pleased at her good fortune. So they made smiling inquiries of Mr. Kuehner as to his present views upon the division of property, and asked him who his wife would be divided. Notary Hermani would not talk about the will. The amount of the property, which is in several banks, is said to be about $15,000, although this is mere guess work.

THE KAISER GRACIOUSLY CONSENTS,

And the Princess May Rear Her Infant Without the Aid of the Bottle.

BERLIN, Feb. 5.—The Princess Frederick-Leopold of Prussia, having declared her desire to rear her infant son without the aid of the bottle, the Emperor has paused amid grave duties of state to announce his formal consent to this important domestic arrangement, which involves the renunciation by the Princess of all court festivities for the present year.

Funeral of Russell Sage, Jr.

The body of Russell Sage, Jr., was removed from the Windsor Hotel to the house of his uncle, 506 Fifth avenue, yesterday morning. Funeral services were held in the afternoon. The Rev. Dr. Stoddard, one of the editors of the New York *Observer*, conducted the usual service of the Presbyterian Church.

Among those who attended the funeral were Mr. and Mrs. Eddy, Jay Gould, Miss Helen Gould, Mr. and Mrs. Leake of Williamstown, Col. and Mrs. Slocum and Miss Slocum, Dr. and Mrs. Mann, the Rev. Dr. J. R. Paxton, George Hopkins, John Terry, John McGinnis, and Mr. and Mrs. Russell Sage. The body will be taken to Brunswick, near Troy, on the 9:10 train this morning, and interred in the plot where Mr. Sage's father and mother are buried.

American Museum Lectures.

Prof. Bickmore of the American Museum of Natural History will begin his spring course of lectures to the teachers of New York, Brooklyn, and the neighborhood at 10:30 o'clock this morning in the lecture room of the museum, Eighty-first street and Eighth avenue. The particular subject of this lecture will be "Turkey—Constantinople," illustrated by colored views. The museum is open free to the public on Wednesday and Saturday evenings until 10 o'clock. The building is lighted by electric lights. The President, Mr. Morris K. Jesup, has recently put on exhibition a valuable collection of ornamental and building stones of North America, which forms a nucleus, with his valuable exhibit of woods, for an economic collection.

Business Troubles.

The private banking firm of Marcy, Geer & McLarin of Eaton, N. M., has made a general assignment. Liabilities about $80,000; assets about $60,000. Depreciation in securities on cattle and ranges is said to have been the cause of the failure.

The E. Goddard & Sons Flour Mill Company of St. Louis made an assignment on Thursday. The liabilities are estimated at $100,000; assets, $97,000.

SUNDRY QUESTIONS THAT ARE UP.

Jewish and Italian Immigration—Socialism in Europe.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—There has come here an interesting citizen who recently returned to this country from Europe, where he spent some time in investigating certain political and social movements, and had opportunity of looking under the surface of affairs in half a dozen countries. He took notice there especially of three novelties of contemporaneous concern—the Russian-Jewish exodus, the Italian emigration, and the Socialist agitation. In referring to these things he spoke thus:

"The Jewish question is of far more serious import than Americans have yet understood it to be. There are over 6,000,000 of the Jewish race in Russia and Poland, and the Russian Government is determined to drive them away from its territory. Between 60,000 and 70,000 of them arrived in the city of New York last year, and a sufficient number arrived at other American ports to make the Jewish immigration to the United States during the year fully 100,000. The probabilities are that twice as many will leave Russia in 1892, and, though there has been some talk about a part of them going to Brazil and the Argentine Republic and Mexico and other Spanish-American countries, it is the United States that all of them desire to settle in, and they have many reasons for entertaining this desire. After investigating things abroad, I believe that more than a million of them will take ship for our country within a few years. This is a serious question for the consideration of the American people. Nearly all of the Russian-Jewish immigrants are penniless, and are aided in coming here and after they get here. They do not amalgamate with the people of our country; they live by themselves in New York and other cities; they form colonies of their own, and they know nothing about our language, our institutions, or our industries. We have never before had an immigration of this kind, and there is a great deal of speculation about it among thinking men, including those employed in our domestic industries who are affected by it. What can be done by the Government for its regulation? President Harrison and Secretary Blaine are unable to answer the question, though they are aware of its gravity. Our republic is a home for the oppressed of all the world, and Congress could adopt no legislation that would discriminate against any race of mankind, excepting the Chinese, whom it has prohibited from coming to this country. I confess that I can make no suggestion of a practical kind, and must wait for the arrival of somebody who can.

