A CURIOUS COLLECTION.

PAINTINGS ATTRIBUTED TO OLD MASTERS LEFT BY MR. GAMAGE.

The Eccentric Old Collector's Treasures Displayed Preceding Their Sale at Auction—Pictures Whose Records Are Obscure.

The late Henry Tenbrook Gamage was an eccentric old gentleman, whose somewhat tragic death in February, 1892, may be recalled. He lived alone in a room on the top floor of the old University building, now unfortunately no more, for fifty years, doing his own domestic chores, coming and going without a word, and watching his own door jealously whenever it was ajar a moment lest some servant of the building or some neighboring tenant might see beyond the threshold.

Until the old gray-stone building in Washington square was demolished last summer a number of painters had their studios up under the roof, and old Mr. Gamage's neighbors were all artists. One or two of them penetrated the cloak of exclusiveness which he had thrown about himself. They found that in the confusion and litter of his rooms were many dust-covered canvasses, a confusion of old books and catalogues, and a wilderness of odds and ends of indefinite value.

One day the courtly old gentleman was missed. Any interruption of his accustomed routine naturally attracted attention. His door was observed to be ajar, and a pail of water that he had brought up from below stood in the hallway. There was no running water in the old dormitory, and Mr. Gamage was accustomed to take a pailful up to his room every night. This was on the afternoon of Saturday, Feb. 13, 1892. A prying servant, pushing open his door, found the old gentleman sitting at his table, dead. His head had fallen upon a small oil stove and his face was badly burned. He was 77 or 78 years of age.

The old hermit, who for fifty years had led a solitary life in the heart of the city, was buried presently at Milford, Pa., where he had had friends, and then some examination was made of his treasures. A will was found which made Mr. J. Alden Weir, the artist, his executor. Mr. Weir had been one of the old man's neighbors in the University building, and had come as near as any one to scraping an acquaintance with Mr. Gamage. The sequel shows that he had won his friendship.

Mr. Weir has now arranged the curious old paintings for sale, and they are on exhibition at the American Art Galleries. The sale will take place next week, beginning on Monday afternoon. The catalogue of the collection is printed from a manuscript catalogue left by Mr. Gamage. Unfortunately the statements as to the history and authorship of the paintings, in many cases at least, rests on Mr. Gamage's own opinions. Many of the paintings attributed to famous painters of past generations may or may not be genuine. It is indisputable that Mr. Gamage believed in them, and Miss Fanny Dimmick of Milford, Pa., who is the principal heir of the old man, cherishes a fond confidence that the collection is worth something like $500,000 or $1,000,000.

At the time of old Mr. Gamage's death there were exciting stories in circulation of the fabulous value of these old masters, which he was believed to have inherited years before from his father. In fact the old gentleman was a well-known figure at the picture auction sales, and picked up many of these works at odd times and with a faith more or less sound that he was laying up riches. Old Miss Dimmick was about the American Art Galleries yesterday, her white hair flowing freely and cut short off about her shoulders. She was dressed in a gown and jacket of blue corduroy and wore upon her head a hat that a season or two ago was known as THE EVENING SUN hat. She is a boyish little old lady of 62 years, and takes pride in her masculinity, but she admitted yesterday that she didn't know much about pictures, and had the excited talk of some of her friends about their great value "made her tired."

It would be invidious to guess at the probable value of Mr. Gamage's collection. It is probably worth very little, and yet it is above average, if it can be said there is any average of old masters in the market. Of something like 500 or 600 paintings, there are a dozen works of undoubted merit, although of uncertain authorship. Many of the works are attributed by their late owner to old masters of the second order; but good examples of even second-rate men are more desirable than bad specimens of the more famous masters.

According to Mr. Gamage's own judgment, the foundation for which cannot now be determined, this collection contains a picture of "Lot and Family Leaving Sodom," by Rubens, a Guido Reni or Raphael, two or three early English pictures attributed to Sir Joshua Reynolds and Sir Godfrey Kneller, one of them, "a portrait of Sir Joshua Reynolds, by himself, when a young man. There is a painting of "St. Veronica," a large and unquestionably valuable canvas by Francisco Zurbaran, a Spaniard, who has a painting in the Louvre. A life-size, full-length picture of a "Spanish Nobleman" is attributed by Mr. Gamage's manuscript to Velasquez. Genuine or not, it is a picture of undoubted antiquity and merit. A drawing on an oak panel of "Christ Crowned and Bound" is attributed to Albert Durer. The repeated "Raphael" is an "Adoration of the Shepherds," and Mr. Gamage in his notes states that it was at one time attributed to Fra Filippo Lippi. Afterward the letters "R. V. S. F." were discovered signed to it, and this Mr. Gamage translated into "Raphael urbinas sanzius fecit." "The above facts," he adds, "seem to leave no reasonable doubt that in beholding this picture we are in the very presence of the great spirit of Raffaelle, who is by common consent placed at the head of his art."

