The Sun.

Fair and colder; brisk northerly winds.

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BALDWIN HOTEL BURNED.

TWO LIVES LOST—A LANDMARK OF SAN FRANCISCO DESTROYED.

"Lucky" Baldwin's $2,500,000 Hotel and Theatre in Ruins—William Gillette's "Secret Service" Company Loses Scenery, Costumes and Manuscripts—A. J. White Aids Three Women to Escape and Is Dashed to Death—A Klondike Merchant Flees from the Burning Building and Dies of Heart Disease—Loss May Reach $2,000,000—Manager Charles Frohman Sends a New Outfit to Gillette.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 23.—The Baldwin Hotel, one of the landmarks of this city and which inclosed the Baldwin Theatre, known to every actor in the country, was destroyed by fire early this morning. The fire broke out at 3:25 o'clock and before dawn the theatre and hotel were in ruins. Two lives are known to have been lost.

One of the victims was Mr. J. L. White, a capitalist, who, after saving three women, fell from one of the upper stories to the sidewalk and died in a few moments.

The other was Louis Myers, a merchant, who rushed from the burning hotel and was attacked by heart disease as he reached the street. He died at a hospital. Myers was a resident of Skagway and was in this city on business.

There were rumors that many persons had perished, but there is no definite information to that effect. The fact that the firemen and police rushed through the hotel corridors and aroused the guests in time for them to escape leads those who were on the scene to believe that there are no bodies in the ruins.

The guests in the hotel were made aware of the fire by thick smoke, which forced its way into the upper portion of the structure from the top of the theatre. Aroused from their slumbers by the cry of "Fire!" the occupants tumbled out of bed and made their way into the halls, which were black with smoke. Men and women hurried downstairs and appeared on the street in their nightclothes. They were taken to the nearest hotels and lodging houses.

The fire is believed to have started in the Baldwin Theatre, for the flames rushed through the airshafts and corridors, and the walls on the Market street and Powell street sides burned as if they were tinder. The two upper stories were ablaze in twenty minutes. Three minutes after the first alarm was sounded the entire roof was afire.

An immense throng had gathered on Market, Powell and Ellis streets. Those who were on the Market street side were appalled at the sight of three women and a man who appeared at a round window above the Market and Eddy street corner. They climbed through the window and lowered themselves to the cornice by means of a rope. The women were helped by Mr. White. After they had reached the cornice and were on the fire escape Mr. White attempted to let himself down to the cornice. While he was suspended above the ground the rope parted and he shot downward to the pavement. He died almost instantly.

It was at first supposed the fire started in the hotel kitchen, but that supposition was abandoned. J. J. Fitzgerald of the Sheriff's office, accompanied by another man, was riding past the building when he saw a light in the theatre. He and his companion entered the hotel. Policeman Tillman entered at the same time and the three ran upstairs and worked for half an hour awakening guests and hurrying them to the street. Fitzgerald says that nobody could have slept through the noise that was made. There were at least 100 policemen and perhaps as many firemen running through the halls, hammering upon doors with clubs and axes and shouting "Fire! fire! Get out!"

At 5 o'clock the fifth floor came down with a crash. The entire front and centre of the hotel settled, and the firemen stationed opposite the east wing ran toward the centre of the street, expecting that the mass of bricks and iron would tumble in their direction. The wall settled two or three feet and remained stationary. It is feared, however, that it may fall.

The west end of the building is supported by a few iron pillars, and it is feared that these supports will give way and bring down the dome that has been such a conspicuous landmark for so many years and in which a number of relics of the Baldwin Theatre are stored.

When the fifth floor fell it carried with it the supports of the theatre galleries and a black chasm was all that was left to mark the place where the theatre had stood. Nothing was saved from the theatre. Thousands of dollars worth of stage settings and much valuable scenery were destroyed, also many costumes owned by members of William Gillette's "Secret Service" company. The manager of the company lost the trunk containing contracts of many kinds. The company will open next Monday at the California Theatre.

Only a few members of the company were at the hotel. Among these were Joseph M. Fanceur, the stage manager; his wife, known on the stage as Miss Waterman; Robert M. Eccle, manager, and Burton E. Emmet, agent. The other members were at the Palace Hotel.

The loss through fire is estimated at $2,000,000. The insurance does not exceed $300,000, of which amount $193,000 was recently placed on the hotel. The insurance was placed almost wholly with Eastern and foreign companies. The Baldwin Hotel has always been considered by conservative insurance people as one of the worst risks in the city. When the hotel was built the rate was placed as high as $1 on each $100 of valuation with few takers. The rate was afterward lowered to $5. The present rates are $4.15 on the building and from $3.15 to $3.40 on stocks and fixtures in the stores, including drug, candy, hairdressing, hat and clothing, cigar and other shops. With the prohibitive rates of insurance on his hotel, E. J. Baldwin, until a short time ago, was his own insurer. His savings and Loan Society for $835,000. That bank holds a blanket mortgage on the property, secured by the land and also by the Santa Anita ranch and other property Baldwin owns in Los Angeles. The $100,000 insurance on the hotel building is placed among twenty Eastern and foreign companies in amounts of $500 each.

