TALK OF BRIBERY AT TOPEKA.

POPULISTS INVOLVED IN THE STORY OF A CORRUPTION FUND.

They Say It Is All a Republican Canard to Discredit the Reform Movement—The Governor Tells the Story as He Heard It.

TOPEKA, March 3.—Another sensation was developed to-day in connection with the action of the Governor, the State officers, and certain Populist advisers who are accused of accepting money to the amount of $4500 from persons in Kansas City, said to have been contributed "for legislative purposes." The exact purposes for which the contribution was made are not definitely known, but it is charged that as a consideration the Governor or his personal representatives had agreed to the appointment of Police Commissioners for Kansas City, Kan., who would not interfere with the gambling and lottery shops in that city. The charge was made on the editorial page of one of the Topeka papers this morning, and was to the effect that a draft for $3,000, drawn by Peter Cline of Kansas City, Mo., the lottery operator, upon the American National Bank of that city, and $1,500 in cash were brought to this city and paid to the manipulators of the Gubernatorial Ring, composed of F. J. Close, the Governor's private secretary; J. T. Little, Attorney-General, and Jas. F. Legate of Leavenworth, a well-known politician and lobbyist who abandoned the Republican party last summer and joined the Populists.

There is no doubt that a draft for $3,000 was sent here from Kansas City, and that it was deposited in one of the Topeka banks for collection after being endorsed by Legate. The matter was brought to the attention of the Legislature to-day, and Senator Baker of Leavenworth introduced a resolution for the appointment of a committee composed of Republicans and Populists to investigate the charge and report to the Senate. Action on the resolution was deferred until to-morrow on the request of Populist Senators, who said they wished to make inquiries before voting for it.

The information regarding the draft was furnished by John V. Moffatt of Wichita, who asserts that he can show the purpose for which the money was to be used. Gov. Lewelling does not make a positive denial of the fact that money was sent here for some purpose, and the other Populists involved are equally non-committal.

Legate has left the city and his version of the transaction cannot be secured. It is alleged that two payments of the money were made by Nelson F. Akers of Iola, but he refuses to say anything.

Gov. Lleweiling denies that he had any connection with the affair or that any improper influence has been brought to bear in the matter of the appointment of Police Commissioners. He says: "John W. Moffatt came to me last night at the hotel and told me he had heard this story and wanted to know if it was true. I told him I knew nothing about it, but that I had heard a rumor of money having been sent here, but I did not learn where it came from. I told Moffatt according to the rumor I had heard that the money was paid to James Legate to fix the Legislature—that is, to bring both Houses together. That was before the open conflict. Col. Legate went to the Santa Fé officials and exhibited this money and said it had been placed in his hands for the purpose of buying up a few Republicans and getting them to go into the Dunsmore House.

"Legate then said, 'Now, I want to keep this money,' and proposed that if the Santa Fé people would reimburse him he would return the money, and report that he was unable to buy any Republicans, and nothing would be done.

"The Kansas City, Kan., Police Commissioners have not yet been appointed. I have fully made up my mind on two members, and have almost decided on the third. Some time ago I decided to appoint William Pray, who is an old friend of mine from Iowa. The Populist Central Committee have submitted three names to me which they endorsed for Commissioners. One of these was A. W. Cunningham and another was Geo. W. Mitchell. I had decided to appoint these two Populists, and Mr. Pray, who is a Republican. I would have done so some time ago had I not received several letters protesting against Mr. Mitchell's appointment. I believe I will appoint him yet."

"The Governor disclaims all knowledge of what is embraced in the words 'for legislative purposes,' and emphatically denies the charge that he was concerned in the contribution or collection of any such fund. He said this afternoon that he had heard where the money had come from, but it was told him in confidence and he would not divulge it at present."

Fred Close, the Governor's secretary, and Attorney-General Little both deny having had any part in the transaction, and the story is generally discredited by Populists, who assert that the story was furnished by Republicans in the interest of their party and to break down the reform movement in Kansas. On the other hand the movement for an investigation comes from the Republican members of the Legislature, who assert their belief that the money was solicited and contributed for corrupt purposes, and that the proof will be produced as soon as the investigating committee has been appointed.

OBJECT TO SATOLLI.

Maryland Methodists Adopt Resolutions on the Parochial School Question.

HAGERSTOWN, Md., March 3.—At to-day's session of the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church the Rev. E. L. Watson offered the following:

Whereas, It is currently known that the Roman Catholic Church is contemplating efforts looking to the affiliation of their parochial schools with the public schools, thereby employing public moneys for sectarian purposes; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we most heartily denounce all such alliances of Church and State, and insist on their perpetual and inviolable separation, heartily echoing the sentiment of President Grant: "Leave the matter of religion to the family, the altar, and the private schools, supported by private contributions."

Resolved, Also, that the Presiding Elders bring the subject before their quarterly conferences, and that the various pastors be vigilant to present in the midst of their congregation their love for the public schools.