Many of these paintings are very decorative in effect, and time has added much value and richness to their tones.

Others among the painters to whom these old pictures are attributed are Bartolommeo, Salvator Rosa, Leonardo da Vinci, Andrea del Sarto, Coypel, Ghirlandajo, who was a master of Raphael; Murillo, Titian, and so on through the list of early painters. There is also a "portrait of Dr. Guillé of Paris" by Robert Fulton, and a portrait of Mr. Gamage by Mr. J. Alden Weir, his executor. Many others of the paintings are set down in the catalogue to "Unknown."

Besides the canvases are many engravings, some of them undoubtedly of rare plates; pen-and-ink drawings by Poussin, Cruikshank, and others; a few water colors, lithographs, photographs of paintings; a few watches and articles of jewelry; some autograph documents, and about 100 books of a miscellaneous character, treating of the fine arts, printing, poetry, the British peerage, Indian missions, biography, and the Bible.

This curious collection, in which it is possible some rich finds lay hidden and the history and pedigree is lost in so much obscurity, will be sold at auction next week.

CHINESE PORCELAINS.

A Collection of Excellent Examples of Antique and Modern Pieces.

There is on view at the American Art Galleries, in Madison square, a collection of Chinese porcelains recently sent here by a collector in Shanghai. It is not a large display, but the examples are all of fine quality and a few of them are rare specimens.

The showing of blue and white porcelains is especially strong, and among the modern pieces the blue and whites, single colors, and decorated pieces are very interesting as offering a convenient opportunity to compare the handiwork of the ancient potters with examples of similar form and color made by the modern artists.

A case of vases and bottles of sang de Bœuf red contains some beautiful pieces in which, while the forms have been perfectly copied by the moderns, the shortcomings of the color and glaze are apparent.

Besides the many very beautiful pieces in the collection in single colors, blue and white, and decorated porcelains, there are many exquisite cabinet pieces, cups, rouge boxes, jade, and crystal carvings. The collection will be exhibited until Dec. 3, when it will be sold at auction.

RUNAWAY IN HARLEM.

A Woman and Her Child Injured—A Cable Car Frightened the Horse.

A horse attached to a business wagon belonging to G. Gunther of 1,995 Third avenue was left standing at Fifth avenue and 125th street yesterday morning. A passing cable car frightened the horse, and he started on a run toward Fourth avenue.

He turned up the avenue just as Margaret Dixon of 2,051 Third avenue and her daughter Margaret, aged 4 years, were crossing it. Woman and child were knocked down and received several scalp wounds.

The horse was caught at 126th street and Lenox avenue.

Zabriskie Memorial Church Consecrated.

NEWPORT, R. I., Nov. 22.—The new Zabriskie Memorial Church of St. John the Evangelist, presented to the parish, with the land on which it stands, by Mrs. Sarah Titus Zabriskie of New York, as a memorial of the donor's mother, was consecrated this noon by Bishop Potter of New York, who officiated in the absence of Bishop Clark of Rhode Island. The deeds of the property were presented to the Bishop by Miss Ethel, the little daughter of Mrs. Zabriskie, and the procession of choristers and clergy, the latter numbering seventeen, from this and other cities, was escorted to the chancel by the architect, Mr. F. C. Withers of New York. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Houghton of the Church of the Transfiguration, New York.

PAINTINGS AT THE LOTOS CLUB.

Exhibition of Works by American Figure Painters.

The November exhibition of pictures at the Lotos Club is of works of American figure painters. It has been arranged by Mr. William T. Evans, from whose private collection many of the works shown have been borrowed. Mr. Stanford White, Mr. George A. Hearn, Mr. Thomas B. Clarke, Mr. Samuel T. Shaw, and Mr. John Gellatly have also come to Mr. Evans's assistance with pictures, and a very attractive collection has thus been made. At the monthly reception on Saturday night the club members and their friends will have opportunity to view the paintings, and ladies will be admitted to the gallery on Monday and Tuesday next in the afternoon.

There is perhaps only one picture among the fifty shown to which decided exception may be taken, and that is No. 1 in the catalogue. It is by Carroll Beckwith, and Mr. Evans permitted his judgment to suspend action when he admitted it to the club's walls. It is called "Sleep," and is a study of the nude. It is, first of all, very defective in drawing, feeble in composition, only passably well painted in parts, and on the score of decency wholly without excuse. If Mr. Beckwith would see how the nude may be treated with delicacy and refinement, let him turn his back on his own abominable picture and study the beautiful work by the late Benj. R. Fitz, "The Reflection," on the opposite wall. This is a painting of a young woman standing by a pool, the undraped figure posed in the simplest and most dignified manner, and the figure and landscape simply charming in tone and sentiment. Mr. Wyatt Eaton, too, has in his small figure of "Ariadne," an undraped figure lying at length in the shadow of a grove, treated the subject with a poetry and decorum that are almost classical.

