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The Sun.

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LATEST NEWS FROM EUROPE.

BULGARIA'S DIGNIFIED PROTEST AGAINST RUSSIAN OUTRAGE.

Her People Weary of Being the Victims of the Czar's Unfriendly Policy—Some Irish Leaders Squabbling Afresh—Gladstone's Big Week's Work—Glowing Reports of the Wealth of Mashonaland—W. S. Gilbert's Efforts in Behalf of Comic Opera Chorus Singers—A Sporting Club Whose Grounds are Described as "in Embryo."—Milbank and Borrowe Are Coming Back to New York—Milbank Has Something to Say to Two Editors Who Have Printed Remarks About Him—No Duel Yet.

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LONDON, April 16.—It is evident that Bulgaria is about to occupy the attention of the European monarchs and statesmen once more. Prince Ferdinand and his astute Prime Minister have been behaving themselves so well for a long time past that most people had almost forgotten the fact that the Prince had not yet been recognized by Europe as the lawful ruler of Bulgaria, and that the Czar of Russia regards him as an impudent usurper. Not a year has passed since Ferdinand went to Sofia without an assurance from England, Austria, and other powers that if Bulgaria would only be quiet and patient all would be well; but five years have gone, and the Prince's position remains nominally as illegal as ever.

To judge from the note which the Government at Sofia has just addressed to the Porte, Bulgarian patience is becoming exhausted. The Porte is reminded that although Bulgaria has been virtuous, that has been her only reward. Her Prince remains unrecognized, and the murderers of her statesmen still find a safe asylum in Turkey and in Russia. The facts set forth in this remarkable note, in dignified language not unworthy of the Foreign Minister of a great power, are really unanswerable, and the logic of the deductions drawn therefrom cannot be unset by the sophistry of all the diplomats in Europe. But Stambouloff's demands that the Sultan shall obtain from Russia the extradition of the murderers referred to and give further proof of good will by formally recognizing Prince Ferdinand are enough to create dismay in every foreign office. The mere formulation of them is calculated to set the diplomats by the ears, and compliance with them would probably set Europe in a blaze. It is certain, therefore, that Bulgaria will receive no satisfaction either from the Sultan or from the powers, for the Czar remains immovable and nobody dares to provoke him. As Stambouloff is clever enough to understand this, people in London, Berlin, and particularly in Vienna, are asking themselves why he has raised the most burning of questions at this particular moment. It has been for years an axiom of European diplomacy that if England and the central powers should recognize Prince Ferdinand the Czar would express his emphatic dissent by invading Bulgaria; but Stambouloff is known to hold a contrary opinion. He believes that the Czar will attempt the invasion and subjugation of Bulgaria as soon as he feels strong enough to defy the Triple Alliance, and not one moment earlier, and that it will make no difference to Russian intentions whether Europe recognizes Prince Ferdinand or continues to treat his position as irregular or illegal.

A good many people are beginning to share the opinion of the Bulgarian statesman, and to argue that the time has come, or at any rate is fast approaching, when European subservience to Russia shall cease. The knowledge that Bulgaria's friends are daily increasing in number in every European capital except Paris and St. Petersburg may well encourage Stambouloff to bolder action. Seeing that Mr. Gladstone, probably, will soon be in power in this country, the editorial comments on the Bulgarian question of the *Daily News*, the chief Liberal organ, are of considerable importance. The *News* has often shown pro-Russian proclivities, but the recent conduct of the Czar's Government has been too much for it.

"Bulgaria's note," it says to-day, "is a model of dignity and sound reasoning. It establishes the full responsibility of Russia, if not for the two recent murders of Bulgarian statesmen, at least for the impunity which the alleged authors of them enjoy. The Bulgarian refugees who are concerned in these atrocities are patronized by the Pan-Slavist societies of Odessa, and the man who was arrested at Constantinople for the murder of Dr. Vulcovitch was released on the demand of the Russian Government. He is not a Russian subject, and if he were he should still be answerable to the Turkish tribunal for an offence committed on Turkish soil. The Russian Government is completely without a case, but it has the strong arm, which usually forms a sufficient substitute for bad logic. Under this sense of impunity it has grown altogether shameless."

If these editorial utterances be taken to represent the opinion of the great English Liberal party, as undoubtedly they do, Prince Ferdinand and M. Stambouloff may be excused for supposing that in the event of trouble they can reckon upon England's support.

The course of the illness of M. de Giers is being watched with great anxiety. He was once fairly well described as "the Czar's head clerk," but even head clerks often exercise considerable influence over their masters, and De Giers was sometimes able to induce the Czar to modify his policy in some measure. Europe has always believed that whatever influence the Russian Chancellor possessed was used in the interests of peace and moderation, and his death at the present critical juncture would be generally deplored.