"Another thing that I looked into while abroad was the rush of Italians to this country. I came to the conclusion, after travelling through Italy, that the rush will not last long. We have had more immigrants from Italy within the past two years than we will have in all the other years of this century. The Italians are turning their faces toward Argentina and other South American countries, where they do better than they do in the United States, and where they are welcome, and where they find a climate that is more agreeable to them than ours is, and where they intermarry with the Spanish race, whose language they acquire easily, and whose ways are like their own. Far more Italians are going there now than are coming to this country, and I became satisfied while in Italy that the immigration of Italians to the United States will rapidly decrease hereafter. In fact, I am satisfied that we shall soon see the end of it.

"But more deserving of notice than anything else that I investigated in Europe was the Socialist business which is now agitating half a dozen countries. In Spain it is called anarchism, and it permeates the working classes there, a great part of whom belong to the class that cannot get work. The Government has been fighting them for some time in the province of Andalusia, and they are a perpetual nuisance to the people in Madrid and Barcelona. The Government is trying to suppress them and keep them down, but how can it suppress the discontent that has got into the bones of more than half of the population of Spain? In Belgium, also, the Socialists have been especially active during the past half year, and at this time the Belgian Government is alarmed by their proceedings, as you may see by the recent news from Brussels. They are thoroughly organized there, even the peasants of the rural districts, but more especially the miners, weavers, and ironworkers. I ascertained that there are at least 400,000 enrolled Socialists in the little kingdom of Belgium, and that the demand for universal suffrage which they are now making upon the Chamber of Deputies is but the opening of a programme that is based upon the platform of the International Society. Should the Chamber of Deputies refuse to make concessions, it would not be hard to raise a revolution among the Belgian workingmen, and, when the flag of revolt is hoisted there, it will appear very soon afterward in other countries. The German Kaiser understands the fact and is giving proof that he realizes its importance. It is understood in Italy and in Austria, and even in England. But France and Russia are safe from Socialist disturbances than any other countries of the European Continent. In France the Government is responsive to the sentiment of the majority, and in Russia there is no public sentiment, or any majority for anything, or any organization of the masses, or any representative Legislature. I became fully convinced while travelling abroad that, in the event of a general European war this year, the Socialists of a good many countries will be heard from.

"Finally, I may say that I have no proposition to put in print regarding the Russian-Jewish question, that in my judgment we shall soon see the end of the Italian immigration question, and that we can do nothing to relieve overburdened Europe from the Socialist question."

BOSTON IMITATES US.

The Warning of School Children Against Things That Are Bad.

Col. John Jasper, Superintendent of City Schools, smiled serenely when there was shown to him yesterday a recent newspaper report of the action of the Boston Board of Education in taking steps to introduce into the schools of the Hub instruction as to the effects of alcoholic drinks and narcotics on the human system. The newspaper reported that the Commissioners had arranged to make the matter a subject of text-book study, and that the action was taken in deference to a popular petition presented by Boston citizens.

"It is often said," remarked Superintendent Jasper, "that New York is behind the age in educational matters. It isn't true, and this is an evidence of its flexibility. It shows that cultivated Boston is just waking up to an important branch of common school instruction that has been beneficially carried on in New York's schools since 1885. The rules require that at least once a month the principals of the schools shall deliver a lecture on physiology and hygiene of at least twenty minutes' duration. This is supplemented by text-book instruction for the pupils in the higher grades. The lectures are simple, clear, and readily understood by the pupils. The instruction begins with a talk to the younger children, and is made more comprehensive as they advance in the grades.

"These lectures impress upon the pupils the necessity of bodily cleanliness, the perils of the use of alcoholic stimulants and narcotics and the damage they inflict, and also the injurious effects of tobacco, and especially of cigarettes, upon the young. This instruction also embraces talks to the children upon the important topics of unripe fruit, cheap colored candy, exposure to draughts, methods of studying lessons, with a warning never to study immediately after meals, effects of night air, the best places and times to play, the importance of play in the open air, the proper ventilation of sleeping rooms, the care of the eyes, the injury done by reading in the twilight or in the cars, and the precautions against sunstroke.

