HARLEM'S BOY BURGLARS.

THE A. C. A. DESTROYED AS WELL AS STOLE.

Pelted Mr. Curtis's Pictures with Eggs and Smeared the Walls with Them—Many Stores Robbed by the Two Lads Nabbed for Shooting Sheridan and Their Pals.

John Gavitt and Walter Cassidy, the fifteen-year-old boys who were arrested after a sensational chase by Policeman Grier on Thursday night for shooting Michael J. Sheridan of 292 Willis avenue, were held for examination in Morrisania Court yesterday. The boys have an ambition to be known as rising young burglars, and have kept the police busy for a month past in their endeavors to earn the reputation.

Gavitt is an orphan, and has been supported by his sister, Mrs. John L. Ball, whose husband is a painter. They live at 3,046 Third avenue. He is under $1,000 bail for trial on two burglaries.

Walter Cassidy lives with his mother and several brothers and sisters at 252 Mott avenue. His father, Thomas Cassidy, used to be engineer at the Catholic Protectory at Van Nest. About six years ago there was a fire of undoubtedly incendiary origin in the institution. The engineer had had trouble with the Protectory authorities. He and his son Thomas Cassidy, Jr., were arrested on suspicion of trying to burn the institution. The police say the father was convicted and sentenced to eight years imprisonment for arson.

Detective McCafferty arrested Gavitt in the first instance because the lad had worked in both the places which had been robbed. The first was Siefert & Hoffman's hardware shop at 3,135 Third avenue. The place was entered on July 3. Tools, cutlery, &c., valued at $90, were stolen, together with about fifty lock picks. On July 9 Christian Werner's drug store at 708 Courtlandt avenue was broken into, and some of the stolen lock-picks were left behind.

Mr. Werner owned a valuable Scotch terrier. Neighbors heard the dog bark furiously, but it stopped barking before they made up their minds to investigate. It was found dead on the floor in the morning. The thieves had crushed its skull with a hammer. They stole $50 in cash and postage stamps. When arrested Gavitt confessed to both burglaries. He was locked up about a week, and was then bailed out by his brother-in-law. The trial is still pending in Special Sessions Court.

He had been out of jail but a few days when W. P. Curtis's house was entered on the night of July 27 through a rear window. The burglars took about $25 worth of small articles, including some knives and a steel to sharpen them on and a set of boxing gloves. They did no end of mischief in the house, and left undoubted indications that the burglary was the work of boys. Having found several dozen eggs in the pantry, they amused themselves by throwing them at the pictures in the parlor. Tiring of this, they smashed the remaining eggs in a pail, and, using a mop for a brush, smeared the eggs over the walls and ceiling and on the carpets in the parlor and dining room.

Scrawled in blue pencil on a strip of newspaper they left the following legend on the dining-room table: "This is the work of the six members of the A. C. A., American Crooks' Association."

Two days later Isaac Millhaus, whose family is in the country, on returning home, found that his house had been entered and everything in it turned topsy turvy. The thieves had taken silverware and cutlery to the value of $200. They had also emptied the closets and strewn much of their contents as they did not want all over the house. They took down nearly all the pictures in the parlor, and spread them about on the floors of the upper rooms. Finally they spoiled the paper on the parlor walls with the legends:

"The American Crooks' Association has been here."

"We are six A. C. A."

The notices were roughly scrawled with blue pencil.

The indignant householders appealed to the police. Capt. Creeden and his detectives spent sleepless nights trying to catch the vandals, but did not succeed. The burglars were equally busy and entered four more places, but did not go as well anywhere as they had done with Mr. Millhaus's residence. They got four revolvers in Leo Vath's store at 2,941 Third avenue last Saturday. On Tuesday they broke into Michael Bush's hardware store at 3,000 Third avenue and laid in a further supply of tools and cutlery. They also stole a valuable mandolin and a guitar.

The same night they broke into Frederick Spranger's cigar store in 138th street, near Mott avenue, and stole $30 worth of cigars, tobacco, and pipes. They also broke into A. Bloomfeld's notion store in Third avenue, near 145th street, and stole several dolls. They were disgusted with their plunder before they quitted the house and left the dolls in the hall. The only article in the place they took from the four revolvers, so the detectives could gain no clue to guide them in the search for the thieves.

A sort of inspiration led Detective McCafferty to look at the numbers of the three revolvers captured with the two lads who shot Sheridan. He made a list to correspond and showed it to Gavin.

"You stole those revolvers in Vath's place," he said.

"I didn't," said Gavin sullenly.

"I know at these numbers. I have a list that I got them from. You had better confess and save yourself trouble," the detective said. The boy looked at the fake list and succumbed.

"I'll tell some one, but I won't talk to you," he said.

