The Sun.

Fair; diminishing west winds.

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PUERTO RICO'S MONEY BACK

PRESIDENT PROPOSES AND HOUSE VOTES TO SPEND DUTIES THERE.

Democrats, Taken by Surprise, Offer Angry Opposition to the Scheme and All but Ten of Them Vote Against It—Short and Lively Debate—Over $2,000,000 Ready.

WASHINGTON, March 2.—The President, before going to New York to-day, sent the following message to the Senate and the House of Representatives:

"Since the evacuation of Puerto Rico by the Spanish forces on the 18th day of October, 1898, the United States has collected on products coming from that island to the ports of the United States the duties fixed by the Dingley act and amounting to $2,095,455.88, and will continue to collect under said law until Congress shall otherwise direct. Although I had the power and, having in mind the best interests of the people of the island, used it, to modify duties on goods and products entering into Puerto Rico, I did not have the power to remit or modify duties on Puerto Rican products coming into the ports of the United States. In view of the pressing necessity for immediate revenue in Puerto Rico for conducting the government there and for the extension of public education, and in view also of the provisional legislation just inaugurated by the House of Representatives and for the purpose of making the principle embodied in that legislation applicable to the immediate past as well as to the immediate future, I recommend that the above sum so collected and the sums hereafter collected under existing law shall, without waiting for the enactment of the general legislation now pending, be appointed for the use and benefit of the island. WILLIAM MCKINLEY.

"EXECUTIVE MANSION, March 2, 1900."

This unexpected message and Mr. Cannon's dramatic introduction of a bill to carry out the recommendation with a request for consent for immediate consideration fairly took the Democrats off their feet and before they recovered their equilibrium consent had been given and the bill was before the House. A fierce political skirmish of an hour ensued. The Democrats, furious at being outgeneralled, displayed a degree of bitterness, especially on the part of the usually genial and diplomatic leader, Mr. Richardson, not often shown. The bill was passed after three roll calls. The vote was 162 yeas to 107 nays, fourteen of the minority, ten Democrats, two Populists and two Silverites voting with the Republicans for it.

When the message from the President was read Mr. Richardson sprang to his feet, and as soon as the applause which the Republicans gave at the close of the reading ceased, he shouted, stretching his long arms toward the Republican side: "I hope the recommendation will meet with favor on that side."

Instantly the impetuous Cannon was in the aisle, waving a paper in his hand, shaking his head and speaking in indignant tones. "We'll see," he responded, "if it meets with favor on that side. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of the bill which I send to the Clerk's desk." The bill was read, appropriating $2,095,455.88, the amount of customs duties collected on Puerto Rican products to Jan. 1, 1900, for the relief of the people of that island, and authorizing the same use of such subsequent customs, collected under existing law until Congress otherwise orders.

Mr. Richardson—You'd better do it to-day, or you'll change your minds by to-morrow. (Laughter.)

No objection was offered to the consideration of the bill, but Mr. Richardson asked if there was to be any debate. Mr. Cannon said the bill presented a plain question. The people of the island were starving and in need of relief. He would be glad to have it disposed of without debate. "What proposition has the gentleman to make?" he asked. After consultation with his colleagues, Mr. Richardson said that he would like twenty minutes' debate.

Mr. Cannon—All right, twenty minutes on a side.

Mr. Cannon made the first speech, saying with much impressiveness that under the terms of the bill, and until other legislation was adopted, the Sugar and Tobacco trusts would have to pay the full Dingley law tariff on their importations of tobacco and sugar now in Puerto Rican warehouses, the money to go for the benefit of the people of that island. "Stormswept and starving," said Mr. Cannon, "you've shed crocodile tears over their condition. Come up now and vote for this bill." A number of Democrats wanted to ask questions, but Mr. Cannon declined to yield. Mr. Bailey of Texas followed, opposing the bill. He said that, had he fairly understood the measure when the request for unanimous consent was made, he would have taken the responsibility of objecting. "For," he said, "I never will agree to turn the Treasury over to any one man, be he the President or anybody else." He agreed that if the people of Peurto Rico were to be made the victims of an unjust and unequal tax, then there should be atonement in the way of restitution, but it ought to be made by Congress and not by the President. He would never consent to the return of that money except by a regular appropriation bill introduced in the regular way.

Mr. McRae of Arkansas said the presentation of the bill was a plain confession by the majority that they had committed a violent outrage upon the rights of the people of Puerto Rico in the bill passed on Wednesday.

Mr. Bell of Colorado thought that a parallel to the swiftly changing scenes in this House could not be found anywhere outside it.

Mr. Bailey asked Mr. Cannon if he would consent to amend the bill so as to limit the appropriation to the money now in the Treasury and specifying the objects to which the money should be devoted. Mr. Cannon made no reply.