In explanation, Mr. Watson said that Roman aggression was no longer underhanded, but was open. "Other denominations have placed themselves against their movement on our schools."

Dr. John Lanahan said these politico-ecclesiastical men had been sounding their trumpets with zeal and a great deal of brass. "We have to meet this question, and it is the greatest that has come before us since the life of the Union was involved.

"When it does come up the very ground will heave. Our pulpits should be heard. (Cries of "Amen.") There are more Methodists in this State than Catholics, and if any political party fails into this not of heresy they will be swept away as by a whirlwind." The matter was then referred to a committee, of which Dr. Lanahan is Chairman.

Bishop John F. Hurst of Washington, who has charge of raising the funds to erect the American University at the capital, gave details of the work. He said Bishop Newman had made the suggestion to raise $5,000,000 by selling shares at $5 each. The members of the Conference immediately subscribed for over 800 shares at $5 a share. Bishop Hurst subscribed $10,000.

GOLDWIN SMITH CENSURED.

The St. George's Society Frowns Upon His Advocacy of Annexation.

TORONTO, March 3.—A large meeting of the St. George's Society was held to-night to consider a motion to ask Goldwin Smith for his resignation as a life member on account of his advocacy of annexation. An amendment was proposed, declaring that Smith had done nothing inconsistent with the constitution of the society, and should not be asked to resign. Speeches were made by those supporting the resolution, and it was declared that the annexation movement in Canada, headed by Mr. Smith and others, was fraught with the gravest damage to Canada, and Mr. Smith was accused of using his membership in the society as a mark of loyalty to lead outsiders to believe that Englishmen in Canada approve of annexation. It was pointed out that those who were friendly to Mr. Smith while perfectly loyal and opposed to annexation would be misrepresented by voting against the resolution.

A compromise resolution was unanimously carried declaring that the society views with disapprobation the fact that Mr. Smith has proclaimed himself in favor of annexation and has accepted the Presidency of the Continental Union Society in Toronto, and expresses regret that "the society contains a member who is striving for an object which would cause irreparable injury to the Dominion, entail a loss to England of a most important part of the empire, and deprive Canadians of their birthright as Englishmen."

A Syndicate Buys Southern Ice Factories.

NEW ORLEANS, March 3.—A syndicate has been formed here backed by foreign capital for the purchase of all the artificial ice factories in the city. The Southern, the Consumers', and the Municipal companies have already passed into the hands of the syndicate, and negotiations are about complete for the Crescent and New Orleans companies.

The investment will require more than $1,000,000. The syndicate expects to save money by closing several factories in winter.

AMUSEMENTS.

"Girofle-Girofla" at the Garden Theatre.

The new version of Lecocq's opera bouffe is *fin de siècle*. Mr. M. C. Woodward, assisted by J. Cheever Goodwin, has been successful in giving an entirely modern tone to archaic incidents and characters. "Girofle-Girofla," as it was produced last night in the Garden Theatre, has been written down to fit the humor of Louis Harrison. The jokes are new, the epigrams fresh, the jollity is up to date. The change led to extraordinary results. The spectators found renewed interest in familiar episodes and followed the story with an enjoyment as keen as if its sequel were unknown. Mr. Harrison took such advantage of the opportunities afforded by the later version that he kept the audience convulsed with merriment, and in the second act became so funny that Miss Russell, who was required to be serious at that moment in the interests of her character, burst into an uncontrollable fit of laughter, and was compelled to gaze into the wings for a minute to regain the composure essential to her scene.

The revised edition of this classic is not to be commended in all particulars. But it has given us a *Bolero* who is constantly in evidence and always grotesque.

The revival adds to Lillian Russell's already long list of triumphs. The plump and pretty prima donna did not win her audience without a struggle. During the first act Mr. Hayden-Coffin gained the applause that was accorded to vocalization, while Mr. Harrison received the plaudits that were offered to humor. The occasional flatness of Miss Russell's notes was more than usually noticeable in the garden scene, and until the evening was half ended she did not display any extraordinary sprightliness in acting. It was apparent to her, as it was to the audience, that the new *Girofle-Girofla* must do something beyond disclosing a fascinating personality bubbling out of becoming gowns in order to sustain the reputation of Lillian Russell. The thought no sooner struck the prima donna than she acted on it. The punch bowl song was her opportunity, and she seized it with the inspiration of comic opera genius. She drank one glass of the flaming liquid and became coquettish. A second bumper made her frolicsome, a third aroused her into hilarity, and after the fourth she "wasna fu' but unco' happy." The spectacle of this dimpling and lovely vision reeling tipsily on the stage, singing a bacchanal, and looking generally like an early hand at the French ball, electrified the house. Miss Russell had preserved to a nicety all the gradations of facial expression and physical unsteadiness that lead sobriety into intoxication. Her tones grew almost imperceptibly incoherent, her eyes became glassy, her knees refused to do their duty, and she seemed to be blindly, gloriously inebriated. As the tipsy beauty reeled helplessly up stairs, supported by two dancers, the audience roared with laughter, applauded in enthusiasm, and, calling Miss Russell back, tumultuously drove her to drink again and again, until the bowl and the stage manager's patience were exhausted.

