PITTSBURGH'S BIG PROBLEM.

THE MAYOR SENDS A SHARP LETTER TO THE POLICE OFFICIALS.

He Says He Never Ordered the Ejectment of the Outcasts from Their Abodes, but Did Order the Police to Shut Up Such Places, and Supposed that Only Customary and Legal Methods Would be Used—He Quotes the Law Showing How Owners of Property May be Reached—The Situation Remains as it Was With the Resorts Open.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 3.—The social evil problem and the conflict between the Mayor and the Chief of the Department of Public Safety over the proposed suppression of the disorderly houses here is no nearer a real solution. The disorderly places remain wide open, however. The Mayor to-day addressed another letter to Chief Brown bearing directly upon the order issued by the Chief yesterday instructing the Superintendent of Police not to interfere with the women until the Mayor should designate a definite time for acting. When asked to-day as to the probable outcome of the situation the Mayor said:

"I have not yet determined what course I will pursue should the Chief disregard my letter. In fact, I have not yet contemplated such a condition of things. We only know that the law must be regarded." Sec. 21 of the city charter, however, provides that "the Mayor shall have general supervision of all departments, with power to direct their officers within the duties under the law and the ordinances." If Mr. Brown refuses to obey the Mayor, the latter may go to councils and have the officer impeached, or he may go into court, charging the Chief with misdemeanor in office.

Senator Flynn and other recognized leaders of the local Republicans held a long consultation with Chief Brown this afternoon, but the Chief has nothing to say about it. Superintendent of Police Roger O'Mara said that he was going to Baltimore to-night to attend the Prison Congress.

"Will anything be done in the matter during the absence?"

"No, there will be no action by the police in this case until I return."

Mayor Gourley is a member of the Prison Congress, and had been invited to address the meeting, but he decided to-day that he would not leave Pittsburgh at this time. The Mayor's letter to Chief Brown was as follows:

MAYOR'S OFFICE, PITTSBURGH, PA., Dec. 3, 1892.

Joseph Brown, Esq., Chief Department Public Safety:

DEAR SIR: I saw, yesterday afternoon, printed in the public press your letter to the superintendent of Police, directing him not to eject or molest any of the inmates of the houses of prostitution until "he hear from the Mayor shall indicate the date at which he desires his order of Nov. 30 to go into execution." This order of yours, quoted in part above, is so remarkable that I cannot let it go without notice, though you have made no communication of it to me. It assumes a power in you or in me of suspending the laws governing our city. That I cannot even by silence permit to go without dissent. My order to you of Nov. 30, referred to in your communication to your Superintendent, did not direct you to eject the inmates of houses of ill fame. It simply and only directed you to enforce the law against all houses of ill repute in the city. And to prevent any possible misunderstanding I quoted in the communication mentioned the full text of the law under which you were to act, and which constitutes the only authority for any action at all by you or me in the premises. By referring to the law or ordinance quoted, and which I asked you to enforce, by no pretence can you find a scintilla of authority for summarily ejecting the inmates of houses of ill fame or summarily closing such houses by driving the inmates out of their doors upon the streets. To the end of suppressing such houses the law gives your department power "to arrest every keeper and every person found therein and to bring all such persons before the police magistrates of said city for examination and hearing, and each person found guilty after trial shall be fined for each offence.

This law only convicts after "examination and hearing," and does not profess to invest you or me with despotic power to banish into the streets and make homeless and shelterless even women of ill fame without arrest, examination and hearing. And even after conviction upon such examination and hearing it does not impose a sentence of ejectment from the house, but a fine, and in default of payment imprisonment. You cannot fail to see that your order of Nov. 30, as reported to me by you to drive these women out upon the streets and to close and to keep closed the resorts of honor, is not warranted by the authority of this city or of humanity. Let me ask, in fraternal spirit, that you carefully read the law against all houses of ill repute. You see the power in the premises under the law is to arrest every keeper and every person found therein, and to bring all such before the police magistrates for examination and hearing. Your power under the law is then exhausted and your duty begins anew.

I have spoken that I did not think it becoming in the station occupied by you as a sworn officer from the Mayor, under the power given you, to close houses of ill fame with such violence, and, I add, unauthorized and illegal order from you, to such extent, that much as the houses of shame have for five years been allowed by your department to live and flourish, it would not be surprising if some desperate women should come, or, in a case like unto that of the patrol wagon with peaceable, quiet women would certainly be unable to pay the fine and costs. As you have driven these women to live as they could outside their business in the city with safety, I would suggest that you serve notice upon them that after a reasonable time sufficient time to allow them to arrange for shelter elsewhere, a week if you please, you will enforce the law by arresting from a to-day's envy inmate or keeper of houses of ill fame, and by a police magistrate to inflict the sentence of the law upon such as may be found guilty.

