WALDORF DINES A WAITER.

HE CAME IN IN STYLE AND CONSUMED FOOD AND WINE.

Enjoyed Himself in the Prosperous Assemblage and Then Sent for the Head Waiter and Said He Wouldn't Pay a Cent—May Have Been a "Sympathetic Strike."

Just at the dinner hour last night a nicely dressed man, in eyeglasses, entered the Waldorf-Astoria, where some of the waiters were discharged yesterday. He laid the cane he carried on a big armchair. Then he began to remove his gloves. When he got them off he picked up his cane and yelled at a youth in livery who was passing: "Here, boy, show me the coat room."

"This way, sir," said the youth politely.

The stranger removed his coat and hat, passed them in and got a check.

"Now call a page and have him show me the main dining room," said he.

The page was summoned and the stranger followed him across the Red Room to the north of the Palm Room, and east along the main corridor of the Astoria section of the big hotel into the main dining room facing Fifth avenue. This dining room was crowded. There were only a few vacant tables, one of which was in the centre of the room. The page conducted his charge thither. A waiter stood at the table, all attention.

"Bon soir," said the newcomer to the waiter as he dropped into a chair.

"Bon soir, m'sieu," said the waiter.

An omnibus rushed up with table silver, and began to arrange it. The waiter passed the menu card to the new arrival. The stranger gazed about the room as if he had time to spare. He took off his glasses, wiped them, and then began to give his attention to the card.

"Some oysters, please," he said to the waiter, "and then some soup. I'll select what I wish after the soup later on."

"Yes, m'sieur," said the waiter, and glided away. While he was gone the occupant of the table spent the time in studying the people about him. After the oysters and soup he ordered a roast, game and a bottle of dry champagne.

"Will m'sieu have a demi tasse?" asked the waiter.

"No, I won't have any coffee; but bring me a finger bowl."

The stranger dipped his fingers in the bowl and wiped them. He removed his glasses, wiped them several minutes, and surprised the waiter by requesting that the head waiter for that room be called.

"Bon soir," said the diner to the new arrival.

"Bon soir, m'sieu," said the head waiter.

"There is a fine lot of prosperous looking gentlemen in this dining room, isn't there?" said the diner.

"Yes, m'sieu," said the head waiter.

"Do you think any of them would pay for my dinner?" was the next question.

"I'm afraid not, m'sieur," replied the head waiter unbending to laugh at what he thought was a joke.

"Then I'll be damned if I will," said the other.

The head waiter's face turned red. He held an animated conversation with his assistant who had waited on the man and then ran for the den of Oscar, the head of all the waiters. Oscar's hurried entry into the dining room attracted the attention of most of the diners. On his way in Oscar picked up Sullivan, the hotel detective. Flanked by a half dozen waiters, Sullivan escorted the man who wouldn't pay for his dinner out of the dining room. Sullivan threatened to lock him up.

"Very well," said he, "I've only got one regret. I should have ordered a cigar to smoke on my way to the police station." Without further talk he was taken to the coat room, where he got his belongings upon presentation of the check. Then he went to the West Thirtieth street police station. He was charged with violating the hotel act. He said he was George Sevaviglan, 25 years old, born in Constantinople and living at 152 West Forty-sixth street. He gave his occupation as a waiter.

WALDORF WAITERS DISMISSED.

Forty-six of Them Let Go to Head Off a Contemplated Strike.

Forty-six waiters and omnibuses who up to Friday evening were employed in the palm rooms of the Waldorf-Astoria are now out of a job. The omnibuses are the fleet-footed young men who hustle around with the plates and bring bread and ice water to the guests while the waiters are attending to the more serious business. The forty-six waiters and omnibuses had begun to make preparations to strike against a reduction of wages, but Head Waiter Oscar headed them off by discharging them and installing forty-six new men in their places. The trouble started with the posting of the following notice on the bulletin board of the pantry by order of Manager Boldt:

Wages of waiters in the gardens are to be hereafter $25 a month; of omnibuses, $20 a month.

This was a cut of $5 a month, but waiters in hostelries like the Waldorf-Astoria regard wages only as a side issue, their principal income being derived from tips. Some of them, however, regarded the reduction as an infringement of their rights. They called a meeting of the waiters and omnibuses on Friday to protest against it, and the following typewritten notice was then sent to the head waiter, whose name is Oscar Tschirky, but who strongly objects to be called anything but Oscar:

Mr. Oscar Tschirky.

DEAR SIR: Your presence is requested by a committee of waiters, representing the men of the palm rooms, at a meeting which will take place in Mr. Boldt's private office at 6:30 this afternoon. Respectfully, THE COMMITTEE.

Oscar became highly indignant when he read the notice, which he interpreted as a challenge, the more so as they addressed him by the formal name of Oscar Tschirky instead of plain Oscar. He sent the notice back with the following written on it:

Answer—Mr. Oscar Tschirky refuses to see any committee. OSCAR TSCHIRKY.