"You can judge by this that the New York plan of physiological and hygienic instruction is calculated to be of lasting benefit to the young people who receive it. It teaches them how they may keep their bodies sound and their wits bright, and it is gratifying to know that the children are really interested in the lectures. Boston has done a first-rate thing in adopting a similar branch of instruction."

They Think She Died of Starvation.

Mrs. Annie Wells, aged about 65, was found dead in her room last night at 72 Morton street. Her husband is a book canvasser in Philadelphia and a veteran of the war. Two weeks ago he sent her to this city and was to rejoin her about Feb. 1.

Mrs. Wells's neighbors in the house said they thought she died of starvation, for although they were in and out of her rooms at all times they never knew of her going out to get supplies, and all that they had taken in of her was some soda crackers and soda water last Sunday. If she did starve, it was through pride, for they asked her daily if there was anything they could do for her, and she always refused.

Forged Her Mother-in-law's Name.

SALEM, Feb. 5.—Mrs. Josephine H. Barry, a public school teacher of Lawrence, was to-day sentenced to two years in the House of Correction for forgery. She was convicted of forging her mother-in-law's name to an order upon which she obtained $1,150, the amount on deposit in the Essex Savings Bank as credited upon the bank book presented. The testimony showed that Mrs. Barry had given a note for $1,200, got it discounted for $1,100, and gave her mother-in-law's bank book for security with the forged order.

Everybody Should Read

What eminent men have to say in next Sunday's *Recorder* on page 25.—*Adv.*

THE POLICE PENSION FUND

Threatened With a Deficiency if Increased Pensions be Allowed.

The bill that has been introduced in the State Senate by Senator Hagan, providing that the Superintendent, Inspectors, and Captains of Police, when retired, shall be pensioned at half pay, would fix the pension of Superintendent Murray at $3,000 a year, and its introduction has given rise to the rumor that its passage is to be followed by that official's retirement from the service. It has also directed renewed attention to the condition of the Police Pension Fund, which, at the rate of $175 a day, has decreased more than $30,000 during the past year. It is a question how it may be recouped if new drafts are to be made upon it. At the beginning of last year the cash in the treasurer's hands to the credit of the Pension Fund was $70,314.05. During the year these were the sources of income:

Excise fund	$284,277 50
Deductions for sickness	74,576 32
Police salaries in 1891	84,902 78
Deductions for absence	29,244 77
Fines, members of the force	18,390 61
Certificates of inspection of steam boilers	32,766 00
Masked ball permits	6,403 00
Sale of property by property clerk	1,528 07
Pistol permits	1,475 00
Donations	1,223 97
Unclaimed cash (from property clerk)	347 49
Premium from Horse Show	800 00
Oleomargarine fines	50 00
Percentage on rewards given policemen	48 00
Interest	1,408 43

The revenues amounted, collectively, to $416,803.94, against disbursements of $480,053.40 that were distributed as follows:

To policemen, retired on pension	$373,688 70
Widows and orphans	105,981 64
Expenses	143 06

The additions to the pension fund last year through the retirement or death of officers and men amounted to $37,000, while the sums saved by the death of the recipients of pensions amounted to only $25,000. At this rate the charges against the fund increase steadily, although its resources do not. Nine widows ceased to get pensions during the year, seven having died, the pension of one having been revoked, and one having remarried. The fund is now responsible for payments to 629 officers, patrolmen, doormen, surgeons, and detectives, and to 408 widows and orphans.

The Police Pension Fund dates back to 1857, when it was established on the basis of life and health insurance. Since that time many changes have been made by the Legislature and the Police Commissioners, the most notable having been made by the Legislature of 1882, which established the fund on its present basis. As amended two years later it had this provision:

All moneys, pay, compensation, or salary, or any part thereof, forfeited, deducted, or withheld from any member or members of the police force for, or on account of, absence for any cause, lost or sick time, sickness or other disability, physical or mental, is to be paid monthly by the treasurer of the Police Board to the Police Pension Fund. Twenty-five per cent. annually of all excise money; moneys derived from granting permits to carry pistols, give masked balls, or to operate steam boilers are to go to the Police Pension Fund.