I believe that if you pursue this course, the only course within the line of your duty, and the only course permitted by the law, these houses will soon be closed, and, if not, the law will have proved adequate to the purpose. I beg to refer to the act of Assembly, approved March 31, 1860, P. L. 382, which reads as follows: "If any person shall wilfully maintain a common bawdy house, or shall knowingly let or cause a house or part thereof to be so kept, he or she shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding $1,000 and to undergo an imprisonment not exceeding two years." Under this law you have here before acted. Indeed, I think there is no reason why you should not do so again if necessity requires. The responsibility of discharging this plain duty is only with you and, I hope, you will not shrink from the course so clear and certain to restore here, as I believe, the good name of our city. It was in the spirit of the law that I called your attention to the matter but from a solemn sense of public obligation to see that the law was enforced against the class of houses whose very existence is a disgrace to our city, and to secure the full observance of the law in regard to them. Very truly yours,

H. L. GOURLEY, Mayor.

To-day the Mayor's mail contained many letters from various large places with words of encouragement and praise. One letter, written by C. R. Van Horn of West Twelfth street, New York, suggested that some of the women turned out here might find shelter in New York. The writer said he thought he could provide rooms for at least 50 of them in refuges established in New York. The writer used a fine quality of stationery, with a monogram and address raised in blue letters.

Francis Murphy, the temperance apostle, whose methods of reaching the fallen were yesterday held up to the ministers by the Mayor as worthy of example, said to-day: "I have read with prayerful interest the accounts in the newspapers regarding the unfortunate women in our city, and the plan proposed by some of our well-meaning people to cure the disease. Pittsburgh to-day is the most law-abiding city in America; the streets are cleaner from the presence of the unfortunates than any other city of the same population in this country or any other. Pittsburgh is known the world over as the greatest centre of Christian influence on this continent. Her charities are something enormous. The faintest call for help is heard and answered by the people. I am grieved that this great city should be held up before the world as a past place. Christ never entered an ordinance in a Mayor's office, asking him to arrest the publicans and sinners, and then drove them out of the city into the night without shelter. He said to pharisees: 'He that is without sin among you let him cast the first stone.'"

The Rev. William Jones, a United Presbyterian minister of Allegheny, in discussing the subject today, said: "I think the preachers of our cities have made a very bad move in regard to this social evil question. I certainly see that it is wrong to have these sinners here to pollute our city, but when we have not an asylum in which to place them, why drive them from their houses into our streets, where they will do far more evil than if permitted to stay in one place? The reverend gentlemen of our two cities have taken up this subject, they have preached time and again upon it, and finally they have compelled the Mayor of Pittsburgh to close the doors of these dens. In this much they were right, they made one mistake when treating these people as criminals. They should use them like all others. They should have locked them in jail. The preachers have gone ahead and almost compelled the Mayor to issue the order evicting them from their homes, and then they leave it all upon the Mayor's shoulders to find a place for them. It is useless to talk reform, for such people as these women can't be reformed, and the proper thing, if they are to be stopped, as they should be in their unlawful traffic, is to either arrest them or to compel them to leave the city just as is done with other criminals."

No definite action has as yet been taken by the ministerial committee appointed at yesterday's meeting with the Mayor to provide for the unfortunates. It is probable nothing further will result than to fulfil the pledges made to afford succor to all those who express a desire to reform. At the Bethesda Home the matron stated to-day that no further action had been taken in the matter by the managers of the home.

"There is nothing further for us to do," said she. "We had a representative at the Mayor's meeting yesterday who pledged that the doors of the home were open to all who wished to apply. The latchstring is still out for every unfortunate that desires to leave her evil ways, and a warm welcome is open to them any time."

Miss Mary Moorehead, founder and supporter of the Bethany Mission and Home, said: "I will take in a few penitents and try moral suasion in their reformation, and procure honorable work for them if they show themselves honest in their efforts.

Mrs. Felix R. Bruno, President of the Woman's Christian Home, said that it was a mistake that they were to take in the outcasts, the work of the home being for young and innocent girls who have not become hardened. She added:

"It is only seven years since one of these women was brought in the home and the influence that she exerted over other girls was so bad that she was asked to leave. When she went she took two of the other inmates with her.

"After that it was decided that no more of that sort of women should be admitted unless under some very pressing circumstances. I, on the present occasion I would far rather give money from my own purse than to have any of them in our home.

At the Women's Home on Pennsylvania avenue the woman in charge made a statement similar to that of Mrs. Bruno. She said there had been no application for aid there to-day or last night, and that the ladies in charge of the institution would make no provision to care for their fallen sisters. It was also stated that none of the social outcasts had yet applied for admission to the Home of the Good Shepherd, on Troy Hill.

Mabel Hendricks, a pretty nineteen-year-old girl, was arrested at 1 o'clock this morning in company with two young men, who gave their names as Robert Hendricks and Harry Bradley. When brought before Magistrate Brinker, the girl said that her home is at Mt. Pleasant. She was induced to run away from home, and three weeks ago came to Pittsburgh and entered a disorderly house on Third street, where she stayed until the orders came to close such places.