Capt. Creeden talked to the boy, and he admitted that he and Cassidy were implicated in all the burglaries, and told where the plunder could be found. Detectives Schermer and Armstrong started at once to gather it in.

The boys had found two excellent hiding places. One was in a sunken lot at the junction of Bergan and Brook avenues and 153d street. In a hole in one of the banks the detectives found the tobacco and cigars stolen from Spranger and quantities of hardware and cutlery.

The second hiding place proved still more productive. It is in the ruins of the old mats factory on the borders of the New York Central Railroad near 138th street. The rear windows of Cassidy's home look out on it. The factory was burned years ago, and the ruins include a tangle of useless machinery and remnants of the cocoa mats which were once manufactured there. Among the machinery is an old boiler. In it the detectives found the silver stolen from Mr. Millhaus, more tools, Mr. Bush's mandolin and guitar, and a variety of other plunder. Altogether $350 worth of valuables were recovered. The list includes all the portable stuff stolen by the lads.

They gave names which the police believe are fictitious of four others of the American Crooks' Association. The police expect to make other arrests. Most of the stolen goods have been identified by the owners. The fourth revolver was recovered from a pawn shop on a ticket found on Gavitt.

The boys found but little use for the lock-picks they stole, as they were not skilful enough to use them.

They broke into most of the places through rear windows, and selected such places as backed up on vacant lots as the handiest to get into from the rear.

HOKE SMITH REVERSED.

A Federal Judge Upsets His Decision Against Alger in a Land Case.

SEATTLE, Wash., Aug. 7.—In an action in which Gen. Russell A. Alger, the Michigan statesman, and R. P. Hawley are plaintiffs and L. E. Diller of this city the defendant, Federal Judge Hanford yesterday rendered a decision reversing an order of Secretary of the Interior Smith and giving Gen. Alger and his associate title to a vast tract of timber land in western Oregon. The land was entered under an act providing for the sale of lands chiefly valuable for timber and stone. After an order of suspension and an investigation, Secretary Smith, in a decision in which he intimated that gross fraud had been perpetrated, directed that the grant be cancelled and a patent granted to Diller. Judge Hanford in his opinion says:

"I hold that the case in the Land Department, after entry had been suspended, should have been adjudicated by a Board composed of the Attorney-General, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Commissioner of the General Land Office, and that the Secretary of the Interior, without determination of the Board, could not legally cancel the grant."

STOLE A RING FROM HER FINGER.

A Burglar Robs the Wife of Broker Pratt While She Is Asleep.

The Brooklyn detectives have little expectation that they will be able to capture the bold and mysterious burglar who invaded the house of Broker Spencer T. Pratt, at 114 McDonough street, on Wednesday night and carried off some jewelry and money. When the family were at dinner a young man called and requested to see Mr. Pratt. He was shown to the parlor, but when Mr. Pratt came up stairs he had disappeared and the front door was open.

He probably was secreted up stairs, for early the next morning Mrs. Pratt was awakened by feeling a hand tugging at her finger, and on jumping out of bed she noticed a strange man disappearing through the doorway, and also found that a diamond ring had been taken from her finger. Her husband and the other members of the family responded to her screams, but no trace of the burglar could be discovered. The examination showed that he had ransacked the house from top to bottom, and in addition to Mrs. Pratt's ring, valued at $112, a gold watch and chain, valued at $160, and $36 were missing.

"NIGGER JAKE" DISCHARGED.

Not Mrs. Bock's Murderer—His Arrest Due to His Lying.

Jaboeh Levy, alias Nigger Jake, who was arrested on Thursday by detectives from Police Headquarters on suspicion of being connected with the murder of Annie Bock, was discharged on the recommendation of Capt. O'Brien, by Magistrate Kudlich in Yorkville Police Court yesterday. It was found upon investigation by the detectives that not only the story told by the young man, but those told by his father and mother in the effort to shield him, were lies from beginning to end.

In trying to find more evidence against Levy, the police found several persons whose stories showed that Levy could not have passed Sunday night, as he said, with the Bock woman. Three men were found to prove that he was at Coney Island until after midnight Sunday morning; that he returned to New York over the bridge and stayed until after 3 A. M. in a Park row restaurant. The soiled underclothing that Levy's mother said had been sent to a washerwoman, whose name and address she could not give, was found at Levy's home yesterday morning. It was learned also that the boy had shaved off his moustache because he was guyed so much about it by his cronies.

It was further learned that Levy had never known the Bock woman. He does know Dora Gilbert, who lives on the second floor front, in the house where the Bock woman lived, and Dora identified Levy yesterday morning. Two or three other women who saw Mrs. Bock with a man in Fourteenth street on Monday night, also had a look at Levy at Headquarters yesterday morning, and said he was not the man they had seen with Mrs. Bock. When Levy was discharged, Magistrate Kudlich advised him to go home and read the life of George Washington. To this admonition Levy remarked:

"You don't catch me lying any more, at least not this week, any way. Father and mother, in trying to help me along, came near putting me in the chair."