The letter was received by him at about 3 o'clock. By 4 he had forty-six new waiters and omnibuses engaged in place of the dissatisfied ones. He said yesterday that when they addressed him by his full name he knew they meant fight.

"There were complaints from other departments that the palm room men were getting more wages than the others, so we equalized matters," he explained. "The present wages there are same as in other hotels."

QUAY WAITING FOR THE DEMOCRATS.

His Friends Admit They Expect to Win Only by Democratic Aid.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Feb. 4.—Senator James G. Mitchell and Representative William Marshall, with Senator McCarrol of this city, guarded the interests of Senator Quay during the joint ballot of the Legislature to-day. They did not have much trouble looking after the twenty members of the Senate and House who were present and voting. It was a fine burlesque, and those present managed to get considerable fun out of the proceedings, which were as impressive as possible under the circumstances.

Interest in the Lebanon county primary election to-day for a successor to Gen. Gobin, who resigned his seat in the Senate to become Lieutenant-Governor, overshadowed the Senatorial contest here. The anti-Quayites are claiming the nomination of Dr. Weiss, but they fear that the friends of Dr Gerberich will turn in with the Democrats and help elect the Democratic candidate.

The lieutenants of Senator Quay say that the deadlock will continue until their plans are fully matured, when the balloting will end in the election of Senator Quay. They admit that assistance is expected from the Democrats, who are not so harmonious as they were at the outset.

No End in Sight in the Nebraska Fight.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 4.—The third week of the Senatorial contest closed to-day with the fight in just about the condition it was when it began. Hayward and Thompson, the two leading Republican candidates, gained slightly during the week. The Populists are still solid for Allen. The members, being unable to agree upon rules for caucus, have passed the matter over to the candidates, who are holding meetings daily. They seem hopelessly divided on an open or secret ballot. To-day's ballot resulted: Allen, 42; Hayward, 35; Thompson, 10; Webster, 10; Field, 4; Weston, 3; Ross, 1; Hinshaw, 1; Lamberson, 1; Adams, 1; Reese, 1; Vandusen, 1.

McCune May Force the Fighting in Utah.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, Feb. 4.—The McCune forces made a fruitless effort to elect their man to-day. The scheme as first concocted was to induce six members of the Legislature to absent themselves, so that 29 votes would be enough to elect. This miscarried, only two remaining away, so that 31 votes were required for an election. Seventeen ballots were taken, the McCune men forcing the balloting and refusing to adjourn. All the ballots were alike, as follows: McCune, 28; King, 11; Cannon, 8; Sutherland, 11; Powers, 2; absent, 2.

George W. Jacobus Dies Suddenly.

George W. Jacobus, a retired merchant, of 209 West Eleventh street, died yesterday morning at his home just after getting out of bed. He was 68 years old. Heart disease is supposed to be the cause of death. Mr. Jacobus was well known on the west side, being one of the old residents of the Ninth ward.

GREAT SNOWSTORM IN COLORADO.

Miners Hemmed In and Many in Peril from Avalanches or Snowslides.

DENVER, Col., Feb. 4.—It has been snowing here incessantly for a week, the storm at times taking on the furr of a tempest. At Ashcroft, one of the bleakest winter camps in the State, a small party of miners are hemmed in, and probably nothing will be heard from them for weeks. They undoubtedly have provisions to last them through a short siege, but being at timber line, under the frowning shadows of snowy peaks, they are in constant danger from the irresistible force of the avalanche. Communication has been partially opened up with Hunter Pass, the gold camp at the head of the Roaring Fork River, by means of parties fleeing from there on snowshoes.

When the great storm struck that stormy pass there were 106 persons in camp, including about twenty women and children. Those coming out give the details of an alarming situation at the camp. Superintendent Munger, who has reached the city after a perilous and weary trip on snowshoes, says that the mines and concentrating mill will probably be shut down until spring. A large amount of wood for steam purposes has been covered by the slides and an attempt to resume operations he deems impracticable. This will throw about eighty-five men out of employment and means the desertion of the camp as soon as the women and children can be rescued from their perilous situation. The food supply there is said to be about exhausted and a large force of men from Aspen are shoveling night and day to meet a like party of workers from the mines. If further slides occur and the trail cannot be opened, snowshoers will take up toboggans and the women and children will be rescued in that way.

GLENWOOD SPRINGS, Col., Feb. 4.—Several hundred travellers are detained here because of the railroad snow blockade, which is the greatest ever known in this section of the State. Most of the unwilling visitors are passengers bound for Eastern points, including a regiment of colored troops which has been doing garrison duty in Utah, and a portion of the First New York Volunteers, who are on their way home from Honolulu to be mustered out.

Five Rio Grande engines are off the track, hopelessly stuck in the snow in the canon. The telegraph line between the town and the scene of the blockade, about ten miles up the cañon, is cut off and the only news of the progress being made is obtained when the engines return the fuel and water.