A number of the pictures are prize winners from exhibitions of recent years at the Academy of Design or the Society of American Artists. There is Mr. Theodore Robinson's "In the Sun," the familiar figure of a young girl lying at full length on the grass, and painted solidly and with admirable feeling; Louis Moeller's picture of an old man studying a globe, and called "Puzzled;" "The Evening Breeze," by Siddons Mowbray, the floating musicians, fairy-like young women in swirling gowns in beautiful colors, and Henry O. Walker's beautiful picture of "The Singers." Mr. Walker's "The Boy and the Muse" is also here.

Mr. F. S. Church, whose especial field of rainbow fancies would appear to have been invaded by Mr. Mowbray, is represented by his "Viking's Daughter," "The Mermaid and the Sea Wolf," and "A Summer Idyl." Mr. Curran's unpleasant dream of "Sirens" is another of the imaginative pictures, but a trifle maudlin. Mr. Winslow Homer is strongly represented by three well-known paintings, "Eight Bells," "The Gale," and "Sunday Morning in Virginia," and Mr. Ulrich and the late Alfred Kappes are seen to advantage in characteristic works. "The Glass Blowers" and "In the Land of Promise" are among the strongest pictures Mr. Ulrich has painted.

"The Nantucket School of Philosophy," by Eastman Johnson, is one of his famous studies in rustic character. Gilbert Gaul's "Charging the Battery" is a vigorous, honest work, and there are admirable pictures by Thomas Hovenden, Walter Shirlaw, Edmund C. Tarbell, Abbott H. Thayer, Francis D. Millet, and Edgar M. Ward.

Albert P. Ryder's "The Temple of the Mind," while in reality a landscape and not strictly in place among the figure pictures, is a beautiful work in tone and exquisite sentiment. The effect is of moonlight, and the figures form simply a dark mass against the silvery haze.

The next exhibition, to be held in the latter part of January, will be of old masters of the Continental schools. It will be under the direction of Mr. George A. Hearn.

MR. LUDLAM WAS ABSENT-MINDED.

Went to His Nephew's Store to Get a Basket of Kerosene Oil.

Joseph Ludlam is contesting, before Surrogate A. N. Weller, at Jamaica, L. I., the will of his father, Elbert Ludlam of Oyster Bay. A codicil of the will gives to Joseph a mortgage of $2,500 on a house at Astoria, and the residue of his estate, valued at $27,500, to his daughter, Mrs. Emily L. Wakeman, wife of Thaddeus B. Wakeman, a lawyer of this city. Joseph alleges that some time before his father died, in June last, he made a will giving his wife a life interest in the estate, and at her death dividing the property equally between his two children, Mrs. Ludlam died before her husband. Just before Mr. Ludlam died, Mrs. Wakeman's son, Elbert L. Wakeman, and his wife went to live with the grandfather at Oyster Bay.

When the will was offered for probate it had a codicil dividing the estate as set forth, and that the witnesses to it were Elbert Wakeman and his wife. Several relatives testified at the hearing before the Surrogate yesterday that the deceased was very absent-minded shortly before his death. James H. Ludlam, a nephew, who keeps a store at Oyster Bay, said that once his uncle came to the store and wanted a basket of kerosene oil, and on another occasion the uncle growled because the hitching post had been removed from in front of the store, and would not believe otherwise until the witness went out and tied his horse to it. The witness said his uncle never could realize that his wife was dead, and often inquired about her.

KINGS COUNTY SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

A Big Gathering of Their Representatives in the Marcy Avenue Baptist Church.

The seventeenth convention of the Sunday School Association of Kings County was held yesterday in the Marcy Avenue Baptist Church, in Brooklyn. There were over 1,300 delegates present. Superintendent Theodore M. Banta of the Marcy avenue school, in his address of welcome, spoke of the growing importance of the Sunday school as a recruiting station for the church.

He was also glad to find that the Sunday schools are no longer confined to bare rooms and basements, but are provided with large and well-equipped quarters. The Rev. W. F. Sillick, pastor of the Coney Island Congregational Church, who presided, also enlarged on the increased recognition of the Sunday school as a great church instrumentality.

Secretary John R. Morris reported all the Sunday schools in a flourishing condition. These are the statistics: Number of schools, 320; officers and teachers, 11,030; scholars, 77,637; total membership, 124,927; average attendance, 77,637; conversions or confirmations, 3,900. Mr. Morris said that the general cry was for more teachers, especially male teachers. He suggested that training classes be organized from which to obtain teachers.

Expelled From the Church for Circulating Untruths About Her Pastor.