Thus recruited and assisted by constant aid from the Legislature, the fund has been kept up steadily, but the demands upon it increase constantly, so that on the first of January the total on hand and on deposit in the Bowery Bank was $6,574, which, at the rate of payment entailed last year, would leave a deficiency of $50,000 at the close of 1892, to say nothing of the need of cash to pay the increased pensions called for by the bill introduced by Senator Hagan.

WATER RESERVOIRS IN AFRICA.

Remains of the Extensive System of Roman Irrigation Works.

Mr. Réné de la Blanchère, who has given twelve years to the study of Roman antiquities in Northern Africa, has just made a report to a French scientific society on the means employed by the Romans to enable North Africa to sustain a very large population. The great difficulty was in maintaining the productiveness of the soil on account of the very unequal distribution of the rains, the country being almost wholly without precipitation for months every year. In order to remedy the inconveniences of the torrential period, when the country was flooded, and of the subsequent drought for five months, the Romans covered their African province with a network of hydraulic structures. The principle which guided the construction of these works was that the water should not be left to itself, but that all should be controlled for the common good.

From the summits of the mountains to the sea all the rain that fell was seized upon, led here and there in channels, and distributed over the fields. In the smallest mountain ravines small dams were built to retain the water. In the valleys other dams arrested its progress down stream. By that means the Romans prevented great floods descending the mountains at the time of heavy rains and retained a large part of the precipitation in the higher reservoirs until such time as the water thus preserved was needed. At the extreme end of each large valley was a system of works which assured not only the watering of that immediate region but conducted flowing streams through many channels, so that the surrounding earth could absorb what was required. At the entrance of each large stream on a plain a dam was built, generally to retain the water and prevent the sudden invasion of the plain before they were required.

The system of water reservoirs and irrigation channels was established over Roman Africa, and in all parts of the country the remains of the extensive works may be found. The Romans were centuries in reaching their perfected system of water control and supply. The works were in full perfection, and the useful ness about the third century of our era. The civil and religious wars which occurred later led to their decadence, and finally the Arab invasion, together with the deforesting of large parts of the country, completed the work of destruction.

DRIVEN OVERBOARD BY FEAR.

A Russian Sailor Says He Had to Take to the Sea to Save His Life.

Early one morning recently some men who were on a fishing smack in the English Channel heard a faint cry further out at sea. They started toward the sound, and reached a man who was floating, supported by a life buoy. He was rescued without much difficulty and brought to the shore. He was clad only in a flannel shirt, and was so exhausted when taken out of the water that he could not speak. Later he told a remarkable story.

He said that he was a Russian sailor, and that on the night before he had jumped overboard from an English steamship in the channel. He had shipped on the vessel for Swansea, where the steamship took on a cargo of coal and then left for a French port. At sea he received very rough treatment from the crew and the mate. The crew complained of his being a Russian, said he did not know his work, and that he was getting too much money. He overheard a conversation between the mate and the crew to the effect that when he came on watch that night they would put him in a seaman's clothes bag with some coal to give it weight and then throw him overboard.

He was convinced that the only chance of escape was to fasten a life buoy to his person and jump overboard in the hope of being picked up. About midnight he carried out his plan, and had been floating in the water several hours when he was rescued. The Board of Trade at Plymouth have taken note of the man's serious charges, and the British Consul at Havre, where the vessel now is, has been instructed to investigate.

The New Star in Auriga.

BOSTON, Feb. 5.—A large number of photographs of the region including the new star near Chi Aurigae, recently discovered in Scotland, were taken at Harvard College observatory from Nov. 3, 1885, to Dec. 1, 1891. The star does not appear on any of these photographs. Twenty subsequent photographs of the same region show that the star was already bright on Dec. 10, and that its brightness increased until Dec. 20, after which it became gradually fainter. It was still bright, however, Feb. 3, when the announcement of its discovery was made.

Photographs taken at Harvard last night show that its spectrum is unique and unlike that of an ordinary variable star.

Six Men Sent to Sing Sing.

NEWBURGH, Feb. 5.—Orange county's Judge is a terror to evildoers. To-day he sentenced six men to Sing Sing for various crimes, their terms aggregating fifty-six years. The ages of five of them ranges from 21 to 27 years, and one only is over 27 years old. Mrs. Paul Halliday, who was charged with setting fire in Sullivan county to a building and burning to death a helpless aged relative, and with invasion of her home, was pronounced insane, and sent to an asylum.