TRIED BY ODD FELLOWS.

The Rev. E. Mona Jones Defends Himself Anew on Old Charges.

FREEPORT, L. I., Feb. 4.—In secret session, with a guard outside the door to keep eavesdroppers away, the Freeport Lodge of Odd Fellows tried its Chaplain, the Rev. E. Mona Jones, this afternoon on a charge of improper behavior toward Georgina Rhodes, a 16-year-old girl, who died a month ago. The evidence is all in and the jury was ordered to render a verdict at a special meeting of the lodge to be held next Tuesday.

The girl told the story of the alleged misbehavior to the deacons of the Freeport Baptist Church, of which Jones was then the pastor. At a meeting of the deacons she openly accused him. A trial was had, but at its conclusion no decision was reached. Shortly afterward he resigned. The affair was allowed to drop, but recently the agitation was revived on the question as to whether the minister should be allowed to retain membership in the church. An open trial will take place before the congregation a week from next Friday.

C. W. Bedell presided at the hearing to-day and the jurors were drawn from members of the order belonging to lodges in neighboring towns. It is said Mr. Jones's defence was that he admonished the girl for misbehav or and that she made the charges in a spirit of revenge. After the trial he refused to talk except to say that he would prove himself absolutely innocent when the time came.

BURGLARS SHOOT A WATCHMAN.

Discovered While at Work, They Escape After Wounding Bogart.

SING SING, Feb. 4.—Burglars made an unsuccessful attempt at 4 o'clock this morning to crack the safe in the office of Charles Phelps, superintendent of the country estate of V. Everett Macy, a millionaire, whose residence is on Symonds Hill, three miles from Sing Sing. In making their escape one of the burglars shot Samuel Bogart, the night watchman of the estate, in the calf of the right leg, injuring him so that he had to give up his pursuit. Bogart was making his usual rounds when he noticed a window open in the superintendent's office. Upon investigation he found that a man was trying to get out through it. Being suddenly discovered, the man fired on Bogart and ran. The night watchman drew his pistol and a lively exchange of shots followed.

While Bogart was following the first man another burglar ran close to him and shot him in the leg. The ball passed through Bogart's leg and carried pieces of his trousers into the wound. The Sing Sing police are working on the case, but have as yet found no clue to the burglars. Mr. Macy and his family are not occupying the place now, being at their New York residence for the winter.

THREE PERSONS BURNED TO DEATH.

Boarding House Keeper Loses Her Life Trying to Save an Aged Boarder.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Feb. 4.—In a boarding house fire early this morning three persons were burned to death. The dead are: Mrs. Eva Withey, proprietor of the boarding house; Miss Helen Rose and J. C. Hall. The boarding house stood at the northeast corner of Seventh and Cook streets, and was a large two-story brick structure. The fire started before 6 o'clock from a defective flue. Twenty-eight boarders were in the house.

Mrs. Withey, after getting her four children out, went back into the house to assist Mrs. Hall, aged about eighty years, who occupied a room on the second floor. She was not seen afterward until her charred body was removed a few hours later from the ruins.

Miss Helen Rose was a sister of Mrs. John McCreery, wife of the proprietor of the St. Nicholas hotel. J. C. Hall was a well-known citizen, a retired grocer. The interior of the house was destroyed, leaving only the brick walls standing. The loss is probably $10,000, partly covered by insurance.

DOWAGER EMPRESS'S WAR ON REFORM

Orders the Arrest of All Teachers and Students in the College of Pekin.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Feb. 4.—A despatch from Shanghai to a local news agency says that the Dowager Empress has ordered the arrest of all the teachers and students in the College of Pekin, on the ground that they are in sympathy with Kang Yu Wei, the Chinese reformer. Most of the teachers and students, having been warned, fled before the order was executed.

The *China Gazette* of Shanghai says that England has decided to construct a first-class dock at Wei Hai Wei.

To Publish an Unfinished Novel by Daudet.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Feb. 5.—The Paris correspondent of the *Observer* says that an unfinished novel by the late Alphonse Daudet, entitled "La Caravane," will be published in a few days. Only a hundred pages are complete, but notes, documents and the plan of the story are in existence, and their publication together with the finished chapters will throw a curious light upon the author's method of work.

Duke of Tetuan Denies Gen. Woodford's Statement.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

MADRID, Feb. 4.—The Duke of Tetuan, formerly Minister of Foreign Affairs, contradicts the statement made by ex-United States Minister Woodford, to the effect that he presented a note to the Spanish Government demanding the removal of Gen. Weyler from the office of Captain-General of Cuba.

Czar's Gift to President Faure.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, Feb. 4.—The Russian Ambassador this afternoon presented two paintings to President Faure on behalf of the Czar. One of the pictures represents the arrival of the Czar at Cherbourg on Oct. 1, 1896, and the other the arrival of President Faure at Cronstadt on Aug. 23, 1897.