It was established on Thursday night beyond a doubt that Mrs. Bock was robbed. A careful examination of all her effects by her husband showed that a pair of diamond earrings and a diamond ring were missing. The hope of the police now is to locate the jewelry in some pawn shop, and in that way get a clue to the murderer.

Capt. O'Brien announced yesterday that the picture of Jacob Bock, the husband of the murdered woman, is in the Rogues' Gallery. Bock, whose alias is "Big Jake," and whose number in the gallery is 2,081, was arrested by Policemen McManus and Hahn of the Eldridge street station on Oct. 1, 1893, with another man as a pickpocket. Bock was tried and acquitted. His partner got six years.

Aaron Brafman, a brother of the murdered woman, filed an application yesterday in the Surrogate's office for letters of administration on the estate of Mrs. Bock. The value of the estate is given at $500 in personal property. The application will be acted upon later.

BUNCOED AT CONEY ISLAND.

Unsuspecting Mr. Halle Loses $130 in a Dice-throwing Game.

Alfred Halle came on from the West a few days ago, intending to sail for Germany on a visit to his relatives, whom he has not seen for eight years. He had saved a snug little pile of money, and it was lucky for him that he only took $130 and some odd change from it before he started out yesterday to see the far-famed Coney Island. He made the trip to the beach in one of the iron steamboats. On the boat he made the acquaintance of a polite stranger, who directed his attention to the various points of interest in the harbor and lower bay. Mr. Halle and the stranger were on confidential terms when the boat struck the pier, and they started off arm in arm to do the Bowery and the other attractions of the beach. In the course of a few hours they drifted into Peter Leonordes's hotel in Surf avenue and West Fifth street, and after a few drinks Mr. Halle, without knowing how it all came about, found himself throwing dice with the stranger for $10 a corner. Luck was dead against him, and when about his last dollar had departed a third stranger suddenly appeared, and, throwing aside the lapel of his coat and exhibiting what seemed like a regular police badge, declared: "You fellows have been gambling; you must stop this. We have orders to drive all gamblers from the beach, and unless you fellows get off in a hurry I'll lock both of you up."

Mr. Halle stood his ground, apparently in a dazed condition, but the first as well as the second stranger disappeared in a jiffy. Mr. Halle, after finding that he was out just $130 by his trip, even before he had fairly begun his explorations on the beach, concluded that he had been buncoed, so he repaired to the police station and told Commanding Sergeant Lawson how it was all done. Policemen were sent out to hunt down the swindlers, but no trace of them could be discovered.

HAD A HUNDRED SILVER DOLLARS.

Leister Was Arrested for Coasting, and Turned Out to Be a Thief.

HACKENSACK, Aug. 7.—Two policemen from Norwood, Pa., with Chief of Police Terhune of Englewood, came to the jail this morning with Charles R. Leister, an 18-year-old lad who had been arrested for coasting down Palisade avenue, Englewood, on a bicycle. While he was awaiting the arrival of Recorder Fellowes to impose a $5 fine, it was discovered that the boy had a trifle over $100 in silver dollars in a package on the wheel, which aroused the suspicions of the local officer.

The young Pennsylvanian was subjected to an inquisition, and he finally admitted that he had robbed his employer and run away from home. He said he had been working for a tailor at $8 per month, one-half of which he had to give to his father, a farmer. The boy said that he was treated harshly by his master and his father, that he had no enjoyments such as other boys had, and, worst of all, he wanted a bicycle and a sweater, which were denied him as extravagances.

Last week, the boy said, his master was especially harsh and hard on him, and he determined to seek freedom. He knew where his employer kept 160 silver dollars. These he appropriated and started for New York, where he purchased a bicycle, a maroon sweater, and a straw hat. Thus equipped, he started out to explore New Jersey. He had been riding near Helicon Hall on the Palisades, and was descending to the marshland of west Englewood when Policeman Quirk captured him.

The Pennsylvania officers wanted to take the boy along without a requisition, and he expressed a willingness to go provided they took the bicycle along. Judge Van Valen said the prisoner could not be taken out of New Jersey without a formal requisition, and the policemen went back home to get one. Young Leister said he didn't care how soon they took him home, as he now had a better wheel than any boy in Morwood.

MANY DOGS KILLED BY COPS.

Harlem Policemen Proved Themselves Especially Efficient.

Four dogs were killed by the police in Harlem yesterday. All were killed because they were supposed to have been mad. No one was bitten. The first dog was killed by Policeman Thompson of the East 126th street station. As he went by the house at 1,711 Park avenue shortly after 8 o'clock a small black mongrel cur lay in the hall foaming at the mouth and snapping at passers by. Thompson chased the dog into the yard and shot him.