Mr. Grosvenor, who at the beginning of the proceedings was unaware that a message from the President was being read, said that it was a great gratification to him and to the country as well, no doubt, that the agony and depression which yesterday seemed to rest on Puerto Rico now rested on the Democratic side of the hall. (Laughter.) He could not understand why during the debate on the Tariff bill, the Democrats were just absolutely frank and genial when they so grievously lamented the condition of the Puerto Ricans. He thought they were more concerned regarding a political question to be injected into the approaching campaign. Not willing that the Puerto Ricans should trust the dominant party for the necessary legislation, the cry was raised that Congress was using the taxing power to take money out of their pockets and put it into the treasury of the United States. The principle of the pending bill was the same as that in the bill appropriating $50,000,000 for the national defence to be expended by the President, $3,000,000 of which went to the starving people of Cuba; the same as that which authorized the expenditure of the $700,000 that had already been given to the Puerto Ricans, and that of the bills appropriating money for the relief of the Mississippi River flood sufferers. The message—and he desired to emphasize that point—cordially endorsed the position of the Republican majority on the bill lately before the House, and lifted from the shoulders the load sought to be placed there by those who feared the President would repudiate their action.

Mr. Fitzgerald of Massachusetts—Why didn't you follow the President's recommendation?

Mr. Grosvenor—We have got now where for ten days you have been saying you wanted us to be—in accord with the President. Let's have a vote. We are anxious to agree with him. How is it with you? (Laughter and applause.)

Mr. Bailey—Will the gentleman offer an amendment as I have suggested? If so, and it is adopted, I will vote for the bill.

Mr. Grosvenor—Oh, I cannot go against the President. (Renewed laughter.)

Mr. Maddox of Georgia said that instead of supporting the President the Republicans were trying to reinstate themselves in the good opinion of the country. It was about the cheapest bit of political work he had ever known. They had come out in a blizzard and the President had come to its rescue.

When Mr. Sulzer of New York arose he was greeted with ironical applause by the Republicans, who also cheered his first sentence, "The President is a good politician."

At this point, there being still ten minutes to the credit of the Republicans and a half and a half minutes to the Democrats, Mr. Richardson tried to secure either five minutes of the Republicans' time or an extension of debate for half an hour, but he was unsuccessful. Seeing this, he closed the debate for the minority in a short speech almost vicious in tone. In all his experience, he said, he had never known such an unfair advantage to be taken by any party in power as on this occasion. They came into the House with a bill prepared in secret after a night's consideration with the Chief Executive in order to precipitate this debate, hoping to obtain a temporary and cheap-John advantage.

"It is unworthy of a great party," he shouted, "a party that has been charged with the responsibility of power and of government." The gentleman from Illinois did not usually bring a bill appropriating two millions and more into the House with no more notice than now. He had been over to see the President, and the latter had sent in the message of to-day in an effort to extricate himself and his party from the political grave into which they had been plunged by the passage of the Puerto Rico Tariff bill. "The gentleman from Illinois," he said, "came in here hoping that somebody would object to the consideration of the bill, and he knows I am telling the truth, and thus enable that side to get even for the loss it has sustained in the past ten days."

The country was watching the proceedings, and the American people could not be fooled. The gentlemen of the majority had seen to-day what the press of the country was saying about their effort to inaugurate a new policy. "You hope," said Mr. Richardson, concluding, "that this will relieve you. But you are mistaken. You can't fool the people, and when the ides of November come a hurricane, beside which that of last summer in Puerto Rico will be as darkness to daylight, will sweep you from power forever." (Loud applause.)

Mr. Cannon concluded the debate. "The gentleman now," said he, "charges the Republicans with having taken a 'shameful advantage' in order to relieve themselves. I will not bandy words with the gentleman, but ask him and his associates to vote for the bill which will relieve the Puerto Ricans. That's the main thing."

Referring to the amendment that Mr. Bailey wanted to have inserted, Mr. Cannon said Mr. Bailey belonged to a school which did not believe that anything could be done without an express provision for every step of the way. "Thank God," said he, "there has never been a President of the United States, is not now, and I believe never will be who will not faithfully execute the laws in the spirit of our civilization and in accordance with the purpose and intention of Congress." He said he was not very much concerned about the political effect of the bill.

Before reaching a vote on the passage of the bill roll calls were had on ordering the previous question—carried, 143 to 116—and on a motion by Mr. Bailey to commit the bill with instructions to report it amended by limiting the appropriation to the amount now in the Treasury and specifying the objects for which the President might expend it—defeated, 125 to 152. The bill was passed by a vote of 162 to 107. The following members of the minority voted for it: Democrats—Cochran of Missouri, Cummings of New York, Davey of Louisiana, Devries of California, Fitzgerald of Massachusetts, Livingston of Georgia, Meekison of Ohio, Sibley of Pennsylvania, Thayer of Massachusetts and Wilson of South Carolina; Populists—Bell of Colorado and Ridgeley of Kansas; Silverites—Shafroth of Colorado and Wilson of Idaho.

