The Sun.

Fair and colder to-day; fair to-morrow.

VOL. LXVII.—NO. 202. NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 1900.—COPYRIGHT, 1900, BY THE SUN PRINTING AND PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION. PRICE TWO CENTS.

STAMPING OUT REBELLION.

KITCHENER'S CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN CAPE COLONY SUCCESSFUL.

Surrender of Free Staters Continues—Steyn's Attempt to Rally a Force at Kroonstad Said to Have Failed—One Mafeking Relief Force Reported Checked at Lobatsi.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, March 21.—The War Office to-day received two despatches from Gen. Roberts, both being dated Bloemfontein, March 20, the important parts of which follow:

"Kitchener occupied Frieska yesterday without resistance. The rebels are laying down their arms. Transvaalers are escaping across the river. We have taken thirty-three prisoners, 200 stands of arms and some supplies and explosives. The Boers on the Basutoland border have begun to surrender.

"Steyn is circulating by despatch riders in reply to my proclamation a notice to the effect that any burgher who signs a declaration not to fight us will be treated as a traitor and shot.

"The people of Bloemfontein are affording us every assistance in the matter of hospital accommodation. We are consequently able to arrange 500 beds."

Gen. Roberts seems to be aiming at the pacification of the region behind him before further advancing. The *Morning Post's* correspondent at Bloemfontein telegraphs that the Free State Boers are surrendering their arms there as fast as they can be registered. He adds that President Steyn's attempt to rally the burghers at Kroonstad is reported to be a complete failure. There is the bitterest feeling against the President in Bloemfontein, because he did not acquaint the citizens with Gen. Roberts's offer to spare the town if it surrendered.

The only news in reference to Mafeking comes from Pretoria under date of March 15. It announces that Col. Plumer is unable to advance south of Lobatsi. It is also announced from the same source that the British are at Christiana, a place on the Vaal River about thirty miles northeast of Warrenton.

A despatch to the *Morning Post* from Norvals Pont, dated March 19, says that a low level railway is being constructed under the broken bridge there, and that supplies are being pushed forward. A column will start on Wednesday to march by way of Philippolis and Fauresmith to Bloemfontein.

Another despatch from Norvals Pont reports the capture of Commandant Grobelaar. He was discovered wounded in a farmhouse in the neighborhood of Donkerspoort.

A British force reconnoitred toward Philippolis last Saturday and found white flags flying on the farmhouses. The women all protested that their husbands were not fighting. They readily sold provisions to the British.

Four hundred of Gen. Brabant's Colonial Brigade left Aliwal North on Monday for Rouxville and more will follow.

KRUGER IS DETERMINED.

Tells a Deputation of Burghers That the War Will Be Fought Out.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, March 21.—A despatch to the *Daily News* from Pretoria, dated March 15, says that a deputation of burghers waited on President Krüger to inquire regarding the situation. They received a reassuring reply. The President said the Government intended to see the war through determinedly and that a council of war by the nation's leaders would be held shortly.

The correspondent of the *Daily News* at Bloemfontein says he learns from a person who was recently in Johannesburg that the Transvaal Government is working the Ferriera, Bonanza, Robinson, Pioneer, Rose, Village, Landhaagte and Robinson deep mines. The French and German mines have been pumped out with the assistance of the Government.

Special police are acting as caretakers of these mines, and only the machinery is suffering from want of use. The report that the batteries had been undermined with dynamite is untrue. The alleged forcing of the safe deposit for documents is also untrue. Those stories were fabricated to arouse sympathy.

FATE OF THE TWO REPUBLICS.

Divided Opinion at Cape Town as to Independence or Annexation.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

CAPE TOWN, March 19.—At a recent meeting of the Afrikander Bond it was decided to invite signatures to a petition to the people of Great Britain asking their support to prevent the Transvaal and the Orange Free State from being deprived of their independence.

On the other hand, ex-Prime Minister Sir J. Gordon Sprigg presided at a meeting of progressive members of the Legislative Council, at which it was decided to agitate in favor of the annexation of the two republics.

BOERS BLOW UP BRIDGES.

Those at Winburg and Kroonstad Reported Destroyed.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, March 20.—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Cape Town of to-day's date, states that among railway bridges blown up by the Boers in the Orange Free State north of Bloemfontein were those at Winburg and Kroonstad.

The Exchange Telegraph Company is also authority for the statement that it is officially admitted at Pretoria that the total Boer casualties have been: Killed, 2,120; wounded, 1,251; sick, 4,351. Total, 7,722.

RHODESIAN FIELD FORCE.

New Command for South Africa to Include 2,500 Australian Bushmen.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, March 20.—The Government is about to establish a new force for service in South Africa. It will be drawn from the colonial contingents, and will include 2,500 Australian bushmen. The column will be named the Rhodesian Field Force, and will be commanded by Maj.-Gen. Sir Frederick Carrington.