About an hour later Policeman Brady of the same precinct found a dog in front of 224 East 117th street. The policeman shot and killed him because the children in the neighborhood said the dog snapped at them.

The next dog killed was a pet terrier, the property of Miss Andrews of 66 East 106th street. While she was playing with her pet about 11 o'clock the dog ran around the room and began biting at the legs of chairs and the table. It foamed at the mouth. Miss Andrews caught the animal by the back of the neck and locked it up in a bedroom. She then called Policeman Cody of the East 104th street station house and had the dog shot.

At noon yesterday a big yellow dog ran up Lexington avenue. He snapped at every one that got in his way. A crowd followed, shouting "Mad dog." The animal sought refuge in the cellar at 1,750 Lexington avenue. Policeman Grange of the East 104th street station, who was attracted by the crowd, went into the cellar and shot the dog.

Policeman Peter Devlin was called upon to kill a tramp dog which had got into the house at 317 East Seventy-fifth street. The people in the house were screaming for help when Devlin arrived. He shot the dog.

At 4 P. M. Policeman Edward O'Neill of the West Thirty-seventh street station killed a dog which was running amuck in Eleventh avenue. A little later Policeman Thompson of the East 126th street station added another to the list.

New Cromwell Liner to Be Launched Today.

The steamship Creole of the Cromwell line, which will run between this port and New Orleans, will be launched this morning by the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company. She is a steel vessel, 375 feet long, 44 feet beam, and 32½ feet deep. She is built from designs furnished by Mr. Horace See of this city, and is like the first vessel in the coastwise trade with a double bottom. She has two steel pole masts, is lighted by electricity, and has a big searchlight at the "crows' nest." She has accommodation for 75 first-class passengers and 150 steerage passengers.

POLICEMEN USE PISTOLS.

SHOTS EXCHANGED WITH TWO SUPPOSED HIGHWAYMEN.

A Midnight Pursuit at Sheepshead Bay—Frank Messenger Likely to Die and Policeman Haines Badly Hurt—Was Messenger One of Mr. Kinney's Assailants?

An exciting fight, in which bullets were exchanged, took place early yesterday morning between three policemen in citizens' clothes and two supposed highwaymen in the quiet streets of Sheepshead Bay. One of the alleged highwaymen is now dying in the Kings County Hospital at Flatbush and one of the policemen is lying at his home in Sheepshead in a precarious condition with a bullet wound in the abdomen.

About half past 11 o'clock on Thursday night Thomas Kinney, who lives at East Thirteenth street and Avenue A, Sheepshead Bay, was crossing the long bridge from the Brighton Beach Railroad track to the Ocean Boulevard, opposite the main entrance to the Sheepshead race track. Mr. Kinney had just reached the boulevard when he was attacked by two young highwaymen, who sprang out from the bushes. One struck him on the face and head several times with a blunt instrument, while the other grabbed him about the neck. Kinney fought the men off, managed to get away, and bleeding from the several wounds ran to the Sheepshead Bay police station. When he arrived there he was so excited and weakened from loss of blood that he fainted. Dr. Poole was summoned, and soon brought the wounded man around. Then Kinney told the story of the assault to Acting Capt. Alexander Lees, to whom he also gave a very good description of his assailants.

It was now nearly 1 o'clock, and Roundsman W. J. Conays and Policemen Haines and McGrath, who had just retired for the night, were called out of bed and hurriedly sent out in citizens' clothes to hunt for the highwaymen. They walked over to the bridge, and about 300 feet away saw two men walking at a rapid rate. Policeman Haines shouted to the strangers to halt.

The two men started on a run and the three policemen followed in quick pursuit. Suddenly one of the men turned around with a revolver in his hand and fired two shots. One of these struck Policeman Haines in the abdomen, in the right side. Then the three policemen drew their revolvers and opened fire. All continued running, blazing away on both sides as fast as they could pull the triggers of their revolvers.

One of the highwaymen dropped in a potato patch near Avenue X and the Main road. Policeman Haines also fell to the ground a short distance away, exhausted from loss of blood. Roundsman Conays stopped to look after the wounded man, while Policeman McGrath was ordered to continue the chase. The latter returned in a few minutes and told his superior officer that the man had run into the woods and there he had lost all trace of him.

An ambulance was summoned and the two wounded men were removed to the Sheepshead Bay police station. Ambulance Surgeon Bryce and Dr. Poole examined the wounds. They found the supposed highwayman was unconscious and that he had been shot three times, one bullet lodging in the back under the shoulder blade, and the other two in the left lung just under the heart.