The proprietress of the house obeyed the order and Mabel was obliged to leave. She was in Allegheny, and walking along Federal street last night when she met the two young men who were arrested with her. She said she was trying to find a place to sleep when arrested. She said she was tired of the life she had been living and wanted to reform.

Magistrate Brinker, after listening to the story, told the girl that he would send her home. She protested and said she was ashamed to go to her parents. She said that she had an aunt at Glenfield, on the Fort Wayne Railroad, and she would like to go there. The officials decided to send her to her aunt's, and a policeman accompanied her to the station and bought her a ticket.

The general impression to-night seems to be that yesterday's diplomacy of delay inaugurated by the Mayor's opponents has received a staggering blow through the Mayor's letter this afternoon, and that, as heretofore in this lively row, the Mayor has public opinion on his side. How he will checkmate delay remains to be seen.

LILLIAN RUSSELL II.

Interviewed on the Subject of Her First Appearance on the Stage.

Miss Lillian Russell, daughter of the prima donna, will make her first appearance before the public on Thursday evening. She is to play a piano solo at a concert to be given by the pupils of Miss Bertha Brousil at Steinway Hall. Little Lillian was formerly a pupil of Miss Brousil, but is now being taught music by her aunt, Miss Hattie Leonard. Although she is but 8 years old, she is already a clever musician. A SUN reporter called on Miss Russell at the house of her aunt, Mrs. Westford, 119 West Forty-third street, last night, and found her quite willing to be interviewed.

"Yes," said she, "this will be the first time I've played in a big concert. I've played before at school, when there were entertainments. No, I won't be frightened. What's the use of that? Auntie has made me practice my piece every evening. It's a gavotte of Meyers's. After ten auntie says, 'Dasie' (they all call me Dasie—some call me Dorothy now, and then I go and play till I'm tired.'

"Are you going to be an actress some time?" asked the reporter.

"I don't know," said the child, dubiously. "I like the theatre. I go there. I like to go. I go to matinees very often. It's more fun to look on than to act, though. When you go on the stage they make you wear such low-cut dresses. I don't think I'd like that. I might catch cold, you know."

Some one called her from upstairs just then, and she skipped out at the door, nodding brightly to the reporter as she went. "Good night," she said. "Come and hear me play Thursday night."

Little Miss Russell does not resemble her mother. She is rather dark, with dusky brown hair and very brown eyes. She is pretty and graceful, and is wonderfully at her ease for so young a child, having quaint little mannerisms which make her very attractive. While she is not a musical prodigy by any means, she is very quick to learn and patient in practising. Her chief delight is to pick up topical songs, which she sings to her own accompaniment, and of which she has a large repertoire, ranging from the latest cockney importations from the London music halls to "The Bowery."

A little cousin of Miss Russell, Leona Schultze, also appears as a violinist at the same concert, and Miss Russell's aunt and teacher, Miss Leonard, is one of the soloists.

RAILROAD STATIONS ROBBED.

Penny Weighing Machines Smashed and a Wedding Outfit Stolen.

HACKENSACK, Dec. 3.—For the fourth time in twelve months the New Jersey and New York Railroad stations at New Milford, River Edge, and Oradell were entered by thieves last night. At each the penny weighing machine was smashed and rifled, but $1 was left in the one at Oradell, the money having been caught before it dropped into the sack.

At Oradell the large trunk of Mrs. De Verge was rifled of every article, including Mrs. De Verge's wedding outfit, with a portion of her jewelry. Mr. and Mrs. De Verge were married two weeks ago and returned last evening from a trip to Richmond and Washington. As they were met at the station with a light carriage the trunk was left behind. The goods taken were valued at $1,000. United States Express packages belonging to Edward Veldran, John Gabela, and Elmer Blauvelt were also rifled, the value of these being stated at $180. The thieves endeavored to break into Veldran's mill at Oradell but failed.

Detectives Bloomer and Fisher have been on the case all day, but have no clue further than the fact that several Jackson Whites from the mountains were in and near Oradell yesterday afternoon and evening. Superintendent Brady and General Manager Hasbrouck of the railroad say that a determined effort will be made to capture and punish the thieves who have so systematically robbed these three stations.

LIVES LOST IN A FLOOD.

A Farmer and his Wife and Boy Drowned While Moving to Higher Ground.

LIVERMORE, Cal., Dec. 3.—The floods which have followed the heavy rains proved fatal last night to Ernest Nicholson, a farmer, his wife and two children, who were drowned in a creek near their home. The country about Livermore is flat, and when the creeks rose suddenly last evening it was plain that a big flood was on which might sweep away houses on the lowlands. Nicholson's ranch is near Pleasanton, and not far from the Valensin stock farm.

