HELD AS SLAVES IN MINES.

ITALIAN LABORER MAKES AFFIDAVIT TO STARTLING CHARGE.

Says His Countrymen Are Lured From This City to the Phosphate Mines in South Carolina and Kept There as Slaves—Brutally Treated and Killed if They Rebel.

Through Italian Consul-General Branchi of this city, Nicolo di Benedetto, who lives at 73 Mulberry street, has made an appeal to the authorities of South Carolina to rescue his fellow countrymen in the phosphate mines at Pon Pon, S. C., from what he declares to be a state of slavery. According to his affidavit the unfortunate Italians who are lured from this city to the mines on promise of good pay are restrained there by armed guards and compelled to work, well or sick, under pain of beating or even of death if they refuse, and by an ingenious system they are kept always in the debt of the padrone. The Consul-General says that for many years complaints have been coming in from Italians in these mines, but that it is impossible for him to take any effectual measures to put a stop to the outrages.

Benedetto has not been in this country very long and is not conversant with American customs. When, shortly after he had landed, an Italian agent of the phosphate mines came to him in Mulberry street and offered him a steady job at which he could make easily $2 a day at piece work, Benedetto thought that America was indeed a land of plenty. If he had stopped to ask the advice of more experienced Italians he might not have gone, but together with several other men, all of whom were new arrivals in this country, he set out for Pon Pon, the agent paying their fares.

According to his affidavit he contracted here to work for Catello Pizzo, and left here on Nov. 8, getting to Pon Pon four days later. After he went to work in the phosphate mines he found that his greatest exertions brought him in only 30 cents a day and that amount Pizzo, who was manager of the company store and ran the boarding houses, charged him for board. He was also informed that he owed the company for his fare to Pon Pon and that he would not be permitted to go until he had paid that debt. As there was no possibility of his earning any more than living expenses he made up his mind that if he was ever to see New York again he must run away. Discouragements to this course of procedure existed in the form of armed guards, seven or eight in number and always on duty, who showed a readiness to use their guns and knives.

If the Italians were ill or unable to work, the affidavit goes on to say, they were severely beaten. They were miserably lodged and badly fed. One man whose name Benedetto does not know was unable to work because of sickness. A guard ordered him to work and when he refused to get up shot him dead. His excuse was that he had been told to shoot any man who disobeyed orders. Pizzo the padrone was present at the time of the shooting and spirited away the murderer whose name Benedetto gives as Domenico.

Finally Benedetto became desperate and on the night of Feb. 26, aided by a storm and dense darkness, he contrived to escape, run the guards and get to the railroad track where he caught a freight train. Walking much of the way and getting rides on freight trains when he could he made his way slowly back to this city, taking nearly a month for the trip. On the advice of his friends he went to Consul-General Branchi and told his story afterward making an affidavit to the facts. A copy of this affidavit was sent to the Italian Consul at Charleston, who forwarded it to Gov. McSweeny. To a SUN reporter Signor Branchi said yesterday:

"This affidavit is only one of many we have been having for many years testifying to the evils of the system employed at the South Carolina phosphate mines. There is no doubt that slavery is practised in those mines upon the ignorant Italians who are decoyed there under promise of good wages. This Consulate has repeatedly appealed to the State authorities but without success. It will be to the lasting discredit of the State of South Carolina if strong measures are not taken to wipe out this evil. I do not accuse the authorities of bad faith, for I realize the difficulties of getting evidence in such cases. The mines are remote and any adequate supervision is very difficult. Time after time the authorities have investigated, but the laborers are mostly ignorant and their testimony is not taken for much. I do not accuse the mining companies of maintaining this system of slavery, but I do accuse them of giving their patrones so much freedom of action that it is possible for them to carry it on. For ten or fifteen years this system of slavery has been carried on in those mines to an extent not known elsewhere in this country."

Mr. Branchi has among his papers a copy of a newspaper report in the case of the killing of Filipo Bonavitacolla on Feb. 20, which is the case referred to by Benedetto in his affidavit. This states that the Sheriff of the county made a report on the case to the Governor in which he says that the killing was in Pizzo's store and that the guard fired in self defence. The coroner's jury also found a verdict to that effect.

All the phosphate workers in that region are Italians, most of whom are picked up in the Mulberry street region of this city by agents who come up here with promises of large business needs. It is said in Mulberry Bend that only "greenhorn" immigrants are taken in by the specious promises of the agents. The older inhabitants know well the treatment that must be expected at the mines. Not long ago one of the agents was mobbed in Mulberry street because he assaulted a woman for warning a young Italian who was being wheedled by the agent. When the reporter went to find Benedetto yesterday the escaped miner was not at home, but an old Italian who lives in the same house had something to say about the mines.

"No much good," he said. "Say give-a much mon'; give-a no mon'. Too much padrone. No catch-a Italiano like-a me dat-a know book, catch-a young-a fool jus' over. No catch-a ol' man. Too much know."