After this bit of clever acting the prima donna regained her laurels and had enormous bouquets of flowers mixed with them when the curtain fell. Mr. Louis Harrison cracked new jokes and twisted himself into fresh eccentricities. Miss Rose Leighton sang well and acted ingeniously. William Carleton and Hayden Coffin rivalled each other in expressing the passion and the melody of the two lovers. But Lillian had achieved the great victory of the performance and she was once more established as the peerless and unapproachable queen of comic opera beside whose eminence in the esteem of her admirers are all things ever small and unimportant.

The production was worthy of the skill which it enshrined. When the curtain rolled up on Richard Marsden's superb setting of the second act the audience broke into an applause that lasted for several seconds and forced the actors to stand idly by until their voices could be heard over the footlights.

PAQUERETTE IS MARRIED.

She Got a Husband for Herself Because She Didn't Like Her Mother's.

Mlle. Paquerette, who is an acrobatic singer at Tony Pastor's, tied herself into a knot on Wednesday, thereby greatly distressing her mother and the gentleman whom Mlle. Paquerette's mother says she should call stepfather. Mlle. Paquerette had the assistance of Alderman Cornelius Flynn when the knot was tied at the City Hall, and Mr. Louis Verande was the other contracting party. Mlle. Paquerette's specialty is awkwardness, and she sings her songs with the accompaniment of physical contortions, making her greatest hit by tying her hands and legs together while dancing in a ballet costume.

On Tuesday morning Paquerette had a row with her mother, Mme. Michela Chabrials, who lives at 89 Seventh avenue. Mme. Chabrials says that her daughter then left the house and walked straight into the arms of an unknown man. At least Mme. Chabrials says Paquerette had seen her husband only twice before the wedding. "and how," asked madame yesterday, "could she be said to know him?" Mme. Chabrials has her own opinion why Louis Verande married her daughter, and expresses it. "He stole her her money," explains madame. "He has nothing but debts and a poor voice, and can't get an engagement to sing anywhere."

Paquerette says she married Verande because her mother would not give her any of the money she earned, a theory her bubbly besides. The stepfather caused all the trouble, Paquerette declares, and he is no relation to her or her mother anyhow. Her acquaintance with Verande began last December, the couple say, and they made up their minds to get married several weeks ago.

Herrmann's Theatre Closed.

There was no performance of "Our Club" at Herrmann's Theatre last night. E. J. Henley had contracted for a period of six weeks, beginning last Monday, and had agreed to deposit $2,500 as a guarantee that the house would receive a certain sum weekly from the receipts. The deposit was not made. Mr. Henley's manager says the engagement was closed because Mr. Henley's backer, James T. Waldron, failed to meet the original guarantee. Mr. Henley purposes to resume his tour after two weeks' rest.

Mr. Henley's manager suggested on Thursday night that the performances should be continued under other conditions. Mr. Bloom telegraphed to Chicago for instructions, and received this reply:

I have fulfilled my contract in good faith to the letter. Mr. Henley must do the same. I absolutely refuse to be threatened or bulldozed into changing the terms of the contract by methods which were in vogue in the days of Dick Turpin. If you cannot find a suitable attraction worthy of my theatre you will close the house for the balance of Lent, and we will reopen it on Easter Monday, April 3, with a surprise. A. HERRMANN.

A Rumor About the Union Square Theatre.

Henry Greenwall, manager of the Union Square Theatre, bought out on Tuesday the interest in that playhouse held by A. Y. Pearson. There was a story current on the Rialto last night that Greenwall had sold his lease to B. F. Keith, a Boston manager, who owns a string of theatres in the New London circuit, playing in them a continuous entertainment from noon until 10 P. M. The Union Square, so the rumor goes, was bought for $48,000, and it will be turned into a variety house of the new London circuit kind. Several managers here say they believe the story to be true. Mr. Greenwall said late last night that there was no truth in the rumor.

New Member of the Casino Directorate.

Robert B. Stuyvesant, who is a lineal descendant of Gov. Peter Stuyvesant, and who has a peculiar passion for scarf pins, has resigned his place as director of the Casino after many years' service. H. L. Kingsbury, brother-in-law of David Leventritt, the lawyer of the Casino business company, was elected to fill the vacancy. Director A. C. Lassen, who is fighting the Aronson interests, nominated ex-Mayor Franklin Edson in opposition to Mr. Kingsbury.

Last Days of the Cork Room.

The cork room of Koster & Bial's music hall is to be wiped out of existence. It is a cosey little room behind the stage, where high rollers have been in the habit of drinking champagne with the actresses. It got its name from the decoration of the ceiling and walls, which are covered with corks grouped in elaborate design. The space it takes up will be given to an extension to the present stage.