Following are the policies on the contents of the building: Phœnix, $2,000; Balfour Guthrie & Co.'s agency, $5,000; Hartford, $5,000; Magdeburg, $3,000; Niagara, $3,000; Norwich Union, $1,000; Lancashire, $3,000; Sun, $5,000; Pennsylvania, $1,000; Royal Exchange, $1,000; Franklin, $1,250; Ætna, $1,000; London and Lancashire, $5,000; Aachen & Munich, $6,500; Hanover, $5,500; Palatine, $5,000; Hamburg-Bremen, $2,500; National, $7,500; Springfield, $800; British-American, $1,000; Greenwich, $3,250; Royal, $4,000; Thuringia, $7,500. Total, $77,000.

On the building the following was the insurance: Royal, $5,500; Traders', $2,500; Palatine, $2,500; Western, $2,500; British-American, $2,500; Phœnix, $5,000; National, $7,500; Milwaukee Mechanics', $1,500; Transatlantic, $5,000; Philadelphia Underwriters', $5,000; North British and Mercantile, $2,500; Queen, $2,500; Merchants', $1,000; American of Boston, $2,500; Norwich Union, $2,500; unknown, $2,500. Total, $50,000. There is said to be $50,000 more placed in the East.

A pathetic figure around the fire to-day was the old silver miner, "Lucky" Baldwin, who has been almost crushed by the sudden loss of the hotel, which was the apple of his eye. He had spent a large amount of money in the costly decorations of the main apartments, and for years he had made it his home. He lost a valuable collection of curios and all his papers, which he kept in a wooden box in his room.

Baldwin to-day could not say what he would do, but his only chance of rebuilding lies in making an incorporated company, and using his land as a basis for a mortgage so as to erect a building. The lot is worth $2,000,000, but Baldwin has mortgaged it for $700,000, after the insurance is paid. Only a few weeks ago he received an offer of $3,000,000 for the property. If he had sold then he could have paid all his debts. Now with only a remnant of his lot and his Santa Anita ranch he will have difficulty in avoiding a complete failure.

The following residents of New York were transient guests at the Baldwin. All escaped without injury, but lost most of their effects: F. Lindenberg, S. Hamburger, W. H. Carew, Miss A. Decourcey, Miss F. Montague, Miss M. E. Price, A. McCarney, S. Meyer, H. W. Aldis, R. F. Wetherby, W. N. Ketchum, J. W. Lopez, M. L. Walter, L. Carter, C. B. Hadley, A. F. Francis, F. J. Dolan, J. Sharpe, R. E. Emmett, J. E. Brennan, A. Watson, Mrs. Berry and daughter, J. M. Francover and wife and William Freeman.

The Baldwin Hotel was built in the years 1873-77, by E. J. ("Lucky") Baldwin, and is said to have cost from $1,000,000 to $3,000,000. Baldwin struck it rich in the Comstock lode, and amassed $20,000,000 in financial schemes. The Baldwin was the finest hotel west of the Mississippi. It included the Baldwin Theatre, one of the leading playhouses on the Pacific coast. The building was in the French Renaissance style, six stories high. It occupied a site formed by the intersection of Market, Powell and Ellis streets, and had a frontage of 400 feet on Powell street, 200 on Market and 300 on Ellis. Baldwin put "Tom" Maguire in charge of the theatre, and lost a great deal of money in management. He built petroleum gas works for the hotel and theatre. The works exploded, killing several men. He rebuilt the works in the face of a strong protest from the people of the city.

The Baldwin Theatre was leased to Gottlob & Marx, who control the principal playhouses in San Francisco. William Gillette's "Secret Service" company is under the management of Charles Frohman.

Jacob Litt, the theatrical manager, whose "Mistakes Will Happen" company is playing at Oakland, Cal., this week, received a telegram yesterday from A. J. Spencer, his representative with the company, saying: "Mrs. Spencer and myself escaped in our nightclothes. Everything burned, including receipts."

Mr. Litt said he supposed the company's share of the receipts for Monday and Tuesday nights were all that had been destroyed. "Mistakes Will Happen" played at the Baldwin Theatre last week.

"Mr. Frohman's loss in the Baldwin Theatre fire is about $10,000," said Manager Al Hayman at the Empire Theatre last night, "and he carried no insurance. All of the scenery, property, and costumes of the 'Secret Service' company were destroyed, but the company will continue its tour. 'Secret Service' will be presented at the California Theatre on Monday night, just as it was played at the Baldwin before the fire. When we got word of the fire this morning we set the scene painters, costumers, and property men at work. We made an entirely new set of scenery, costumes and properties, and shipped them in a special car to San Francisco to-night. If the train isn't wrecked, 'Secret Service' will be played on Monday night in San Francisco.