MIDDLETOWN, N. Y., Nov. 22.—The ecclesiastical trial, which has been in progress for the past two days in St. Paul's M. E. Church, resulted to-day in the expelling of Mrs. E. C. Royce of this city from membership for circulating untruths about the pastor, the Rev. Dr. Darwood, formerly of Yonkers. There were six specifications in the charge against Mrs. Royce, five of which were sustained, in which the defendant was charged with falsely and maliciously telling of alleged improper and immoral conduct on the part of the Rev. Dr. Darwood. Dr. Darwood has applied to Presiding Elder Nickle for an examination for himself, according to the Church discipline, and it is reported that charges have been preferred to the Presiding Elder against Dr. Darwood by the Rev. Mr. Dewey, the father of Mrs. Royce.

The Missing Cornell Student.

BUFFALO, Nov. 22.—Esbon B. Rew, father of the missing Cornell student, was closeted with Police Superintendent Bull for over an hour this morning. When he left the Superintendent's office he was questioned as to the object of his visit, but declined to disclose it. He said the mystery was fast being cleared up, and said there would be some startling developments in a few days. He adheres to his conviction that his son was murdered.

Superintendent Bull said that Mr. Rew's visit was connected with letters from somebody in Pennsylvania that they had information regarding his son.

"Its nature I am not at liberty to divulge," said the Superintendent, "but I don't think there is much in it."

To Sell the Suburban Traction Co.'s Line.

ORANGE, Nov. 22.—At the instigation of the attorneys of the Ball Wood Company, notices were posted in this city this morning to the effect that the Suburban Traction Company's line would be sold on Friday, Nov. 30. The sale will be for the benefit of the creditors of the company. The Ball Wood Company is the largest creditor. Its claim is for $600.

ASTOR TRAMP A BURGLAR,

JUSTICE HOGAN, AT ANY RATE, SO CONSIDERS HIM.

He Holds Garvin in $1,000 to Answer to the Grand Jury for Going to Sleep in Mrs. William Astor's Laundress's Bed.

John Garvin, or Garvey, the tramp who slept in the laundress's bed in Mrs. William Astor's house last Saturday night, was held for the Grand Jury yesterday in $1,000, on a charge of attempted burglary, by Justice Hogan in the Jefferson Market Police Court.

Mrs. Astor's servants and Garvin were on hand early in the morning, as were W. H. Stayton, Garvin's lawyer, and Assistant District Attorney Miller, but the case was not called until after 10 o'clock, as Justice Hogan had an examination to attend to previously. During the long wait Garvin smoked his pipe in the reporters' room, and accepted all the cigars that were given to him. He had little to say in answer to the questions which were put to him. The Astor servants waited in the Justice's private room.

Before the case was called a man who had worked in a shooting gallery at 103 Bowery with Garvin called to see Lawyer Stayton. He said that Garvin used to be a trusted employee in the place. He handled all the money and was considered a valuable man. He was accidentally shot a little over a year ago, and was confined to a hospital for a long time. He returned to the gallery after recovering, but acted queerly and was finally discharged.

When Garvin's examination finally began, John Hade, Mrs. Astor's steward, was the first witness called. He said that he had seen Garvin in and near the house four times. A week ago Wednesday Garvin had come to the kitchen window and begged for something to eat. A week ago yesterday he walked into the kitchen. He was ejected. He called a third time a few days after and was again put out. Hade did not know that Garvin was in the house on Saturday night until the policeman who had been summoned was getting him out of the laundress's bed. The steward explained that the reason no one appeared in court on Sunday, when Garvin was charged with disorderly conduct, was because the policeman had promised to call at the house for the witnesses and had failed to do so.

John Brennan, the footman, told how Jane Dougherty, the laundress, had reported that her door was locked from the inside. He rapped on the door, and, receiving no answer, pried it open with a chisel. He asked Garvin, whom he found inside, to get up, but the tramp would not move until the policeman came.

Johanna Best, the housemaid, said that she had seen Garvin around the house many times, and that the laundress had reported to her that something was the matter with her door.

Jane Dougherty, the laundress, and James R. Keedson, the watchman, were next put upon the stand. The laundress told how her door had been locked on the inside. The watchman contradicted some of the steward's testimony regarding the locking of the doors and gates of the house. The steward had said that the doors were always locked. The watchman said they were often unlocked.

Policeman Hartz of the West Thirtieth street station told how he had arrested Garvin and then Garvin himself was put on the stand. He said he had gone into the house at 6 o'clock and walked up to a top-floor room and gone to sleep. People had told him to go up, and he had followed their advice. Justice Hogan drew from him a sketch of his career. He said he had been in this country six years, but did not remember exactly. He had been living at 96 Bowery for three weeks, and paid for his room every night. On arriving in this country he had gone to work for Park & Tilford as a porter. After remaining with them a year he worked in Taylor's groceries in Hoboken and Jersey City until eighteen months ago, when he came to this city and worked in a shooting gallery on the Bowery. The night before going to the Astors' to sleep he had gone to bed at 10 o'clock and had not arisen until noon the following day.

