SERMON ON GHOST STORIES

SUPPOSE THEY ARE ALL LIES, YET, OH! WHAT PRECIOUS LIES!

Alleged News from the Other Shore That Calvin Has Not Got Into Heaven Yet Seems to the Rev. Dr. Heber Newton (Protestant Episcopal) as if It Ought to Be True if It Isn't.

Seldom do the Spiritualists of this city have an opportunity of hearing from the pulpit even a quasi-indorsement of their creed. It was not more than a quasi indorsement, if it was that much, which the Rev. Dr. R. Heber Newton delivered yesterday from the pulpit of All Souls' P. E. Church at Sixty-sixth street and Madison avenue, but the newspaper notices of the sermon left off an important final letter and made it appear that the minister was to preach on "The Truth of Spiritualism," instead of "The Truths of Spiritualism;" wherefore a large number of "mediums" and conductors of séances at so much a manifestation attended the service. The sermon was the fifth in the series on the contributions of heterodoxy to orthodoxy, and it appeared to disappoint the mediums present. Dr. Newton did not declare himself a believer in their manifestations, and went no further than to indicate his belief in a connection between this state of existence and the state which is separated from this by death. He said:

"My subject is 'The Truths of Spiritualism,' not 'The Truth of Spiritualism.' Were the latter title the proper designation of my topic I should be called upon for an elaborate discussion of the facts, actual or alleged, which are involved in Spiritualism. All this I wave aside. I am concerned here not with the facts, but the ideas of this movement.

"Whatever may be the truth of Spiritualism there are certain truths which are coming to the world through Spiritualism. The source of the knowledge may be valid or may be invalid—the knowledge itself seems to me valid. Many a knowledge that is substantial and real has been gained by man apparently through sources that are unreliable, or at least inadequate. The real sources of his knowledge may lie deeper, may not be uncovered. The knowledge that is real and true may seem to come from springs that are tainted, when in reality they rise far below this dubious source. We have to judge truth upon its own merits, not upon the merits of those who profess to bring it to men.

"It is a fact concerning Spiritualism that through it the conviction of the life to come is taking a new hold of man's mind and heart. Myriads of men are to-day rejoicing in a firm and positive conviction of the reality of the life to come who but for this movement would have been left in the doubt which overshadows vast masses of men to-day. This faith has become so vital that it renews the early Christian joy in the presence of death. Instead of impugning the sources of this renewed faith, let orthodoxy make more real to those who abide within its folds this ancient and fundamental and vital faith of men. It is most likely that men have become convinced that there is a life beyond the grave, but they have become convinced that life is near to us in the flesh and that at proper times and under proper conditions it is possible that there should be intercommunication between the two spheres. A deep hunger of the human soul this, which finds manifestation in the most pathetic experiences our earth records.

"It is truth which is embodied in the records of the very beginning of our Christian religion—in those wonderfully gracious and charming stories which embalm the memory of the sacred experiences of the disciples through which their came to believe their Master was alive and that He had manifested Himself to them. A truth this, which we ought never to have passed out from the Christian consciousness, but which has strangely escaped it; so that we find ourselves to-day in this singular position, theoretically believing in the possibility of intercommunication between those who live in the flesh and those who live out of the flesh, and yet utterly skeptical toward every experience which is an expression of this belief.

"What has man to learn through this intercommunication, if it be genuine? Upon the surface of the question the whole belief seems to be invalidated by the utter unfitness, as most men think, of the communications that come through such sources. Yet this makes appeal to the truth which runs through spiritualistic thought—the continuity of character. You remember Mr. Huxley's sneer after attending a number of séances, that if the people in the next life had no more intelligence than was manifested in the communications thus received, he wished no further acquaintance with them. After listening to Shakespeare and Milton and Bacon discoursing from the other world, we wonder whether they have lapsed back into a state of idiocy. And yet there seems to be even here something profoundly suggestive. What is the character of nine-tenths of the people who pass out from earth? Up to the date of death have they not been empty-minded, shallow, unintellectual? What has their conversation been? What is the ordinary talk of the ordinary drawing room? What sort of conversation do you hear in the street cars? Well, what is to be expected of these people when they pass over into another state of existence? Are they miraculously changed at once? Do they become geniuses, savants, and philosophers? Do they not continue to be just about such human beings as they were here? With the same vacuousness and emptiness, the same shallowness and superficiality? If by any chance such spirits get at the other end of the telephone connecting the two worlds they ought to give us just about such communications as we receive. What a solemn appeal there is in such a thought as this in human beings endowed with mind, to use this earthly life so that they may be worthy of another existence, so that they may not pass over into a higher state of existence and remain such unintelligent, irrational, unhuman beings as those who come, or seem to come, to us in many of these mysterious ways.