Some of the Irish leaders are squabbling afresh, this time over the paltry matter of the composition of the Board of Directors of the *Freeman's Journal and National Press* Company. Mr. John Dillon thinks that Mr. Timothy Healy has intrigued him out of the Chairmanship of the company, and the country is invited to take sides in a dispute which never ought to have been made public. The Parnellites are greatly encouraged by this quarrel, which they regard as a fresh proof of the existence of those personal rivalries and jealousies which they have all along contended will make it impossible for the Irish Parliamentary majority to act with vigor and singleness of purpose in the new Parliament which will be called upon to settle the home rule question.

The attitude of William O'Brien on this matter is remarkable, although up to the present it has not attracted public attention. He has rarely been seen at Westminster this session, and upon the few occasions upon which he has been in the House of Commons he has sat far apart from his colleagues, with whom he rarely communicates. Mr. John Dillon, too, no longer sits on what is known as the Irish ministerial bench, but occupies the most obscure seat on the top row below the gangway, well within the shadow cast by the gallery. He rarely speaks in debate, and to all outward appearance the Irish Parliamentary majority is led by Thomas Sexton and Timothy Healy. Nobody in authority will say what all this portends, but rumor is busy enough. It is asserted, for instance, that Mr. Dillon is about to retire into private life, and Mr. O'Brien is credited with the intention of emigrating to a more equable clime in order to get cured of his lung trouble. On the other hand, it is whispered that these gentlemen, so far from retiring from the struggle, intend shortly to attempt to purge the party by issuing an appeal to the Irish people to elect only the candidates whose stanchness is vouched for by John Dillon and William O'Brien. The outlook is disheartening to the friends of Ireland whichever way they turn. The strong brain and iron hand of a Parnell are urgently required and are sought for in vain.

Great Britain's Grand Old Man has this week, without apparent effort, succeeded in demolishing the theories of those who sought to erect airy castles upon the hypothesis that the ex-Premier's day was past and that his mental and physical powers were failing. On Monday he sat attentively listening to Goschen's financial statement, a subject on which he had later a few words to say. On Tuesday he was in his library by 7 and clearing up the last of his correspondence. At 10 o'clock he and Mrs. Gladstone were on their way to Euston with valise and wraps to catch the train for Hawarden. The horse fell, kicked, broke the shafts, and smashed in the front of the brougham, but before the coachman could get off his box the Grand Old Juvenile had alighted and hailed a passing hansom, and in two minutes was on his way again to the station. The 200-mile ride in the railway carriage was to him restful ease, and the carriage drive to his country home, a visit to his son, and a two-hour lecture on "What We Owe Egypt," given in the village hall, where he sat until the last word was spoken, brought about bedtime. Next morning at 7:45 o'clock Gladstone was afoot, pacing merrily in face of the driving storm in the direction of the village church, where he attended morning prayer, and then strode away home to breakfast. After that four hours of correspondence brought about luncheon time, and then there was an afternoon with Homer, and another visit to the village hall at night, this time to attend a gymnastic exhibition. He looked so radiant, so full of life and spirits, that it would not have surprised other spectators if he had tackled the vaulting horse or the flying trapeze, but he contented himself with applauding with all the enthusiasm of the smallest boy present and giving prizes to the winners, after which he walked home through two inches of snow.

Mr. E. A. Maund, one of the pioneer explorers of Mashonaland, gave at the Royal Colonial Institute the other night an extremely interesting account of the present position of that vast African territory which, in the opinion of dispassionate observers, is destined to become one of England's greatest possessions. Mr. Maund has invested his fortune in the country and has no doubt of the result. The earlier reports as to the gold prospects of this country were very conflicting, but there is no longer room for doubt that Mashonaland will pan out well in this respect. The immediate prospects of the country are entirely dependent upon the establishment of quicker communications. At present the cost of freight from England to Fort Salisbury, the capital of Mashonaland, is between seventy-five and eighty pounds sterling per ton, so that it does not pay to send out machinery except to the very richest reefs. The railway from the east coast to Fort Salisbury, less than 400 miles long, will alter the whole position, and as the difficulty with Portugal has just been arranged the work will be taken in hand soon.

The British South Africa Company, to which Mashonaland belongs, has not been idle. Fort Salisbury, which a year ago was only a name, now has brick hotels, clubs, billiard rooms, stores, a hospital, a church, newspapers, and a prison, and is in telegraphic communication with London; but Mr. Maund is not altogether satisfied with the progress made and contrasts it with the work of Americans in much less favorable circumstances.

"Had Western settlers," he says, "occupied Mashonaland and found the long southern route strangling the enterprise while there was a short, easy route to the sea eastward, though it ran through Portuguese territory, I believe they would have bought or fought, but anyhow there would have been a railway in course of construction long ere this."

For the moment the future of Mashonaland is discussed almost exclusively from the gold point of view; but on the great plateau, where white men can live as comfortably as at home, there are said to be vast tracts of land well watered, well wooded, with rich soil and magnificent grass, toward which shrewd Boer farmers are already beginning to move from the Transvaal. The big boom will probably not commence before the construction of the railway has made some progress. Farmers who can get on to the agricultural land before then will make more money than the gold seekers.