The waters came sweeping over the place, and Nicholson decided to move his family to higher ground. With them were his wife's sister and the hired man. In crossing a creek the wagon was upset, and Mrs. Nicholson and her baby were thrown into the stream and went down before help could reach them. Nicholson was a strong swimmer, but he was pulled under and drowned by his boy, whom he was trying to save. The hired man rescued Mrs. Nicholson's sister and one child. The bodies were recovered this morning.

NEWS OF THE RAILROADS.

The Wells-Fargo Express Company will be Retained on the Atchison System.

DENVER, Dec. 3.—J. L. Stubbs, general agent of the Wells-Fargo Express Company, has received a telegram stating that the Wells-Fargo management have signed a new contract to continue operations on the Santa Fe system. Had the Wells-Fargo Company been cut off the Santa Fe system it would have been a serious matter, as it is said the Wells-Fargo transcontinental business would in that event have to be sent through New Orleans.

The Northern Pacific Investigation.

TACO, Wash., Dec. 3.—A special committee of Northern Pacific stockholders appointed to go over the road for the purpose of making criticisms and suggestions regarding the management arrived here last night. The party included Brayton Ives, Jay Cooke, Sr., and W. L. Rogers, New York.

Ex-Assemblyman O'Connor Heard From.

UTICA, Dec. 3.—Ex-Assemblyman James K. O'Connor, who started to wheel a barrel of apples from Utica to New York, has written a letter from Philadelphia saying that he is all right and will be home in a week.

North Shore Limited via New York Central—best afternoon train for Chicago.—*Adv.*

LOUISIANA'S OFFICIAL VOTE.

Cleveland Electors Have a Majority Over the Fusion Electors of 61,258.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 3.—The Secretary of State publishes the official vote of Louisiana to-day. The result is as follows: Cleveland electors, 87,922; Fusion electors, 25,332 to 26,063. The Fusion ticket consisted of three Weaver and five Harrison electors, and it is impossible to say how many votes were intended for Weaver and how many for Harrison. The three Weaverites run 1,331 ahead of the five Harrisonites, that number of voters refusing to vote the Republican ticket. The vote for Congress was as follows:

Dem.	
1. Newer, Dem	10,874
Wilkins, Ind	4,287
Meyer's majority	6,591
2. Davey, Dem	12,288
Marshal, Rep	6,102
Davey's majority	6,186
3. Price, Dem	14,233
Willis, Fusion	3,123
Price's majority	10,910
4. Blanchard, Dem	16,442
Grice, Fusion	5,177
Blanchard's majority	11,265
5. Boatner, Dem	19,571
Gainey, Ind. Dem	3,104
Webb, Fusion	4,301
Boatner's majority	12,152
6. Robertson, Dem	12,258
Klempster, Fusion	2,043
Robertson's majority	10,215

WANT A METROPOLITAN SENATOR.

Resolutions of the Produce and Maritime Cleveland Club Committee.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Produce and Maritime Cleveland and Stevenson Club was held yesterday. The Chairman, E. D. Neustadt, presided, and W. C. Robertson was chosen Secretary pro tem. The following preamble and resolution were offered and unanimously adopted:

Whereas, We regard the election of Cleveland and Stevenson as an emphatic assertion of American common sense. The people have thereby declared that hereafter the principles of justice shall control all tariff schedules—not the principle of favoritism. They have served notice that hereafter they intend to manage their own business affairs without interference from Washington. As merchants and as Democrats we rejoice in this decision as a triumph of the highest patriotism and sound political doctrine.

Resolved, That in order to embody this result into public law it is absolutely necessary that the incoming Administration may rely upon the intelligent and hearty support of every Democratic Senator elected or to be elected to the Fifty-third Congress.

Resolved, That the vast commercial and political interests of New York and kings counties have had no Democratic representation in the United States Senate for generations, and at this time it is particularly necessary that they should have such representation; therefore be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of this committee, speaking for a constituency representing almost incalculable material interests and casting the stupendous Democratic plurality of over 100,000 votes, that we have a right as Democrats and merchants to demand that the United States Senator from this State shall be chosen from this community, and shall be one in all ways qualified to represent this great commonwealth with dignity and promote its interests with statesmanlike abilities.

CLOSE OF MR. CLEVELAND'S STAY.

May Have Some Trouble in Getting Away, Because a Yacht Has Broken Down.

EXMORE, Va., Dec. 3.—The steamer Sunshine broke two pedestal bolts this afternoon, just as she was starting for Broadwater Island, and will be compelled to remain at Willis Landing over night.

The engineer at once started to Cape Charles, twenty-three miles south of this place, with the broken bolts, and returned at 10:30 o'clock to-night with an expert mechanic, who is expected to repair the damage before morning.

The Captain of the vessel expects to leave for the island soon after daylight. The yacht will then be in readiness to carry Mr. Cleveland over to Exmore station in time for his departure northward, as arranged, to-morrow night.