DON'T WANT WAR WITH FRANCE.

Englishmen's Replies to the Question of a French Newspaper.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, March 20.—The *Gaulois* publishes replies from prominent Englishmen to the question "Does England wish war with France?" Cardinal Vaughan, Lord Chief Justice Russell, Sir Charles Dilke and the Hon. Charles Russell declare emphatically that she does not.

Victoria Cross for Two of Buller's Men.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LADYSMITH, March 19.—During a church parade yesterday Gen. Buller presented the Victoria Cross to Capt. H. L. Reid of the Royal Field Artillery and Sergt. George E. Nurse of the Sixty-sixth Battery. The decoration was conferred by the Queen for the conspicuous bravery of these men in attempting to save one of Col. Long's guns at the battle of Colenso.

Will Take Telegrams for Bloemfontein.

The Commercial Cable Company announces that telegraphic communication has been restored with Bloemfontein, that a military telegraph office has been established there and that telegrams in plain language will be accepted for that town at sender's risk.

BOERS DENY TREACHERY.

And, in Reply to Gen. Roberts, Make Accusations Against the British.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, March 20.—The War Office has received the following despatch from Lord Roberts:

BLOEMFONTEIN, March 19.—I have received the following in reply to my telegram of March 11, to the Presidents of the Orange Free State and the South African Republic:

"Your Excellency's telegram despatched at 9:45 P. M., reached me yesterday. I assure you that nothing would grieve me more than that my burghers should make themselves guilty of a deed such as is laid to their charge by you.

"I am, however, glad to say that you must have been mistaken. I have made personal inquiry of Gen. Delarey, who commanded the burghers at the place mentioned by you. He denies entirely that our burghers acted as stated by you, but says that on Saturday the British troops when about fifty yards from our position put up their hands as well as a white flag. At the same time your cannon bombarded our troops as well, with the result that Commandant De Beer was wounded.

"Yesterday morning at 8 o'clock the head commandant wrote in his account of the battle as follows:

"'Our soldiers hoisted the white flag, but were then fired at by the English cannon and compelled to charge.'

"Perhaps it is not known to your Excellency that the same thing happened at Spion Kop, where, when a portion of the troops hoisted the white flag and put up their hands and while the burghers were busy disarming them, another portion of the troops fired on our burghers and on the troops that had surrendered. In consequence thereof not only burghers but some British were killed.

"It has also been reported that in the last battle of the Tugela English cannon fired on troops who had surrendered.

"In reference to the explosive bullets found in Gen. Cronje's laager and elsewhere I can give your Excellency assurance that such bullets were not purchased or allowed by the Government. I have no reason to doubt your statement, as I know that many burghers of this State and the South African Republic took a large number of Lee-Metford rifles and dumdum and other bullets from British troops.

"May I request your Excellency, as the cable is closed to me, to make my reply known to your Government and to the neutral powers by cable. STATE PRESIDENT."

As an inquiry into that matter proves that his Honor's allegation is unfounded and as I personally saw the holding up of hands which he denies I have not thought it desirable to continue the correspondence.

PROCLAMATION ON JOHANNESBURG.

Chamberlain to Issue One Concerning the Threats to Destroy the Town.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, March 20.—In the House of Commons to-day Mr. George Wyndham, Parliamentary Secretary of the War Office, said that Colonial Secretary Chamberlain intends to issue a proclamation regarding the threatened destruction of Johannesburg by the Boers.

The *Times* says that in accordance with precedent Mr. Chamberlain's proclamation regarding the threatened destruction of Johannesburg will not be published here until it is promulgated in South Africa. It is understood, however, that the Government intends to convey to the Boers an intimation that any wanton destruction of British property during the war will be regarded as warranting a claim for compensation, and justifying a levy upon private property should the resources of the Transvaal Republic prove inadequate to meet the claim.

NEW ZEALAND OFFERS MORE AID.

Sends Word of Its Approval of Great Britain's Stand Regarding Intervention.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, March 20.—The Earl of Ranfurly, Governor of New Zealand, has cabled to Colonial Secretary Chamberlain that that Colony wishes to indorse the position taken by Great Britain in reference to intervention in South Africa. He assures Mr. Chamberlain that New Zealand supports the mother country, and will maintain that position irrespective of consequences.

The Governor adds that a large number of good shots and riders are volunteering and are willing to go to South Africa to relieve Imperial forces if the latter are required elsewhere.

BOER AGENT GOING TO PARIS.

His Visit Said to Have No Reference to the Question of Intervention.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

ANTWERP, March 20.—Dr. Leyds, the Diplomatic Agent of the Transvaal, will start for Paris this week. The object of his visit is a secret, but it is said that it does not refer to intervention.

M. Van Boeschoten, Dr. Leyds's secretary, says that Dr. Leyds believes that Gen. Roberts's proclamation was made with the view to impressing Europe. He asserts that the Transvaal Boers will resist the British to the death.