"You needed sleep badly the next night?" sarcastically asked Justice Hogan.

"Well, I was so tired I went to bed at 6 o'clock," answered Garvin.

Lawyer Stayton then summed up, and moved that his client be discharged on the ground that no intent can be proved to burglarize for the same offence, and that, as his client's case had been passed upon, Justice Hogan had no right to hold him. He quoted several rulings from the Court of Appeals in his application.

Justice Hogan said he was firmly convinced that Garvin was in the Astor house with the intention of robbing it after everybody had gone to bed. He accordingly held the man in $1,000 for the Grand Jury. He added that he did not wish anybody to think that he was favoring the rich.

Lawyer Stayton said he was pleased to see the Justice apologize for the stand he had taken.

"I have made no apology," said the Justice, indignantly, "and I believe that the people who paid this man's fine to defeat the ends of justice should apologize."

YOU CAN'T SCARE A RIVETER.

Fitzsimmons Just Escaped a 200-foot Fall, and He Only Laughed.

One of the biggest draught stacks in Newark is now nearly finished at the new power house of the Consolidated Traction Company on the river bank. It is eleven feet in diameter and stands 200 feet above its masonry base, which is twenty-five feet high. The inside of the stack is filled with staging used by masons in lining the iron cylinder with fire brick. On the outside, suspended from the top, are two swinging scaffolds, each carrying one riveter and a heating furnace. The man who does the heading of the rivets stands on the staging inside of the stack. Plates five feet in width and bent to form are being put together by these men, and they are up to the collar of the stack, from which a bell-shaped cap will rise.

On Tuesday the men were working 195 feet from the ground and the whole neighborhood came to a standstill when the cheerful and suddenly the man on the south side of the stack was seen clinging to the top of the stack, and his scaffold, furnace, and keg of rivets came tumbling down upon the brick work below, knocking away about a thousand bricks from the new work, which a number of masons had just left. The agile young fellow did not seem to be a bit scared, but quickly swung himself up over the sharp rim of the stack and came down the ladders to see about the fate of his furnace. A couple of hours later he was back on the patched-up scaffold talking cheerfully to his mate as he passed the red-hot rivets through the holes.

"Scared?" said Contractor Marsh. "Why, you can't scare a riveter. Nothing disturbs those fellows. I thought I'd scare this fellow Fitzsimmons the other day, when he was cleaning his furnace and throwing hot ashes down upon my masons, but I was sorry I spoke when the big chunks of ossified language began to drop from the scaffold and strike my sensitive ears. Oh, no, you can't phase one of those stack workmen."

ALLEGED TREASURE DUG UP.

An Indian Woman Brings a Map and $30,000 Said to Have Been Found.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Nov. 22.—About a week ago a Cherokee woman named McDonald, a granddaughter of Chief McIntosh, one of the famous chieftains of her tribe, appeared in the neighborhood with a map showing the purported location of a large amount of hidden treasure. She said that a half million dollars had been buried there by her grandfather. People were disposed to treat her as a crank at first, but finally the owner of the farm, on which the treasure was said to be buried, agreed to open the mound for half of the treasure, if any was found.

Three days ago workmen began excavating, and early yesterday morning found sixteen dollars' worth of gold dust and nuggets in a jar. Later they unearthed an iron box containing $30,000 worth of gold. The woman says that there is a great deal more to be dug up. Nearly 2,000 people gathered in the neighborhood of the mound and fifty armed men are guarding the place.

VICTIMS OF BANDITS.

Thirty Human Bodies Found in a Cave in Mexico.

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 22.—A special from the city of Mexico to the *Globe-Democrat* says that a horrible discovery has just been made near the town of Churintzio, in the State of Michoacan, by a freighter named Pascual Gomez. He found thirty human bodies piled one upon another in a cave. Antonio Jimenez, a native of the town and a freighter, had his head mashed to a jelly by a bandit at Tasumbos recently, and Cleofas Gomez, another man, was robbed and murdered for his money shortly afterward.

Pascual Gomez, a brother of the last victim, while engaged in searching for him, made the discovery, which explains many mysterious murders in Michoacan in the last few months by a notorious gang of bandits.

Commemoration of a New Catholic Feast.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 22.—The new feast which has been established by Pope Leo XIII. to commemorate the apparition of the miraculous medal to Sister Catherine Taboori, a Sister of Charity, which occurred at the mother house of the order in Paris on Nov. 27, 1830, will be celebrated for the first time this year. The celebration in Baltimore will be begun with a three days' devotion at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, beginning with a high mass on Sunday morning next.

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THE GHOST OF THE SAND PITS.

A Practical Watchman Says It Is a Woman in Love with the Moon.