It was at first feared that the accident might necessitate a postponement of the time fixed for leaving.

The shooting party returned to the landing at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon and reported meagre results. The water was too calm and the birds settled, thus reducing the chances for sport. Mr. Cleveland, however, bagged a couple of brant, a few broadbills and several dippers.

GOV. ABBETT FOR SENATOR.

Justice Werts Nominated Him at the Democratic Victory Dinner.

The nomination of Gov. Leon Abbett for United States Senator by Justice Werts at the Democratic victory dinner given at Taylor's Hotel, Jersey City, on Thursday night, was something of a surprise to the Jersey City politicians, but they seem to have taken to it kindly, and they cordially endorse all that Justice Werts said.

"I hail the next Senator," said the Justice, "as the next United States Senator."

Several gentlemen protested after the banquet was finished.

"It is no use fighting," he replied, "the matter is settled. There was a little dinner party at my house last Sunday. Senator McPherson was there and Gov. Abbett was there, and between them it was agreed that there should be no opposition to the Governor's election."

Both Senator McPherson and Gov. Abbett have since confirmed this statement. There are four men now in the field. The other three are State Senator Barrett of Essex, Robert Adrain of Middlesex, and Henry O. Winton of Bergen. But it is not believed that there will be any serious contest against Gov. Abbett.

THEY THINK THE CITY HAS ENOUGH.

So Our Friends in the Country Want the Senatorship for Themselves.

ALBANY, Dec. 3.—The demand made by the Mugwumps that the next United States Senator shall come from New York city does not strike the interior of the State very favorably, and if persisted in may create a breeze of excitement in the other fifty-nine counties of the State. The Democrats in the interior of the State say that New York city now has the President-elect, it also has the Governor of the State, will probably have the next Speaker of the Assembly, and will surely have a place in Mr. Cleveland's Cabinet. The country Democrats want to know what more does New York city want. Rensselaer county, which is putting Edward Murphy, Jr., forward as its candidate for United States Senator, has never had any political recognition beyond a Speaker of the Assembly, and Mr. Murphy's county resents the claim of New York city to the Senatorship, more especially because the Mugwump press of New York city makes the demand.

Determining Where Osborne Lives.

The trial of State Senator Edward B. Osborne of Poughkeepsie for illegal registration was continued yesterday before Commissioner Shields. The question was as to whether his residence is in Albany, where he owns a house, or in Poughkeepsie, where he has lived at the Nelson House, is a member of the Dutchess County Club, and has voted for twenty years. The prosecution called several witnesses to show that Mr. Osborne was a non-resident member of the club. Several members testified that Mr. Osborne in September, 1888, was allowed to become a non-resident member because he was absent from Poughkeepsie during the sessions of the Legislature. District Attorney Horace Hufcut said that Mr. Osborne was always considered a resident of Poughkeepsie. The case was adjourned until next Saturday morning.

Colored Democrats Organize.

The John J. Scannell Tammany Hall Association of the Eleventh Assembly district is an organization of colored Democrats which was organized at 148 West Thirty-second street last night by the election of the following officers: William E. Green, President; R. L. Stovall and Dr. C. E. Perry, Vice-Presidents; E. L. Middleton, Treasurer, and W. T. Harkless, Secretary. John R. Sall of Sall Brothers 401 Sixth avenue, claims to be the political leader of the Tammany colored men of the district.

Populists and Democrats in Harmony in Nebraska.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 3.—A secret meeting of the leading Democrats and Independents was held here on Thursday night. An agreement was made whereby the members of the two parties will act together. The Democrats are to have the Senate officers and appointees and the Independents the lower House. No agreement was made as to United States Senator, but a general understanding is that fusion will be entered into.

Plans of the Coming Silver Convention.

EL PASO, Tex., Dec. 3.—The second annual Silver Convention of the Miners of the West and Southwest will begin in this city on Dec. 5, and be in session four days. The Convention will probably send some of their best advocates to Washington to keep the silver question prominently before the country. The calling of a Pan-American silver convention in this city, to which only the American republics will be invited, is being discussed.

TOPICS FROM OVER THE SEA.

COMMENTS OF THE ENGLISH PRESS ON JAY GOULD'S DEATH.

Extreme Views of the Great Financier's Methods Some of Which the Facts Will Not Warrant—Big Failures in Berlin.

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LONDON, Dec. 3.—More notice has been given to the death of Jay Gould than to the death of any American for many years. The murdered Presidents, Garfield and Lincoln, received perhaps more attention in the British press, but, those historical names excepted, no American within a generation has had so much editorial comment expended on his exit from this worldly life as the late Wizard of Wall street. No one has a good word to say for him. He is estimated as a mere money-getter, and surprise is even expressed that he could enjoy the use of his money, procured by methods that are so notorious. Some of the sketches of Gould's career are so largely overdrawn as to be amusing to one acquainted with American affairs. He is credited with a power and influence that even Gould did not possess, and it is asserted that, as owner of the Western Union Telegraph Company, he exercised an almost despotic control in the matter of election returns, being able, if he chose, to keep the country in ignorance for days in regard to the actual result. These statements appear to be founded on exaggerated reports of the exciting days that followed the election of 1884.