Terre Haute Police Captain Kills Himself.

PENSACOLA, Fla., Feb. 4.—J. H. Pierce, a Captain of Police of Terre Haute, Ind., committed suicide in his room at the Park Hotel in this city early this morning by shooting himself in the head with a pistol. Despondency, caused by ill health, was the cause.

PISTOL IN A STREET CAR.

SHOOTING OF THE COOK BY THE DOCTOR DIFFERENTLY TOLD.

It Is Said That No Woman Was Compelled to Stand for Lack of a Seat—Wolfert, Who May Die, Said to Have Imagined That the Doctor Insulted His Mother.

Very different stories were told yesterday about the affray on a Lexington avenue cable car on Friday night, in which Dr. Thomas Wildes of 610 Lexington avenue shot Hugo Wolfert, a cook, of 1405 Lexington avenue, wounding him so seriously that he will probably die. When Dr. Wildes was arraigned in the Yorkville Police Court yesterday he refused to discuss the case, but friends of his reiterated the story printed yesterday. This was to the effect that Wolfert had refused to remove a bundle from a seat in a crowded car to make room for a woman who was standing up and had insulted and struck Dr. Wildes when the latter rebuked him for his boorishness. Whereupon Dr. Wildes drew a pistol and shot Wolfert. One of Dr. Wildes's friends said yesterday that Dr. Wildes had told him that he was lying on the floor of the car when he fired, having been knocked down by Wolfert.

On the other hand, Leon L. Baker, the conductor of the car, is reported as saying that when the woman got on the car at Thirty-eighth street the car was not especially crowded. She stood up only long enough to pay her fare, and then sat down in a space made for her by the man next to Wolfert, who moved up closer to Wolfert. There was no person standing in the car. Wolfert did have a bundle lying on the seat beside him, but it was a small one, not occupying more than six inches of room. The woman left the car at Forty-fourth street, and no sooner had she gone than Dr. Wildes spoke to Wolfert. Wolfert talked back to him, and finally Dr. Wildes said something about Wolfert's mother. Wolfert jumped to his feet and was very angry.

"I don't care what you say about me, but you shan't say anything about my mother," he shouted, and then he struck Dr. Wildes.

Louis Wolfert of 158 East Ninety-fifth street, a brother of the injured man, in a talk with reporters in the courtroom, said that his brother had varicose veins or some such trouble and could not travel standing up in a street car.

"I can't deny that Hugo struck the first blow," Louis said, "but he had good grounds for doing so. Dr. Wildes said to him, 'You're a hog and your mother is a hog, too,' and it was only then that Hugo pitched into him."

The version of a passenger is that after Dr. Wildes had used the word "hog" to Wolfert he began another sentence by saying, "If your mother"—whereupon Wolfert jumped up and struck him.

At the request of the police Magistrate Deuel held Dr. Wildes without bail for further examination.

Dr. Wildes is 50 years old and is a graduate of the Homeopathic Medical College. He is a member of Dix Post, G. A. R., the Sons of the American Revolution and Good Government Club E. He is said to be a Kentuckian, and member of an order for the chivalrous protection of women.

In the civil war, it is stated, he was a Captain in the Tenth New York Zouaves. When taken to the police station he described himself as a single man. His wife was very much disturbed about it and said she had a marriage certificate.

Wolfert is 36 years old, and for six years has worked as cook in a restaurant at Broadway and Franklin street. For fifteen years previous to that he worked in a Third avenue restaurant, near Fifty-eighth street. He lived with his wife and five children at 1405 Lexington avenue.

SENT POISONED CANDY TO HERSELF.

St. Louis Woman, Suffering from Hysteria, Fails to Make Mystery.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 4.—Mrs. Florence M. McVean, a young widow, recently called on Chief of Detectives Desmond and handed him a box of candied cherries, which she said she had received through the mails, and which she feared were poisoned. At the same time she gave him a bundle of letters she had received, each of which contained vulgar insinuations against Mrs. McVean's character and threatened her with punishment for some unknown offence.

The candy was submitted to City Chemist Tiechmann for analysis. He found it to contain sufficient arsenic to kill several persons. In the letters submitted appeared the names of Mrs. W. H. Graham and her daughter Zoe, Dr. Frank Glasgow, Mrs. McVean's physician, who was also the recipient of a number of scurrilous letters; Miss Elnora Hepley, saleswoman at the store where the candy was purchased, and Mrs. Megraw, a sister of Mrs. McVean, with whom she resided. Detectives called on the proprietor of the candy store. The saleswoman said she had sold the box of candy and gave the name of Mrs. McVean as the purchaser. She identified that woman as the purchaser and clearly showed that she had sent the candy to herself. It was also shown that the letters were written by Mrs. McVean. The matter has been turned over to the postal authorities. It is a case of hysteria.

MUSIC AT THE LOTOS CLUB.

A Descriptive Piece Portraying the Battle of Santiago.