"William Gillette telegraphs us that he has lost all his private papers and manuscripts. The manuscript of his new play, 'Sherlock Holmes,' of which he had written two acts, is destroyed. He lost other manuscripts; just what they were I do not know."

FIERCE ATTACK ON THE BENCH.

Ex-Judge Blandin of Cleveland Makes Charges Against Judges.

CLEVELAND, Nov. 23.—The closing of the sensational Burke-Dellenbaugh bribery case to-day was the most sensational feature of that proceeding. Ex-Judge E. J. Blandin, one of the three prosecutors of the charges against Vernon H. Burke, rose to speak, as every one supposed, in support of the charges and in defence of Judge Dellenbaugh. Instead of doing that the Judge did not attempt to affirm or deny the truth of the charges nor did he attempt to defend Judge Dellenbaugh. He made a bitter and sensational attack on the whole bench of Cuyahoga county. He said he knew the risk he was taking, but he did not care; others who thought the same as he did were afraid to say so publicly, and had warned him to be careful. He was willing to face the consequences. For some time the ex-Judges and old members of the bar who listened to Blandin's passionate utterances stood amazed at his daring. Then they broke into cheers. When the Judge finished they cheered and clapped their hands again and fell over each other to get to him to congratulate him.

Judge Blandin declared it was the bench which needed reforming first. The elimination of rotten apples should commence with the bench, he said. He went into details, and did not hesitate to say he was talking about Judge Walter C. Ong and Judge T. K. Dissette. He said it was a comparatively insignificant thing whether Judge Dellenbaugh was impeached and driven from the bench or whether Vernon Burke was disbarred. It is more important, he declared, to cleanse the bench of Cuyahoga county so that property, liberty and life may be safe in the hands of the seven men constituting the court. It was one of the most sensational speeches ever made by a lawyer in Cuyahoga county.

Judge Blandin's standing at the bar is the highest. He possesses a reputation for great integrity.

State Senator Burke was reported to have said that he had divided his fees in a divorce case with Judge Dellenbaugh, one of the Judges in the County Courts. The Judge, hearing of this, referred to the matter in open court, and called the Senator a liar. Then he began proceedings for the disbarment of Senator Burke, and the case is on trial before a committee of lawyers.

CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS MEET.

Mrs. Eddy, the Founder, Asks If Harold Frederic's Physician Should Not Be Indicted.

CONCORD, N. H., Nov. 23.—The first three days of this week brought many of the best-known Christian Scientists of this and other countries to this city. Meetings in charge of Mrs. Mary Baker Eddy, founder of the church, were held quietly, and nothing pertaining to them was given out. Inquiry as to the occasion of so many visitors brought out the following statement from Mrs. Eddy to-night:

"The Rev. Mary Baker C. Eddy, the discoverer and founder of Christian Science, has just completed an examination of a class of about seventy of the active workers in Christian Science mind-healing to confer on them the degrees of the Massachusetts Metaphysical College as healers and teachers of this system of medicine, whose only crowned head is Divine sovereignty, whose only priest is the spiritualized man. Most of those present were the students of her students. Nearly all of them had had several years' experience and marked success as healers.

"There were in this class clergymen, M. D.s, and members of the bench, members of the bar, and one of our cleverest editors. Judge Ewing of the Superior Court of Chicago arrived too late to be present at the closing lesson, but he and Mrs. Ewing visited Mrs. Eddy at Pleasant View.

"It now appears that Mr. Harold Frederic, of London, England, who is said to have died because of the Christian Science treatment, was first under the care of an M. D., but inasmuch as he was not recovering under that practice, but growing worse, he decided to try Christian Science. He did not, however, give this system a fair trial, for his friends gave him no peace until they got him again under the drill of materia medica. Query—Whose failure was it? And should not the M. D., instead of the Christian Scientist be indicted for manslaughter?"

JOE WHEELER, EXPANSIONIST.

The General Says We Can Give American Civilization to Any People on Earth.

CHATTANOOGA, Nov. 23.—Gen. Joseph Wheeler, who is here attending the meeting of the Tennessee River Improvement Association, said to-day in his address:

"No country can control the commerce of a country unless it has a voice in the government of that country. I don't think the great men of a century ago who laid down the rules for the conduct of our Government would repeat their recommendations if they lived to-day. In the days of Monroe, Jefferson and Madison we were not the producing nation we are to-day. We must reach the markets of the world with our products, and I believe the Government will now most wisely solve the problem before it. Some people will say our country is not adapted to controlling the people who have fallen under our control.