Mr. Underwood of Alabama, the Democratic whip, just before the vote was announced changed his vote to aye for the purpose of moving the reconsideration. But Mr. Cannon was before him with the double motion to reconsider and to lay that motion on the table. On that Mr. Underwood demanded and secured a vote by yeas and nays and it was agreed to—145 to 116, settling the matter as far as the House was concerned.

BRAVE MISSIONARY GIRL.

Miss Beulah Logan Interferes in a Fight Between Two Island Chiefs.

BOSTON, March 2.—A despatch received here to-day from Vancouver, B. C., says that Miss Beulah Logan, 23 years old, daughter of the late Rev. Robert W. Logan, the first missionary to the South Sea Islands sent out from here by the Congregational Board of the United States, has won for herself, according to advices from Sydney, the title of "Heroine of the Caroline Group." This was due not only to her fearlessness in facing famine and tropical diseases, but to her personal interference in a fight between two chiefs, in which she sustained an accidental and severe injury. The young woman is now on her way home.

Miss Logan went from this country in 1897 to be with her mother on the Ruk Lagoon, one of the Central Carolines. A year ago her mother was obliged to return to the United States on account of a serious physical malady, from which she has since died. Miss Logan, being the only American who had full command of the native language, the other missionaries having but recently arrived at that time, decided to remain, although the feebleness of her mother rendered it desirable that she should return with her. Miss Logan was aboard the missionary schooner E. W. Logan, named after her father, when it was wrecked in the Mortlock Islands in November, 1898, but she managed to escape with what were at that time deemed but slight injuries and bravely cared for herself and the girls whom she was collecting for the training school. She was subsequently prostrated by an illness which seems to have resulted from that shipwreck, and the latest report to the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions indicated that she was so seriously invalided that her immediate return to the United States was necessary.

REFORMERS IN A FIST FIGHT.

Delegation From Norfolk to the Virginia Legislature Have a Lively Time.

RICHMOND, Va., March 2.—The Committee on Privileges and Elections of the House of Representatives had a lively session this morning, during which fisticuffs were indulged in, pistols were drawn, and there was a general and vigorous fight in the committee room in the Capitol. The trouble arose over charges made before the committee by S. S. Lambeth of Norfolk, belonging to the Reform party of that city, against John Whitehead, member of the House from Norfolk, in connection with the actions of the latter while Judge of Election in Norfolk.

Whitehead characterized a statement of Lambeth as a lie, and then the trouble began. Pistols were drawn but were not discharged. When the row was over it was found that Whitehead and Lyons, both of Norfolk, had been slightly cut on their heads. Friends intervened and peace was reestablished.

NORFOLK, Va., March 2.—Norfolk municipal government reformers opposed to the present Democratic city administration went to Richmond to lobby in the interest of a new registration bill. The delegation called on Norfolk Representatives Whitehead and Lyons, reproaching them for their apparent neglect to push the registration measure. A fight in the committee room ensued, and several were roughly handled.

PUT HIS TOMBSTONE IN STORAGE.

War Veteran Charles H. Thompson Anticipated His Death by Twelve Years.

About twelve years ago Charles H. Thompson, an inmate of Sailors' Snug Harbor, called at the stone yard of Karl Feist, at Tompkinsville, S. I., and ordered a handsome granite tombstone. He had carved upon the polished side of the shaft the inscription, "Charles H. Thompson, a citizen of the United States." When the work was completed Thompson called at the stone yard, paid for his monument, accepted a receipt and went away after asking Mr. Feist to store the stone until it was needed.

On February 24 last, Thompson died and was buried in the cemetery attached to the Harbor. Yesterday morning a friend called at the office of Mr. Feist, who had forgotten all about the incident and asked for the monument, which had been stored away in accordance with Thompson's request. He said that Thompson was dead, and exhibited a receipt for the monument. A visit was made to the storeroom and the monument was found. Next week it will be erected over the grave. The deceased man, who was 80 years old, was a veteran of the Rebellion.

Strikers Blow Up a Locomotive.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., March 2.—This morning at mines of Ætna Coal Company, near Whiteside, Tenn., a locomotive was blown up with dynamite. The miners at this place have been on a strike for about three months, and it is believed that they destroyed the engine. The operators telegraphed for bloodhounds which were sent to the scene from this city, but at a late hour to-night the perpetrators had not been apprehended. The explosion awakened persons three miles from the scene. The miners are out of money and supplies and are getting desperate.

Fast Sleeper to Buffalo.

Leaves New York except Sunday, Lackawanna Railroad 9:15 P. M.; arrives Buffalo 8:20 A. M.—Adv.

MOLINEUX'S WIFE SPEAKS.

CONSTRAINED, SHE SAYS, TO DEFEND HER OWN GOOD NAME.

She Indignantly Resents Insinuations About Herself Made During Her Husband's Trial—Describes Her Life as a Girl and Since She Came to New York to Reside.