Fever Victims in Ladysmith.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, March 20.—Gen. Buller reports that 27 deaths of enteric fever occurred in Ladysmith from March 7 to March 19.

THE DEWEYS IN SAVANNAH.

Admiral's Boat Goes Aground—He Has an Attack of Indigestion.

SAVANNAH, Ga., March 20.—Rain this morning prevented the carrying out of the full programme in the entertainment of Admiral George Dewey, who arrived here last evening and who is a guest of the city, but the clearing skies about 11:30 o'clock permitted the trip down the river. It was such a bad morning that the Admiral and the committee curtailed the drive scheduled for the early morning hours and spent the time at the DeSoto Hotel. By noon the party were steaming down the river. There was no salute, as the Admiral was in citizen's dress.

The run to the quarantine station was made in quick time, but the cutter ran aground near the quarantine station and did not return to the city until high water to-night. The party took the small boats and landed at the quarantine station. The return to the city was on the tug McCauley, and the party reached Savannah at 5 o'clock. Luncheon was served on the Hamilton during the trip down the river, and the oyster roast served at the quarantine station was a novelty.

On the trip down the river on the Hamilton Admiral Dewey was attacked with cholera morbus and was compelled to seek rest on a lounge in the saloon of the vessel. He took a single glass of "Chatham artillery punch," a local brew, and ate a small quantity of chicken salad. The combination proved too much for him. Surgeon-General Walter Wyman and Dr. J. B. Graham of Savannah, who were on board, gave him their attention.

Gen. Nelson A. Miles will not reach the city till to-morrow afternoon at 6 o'clock from Port Royal Naval Station. The dinner to Admiral and Mrs. Dewey will be given to-morrow evening at the DeSoto Hotel. Mrs. Dewey was entertained at a luncheon this morning by a party of Savannah ladies.

Owing to the indisposition of Admiral Dewey the public reception to him and Mrs. Dewey was not held to-night. Placards announcing the Admiral's illness were posted about the DeSoto Hotel.

To Sail on the Oceanic.

Some of the passengers booked to sail to-day aboard the White Star liner Oceanic are Paul Blouet ("Max O'Rell"), Percy Chubb, Charles Frohman, Col. G. B. M. Harvey, the Marquis and Marchioness of Hertford, and Lord Talbot de Malahide.

THEY NEVER FORGAVE HIM.

STORY OF AN AGED JEW WHO TESTIFIED AGAINST ONE OF HIS RACE.

Peddler Kramer, Who Was a Witness at the Trial of Pesach N. Rubenstein for the Murder of Sara Alexander Twenty-five Years Ago, Since a Wanderer on the Earth.

An aged Jew, ill and so exhausted that he was scarcely able to speak, was found lying on a stoop in Moore street, near Grand avenue, Williamsburg, yesterday morning, by Policeman Knaust of the Stagg street station. When the old man had been taken to the station and somewhat revived, he said he was Moses Kreamer, once called Solomon Kreamer, and that for nearly a quarter of a century he had been ostracised and persecuted by the people of his race because he had once given testimony against a Jew in a murder trial.

"It was the time Sara Alexander was killed by Pesach Rubinstein," said Kramer. "I was slightly acquainted with Rubinstein and on the day of the murder I saw him with the woman on a car going in the direction of East New York, where her body was afterward found in a cornfield. I was one of the principal witnesses against Rubinstein and after he was condemned to be hanged my persecution by people of my own race began. No matter where I went I was ostracised and I lost all my friends. Hard luck seemed to follow me all over the country. Jews refused me even bread. It is a long time since I have had a home and I am getting too weak to knock around any longer."

The police held the old man on a charge of vagrancy, and later in the Ewen street police court Magistrate Brenner acceded to Kramer's request to be sent to the Flatbush Almshouse.

In its day the murder of Sara Alexander and the trial and conviction afterward of Pesach N. Rubenstein attracted unusual attention. Sara Alexander was the daughter of Israel Alexander of 30 Essex street and she disappeared on Dec. 12, 1875. Two days later her body was found lying under a covering of light snow beside a stack of cornstalks on the Schenck farm on the Jamaica plank road in East New York. Her throat was cut and the arms and body hacked. It was made evident afterward that the girl had been attacked and killed while kneeling and begging for mercy. A cigarmaker's knife was found beside the body. The young woman was soon to become a mother.

The body was identified in the Brooklyn Morgue the next day by Israel Rubenstein, the father of Pesach, who told a story of a dream which his son had had, in which Pesach told of seeing Sara lying murdered in the cornfield. This led to Pesach's arrest.

Both before and after the trial it was said that the Polish Jews of this city would never allow one of their number to be hanged; that they would save him at the trial, if possible, and if this failed they would see that he died in prison before the date for his hanging.