Mutiny on the Ship T. F. Oakes.

The ship T. F. Oakes, Capt. Reed, from this port, arrived at San Francisco yesterday with First Mate John McKay in irons for mutiny. The Captain reported that McKay's cruelty to the crew during the voyage had caused much grumbling. On Jan. 13, when the Captain came on deck, he found McKay beating the cook. When ordered to stop the mate told Capt. Reed to mind his own business. He was promptly placed in irons, and will be handed over to the Federal authorities at San Francisco for trial for mutiny.

On Oct. 18 Charles Cook, a seaman on the Oakes, fell from the main royal yard to the deck and was killed.

FIVE CHILDREN SMOTHERED.

LOCKED IN THEIR ROOMS WHEN THEIR PARENTS WENT TO WORK.

A Tenant on the Floor Below Tried to Fill a Lighted Kerosene Stove—The Second Fatal Fire in This Henry Street House.

Five little children were suffocated in a fire yesterday morning in the double tenement at 104 Henry street. It happened while the larger part of the neighborhood was abroad, and while hundreds of men and women were hurrying to their work. With the exception of the children all the inmates of the house were up and dressed, and many were at work.

At 7:45 o'clock Sarah Weipert, who lived with her husband and four children in the rear apartment on the fourth floor, was preparing breakfast. The oil in the kerosene stove was low, and she began to fill it while the fire was still burning. There was a great burst of flame, and burning oil scattered in many directions. Mrs. Weipert tried to seize the stove and throw it into the sink, but only burned her fingers. The floor took fire, and a sheet of flame spread toward the door leading to the hall. Mrs. Weipert screamed, seized her four children, who were still sleeping, and hurried them to the rear fire escape. Then she managed to open the window in the adjoining house facing the fire escape, and to convey her children safely into the astonished neighbor's apartment.

In the mean time the fire ate through the floors, walls, and doors, and soon spread through the halls. It ran up the stairs to the top story, and raged there furiously. Fifteen families occupied the house, and most of the members who were in it when the fire occurred had a chance to escape. Those on the fourth, fifth, and six stories found the halls full of flame and smoke, and took to the fire escapes. Police and firemen came quickly, and, together with some amateur life savers, brought down all on the fire escapes, and some who had been unable to get so far.

Before the firemen came, Samuel Jacobs, who lives three doors up the street, ran up the fire escape to the top story, where lie found several children locked in a room. It was the apartment of the Rosen family, and the parents were not at home. Jacobs caught little Lily Rosen and ran down the fire escape with her. He put her in the hands of neighbors and started back for Fanny Rosen, but the smoke was too much for him, and he was unable to get into the room again.

Policeman Kelly of the Madison street station, who had sent out the alarm, went up the fire escape and looked into the windows. At the third floor he saw a small boy running about in bewilderment. Kelly kicked in the window, climbed in, and swung the boy on his back. He told the boy to hold on tightly, and went down to the street with the boy clinging to his neck. Butcher Jacob Levy, whose shop was on the ground floor, also managed to assist a number of frightened tenants from the fire escapes.

The street was crowded with screaming women, and the police were kept busy in preventing some of them from entering the house. They were the mothers of children who had been left alone in the house while their husbands had gone out to work or to do the family marketing. The day nurseries were evidently not popular among these Russian and Polish immigrants, for, instead of leaving their children to the care of such institutions, they had locked them in their apartments. Among the distracted mothers was Mrs. Miriam Bernstein, who had left her four children locked in her rear apartment on the south side of the sixth story. When the fire had been subdued Deputy Chief Reilly sent the men of Truck 6 through the building. They found the four Bernstein children huddled together in one bed. They had been smothered to death. The bodies were still limp and warm. They were Alter, aged 11; Rebecca, aged 10; Hermann, aged 6, and Rachel, aged 6 months. Across the hall in the Rosen apartment the firemen found Fanny, aged 7, whom Samuel Jacobs had been unable to save. She was also in bed, and had been suffocated by smoke. When the bodies were taken down stairs Mrs. Bernstein and her husband, Abraham, who had been called from his tailor shop in Jefferson street, were distracted. Abraham tried to beat his head against a wall and tore his hair and beard.

Arrangements were made by the officers of a society, to which the Bernsteins and Rosens belonged, for an immediate burial. It was decided to bury the Rosen girl at Salem Fields, and the Bernstein children at Bayside. The loss on the building, owned by Jacob Cohen and Elias Furniture, was less than $5,000. Only half a dozen of the tenants were insured.

A similar fire occurred in this building on April 20, 1891, when two children were suffocated.

Their Flats Spoiled by Fire and Water.