Cecil Rhodes, the South African Premier, is having a much quieter reception here this year than he had last season, when he was a society lion. He is here primarily to seek medical advice for the injuries which he sustained a few months ago in being thrown from his horse; but business in the shape of further South African exploitation is not to be forgotten. So far he has not appeared in public, but he will see both Lord Salisbury and Lord Knutsford when they return to London after the Easter recess.

Sir Arthur Sullivan is still confined to his bed at Monte Carlo, but the doctors give hopes that he will be well enough to be moved to England next week.

Mr. Gilbert has had a tilt at law with Manager Horace Sedger of the Lyric. When "The Mountebanks" was produced at that theatre, Sedger covenanted with Gilbert that no alteration should be made in connection with the opera except with the author's consent in writing." Sedger recently, of his own volition, discharged eight choristers, and Gilbert sought for an injunction to restrain him on the ground that a reduction of chorus would injuriously affect the proper playing of the opera and the gross injustice to the chorus who devoted weeks of unpaid hard labor to rehearsals on the understanding that they would be engaged for the full run. Sedger asserted that the choruses are not a part of the cast of an opera, and that interference with his managerial discretion would make the maintenance of discipline impossible. The Judge made an order indefinitely postponing the hearing of the action, and Gilbert wrote to the newspapers yesterday, saying that, as his main object to secure the immediate reinstatement of the unfortunate choristers had failed, he had decided to withdraw from the suit.

Gilbert's kindly action has drawn attention to the fact that it is quite a common occurrence for light opera managers to engage a very strong chorus for a new piece, and when success has been assured to dismiss a considerable proportion. Newspapers are now denouncing this system as fraudulent and unfair to the public, and the Actors' Association is being urged to take some action in the matter.

Sir Augustus Harris, while at Hamburg recently, engaged for his next Italian opera season Herr Botel, the German tenor, who is said to have a phenomenal voice.

Sir John Astley presided on Thursday night at the Hotel Metropole over the meeting of the members of the new Sports and Athletic Club, which, although it has been in existence for some time, has not yet secured a club house. The discussion was decidedly unconventional. Guy Nickalls, the famous amateur sculler, wanted to know whether pigeon shooting and rabbit coursing came within the club's definition of sport, and Sir John replied that they did, but that the rabbit courser would not be allowed to try his dogs on the premises.

"But where are the premises?" somebody asked.

"Oh," said Sir John, "they are at present in embryo."

"And where's that?" retorted the unsatisfied questioner.

"Just near Victoria Station," airily replied the worthy Baronet.

Everybody agreed that the club "should be cosmopolitan and rival the great sporting institutions already possessed by America," and a committee was appointed to secure premises worthy of such an ambitious aim.

The London firewood choppers have come to an amicable arrangement with the Salvation Army respecting the size and price of the bundles. It came out in the course of the negotiations that the Army has from the first lost money in the woodchopping business, and that it is kept on chiefly to find work for the 4,000 men who nightly sleep in the Salvation shelters in London.

The Majestic sailed for New York on Wednesday with every stateroom occupied, an unusual thing for a steamer going westward from Liverpool at this time of year. Among her passengers were David Gideon and John Kelly, who, having letters of introduction all over Europe, have been enjoying themselves hugely in England and on the Continent; Harry Wood Belote, a young Virginian, who is one of the crack huntsmen among the American riders in England; Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Bryan of the World's Fair Commission, Lord Francis Hope, Lord Alexander Paget, Canon Leigh, the Hon. W. W. Vivian, and Gen. R. M. Newport.

The present status of what began as the Drayton-Borrowe affair and has now become temporarily a matter between Borrowe on one side and Edward Fox and Col. Tom Ochiltree on the other remains as it has been since the arrival of Borrowe and Milbank on last Thursday morning. Borrowe has not yet met Ochiltree, because that gentleman is in Paris, and he has not met Fox because Fox desires a friend who is now out of town for the Easter holidays to act for him. The prospective affair between Milbank and the Duc de Morny with regard to the alleged garbling of the former's note to the latter also remains in statu quo, as Milbank has not yet visited Paris. Milbank refuses to say whether he will challenge De Morny or not. He says that he has been so misquoted by all the New York newspapers with the exception of THE SUN and *Herald* that he will not proceed in the matter until he has De Morny's version.

Milbank and Borrowe will only remain in Europe two or three weeks, and will then return to New York, where Milbank proposes to have something to say to the editors of two newspapers who have, he says, vilified him most unjustly and brutally. English and American friends of Milbank, who is very well known in the American colonies of both London and Paris, are indignant over his treatment by a part of the American press. No one in Europe has a higher reputation among his friends as a gentleman and a man of absolute integrity than Milbank. His only crime, if it be a crime, is that he has been loyal to his friend Borrowe. But Milbank is the sort of man who, having put his hand to the plough, does not turn back. He has implicit confidence in Borrowe, and declares that he will stick to him until the controversy is settled.