The prosecution brought forward a number of witnesses who swore to seeing Miss Alexander going to East New York on a horse car, and that she was joined there by a man who rode out in the same car with her but did not speak to her on the way. The identification of Rubenstein as this man was not very satisfactory. The defence was an alibi and about thirty witnesses swore that Rubenstein was at synagogue at the time it was asserted he was with Miss Alexander.

The four witnesses whose testimony were strongest against Rubenstein were Detective Zundt, who fitted Rubenstein's shoes into tracks found in the cornfield; Gustave Simon, a cutter and grinder, and his daughter Augusta, who recognized the knife with which the murder was done and swore to having sold it to Rubinstein on Dec. 6, and Solomon Kreamer, a peddler, who declared that he met Rubinstein and Miss Alexander in East New York between 6 and 7 o'clock on the day of her disappearance and spoke to them.

John O. Mott, who was counsel for Rubenstein, refused to cross-examine Kreamer, saying that he would prove that Kreamer had been *non compos mentos* since his birth and unreliable. He did afterward produce three or four witnesses who had worked with Kreamer as furriers, who declared that he was a gossip and not well-balanced.

There was also testimony that he was in this city at the time when he said he was in East New York. Rubenstein was sentenced to be hanged on March 24, 1876, but a stay was secured. On May 9 while in Raymond Street Jail, he died from exhaustion and there was some talk at the time that he had committed suicide. His brother offered Under Sheriff Stugnan $10,000 for a chance to escape, had repeated this offer to Assistant Jail Keeper Julian and had offered Under Sheriff Cullen $2,000 for a dose of deadly poison.

RACE AFTER A DIAMOND THIEF.

Exciting Time in Lower Broadway After an Incident in Benedict's Store.

A carefully attired young man went into Benedict Bros.' jewelry store at Cortlandt street and Broadway at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon and asked to see some diamond pins. Edwin P. Benedict, the head of the firm, took him in hand and showed him several pins, removing tray after tray of jewelry to the showcase. After awhile the young man said he wanted a better pin than any that had been shown to him and Mr. Benedict reached into the case for another tray. As he did so he saw the man putting one of the pins in his waistcoat pocket. At the same time the man saw that he was detected and made for the door throwing the pin on the floor.

Mr. Benedict's nephew, Charles B. Benedict, was standing in the centre of the store and started after the thief. The man had a good start, but young Benedict shouted to Policemen Daly and Gernand of the Broadway squad and the policemen and most of the other men within hearing took up the chase. At Liberty street the man turned east, with Benedict, the policemen and the crowd close at his heels. At the corner Benedict slipped and fell, tearing his trousers so badly that his further participation in the race was out of the question. But he shouted to the policemen to keep on.

"We'll get him all right," answered Gernond, whose 6 feet 2 contains a generous proportion of running material.

The policemen kept their word, overhauling the man at William street, and he was taken to the Church street station. Young Benedict, who by this time put on an overcoat, went there with his uncle and made a charge of grand larceny against the prisoner. They said they were sure that he had got some jewelry from their store several months before by a clever trick, into the particulars of which they didn't go. The prisoner said he was Martin J. Stebbins of 228 West 104th street. Afterward he said that he lived at the same number in East 104th street. He begged hard for mercy from the elder Benedict.

"Your son might get in trouble some day," he pleaded.

"Well," answered Mr. Benedict, "I don't believe you'll ever see my son doing anything like this, no matter how hard up he is."

LYNCHED AN ALLEGED INFORMER.

Negro Shot and Strung Up Because He Was Suspected by Moonshiners.

RALEIGH, N. C., March 20.—Gov. Russell received information to-day of a lynching near Carthage on last Saturday night. George Ritter, colored, was taken from his home by masked men, and after he had been mutilated, he was shot and swung up to a tree. The masked men induced Ritter from his home by friendly promises. The general belief of people in the community is that the negro was tortured and murdered by moonshiners, who sought revenge because they suspected that he had reported them to Government officials. Several masks and hats have been found near the scene of the crime and it is believed that the culprits will be found.

The City of Florence Wrecked; Crew Safe.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., March 20.—The British ship City of Florence, loaded with nitre from Iquique, Chili, and bound for San Francisco, went ashore last night at Half Moon Bay, twenty-seven miles south of this city, and is a total wreck. Capt. Stone and the crew of twenty-six men put off in two boats and were picked up by a tug. They arrived here to-night. The captain says the weather was very thick when the ship went ashore.

Cleveland a Suburb of New York.

Leave New York 5:30 P. M., arrive Cleveland next morning for breakfast, by Lake Shore Limited of New York Central. Superb service; no excess fare.—*Ads.*

CARNEGIE AND FRICK.

A Conference for a Settlement Held and a Report of an Agreement.