The tenants in the flat at 229 West Forty-third street were routed out by fire at 2:45 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The draught from an open door blew a curtain against a gas jet in the apartments of Mrs. A. C. Evangelides on the third floor. Her friend, Miss Blanche Selwyn, was alone in the flat. The flames from the curtain caught a Japanese parasol suspended from the ceiling, and in a few moments the whole room was ablaze. Miss Selwyn pulled down the blazing parasol, which struck her on the head, singeing her hair badly. Mrs. Evangelides had made her up the stairs just in time to catch Miss Selwyn, who became panic stricken when her hair took fire. He led her down stairs and sent in an alarm. A second alarm was necessary. The Evangelides flat was burned out. The loss was $3,500. The flats of Mrs. Case and Mrs. Cornish were damaged to the extent of $1,000 each by water and $1,500 damage was done to the building.

PLOT TO AID REDWINE.

Eleven Men Said to Have Tried to Aid the Defaulter to Escape.

ATLANTA, March 3.—The hearing of Horace Owens before the United States Commissioner was called in the Federal Court this morning on the charge of complicity with defaulter Redwine. Owens has said that he harbored Redwine to obtain a reward for his capture. It was charged against Owens, however, that he had been seen in the company of Redwine several days before the defalcation, and that he was a party to the crime by endeavoring to shield him.

Policeman Looney swore that Owens had told him that several days before the departure of Redwine there had been a meeting of eleven men to aid Redwine to leave the country. Redwine refused to give the names of all, but said that one of them was Tom Tomb Jackson, who has since committed suicide. The others were men supposed to be worth considerable money, and if their names were divulged in connection with the defalcation, Owens said, there would in all probability be two or three more suicides. Owens further said that the king where $40,000 of the money was concealed, and from what the policeman could gather Owens was acting as the agent to hide Redwine and enable him to make good his escape. Chief of Police Connelly also testified to substantially the same facts.

KAIULANI GOES TO BOSTON.

Mrs. Lozier, President of Sorosis, and Mrs. William Lee Among Her Callers.

The Princess Kaiulani and her party went to Boston at 10 o'clock yesterday morning to visit a son of Mr. Davies, her guardian, who is studying at the Institute of Technology.

Before leaving the Brevoort House the Princess received Mrs. William Lee of Boston, Mrs. Lozier, President of Sorosis, Dr. Lozier, and the Hon Isaac Townsend Smith, Consul-General of Siam. Mrs. Lee, who is related to the late Kaiulani's father, husband, John Dominio, presented to the Princess a garland of roses, lilies of the valley, and violets, arranged as the national colors of Hawaii in red, white, and blue. This garland she threw about the Princess's shoulders, according to the custom of greeting among the Hawaiians.

BOSTON, March 3.—Princess Kaiulani arrived in this city from New York this afternoon, accompanied by Mr. Theophilus Davies, her guardian; Mrs. Davies, Miss Davies, and Mr. Painter.

At the Park square station the party was met by Mr. T. C. Davies, a son of Mr. Davies, who is a student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and they were driven to the Brunswick.

To-morrow the Princess will have a sleigh ride in the suburbs, and she will also attend a concert. The party will remain here until Tuesday.

A Little Blaze in the Grand Central Station.

There was a small fire and a lot of smoke in the Grand Central Station at 6:30 last night. The fire was in the kit room in the basement, on the Vanderbilt avenue side of the building. In this room are a lot of lockers, in which the trainmen keep uniforms, lanterns, and such things. The flames did about $100 damage.

Not a Word of the Naronic.

There was no news yesterday of the White Star freighter Naronic, twenty-one days out from Liverpool, and nine days overdue at this port. Her agents hope that she may be returning to some European port in tow, or may have drifted down to the Azores. A few more days will tell.

"As the excellence of a Baking Powder is dependent upon the yield of leavening gas, and upon the wholesomeness and purity of its ingredients, the 'Royal' is unquestionably the best."—*Massachusetts State Analyst.*

THE PORT ROYAL SOUND TRIALS.

The Value of the Vesuvius Can Be Shown When She Has Shells That Will Explode.

WASHINGTON, March 3.—The elaborate series of trials of the gun-cotton shells of the Vesuvius has accomplished its main purpose, which was that of determining whether her armament had been already so developed as to produce efficient results in actual use.

It was found that the new system was not thus developed, inasmuch as the heavy shells would not explode. The trial was important, first in order to learn whether the Vesuvius herself could be immediately relied upon for practical use against an enemy, with the pneumatic tubes and their ammunition, and secondly, in order to determine whether a mate to the Vesuvius, the authorization of which was long ago given to the Navy Department, should be forthwith constructed.

The latter question is of course settled, for the present, by the careful and thorough trials at Port Royal. No second Vesuvius is likely to be undertaken until the first is able to explode her shells. But as to the former question, while it is also certain that she could not now be used effectively, yet, judging from the recent performance, there is reason to believe that the defect developed, which prevented passing on to the final and most comprehensive of all the tests, can be remedied.