It is worth while noting, too, that Milbank remains neutral with regard to the question between Borrowe and Fox and Ochiltree, as to whether the latter were authorized to publish the correspondence concerning the duel that did not occur. Borrowe told THE SUN correspondent, in whose presence Fox received permission to make the letters public in a certain contingency, that the idea he (Borrowe) intended to convey was that the letters should not be published until Drayton had made a public statement. This Fox absolutely denies.

To support his contention that Rowland R. Hazard was one of the subscribing witnesses to the agreement, whereby Drayton accepted money as the price of his wounded honor, which has been denied since Milbank and Borrowe left New York, Milbank this evening gave THE SUN correspondent the following letters for publication:

"23 WEST SEVENTEENTH STREET, "April 1, 1892.

"Mr. H. Vane Milbank presents his compliments to Mr. Hazard, and, acting on the part of Mr. H. A. Borrowe, would be very much obliged if he would inform him if it is true that Mr. Hazard denies the fact stated in the *Herald* of yesterday that his name appears as a subscribing witness to an agreement entered into between Mr. and Mrs. J. Coleman Drayton, dated Oct. 28, 1891, in which it is agreed that Mrs. J. Coleman Drayton retains half her income, $12,000 of the other half for the maintenance of the children; $5,000 for Mr. J. Coleman Drayton; Mrs. J. Coleman Drayton to keep up the establishment, and, in the event of the terms of the agreement being broken, the control of the $12,000 to pass to Mr. J. Coleman Drayton, and also the care of the children. An early answer will much oblige."

"LAWYERS' CLUB, EQUITABLE BUILDING, "120 Broadway.

"Mr. Rowland R. Hazard presents his compliments to Mr. H. Vane Milbank, and begs to say in reply to his note of this date that Mr. Hazard has not denied that his signature was attached as a witness to a paper executed by the person referred to in Mr. Milbank's note and others dated about Oct. 28, 1891. Mr. Hazard has neither the original nor any copy of the paper, but his recollection of it does not agree with Mr. Milbank's version of it as printed in the *New York Herald*, either as to its purport or its contents."

"23 WEST SEVENTEENTH STREET, "April 1, 1892.

"Mr. H. Vane Milbank presents his compliments to Mr. R. R. Hazard, and begs to thank him for his answer to Mr. Milbank's letter corroborating Mr. Milbank's statement that Mr. Hazard was a witness to the agreement entered into between Mr. and Mrs. J. Coleman Drayton dated Oct. 28, 1891."

Milbank says that not having received an answer to this last note, he feels justified in believing that Hazard did sign the agreement.

KILLED A PRIEST IN CHURCH.

The Act of a Madman in Spain During Good Friday Services.

MADRID, April 16.—A terrible tragedy is reported as having occurred at Anglesola. Father Marti, the priest, was performing the Good Friday services. A large throng of worshippers was present. Suddenly a cry of warning was heard from the audience. The warning was addressed to the priest, but before he could turn to save himself a madman was upon him, sword in hand. The murderer gave a fearful blow, nearly severing the priest's head from his body. Then, while the worshippers were still paralyzed by the spectacle, the assassin repeated the blow, just as his victim fell forward.

Just as the people were about to seize the murderer he turned toward them and fired several shots. One bullet killed a woman instantly, and other bullets wounded different people. This had the effect intended of enabling the assassin to get away with his life. He was eventually captured, however, and proved to be an insane man who had a homicidal mania, and a particular hatred of priests and ecclesiastics generally.

Every Step Painful.

A tight shoe is the penance for misplaced judgment. The Frost shoe gives immediate relief. At retail: 207, 297½, 1,209 Broadway; 565 Fulton st., Brooklyn.—*Adv.*

The J. Chr. G. Haupt Brewing Co.'s Manhattan Beer; malt and hops only. 239 E. 58th St.—*Adv.*

Dry Goods and Clothing.

You can buy all kinds of ladies' and gents' clothing at T. Kelly's, 263 6th av., 104-106 West 17th st., at the lowest cash prices and get credit without extra charge.—*Adv.*

"A Garden of Sunlight and Cheer." The Hotel Vendome's dining room on top floor.—*Adv.*

HE IS CUT OFF WITH $10.

STILL THE REV. DR. GREGG HASN'T MUCH TO COMPLAIN OF.

He Explains that His Father was a Man of Principle, and the Disinheriting Clause was Dictated by Conscience.

The will of David Gregg, a millionaire merchant of Pittsburgh and Allegheny City, was filed for probate yesterday. It bequeaths a large amount of real estate in the two cities to his widow and to children and grandchildren. The testator provides liberally for the children of his son, the Rev. Dr. David Gregg of Brooklyn, but he cuts off Dr. Gregg with a bequest of $10, "to be paid on demand."