"As with the intellectual life of man, so with his moral character. He is the same man after death as before. The ordinary, orthodox conception of the hereafter is of a division between two worlds, the realm of the good and the realm of the bad. The whole conception is thoroughly artificial and unnatural. There is no such chasm between men here. Neither is there, in the world beyond, so far as we can learn. The bad in men works itself out in the development of character. Through it men punish themselves.

"The ordinary though, of the ghost-haunting of popular tradition finds its philosophical explanation in the literature of this subject in the belief that it is those spirits who have not risen above the earth plane who still haunt the region of their old lives. Like gravitates to like there as here. If a man has not risen above the plane of materiality here, he will not be far above it when he passes into the life beyond. What a condition this suggests to those who, from mere curiosity, seek communication with the unseen spheres! They may, however, if there be any reality in this belief, find dark possibilities which will make very lurid the ancient tales of demoniac possession. One of the best known women in the country writes over her own name of how certain spirits came to her from the other world and gave pitiful accounts of their remorse as they looked back to earth and realized now for the first time their grave responsibilities in the neglect to use aright the wealth intrusted to them upon the earth. One of the elders of the Shaker settlement at Lebanon within a few months reported that the spirit of John Calvin came to him. You will recall that one great stain upon Calvin's character is his burning of Servetus, that brilliant heretic who ventured within the reach of the grim master of Geneva and paid the penalty of his daring at the stake. As the Shaker elder reports, the spirit of Calvin told him that he had not as yet succeeded in finding heaven; that wherever he had turned seeking the blessed regions he was confronted with the direction to find out Servetus and obtain his forgiveness before he could enter. If this story is not true in fact, it is true to something deeper than fact.

"There is a body of thought that is coming to the world in this way, whatever we think of the way, that is distinctly a body of thought. The old theology no longer appears. You never hear anything of the fall of man; or the election or the non-election of individuals, of the vicarious atonement, of an endless hell, of the resurrection of the body, and of hosts of other doctrines which are inwoven in the traditional orthodoxy of Christianity. No spirit, of whom I have ever heard, real or professed, has ever come back to the world teaching these doctrines. The theology of the other world is a Broad Church theology. It is making for freedom and reason. It is either subverting the old doctrines or reconstructing them. At times it seems violently anti-Christian, but when analyzed, the anti-Christianity is merely anti-Calvinism or anti-ecclesiasticism, or anti-supernaturalism. The record of M. A. Oxon's communications through 'Rector' tells how an old-fashioned High Churchman was educated against his will into a Broad Churchman. Even if this be, after all, nothing more than the unconscious self at work in theology, it is still a mighty verification of our liberal movement. If the deeper sources of our mysterious personality are thus making for the new thought, we may be sure that that new thought is a true thought."

Katie Herman Dies of Malpractice.

Katie Herman died at 61 Jackson street yesterday of a criminal operation said to have been performed by Rosa Klein, a midwife residing at 303 East Tenth street.

Her alleged betrayer, Elias Heiss, and the midwife are locked up in the Tombs. They will be arraigned in the Essex Market Police Court today.

HAWAIIAN TROUBLES.

The Country Must Have Uncle Sam Behind It Legally or Japan Will Control It.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 11.—Letters from Honolulu say that on April 7 Mr. William A. Kinney, a prominent Honolulu lawyer, was to leave for Washington to assist Mr. Thurston and Mr. Hartwell in working for annexation or reciprocity. A leading Government official said that they had received most encouraging news from Washington in regard to the feeling of the new Administration toward Hawaii, but this does not blind the Hawaiian President and his Cabinet to the grave danger from the Japanese and the complications over Asiatic contract labor. As an official said: "Hawaii cannot go on much longer in the old way. Every week brings some new menace to the stability of the republic, which would not last a single day but for fear of the United States. We must have Uncle Sam behind us, legally as well as morally, if the country is to escape from falling under the control of Japan."

The relations between the Dole Government and the National Guard are strained because of the snub which Col. Fisher and the leading officers received from President Dole and Minister of Foreign Affairs Cooper. The Volunteers complained that employment was refused to them under the Government, while others who had not fought for the republic were favored. The complaints aroused so much feeling that Minister Cooper agreed to give the malcontents a hearing. It was agreed that the President and Mr. Cooper should meet Col. Fisher and the delegation on April 2, but when the latter called they were told by Mr. Cooper's secretary that the Minister would see them on the following Monday.

The Colonel's wrath was aroused and he told the secretary that their time was as valuable as the Minister's and the meeting would be postponed indefinitely. As the angry commission went down stairs the secretary, who had consulted his chief, shouted:

"The Minister says you can come up now, if you wish."

Fisher shouted back: "We don't desire to return."

Mr. Cooper explains that President Dole was sick, and he instructed the secretary to postpone the meeting, but the latter neglected this. But this explanation has not healed the sore feeling.