The People Sort the Mail.

From the Globe-Democrat.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Jan. 28.—A curious state of affairs prevails in Nanticoke, a mining town of 11,000 inhabitants. Two-thirds of the population are foreigners, mostly Huns, Poles, and Italians. Three months ago the free mail delivery system was inaugurated in the town. It has proven a failure. A great deal of foreign mail matter is received at the Post Office daily, but no streets or numbers are given. The letters carriers simply take a bag of mail and march through the town blowing a whistle. The people turn out and the carrier allows them to examine the letters. In this way he delivers to owners. The people are honest enough and will not take a letter that does not belong to them. The Post Office authorities at Washington, however, are not alike the mode of delivery, and it is likely that the free delivery system will be discontinued at the end of the month.

THE SOUTHERN REPUBLICS.

Advices from Several Countries in Which We Are Interested.

The election of a new President of the republic of Venezuela was fixed for the 4th of February, and the excitement in Caracas was running high at the time of our latest advices from there. There have been about a dozen candidates for the office, but several of them have recently left the field. The present President, Dr. Palacio, has been scheming for election for a second term, in violation of the Constitution. Whatever may have been the result of the election, there is danger that it will be followed by popular disturbances, in which the adherents of the banished ex-President, Rojas Paul, are sure to participate.

There is general satisfaction in Ecuador with the election of Señor Corderas to the Presidency, although the Liberal party, which had carried many of the municipal elections was disappointed. The reports from Quito give reason to believe that the Government of the United States will be unsuccessful in its efforts to gain possession of the Galapagos Islands, or any one of them, as a naval coaling station. The negotiations of Secretary Blaine for the transfer have not yet, however, been completed. The Galapagos would have been very useful to the United States in case there had been war with Chili.

The papers of Lima and other Peruvian cities are vexed over the news that Chili is not to be disciplined by Secretary Tracy's navy. They had looked for the humiliation of the enemy of Peru.

The Congress of Brazil postponed action upon nearly all the important measures that it had been convened to consider. It neglected even the public finances, the reorganization of the States, and the foreign relations of the Government, and it adopted the policy of conferring dictatorial powers upon President Peixotto. Yet the spirit now pervading Brazil is more pacific than it has been at any other time since the founding of the republic.

The Government of Argentina is unusually vigilant in the enforcement of measures for the preservation of the peace. The garrisons of Buenos Ayres and other cities have been under arms several times this year, and the vessels of the navy have been kept ready for service. The outbreak in Mendoza was a cause of apprehension last month.

There is no news of importance from any of the Central American republics.

From Mexico there are favorable reports of the progress of the work of the American and Mexican Boundary Commissions. The American Commission, which is in charge of Col. Barlow of the United States Engineers, will make some important surveys in the month of February. News has reached the Mexican capital of the discovery of silver ore of a high grade in the State of Durango.

DETROIT FOLKS UNCOMFORTABLE.

A Break in a Natural Gas Main Cuts Off the Fuel Supply of Many Houses.

DETROIT, Feb. 5.—An explosion at Newport, Mich., at 11 o'clock this morning broke the main of the Michigan Gas Company, which pipes natural gas from the Ohio field, and suddenly shut off the supply for Detroit.

Natural gas has been used here for two years, and there are now probably 3,000 consumers. In 2,000 houses at least no other fuel is used.

As the thermometer registered 20° above, the state of affairs became alarming soon after the accident to-day, and thousands of people either had to shiver in their houses or seek comfort in the houses of their more fortunate neighbors. In many cases life was endangered, it being impossible to heat up the houses in which there were sick people. The lack of fuel was felt most by the wealthier people of the city, who are the principal consumers of natural gas. Great inconvenience was caused down town also, where many restaurants, hotels, and business houses depended entirely upon the gas for fuel. Several restaurants, one theatre, and dozens of small halls had to be closed to-night.

At 9 o'clock the break had been repaired and the gas was turned on. In half an hour the city was warm once more.

SAYS SHE WANTS TO BE HANGED.

Alice Mitchell Hopes to Meet Freda Ward in the Next World.