Mrs. Blanche C. Molineux, wife of Roland B. Molineux, sent the following statement to THE SUN yesterday:

"The infamous insinuations contained in a recent article, written, I regret to say, by a woman, concerning me, and published in a sensational newspaper, require an answer, although it is most painful for me to make any public statement under the existing circumstances.

"I may say in the beginning that I know that my husband, Roland B. Molineux, is wholly innocent of the frightful crime with which he is charged. I know this, not only from the fact that no evidence save that of paid experts and venal witnesses of the lowest character has been brought against him, but also and chiefly from my knowledge of his own character. I know him to be brave, strong and true—the last man to commit a crime of cunning, malice and cowardice. He might strike in anger and in hot blood, but the stealth and premeditation of a poisoner are foreign to his nature.

"And moreover I was with him in the month of December, 1898. We had been married at that time only a few weeks. I know that my husband was happy and that there was no room in his heart for such a diabolical design as that imputed to him. But I am not writing to maintain my husband's innocence, for I know that my words can have no weight in the decision of his case. I am firmly convinced that his conviction was unjust and that it will not be sustained by the higher courts. I know that in the end the law will give him justice.

"My own character is villainously assailed in the publication to which I have referred. For the sake of my husband, and for the sake of his father and mother, who are my own parents in affection, and who have supported and comforted me with their care and love during these terrible months, as well as for my own sake, I must denounce these wicked lies. It surpasses my understanding that any woman can so cruelly and falsely vilify without a shadow of foundation a sister woman on whom the hand of affliction has already fallen so heavily. I am told that this writer endeavored to obtain an interview with me for publication some months ago, and that she then promised to write a most kind and even flattering article if I would give such an interview. Following the advice of my friends and of my husband's counsel I refused this request as I had refused all others and it appears that my refusal led to this fearful attack upon me. I cannot believe that the great and generous American people will believe such baseless calumnies, but none the less I cannot be silent longer under them.

"The article to which I refer is so filled with these falsehoods that it is difficult to answer them all with particularity without quoting almost all the words of the writer. But I shall endeavor to answer them as briefly and at the same time in as much detail as possible.

"In the first place my life has not, prior to this terrible tragedy of my husband's persecution, been different from the ordinary life of a self-respecting woman. My father was not a carpenter, but an inventor; and when I came to New York with him and my mother he was in comfortable circumstances, although he met reverses in his latter years. So that I did not come up to New York to earn my living by singing in a church choir, as is stated in the newspaper publication to which I have referred. I was educated largely in the South, in the city of Knoxville, Tenn., and received the usual education of a girl, and in addition I received special instruction in music for which I had and have a great love. I lived with my father and mother, like other girls, until their death; and since I have lost them, I have lived for the most part with my married sisters. When not actually living with them, I have always been visited by them and have visited them.

"It is stated also that I lived luxuriously with a sister, who was a widow, in gorgeous apartments in upper New York; and the vile insinuation is made that no one inquired too closely as to our means of livelihood. I can conceive of no foundation for such an atrocious calumny. I have no widowed sister nor have I ever lived luxuriously in gorgeous apartments. I lived, shortly before my marriage, at the same boarding house with one of my married sisters, her husband and children. Among our fellow boarders were only most respectable families, including a minister of the gospel and his wife. I do not mention their names because I do not wish to drag them into notoriety, but I testified fully as to these facts before the Coroner, and they were all known to the District Attorney and to all persons having any knowledge of my life.

"I also testified at great length concerning the yachting trip about which the writer of the article has much to say in the way of vile insinuation and innuendo. Her statement on this point, as on others, is a tissue of lies, and must have been known by her to have been false when she wrote it. In the summer of 1897 my sister, Mrs. Waldo Stearns of Boston, and myself were invited by a friend of ours to join a yachting party for a few days. My sister was acting as my chaperone and there was no reason why I should have declined the invitation if I wished to go. We finally decided to accept it, and during our cruise we put in at Portland, Me. In the same harbor was another yacht on which Mr. Molineux was a guest. His party knew our host and called on our yacht, and our party returned the call. In this way I first met my husband.

"My sister and I were compelled to return to New York from Portland, and as Mr. Molineux's vacation was over, and he was forced to go back to his business, he accompanied us to New York, and we were, of course, very glad of his escort. Mr. Barnet was not on either yacht, and at that time I had never met him. Subsequently he was introduced to me, and I knew him simply as a fellow yacht friend.

"In the fall of 1897 the gentleman who joined the yachting party when Mr. Molineux left died rather suddenly, and I presume it is to him that the writer refers in her ghastly insinuation that I was connected with his death. I shall not mention his name, and shall only say that he joined the yacht at Newport and on the day Mr. Molineux returned to New York, and I never saw him except for a few hours on that day, and these frightful insinuations are as baseless and as wanton lies as other statements in the same publication.