PITTSBURG, Pa., March 20.—A conference between the warring factions in the Carnegie Steel Company was held to-day at Atlantic City. The stockholders who participated are Andrew Carnegie, Henry Phipps Jr., F. T. F. Lovejoy, D. M. Clemson, James Gayley and President Charles M. Schwab. It is understood that no lawyers were present, and it is known that the men named are trying to reach an amicable settlement of the differences between them. Phipps and Lovejoy are acting for H. C. Frick, who recently brought suit against the Carnegie Steel Company, as well as for themselves.

It was thought better to make no attempt to bring Mr. Frick and Mr. Carnegie together, as their personal differences are too great. Willis F. McCook, Frick's lawyer, refused to discuss to-night the report that a settlement had been effected; another lawyer employed in the case says his last information is that no compromise is possible. It is understood, however, that the conference may last several days and the stockholders previously named have strong hopes that a friendly talk together, as in the old amicable days, may result in abandonment of legal proceedings.

The difficulties between Mr. Frick and Andrew Carnegie have at last been settled that is if news obtained through an indirect but apparently good source can be relied on. In Andrew Carnegie's party here are William Bertram of New York, Henry Phipps, Lawrence C. Phipps, F. F. F. Lovejoy, D. M. Clemsen, Charles M. Schwab, President of the Carnegie Steel Company, and A. M. Moreland of Pittsburg. They are nearly all accompanied by their families. The entire party are at the Hotel Broghton.

This morning the party was joined by James B. Dill. The financiers assembled in a private parlor where, it is said, a conference was held, lasting until nearly noon.

When Mr. Carnegie was asked why he came here he said: "For a little rest and recreation." Several of the members of the party were interrogated concerning the result of the conference, but nothing could be learned from them. A remark was made that "Andrew Carnegie has all his own again," and that he "feels satisfied with the proceedings of the day." Mr. and Mrs. Carnegie and several others, including James B. Dill, will remain for an indefinite time, but the rest left on a late afternoon train for Philadelphia.

Mr. Frick was not present, but it is currently reported that he will arrive here to-morrow. In the afternoon another and briefer conference was held. President Schwab is a frequent visitor to this resort. Mr. and Mrs. Carnegie, it is stated, are preparing for their annual trip abroad and will soon leave for their summer home in Scotland. After the conference this morning Mr. Carnegie and President Schwab went directly to the board walk and promenaded the entire length down the steel walk until they reached Chelsea. When he reached the lower extremity of the board walk Mr. Carnegie stopped and drew from his pocket a tape measure. First looking modestly around as if to see if there was any one nearby, he dropped down on his knees and began measuring the width of the steel walk. Before he had completed the work, Mr. Schwab also dropped on his knees and began to use the tape. The soon succeeded in measuring the width of the walk. This interesting operation was witnessed by over a hundred people.

PALISADE BILL PASSED.

Jersey Assembly Grants Power to Purchase but Not to Condemn Land at the Top.

TRENTON, N. J., March 20.—The bill for the preservation of the Palisades on the Hudson passed the Assembly to-day without debate after a brief explanation of the provisions by Mr. Wakelee. The bill has been much amended since its introduction several weeks ago. As it reads, the commissioners to be appointed will have power to condemn the face of the Palisades, and also a strip 150 feet wide at their base parallel with the river line. For park purposes they are authorized to purchase, but not to condemn, sites on top of the Palisades. It is doubtful if the appropriations committee will allow them an appropriation for that purpose this year.

The House also passed the State Sewerage Commission bill under which it is hoped to secure the purification of the Passaic River.

HEARING ON THE PALISADES BILL.

Gov. Roosevelt Expresses Hearty Approval of Its Object.

ALBANY, March 20.—Gov. Roosevelt to-day gave a hearing on Assemblyman Gherardi Davis's Palisades Preservation bill which provides for the appointment of a commission by the Governor to take the Palisades in condemnation. Frederick W. Devoe and Col. A. G. Mills of the Palisades Commission, with F. S. Lamb, the Secretary, appeared to urge the Governor to sign the measure. They were accompanied by Judge Henry E. Howland, F. W. Ruckstuhl, representing the National Sculpture Society; Brush Brown of the Sons of the Revolution and other historical societies, and Clarkson A. Collins, counsel for the commission.

The only opposition to the bill related to the limit of the northerly boundary line of the property to be condemned and was presented through H. Livingston Centre as attorney for Mrs. Lawrence, a property owner. Gov. Roosevelt expressed his hearty approval of the object of the bill and said it was too late to amend any feature of it. He said he would give it careful consideration before taking action.

BOY TOLD OF A CONSPIRACY.

Weak-Minded Lad Revealed a Scheme to Swindle Chicago Out of $200,000.