MEMPHIS, Feb. 5.—The attorneys of Alice Mitchell, who killed Freda Ward, to-day filed their formal plea of insanity in the criminal court for their client and made application for a *de lunatico inquirendo* writ, which was granted. The defendant's counsel will be ready with their evidence inside of ten days. Some lawyers think the counsel have made a mistake in asking for a lunacy examination in advance of a trial. If they fail to prove insanity they will be debarred from pleading it on the regular trial.

It is said that a girl has been found who claims to have overheard a conversation between Miss Mitchell and Frank Johnson before the murder, in which the killing of Freda Ward was discussed. A long list of physicians who are named as witnesses in the lunacy proceeding has been prepared.

Miss Mitchell said yesterday that she looked forward to the day when she should be hanged as the happiest day of all. Beyond the gallows she believes that she will enjoy more sweet Freda. Fears are entertained that she will commit suicide. She is watched by relatives.

Senator Aldrich Announces His Candidacy.

PROVIDENCE, Feb. 5.—United States Senator Nelson W. Aldrich announced this afternoon that he is a candidate for reélection to a party of friends who have been urging him to consent to run again. No letter will be issued. The Republican programme will now be very quickly made up, and the State ticket, which is considered most advantageous to the success of the election of an Assembly which is expected to return Senator Aldrich, will be announced in a few days. The composition of the ticket will be made known in a very few days, for no sooner had the senior Senator decided to stand for reélection to-day than the liveliest preliminaries of a State campaign were begun. The candidacy of Senator Aldrich is looked upon with varying opinions by the prominent Democrats of the State, but it is generally regarded as a challenge to ex-Gov. Wetmore.

A New Set of Officials for Deer Island.

BOSTON, Feb. 5.—The situation at Deer Island had such a serious aspect at noon to-day that Superintendent Gerrish did not wish to part with the police detail of a sergeant and ten men, because he feared a wholesale desertion on the part of his subordinates. This afternoon Mayor Matthews called a special meeting of the Board of Aldermen and reported the result of his investigations. He removed Dr. Otis K. Newell, one of his new appointees, from the Board of Directors of Public Institutions and appointed ex-Senator Edwin L. Pillsbury, a Republican, in his place. In addition to that the Mayor ordered the directors to discharge Deputy Superintendent Upton, the clerk, the assistant clerk, and three other officers in the Deer Island Institution. Mayor Matthews has received congratulations from the leaders of both political parties for his decisive and unbiassed action in the emergency.

Coal War in Elizabeth.

ELIZABETH, Feb. 5.—A coal war is raging among the Elizabeth dealers. To-day all kinds of coal are selling for $4.25, the lowest figure reached in fifteen years, and prices are likely to drop still further. The reason, it is alleged, is that the dealers who form the New Jersey Coal Exchange are trying to freeze out of business some independent dealers who were selling at lower rates. The Exchange charged $5.25 per ton, while their rivals charged $4.75. Lorenz Wolf, an independent dealer, underbid the dealers in the coal combination and captured the contract for supplying the public schools. This aroused their anger, and it is against Wolf that the present movement is directed chiefly. The consumers are happy over the strife, which they hope will last all winter.

New Yorkers Buy Leland's Chicago Hotel.

CHICAGO, Feb. 5.—The Leland Hotel property, including building, land, and good will, has been sold to A. J. Cooper for $925,000. The building and good will are valued by Mr. Leland at $300,000 and the land at $625,000. These terms were submitted to Mr. Cooper, and early this morning he telegraphed his acceptance from New York, where he has been for some time carrying on the negotiations.

The hotel property has a frontage of 140 feet on Michigan avenue and 100 feet on Jackson street. The building is a six-story brick, containing over 300 rooms. Mr. Cooper makes the purchase for New York capitalists. They contemplate extensive alterations and improvements to the property.

Bookkeeper and $7,100 Gone.

HAMBURG, Ia., Feb. 5.—About a month ago Albert Borchers was employed as bookkeeper by the Bank of Hamburg. He was intrusted with the combination to the vault door. On Wednesday evening Cashier E. D. Gilman and Vice-President Wing, together with Barchers, made up the cash and prepared to close.

The cashier was called from the bank, and in his absence Borchers put the time lock in such a condition that when the cashier returned and closed the safe the lock failed to work. In the night Borchers, it is alleged, returned, unlocked the vault and opened the safe, took $7,100, and fled.