"The writer also says that I was a friend of Mr. Cornish. This is also absolutely untrue. I never knew him and never saw him until I saw him in court.

"The indirect charge, at the close of this vile libel, that I was concerned in the alleged poisoning of Mrs. Adams is so incredibly cruel and base that I can find no words to characterize it. Under the present circumstances I do not wish to take any action to resent such fearful libels, but if they are continued I shall be forced to take some steps to protect myself, for the sake of my husband and our parents as well as for my own. And now enough of this denial of lies that have not even the pretence of foundation. It is sufficient to say that they are baseless, wickedly and cruelly false; and that I trust that no woman will ever again so assail another woman in her hour of trouble.

"But in conclusion let me say a few words for my husband and myself. In making these statements, I would beg the indulgence of that great public which has followed the case of my husband day by day for the past year when I draw attention to myself. I do so, in my desire that that same great public should know how grossly distorted, how flagrantly misrepresented, were certain phases of the case in which I was made prominently to figure. That my lips have trembled many times to utter the truth—that silence, in the face of an avalanche of calumny, has been obnoxious to me, I need not aver—I have maintained it solely by advice of counsel, while the persecution of my husband was relentlessly carried on.

"I cannot remain longer silent. I appeal to the women of this land—to the mothers, the wives, the daughters, of this American nation. I ask you to feel for me, for one moment put yourself in my place, and can you wonder that I break the silence so long enforced upon me; that I cry aloud in my own behalf against the malicious, the cruel, the wanton lies? Shall a man, because he is vested with the power of a public office; because he is the prosecuting official in a charge brought against the unfortunate husband of one American woman, shall he, I say, be permitted to make that hapless wife the target for his merciless invective, his unfounded and unproven accusations? Is she to be defamed and robbed of her fair name? is her honor, her dignity, her character to be wantonly sullied? It is not for me to dwell upon the unprecedented attitude of a public prosecutor who, to bolster up his case, attacks the wife of the defendant, but was it not irrelevant? Was it not inconsequent? Was it not brutal? Besides, it was unfounded, it was untrue.

"I have remained dumb, with closed lips, while my name was being constantly associated and connected with that of my husband's friend Henry Barnet. The absurd rumors developed into infamous lies, and I know now at too late a date, that credence was given to statements that had not a scintilla of truth for their foundation. Every scran of so-called evidence, introduced at the late trial, every innuendo, every insinuation uttered by the District Attorney wherein he sought to connect my name with Mr. Barnet's and to show the existence of something more than an ordinary friendship, originated in his own very convenient and elastic imagination. He offered no proof as to the veracity of his utterances regarding this phase of his case for one very simple reason—they did not exist; and the whole accusation brought against me regarding Mr. Barnet was one huge fabrication, grossly and atrociously false. Why was so much that was virulent, so much that was slander introduced? Could it be possible that this same public prosecutor resorted to the introduction of such baseless, such utterly false and unsupported testimony as that given by paid negro witnesses merely to prejudice the minds of the jury and to strengthen his lamentably weak case? Did he fail to bring other witnesses to support the paid testimony of negro serving maids because he knew such testimony could not be supported? I ask you, the mothers, wives and daughters of our fair land, was it just? Cruelly false, without foundation, as these assaults were, why should such a perforation of inveterate lies have been hurled at a defenceless woman whose only connection with the case was in being the wife of the defendant?

"In respect to it all, wherein I have borne the absolutely unjustified and unwarrantable reproach to myself, my womanhood, my dignity, my honor, I have suffered unspeakably; but that suffering has been as nought compared to the anguish which has filled, and still continues to fill my heart, because of the atrocious injustice, the result of cowardly persecution, which one man, brave, calm, courageous, is enduring to-day—that man, my noble husband, in whom my faith, my trust, my confidence, is absolute.

"BLANCHE C. MOLINEUX."

117 FORT GREENE PL., Brooklyn, March 2.

IN A TRANCE TWO YEARS.

Miss Elida Wilbur Found Unconscious After a Quarrel With Her Betrothed.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 2.—Miss Elida Wilbur has lain in a trance for two years and is now just recovering her faculties. The first words she has spoken in that time were uttered this week when she said: "Nobody loves me now." These words she repeated several times.

Miss Wilbur, two years and one month ago, was betrothed to James Dunphy, a wealthy young man of this city. He had been divorced and his people, who are Roman Catholics, objected to his marriage to Miss Wilbur until a dispensation could be obtained from the Vatican. This obstacle caused a postponement of the wedding. On the evening of Feb. 16, 1898, Mr. Dunphy called on Miss Wilbur and they had a quarrel of some sort, trivial, it is believed. The next morning Miss Wilbur was found unconscious on a lounge in her bedroom. The gas was flowing from one of the jets and the room was full of it. She was fully attired, she was reclining in a natural posture. Her right arm hung limply and on the floor beside her was a book which evidently she had been reading. As the window was open it is believed that the wind blew the gas out while she was dozing.