Dr. Gregg is the pastor of the Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church in Brooklyn, having succeeded the late Dr. Theodore L. Cuyler in December, 1890. The trouble between father and son over financial matters dates back to the year 1887, when Dr. Gregg left the Scotch Covenanter or Reformed Presbyterian Church to accept a call to the Park Street Congregational Church in Boston, whose orthodoxy has become so firmly established that the site upon which it stands is often referred to as "Brimstone Corner." The elder Gregg during his entire life was identified with the Scotch Covenanter Church, and at the time of his death two weeks ago was one of the elders of the Central Church of Alleghany City.

Often he had told his son that in case he left the Covenanter Church the amount that he should otherwise bestow upon him as patrimony would go to the Covenanter Church, to compensate it for the loss it would sustain in being deprived of his services.

This gave Dr. Gregg a chance to see what he was worth in his father's estimation. He finds it to be about $150,000, which in the form of real estate is bequeathed by the Pittsburgh millionaire to the church with which he was so long identified.

The Rev. Dr. Gregg was born a Scotch Covenanter. He entered the ministry in 1870, at the age of twenty-three. He became pastor of the Third Reformed Presbyterian Church in West Twenty-third street, this city, succeeding the Rev. Dr. J. R. W. Sloane. But he was too liberal to endure the restrictions imposed by this body. They are close communionists. They will not permit their members to vote, or hold office under the United States Government, or to serve on juries, because God is not mentioned in the Constitution. During Dr. Gregg's pastorate in Twenty-third street he received several flattering offers from Presbyterian and Congregational churches in different parts of the country, but partly owing to his father's wishes he declined them all. For more than sixteen years he remained with the Third Reformed Presbyterian Church. There he received $3,000, the highest salary paid to any clergyman in the denomination. For thirteen years he edited *Our Banner*, the official organ of the Church, and for some time he was Moderator of the General Assembly. But in 1887 he accepted the call of the Park Street Church at a salary of $7,000, and a few months afterward his father made his will.

Dr. Gregg stayed with the Park street church until the death of Dr. Cuyler, when he accepted a call to the vacant pulpit at a salary of $10,000, although his Boston congregation offered him that sum to remain.

Dr. Gregg was seen last evening in his study in the tower of his church. It is reached by a winding iron staircase, and looks out upon the roofs of more than 200,000 people. It is an idea of Dr. Gregg's, and was fitted up for him by his parishioners last summer at an expense of $3,000.

"I owe it to my sonship," said Dr. Gregg, "to say that I hope that the clause in my father's will referring to me will not be misconstrued. That act represented his conscience, and his heart was as large as his conscience. With him it was a matter of principle. He wished me to remain in the Reformed Presbyterian Church, but I finally concluded to leave that body, because I considered that there was a wider field of usefulness for me elsewhere. That clause in the will may be looked upon as severe by those who did not know my father, but it was his way of doing what he thought was right."

"Will you claim $10?"

"Oh, that is a question that I have not decided," laughed Dr. Gregg.

The elder Gregg left ample provision for his son's children. There are four of them, two daughters and two sons, one of whom, Robert, is a sophomore in Harvard College. To the four children is left property amounting to $150,000. During his lifetime the aged millionaire gave his son, Dr. Gregg, property which now amounts to $75,000 in value, and also dictated to his wife, who has considerable property in her own right, that part of her will which refers to her son, Dr. Gregg, and which provides that some of her most valuable property shall go to him. Dr. Gregg estimates that, all told, his family will receive from his parents a quarter of a million dollars, so it is not "a very bad disinherit after all."

It is understood that there was a division in his father's family when Dr. Gregg left the Covenanter Church, his mother and one of the children taking sides with him, and the other two children taking sides with the father. The disinheriting clause in the will is said to have caused Dr. Gregg's mother almost as much distress as the death of her husband.

ADELAIDE PRINCE GETS A DIVORCE.

The Actress's Suit Privately Heard Before a Referee—An Absolute Decree.

Last Monday Judge McAdam of the Superior Court signed papers granting an absolute divorce to Adelaide Prince, the actress of Daly's company, from her husband, Henry D. Prince. It was not until yesterday that the news got out.

Mrs. Prince's complaint came before Judge McAdam some weeks ago, and as Mr. Prince defended the suit, Lawyer Edward Jacobs of 335 Broadway was appointed referee for a private hearing. A. H. Hummel conducted the case for the wife and William E. Morris the case for the husband. Mr. Prince himself did not attend the hearings. There were five witnesses for the plaintiff, two detectives, a horse trainer, a friend of Mr. Prince's, and the keeper of a house in East Seventeenth street.

Mrs. Prince, it is said, was informed last fall of her husband's infidelity, and on the advice of her lawyer engaged two detectives to watch him. They followed him one night last December to the house on East Seventeenth street, where he went with a man in the jewelry business whose name is well known.