The failure to explode any of the numerous shells fired was due to the fact that a proper system of fuses for this novel implement of warfare had not yet been attained. The Government has made a most patient and liberal test in this essential particular, sparing no labor and cost; but it is due to the merits of this interesting experimental device that when its owners are ready with other fuses, another series of trials should be accorded, also on a liberal scale.

The only thing of importance to demonstrate by a series of consecutive shots, if a series is needed, is whether the Vesuvius, running at her well-known high speed, as if against an enemy, can destroy or seriously injure an opposing iron-clad, also in motion. The question whether, meanwhile, she might not be herself riddled and destroyed by the rapid-fire guns of an opposing war ship, armored or unarmored, has nothing to do with the trials to which she is entitled. Very likely she might be so sunk or blown up, without ever having had a chance to fire a gun. If her limit of effective range is but at about a mile and a half, she would be exposed to the fire of opposing guns having several times that range. But this consideration only affects the question whether another unarmored vessel like the Vesuvius should be built for such guns. Probably an exact sister ship would not be built. Precisely the same objection could be made to torpedo boats, which pretty much confine their range of aggressive action than the Vesuvius, although they, it is true, are smaller and intended for night attacks. But the same objection could certainly be made to torpedo cruisers, which are of about the same displacement and class as the Vesuvius, and yet are in great favor in foreign navies and have been recommended for our own. The Vesuvius could also be used with other ships having long-range guns to aid her.

It is clear that if the battery system of the Vesuvius should be found effective by actual trial, it could be used on vessels armored sufficiently to protect them from being sunk, as she would be, by hostile machine and rapid-fire guns before getting up to her own range of fire. It has also been suggested that the pneumatic gun could be applied to unarmored torpedo boats, whose warfare must be desperate in any event, thus substituting material for submarine torpedo fire, the former having the longer range and the heavier charge.

These being clear possibilities, the importance of ascertaining the true value of the pneumatic gun for naval purposes is obvious. The real question is to the proper place, in a class of vessel, which is only the gun carriage and gun protection, but as to the effective use of the gun itself. The Port Royal trials confirmed what had been sufficiently established by land trials long ago, namely, that shells containing gun cotton and even more dangerous high explosives in enormous quantities could be fired with absolute safety by having the expansion of compressed air as the propelling force. It had also been shown, and was confirmed at Port Royal, that the steadiness and uniformity of this propelling force were such as to make its accuracy much greater than could be expected, with a high-angle fire. There are some grounds, also, for surmising that, had the fuses been able to explode the many loaded shells then fired, the experiments thereafter to be conducted would have demonstrated the destructive effect upon an enemy. One of the inaccuracies of the gun seems to have been the fact that, where the inaccuracy took the form of falling short of the target, the projectile was believed to have pursued a course, on entering the water, sufficiently near the surface to have struck a hostile ironclad beneath its water-line.

The point is suggested that all these experiments to find out the value of the pneumatic system ought really to have been conducted by the army at the expense of the fortifications system. This, it would appear, is the practice in England, so far as trials have been conducted, and the money has been paid by far the largest orders given for such guns have been for land forts. Yet it is the navy that is compelled to bear the expense and labor of preliminary investigations. This is due, of course, to the fact that the navy, having been earlier in receiving the favor of Congress for its part in the new system of national defence, was able sooner to welcome, and to aid by contracts, this new experimental device. The natural method would be to find first the effect of the pneumatic gun in firing from a fort at a target representing a section of an ironclad, and then the availability of the gun for naval uses. The navy needs the gun, first, to find how far the unstable platform given by a ship pitching and rolling more or less in the waves would affect the accuracy of the pneumatic projectile in its mortar-like fire and slow flight toward a moving ship.

But under the existing state of things, with the Vesuvius already built and armed, the preliminary experiments needed for land uses must be made by the navy, unless the real value of this vessel is for a long time to remain unknown. An aerial torpedo, reaching its object and exploding upon it, may be effective like a submarine torpedo; and what the latter can do has been demonstrated in the recent Chilian war too forcibly to remain in doubt. But it might be well, when proper fuses have been secured for the Vesuvius, and she receives the additional trial to which she is entitled, to have her pursue and attack the least valuable of our many single-turret monitors, drawn at a moderate speed. All machinery and fittings of value could be removed, and the monitor turned to good account in thus demonstrating the degree of efficiency of our pneumatic gunboat.

The subject is not quite so important, relatively, now, as when the Vesuvius was designed, because now shells loaded with high explosives manufactured at the Newport torpedo station can be safely fired from powder guns. But the large quantity of explosive that can be used in the pneumatic projectiles would make them of great value.

Fighting Bob Evans and His Tow.

One of the stories brought home by the Yorktown from Behring Sea is that of Fighting Bob Evans and the schooner Jane Gray, nicknamed by the Yorktown's officers the Lady Jane Gray. The schooner was captured where she ought not to have been, and the Yorktown gave her a tow into Ounalaska.