Every effort was made to revive her without avail. Her heart and lungs finally began to work normally, but her brain remained inactive. She opened and shut her eyes, but made no other sign of life. Her body was insensible to pain. She seemed in a cataleptic fit. Recently she was taken across the bay and the change did her good. Then a few days ago she spoke. Her physicians are watching their patient closely, but they can yet give no opinion as to her ultimate recovery.

LIEUT. JAMES M'LEER HURT.

His Horse Fell on Him at the Circus of Troop C in Brooklyn Last Night.

Lieut. James McLeer, the son of Brig.-Gen. McLeer of Brooklyn, was knocked senseless last night at the circus of Troop C in its North Cortlandt street armory. Lieut. McLeer was competing with other members of the troop in reaching to the ground from the saddle while his horse was running at full speed. Just as he had touched a flag on the tan bark with his fingers his horse stumbled and fell. Young McLeer fell under the horse amid much excitement, which increased when it was found that Lieut. McLeer was unconscious. Gen. McLeer, who was among the spectators, ran to his son's aid. The young man was carried to the reception room of the armory and was attended by Dr. Cameron, a member of the troop. In ten minutes, Capt. Charles I. Debevoise, who acted as ringmaster, announced that Lieut. McLeer had recovered consciousness, and was not seriously hurt. The show went on. Lieut. McLeer's leg was broken by a fall from a horse during a drill of the troop while it was in the United States Volunteer Army.

COPS WERE TOO MUCH FOR HIM.

Not the Boer Kind—Downfall of a Citizen Suffering From War and Other Things.

His hat was on the back of his head and his left trousers leg was pulled up around his knee. He waved his cane in the air and shook his fist at the men in front of the Hoffman House who were watching the crowds go by last night and announced in joyous tones, "I'll never surrender!" Then he marched up and down the curbstone and inquired of every cable car gripman whether his name was Buller. When they ignored him he appealed to the crowd to know whether the brother of Gen. Cronje did not deserve better treatment from a cowardly and treacherous foe.

"I'll never surrender!" he howled. "My kopje is my castle! O'er yon veldt!" and he waved his arms toward Madison Square Park. "My ancestors have trekked until at last they have reached the laager and now I go to join them."

He pointed to the balcony over the hotel door and shouted: "In yon kop will I resist to the last. To the kop—to the kop!"

Out of the encircling crowd joked a long night stick followed by one Eagan of the police.

"Is't a cop, ye want?" asked Eagan. "Ye'll have plinty be foor ye're troo."

He right sticks followed by other policemen fell upon Gen. Cronje's self-styled brother, and though he fought to the last, he suffered severely. When they were through with him they piled him into a patrol wagon, which he feebly insisted was an ambulance, and took him to the West Thirtieth street police station. There he was foolish enough to give his real name and address and said that he was a public accountant.

Gov. Ludington's Widow Sues.

CHICAGO, March 2.—Mrs. Emiline M. Ludington, 70 years old, has filed suit in United States Circuit Court against James E. Patton, her son-in-law, a wealthy citizen of Milwaukee, Wis. He is charged with having defrauded Mrs. Ludington out of a large share of the estate left her by her husband, Harrison Ludington, who died June 17, 1891. Mr. Ludington, who was formerly Governor of Wisconsin, is said to have left an estate valued at more than $1,500,000, of which the widow says she received only a small part. She asks for $200,000 damages.

Won't Prosecute A. H. Gildersleeve.

CHICAGO, March 2.—Capt. Colleran sent word to the Chief of Police of New Orleans that the Chicago victims of A. H. Gildersleeve, who gained notoriety in this city several weeks ago by mingling with South Side society people, and, according to their charges, stealing their diamonds, did not wish to prosecute him. Gildersleeve was arrested in New Orleans by Detective Sergeant Hartford of the Chicago detective headquarters. Gildersleeve came originally from New York. He is said to be a nephew of Justice Gildersleeve of New York.

For Cape Nome and the Klondike

The quickest time and the best service is via the New York Central. Consult our ticket agents.—Adv.

The New West 23d St. Station

and the splendid cab service place the Pennsylvania Railroad terminal facilities at the doors of mid and upper New York.—Adv.

STRONG TALK FROM COLER.

THE THIRD AVENUE RAILROAD COMPARED WITH THE MUNICIPALITY.

He Says "Some of the Most Daring Raids on the City Treasury Have Been Prepared Which Make Tweed's Efforts Seem Like Those of an Amateur."