The doctors managed to bring the young man around to a state of consciousness for a while, and he said he was Frank Messenger, 19 years old, and that he lived with his parents at 161st street and Third avenue, New York, and was employed by the Belmont stable at the Coney Island Jockey Club race track. He said his companion was Thomas Cook (colored), who lived at East Thirteenth street and Avenue X, Sheepshead. Acting under the advice of the ambulance surgeon, the police did not further question Messenger, who was immediately removed to the hospital. After Policeman Haines's wound was dressed and he was removed to his home Acting Captain Lees called out the reserve and sent them out after Cook. One detachment surrounded the man's house while the others scoured the woods.

Shortly before 3 o'clock in the morning Cook was seen sneaking along a road in the rear of his house, and was about to enter the back gate when he was nabbed and taken to the station. When searched a revolver with three chambers empty was found in the hip pocket of his trousers.

He refused to say anything to the police further than to give his name and address. When arraigned in the Coney Island Police Court the prisoner, through his counsel, entered a plea of not guilty, and was committed without bail to Raymond Street Jail.

Roundsman Conays also appeared and told Justice Nostrand that he believed he was the man who shot Messenger. He aimed his revolver at the man after the two policemen had fired at Cook. The Justice said he saw no reason for holding Conays, as he had acted in the discharge of his duty as a police officer.

Messenger at a late hour last night was reported dangerously ill. Yesterday Policeman Haines was much easier, and Dr. Poole said that if blood poison did not set in he would recover.

There is no evidence that Cook or Messenger participated in the attack on Kinney. Cook has been involved in some previous trouble with the police, but there is apparently nothing against Messenger's character except that he was travelling with Cook. J. J. Hyland, the trainer for whom Messenger worked, called at the hospital last evening and left word that Messenger should receive as careful treatment as the institution could afford.

He also said that, so far as he knew, Messenger was a quiet, honest boy, and, he was sure, would not have run off had he supposed that policemen were pursuing him. Acting Captain Lees will send an official report of the shooting to Police Headquarters this morning.

ESCAPED PRISONERS RETAKEN.

Logan Caught at Once and Jackson After a Day's Wanderings.

Two prisoners made a break from the stone yard at the Essex county penitentiary at Caldwell, N. J., on Thursday afternoon. They were both house thieves sentenced to eighteen months, and having nearly a year to serve. One was John Logan, aged 40, and the other William Jackson, aged 19. They were employed in the screening gang in an enclosure protected by a fence of barbed wire and netting, and watched by an armed guard. The guard, whose name is Isherwood, heard the wires shaking and saw Logan crawl through the fence. Dashing through the gate, the keeper chased him down the road and made him yield by threatening to shoot him. Logan was marched to the blacksmith shop by order of Warden Stone, and there he was fitted with a ball and chain, which he will wear until discharged, unless the physician of the prison orders it taken off. All of the other prisoners were locked in their cells, and a roll call was made. Then it was discovered that Jackson was missing. Logan said, when questioned, that Jackson leaped the fence and he tried to follow him, but failed in the jump and then broke through.

An alarm was sent out to the police of the neighboring towns and a corps of keepers searched the neighborhood until dark. At 1 o'clock in the morning Special Policeman Halstead of Montclair arrested Jackson as he was sneaking through the streets. Jackson said that he ran away to escape the miserable food served at the prison. He laughed as he told how he had been lying naked in the hay in a barn while two keepers were searching for him. After they had gone he was driven out by the heat, and, pulling up a board from the floor, crawled naked among the bugs and spiders and remained there until after dark, when he got out and stole a pair of trousers from a line. His garb when caught consisted of shoes, trousers, and an undershirt, and he said that it was comfortable attire for such a hot night.

He was taken back to the penitentiary yesterday and furnished with a ball and chain.

MRS. LARKIN DEAD.

She Was Attacked by Her Insane Sister, Alice Heaney.

Mrs. Kate Larkin, who was murderously assaulted early on Wednesday morning with an axe by her insane sister, Alice Heaney, at their home, 123 Classon avenue, Brooklyn, died yesterday at the Cumberland Street Hospital. Although the woman was terribly hacked on the head and face, she recovered consciousness at the hospital and told Coroner Coombs that she was awakened by the attack and made a hopeless attempt to defend herself. She said that she had had no quarrel with her sister.

Mrs. Larkin was the widow of a well-known ball player who belonged to the old Atlantic team. Her sister will probably be sent to an asylum.

Not Chicago's Long Man and Short Man.

Paul Siebert and Ernest Nash, who were arrested on Wednesday among the spectators at the trial of Otto Schaefer, the burglar, in the Court of General Sessions, were discharged from custody by Magistrate Deuel in the Jefferson Market Police Court yesterday.