"History shows we have managed the five civilized tribes of Indians and all others that have become dependent upon us. We are capable of extending the principles of American civilization to any people on the face of the earth. Some say the people of the Philippines, Cuba and Porto Rico are shiftless. That is not true. They are thrifty, and will become heavy purchasers of the products of America. In Manila, Porto Rico and Havana they are already alive to the need of railroads, sanitary improvements, &c., and we of the South will be the greatest beneficiaries of this new trade which is to come to us."

Locked the Bank's Door and Robbers Came.

UTICA, O., Nov. 23.—At noon to-day John Wilson's bank was robbed of $5,000 in currency and $5,800 in negotiable paper. The cashier, who is a young woman, went to dinner and left no one in the bank. She carefully locked the front door, but neglected to lock the vault. The robbers got in through a back window, departing with the cash the same way.

Rheumatism simply cannot live with Londonderry Lithia Water; physicians everywhere say so.—Adv.

SPAIN SEEKS A LOOPHOLE.

HER ANSWER TO OUR ULTIMATUM NOT READY YET.

Prospects of Peace, on the Terms Offered by the United States, Not Improving—The Spaniards Will Probably Postpone Their Fate as Long as Possible—They Want to Save "Spanish Pride" and Settle the Debt Question Without European Complications—Spain Fears That She May Lose Even Her Few Remaining Colonial Possessions—A Suggestion as to a Possible "Friendly" Rupture of the Negotiations—No Session Yesterday.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.

PARIS, Nov. 23.—The peace prospects do not improve. The Spanish delegates continue to bring pressure to bear upon the Madrid Government to induce Prime Minister Sagasta to consent to the rejection of the American terms for the reasons outlined in yesterday's despatch to THE SUN. The American Commissioners are fully aware that the Spanish members are seeking authority to break off the negotiations, but their hope that an agreement will be reached has not been abandoned.

Semi-official correspondence is now taking place between Señor Montero Rios and Judge Day upon certain points in the American ultimatum and also upon other matters.

The Spanish answer will probably be postponed to the latest limit, Monday, in order that this exchange of views may be completed. Spain has, of course, finally abandoned all hope of financial relief beyond the terms specified by the United States in Monday's note. She has also ceased to expect any European diplomatic aid. Not only this, but she fears, and with good reason, that she may even be despoiled of her few remaining colonial possessions by the cold-blooded European diplomacy to which she appealed in vain during the past year.

It would not be surprising if Spain would be glad to make a temporary solution of her difficulties on the following basis:

The present negotiations to be discontinued without a resumption of hostilities; Cuba and Porto Rico to be evacuated according to the terms of the protocol, and the United States to take possession of the Philippines, the Spanish forces withdrawing wherever the Americans appear.

This arrangement, as was pointed out yesterday in a despatch to THE SUN, would enable Spain to settle the debt question without foreign complications. It would deprive other countries, Germany for instance, of a diplomatic pretext for seizing the Carolines in payment of the part of the repudiated Spanish debt held abroad.

That peculiar thing, Spanish pride, of course, enters largely into this idea that a friendly rupture of the negotiations is possible. The suggestion amounts to saying that if the United States will agree not to send a fleet to bombard the Spanish coasts, Spain will satisfy her pride by defying her conqueror and breaking off the conference, while the United States will incidentally get all they demanded and will keep their $20,000,000.

Amazing as this conception is, and most typically Spanish, it is being seriously considered both in Madrid and Paris as a possible proposal which Prime Minister Sagasta and Señor Montero Rios might agree to put forward, not openly or officially, but as a private explanation to the American delegates why Spain rejects the American terms.

It need hardly be said that if Spain decides upon a rupture of the negotiations she will do so without any guarantee or suggestion from the American Commissioners that the natural consequences of her action will be mitigated.

The *Temps* says that since the last session of the Peace Conference the heads of the respective commissions have exchanged written explanations of the various points of the American memorandum. The correspondence has been communicated to their respective governments. The exchange of explanations has not yet been concluded, hence the postponement of Wednesday's meeting.

LONDON, Nov. 23.—The Madrid correspondent of the *Daily Mail* says that the Ministers deny that the United States offered to Spain equal commercial privileges in the Philippines for five years. They say that the Americans only offered to negotiate after the treaty of peace was signed, a special commercial treaty dealing with Spanish commerce in the Philippines.

MADRID, Nov. 23.—A semi-official note has been issued calling on all parties to respect Spain's aim to pay the interest on her debt and to act with perfect faith for the purpose of arriving at an arrangement.

Everybody, it says, who does not wish to see foreign capital withdrawn from Spain should aid to save the national credit. If nobody will assume the Cuban debt, Spain must reimburse what Cuba is unable to pay.

MORE TIME GIVEN THE SPANIARDS.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—Secretary Hay has received a cablegram from Judge Day saying that the Peace Commission met this morning, but adjourned until Friday or Saturday to give the Spanish Commissioners time to prepare their answer to the demands of the United States. The Administration officials still believe that the Spanish Commissioners will eventually accept the American proposition.