The Broadway Merchants' Association of Williamsburg heard some plain talk about city affairs last night in Arion Hall from Comptroller Coler, Bridge Commissioner John L. Shea and Register James R. Howe of Brooklyn. Thomas P. Peters presided. Comptroller Coler said:

"We have recently witnessed in New York the wrecking of a street surface railroad possessing one of the most valuable franchises in the world. A year ago if any one had predicted that this company would be to-day in the hands of a receiver his prediction would have been dismissed with laughter. If I were to predict to-night that the influences which are at present working to the disadvantage of the city of New York—if allowed to continue unchecked—will some day bring about a crisis which will involve a radical reorganization of the finances of our city that prediction also would probably be deemed extravagant. Nevertheless, the causes which lead to the financial embarrassment of municipal corporations are precisely the same as those which lead to the bankruptcy of business corporations, and these causes are to be seen in active operation to-day, both in the city government and at Albany.

"The bills to protect the city from the Ramapo raid cannot apparently be moved from the Legislative Committee in whose keeping they now repose. The bill I sent to the Legislature to prevent the city from paying more than the market price for its supplies is apparently hopelessly hypnotized. On the other hand, bills recognizing all sorts of claims against the city treasury move along toward final passage with electric rapidity.

"A State Commission, in no way responsible to the citizens, voters and taxpayers, is contemplated, with power to spend $40,000,000 of the city money for bridges, regardless of the city's ability to raise one-half that sum without exceeding the constitutional limit of indebtedness, and regardless of the necessity for undertaking other more pressing public improvements. The remedy for the state of affairs is precisely the same as it would be in the case of a private corporation—the stockholders must be aroused. Every taxpayer and merchant is a stockholder in our city, and if these stockholders do not rise and protest in some more forcible manner than by mere half-whispered grumblings, the looting will go on and in the end they will have to be heavily assessed on their stock. For citizenship is not only a privilege but a responsibility from which there is no escape. Unless you move from New York you cannot sell or dispose of your stock. For better or for worse you remain stockholders forever, and when the assessments come you will have to pay them. For the sake of self-interest then, to say nothing of the higher and nobler call of duty, it behooves every merchant and taxpayer to make his voice and influence felt in stemming the tide of rapacity which now threatens the welfare of our city.

"It was once said of William M. Tweed that he was a fool because he did not commit his robberies in a legal manner. He had the Legislature entirely under his control and he could pass what laws he liked. Some of our modern statesmen seem to be profiting by his example for under the shield of legislation some of the most daring raids on the city treasury have been prepared which make Tweed's efforts seem like those of an amateur."

"Our Municipal Assembly," said Mr. Shea, "is a strange body. They always fear either an increased taxation of our citizens by public improvements, and delay them, or a corresponding decrease in taxation, if it is a private improvement to be paid for by the private citizen himself for public benefit; these are delayed in the same way as our Long Island tunnel on the one hand and on the other the Vernon Avenue Bridge. I earnestly hope, however, as time goes on they may see their error, and enable us to have waterways in this borough promptly connected by structures equally as creditable as the noble, symmetrical and useful structures that now cross the Harlem River between Manhattan and The Bronx. We have difficulty in making this apparent to members of the Board of Aldermen and the Council. I will not criticize them, however."

THE BRITISH FLAG TORN DOWN.

Riot of French Students in Montreal Caused by the Relief of Ladysmith.

MONTREAL, March 2.—There was another students' riot in Montreal to-night and at one time it looked as if there would be serious trouble. The students of Laval University, the leading French-Canadian educational institution, and the French population generally were greatly incensed at the mobbing of the Laval building last night by the McGill students because the British flag was not hoisted in honor of the relief of Ladysmith. To-day a counter demonstration was organized by the Laval students, who paraded the streets to-night.

The students were reinforced by nearly five thousand sympathizers. Carrying the French flag the students marched down to St. James street and made a hostile demonstration in front of the office of the *Star*, the leading English newspaper. The union jack, which was flying from the *Star* building, was torn down and trampled under foot. The French students sang the "Marseillaise" and cheered themselves hoarse.

The tearing down of the flag resulted in a free fight, in which revolver shots were fired and blows exchanged. Several persons were badly hurt. The report spread that the students were on their way to attack McGill University and a big force of police were despatched to the scene. The French students, however, remained in the centre and eastern district of the city.

The trouble has caused a great deal of bad feeling between the French and the English elements of the population and serious trouble is feared unless the authorities quell the disturbance promptly.

The Victoria Rifles were called out by Col. White to protect the drill shed, where a disturbance was threatened, and they are now on guard.

POLITE BOSTON THIEF.

Steals an Overcoat and Sends the Pawn Ticket for It to the Owner.

BOSTON, March 2.—Joseph O. Burdette, who was appearing as counsel in opposition to the ratification of the lease of Boston and Albany Railroad to the New York Central before the Railroad Committee at the State House yesterday, had his new overcoat stolen. At the close of the hearing Mr. Burdette returned to his office and found a package which had been left by a messenger boy who had been called to Young's Hotel. In this package were a lot of private papers and a bank book. Between the leaves of the bank book was a pawn ticket issued from the shop where the coat had been pledged for $5.

Friends of the Boers Incorporated.