The real cause of the trouble is that President Dole is encouraging three rival military organizations which do not have as hard work as the National Guard. This strife is unfortunate at the present time, because the Government needs the loyal service of every man who can bear arms.

VICTIM OF A BRUTAL HUSBAND.

Joseph Fessenelli Fractures His Wife's Skull and Almost Strangles Her.

Joseph Fessenelli, an Italian, 43 years old, of 37 Main street, Brooklyn, attempted yesterday afternoon to murder his wife Carmella, aged 35, by striking her with an axe and then trying to choke her. He almost succeeded in his purpose, for the woman's skull is fractured, and she received other injuries. When taken to the Brooklyn Hospital the surgeons said she could scarcely recover. Her husband was locked up in the Fulton street station. He was so indifferent to his situation that he went to sleep just as soon as he was put in a cell.

The Fessenellis have eight children, James and John, twins, aged 23 years; Anton, 19 years old; Joseph, 17; Grace, 12; Mary, 11; Frank, 10, and Michael, 6 years old. The four younger children were in the room with their mother at dinner yesterday afternoon. The apartments are on the top floor of a four-story double tenement house. Mrs. Fessenelli was looking out of the window and the children were seated at a table. Fessenelli entered the room quietly. He carried a large axe, with a handle three feet long. Creeping up behind his wife, he struck her a blow on the head, felling her to the floor. She screamed, and the four children ran screaming into the hall. Fessenelli aimed three or four more blows at his wife, but in his frenzy the axe struck the wall and was imbedded in the plaster. He managed to strike the prostrate woman again on the head, and then, finding she was not dead, picked up a towel, which he wound around her neck, and then attempted to strangle her.

Policeman Sweeny of the Fulton street station heard the screams of the children, and captured Fessenelli, who was trying to escape. Surgeon Hussy, who took the woman to the Brooklyn Hospital, said that her skull was fractured, that she had several scalp wounds, and that she had been almost strangled. She was unconscious when she arrived at the hospital, and Coroner Coombs was notified.

Fessenelli is a big, strong man, and has not worked for his wife's support. His eldest sons are bootblacks, and they had to turn over their earnings to him. If he considered they had not earned enough he beat them. When searched in the police station he had $67 in his pocket. He said he had beaten his wife because she had been unfaithful to him. The neighbors say she is a hard-working, good and faithful woman, and that her husband is a worthless fellow.

REVENGED ON THE WRONG MAN.

Daniel McStay Will Probably Die as a Result of George Seimer's Attack.

Daniel McStay, a longshoreman, whose home is at 78 Box street, Greenpoint, visited his friends the Nagels at 54 Box street on Saturday night. The Nagel family, consisting of David Nagel, his wife, and a child, live in rooms on the third floor. The house is a three-story double-deck tenement, and is occupied mainly by Hungarians and Poles. George Seimer, a Hungarian, 34 years old, lives with his wife and child on the second floor. McStay, who is Irish and has a reputation of being inoffensive, drank several pints of beer with his friends the Nagels, and about midnight started out to get the growler filled. On his return he found that the light on the second landing, which was burning brightly when he left, had been turned down. Seimer confronted him in the hall, and without warning struck McStay on the head with an axe.

McStay fell, and Seimer rushed into his rooms and barricaded the doors. The wounded man crept upstairs, where his groans were heard by the Nagels. They summoned a policeman, who broke in the door of Seimer's room with the blood-stained axe which Seimer had left in the hall. Seimer, after a show of resistance, was arrested, and McStay was conveyed to St. Catharine's Hospital, where it was found that he had sustained a compound fracture of the skull. The wounded man never revived sufficiently to identify Seimer as his assailant, but last night the house surgeon said he would probably die.

Seimer, when arraigned in the Ewen Street Police Court, said that he mistook McStay for a Pole who several weeks ago grossly insulted him. He was remanded without bail.

NOW IT'S THE DRAKE ESTATE.

Pennsylvanians Form a Society to Get $200,000,000 Left by Famous Sir Francis.

ALTOONA, Pa., April 11.—Two hundred descendants of Sir Francis Drake, the famous English navigator, have formed an association in the western part of Pennsylvania to put forward a claim for what was once his estate. The property, they say, is situated in Devon and Somerset counties in England, and it consists of about 6,000 acres of land and over $200,000,000 in money, which is the accumulation of rentals for about 150 years. The story they tell is that the famous mariner left his property to two sons, John and Francis Drake, in which line the estate was held until 1749, when the heirs of Thomas Drake became extinct, and the estate reverted to the heirs of John Drake. The members of the association say they are the direct descendants of John. The Drakes, who are distributed all over the western part of this State, held a meeting at New Castle on Saturday to formulate plans for claiming the property.

SOMEBODY SAID, "CLEVELAND."