One of the companies at Pon Pon wrote last year to Consul-General Branchi inviting him to come there and inspect the plant, saying that if he would point out any abuses of Italians they would be remedied. Mr. Branchi was unable to leave his post to take the trip.

TRYING "SYNDICATE" MILLER.

Another Witness Who Made Money Out of His Investments.

C. Oscar Birdstrom, the seventeen-year-old broker's clerk who attempted to defy former District Attorney James W. Ridgway during his cross examination in the trial of William F. Miller, was again on the stand in the County Court in Brooklyn yesterday morning.

"Did you find the little book which had the memorandum of your dealings with Miller?" asked Mr. Ridgway.

The witness produced the book which he had tried to make Mr. Ridgway believe had either been lost or burned. The entries showed that Birdstrom was one of Miller's first clients. In all he had deposited $150 in the "get-rich-quick" scheme. He had received in return $209 in dividends, but had not received his principal as he had never asked for it. As it was, he was $59 ahead of the game.

Mrs. Alice Klein of 100 Ryerson street testified she had deposited $500 with Miller in October.

"Are you acquainted with Miller?" asked District Attorney Clarke.

"I am to my sorrow," was her reply.

"Describe what you saw when you visited the Flood street office," said Mr. Clarke.

"There were bundles of money lying loose all over the place," she said, "and I called Miller's attention to it. 'It's all right,' he told me, 'there's some one watching all the time!'"

The witness said that in November she asked Miller to return $400, as she needed it. Miller informed her that he would pay her the amount on Nov. 29.

"But I didn't get my money," she said. "Before Nov. 29 Miller had flown."

"Oh, now, madam, you must not say that," said Mr. Hoine. "It isn't proper. Besides, an incorrect impression might be created in the minds of the jury."

"Miller paid you what he promised, did he not?" asked Mr. Ridgway.

"He did for a time," replied the witness.

"You had no complaint against Miller then," said Mr. Ridgway, "except that he failed to pay back your original investment?"

"Why, that's all I want it," said the witness.

"Did you give Miller any instructions as to what stock he should put your money in?"

"No."

"Then it made no difference what he invested in, is that so?"

"It made no difference," said the witness, "of course not so long as he kept his positive agreement and paid dividends at the rate of 10 per cent. weekly."

John D. Moriarty, a clerk in the State Banking Department, and William Dieterling, a clerk in the office of the Secretary of State, then testified that the Franklin Syndicate had never been incorporated. Mr. Ridgway objected to this latter testimony on the ground that a banker who failed to comply with the State law regarding corporations was guilty of a crime, and as the testimony charged a crime foreign to that named in the indictment it should not be allowed. Judge Hurd overruled the objection. An adjournment was then taken until Monday, as one of the jurors was anxious to get home as there was illness in his family.

Justice Gaynor's Bereavement.

Supreme Court Justice William J. Gaynor of Brooklyn, shortly after reaching the court yesterday, was notified of the death of his two-year-old daughter Pauline at his home, 20 Eighth avenue. The child had pneumonia. It had been sick only a few days.

CRACK BOY SOLDIERS ON PARADE.

Knickerbocker Greys Present a Flag to Their Hosts, the Seventy-first.

In recognition of the hospitality of the Seventy-first Regiment the Knickerbocker Greys, a military organization made up of boys who have had the use of the armory for their practice drills, presented to the National Guardsmen at their armory last night a handsome silk American flag. The occasion was the review of the Seventy-first by Major-Gen. Charles F. Roe and his staff. Originally it was the intention of the Greys to present the colors to the Seventy-first before the latter left Camp Black for the war, but such was the shortage in the market in Stars and Stripes at that time that the ceremony had to be postponed.

It was a great occasion for the youngsters last night, as, although the Greys have been in existence as an organization since 1881, this was practically the first time they have appeared before the general public. They were preceded upon the floor of the armory by their hosts, the Seventy-first, the regiment coming to a halt at the south side of the floor, facing north. Then to the tap of their one drum the Knickerbocker Greys marched out upon the floor and the big crowd that filled the galleries applauded heartily, for the marching of the boys was excellent, and they held themselves with soldierly erectness. They took their place at the north side of the floor, facing the older soldiers.

There were four companies, numbering about a hundred and fifty soldiers in all, and the ages of the members ranged from 10 to 17, though some of the boys looked as if their ninth birthday candles had hardly burned themselves out yet.

As soon as both organizations were in place Major Henry A. Alker, who commands the Greys, led forward his color company, and the color company of the Seventy-first, led by Col. Bates, marched forward to meet them. The Greys' standard bearer stepped out and handed the gift flag to the standard bearer of the receiving regiment, and as the colors were transferred Major-Gen. Roe and his staff rose and stood in their places. Major Alker made a brief speech, saying that the Greys appreciated the hospitality of the Seventy-first and their courtesy in permitting the use of the armory, and that they could think of no better method of expressing their gratitude than by presenting the flag of the nation to the Seventy-first. He spoke also of the fact that it had been intended to make the presentation before the regiment went to war, but that had been prevented by circumstances.