ALBANY, March 2.—The American Raad for the Assistance of the South African Republics was incorporated with the Secretary of State to-day for the purpose of raising funds for the relief of the widows and orphans of Boers killed in the war and for spreading information about the war and aiding and assisting the South African republics in all ways consistent with the neutrality laws. The principal office is in New York city and the directors are George W. Van Siclen and William J. Fryer of Manhattan, F. Louter Wessels of Bloemfontein, Orange Free State; Andrew Devine and Albert B. King of Brooklyn. These men were directors in a corporation formed a few days ago with similar objects.

Trains to Chicago, St. Louis and Cincinnati

via Pennsylvania Railroad are all models of safety, speed and comfort.—Adv.

SIEGE OF MAFEKING RAISED?

A Statement to That Effect Ascribed by Berlin Papers to Dr. Leyds.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

BERLIN, March 2.—Newspapers here ascribe to Dr. Leyds, the diplomatic representative of the Transvaal, a statement that the siege of Mafeking has been raised.

THE POPE'S NINETIETH BIRTHDAY.

Again He Expresses His Desire for the Return of Peace in South Africa.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

ROME, March 2.—In reply to the felicitations of the Cardinals on the ninetieth anniversary of his birth to-day, the Pope expressed the hope that peace would soon be established between the Boers and the British.

SHOT EACH OTHER DEAD.

Angry Father and a School Principal Have a Duel on the Street.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 2.—The town of Brewersville, Decatur county, was the scene of a duel to the death early this morning between W. A. Fuller, a well-known citizen, and Prof. James Powers, principal of the public schools, in which nine shots were fired by the men, who stood within ten feet of each other. Fuller's son is a pupil in the public schools and yesterday he was corrected by the principal for the violation of one of the rules of the school. The lad told his father of his trouble with the teacher, and during the evening and night Mr. Fuller made threats against Powers, declaring, it is alleged, that he would kill him on sight.

Powers armed himself in expectation of trouble with the father and the latter evidently tried to intercept the teacher as he went from his home to the schoolhouse this morning. The two met at the turn of the street and both drew their revolvers and began firing at the same moment, advancing with each crack of the revolvers. Nine shots were fired and both pistols were emptied except one chamber in Fuller's which failed to explode. When citizens reached the scene Powers was found to have received two wounds and Fuller three. Both died soon after.

HIS DEATH puzzles DOCTORS.

Hotel Keeper Akins Succumbs to the Scratch of a Rusty Nail.

NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y., March 2.—The death of Lawrence Akins, a hotel keeper of this city, this morning is puzzling the doctors. He was well yesterday until he scratched his left thumb on a rusty nail. Soon afterward his arm began swelling and Dr. George A. Lyons and Dr. E. W. Codding were summoned. They suggested amputation, but Akins was unwilling to submit to it. He died three hours later. He was 38 years old. Dr. Lyons said that the case was the strangest he had ever seen. Coroner Banning of Mount Vernon ordered an autopsy.

JUDGMENT AGAINST AN EARL.

Yarmouth Hasn't Paid a Claim for $942 for Money Loaned Him.

Judgment for $942 was entered yesterday against George Francis Alexander Seymour, otherwise known as the Earl of Yarmouth, in favor of Charles H. Johnson on an assigned claim for money loaned on Sept. 11, 1899. The judgment was obtained in the City Court.

The Earl, who has become an actor under the stage name of Eric Hope, is now with the Frohman company which is on the road playing "Wheels Within Wheels."

THE GATE CITY BREAKS IN TWO.

All Hands, Crew and Wreckers, Brought Ashore by Trolley and in Surf Boats.

EAST MORICHES, L. I., March 2.—The Savannah Line steamship Gate City, which came ashore off here on Feb. 8, broke in two this morning. The task of unloading the cargo was difficult. To expedite the work a sort of trolley was rigged up and many bales were landed. Just before the ship broke with a rest like a big gun, the wreckers and the ship's crew got ashore, some in jeans of the freight trolley and others in the big life boats. The rescue work lasted nearly an hour. Even a dog and two kittens were landed. The ship is a total loss. She was not insured. Most of her cargo, valued at about $250,000, was saved.

HANDY SALOON FOR BLUECOATS.

Opened Next Door to the Tenderloin Station Despite Clergymen's Protests.

The West Thirtieth street police station saloon was formally opened last night. The saloon is next door to the station, and for two months or more the Rev. Richard Wilson, who has a mission for negroes at 136 West Thirtieth street, opposite the station, has done his utmost to prevent the granting of a license for it. The Rev. Dr. Houghton, of the Little Church Around the Corner, has supported Mr. Wilson in his contention that the mission was a church building and was within the prescribed limits of the saloon. When the saloon opened last night the tax certificate bore the name of James Mahon. Over the door was the sign of a brewing company in which "Al" Adams is interested.

SOUTH AFRICAN VOLUNTEER SUED.

**Mrs. Thomas Wants a Divorce From Her Husband Who Helped to Capture