Sophie and Caroline Woelfel of 175 Graham avenue; Lizzie Oppelmann, who lives in Powers street, near Leonard; Christina Kloeppel of 21 Meserole street, and Bertha Kampf of Lorimer street, all of Williamsburgh, work in Felix Kunkel's tailor shop in Himrod street. They usually walk home after work at 6 o'clock at night, and take a short cut through the sand pits at Starr street and Knickerbocker avenue. They were a little late a week ago last Wednesday night.

When they got half way across the pits they were confronted by a woman in white with dishevelled hair. She passed in front of them and touched Miss Kloepfel's right arm. Miss Kloepfel screamed and ran with her companion to Knickerbocker avenue. The next day she and Miss Kampf were not able to go to work.

Two nights later the Woelfel sisters and Miss Oppelmann met the figure again. This time the figure waved her arms over her dishevelled hair and tried to speak. On the same night Mrs. William Weisbaner, who lives in Central avenue, and Anton Fiegelmann, a boy, saw the apparition and were much frightened.

Last Saturday night Peter Woelfel, a brother of the Woelfel sisters, who boards at 24 Ingraham street, went to the sand pits to catch the ghost. It didn't appear, and he went there the next night. He had a stout club with him. The figure appeared before him. He says he felt a shock in his right arm, and, when he recovered, the figure had disappeared. Three of his friends went up to the sand pits to catch it. Night Watchman August Schmidt saw them loitering around and asked them if they were waiting for a woman. They told him that there was a ghost around and he watched with them. He watched again on Tuesday night, but the ghost didn't appear.

Schmidt said to a SUN reporter: "This ghost, in my opinion, is a crazy woman who is in love with the moon. She was around the sand pits all summer. She is about 50 years old. She used to live in Meserole street, near Graham avenue, where a son supported her. She lived alone, the son, as I understood it, refusing to live with her on account of her demented condition. She had a habit of getting up at all hours of the night and getting into the street below, and kneeling down and praying to the moon.

"I first saw her around the sand pits in July. She generally came about 9 or 10 o'clock at night. It was moonlight. There were many people out. I recollect now that the moon was always dressed in very light clothes, almost white, and her hair hung down. If the moon wasn't up she would wait until it rose.

"It is all nonsense to even think that ghosts are around the pits. Women, of course, imagine all kinds of things, and you can't knock it into the heads of those five women and Woelfel that it was a crazy woman and not a ghost that glided past them."

CANCELLED POSTAGE STAMPS.

Norris Arrested While Depositing Packages in the Chicago Limited Mail Car.

Wallace Norris of 120 East Twenty-sixth street, who buys goods on commission for persons out of the city, was arrested on Wednesday evening at the Grand Central station by Deputy United States Marshals on a charge of using cancelled postage stamps. Commissioner Shields held him in $1,000 bail yesterday. Post Office Inspectors Morris and Jacobs were notified last October that somebody was constantly mailing packages at the mail car of the Chicago limited at 8 o'clock, on which packages some of the stamps were new and others were cancelled stamps. It was difficult for a time to determine who dropped these packages in the car. Norris was finally arrested.

It is alleged that packages mailed by him at the car on Oct. 25, Nov. 2, and Nov. 10 bore each one cancelled two-cent stamp besides good stamps. Norris said that there were enough good stamps on each to pay the postage, and that the cancelled stamps had been reused by mistake.

Mrs. Mary L. W. Norris, the prisoner's wife, testified before Commissioner Shields that she stamped the packages for her husband, and that her eyesight was very poor. She might inadvertently have used cancelled stamps, of which she is making a collection. Also, she said, her husband reused old wrappers in which goods had been sent to him, and might inadvertently have left old stamps on them besides putting the new stamps on.

GHERARDI'S SUCCESSOR ON DUTY.

Commodore Sicard Takes Command of the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

Commodore Montgomery Sicard assumed command of the Brooklyn Navy Yard at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. On his arrival at the yard the guard was paraded, a salute was fired, and the broad pennant raised on board the receiving ship. Capt. Rogers, acting commandant of the yard, the officers on duty, and many of the officers of the ships now at the station met the new commandant at the executive offices, and were formally introduced to him. Reports from the heads of the several departments on the progress of the work in the yard were submitted to him for his approval.

Commodore Sicard was appointed from New York on Oct. 1, 1891. He has a good war record. He comes to New York from the navy yard at Portsmouth, of which he was commandant.

Armenians to Parade.

Eight members of the three Armenian societies in this city—the Huchagian, the Phil-Armenic, and the Armenian Union—met at 1 Park place last evening to arrange for a parade of Armenians. The meeting place was the restaurant of Sark'is Bedrosian, who was born a few miles from Sassoun, the scene of the recent massacre. Those at the meeting were Dr. Z. K. Theodorian, Abraham Adonian, Edward L. Adonian, N. Melik, Haigog Heguinian, editor of *Liberty*, the organ of the Armenians in this city; Abraham Balaban, John Hermous, and S. Arsen. No incendiary speeches were made. Arrangements were perfected for a parade of a thousand Armenian-Americans, to take place to-morrow evening from Sixth avenue and Forty-second street, through Forty-second street to Fifth avenue, and then to Union square, where speeches will be made by Dr. S. Apkarian and Haigog Heginian.