Then There Was a Howl, and Lincoln's Birthday Was Made a Holiday.

HARTFORD, April 11.—The lower branch of the Legislature passed a bill yesterday making Feb. 12 a legal holiday, and to be known as Lincoln Day. A spirited discussion preceded the adoption of the bill. Mr. Frisbie said if they continued making holidays there would not be enough days in the calendar for the observance of all the days. The people of Connecticut, he continued, have not been staying awake nights looking for legal holidays or any other kind of holidays. The only man who should be honored with a holiday was Washington. Somebody would want a Grant holiday next.

"And a Grover Cleveland holiday," said another member.

Then there was a howl and the bill passed.

Quiet Your Nerves.

Anheuser-Busch's Malt-Nutrine will quickly calm them and give you new health and strength. To be had at all druggists.—*Adv.*

MET A GHOST WALKING.

HOWLAND'S ADVENTURE WITH THE SPIRIT OF AN OLD FLAME.

She Had Wings Like an Angel, Although It Was in Tom Gould's That He Saw Her Last Alive—Forty-First Street, Near Sixth Avenue, the Young Woman's Present Stamping Ground.

Gerald Howland, who says his business is to get up floral pieces for funerals, sat propped up on two chairs in a furnished room at 522 Eighth avenue last night, and in a sepulchral voice told a knot of newspaper reporters that he had seen the ghost of a young girl whom he had lured from her home and who had died in the Charity Hospital on Blackwell's Island. It was on Saturday night that he saw the ghost, he said, while he was walking through West Forty-first street, near Sixth avenue.

The ghost was walking east. Mr. Howland was going west. Mr. Howland has been out of employment for some time, and one would naturally suppose that he would be pleased to see the ghost walk, but he wasn't.

"I wasn't a bit pleased," he said, "last night, and I have been laid up here sick ever since."

"Did you speak to the ghost?" asked the SUN representative.

"Well," said Mr. Howland, "I threw up both hands and exclaimed 'My God, Marion!'"

"Then you knew her," said the reporter.

"Certainly," said Mr. Howland; "she was Marion Stevens, the girl I lured from her home in 1889."

"Had you been drinking?" asked the reporter.

"No, sir, I never drink," answered Mr. Howland. "That was Marion's fault; it caused her downfall. When I took her from her home in West Albany and brought her to New York I taught her to drink. Then I was a drinking man. We lived together in Seventh avenue as Mr. and Mrs. Howland. I left her in the fall of '91, after having a quarrel with her in Tom Gould's place. She threw a glass at me. The next I heard she was in Charity Hospital, dying. When I went to see her she was dead. One day in October, 1893, I had a dream I dreamt I saw her sweet face. I went to a fortune teller in Asbury Park near where I worked, and he told me that I would meet her spirit face to face. He sold me a black bag containing a charm, which he said I must wear until I saw Marion's face. Then her soul was to be released, and I was to throw it in the river."

"Her soul?" asked the reporter.

"No, the black bag and the charm," answered Mr. Howland. "So last night, it was about 10:45 or 10:46 o'clock, I was coming through forty-first street——"

"Just left a friend, of course?" interrupted the reporter.

"Yes, just left a friend on the corner," said Mr. Howland, "and suddenly I was stopped about 100 feet from the corner by a sudden burst of white light; then in the halo I saw the transparent figure of a girl. It was Marion's face, and her hair was hanging down her back."

"What did she say?"

"Well—eh—she said something unintelligible—that is, I didn't catch it all. Something about the Bible, sort of quotation from the Scripture. I think it was Hebrews, viii. She warned me to read the Acts of the Apostles."

"Did she have wings?"

"Oh, yes."

"I thought you said she walked," remarked the reporter.

"Yes, that was when I met her, but she afterward flew away in a dark cloud that came over her."

"And what did you do?"

"I just fainted and fell on the sidewalk. A crowd gathered and they helped me home."

"And what did your wife say?"

"Well, she bound up my head with a towel. All night long I raved about Marion, but my wife brought me around to-day."

Then pointing to a black cloth bag that lay across his bed, Mr. Howland said:

"That's the bag. I've worn it next my heart for years. To-morrow I'll throw it in the river."

STARTED FIRES IN THE STRIKE.

Confession of a Man Who Served as a Marshal in the Chicago Labor Riots.

CLEVELAND, O., April 11.—By the capture of William Ingliss Bloom, the alleged incendiary, the Fire Wardens of this city may have incidentally saved Chicago the loss of sums aggregating nearly $1,000,000. Suits approaching this amount have been brought against that municipality as a result of the destruction of railroad cars and property by fire during the great railway strike. Bloom confessed yesterday to destroying a great quantity of this rolling stock, which he, as an officer of the law, had been called out to protect.