It does not pay to let a cough continue. Stop yours now with Piso's Cure for Consumption. 25c. All druggists.—*Adv.*

ROYAL BAKING POWDER

Absolutely Pure.

A cream of tartar baking powder. Highest of all in leavening strength.—*Latest U. S. Government Food Report.*

THOUGHT THEY WERE CHICAGO LOTS.

Columbus Purchasers Find Them in a Far-Away Lonely Swamp.

COLUMBUS, O., Feb. 5.—Persons here who have been buying Chicago lots which were represented to be near the city learned to-day that the lots were twenty-five miles from Chicago, in a swampy region, remote from railroads. More than a hundred persons have been taken in. Mrs. Helen Rose, matron of the Deaf and Dumb Institution, said her son Clifford and her daughter had purchased three of the lots, paying $8 a month. The prices of the lots were from $100 to $200. They are in a place called De Forrest. An evening paper here prints this despatch about De Forrest:

"CHICAGO, Feb. 5.

"De Forrest is a properly laid out subdivision of 120 acres in northeast quarter section 23, township 35, range 14, town of Bloom, situated three miles southeast of Glenwood. The nearest railroad station is twenty-five miles from the Court House, also half a mile north of the Joliet cut-off and belt railroad for freight, with no station. The plat shows a creek running through the centre north and south, eighty-five lots fronting on and running into the creek. This part is said to be low and swampy ground. Edward A. Filkins is trustee, by order of court, to sell, convey, and carry out contracts. Unfavorable comments are made by the press of this city regarding the subdivision and methods taken to sell lots before going into the hands of the trustee.

"JOHN STEPHEN, Recorder."

Odds and Ends of Sports.

The annual shooting match and parade of the Washington Rangers will be held on Feb. 22 at Cosmopolitan Park. The shooting will be open to all comers for a $50 prize.

The Longfellows of Brooklyn and Thistles of New York will play off their League matches at football on the ground of the former, at Ridgewood, to-morrow afternoon.

The Irish-American Athletic Club are going to vacate their quarters on North Moore street on May 1. It has not yet been decided upon where the new club house will be located.

Prof. Whewell will conduct classes in physical culture and general gymnastics on Wednesday and Friday evenings, during the remainder of the winter, in the gymnasium of Columbia Grammar School, East Fifty-first street and Madison avenue.

A. T. Nye, New York city.—The record is 7 feet 8½ inches, Mr. Bellemaker, ridden by Rose Marantette, over bars, at Chicago, Nov. 20, 1891. Roseberry also has a jump of 7 feet 8½ inches to his credit, made at Elmira, N. Y., Sept. 3, 1891, but it was over a pole held by hand-holds, instead of by ropes and straps.

Two of the strongest teams playing football under Gaelic rules will be jotted against each other to-morrow afternoon at Ridgewood Park. The opposing teams will be the Kickhams, champions of the Gaelic Football Association, and the Hamilton Rangers. The game between these teams during the late championship struggle should result in a grand struggle for supremacy to-morrow.

At the annual meeting of the Lexington Athletic Club, held on Thursday, the following officers were elected: President, Peter Dore; Vice President, John Mahan; Treasurer, Henry Reimer; Recording Secretary, John M. House; Financial Secretary, Henry Reimer; Corresponding Secretary, Emil Rossell; Treasurer, Thomas Haynes; Captain, John Mahan. The club's stag of the club will be held on Feb. 13 at the club house.

James McNamee, who claims that he is a Scotch champion, writes to THE SUN as follows: "If Dan Eagan, the 'Montana Kid,' is anxious for a so, and the Marquis of Queensberry rules, or any other athletic club, with other a purse, I will meet the kid for any number of rounds or to a finish. I am anxious to meet some good man before returning to Scotland, where I am to fight Lucky Thompson, the middle-weight champion of that country."

Ernest Roeber called at THE SUN office yesterday and stated that he was ready to give Sebastian Miller a chance at defeating him in a wrestling match, which Miller recently challenged that he could do. "If Miller means business," said Roeber, "I will meet him at THE SUN office, or any other reliable place, at any time or day, and cover any stakes that he may put up. I am also ready to sign articles for a Graeco-Roman wrestling match for any amount."