In speaking of the death of Mr. Gould, the *St. James's Gazette* calls him the "Gambler Millionaire," and says: "The most typical marauder of the age is dead. In his reckless contempt for honor, justice, mercy, or morality he transcends the giant speculators of the world. He leaves a hundred millions of dollars accumulated by gambling, swindling, and fraud. We do not like to speak ill of the dead, but there is no other way to describe Gould and the methods by which he acquired his enormous fortune."

The *Times* says: "He was one of the most remarkable Americans of the last half of the century. No other man unaided by family influence, friends, or luck has written himself so deeply into the financial history of the republic. No other man exercised such a baneful influence on the moral character of the community. Yet the side which he kept hidden from the world was in many ways in striking contrast. He was never accused of ostentation, and all acquainted with his home life have but one opinion to express, and that is a very kindly one."

The excitement caused last evening by the report that Jack the Ripper had been captured soon died out when it was found that the affair was nothing more than an ordinary brawl in a brothel, resulting in an attempt to cut a woman's throat. The ferment caused by the rumor shows, however, how vivid the so-called Ripper atrocities are in the public mind, and the strong anxiety for the capture of the criminal. Much wonder is expressed that the police who worked up the Cream case so thoroughly can never get on the track of the Ripper.

The British farmers are getting more and more aroused to the need of a radical remedy for the depression which has already driven numbers of them into exile and threatens to ruin the remainder. At Huntington to-day there was a warm and exciting meeting of farmers, at which the situation was thoroughly discussed. The Earl of Sandwich presided. The meeting appointed delegates to the Agricultural conference to be held in London, and passed a resolution to the effect that the only remedies for the existing depression are protection, a reduction of rents and land taxation, bimetallism, and a duty on foreign barley and hops.

A despatch from Berlin says that the business community is amazed by three important failures: the first of the Schletschus Maizle Works, for 625,000 marks; the second of Falk-nstein & Falks, dealers in produce, for 360,000 marks, and the third of Herrman & Cohens, wine growers, for 200,000 marks.

A man named Szermers, the keeper of a popular restaurant in Posen, Prussian Poland, has been arrested for shooting two corporals of the garrison who frequented his house, and were at the time of the shooting chatting with the restaurant keeper's wife. Szermers asserts that the shooting was accidental, but it is believed that jealousy was the motive of the crime.

A sensation has been caused at Hamburg by the wretched fate of a widow named Kurdier. Her husband died of the cholera during the epidemic, and she was herself dismissed without resources from the cholera barracks to take care of herself and her two little children. Awaiting her husband's death, she had married, notwithstanding the prohibition of the court that granted the divorce.

It is now said that a later will bequeathing a large share of the brewer's property to his unrecognized second wife has been discovered, and that it soon will be offered for probate. The executors of the original will were August Horrmann, the business partner of Buhsam; William F. Leicht of New Jersey, and Mrs. Emily Buhsam.

IS THE CLUB TO BE DISBANDED?

One Hundred Harlem Democrats Must Pay $100 Dues to Save It.

This is a critical period in the history of the Harlem Democratic Club, which occupies a pretty club house at 15, 17, and 19 East 125th street. Unless 100 members who are willing to pay $100 a year dues can be secured by Jan. 1, the club, which was organized about ten years ago, will be disbanded. Thus far about seventy-five men have agreed to pay this sum. There is a debt of about $50,000 on the club property, and this and the running expenses of the organization necessitates a revenue of $10,000 a year.

The dues heretofore have been $20 a year, with a membership of about 200. At this rate the club found itself getting deeper and deeper into debt, and at a recent meeting it was unanimously decided to raise the dues to $100. The membership of the club under the reorganization is limited to 250. The Sagamore Club, not more than two blocks away, charges only $10 a year dues. Some of those who are working to keep the club alive are Charles W. Dayton, Edward F. Steers, Cyrus L. Sulzberger, Daniel P. Hays, George H. Burford, and Jordan L. Mott.

BRITISH GUIANA ALARMED.

Its Interests Threatened by Orinoco's New Governor.

PANAMA, Dec. 3.—Advices from Demerara state that the selection of Gen. Hernandez as Governor of the Orinoco region by the new Government has created much uneasiness in British Guiana. Hernandez is noted for his dislike of British power and influences, and is a rabid opponent of any proposal looking toward an amicable settlement of the boundary question between Venezuela and Great Britain on the basis of mutual concession.

The colony of British Guiana is prepared to send forces to the frontier if the slightest notice should Hernandez attempt to disturb the territory held by the British settlers.

The National Prison Association.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 3.—The National Prison Association of the United States met in annual session to-night.