The Yorktown's trial trip record is seventeen knots an hour, more or less, and she can, without special inconvenience, make fourteen knots when on every-day duty. She was doing somewhat less with the Lady Jane Gray towed astern when, on looking aft, the officers of the Yorktown discovered the Captain and crew well up in the rigging of their little craft and the sea boiling half way up her decks.

When the Yorktown and her captive reached Ounalaska the Captain of the Lady Jane Gray explained that he would certainly have cut the tow line had it been possible for anybody to go forward and peform that perilous feat, and when Commander Evans hinted that he might tow the Lady Jane Gray into Sitka, the Captain announced, with some nautical profanity, that the Yorktown might do as she would with the schooner, but as for himself, he'd visit a much warmer clime rather than be towed to Sitka behind Bob Evans.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

BRENNAN'S DRIVERS STRIKE.

Two Weeks' Pay Is Due Them—A Threat of Violence in Harlem—Money Ready To-day.

There was turmoil in the Department of Street Cleaning yesterday. It began at the main stables of the department, Seventeenth street and Avenue C, where the drivers of the dirt carts declared that they would not do a stroke of work until they got their wages for the last two weeks. They were joined by the hostlers, mechanics, blacksmiths, and horseshoers, until about 400 idle employes were wandering between the stables and the neighboring saloons.

The demand for extra men has been such a tax on the clerical staff of the department that their reports have been delayed. Comptroller Myers cannot furnish the money until he receives the reports. When the men had waited two days after the regular pay day they thought they had waited long enough and the strike was ordered. The strike fever reached the other stables, where the drivers also went out. All the hand sweepers remained at work.

Commissioner Brennan when he heard of the trouble hurried to the main stables and found about one hundred men standing around the doors.

"Go back to your work like sensible men," he said. "This delay was unavoidable, and you'll all be paid to-morrow sure."

"Pay us now and we're ready to start," said the spokesman.

Mr. Brennan went to the other stables and persuaded the men to go back to work. The men in the main stables remained out.

At the offices of the department the chief clerk's desk was piled high with reports of inspectors which he would not be able to reach for two days, though he was working like a beaver, and some of the inspectors were tearing their hair in their perplexity.

"The principal trouble," said Mr. Brennan, "is that we have 1,300 extra names, and when the dump sheets reach us with only the surnames of the drivers it takes time to get matters straightened out. The drivers are paid $11.51 a week, and the law fixes a day for the payment of the employees of each department, Wednesday being fixed for ours. Thursday ends the week. It takes the next two days to prepare the reports for the Comptroller. This necessitates the waiting of five days after the work is done before the men are paid.

"Everything is in ship shape now. Broadway is swept from Thirty-fourth street to the Battery."

In the afternoon, Comptroller Myers having gone to Washington, Deputy Comptroller Storrs signed the report, and a notice was put up in the car stables stating that the men would be paid at noon.

One of the street cleaning stables is at 116th street, near the East River. There are about twenty men employed there. At 10 o'clock last night a delegation of men from the Avenue C stables appeared and requested those men to go out.

Foreman C. L. Hunt, who is in charge, posted off to the East 126th street police station to get protection. Some policemen were sent to watch the stable. The men there say they will strike to-day.

RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

Interesting to Philatelists in the Marcus Mayer Collection.

Mr. Marcus Mayer of H. I. Nicholas & Co. will sell his collection of postage stamps at auction on March 15 and 16. The collection includes some of the early provisional issues of American and foreign stamps, rare enough to attract the attention of laymen as well as philatelists. Mr. Mayer has spent years in getting these choice specimens and says the collection is one of the finest in the world.

One of the most unusual stamps is the old 10-cent St. Louis, issued in 1845. These stamps were printed in blocks of six, three 10-cent and three 5-cent stamps on each plate. As there was no reduplicating process in those days, each die had to be engraved separately, and there are minute differences in the three dies. This particular stamp is printed from the middle die, die B, and Mr. Mayer has also two of the 5-cent stamps in his collection, one from die A and one from die C. These stamps are supposed to be worth $75 or $100 each.

Another provisional issue, equally rare, is the "Baltimore post." The stamp is printed on each letter separately from a hand die in 1846 by the Postmaster, and bears the words "Paid 5," with the fac-simile of James M. Buchanan's signature between. There is in existence an adhesive stamp of the same sort, but inscribed "Paid 5 cents."

The gem of his collection is also a provisional American stamp. This is the New Haven 5-cent stamp of 1845. The stamp has been cut from the envelope, which, of course, impairs its value, but one only is known to exist complete, and only one other cut. This issue of stamp has never before been offered at a public sale. The stamp bears the words, "Post Office, New Haven, 5 Paid," and is signed by E. A. Mitchell, Postmaster at New Haven. Aside from its rarity, this specimen has a curious history. It was sent by Mr. Denew to his family at Peekskill, and about ten years later passed into the possession of Mr. Duval, who was seized with the fad, then prevalent, to collect 1,000,000 stamps. To save room she cut it from the envelope. Her son sold it afterward to Scott & Co., from whom Mr. Mayer bought it. Another curious specimen is a five-cent Confederate stamp, printed at Richmond in 1861. By error in the plate the Postmaster's name was engraved McCermick, but on the envelope Mr. McCormick assures the Post Office authorities that the stamp is "O. K."