The Saturday night entertainments of the Lotos Club are noted for the introduction of some distinctly novel and ingenious features, and last night a composition by Leo Schultz, which he called the "Battle of Santiago," was the chief attraction of the evening. The work, which was composed expressly for the Lotos Club, combined a theme of Wagner's with the melody of the "Star-Spangled Banner." It was a descriptive piece, and portrayed musically the different stages of the battle from daybreak until it was won. The listeners followed each change of the theme intently, and when the melody of the national song, at first entirely subordinated, gradually disentangled itself, and finally swelled into the paean of victory, the enthusiasm was very great. Mr. Schultz, who is well known as a 'cellist, was aide in the rendering of the composition by David Manner, the violinist.

Among the other entertainers were Eben Plympton, in recitations; M. Gallico, the pianist; J. E. Dodson, the actor, who is himself a member of the Lotus Club; Townsend Fellows, tenor; John Dempsey, baritone; Burr McIntosh, the war correspondent-actor, and Nelson Downs, who was announced as the "mystic wonder coin manipulator." The title was not a misnomer.

The Entertainment Committee is composed of Dr. W. W. Walker, chairman; F. S. Pegram, W. H. White, H. N. Fraser, E. H. Low, A. F. Southerland, W. T. Carleton, T. H. Fellows, John Elderkin, Oscar B. Weber, J. E. Dodson and Victor Herbert.

Concert of the Philharmonic Society.

The concert of the Philharmonic Orchestra at Carnegie Hall was of unusual interest for several reasons. It offered the audience an excellent chance of appreciating Mr. Paur's qualities as an exponent of the works of Brahms as well as those of Wagner. It also brought out the strong points and defined the limitations of the orchestra itself and besides gave the public an opportunity to hear again Miss Adele Aus der Ohe in an important musical composition.

The programme consisted of the first symphony of Brahms, the theme and variations from Mozart's Divertimento No. 17 in D, Schumann's A minor concerto and the Tannhaeuser overture.

The symphony has long been classed with the great works of musical literature. As it was played yesterday every beauty was brought into plain view. Mr. Paur's conception is that of the true musician; it displayed his understanding of the masterpiece and his sympathy with the composer's intentions. Especially effective was the grand last movement, intensely vital and replete with interest in every bar. The climax with which the symphony ends aroused the enthusiasm of the listeners.

In this number the work of the brass was praiseworthy, while in the theme and variations which followed, the shortcomings of the strings, especially the first violins, were plainly evident.

The "Tannhaeuser" overture was played with the spirit which Mr. Paur infuses into all his work. This number was a fitting end to an excellent programme, one well calculated to exhibit the conductor's versatility and the orchestra's power.

Miss Aus der Ohe, taking the place of Emil Sauer, who is ill, gave a fine interpretation of the romantic concerto of Schumann. This pianist's playing, however, is not sufficiently varied in color to give perfect expression to the moods of the composer. Her encore was a Barcarolle by Rubinstein.

Texas Congressman Burned in Effigy.

GALVESTON, Tex., Feb. 4.—Texas citizens, indignant at the action of Congressman Hawley in defeating the appropriation in the River and Harbor bill of a quarter of a million dollars to dredge out and deepen the Texas City channel to a depth of twenty-five feet, assembled last night and burned Mr. Hawley in effigy.

AIR-POWER CARS

Expected to Appear in 28th and 29th Streets Within Three Months.

The Metropolitan Street Railway Company will begin running cars by compressed air on Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth streets within the next three months. A number of the cars, which are being built at Twenty-fourth street and Eleventh avenue by the American Air Power Company, have already been completed and as soon as the big new power house is finished the cars will be put on the street. The power house is in Twenty-fourth street near Thirteenth avenue. It is carefully guarded during construction, for there are some processes to be used in handling the air which the company does not care to disclose.

The Air Power Company has had a car running in 145th street, off and on, for the past year. During the year it carried 100,000 passengers and was run without difficulty. The cars to be used in Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth streets are to be an improvement on the one now in use in Harlem. The Secretary of the company said yesterday that the system had been so perfected that the power could be used without fear of breakdown and at a cost so low that money could be made.

Each car is to be equipped with a motor, consisting of a cylinder and a piston, with a crank attachment to the wheels. This and steel cylinders which contain the air are to be carried underneath the car. The air is to be put aboard in the cylinders at 2,200 pounds pressure and delivered by means of a reducing valve to the cylinder of the motor at 150 pounds pressure. If the system proves successful, it is said, the Metropolitan Street Railway Company will apply it to all its crosstown lines.

AN INSURANCE INVESTIGATION.

Corruption Charged in Connecticut in the Suit Against the Ætna Company.