PROPOSED REFORMS IN SPAIN.

The Saragossa Commission Recommends Retrenchment—The Blunders in Cuban War.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

MADRID, Nov. 23.—The Saragossa Commission, appointed by the General Assembly of the Spanish Chambers of Commerce to consider the political and administrative reorganization of the army and navy, has prepared its report. The commission recommends that the State arsenals be closed and the Spanish merchant marine be placed under the control of the Ministry of Agriculture and Trade. The report also suggests the adoption of a policy of retrenchment and economy compatible with the requirements of defence and the maintenance of order, and declares that the rewards granted to officers in connection with the campaign in Cuba should be revised.

The Political and Administrative Committee of the commission proposes various modifications of the electoral system and urges the improvement of the condition of the working classes by means of the reforms adopted by other powers.

The Army and Navy Committee submitted a proposal declaring the necessity for investigation in order to ascertain how the Cuban insurrection continued so long unchecked, and also to fix the responsibility for blunders during the war preparations and to punish their authors.

CHAPMAN FOR THE EAST SIDE.

Ordered to Eldridge Street to Clean Up the Precinct.

After a special meeting of the Police Board yesterday afternoon Chief Devery transferred Capt. George S. Chapman from the Mercer street station to the Eldridge street station and issued orders that he clear out all dives and clean up the precinct. Acting Captain John Cooney, who has been at the Eldridge street station, will go to the Mercer street station. This action is supposed to be due to the statement of Judge Newburger the other day that the east side was wide open and vice was rampant.

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OUR PHILIPPINE POLICY.

British Opinions Differ as to the Construction of Our Intentions.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Nov. 23.—The question of the future tariff arrangements in the Philippines attracts universal interest, but opinions differ diametrically as to the construction to be placed on the intentions of the United States so far as they have been indicated. Mr. Herbert Asquith, formerly Home Secretary, in a speech at Sunderland today expressed pleasure at the announcement of the United States that the door would be open to her new Asiatic possessions. He hailed the declaration as a further step on the road that the United States and Great Britain had begun to travel together. It was, he said, a further safeguard for the partnership of the two peoples.

This view was loudly applauded, and was accorded a place in the papers ahead of Secretary of State Hay's statement.

The *Daily News*, noting that opinion is divided in the United States itself upon the question, adds: "The enthusiasm for American expansion will be considerably abated if it means a proportionate extension of the Dingley tariff."

The *Times*, on the other hand, says: "We have always been aware that there were difficulties in the way of the adoption by the United States of an 'open door' policy in the Philippines as that policy is usually understood in Great Britain, but we never doubted for an instant the sincerity of the United States Government or its ability to devise means of substantially securing the results aimed at. The policy, as explained by Secretary of State Hay, is for all international purposes the policy of the 'open door.' Equality of treatment and the absence of differential duties are the essence of that policy which would be secured by the arrangements described by Mr. Hay just as truly as under a purely free trade system."

BERLIN, Nov. 23.—Certain critics of the Anglo-American relations eagerly contend that the English hopes for an "open door" in the Philippines are destined to disappointment. They say that while the United States will be cordially grateful to England if the latter can keep the door open on the East Asiatic continent, reciprocity in this regard is the last thing the shrewd Americans contemplate.

A section of the German press is speculating on the future of the Sulu Archipelago in this connection. The Berlin *Neueste Nachrichten* recalls the treaty of 1877 between Spain, Great Britain, and Germany, guaranteeing the freedom of trade to British and German shipping in the archipelago. These interests will be seriously endangered if the United States annex the Sulu Islands with the Philippines and impose protective duties. The paper remarks that Prince Bismarck, when the treaty was concluded, successfully contested Spain's claim that the Sulu Islands belonged to the Philippine group. If the United States, however, insists otherwise, Germany must demand respect for her treaty rights.

Elsewhere it is stated that Great Britain is trying to grab the Sulu Islands, for which reason, it is said, it is doubly incumbent upon Germany to act before it is too late, while in other quarters it is contended that an understanding between Germany and Great Britain with a view to joint action is indispensable.

WILL EXPOSE ELECTION FRAUDS.

The Republican County Committee Determines to Prosecute Offenders.

The Republican County Committee's caucus members met in executive session last night to decide what action should be taken in regard to the election frauds which have been reported to it by the campaign workers in the various districts. Lemuel E. Quigg, the Chairman of the committee, said after the meeting that the sentiment was unanimous in favor of prosecuting the offenders against whom evidence could be obtained, and he added that the committee had in its possession facts in more than ten cases which would be brought to the attention of the Grand Jury. These cases include repeating, false registration and personation.