A rare French stamp is the specimen of the one-franc stamp of the 1849 issue. This stamp is usually dark carmine, but Mr. Mayer secured one printed in bright vermilion ink. There are other shades of this stamp, but none so rare.

Another unique specimen is the one-real stamp of 1857 of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, used by the Peruvian Government prior to the engraving of national stamps. These were the first stamps used in South America. Another similar rarity is one of the first issue of Hawaiian stamps, the issue of 1851. These were chiefly used in correspondence with the United States, and as the mail service was very irregular, letters from Honolulu were taken by whaling vessels and turned up in Massachusetts a year or more late. Most of the specimens so far discovered come from New Bedford.

The collection also includes some stamps issued by the Swiss Cantons before the Federal Government took entire charge of the Post Office. In one issue at Geneva, in 1843, there was no five-centime stamp, and those who need five centimes on a letter cut a ten-centime stamp in half. Sometimes this was done at the Post Office, and Mr. Mayer's specimen is ten centimes paid by two halves of a ten-centime stamp.

There are also some rare varieties of early Roumanian stamps, issued in 1858, for use in the provinces of Moldavia and Ballachia, and some scarce stamps from the British North American provinces, notably Newfoundland.

On the whole the collection is unique, and one of the most interesting exhibited of late years, and to the connoisseur in postage stamps is well worth a visit.

Fined $2,000 for Selling Liquor in Vermont.

PITTSFORD, Vt., March 3.—R. H. Drake, a merchant here, was fined to-day $1,850 and costs, the whole amounting to about $2,000, under the prohibitory law for selling liquor. This is one of the heaviest fines ever imposed in the State.

Location the Best in the City.

BUCKINGHAM HOTEL

(European Plan),

Fifth Avenue, New York.

This popular house, having been greatly enlarged by the addition (on 5th av.) of

An Absolutely Fireproof Building,

is now open for the reception of guests, permanent or transient.

The hotel has been beautifully decorated. The newest and most approved plumbing has been added, with perfect ventilation, and all the appointments of a first-class house.

The cuisine has a wide reputation for its excellence. Music Wednesday and Saturday evenings in the Grand Dining Room.

Tariff—Single rooms, $1 to $1.50 per day. Double rooms, with bath attached, $2 and upward. Magnificent suites, parlor, large airy bedroom, with bath and dressing room attached, $6 and upward, according to size and location.

WETHERBEE & FULLER, Proprietors.

DID THE DEACONS PEEP?

OVERSHOES FOUND IN THE SNOW AT THE FOOT OF A LADDER.

The Ladder Reached Up to a Window of a Room Occupied by the Islip Card Club—Something Like the Sound of Chips Heard.

An overshoe was found in the snow yesterday at the foot of a ladder reaching up to a window of the room in which the Islip Card Club of Islip, L. I., has its meetings. This is a confirmatory indication that two out of three deacons were there last Monday evening, for another overshoe had already been found, and both are lefts. The first shoe found was a No. 10. The discovery of yesterday was a No. 8. Both shoes hang now on the wall in the club room over Race's drug store, and the three deacons of the Methodist Church Investigating Committee, P. J. Hawkins, Oakley Clock, and Lester Nichols, have been asked to try on the overshoes. If they are a fit nothing worse will happen to them than a verification of the popular suspicion that they were peeping on Monday evening. If the shoes don't fit that fact will practically be sufficient to establish an alibi for the suspected deacons, and they will be exonerated in the public mind of Islip, which sides now with the Card Club against them.

The attendance at the prayer meetings in the Rev. Dr. McMullen's church has decreased so much of late that the Doctor called on several members of his congregation to help him find out what the matter was. It was the young people, male and female, who were staying away. To help out Dr. McMullen the three deacons named formed themselves into an investigating committee to discover what had caused the change. The Islip Card Club was formed about three months ago, and it hired a room over Race's drug store. The members hold card parties once a week, usually on the night for prayer meeting, and ask their young women friends in to play with them. One member of the investigating committee declares that he heard what he thinks was the sound of chips while he was standing at the soda fountain in the drug store below. The committee decided that it was to investigate there was no better place to start than at the weekly meeting of the Card Club. How to get in was the question. The club was private, and the investigating deacons had not only been ignored when the invitations went around, but they were made to understand that they couldn't get in if they tried.

Last Monday night the club did itself proud with the most elaborate progressive euchre party that Islip has ever witnessed. The preparations were made quietly, but the deacons saw freezers of ice cream and mysterious parcels being carried to the clubroom. They also noted the anxious faces of the club members as they bustled around all the afternoon getting ready for the evening. That night the deacons st