WATERBURY, Conn., Feb. 4.—An investigation of the State Insurance Department is proposed. Its promoters say that it will result in revealing a scandalous condition of corruption. A few days ago a resolution was introduced in the Legislature now sitting at Hartford directing the Committee on the Judiciary to inquire into the legal expenses of the Insurance Commissioner's office in prosecuting insurance companies during the year 1898, and also to inquire into the history of the suit brought by Frederick A. Betts, as Insurance Commissioner, against the Ætna Insurance Company.

The persons behind the resolution assert that it will be proved that the settlement in the case was effected by the intervention of friends of ex-Gov. Bulkeley and Commissioner Betts, and that the ex-Governor, representing the Ætna, profited by the terms of the settlement at least $1,000,000. The Ætna Life suit was brought by Mr. Betts in 1896 to compel the directors of the company to retransfer from the stock to the mutual department assets of over $6,000,000 and $1,000,000 profit thereon, and $141,000 with interest at 6 per cent. from 1867 to 1896, which had been diverted from the mutual to the stock department. The suit was continued in the courts for two years, the Commissioner winning on every demurrer and other pleading offered by the defendant company. It was ready for trial, but the trial, it was believed, could only have resulted in a complete triumph for the Insurance Commissioner. It was then the settlement came, on terms favorable to the ex-Governor.

FIGHTING BEGINS IN HONDURAS.

Frank Pears of Pittsburg Said to Have Been Killed in the Revolution's First Battle.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Feb. 4.—Information was received here by cablegram to-day to the effect that the expected Honduras revolution broke out either yesterday or Thursday. There are but few details. The revolutionists invaded Honduras from Guatemala, where Vasquez has been for some time past making his headquarters and preparing for the revolution. The revolutionists and the Government forces met at San Pedro, where a battle took place. Nothing is known of the result of the battle, save that Frank Pears of Pittsburg, a young American, who is at the head of large mahogany interests near San Pedro, was killed. His brother, Harry Pears, who is the principal owner of the mahogany reservation, received a telegram to that effect to-day. Harry Pears and Messrs. Hastings and Wilson are now in New Orleans en route to Honduras to look after their interests. It is announced here that the United States gunboat Machias has been ordered to Puerto Cortez to protect the Americans, who are numerous in Honduras, and to look after American interests.

SKULL FRACTURED BY A FALL.

A Brother of Clerk Davenport of the Board of Education Dies at Hospital Door.

Alfred Davenport, 63 years old, of Matamoras, Pa., a brother of Henry Davenport, Clerk of the Board of Education of this city, fell while crossing Seventh avenue at Thirty-seventh street at 10:30 o'clock last night and fractured his skull. Policeman Nachbar of the West Thirtieth street station found him lying in the street unconscious and took him to the station house. There Doorman Haggerty recognized him and sent him in an ambulance to the New York Hospital. He died as he was being carried into the hospital.

Davenport fought in the civil war in the Fifth New York Volunteers, known as Duryee's Zouaves. He was badly wounded at the battle of Bull Run. In after years he wrote a history of the regiment. His brother was informed of his death.

TEXAS BONDS OF NO VALUE.

Judge Meek Holds That Excessive Issues of Wilbarger County Are Worthless.

DALLAS, Tex., Feb. 4.—United States District Judge Meek to-day set a precedent in Texas in the matter of county bonds when issued in such quantities as to cause the legal objection of "excessive issue." In the case of the East End Savings Bank Company of Boston against Wilbarger county to determine the validity of $42,000 Pease River Bridge bonds issued in 1888, the Court ruled that approximately two-thirds of the issue was legal and the remainder excessive and illegal. Unless Judge Meek's decision is reversed, the purchasers of the bonds will have to suffer loss. Over $100,000 of other Wilbarger county bonds are affected by the Meek decision. Many other Texas counties, it is said, have outstanding bonds of similar doubtful validity.

BIG OIL STRIKE IN OHIO.

The New Field Is in Scio and the Wells Are Producing 2,100 Barrels a Day.

CLEVELAND, Feb. 4.—Oil has been discovered in Scio, this State, and enough wells are now producing to show that the new fields are extensive and will eventually be as well paying as the Lima district. The Gibson well, shot last night, is pronounced a hummer, good for 100 barrels per day.

It is located in the southwest district of the new oil field. Scio, from a population of 800, has increased to a village of 3,000 or more. Wells are being sunk in every back yard in Scio and in the wild land as thick as they can be planted. The total output of Scio already is 2,100 barrels per day.

Canada's Joint High Commissioners in This City.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Sir Louis Davies, Sir Richard Cartwright and Mr. Joseph Pope, Canadian members of the Joint High Commission negotiating a treaty between the United States and Canada intended to settle the questions of dispute between the two countries, went to New York this morning. They will remain over Sunday in consultation with members of the Canadian Government who came down from Ottawa for that purpose. The date of meeting of the Canadian Parliament this year will depend upon the progress of the work of the Joint High Commission, and the conference to-morrow is to determine some preliminaries regarding the session.

Lord Herschell, the English member of the commission, took advantage of the absence of his colleagues to spend the day with his old friend, Dr. Gilman, President of the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore.