One case is that of an ex-convict who voted, another that of a resident of New Jersey, who, after voting in that State, came to this city and voted twice. Another man voted three times. Beside these cases, Mr. Quigg said, there were several cases in which from twenty to forty men registered from a small dwelling and voted. In order that the question of election frauds may be thoroughly investigated, a sub-committee consisting of Mr. Quigg, Abraham Gruber, James W. Ferry and John Sabine Smith was appointed. They will employ counsel and will co-operate with the representatives of any other organization and with citizens interested in the matter. It is intended to make a systematic search for evidence against violators of the law and bring them to justice.

AUGUST PEW'S LAST DRUNK.

Enraged at His Wife's Protests, He Shot at Her and Then Killed Himself.

August Pews of 246 East 117th street attempted to kill his wife, Lizzie, last night and then shot himself in the mouth and died ten minutes later. He was 36 years old and had three children. Several years ago he was cashier in the Hoffman House and by frugality saved $2,000. Six months ago he began to drink and did not stop until he had spent all of his money. His last place was in Gerken's Beekman street liquor saloon. When intoxicated he was in an ugly mood and often threatened to kill his wife when she upbraided him for his conduct.

He was drunk when he arrived home last night and going into the kitchen began to smash the furniture. His wife ran to see if she could quiet him, but at sight of her his rage grew and he drew a revolver and fired at her.

"Take that, damn you!" he shouted. "I'm tired of you, anyway. I'll get drunk and smash things whenever I want to."

His aim was bad and the bullet buried itself in the wall. Mrs. Pews ran screaming to the front room, where the three children had huddled together in a corner. Then she fell to the floor in a faint. Pews, thinking he had killed her, placed the weapon in his mouth and pulled the trigger. He fell unconscious, and his wife, who had regained her senses, ran to the street for a policeman. An ambulance was summoned from Harlem Hospital, but just as it arrived Pews died.

COSTA RICA'S PRESIDENT.

He Arrives in Washington and Exchanges Calls with President McKinley.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—President Iglesias of Costa Rica, accompanied by his family and suite, arrived in Washington this afternoon. Minister Calvo of Costa Rica and Col. Bingham, military aide to President McKinley, met the party at the station and accompanied them to the Arlington Hotel. Shortly thereafter President McKinley, accompanied by Col. Bingham and Secretary Porter, went to the Arlington, where the two Presidents exchanged formal greetings. Mr. McKinley returned to the White House and the aide-de-camp followed him to ascertain if it would be agreeable to him to receive a return call from Señor Iglesias. Then the Costa Rican President drove to the White House and paid the call.

APOSTOLIC DELEGATE TO CUBA.

Archbishop Chapelle Commissioned by the Pope—He Arrived Here Yesterday.

Archbishop Placide Chapelle of New Orleans, who has been in conference with the Pope in regard to Catholic interests in Cuba and Porto Rico, returned yesterday on the North German Lloyd steamship Kaiser Friedrich. He will spend several days in the city and will then go to Washington to see President McKinley. The Archbishop said last night that he had been appointed Apostolic Delegate to Cuba and Porto Rico, and indicated that he believed there was no prelate of stronger American proclivities than himself, and that the Catholic Church in Porto Rico and Cuba would be reorganized on American lines.

GEN. BLANCO TO STEP DOWN

BEFORE LEAVING CUBA HE SEEKS TO STIR UP STRIFE.

His Resignation Accepted and Gen. Parrado Named as His Successor—The Retiring Captain-General and His Newspaper Foster Dissension Among Cubans.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

MADRID, Nov. 23.—The *Official Gazette* will to-day publish a decree accepting the resignation of Gen. Blanco as Captain-General of Cuba.

It is announced that Gen. Parrado, second in command under Captain-General Blanco and President of the Spanish Evacuation Commission in Cuba, will succeed Gen. Blanco in the Captain-Generalcy of the island.

HAVANA, Nov. 23.—It is an open secret now that Gen. Blanco will leave for Spain in a few days. Different dates for his departure are given. The local press decided that the date would be Dec. 10, but the press censor would not allow the newspapers to publish their guess. It is probable that he will depart from Havana before that date.

What is beyond doubt is, that after many requests from Gen. Blanco, the Madrid Government has accepted his resignation in order that he may leave the island before the sovereignty of Spain is completely surrendered. The question now is who will replace him until the Americans take control, and who will be the best man to keep the country peaceful under such difficult circumstances.

The correspondent of THE SUN learns that the place has been offered by the Madrid Government to Gen. Gonzalez Parrado, President of the Spanish Evacuation Commission, but he has cabled, refusing to accept it owing to private reasons. Gen. Parrado's declination is due to the fact that his son is held as a prisoner by the Philippine insurgents, and he is eager to return to Europe in order to try to effect his release.

Gen. Parrado enjoys the confidence and sympathy of the American Commissioners, who respect him both as a diplomat and gentleman, and it is possible that the Madrid authorities will therefore force him to accept the post as a patriotic duty under the circumstances.