Nearly 150 delegates are expected to be present during the sessions. Sixty officers and delegates have already arrived. Among these are R. B. Hayes, President of the association, and Gen. Brinkerhof of Ohio, Vice-President.

The opening session of the congress was held at Harris's Academy of Music this evening. Dr. John Morris presided, and Cardinal Gibbons delivered the opening prayer.

Addresses of welcome were made by Mayor Latrobe and Attorney-General John P. Poe, representing Gov. Brown. Mr. Hayes delivered his annual address. The congress will be in session five days.

Anti-foreign Outbreak in Hunan, China—Another Earthquake in the Upper Land.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 3.—The steamer Belgic arrived from Hong Kong and Yokohama this afternoon, bringing news that there had been another anti-foreign outbreak in Hunan, and that the posting of placards urging the extermination of foreigners is being extensively carried on.

An earthquake of forty seconds' duration, but causing no damage, was recently felt at Tokio.

The epidemic of dysentery seems to be disappearing in Japan. Since the first of the year there have been nearly 11,000 deaths.

Buncoer Rice Had a Man in Tow.

CHICAGO, Dec. 3.—The famous bunco man, Edward Rice, who is 64 years old, white bearded, and looks like a clergyman, was arrested here to-day just after he had made the acquaintance of J. L. Rapstead, a wealthy Montana ranch owner. Mr. Rapstead is on his way to Germany for a visit, having made a fortune in the West. Rice met him at the station, and learning his plans proposed to go abroad with him. Rice said he could get passes, and meant to cross the water in a few days and way. He was about to lead the Montana man into his "office" when he was interrupted by the police.

THE FRENCH CRISIS.

Little Progress Toward Forming a Cabinet—The Panama Scandal.

PARIS, Dec. 3.—Cabinet makers encounter great difficulties. Casimir Perier abandoned the task this morning, owing to the fact that Bourgeois would not enter the Cabinet if Freycinet were excluded. Then Bourgeois was called by Carnot. The President urged him to accept office, assuring him that Freycinet would enter the combination.

Things seemed settled when at 6:45 o'clock this evening Casimir Perier called at the Elysée stating that he was unable to form a Cabinet. No explanation was given of this unaccountable determination. At 7 o'clock Bourgeois was called to the Elysée. Nothing had yet transpired about the conference.

It is rumored that if Bourgeois fails, Carnot will intrust Freycinet with the formation of a Ministry.

The mud appears to grow thicker every day with the Panama scandal. They have been able to learn the names of the politicians who are the payees of the famous Thiery check.

Léon Renault, Senator from the Alpes Maritimes and late Prefect of Police, cashed one for $25,000 francs; Albert Grévy, the brother of the late President, cashed another for 20,000 francs. The others are financiers and company floaters. The two checks for £30,000 each cashed through the Rothschilds were endorsed by Cornelius Hertz, the famous electric lighting companies' man.

Those three payees appeared before the Commission. The two former made embarrassed replies, and are deeply compromised. Hertz said that Reinach owes him still £80,000, representing money advanced. It is needless to say that this caused a deep sensation.

The Commission also heard M. Germain, a director of the Crédit Lyonnais, and M. Helydissel, a director of the Société Général. Both declared that their banks never cashed from the Panama Company any but legal and accepted commissions.

Deputy Provost Delaunay said that he was also approached by a Panama Company's agent. He thought that the man was the same who endeavored to bribe Deputy Chantagrel. Lastly M. Baihaut, the late Minister of Public Works, accused of corruption, stated that his conduct was above suspicion, denying Martin's evidence of yesterday.

LIVERPOOL HONORS GLADSTONE.

The Freedom of the City Conferred Upon the Grand Old Man.

LONDON, Dec. 3.—The freedom of the city of Liverpool was conferred to-day on the Right Hon. William E. Gladstone. The streets were thronged with about a quarter of a million persons, and Mr. Gladstone received a most cordial ovation. The presentation was made in due and ancient form.

Mr. Gladstone delivered an address in which he glorified municipal institutions in general, and those of Liverpool in particular, and predicted that the Manchester Canal would be an additional attraction to bringing shipping to the Mersey.

WAS THERE A LATER WILL?

The Controversy Over Millionaire Brewer Ruhsam's Estate May Be Renewed.

Joseph Ruhsam, the Staten Island brewer, died two years ago, leaving a will, in which he divided his estate into three parts, and left them respectively to Emily Ruhsam, whom he recognized as his widow; an adopted child of 15, who lives with Emily, and Damien Ruhsam, his brother, of Fulda, Germany. Mr. Ruhsam was worth about $3,000,000.

Objections were filed to the will by Barbara Ruhsam, a woman who came from Newark to Staten Island and declared that Joseph Ruhsam was her husband and that she had a child by him bearing the same name as his father.