When they were first arrested Capt. O'Brien believed that they were the "long man and short man" who have been robbing Chicago storekeepers lately, and said that Detectives Heap and Holland, who made the arrests, were entitled to great credit. A good deal of jewelry was found on the men and in their lodgings. Siebert also carried a revolver.

The police told Magistrate Deuel that the men were not wanted at Chicago, and that they could get no proof that they did not come by the jewelry honestly. The valuables were returned to the men, but Siebert's revolver was confiscated.

LIFE-SAVING STATION AFLOAT.

Boats to Be Launched from an Artificial Harbor Off Shore.

Boston's floating life-saving station, of which THE SUN told several days ago, has been completed, and as soon as the crew is selected will be formally located and opened. It will probably be stationed about a mile off shore in Dorchester harbor, between City Point and Thompson's Island. According to the Boston *Globe*, this is a picture of the new station boat, which is the only one in use in seacoast waters. There is one similar to this in use on the Missouri River.

FLOATING LIFE SAVING STATION.

The new station is a boat 100 feet long, 33 feet beam, and 12 feet from keel to upper deck. It draws very little water and has no propelling power, being towed to its location and anchored there. There is an opening about nineteen feet in width which extends about one-third the length of the hull and through the centre from the stern. From this opening the lifeboats will be launched. The boat will swing always on a free cable, and being anchored from the bow the life savers will always have the lee of the boat in which to launch their lifeboats.

The new boat is now lying at a City Point shipyard, where the Government is fitting her out with lifeboats, launches, bedding, furniture, stores, anchors, chains, and the necessary supplies. She was built in Noank, Conn., under specifications furnished by Supintendent Kimball of the United States life-saving service, and is now in charge of Lieut. F. H. Newcomb, Inspector of Life-saving Stations for Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts. Lieut. Newcomb will appoint the captain of the station on recommendation of the yachtsmen and sailormen interested. The captain will command a a crew of eight men of his own selection.

THE ARMORED CRUISER BROOKLYN

Orders for Her Official Trial Trip Issued by the Navy Department.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7.—Orders for the official trial trip of the armored cruiser Brooklyn, designed to be the fleetest and most powerful ship of her class in any navy, were issued by the Navy Department to-day. The test is to be made over the Government course, extending from Cape Cod to Cape Porpoise, Me., and return. Under the contract the Brooklyn must make twenty knots an hour for a four hours' run, and enormous premiums are held out for every quarter knot she exceeds the requirement. As she is over one thousand tons greater than the New York and has different lines, it is anticipated by the designers that she will beat the New York's performance of twenty-one knots and win for the Cramps the largest bonus yet awarded that firm.

A Board consisting of Capt. Henry F. Picking, Capt. Francis A. Cook, Chief Engineer George W. Stivers, Commander Charles H. Davis, Naval Constructor John F. Hanscom, Lieutenant-Commander Edward P. Wood, Lieutenant-Commander Seaton Schroeder, and Lieut. Sidney A. Staunton, U. S. N., as recorder, is appointed for the purpose of making an examination of the Brooklyn and of witnessing and reporting upon the trial of that vessel and her machinery. The Board will meet at the shipyard of the Cramps on the 19th inst. for the purpose of making such examination and inspection of the vessel as may be practicable, in order that as little time as possible may be consumed while out for the run over the trial course.

It is expected that the Brooklyn will leave Philadelphia for the trial on Saturday, the 22d instant, the vessel being ready for duty, displacement of 8,250 tons, as required by the contract. The Board will proceed in her to the vicinity of Cape Ann for the purpose of determining her speed by runs over a measured course, beginning at a point on the range line between Straitsmouth Island lighthouse and a beacon erected over the coast survey triangulation station on Pools Hill, and proceeding thence in a uniform direction for a distance of forty-one and five-tenths nautical miles to a point on the range line between Gee Island lighthouse and a beacon to be erected over the coast survey triangulation station summit.

The vessel will be run over the measured course twice, or in case the contractors should be dissatisfied with the results obtained, they may make a second series of runs over the course either upon the same day or upon the first suitable day thereafter, in order that they may select any two consecutive runs in opposite directions, as the official trial of the vessel.

The naval vessels Dolphin, Leyden, Iwana, Nina, and Fortune, and the United States revenue cutter Dallas have been placed at the disposal of the Board to render such assistance as may be necessary during the trial, and the commanding officers of those vessels have been directed to report for instructions as to the indication of the ends of the line of run and such tidal observations as the Board may deem desirable. It is probable that the revenue cutter Woodbury will be ready for duty at the trial trip. Lighthouse Board has been requested to direct the inspectors of the first and second lighthouse districts to render further assistance to the Board.

GEN. RATCHELDER'S RETIREMENT.