The horse trainer, who happened to be in the house at the time, encountered Mr. Prince as he was going up stairs, and the detectives secured him as a witness. Mr. Prince's friend was also subpœnaed, and, much against his will, was compelled to give his testimony.

Adelaide Prince, née Myers, came originally from the South. There and in New York, where she came after her marriage, she was quite well known as an amateur actress in society pieces. She joined Daly's company about three years ago, and that was her first appearance on the professional stage. She had small parts at first, but her acting has rapidly improved, and lately she has become one of the leading figures of the company. Her most important role, perhaps, thus far was in the "Cabinet Minister," which preceded the "Foresters." Ada Rehan did not appear in this, and Adelaide Prince took the leading part. Some of her other rôles are *Lady Sneerwell* in "The School for Scandal," and *Celia* in "As You Like It." She was married to Mr. Prince in the South in 1881. There are two children, a boy and a little girl, who is an invalid. Mr. Prince is a member of the firm of R. Prince & Son, furriers, of 105 Mercer street. He is reputed to have considerable means. His home is at 53 West Thirty-third street. Mrs. Prince for some time past has been living with her mother in West Forty-fifth street.

Federal Employees Invited to Contribute.

Posters signed by Collector Hendricks, Postmaster Van Cott, Marshal Jacobus, and all chiefs of Federal bureaux in this city, calling for a meeting of Government employees to be held in the Post Office to-morrow afternoon to arrange to assist the trustees of the Grant Monument Fund, have been displayed throughout the city.

A Republican district leader said last night that there was no attempt to coerce Federal place holders into contributing to the fund, but that this is only part of the general movement to interest all the people in the work of building the monument.

The Argument for a New Trial for Dr. Graves.

DENVER, April 16.—Judge Furman, counsel for Dr. Graves, has finished his brief, and will present it to the Supreme Court on Monday and Tuesday of the coming week.

"Love," by Abi S. Jackman.

An intensely passionate romance. Out to-day. Price 25 cents. For sale by all newsdealers.—*Adv.*

MR. EVARTS'S EYESIGHT FAILING.

He Reads Nothing, and is Unable to Take Part in Public Assemblages.

William Maxwell Evarts, in a letter declining an invitation to the dinner given last night by the Chamber of Commerce to Minister Whitelaw Reid, wrote:

"I most heartily appreciate the eminent services rendered to the country by Mr. Reid, in the commercial and other great interests, in his conduct of his important mission during the last three years as our diplomatic representative in France. It is but a just tribute to these great public services which the Chamber of Commerce proposes to pay to our distinguished citizen, and in which the cordial sentiments of all our people will find their just expression. I regret, however, to feel that the impaired condition of my eyesight precludes me from taking part in public assemblages, and send my sincere wishes for the prosperity of this noteworthy celebration, with my thanks for the attention shown me by the invitation of the Chamber."

The reference in this letter is the first public announcement that Mr. Evarts's eyesight has become so impaired that he must forego participation in public assemblages. Three years ago, when his sight began to fail, he went to Europe. After spending some time in Carlsbad Mr. Evarts returned and resumed his public duties. From that time, however, he gradually withdrew from public life, and when he retired from the Senate last year he went to a quiet resort in northern New York and spent two months in rest and attempted recuperation.

On his return to New York he withdrew entirely from public life. He ceased to frequent the Union and Union League clubs, of which he is a member, and declined invitations to public gatherings. Callers at his office were referred to his partners, Joseph H. Choate or Charles C. Beaman, or to his son, Sherman Evarts. Visitors at his house rarely, if ever, saw him. His son, Mr. Sherman Evarts, said last night:

"It is true that my father's eyesight is failing him. He desired earnestly to attend the banquet of Mr. Reid to-night, and when he found he could not do so, he felt that the real cause of his absence would alone suffice as an explanation. The affection of his eyes is incurable. He first noticed it three years ago, and as soon as possible he took steps to remove it. He has consulted eminent specialists and they agree that it is incurable. He has no pain, simply an inability to see properly. He does not read any papers or writing of any kind. His brain is as clear as ever and his mind acts readily. He went to Europe hoping to be benefited. He came back without any perceptible change for the better. There is no immediate danger of his losing his sight altogether."

WOULDN'T BE BEATEN IN.

The Normannia Woke Up When She Discovered the Etruria Astern.

The twin-screw steamship Normannia finished her first voyage of the season yesterday by demonstrating that two propellers are better than one, even though that one churns under the counter of the finest of the single-screw racers, the swift Etruria. The Normannia came from Hamburg and Southampton and the Etruria from Liverpool and Queenstown. The big ships saw nothing of each other until about 8 o'clock yesterday morning, when the Normannia materialized over the bow of the Etruria, apparently six or eight miles ahead. The officer on the bridge of the German ship saw and recognized the sharp-bowed Briton. He touched a lever connected with one of several signalling machines at hand, and the Normannia leaped forward with a throbbing that indicated that the engineer had heard the signal. The motograph showed the officer that the propellers were doing better work.