C. W. Murphy, a special detective of the Chicago Law Department, spent nearly the entire day talking matters over with the prisoner yesterday. Bloom confessed to having set fire to many of the cars, possibly sixty of them. He could not tell exactly, owing to the excitement when the work was done. Depositions covering these points were taken, and they will be used in defending the suits.

During the strike Ingliss, alias Bloom, served as a Deputy United States Marshal. He was stationed near Brighton Park, and served for eight or ten days. At the end of that time the regular militia, who had also been called out, and he responded as a member of the Second Regiment. He was assigned to the same spot, Brighton Park.

According to his confession he set many fires and participated in many of them. His plan was to carry a small bottle filled with oil, pour the contents over old rubbish and then ignite it. At other times he would pull the grease out of the car wheel boxes and set this on fire. Most of the cars were destroyed on one day, July 6.

ARRESTED FOR GROWING A BEARD.

Not Having Shaved for Three Days Kelly Was Deemed a Suspicious Person.

A young Englishman, who described himself as Charles Kelly, 26 years old, a student, of 362 East Seventy-second street, was arrested at the Zoo in Central Park yesterday afternoon and locked up in the East Sixty-seventh street police station on a charge of being a suspicious person. Kelly, who is a member of the class in draughting at Stevens Institute, Hoboken, came to this city several days ago and went to live temporarily with his brother in Seventy-second street, intending to find another boarding place when he had leisure. He started out yesterday morning to search for a room. He strolled into the Park at Fifth avenue and Sixty-fourth street early in the afternoon to look at the eagles.

While he was standing in front of the cage Park Policeman McGee, after watching him for awhile, singled him out from the throng and placed him under arrest, in the belief that Kelly had attempted to pick the pockets of several people in the crowd. There was no complainant against him, but he was held for the Yorkville Court this morning. Mr. Kelly's brother, William Kelly, admitted yesterday that the prisoner's appearance was decidedly against him.

"When he left here," said Mr. Kelly, "he was not well dressed, and besides that he was unshaven. He started to grow a beard three days ago, and it had just reached the stage where a man begins to look 'trampy' when he was arrested. It is all a policeman's mistake, and I will be in court in the morning to explain matters."

Later in the afternoon Policeman McGee arrested Jacob Leperdorf near the Arsenal for suspicious conduct. At the police station Leperdorf said that he was a reporter and that he lived at 67 Ludlow street. Leperdorf will also be arraigned in the Yorkville Court.

FIRES ON THE ISLANDS.

Steamer Provided for the Transportation of New York Firemen.

The recent fire which destroyed part of the Manhattan State Hospital for the Insane on Ward's Island proved the possibility of a conflagration which could not be controlled by the two fire engines located on the island. On Monday a new pier at the foot of East 116th street was made the landing place of the boats used to ferry visitors and officials to the island and the steamer Wanderer was put in commission for service to and from the island.

Promptly upon this being done, Battalion Chief Peter Short was notified by General Superintendent A. E. Macdonald that the Wanderer would be at his disposal at any moment for the transportation of fire engines to Ward's Island and Randall's Island in case of fire. Three fire engines and horses can be transported at once on the Wanderer.

HURD FACED TO THE REAR.

A Newark Man's Probably Fatal Mishap from a Trolley Car.

Getting off a trolley car backward sent John Hurd to the City Hospital in Newark just before midnight on Saturday, and last night it was reported that he was unconscious and sinking rapidly. Hurd lived at 304 Manor avenue, Harrison, and was a stonecutter, 45 years old, with a wife and several children. He faced the rear as he stepped from a moving car at the corner of Manor and Harrison avenues while going home and was thrown heavily, striking the back of his head upon the roadway. He did not speak afterward and an examination showed that his skull was fractured at the base of the brain.

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GLOVES.

Broadway & 19th st.

PUBLISHER FERRIS ROBBED.

A Boy Steals Stereotype Plates Worth $1,600 and Sells Them to a Junk Dealer.

Alexander Ferris of the publishing house of Ferris Bros. of 326 Pearl street was a complainant in Centre Street Court yesterday against John Cushing, 11 years old, of 62 Market street, and Joseph Virerite, a junk dealer, of 363 Pearl street, who were arraigned by Detectives Malarkey and Reilly of the Oak street station. He charged the boy with grand larceny and the man with being a receiver of stolen goods.

Ferris Bros. have at 278 Water street a vault which they use for the storage of stereotype plates of the works published by them when not needed for printing. Among the plates stored there were those of an English religious work, for which the Ferris Bros. have the exclusive publication rights for this country. These plates are worth intrinsically $300, but owing to the fact that they are not duplicated Ferris Bros. valued them at $1,600.

When Mr. Ferris went to the vault last Tuesday to get the plates, he found that the iron door grating had been wrenched open sufficiently to admit a small boy. The plates were gone.