Secretary Lamont Says the Public Suffers a Loss in His Separation from Active Duty.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7.—Secretary Lamont has addressed the following letter to Gen. Batchelder, Quartermaster-General of the Army, who retired from active service on July 27 last:

MY DEAR GEN. BATCHELDER: I very much regret that observance of the new regulations prevents me from expressing in your order of retirement the sense of loss which I feel the public sustains in your separation from active duty. I am sure that the efficiency, energy, and strict enforcement of economy which have characterized your control of the Quartermaster's Department, and which it was my pleasure to publicly acknowledge in my last annual report, and the consequent enhancement of the efficiency of the army during the most active and interesting period of its existence, must bring to you a satisfaction which neither time nor change can impair. With my best personal wishes for your health and happiness, I beg to remain, faithfully yours,

DANIEL S. LAMONT, Secretary of War.

Army and Navy Orders.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7.—The following army and navy orders were issued to-day:

Capt Thaddeus W. Jones, Tenth Cavalry, is detailed to attend the encampment of the Fourth Regiment, North Carolina State Guard, at Statesville, N. C., Sept. 9 to 19.

The following transfers have been made: Tenth Infantry—First Lieut. Bogardus Eldridge from Company D to Company E. First Lieut. Robert L. Bullard from Company E to Company D. Eighth Infantry—Capt. E. B. Savage from Company E to Company K; Capt. R. F. Ames from Company K to Company E.

Commander M. R. S. McKenzie ordered to command the Machias, relieving Commander F. S. Houston, detached and granted two months' leave; Lieut. A. A. Ackerman, detached from the Union Iron Works and ordered to the Oregon.

Ensign J. W. Odlan ordered to examination for promotion.

Pay Inspector W. Goldsborough detached from duty at the Naval Academy and placed on waiting orders.

Paymaster J. P. Loomis ordered to the Naval Academy.

Chief Engineer John F. Ford detached from duty as instructor at the Maryland Agricultural College and ordered to Cramps' shipyard in connection with the Brooklyn.

Killed in a Political Quarrel.

UPPER MARLBORO, Md., Aug. 7.—Dr. William Waring, a well-known physician, was killed here last night by Mordie Plummer, during a political quarrel. Dr. Waring was drinking in Plummer's saloon when the trouble started. Becoming enraged he threw a beer glass at Plummer's head. Plummer stabbed the Doctor with a penknife, cutting a gash in his neck. Dr. Waring bled to death within an hour.

The Santa Clara Safe.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 7.—The American ship Santa Clara, about which there has been considerable anxiety, arrived yesterday morning, 172 days from New York, with a cargo of general merchandise. Fifteen per cent. reinsurance was paid on her before her arrival. Capt. Fuller reports that he had an uneventful voyage, being delayed off the Horn by adverse winds and currents. He saw nothing of the City of Philadelphia.

The Vanderbilt Bridal Couple.

SARATOGA, Aug. 7.—Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr., are still enjoying the comforts of the United States Hotel, with little likelihood of leaving here for some time. Their regular drive this afternoon included the old Crum place on the west shore of Saratoga Lake and home by way of the lake. This evening was spent in the cottage.

Contest of Sir Charles Tupper's Election.

OTTAWA, Aug. 7.—Sir Charles Tupper has been served with papers protesting his election to Parliament for the Cape Breton district.

ENGINEER FARR BLAMED.

WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ATLANTIC CITY COLLISION.

The Coroner's Jury Also Censures Towerman Hauser and Engineer Greiner—The Testimony of Conductor Kelly of the Excursion Train Is Finally Secured.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Aug. 7.—Coroner McLaughlin and the jury which has been investigating the railroad disaster of last week were successful this morning, after several attempts, in interviewing Conductor John Kelly of 420 South street, Camden, of the West Jersey excursion train which was in the collision. Kelly is in the sanitarium, and his condition is considered serious. Stenographer Clift accompanied the jury. Kelly was asked to give an explanation of the accident. In reply he said that he could explain nothing. He was inside the third coach, one of the three cars that were crushed into splinters when the collision occurred. In answer to a question he said that he had scolded the brakeman for not having oil in the lamp. Further than this he knew nothing. When on the platform of a car he looked out and saw a white light, which meant to go ahead. This concluded the questioning, and at 11:20 o'clock the jury retired to consider their verdict.

The jury came in at 6:25 and returned three verdicts. The first stated the manner of death of the persons over whom the inquest was held. The second finds Engineer Farr, who was killed in the collision, guilty of not following the rules governing approaches to crossings, and censures Towerman George Hauser for not giving an express the right of way over an excursion train and Engineer Greiner for not using greater care. The third verdict censures Engineer Farr.