CHICAGO, March 20.—The testimony of a ten-year old boy who had been threatened and had been treated harshly till his memory was almost a blank, caused indictments to be returned to-day against Anna Svehla, Ignatz Der, Anton Grabowski and Dr. M. L. Ostrowski on charges of having conspired to defraud the city out of more than $200,000. The boy who revealed the conspiracy is Ludwig Gelik. He was the tool of Anna Svehla, alias Peterson, alias Pietru, who furnished the brains for the fraud. She had made him an agent by telling him of limitless wealth in case of success, and of torture by fire and demons if there was failure. She and three others are charged with having engineered fourteen personal injury cases against the city and railroad companies. The amount, some of which was secured, and the rest of which hung on pending legislation, exceeded $200,000. Every means to stop the frauds failed till City Attorney Ryan heard of the boy who figured in most of the cases. Dr. E. Tracy, who was called in, heard the boy's meaningless laugh and he worked for a way to strengthen his mind. He found it in electricity, in clean air and food, in careful nursing. Little by little the boy's shattered forces were collected and now he talks intelligently of the gigantic frauds which Anna Svehla and her associates made.

COURT ADJOURNS IN A HURRY.

Fire in the Basement of the Temporary Court House of Nassau the Cause.

MINEOLA, March 20.—While Justice Wilmot M. Smith was holding a session of the Supreme Court this afternoon in the frame building here that serves as a temporary court house for the new county of Nassau fire broke out in the basement and stampeded the entire court. Officers, jurymen and spectators ran from the building in all directions, and lawyers, bareheaded and coatless, with their arms full of papers and books, joined in the general scamper. Justice Smith remained cool. Some one ran into the main court room, where a case was under way, and cried out that the building was on fire. The Grand Jury was in session. Justice Smith's first effort was to see that every person in the place was notified. He adjourned court immediately and officers were sent to spread the alarm. Smoke came pouring up from the basement below, and, with one accord, everybody sought safety in the open. An army of volunteers started for the fire house in the village, as lawyers, jurymen, constables and spectators all joined in dragging a fire engine to the scene.

The blaze was due to a defective flue in the basement. The building was considerably damaged by smoke and water, but it will be in condition for holding court to-morrow.

$5,000 Lost by Half a Knot.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—The Government has accepted the torpedo boat Sam Craven, but in accordance with an agreement with her contractors has deducted $5,000 from the contract price because the vessel failed to make the speed required, thirty and a half knots. She failed by half a knot.

NAMED AS GOEBEL'S SLAYER

GOLDEN SAYS A MISSING NEGRO NAMED COMBS IS THE MAN.

Republicans Assert That He Has Been Picked Out So That Some of the $100,000 Reward May Be Secured—Golden, the Alleged Informer, Is Now in Lexington.

LEXINGTON, Ky., March 20.—Sergt. F. Wharton Golden, the Republican militiaman from Barboursville, who, it is asserted, has turned State's evidence and purposes to tell who were in the plot to kill William Goebel, arrived here to-night from Winchester. He was placed in a closed carriage and taken to the home of a friend in the northern part of the city where he will be kept until wanted in Frankfort to testify against the men under arrest there charged with being accessories to Goebel's assassination.

Golden is haggard and worn, and looks like a hunted wild beast. He fears assassination at the hands of the friends he has betrayed, and detectives will keep guard over the house in which he is staying until he leaves. To-morrow the attorneys for the prosecution will come here and bring other witnesses, and all the latter and Golden will be made to rehearse what they are expected to swear on the witness stand. Commonwealth's attorney, Franklin, has instructed Golden not to talk to newspaper men and he refused to make a public statement.

FRANKFORT, Ky., March 20.—According to Republicans the $100,000 reward bill for Goebel's assassin is bearing fruit. There is a rush all over the State to get some of it. The Democrats have picked out a victim. He is a negro named Combs. Sergt. Golden says Combs killed Goebel. Combs was a leader in the French-Eversole feud in Perry county, fearless and a dead shot. After the close of the Perry county war Combs was a barber at Winchester. When local option prevailed in that city he conducted a "blind tiger." He was indicted and fined $4,000. While working out the fine he escaped. Combs was at Frankfort at the time of the killing of Goebel.

A story corroborating in a way the "confession" of Golden is told by a respectable negro woman, Mrs. Betty Pitman, who keeps a boarding house here. Mrs. Pitman says that Combs and Hockersmith, two negroes from eastern Kentucky, were boarding with her at the time Goebel was shot, and that their board money was brought to her regularly by one of the porters on State House square. Combs is now said to be in Elliott county with friends to protect him.

It is said here that Golden made his statement to the State's Attorneys and assistant counsel with the understanding that his name should not be mentioned in the case until called here as a witness and that he would thus be permitted to remain at his home until this time. Mr. Justus Goebel and the attorneys with whom he conferred are said to have given him this assurance.