Became Ill in Church.

Miss Katie Cafosa, 26 years old, became ill last evening in the Church of St. Francis Xavier in West Sixteenth street and was removed to the New York Hospital in an ambulance. The young woman proved to be suffering from heart trouble. Miss Cafosa is the daughter of an Italian fruit dealer doing business at Fourteenth street and Sixth avenue, and living at 138 West Twelfth street.

Two Tekulskys in the Field.

Morris Tekulsky visited the Excise Board yesterday and filed an application for a liquor license for a saloon at 699 West Seventeenth street. He said the place, if opened, would be under the management of his brother, John S. Tekulsky.

Semi-annual Sale of

Ladies' Shoes,

Dongola Button Boots, (pointed, patent leather tips, low military heels),

$3.50.

Calf foxed Button Boots,

$4.00.

Misses' Goat, Button Boots, (old sizes, with or without heels),

$1.50.

Lord & Taylor,

Broadway & 20th St.

SCRIMMAGE IN A SCHOOL.

The Schoolmarm's Father Used an Axe, and Now an Injunction Is Out.

BRIDGEPORT, Nov. 22.—There is a school war in Newtown, and already it has resulted in a personal encounter between the residents of that town, comprising the School Committee on one side and Miss Agnes Ryan, the schoolmarm, and her father on the other. The Superior Court for this county has been called into the matter, and an injunction has been granted restraining the School Committee from attempting to close the school of the Gray Plains district, where the trouble is. Arrests on criminal charges are to follow soon.

Agnes Ryan, a 17-year-old girl, the teacher, was appointed on July 16 by Martin Ryan, her father, who was then a committeeman. Ryan was succeeded by George Winton, who refused to let Miss Ryan teach. For seven weeks Miss Ryan reported for duty every morning, but the school was not opened. It is said that she was discharged because she was a Catholic. About four weeks ago Winton called a meeting of the voters of the district, and it was voted to discharge Miss Ryan. The notice, however, contained no specific notice of the purpose for which the meeting was called, and the opinion of the Board of School Visitors the action was illegal. On Saturday the visitors held a meeting and voted to take the school in their own hands and open it. On Monday they did so, installing Miss Ryan in due form, and taking the door off the door and putting on a new one. The work was done by William J. Brew and John J. Northrop, the committee appointed by the Board.

Shortly after their departure Committeeman Winton, accompanied by Johnson Clark and George Bradley, appeared. They found Miss Ryan's father with an axe in his hand engaged ostensibly in chopping wood for the school stove. In the melée that followed the axe was taken away from Ryan, his coat was ripped, and Miss Ryan was forcibly ejected from the school. She has a swollen cheek to show as a result. She says that it was injured by two blows dealt by the committeemen. All the parties were in town yesterday looking for a lawyer. Lawyer Fenelon succeeded in serving copies of the injunction upon Winton and Bradley late yesterday afternoon before they got out of town. He will go to Newtown to-day and serve it upon the other committeeman. Miss Ryan and her father have sworn out warrants against Winton, Bradley, and Clark, charging them with assault. Winton says that Ryan threatened him with an axe. He says that the school visitors have assumed power that does not belong to them. He declares that school visitors can examine and give certificates to teachers, but cannot say in what schools they shall teach. Attorney Fenelon, who is retained by the committee, said that he should go before Judge Shumway some day next week and ask for a hearing. The papers are not returnable until the January term of the court.

EXPLOSION IN A SCHOOL.

A Boiler Bursts and Tosses the Pupils About in a Room Above.

UXBRIDGE, Mass., Nov. 22.—A boiler exploded at 10 o'clock this morning in the cellar of Centre School building, under the floor of the primary department. The floor was completely torn up and desks and seats were broken in pieces. Bricks were thrown through the floor as high as the ceiling. Thirty pupils were in the room at the time and many of them were thrown about.

Miss Agnes Parker, the teacher, hastened to open the door, and the pupils rushed out, many being hurt in so doing. Some were unable to get out alone, being completely wedged in, but were released by help. The floor was torn up most in the middle, being raised nearly two feet.

Miss Parker was burned a little on her face by steam. Of the pupils Francis Casey had his face slightly burned. John Chase's face, neck, and legs were burned. Fred Kelley was struck by a flying brick on the forehead. Thomas Smith fell down stairs and was trampled on. John Ropen was badly bruised and burned. Napoleon Crovo was badly burned and hurt. The pupils in other parts of the building were not injured, but were badly frightened. In the department over the primary some pupils were thrown up from their seats by the concussion. The accident was probably due to a defective boiler.