Detectives Reilly and Malarkey suspected Patsey Casey, a 10-year-old boy living opposite the station. Patsey attends St. James's School, and on Friday the detectives tried to arrest Patsey as he was on his way to the school. Patsey fled through the streets and the detectives followed, finally catching him in the building.

During the chase both Patsey and the detectives noticed Cushing and another boy named Thomas Filkey standing on the roof of a building next to the school yard looking at Patsey. When Patsey was captured and asked about the plates, he told the detectives that Cushing had stolen them and had hidden them in Single alley.

"I'll show dat blokie to give me de merry ha ha w'en you wuz a chasing me," said Patsey. "I'll let him have a taste of his own jokes."

The detectives induced Janitor Barrett of the school to burst in a door of an old building in Single alley. There they found Cushing with boiler filled with broken bits of the plates, all ready to be sold as junk. In Virerite's junk shop they found another 100 pounds of the plates. Virerite admitted that he had bought them from Cushing. He was arrested, and the detectives finally succeeded in catching young Cushing at his home yesterday morning.

In the Centre Street Court Cushing admitted to Gerry Agent King that he had stolen the plates. He said three other lads helped him, but refused to give their names. Magistrate Mott held both Cushing and Virerite for further examination to-day.

AMBITION OF BELLAMY STORER.

Foraker Would Have Been Glad to Have Him Sent to Italy or Anywhere Far Enough.

President McKinley, so said Ohio Republicans who were at the Fifth Avenue Hotel yesterday, has not yet made up his mind what to do with Bellamy Storer of Ohio. There has been a mistake somewhere as to just what Mr. Storer's ambition has been. It has been said all along that he was a candidate for Ambassador to Italy, but at the personal request of Senator Foraker President McKinley declined to give Mr. Storer that place. Senator Foraker, it was said, opposed Mr. Storer's appointment as Ambassador to Italy because of family differences.

Senator Foraker was in New York on Friday, but he declined to discuss the Storer case. A member of Gov. Bushnell's staff, however, gave yesterday what he declared was the true version. Gov. Bushnell and Senator Foraker have been as close as two fingers on a hand. "Senator Foraker," said THE SUN'S informant, "did not oppose Mr. Storer's appointment as Ambassador to Italy. On the contrary he wanted to get Storer out of the country, and as a matter of fact he said to President McKinley when the subject was broached, 'Why not send Storer to Russia, to Italy, to Persia, anywhere out of the country?' Senator Foraker said this because he knew that Mr. Storer's real ambition was to be Assistant Secretary of State, and then if anything happened to John Sherman Mr. Storer would be in direct line of promotion to be Secretary. Senator Foraker has protested to the President against making Mr. Storer Assistant Secretary of State. Senator Foraker has much business with the State Department and naturally he doesn't like the prospect of being compelled to transact business of the most confidential character with a political and personal enemy. Senator Hanna, I believe, sympathizes with Senator Foraker. But Cardinal Gibbons and Archbishop Ireland, I am informed, have said many kind words in favor of Mr. Storer's appointment to the State Department. If Mr. Storer has an idea of eventually stepping into John Sherman's shoes he will be disappointed, for Secretary Sherman is physically tough as a nut."

MR. PLATT TO THE C. L. U.

He Sends a Letter in Reference to Its Protest Against the Dingley Tariff Bill.

The Central Labor Union yesterday received letters from Speaker Reed of the House of Representatives and United States Senator T. C. Platt in reply to the protest against the Dingley Tariff bill. The protest was on behalf of the cigarmakers' unions, who object to the provision in the bill imposing a high tax on Sumatra wrappers and raw tobacco. They say that if the bill was passed with this provision it would boom imported cigars and throw thousands of cigarmakers in this country out of work.

Speaker Reed's letter says that as the bill has already passed the House it is too late for him to take any action. Mr. Platt's letter is as follows:

"Your recent favor, relating to the tariff, has, at the request of the Finance Committee of the Senate, been referred to them for attention. They will confer with you upon the subject. You will understand that is impossible for me to give the time necessary for such a full understanding of your case as would enable me personally to properly present it, as requests of a similar character on various subjects pertaining to the tariff are being made upon me from all sections of the State. The Finance Committee have notified me that they will refuse to grant any hearings upon the tariff, but that they will receive and consider written appeals. Yours very truly,

"T. C. PLATT."

Sing Sing Fire Department May Disband.

SING SING, N. Y., April 11.—This village may be without a Fire Department very soon, as the firemen have decided that unless the taxpayers give them $7,500 with which to equip the department they will disband within twenty days. A special meeting of the trustees will be held on Tuesday evening to take action on the matter.

ASTHMA HAY FEVER AND CATARRH.
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TAMMANY WANTS THE POPS.