Assistant Adjutant-General Dixon says that Hockersmith, the negro mentioned in connection with Combs, was in the west-end building across the square from the place where the shot is said to have been fired at the time Goebel was killed. It is not denied that John Perkins told the Pitman woman board for Hockersmith and Combs. Adjutant-General Collier of the Republican administration said to-day that the Taylor administration would hold the State building until the contest cases were passed on by the United States Supreme Court; that there were about 200 soldiers now in service on State House Square; that five or six companies had volunteered to come, but their services were declined because the force was deemed sufficient.

$300 TO KILL A PRESIDENT.

Letters From Venezuela Say Lopez Was a Mere Tool—Many Arrests.

Mail advices received here yesterday from Caracas, Venezuela, give the first details of the recent attempt made on the life of President Cypriano Castro. It was at first believed that Anselmo Lopez, who fired the shot, was an irresponsible person. Documents have been found at his home, however, which show that Lopez, who is a laborer, had contracted with the conspirators to kill President Castro for $300. This discovery has resulted in many arrests.

Lopez selected the carnival procession as the time for his attempt. The Chief Executive was seated in a barouche with his wife. Lopez approached the carriage and when about two feet away drew a revolver from a coat pocket. A detective, who stood near Lopez, threw the latter's hand upward and the shot went wide of its mark. Lopez was overpowered after a struggle. The President and Mrs. Castro sat unmoved. The crowd got Lopez away from the police and he was in danger of being lynched. President Castro arose in his carriage and motioned the crowd back, calling on them to let the law take its course. This request was obeyed and Lopez is now in prison awaiting trial.

The investigation caused by the discovery of the documents at Lopez's home has unfolded a gigantic conspiracy. Many persons implicated in it are now in prison in Caracas. It is reported that some well-known and influential men are connected with the plot and their arrest is expected.

GEN. W. L. WHITE HEARD FROM.

The Missing State Guard Official of Michigan Writes From Cape Town.

DETROIT, Mich., March 20.—Gen. W. L. White, late Quartermaster-General of Michigan, who was indicted for embezzling $40,000 as a member of the military board during the Spanish war, and who fled in December last, has been heard from at Cape Town. There is a reward of $3,000 for his capture and the Fidelity Company of Baltimore is trying to catch him. His whereabouts was made known in a letter dated at Cape Town on Feb. 19 and addressed to his partner, W. E. White, of Grand Rapids. In this letter he tells how he fled the country. From his home he went to Chicago where he took a train bound to New Orleans. At New Orleans he engaged as foreman of mulekeepers to sail in a British ship for Cape Town. The cargo consisted of 1,000 mules, and he had under him a force of forty coolies. The voyage was uneventful up to eight days from the Cape. The ship was then discovered to be on fire and the coolies threatened a mutiny.

White says he fled because he had reason to believe that Gen. Marsh and Col. Sutton were conspiring to make him a scapegoat. He tried to communicate with them. Failing in that he decided to leave the country. He declares his innocence of any wrongdoing and regrets that he did not remain to fight it out. He said he would leave Cape Town in three days. It is surmised that he went to the front with British troops. The letter was made public to-day with the swearing of a jury at Lansing to try Gen. Marsh for the same offence charged against White.

COPPER KINGS IN A LEGAL FIGHT.

Marcus Daly and Senator Clark Contest for Butte Copper Veins.

BUTTE, Mon., March 20.—A battle between the rival copper kings, Marcus Daly and United States Senator W. A. Clark, with copper veins valued at several million dollars at stake, began in the United States Court here to-day. The mines involved are the Never Sweat of the Anaconda Company and the Colusa-Parrot, owned by the Colusa-Leader Mining Company, of which Senator W. A. Clark is the head.

The question of apex is involved in this as in similar suits, and the determination of the matter will mean a great many millions of dollars to the company securing a favorable decision. Both sides have been preparing for the trial for a year, and every section of the country has been scoured for mining experts to give testimony in the case. Nine models costing thousands of dollars have been constructed.

Mr. Rockefeller's Conditional Gift of $100,000 to Wellesley.

WELLESLEY, Mass., March 20.—John D. Rockefeller has made a provisional gift of $100,000 to Wellesley College as a permanent endowment fund. The announcement was made by President Hazard at the chapel service this morning. Miss Hazard stated that Mr. Rockefeller had promised the money upon condition that the alumnæ of the college raise $895,000, the amount of the institution's indebtedness. By the extraordinary efforts of the alumnæ during the last two years over $90,000 of the debt has already been raised or pledged. Mr. Rockefeller's gift will be used to establish a permanent endowment fund.

DEATHS FROM LAMP EXPLOSIONS.

Decrease in London Thought to Be Due to Use of Russian High Flash Oil.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, March 20.—A report of the London County Council on the number of deaths from oil lamp explosions in the county of London shows that thirty-four persons died from this cause in 1898 and twenty-three in 1899. It is suggested that the falling off in the mortality is due to a decrease of 12,000,000 gallons in the importation of American low flash oil and an increase in the imports of Russian high flash.