MISTAKEN FOR A FORGER.

Broker Morris's Clerk Arrested for Passing a Worthless Check.

A worthless check was passed on Herman Wortz, a restaurant keeper at 138 Sixth avenue, on Oct. 22. While Edward Van Name, a clerk for Broker Gouverneur W. Morris of 13 William street, was passing the restaurant yesterday Wortz, thinking him to be the man who gave him the check, had the young clerk arrested.

Van Name protested his innocence in the Jefferson Market Police Court when arraigned later, but was held for examination to-day. Mr. Morris appeared in court subsequently, and said that the young man had had in his possession $60,000 at a time of his money, and made a good income.

Justice Hogan then paroled Van Name until to-day, when both he and his employer will confront the restaurant keeper.

Locked Up for Annoying Women.

A well-dressed man, who said he was William P. Harris, 46 years old, a broker, living at 22 West 126th street, was locked up last evening in the West Twentieth street police station by Policeman Hunter, who charged him with disorderly conduct. While Hunter was at Fifteenth street and Eighth avenue a woman said Harris had addressed her in an unpleasantly manner. The policeman saw Harris speak to two other women, who were obliged to leave the sidewalk to avoid him.

At the station Harris said that he regretted extremely what he had done, and asked the policeman to withdraw the complaint. This the Sergeant would not permit.

The Monument to Archbishop Hughes.

The committee which proposes to erect a monument in Ireland to the memory of Archbishop Hughes met last night at the Holy Cross Lyceum, 321 West Forty-third street, and opened a subscription paper. Five hundred and fifty dollars was subscribed. A general meeting of all persons who may be interested will be called in about a week, and appeals will be made by a number of speakers. The statue which it is proposed to erect is to be put up at Omagh, county Tyrone, Ireland, the birthplace of Archbishop Hughes. William Kelly is Chairman of the committee; Felix McKinna, Vice-Chairman, and the Rev. Dr. McCready, Treasurer.

BETHESDA.

AMERICA'S FAVORITE WATER

THE HON. A. E. STEVENSON, Vice-President of the United States: "Bethesda certainly possesses medicinal properties of rare value."

For sale by Acker, Merrall & Condit, Park & Tilford, and all grocers and druggists.

P. SCHERER, Agent,

9 Murray Street, New York.

INCREASE OF COUNTERFEITERS.

Chief Hazen Says the One Remaining Safeguard Is the Distinctive Paper.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22.—William P. Hazen, chief of the United States secret service, has submitted his report to Secretary Carlisle. It shows that 687 persons were arrested by agents of the secret service division during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1894, principally for counterfeiting and passing counterfeit coin. On those convicted and sentenced, fines amounting to $35,000 and sentences aggregating 543 years were imposed. The amount of counterfeit money captured by secret service agents during the year, including $437,300 in non-fraudulent toy money, was $469,357.

Chief Hazen says that the art of photo-lithography, although seemingly in its infancy, has made it comparatively easy to imitate the most skilfully engraved designs of our notes, so that the danger from this source is not only very grave but increasing; and to meet these conditions the designs and execution of Government notes should be such as would make their reproduction most difficult. One safeguard still remaining, however, is the secret process of making distinctive paper.

Coin counterfeiters are more numerous than formerly, and more than the usual number of arrests and captures of material have been reported. This branch of counterfeiting, however, is more serious in its results to the community than that of the making of spurious notes and much less difficult of detection. No evidence of advancement in the art of manufacturing counterfeit coin has been shown. Of the numerous counterfeits of the silver coins which have appeared during the past year none can be classed as especially dangerous.

The figures show a decided increase in the receipt of altered notes during the fiscal year. The arrests of persons charged with altering and passing notes are largely in excess of any previous year, and is due to the promptness of the agents of this service in thoroughly investigating all cases reported to them.

POWERS OF GENERAL APPRAISERS.

Better Understanding Between the Members of the Board and Secretary Carlisle.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22.—General Appraisers Hain and Summerville returned to New York this afternoon with a better understanding of their official status than when they arrived in Washington two days ago. They had a further conference with Assistant Secretary Hamlin to-day, and they now understand that they are regarded officially as officers of the Treasury Department and under the jurisdiction of the Secretary. While there is no appeal from the decision of the Board of General Appraisers, the Secretary has ample authority, according to the opinion of the Attorney-General, to investigate and examine the acts of the Board. There is no disposition on the part of the Secretary to interfere with the Board or to review or suspend its decisions. He understands thoroughly that there is no appeal from the decisions of the Board. The absolute jurisdiction was conferred upon the General Appraiser for the express purpose of relieving the Secretary from the annoyance and the responsibility of considering appeals from the decisions of the Board. The consultation between the Treasury officials and Messrs. Hain and Summerville was beneficial, in that it enabled all concerned to