Should it so happen that Gen. Parrado is allowed to decline the post, Gen. Jimenez Castellanos will probably be appointed.

The American Commissioners are deeply interested in the appointment of Gen. Blanco's successor. Though only a few days more remain for Spain to exercise sovereignty in the island, it is important that the man appointed shall be congenial to the Americans in order that the last details of the evacuation may be satisfactorily arranged.

The Spanish Commissioners have notified the Americans that the Spanish troops in the province of Pinar del Rio will embark at Havana; those in Matanzas at Matanzas ports, and those in Las Villas or Santa Clara at Cienfuegos. The note adds that the evacuation of Matanzas, Trinidad and Sancti Spiritus will be completed by Nov. 30. On Dec. 1 the Spanish troops will concentrate at Cienfuegos.

Gen. Butler, one of the American Commissioners, left to-day on the steamer Mascotte for Key West.

HAVANA, Nov. 23, via Key West.—A Cuban officer, a commissioner from the Cuban General, Jesus Rabi, who is in the Manzanillo district, has come to Havana to investigate the situation and obtain resources for Rabi's troops. Rabi says he will not surrender his arms to the Americans. He says the United States ought to pay his troops the last cent of their salaries during the three years' war and recognize the Cubans as a nation. Rabi threatens fight if necessary.

Gen. Blanco sent for Rabi's commissioner and congratulated him upon the attitude of his chief.

Gen. Blanco and the Autonomists are kindling the fire against the Americans among the Cubans. *Diario de la Marina*, inspired by Blanco, has another editorial to-day against the Americans, saying the negro troops were sent here to outrage the people.

At the School of Lawyers the first anti-American demonstration in Havana took place on Monday. The dean, Dr. Gener, summoned the lawyers to propose reforms to the Americans. Dr. Berriel, dean of the university, led the opposition, on the ground that the Government of the republic of Cuba was alone authorized to legislate here. The Junta clique backed Berriel and spread among the Junta people the report that Dr. Gener was acting under suggestions from America in favor of an annexation plot. A lively session was held, both sides accusing each other of a lack of patriotism. Dr. Gener was interrupted during his speech. A vote was taken, and the anti-Americans won, forty against twenty. Gen. Blanco was delighted over the result.

The Spaniards are shipping to Spain the general records on the civil administration. Important papers that they cannot ship they either burn or send to the paper factory at Puentesgrandes as material for manufacturing new paper. They have been ordered to do this by Gen. Blanco, as he wishes to leave the Americans as few facilities as possible. The American Commission has sent a note to the Spanish protesting, but great damage to the records has already been done.

JOSIAH J. WHITE FREE.

His Boy Greets Him with a Tin Horn—Will Eat Thanksgiving Dinner at Home.

Josiah J. White, who has been involved in litigation several years over the management of his dead wife's estate and the guardianship of his 14-year-old only son, Frederick H. White, was released from Raymond Street Jail last evening by an order of Supreme Court Justice Gaynor. He was committed for contempt of court in April by Surrogate Abbott for refusing to turn over certain securities.

He purged himself of the contempt by surrendering the securities on Tuesday. His sojourn in jail was enlivened by an escape through a window in the roof, and, since his recapture, by several scraps with his keepers. He was much elated over regaining his liberty, and before his departure in a cab he made his peace with the Sheriff and keepers and wished them all a joyful Thanksgiving. When he reached his home, at 190 Columbia Heights, his son came out on the stoop and blew a horn by way of welcome. Mr. White went to bed directly after supper. Young White's estate, which is valued at over $200,000, is now under the control of the Public Administrator. The boy has been loyal to his father all through his troubles and did not want to have him removed as administrator.

SHEA FOR CHAIRMAN?

President Sefton of Brooklyn Says the Bridge Commissioner Is to Go Higher.

Brooklyn Democrats were wondering yesterday if it really is a fact that ex-Register Hugh McLaughlin desires to elevate Bridge Commissioner John L. Shea to the Chairmanship of the Democratic State Committee. It was told in Willoughby street that President William J. Sefton of the Seventeenth Assembly District Association had announced at a meeting of the district on Tuesday evening that greater honors were in store for Mr. Shea. While complimenting the work done by Mr. Shea during the campaign, Mr. Sefton said:

"I can say that the Chairman of the Kings County Democracy has greater honors in store for him. He will go higher. I can say that we shall see him Chairman of the State organization of the party."

When Mr. Shea rose to make a speech it was expected that he would tell when he was going "higher," but he said never a word about the matter. Some of those around the clubhouse were silent and mysterious after the meeting. They seemed to have a secret. Others said that Sefton, in his flight of oratory, had "thrown a con" into the boys.