The annual meeting of the Lone Star Boat Club was held at 258 Fifth avenue on Feb. 3. The following officers were elected: President, E. K. Kern; Vice President, Leon J. Louis; Secretary, Charles Griffith Mosse; Treasurer, G. Hafer; Captain, A. Jerome Myers; Lieutenant, C. Weisblatt; Directors, J. Loewi, S. E. Bierman, Leon J. Louis, Clarence Davis, H. Freeman; Member at Large, Leon Wagner. The club starts on their fifth year with upwards of $1,000 in the treasury.

Messrs. Rice, Raymond, and Skinner lead in the Brooklyn Bicycle Club's whist tournament. The tournament will close on Feb. 11. The record of the players is as follows:

	Games.	Points.		Games.	Points.
Corby	9	133	Rahming	7	158
Fuller	8	160	Remond	7	140
Hobby	8	172	Ricker	11	230
Malcolm	8	165	Skinner	10	215
Mainer	8	173	Vandergaw	10	202
Raymond	11	210	Van Doren	8	170

The Bayonne Rowing and Athletic Association have elected the following officers: President, Emil A. Moelman; Vice-President, Frederick O. Richter; Financial Secretary, Herbert Smith; Corresponding Secretary, Edward W. Affleck; Captain, Thomas F. Garrity; Lieutenant, Charles H. Taylor; Trustees—for one year, Emil C. Moelman, Frederick O. Richter, and Edward W. Affleck; for two years, James P. Norturop, Elbert Scofield, Jr., and Philip G. Vroom; for three years, Edward H. Scofield, E. Alexander Schumacher, and John D. Rowlands.

Articles of agreement were signed yesterday at the *Police Gazette* office between Prof. John Loris of Washington, D. C., and Warren Lewis's Unknown to shoot a match with rifle and revolvers for $500 a side and the championship of America. The conditions of the match are for each to shoot fifty shots with a rifle, open sights, and three pounds trigger pull, at two-inch bull's-eye, at a distance of fifty yards. Fifty shots with the same rifle and at the same target at fifteen yards at the word of command strictly offhand. Fifty shots with revolvers of 44 calibre, open sights, trigger pull to be three pounds, distance of twenty yards at a two-inch bull's-eye. Also fifty shots at the word of command offhand for $500 a side and the championship of America. The contest to take place in the open air at a suitable place on Feb. 26.

Shooting Gossip.

The match between H. Balser of the Flatbush Gun Club and W. A. Weber, Captain of the Atlantic Rod and Gun Club, which was to be shot at Coney Island on Feb. 15, is off.

H. P. Donnelly of the Atlantic Rod and Gun Club will introduce crows during this month on the Atlantic Rod and Gun Club grounds. He has commissioned a well-known shooter to get him a good number of crows to kill. Shooting for the season is at a premium.

New Brunswick, Feb. 5.—Arrangements have just been completed for a series of shooting matches between the Freehold, New Brunswick, and Dayton clubs. Each club will be represented by a team of twelve men, and each team will shoot at twenty-five targets. The matches will take place in the cities that are represented by the clubs, the first of the series to be shot at New Brunswick on Feb. 17.

The following scores were made at Springfield, N. J., on Wednesday, at the open meeting of the Union Gun Club: Club shoot at 25 Keystone targets—A class—Miller, 22; Sigler, 21; J. W. Smith, 19; Brientnall, 18; J. L. Smith, 16; Collins, 11. B class—Brantingham, 19; Williams, 16; Terry, 14; Pudney, 14; Nickley, 14. In a number of ten-target sweeps Brientnall broke 70 out of 80, J. W. Smith 68 out of 80, J. Collins, 66 out of 80; Sigler, 67 out of 80; Miller, 65 out of 80; J. L. Smith, 33 out of 50; Williams, 31 out of 50.

PORT ANDY, Feb. 5.—The Long Branch Amboy Gun Club is one of the most active organizations of the kind in New Jersey. The club has purchased the handsome enclosed grounds, formerly occupied by the Perth Amboy Baseball Club. A fine new shooting house is nearly finished. The club is arranging for a big shoot on Washington's Birthday. There will be sweepstake shooting at live birds all day, and in the afternoon a monster ox will be the first prize in a sweepstake match, open to