Optimist Club Dines by Telephone.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 4.—The Optimist Club held its regular monthly meeting and dinner at the Queen City Club this afternoon. S. M. Felton is President of the club and is in New York on business. Over the telephone he called the meeting to order, presided over the deliberations of the business sessions, called upon speakers and introduced them to members. Several announced speakers who were out of town delivered their addresses in the same way. Telephone receivers were placed at the right of each diner.

JOTTINGS ABOUT TOWN.

The flume that carries the refuse from the kitchen of the New Amsterdam Hotel at Twenty-first street and Fourth avenue to the sewer became clogged with food yesterday and in some manner was set on fire. The blaze was extinguished with a loss of $10. There was no excitement in the hotel.

Col. Robert G. Ingersoll will deliver at the Academy of Music to-night a lecture on "The Devil." This will be the first time Col. Ingersoll has given this lecture.

PEACE COMMISSION DINED.

ALL BUT MR. DAY GUESTS OF PHILADELPHIA'S UNION LEAGUE.

The President Writes of His Belief That the Commission's Work "Will Redound to the Good of the Nation and of Humanity"—Senators Frye and Davis Speak.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 4.—The Union League tendered a reception to-night to the members of the Paris Peace Commission at which there were over a thousand guests. All the Commissioners were present except ex-Secretary William R. Day, who was unable to make the journey from Florida. A private dinner preceded the reception, at which the guests were Senators Gray, Davis and Frye and Whitelaw Reid of the Peace Commission, John Bassett Moore, Secretary of the commission, Gov. Stone of Pennsylvania, Gov. Voorhees of New Jersey, Gov. Lowndes of Maryland, Senator Sewell of New Jersey, and Postmaster-General Smith.

President McKinley sent this letter:

"EXECUTIVE MANSION,
"WASHINGTON, Feb. 2, 1899.

"Joseph G. Darlington, Esq., President Union League, Philadelphia.

"MY DEAR SIR: I find that it will not be possible for me to be present at the dinner in honor of the Peace Commissioners to be held on the evening of Feb. 4 at the Union League, Philadelphia. Too much honor cannot be paid to the eminent citizens who will be your guests next Saturday evening for the able and statesmanlike negotiations conducted by them at Paris, which resulted in the signing of a treaty of peace honorable to both countries. As I have long enjoyed the personal friendship of all the Commissioners and have been closely associated with them in public life, I have uncommon regret that I cannot join in the dinner given in their honor. To the guests assembled please convey my good wishes and belief that the great work that the Commissioners have achieved will redound to the good of the nation and of humanity.

"Very sincerely yours,
"WILLIAM MCKINLEY."

At the dinner the speeches were informal, except that of President Darlington of the Union League, who presided. He said:

"Judge Day and his colleagues of the Peace Commission performed the high and important duties assigned them by the President of the United States, and therefore it is with peculiar pleasure that we welcome these distinguished gentlemen to our house this evening and assure them that we recognize and appreciate the great service they have rendered the American nation. By their courteous and dignified course they have impressed upon all Europe another fact. Not only have we men who can successfully fight ships and men who can lead armies to victory, but we have men with the ability to adjust affairs of state in accordance with the rules and regulations of diplomacy as recognized by the civilized nations of the world."

On behalf of the commission, Senators Frye and Davis made brief speeches, which, under an agreement, were not made public. Their attitude on the imperative necessity of an immediate ratification of the peace treaty was pronounced and elicited stirring applause.

GIRL SHOTS A POLICEMAN.

A New Orleans Provenzano Defends Her Mother Against a Drunken Officer.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Feb. 4.—Joseph Phillips, a policeman, was shot and mortally wounded tonight by a young girl of 18, Mary Provenzano. Miss Provenzano is of a family which attained considerable notoriety in New Orleans some years ago, as the feud between the two Italian families, the Matranga and Provenzano, in which a number of lives were lost, led to the interference of the police. It was in this affair that Chief of Police Hennessy lost his life, which was followed by the lynching of the Italian prisoners in the parish prison. Phillips boarded with the Provenzanos. He came home today drunk and became abusive. When the elder Mrs. Provenzano protested he promptly knocked her down, and, pulling out his pistol, waved it in the air and threatened the whole household. The younger girl, Mary, rushed at the officer, wrenched the pistol from him, and, turning it on him, fired twice, inflicting mortal wounds.

WAS STARVING IN THE STREET.

East Side Violinist Fought to Take His Fiddle with Him to the Hospital.

Adolph Krause, a street violin player, known throughout the east side as "Good Father" Krause, was found unconscious in a hall at 308 East Eighth street last night and was removed to Bellevue Hospital. The surgeons there said he was suffering from starvation. Although Krause is 75 years old there is a chance for his recovery, as he has a rugged constitution.