The total imports for 1898 were: American, 68,488,854 gallons; Russian, 25,690,608 gallons. In 1899 the figures were: American, 56,989,884; Russian, 35,943,054.

BOY BANK MESSENGER RUNS OFF.

T. J. Stewart of Easton, Pa., Disappears with $1,700—Takes a Boy Along.

EASTON, Pa., March 20.—Thomas J. Stewart, aged 18 years, employed as clerk and messenger at the First National Bank in this city, has disappeared with $1,700 of the bank's money. Arthur Clemens, another boy, 16 years old, accompanied Stewart. One of Stewart's duties was to go to the various banking institutions to collect or pay the daily balances. He collected the balance due the First National Bank from the Northampton County National Bank on Saturday morning and told his employers he did not get the money, as the Northampton officials were too busy to pay until Monday. Shortly after this he asked to be excused on account of illness and left with the $1,700 in his possession. Detectives are on the track of the lads. It is thought that they went to California. The bank will lose nothing, as the boy's bond will cover the loss.

WOMAN-BEATING BURGLAR KILLED.

Negro Shot Dead in Flight in Norfolk—His Career in Robbery.

NORFOLK, Va., March 20.—A burglar entered the house of Mrs. Virginia Pruitt, in the heart of Norfolk at 6 o'clock this morning, and felled her with a grate bar. He fled but was overtaken by Policeman Salyer and resisting was shot dead. On him was found a revolver which he attempted to draw before being shot. He was identified as Brooks Ramsey, a fireman on the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad steamer Louise.

In Ramsay's house many valuables which disappeared from Norfolk homes after burglars visited them were found. His wife wore several rings missed recently under such circumstances. It is practically certain that Ramsay was the burglar who, within the past month, when surprised at work by women, beat them cruelly. There have been half a dozen such cases. Several of his victims who saw the body identified it as that of their assailant.

LAY DOWN WHEN CAUGHT STEALING.

Shoplifter Makes a Scene in a Sixth Avenue Store—Locked Up as "Jane Doe."

Miss Mary Quigg, the detective of a large Sixth avenue department store, arrested in the store at closing time last night a woman whom she had seen secrete three small gilt clocks in a shopping bag she carried. When the woman was informed that she was under arrest she lay down on the floor, refusing to budge, and two floorwalkers had all they could do to get her on her feet.

Policeman Sullivan took her to the Tenderloin police station with the articles she had stolen. She refused to tell anything about herself, so the police entered her on the blotter as "Jane Doe." She was comfortably dressed. When she was searched three pawntickets issued earlier in the day at three different pawnshops were found in her purse.

The aggregate amount lent on the articles pawned was $5. The police think the woman stole them.

RICH GOLD FIND IN AN OLD SHAFT.

Rush From Leadville to a Field That May Rival Cripple Creek.

LEADVILLE, Col., March 20.—Word came to the city last night of a rich gold find about one mile this side of Hayden's ranch on the river. The discovery was made in an old prospecting shaft that was sunk to a depth of eighty-five feet many years ago. The ore is a sylvanite and resemble that of Cripple Creek. Assays show forty-eight ounces of gold to the ton. How much of it there is cannot be told yet, but the vein lies in a high ridge at what is known as "Two Pit Gulch."

Over one hundred and fifty persons left Leadville last night to stake claims and many have gone to-day. Should the find bear out the present indications a rival to Cripple Creek has been found.

GEN. LEW WALLACE ALARMED.

Builds Up a Scheme of Empire and Then Puts It All on McKinley.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 20.—Gen. Lew Wallace, who served as a delegate to the St. Louis Republican Convention and was one of the original McKinley men in Indiana, to-day addressed an open letter to the Republicans of the State in which he charges that President McKinley is attempting to make colonies of Puerto Rico and the Philippines to be governed by himself as a colonial empire. He declares that the President is negotiating for the islands of St. Thomas and St. Croix and that he is controlling Congress through patronage.

Gen. Wallace's letter contains a draft of an amendment to the Constitution, which he suggests should be adopted as a bar to the President's purpose.

ONLY VENEERED AFTER ALL.

The Senate Makes a Discovery Regarding Its Handsome New Furniture.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—At the opening of the session it was noticed that the sofas and chairs in the rear of the Senators' desks in the Senate had been replaced by handsome and massive pieces of furniture that evidently must have cost a great deal of money. Their beauty attracted much attention. Recently it was discovered that the Senate had purchased and paid for solid mahogany but had had thrust upon it cheap wood with a thin veneering of mahogany. The new furniture for the cloak rooms was of the same kind and much of it could not be returned as it had been paid for.

PAUILLAC GIVEN UP.

She Carried a Good Deal of Cargo for the Paris Exposition.

The French Line practically has abandoned hope of hearing that its freighter, the Pauillac, which sail