The Convenience of Telephone Service at your house is beyond expression. Message Rates make the cost very moderate. Standard equipment.—Adv.

BISHOP TURNER'S GLOOMY VIEW.

He Sees No Attractive Future for the Negro in This Country.

MACON, Ga., Nov. 23.—At the African Methodist Episcopal Conference, which closed here yesterday, Bishop H. M. Turner had this to say on the race question:

"I see no manhood future for the negro in this country, and the man not able to discover that fact from existing conditions must be void of common sense. Our civil, political and social status is degrading, and as degradation begets degradation, the negro must go from bad to worse ad infinitum. Neither education nor wealth can ever elevate us to the grade of respectability. I say this because we are surrounded by so many influences that militate against our manhood. The best thing the negro can do is to call a great national convention and ask the United States Congress for $100,000,000 to meet the expense of starting a line of steamers between this country and Africa, thus pioneering a domain for our settlement."

Bishop Turner is the best known negro churchman in the South.

PURDY PLEADS JUSTIFICATION.

Defence to the Charge of Libelling the Owners of the Wrecked Steamer Mohegan.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Nov. 22.—Capt. Purdy, who was arrested a few days ago charged with criminally libelling the owners of the recently wrecked steamship Mohegan, in having written a letter to the survivors of the Mohegan asserting that the ship had been "put away" in accordance with the orders of the owners, was arraigned in the Criminal Court, Old Bailey, to-day. In answer to the charge Purdy declared that he would plead justification.

The Common Sergeant said that Purdy's accusation was of a most serious nature, and meant that the owners had deliberately scuttled the ship. The case was adjourned.

SOFT WORDS FOR FRANCE.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach Says the Fashoda Incident Has Cleared the Air.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Nov. 23.—In a speech at Edinburgh to-day Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said there was no reason, if the French were willing, why they and the British should not unite in perfectly friendly negotiations to delimit their respective rights and duties in Egypt.

The Fashoda incident, he added, had cleared the air, and the prospect of serious difficulty between great Britain and France was now much further removed than for many years past.

HEAVY FINES FOR CORPORATIONS.

Kentucky's Court of Appeals Upholds a Lower Court's Decision on Delinquent Reports.

FRANKFORT, Nov. 23.—The Court of Appeals to-day affirmed the judgment of the Franklin Fiscal Court in the corporation indictment cases. The decision relates to corporations of a public character. Indictments were filed in the lower court against 120 of the largest corporations in the State, including express, telegraph, telephone, water, gas, street car, electric light, bridge and other corporations, for failing to file reports and schedules of property in this State and business done. The statute provides a penalty of $1,000, and $50 a day additional for each day of such delinquency. The lower court returned verdicts for the State and the Court of Appeals sustains the verdicts, holding that the statute is constitutional and that failure to report is a violation, and that the corporations cannot be excused on technical grounds. The decision will eventually amount to more than a half million dollars in fines to the State, and, it is said by the management of some corporations, will amount to confiscation of their property and force them out of business.

Six Judges concur in the opinion written by Judge Guffy. Judge Durelle refused to sit, owing to personal interest in corporations.

WHO IS THIS OLD WOMAN?

Found in a Ferryhouse and Unable to Tell Anything About Herself.

A neatly dressed old woman sat for several hours in the waiting room of the Chambers street ferryhouse on Tuesday afternoon, until finally Policeman McGowan asked her if she was waiting for friends. She could give no intelligible reply and seemed quite helpless. An ambulance took her to Hudson Street Hospital. The doctors questioned her there, but were unable to learn her name or residence. She was suffering from general debility and was removed yesterday to Bellevue. She is apparently about 70 years old. She wore an astrakhan cape and a black bonnet with crêpe veil. She had no money.

VICTIM OF BANK ROBBERS.

A Town Watchman Gagged, Bound, and Left to Die in a Blizzard.

ELSBERRY, Mo., Nov. 23.—Early this morning the Lincoln Bank was broken into by four masked men, and the town watchman gagged, bound, and tied to a tree near the bank. An attempt to break into the vault failed. The time lock was found broken when the bank was entered for business this morning, and it was impossible to open the safe.

It is not known what amount of money, if any, has been taken. Watts, the watchman, when found at 6 o'clock, was unconscious and nearly dead. He had been exposed to the blizzard for five hours. It is not believed he will survive.

SIX KILLED BY AN EXPLOSION.

Missouri Powder Works Wrecked, Three Workmen Missing.

ASBURY, Mo., Nov. 23.—By an explosion at the Hercules Powder Works, one mile north of this place, this morning, six men were killed. Three others are missing. They were seen going to the works this morning and have not been seen since.

The packing house was completely demolished. The main building, which was filled with explosives, was but little damaged. Window glass in buildings within a radius of ten miles was shattered and buildings in Hannibal, fifteen miles north, were rocked by the concussion.

*CARELESSNESS COST HIS