P. D. L. AFRAID SHEEHAN WILL ANNEX IT TO THE GOLD BUGS.

He "Talks Very Fair" and Hopes to Be Able to Get Along This Year Without Any Profession of Faith at All on Popocratic Lines—The League Elects Officers Warily.

It developed yesterday at the meeting of the Progressive Democratic League, held in Flannery's Hall, 420 Hudson street, that there is a strong suspicion in the minds of some of the organizers that Tammany Hall is trying to capture the league. Most of the members of the league are Tammany Hall men; all are Bryan men. The principal object of their organization is to hold Tammany in line for the Chicago platform and for free-silver candidates.

The object of yesterday's meeting was to elect permanent officers. This was effected after about three hours of parliamentary wrangling, during which the fears referred to were manifested. These officers were chosen: President, E. M. Saunders; Vice-Presidents, John J. Donnelly, James Welstead, John Hosey, and Frank E. Bloyer; Secretary, Frank P. Cassidy; Assistant Secretary, Charles E. Clarke; Financial Secretary, G. B. Vanderbeck; Treasurer, Wilbur O. Eastlake; Sergeant-at-Arms, A. A. Miller.

George Black, the President of the original 16 to 1 club of Harlem, made a speech in which he said that the other 16 to 1 club is composed of regular Tammany Hall men who tried to capture the original club. It was shown that this Tammany club had sent credentials for four different delegations to the league. President McDonald of the Tammany club asserted that it had not asked for greater representation than it was entitled to.

John J. Joyce made a speech, in which he said with much significance that the league had been organized to keep Tammany in line for the platform, and that it proposed to do it. This statement was cheered.

One of the organizers of the league told THE SUN reporter that Leader Sheehan had been seen by representatives of the league during the past week, and that he "talked very fair."

"Mr. Sheehan said," he declared, "that Tammany could not come out with a bold pronunciamento in favor of the Chicago platform because it cannot afford to antagonize the Democrats who have come back to the organization. He said that Tammany does not propose to go back on the principles it stood for last year, however, and that it will make its position so clear that the friends of Mr. Bryan will not be disappointed. Mr. Sheehan was told that in that case he would find the Progressive Democratic League a valuable auxiliary. I think it will be with Tammany, anyway."

Delegate Edward Dobson of the Northside Populists moved the appointment of a committee to demand of the Legislature that it amend the Election law so as to give the People's party a regular party column on the official ballot.

George Black of the 16 to 1 club said he used to be a Populist, but is now a Democrat, and he thought all the friends of the Chicago platform ought to stick by the Democratic party so long as it adhered to the principles of that platform.

"The Democratic party," said he, "has gone just as far as the Populists ever did in this platform, and until the People's party is prepared to go further, or until the Democracy repudiates what it has done, I will stick by it. I do not think a Democratic organization like ours should ask the Legislature to do a thing which might help to divide our forces."

Thomas Foye, another Populist, said that his party does not want to be absorbed by the Democracy.

Owen J. Kindelon suggested that as the Legislature is Republican and will not be likely to do anything that the Democracy asks for, there seemed to be no harm in trying. So the committee was provided for.

A resolution congratulating the Democracy of Chicago on the result of their municipal election was adopted. The orators who talked to it spoke of Mayor-elect Harrison as a representative Bryan man.

SWINDLED NINETY ITALIANS.

Salvitano Was Being Mobbed by His Victims When Arrested.

Salvitore Salvitano of 41 Hamilton street was charged with grand larceny in Centre Street Court yesterday as a result of a swindle he perpetrated upon ninety fellow Italians.

Salvitano came to this city two weeks ago from New Orleans. He immediately began to hire Italians ostensibly for work on sewers in Portland, Me., for which he said he had a contract. He engaged ninety men for this work and then collected $2.50 from each for the railroad fare. Gaetano Granieri of 140 Cherry street advanced the money for a number who did not have it and gave to Salvitano $55 in all. Salvitano told the ninety men to meet him at the Grand Central station at 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon.

The Italians were at the station on time, but Salvitano was not there. They went downtown in a body to hunt for him, and finally caught him in Mulberry street. He was faring badly at their hands when three policemen rescued him and locked him up in the Elizabeth street station.

As Gaetano Granieri had paid him the most money he appeared as complainant. The police told Magistrate Mott that they had heard that Salvitano had successfully engineered a similar scheme just before he left New Orleans. Salvitano pleaded not guilty, and Magistrate Mott held him in $1,000 bail for further examination to-morrow.

SKIPPER DOWN WITH BERIBERI.

Mate Brought in the Biggest Dutch Square-Rigger Ever Seen Here.