Krause, when a youth in Germany, played with the Imperial Orchestra. He came to this country in 1855 with a concert company and played with various organizations throughout the United States until seven years ago, when he lost his skill to such an extent that he could not secure another engagement. Since then he has lived in a tiny attic room at 161 Pitt street, and has eked out a living by playing in the street. He fought to retain his violin when it was taken from him at the hospital.

ENGLISH OWNERS BOUGHT OUT.

Americans Now Control the Largest Flour Mill Company in the World.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Feb. 4.—The Pillsbury-Washburn Flour Mill Company is no longer an English concern. During the last few months Minneapolis capitalists have been purchasing heavily from English stockholders, and a controlling interest in the largest flour mill company in the world is now owned here. Up to the present time the stock owned by the English capitalists was to the American stock in about the proportion of three to one. Now Minneapolis men control a majority of the shares. One result of this will naturally be the prevention of Mr. McIntyre's plan for absorbing the Pillsbury company in his flour-mill combine. It is believed that McIntyre intended to purchase enough stock from the Englishmen to control the property himself, but the local millers seem to have gotten the best of him.

A KENTUCKY MARSHAL SLAIN.

Three Men Send Rifle Bullets Into Him from Behind a House.

HAZARD, Ky., Feb. 4.—At the little hamlet of Donkey, three miles from Pound Gap on the Kentucky border, last evening, Edward Hall, a Deputy United States Marshal, was shot three times and killed while hauling wood along the public road a few yards from his home. The shots were fired from the rear end of a house, taking effect in Hall's body. Hall ran about a hundred yards down the road and fell dead. It is believed that three persons fired the shots from rifles.

Hall shortly before his death, being suspicious, advised John Fulton, a Deputy Marshal and his right-hand friend, to go into a certain house and watch the people there. Fulton returned, telling Hall that trouble was coming and to keep a sharp lookout. Hall's friends swear vengeance upon his slayers.

CORDELIA BOTKIN SENTENCED.

The California Woman Poisoner Tells the Court She Is Innocent.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 4.—Mrs. Cordelia Botkin was sentenced for life to-day by Judge Cook for the murder by poisoning of Mrs. John P. Dunning. Judge Cook read the indictment to her and asked her if she had anything to say. She raised her head and said:

"I certainly have. I speak from only one standpoint. I am not guilty of this most atrocious crime."

Then she fell back weeping into the arms of her sister, Miss Dora Brown.

William Rockefeller's Farm Advertised for a Tax Sale.

TARRYTOWN, N. Y., Feb. 4.—Treasurer Evander Farrington of the village of North Tarrytown has advertised a sale for taxes of eighteen acres of land owned by William Rockefeller. The amount asserted to be due is $41.75, and unless Mr. Rockefeller pays it before Feb. 28 the property will be sold.

The land in question is known as the See farm. The village assessed its value at $18,000. The referee in the town of Mount Pleasant assessment case placed its value at $3,700. Mr. Rockefeller is fighting the matter in the courts and will not pay until a final decision is reached. The tax on his brother's place has been compromised by the village agreeing to accept taxes on an assessment of $123,000. The original assessment was $234,000. John D. Rockefeller paid his taxes to-day on this assessment.

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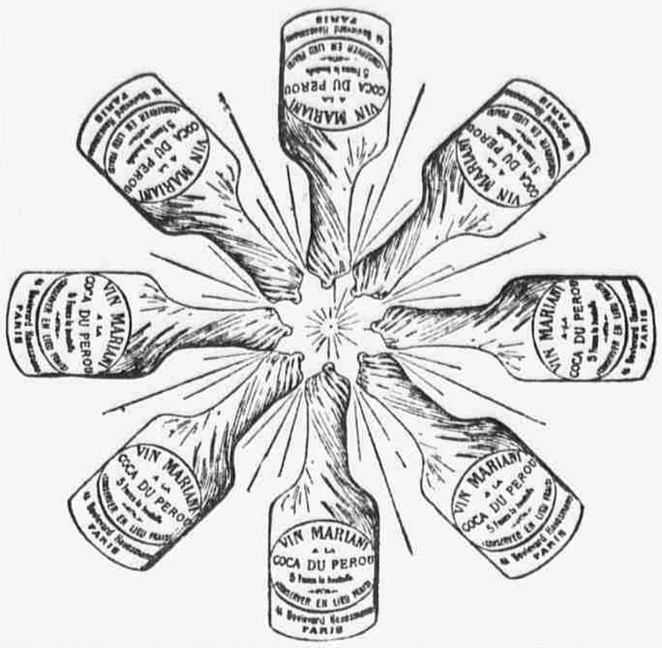

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BRODERICK KNOCKS FENTON OUT.

The Yonkers Lightweight Challenges the World at 138 Pounds.

Tom Broderick of Yonkers proved his right to be classed among the top sawyers of the lightweight division by knocking out Paddy Fenton of Boston in the eleventh round of what was to have been a twenty-five round encoun