Something similar to this may have happened on the Etruria, though they don't acknowledge it. There were over a thousand passengers on each boat, and most of them understood that there was a race on. The Etruria had little hope of overhauling the Normannia, but her commander doubtless thought he could at least prevent the gap from increasing, and that he might even reduce it. That both boats were run at top speed is shown by their time from Fire Island to Sandy Hook lightship. This last lap of ocean racers is accounted about thirty-five land miles, which the Etruria covered in one hour and a half. The Normannia beat this time by only a few minutes. Like the proverbial stern chase, that of the Etruria was a long one. But she did nobly, and was only twenty-three minutes behind the Hamburg packet in getting abeam of the lightship, which the Normannia passed at 2:10 o'clock, about six hours after her engineer got the signal to run at full speed. The Normannia is not equal to the First Bismarck as a flyer, but is a trifle better than the Etruria.

The Etruria brought over 146 saloon, 142 cabin, and 773 steerage passengers. The Normannia had 123 saloon, 120 second cabin, and 910 steerage passengers.

MR. KEELER OF SYRACUSE.

Picked Up at the Coleman House and Wanted at Rochester for Forgery.

Detective Charles J. Wade of the Central Office staff stepped up to a sprucely dressed young fellow in the corridor of the Coleman House yesterday morning, and slapping him on the shoulder said:

"Hello there, Keeler. How are you?"

The young fellow turned quickly, and staring vacantly at the detective answered:

"Pardon me, but I don't know you."

"Well, that's pardonable. Allow me to introduce myself as Detective Wade; and this (turning toward a bystander) is Mr. Isaac W. Salyerds, Sheriff of Monroe county, who has a warrant for your arrest."

"Oh, I supposed it would have to come some time, but I didn't expect it so soon," was the young man's remark as he fell in with the two officers.

They boarded a Broadway car and took their prisoner to Police Headquarters. He was Thomas Keeler of Syracuse. His family is said to be respectable there. He was sent to college to study for the ministry, but he departed from that programme. He has been jailed twice in Syracuse and is a graduate of the Elmira Reformatory.

Last fall a friend of the family got a place for Keeler as agent for the Rochester Retail Merchants' Collecting Agency. He had charge of the business for Monroe county and performed his work so well that the agency enlarged his district and empowered him to collect throughout the State. Two months ago another agent, calling on three different merchants who were down on the books of the agency as in arrears, discovered that they had paid Keeler, and held receipts. The merchants made the payments with checks drawn to the order of Treasurer Durand. Keeler, it is alleged, forged the treasurer's endorsement, and got the money, amounting to nearly $1,000. Keeler got a hint that the agency were investigating his affairs, and he fled.

SWITCH ENGINEERS GRUMBLING.

But It's Not True that They Are to Have Only Four Days' Work a Week.

There have been reports of discontent among the employees of the Reading Railroad system, the alleged ground being that on the Lehigh Valley and Jersey Central branches the force was being reduced and the number of trains diminished, and that the men were allowed to make only four days of working time a week.

S. M. Williams, comptroller of the Reading system, was seen yesterday by a reporter, and said he had heard no complaints. On April 4 they had taken nine trains from the regular service on the Lehigh Valley branch, but that was on account of the usual reduction at this time of the year when business was slack. Mr. Williams called one of the yard men into his office and asked him if he had heard any complaints among the men.

"Yes," said the man readily, "I heard the switch engineers saying you intend to shut down on the work to four days a week, and they are grumbling about it."

Mr. Williams said there was no truth in this, and that the company did not intend to take any such step.

Day Train, Brooklyn to Boston.

The night train from Brooklyn and L. I. City will be withdrawn after April 17. On and after the 18th a vestibuled train, with buffet, parlor coach, and club car, will leave Brooklyn at 9:55 A. M. daily, except Sundays.—*Adv.*

CARRIED OUT MOTHER AND BABE.

An Aged Woman's Plucky Fight to Save Her Daughter and Grandchild.

DETROIT, April 16.—The Fire Department was called this afternoon to 830 Seventeenth street. It was a fire in a cottage which had three rooms on the upper floor, the only stairway leading thereto being from the rear. Adam Brown and his invalid wife and babe occupied the upper floor. The wife's mother, 60 years of age, was nursing her. The old lady had lain down in the front room for a nap. The sick woman got up out of her bed in the centre room to make a cup of tea on an oil stove in the kitchen. When she lighted the stove it exploded. The screams of the wife awoke her mother. The old lady called fire out of the front window. The family on the ground floor were all away. No neighbors heard her cries for help.

The fire was rapidly spreading to the stairway. The old woman ran into the kitchen and with almost superhuman effort shouldered the fainted wife on her back. She went into the centre room and increased her burden by the little child. She managed to carry both through the smoke and fire that had now reached the top of the stairway, and went down the stairs in safety. As she staggered out under her burden into fresh air she, too, fainted.