She alleged that she met Mr. Ruhsam in 1868, when he was a workman in John Kress's brewery, and that they were married that year. Barbara Ruhsam averred that the brewer was of unsound mind and that undue influence had been exercised over him when he made his will.

Mrs. Barbara Ruhsam was unsuccessful in her contest. It was alleged that the brewer obtained a divorce from Barbara and two years later married Mrs. Emily Ruhsam. Meanwhile Mrs. Ruhsam had also married, notwithstanding the prohibition of the court that granted the divorce.

It is now said that a later will bequeathing a large share of the brewer's property to his unrecognized second wife has been discovered, and that it soon will be offered for probate. The executors of the original will were August Horrmann, the business partner of Ruhsam; William F. Leicht of New Jersey, and Mrs. Emily Ruhsam.

COMPRESSED AIR AND SALT WATER.

A Letter from E. A. Hopkins Telling a Little About His Company.

The following communication, enclosed in plain envelope, was brought to THE SUN by a messenger boy yesterday afternoon. It was said at the office of Parrish & Pendleton, counsel for the New York Power Company, that Mr. Hopkins was believed not to be in town. Mr. Hopkins is said to be a Philadelphian.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—SIR: Having been absent for some days I was unable to make any explanations in regard to the objects of the New York Power Company, which recent articles in the papers seem to demand as necessary. I may briefly state, therefore, that this company was organized to introduce in this country the use of compressed air as a means of distribution of power on a system now in use in Europe.

The franchise granting the right to use the system in New York was passed by the Board of Aldermen last July and signed by the Mayor, since which time it has developed that it would be advantageous to use hydraulic power by means of salt water. It was therefore decided to ask for an amendment to the franchise giving the company the privilege to convey salt water in its pipes.

The distribution of power by compressed air has been successfully tried in a few cases of all sorts of small industries, ventilation and other purposes, and has been found of great advantage to the working classes who are able to have power in their houses and shops, without the expense of putting in a steam boiler. In cities on the other hand, hydraulic power is the most economical for elevators, cranes, and dock hoists, or any sort of lifting machinery.

At one time there were negotiations for the purchase of the old franchises of the United States Heating Company, but in a few days we shall know more about the matter. It is simply a business enterprise. Arrangements have been made for the necessary capital, but the details of the financial plans are not yet fully developed, and the parties interested therefore are not prepared to make a public statement.

The company is an entirely new enterprise, and has no connection whatever with any other companies or any plans heretofore had in New York, and has no intention of seeking a contract from the Fire Department or any other department of the city. It is thought by the people back of it that power distributed in the manner and for the purposes above stated can be furnished through these systems more cheaply than by any other, and that a reasonable return can be anticipated.

There is no intention whatever of laying more than a very restricted amount of pipe at the beginning, and to let the system grow from that nucleus. If it proves a public benefit, it will naturally increase an area because the public must get it. It also goes without saying that no pipes will be laid in the residential streets, and in point of fact no streets will be opened at the beginning excepting a small section along the water front besides which it has been specifically stipulated that no newly paved streets shall be opened until three years have elapsed after the pavement has been laid.

Respectfully, NEW YORK POWER CO.

(By E. A. HOPKINS, President).

A TRAGEDY AT SEA.

Capt. John Smith Accused of Murdering One of His Crew Off the Pacific Coast.

SAN DIEGO, Cal., Dec. 3.—Capt. John Smith of the sloop Louis is under arrest here for the murder of young George Neale, one of his crew. The only other member of the crew was Christopher Silberry, also a mere lad. Silberry says they started on a guano-gathering cruise for the southern coast. The boys gave the skipper much trouble, as they soon tired of his domineering ways, but there was no violence till two nights ago, when Silberry was aroused by a scuffle and heard Neale calling to the Captain from the water not to shoot. Silberry says he saw the Captain raise his rifle and shoot, and then all was still. When asked what he was doing the Captain said harsh words, Silberry said nothing, but when he could get ashore he told the police. Smith, when arrested, calmly admitted that he had thrown Neale overboard because the boy wanted to run the sloop, and it made him mad. The people were so stirred up over the outrage that there is talk of lynching Smith.

Capt. Smith's relatives live in Pittsburgh. His father is a Presbyterian preacher there, and Mrs. E. Nebhardt of the same place is his sister. His uncle is Josiah Cooley of Pittsburgh, author of "The Gathering in Beulah." Smith is 64 years old and a bachelor.

OBITUARY.

Commander Roswell Dwight Hitchcock, U. S. N., died yesterday morning at the residence of his mother, 44 West Twentieth street. He was the oldest son of the Rev. Dr. Roswell Dwight Hitchcock, and was born in Massachusetts in 1845. He entered the class of 1865 at the Naval Academy and was made acting midshipman on Jan. 1, 1862. He received his appointment as midshipman in July of the same year. His commission as ensign bears the date of Dec. 1, 1868, and in the following spring he was made Lieutenant. As Lieutenant he was s