The second verdict reads: "We, the undersigned jurors, also find that Engineer Edward D. Farr of the Atlantic City Railroad failed to have his engine under proper control on approaching said crossing, and that Towerman George F. Hauser, in giving the excursion train of the West Jersey Railroad right of way over a fast express, used bad judgment. We are also of the opinion that Engineer John Greiner of said excursion train erred in not exercising greater care on crossing ahead of said fast express."

The third verdict is as follows: "The undersigned jurors are of the opinion that the cause of the collision was the failure of Edward Farr, engineer of train No. 23, to give heed in time to the semaphore signals set against him, and thus failed to have his train under proper control on approaching the signals and crossing under the rules. The undersigned jurors further declare that the tower man, George F. Hauser, may have used poor judgment in his estimate of the distance away of the Atlantic City Railroad train No. 23 when he gave the white boards to the West Jersey and Seashore excursion train No. 700.

"LEWIS EVANS,
"LEVI C. ALBERTSON,
"J. B. CHAMPION."

The second and third verdicts are each signed by only three of the six jurors.

FEHLERIS WAS JILTED.

Mrs. Popstorf Refused to Marry Him, So He Had Her Arrested.

Mrs. Mary Popstorf, a young and good-looking widow who lives at 820 Broadway, Williamsburgh, and has a restaurant at 70 Broadway, became acquainted with William Fehlertz three months ago. He courted her for a few weeks and then asked her if she would marry him. She wanted time to consider the proposition. When she expressed her willingness to become his wife he asked her what means she had. She told him that she had several thousand dollars in a savings bank and was willing to invest it in a profitable business. He induced her to buy the restaurant she has. Afterward he introduced her to his friends as his wife and requested her to transfer the business to him. She refused, and then, it is alleged, Fehlertz asked her to marry him at once. She cancelled the engagement, which angered Fehlertz, and every day after that he went to the restaurant and annoyed her.

He importuned her to marry him, and one afternoon recently he fell on his knees in her restaurant and begged her to become his wife. She called a policeman and had him ejected. Yesterday Fehlertz had the woman in the Lee Avenue Police Court on a summons to explain why a warrant should not be issued against her for stealing $5 and some keys from him. Mrs. Popstorf was represented by Lawyer Oscar F. Langer, who denied the allegation of Fehlertz and accused him of trying to swindle the widow.

"Fehlertz," said the lawyer, "when he became acquainted with the widow, lost no time in finding out whether she had money. When he learned that she had, he pressed his suit with all vigor, and wanted to be married right way. Then he induced her to buy the restaurant, for which she paid $1,000. She could have cut the business for $700. After she took possession he discharged every one in the place and wanted the woman to turn the business over to him. Because she refused to do it and cancelled her engagement, he has persistently annoyed her. Now he accuses her of going into his room and stealing her own keys and $5. It is nothing less than malice."

Fehlertz admitted that the keys belonged to Mrs. Popstorf. He added that he wasn't certain that the widow took his money, and the case was dismissed.

ONE EFFECT OF THE RAINES LAW.

The Government May Lose a Quarter of a Million in Revenue.

ALBANY, Aug. 7.—Internal Revenue Collector Louis W. Pratt of this district figures out that the Federal Government will lose about a quarter of a million dollars a year because of the Raines law, owing to the fact that the law decreases the number of saloons and other places where liquor is sold by retail.

He based his estimate on the falling off in his district. Mr. Pratt collected during July of this year $288,052.96 in internal revenues from all sources. Last year his July collections amounted to $317,291.86. This makes the falling off for this year $28,638.90. He believes, however, that the internal revenue collections this year, from all sources, will amount to about as much as that of 1895, owing to the increased revenue from other branches of business.

THE LITCHFIELD ESTATE TAXES.

The Heirs Will Fight the Increased Assessment This Year.

The heirs of the Edwin C. Litchfield estate in Brooklyn have again started a legal fight against the assessments on the property for the present year, and yesterday Justice Clement of the Supreme Court granted a writ of certiorari to review the action of the Board of Assessors. In 1893 the total assessments were $835,890, while this year they are $1,133,160. The Litchfield heirs claim that during the past three years there has been a shrinkage in land values, owing to the general financial distress. During the past twelve years over $700,000 in taxes has been paid on the Litchfield property and the owners are still $900,000 in arrears.

THAT NAVAL HOSPITAL WALL.

Has the Government Been Fooled in Its Construction?

There was a hearing yesterday before United States Commissioner Morle in Brooklyn in the case of Contractors Jeremiah and John Brosnan and their associates in the job of building a new wall at the Naval Hospital. It is alleged that the accused were engaged in a conspiracy to defraud the Government by putting up an inferior kind of wall. Civil Engineer Pringle testified that the wall was weak in over a hundred spots, and three other witnesses corroborated him. The hearing was not concluded.

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