BIGAMIST STEVENSON.

Mrs. Kate Rapp is Said to be His Seventh Living Wife.

Mrs. Kate Stevenson, said to be the seventh living wife of James F. Stevenson, alias Charles Stephens, alias James Abbott, accused him of bigamy in the First Criminal Court in Newark last night. Her brother, Joseph Burch, accused him of larceny.

Stevenson, who is 45 years old and a paper hanger by trade, married Mrs. Kate Rapp, a widow, in Newark, on March 20. He lived with her a few weeks and then disappeared, taking with him her diamond ring and diamond brooch and her brother's new overcoat.

About ten days ago he began sending her anonymous notes from Brooklyn requesting her to meet the writer. Mrs. Stevenson enlisted the services of Capt. Daly of the Fourth precinct, and Stevenson was decoyed to Jersey City and arrested.

He pleaded guilty to the charge of bigamy, but denied that he had stolen the overcoat. He said the garment was lent to him. He will be tried in the Court of Special Sessions this week. Mrs. Mary Abbott of 204 South Ninth street, Brooklyn, who married him in 1873, was present in court last night. She said Mrs. Rapp was his seventh wife, and that he had served four years in Sing Sing for bigamy.

THE INDIANA CONVENTION.

The Four Democratic Candidates for Governor Already on the Ground.

INDIANAPOLIS, April 16.—All the four candidates for Governor have arrived and opened headquarters. The Democratic State Convention will meet on Thursday, and much skirmishing is going on for position. There are almost a hundred candidates for places on the State ticket. Voorhees, Turpie, and Bynum will be here to-morrow or on Monday, and delegates are telegraphing the hotels for rooms for Monday. So there will be three or four days of a very hot fight.

It is difficult to forecast the outcome for Governor. Mr. Shanklin of the Evansville *Courier* is looked upon as representing the Cleveland idea, and the Gray and anti-Cleveland influences are being centered against him. Prominent Democrats express a hope that there will be no outbreak between the Cleveland and Gray or anti-Cleveland forces, but the latter are crowing so loudly on the advantages they secured at Thursday night's conference, as published in THE SUN, that the Cleveland faction seems to be getting into bad humor.

PATTI'S NEPHEW REPENTANT.

Alfredo Barilli Returns to His Family and is Sorry for His Conduct.

MARIETTA, Ga., April 16.—Alfredo Barilli, the nephew of Patti, who has returned to his wife to escape the vengeance of Dr. Horine, said today: "I only know that I feel like a schoolboy that had just been punished and was glad the chastising was finished. I am happy, though, and Mrs. Barilli is, too. I stood the separation from my family as long as possible, and left Kansas City last Tuesday morning. I requested a friend to wire Mrs. Barilli to meet me in Chattanooga, and she came, bringing the children with her. I am sorry, very sorry, for all that has been done, and shall remain with my family the rest of my days. I am not half so black as I have been painted, and all will be right some day, I am sure."

When asked if it was true that his aunt, Mme. Patti, had disinherited him, he said: "I was never aware that I was to receive any of her fortune. I greatly respect my aunt, and should regret very much to lose her friendship, but I am a man, and can provide for my family without assistance."

SHE CONFESSED HER SINS,

And the Court Refused to Grant a Divorce to Her Husband.

SCRANTON, April 16.—The Alexander divorce case, which has been on trial here since last Monday, the husband bringing suit because of infidelity upon the part of the wife, ended this afternoon in a verdict for the wife. When called as a witness Mrs. Alexander confessed her guilt, but pleaded that her husband had condoned her fault and afterwards lived with her. Since their final separation, nearly two years ago, she declared she had not sinned.

Two Boys Crushed to Death.

CATSKILL, April 16.—About 7 o'clock this evening two sons of William Conine, aged 5 and 11 years, were instantly crushed to death by a large stick of timber falling on them. The stick, 72 feet long and 18 inches in diameter at the butt end, was intended for a liberty pole, and was blocked up from the ground about eighteen inches. The children, in spite of repeated warnings, were at play upon it, with the result that the heavy stick rolled from its place and pinned the boys to the earth, killing them at once.

The Coal Investigation Over.

There was no meeting at the Hotel Metropole yesterday of the Senate committee which has been investigating the Reading coal deal. Gen. Martin T. McMahon, Chairman of the committee, said the investigation was practically at an end. There were several witnesses who had not been examined, but their testimony would be practically corroborative of previous testimony.

Won't Wait Until He Dies to Do Good.

STAMFORD, Conn., April 16.—The Hon. John Clason, formerly a Judge of Probate in this city, some time ago put $40,000 into the hands of the trustees to be used at his death for the maintenance of a public hospital. Mr. Clason now proposes to give the money at once and to make the hospital building a feature of Stamford's 250th anniversary, which will be celebrated in next July.

**Commissioner