The four-masted Dutch steel ship Jeannette Françoise, from Delagoa Bay, anchored off Quarantine yesterday morning with her skipper, Capt. R. Bleecker, helpless in his berth with beriberi contracted in South Africa. The mate has been in actual command of the ship for nearly two months. Besides the skipper, only one other of the ship's company was afflicted with the disease. He was Emanuel Nordman, able seaman, and he died on March 24. The tug E. M. Timmins ran alongside of the Jeannette Françoise yesterday afternoon, and the sick skipper, too feeble to walk or even stand, was carried to the tug's deck in a sling hoisted from the ship's mainyard. He was taken to the Long Island College Hospital. He will get well.

Capt. Bleecker's ship looks more like a Yankee than a Dutch craft. She is lofty sparred, and her skysail poles look as fine as toothpicks. She is the biggest Dutch square-rigger ever seen in this port. Her decks, paint, and bright work were as clean and shining when she dropped anchor as the neatest Yankee vessel ever seen in these parts.

CROOK TIPSTER FINED.

He Warned Bridge Operators of the Approach of Policemen.

Frank Wilson, address refused, when arraigned in Centre Street Court yesterday by Central Office Detectives Trubig and Wilson, was described by them to Magistrate Mott as one of the best all-around crooks in the business. He was charged with disorderly conduct.

"He knows every detective in the city," explained the detective, "and he goes to the Brooklyn Bridge entrance during rush hours. His business is to tip off the other crooks when a detective approaches. Saturday night he saw us at the bridge entrance and began to abuse us. Then we arrested him. He has done ten years in prison."

Magistrate Mott fined Wilson $10, and in default of payment he was committed.

A BLAZE IN SPORTINGMEN'S ROW.

It was in Snapper Garrison's Former Home—The Loss Trifling.

There was a little fire scare, yesterday afternoon, in Sportingmen's Row in Eighth avenue, Brooklyn. The blaze occurred in the four-story brown-stone house, No. 30, which has been unoccupied since it was vacated by Jockey Snapper Garrison, a few months ago. Mr. Mirabeau L. Towns, the owner of the building, is having it overhauled, and the fire was caused as supposed by spontaneous combustion among some rags, which the painters left behind them on the third floor. The alarm was promptly sent out from the Montauk Club and the firemen confined the flames to the third floor. The police estimate the loss at $250.

S. N. Browns Company Embarrassed.

DAYTON, O., April 11.—S. N. Brown, President S. N. Brown Company, manufacturing hubs, spokes and wheels, has filed an application in the Common Pleas Court for the appointment of a receiver. Suits aggregating nearly $25,000 were recently brought against the concern by local banks, and the appointment of a receiver was necessary in order that a large force of employees may continue at work.

Louisa Livingston Missing Again.

The police of Brooklyn are looking for a missing woman named Louisa Livingston. She is 33 years old, 5 feet 4 inches tall, thin, and with a prominent nose and false upper teeth. She wears a dark-blue dress and waist and a cloth sacque. She has dark braids. She has wandered away several times before, and it is said she is demented.

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HELP THE VACANT LOT FARMERS.

The Committee in Charge of This Practical Charity Issues a Statement.

The Committee on the Cultivation of Vacant Lots by the Unemployed, of which R. Fulton Cutting, Arthur W. Milbury, Bolton Hall, Jacob H. Schiff, and William Howe Tolman are the members, has issued the following circular in respect to the coming season's work:

"How to put the unemployed in large cities on a self-sustaining basis is a very serious question. This earth has soil and other means of producing vegetable life with which to sustain life, and man has strong arms and an intelligent brain. Experience shows that when, directed by the brains, these strong arms are brought in contact with the idle land about our large cities, the unemployed can become not only self-supporting, but add to the store of wealth. The cultivation of unused land, then, seems the most reasonable form of relief. If your own boy or your own father needed help from others, it is the only kind of relief which you would not feel ashamed to know that he had accepted.

"It should then be plentifully offered, yet even last year we could not supply all the applicants, and all through the winter men and women have been applying to us every week for a piece of land, however small, on the vacant lot farms. In one instance eight women formed themselves into a little club, an embryo colony, desiring a piece of this land to see what they could do to maintain themselves by working it together.

"For the very poor it is the only kind of relief which raises them up while relieving their pressing necessities. One woman started the first year without money to pay her car fare, in fact, knowing where the next meal was to come from. She cleared $134 that year; $124 and some cents last year. She has now placed herself in a position where she is entirely independent, having sufficient clothing, money in the bank, and comfortable rooms.

"Old soldiers who are disabled so that they cannot support themselves pick around in the vacant lot farms, and in this way make enough to support themselves comfortably. That costs less than paying pensions.

"Again, a longshoreman came to us two years ago who had not a dollar. He had a wife and five children to support. The first year he made a living on the little patch of earth, and the second year something more. He is now a contractor owning two horses and wagons, and not only supporting himself and family, but saving a little money. His business is buying and selling stone for foundations for c