In response Col. Bates expressed the regiment's high appreciation of the gift and said that the regiment would treasure the flag always. He felt sure, he said, that when the National Guardsmen of to-day were past the time of active service the country could find no more patriotic defenders in time of need than the young soldiers from whom the Seventy-first was proud to accept the colors.

The Greys then marched from the floor amid renewed applause, lowering their organization colors as they passed Gen. Roe and his staff and carrying their arms at port.

A general review of the Seventy-first followed, after which there was the presentation of marksmen's badges. At the conclusion of the dress parade, when, after the bugles had called "retreat" the band played the "Star Spangled Banner," every one of the boy soldiers, in whatever part of the floor or galleries he was, uncovered, got to his feet and stood at attention.

ZEIGLEY'S LIVELY WEEK.

Divorced and Arrested for Abduction and Now He's to Be Married.

WILKES-BARRE, Pa., April 6.—This has been an eventful week for Jacob Zeigley of this city. On Monday he was divorced from his wife. On Tuesday a warrant was sworn out against him on the charge of abducting his daughter. On Thursday he was arrested and released on bail, and to-day he got a marriage license to marry Ellen Gillespie, on whose account his wife applied for a divorce. To-morrow he is to be married, and to-morrow night he is to be tried on the charge of abduction.

The police, who have been looking for his daughter since she disappeared on Tuesday, have been unable to find any trace of her, and Zeigley refuses to say whether he has her in hiding. He has been shadowed since his release on bail, but no action of his has indicated the whereabouts of the missing girl.

FIRE ALARMS IN SCHOOLS.

Chief Croker Points Out Dangers of a Panic—Wants an Alarm in Every Room.

President Little of the Board of Education received a communication from Fire Chief Croker yesterday calling attention to what he considers the inadequate means for sending in an alarm in case of a fire in one of the large public schools. There is a fire box in each school, but it is in the lower part of the building, and Chief Croker thinks that there is danger in case of fire of a panic among the children before any one could reach the box. He recommends that the Board of Education have a little fire alarm box near the teacher's desk in every class room. By breaking a small pane of glass in this box a teacher could touch off the alarm in a second's time. The matter is to be placed before the School Commissioners.

OBITUARY.

Father William E. Bartlett, rector of St Ann's Church in Baltimore, and one of the best-known priests in Maryland, died yesterday of Bright's disease. It was at his church that all the baseball players of the Catholic Church worshipped. Father Bartlett for years was known as one of the most enthusiastic patrons of the game in Baltimore. He rarely missed a game. He was born in Baltimore in 1838. His parents were Quakers. They lived opposite St. Ignatius Church and the son, through fondness for music, was in the habit of attending services. He eventually embraced the faith and became a priest. He made several trips to Europe. He had audiences with Pope Pius IX. and also with Pope Leo XIII.

George W. Hoover, aged 78, proprietor of the Grafton House, the Baltimore and Ohio Hotel, at Grafton, W. Va., died on Thursday. He was conductor of the construction train when the Baltimore and Ohio was building to the Ohio River and was conductor of the first passenger train to Wheeling. He delighted to tell that Andrew Carnegie was once a brakeman on the same crew with him.

Samuel Smith Mulhane, who had been employed in the flour inspection department of the Produce Exchange for the past five years, died on Thursday at the home of his mother, 881 Pacific street, Brooklyn. He served two terms as President of the Harmony Club, a social and political organization of the Twenty-fourth ward.

William M. Tilghman died at his home in Philadelphia yesterday in his eighty-fifth year. He was a member of the Tilghman family who came to this country in 1664 from England and settled in Maryland. He was a lawyer, but had not practised for many years. He was a charter member of the Union League.

Mrs. Mary A. Wood, the wife of the Rev. Charles Wood, a retired Presbyterian minister, died on Thursday at her home, 535 Quincy street, Brooklyn, in her eighty third year.

Bridge Engineer Resigns.

Edwin Duryea, Jr., resident engineer on the Brooklyn side of the new East River Bridge, has resigned in order to take charge of another work. He superintended the construction of the piers on the Williamsburg side. Kingsley L. Martin now becomes engineer in charge of the Brooklyn construction of the bridge.

The Weather.

There was a stratum of warm air over all the northern States yesterday, thrown off from the area of high pressure, which centred in the Ohio and Tennessee valleys. This same area caused cooler weather in the East Gulf and South Atlantic States and frosts in Tennessee, Georgia, the Carolinas, northern Alabama and northern Florida. In most cases the frost was light.

For the first time since last fall the temperature at 8 A. M. was above the freezing point throughout the entire country, with indications of still warmer weather to-day.

Generally fair weather prevailed, save for showers around the Lake regions, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas.

In this city the day was fair and much warmer; average humidity, 71 per cent.; wind northwest, shifting to west and southwest, average velocity fourteen miles an hour; barometer corrected to read at sea level at 8 A. M. 29.76; 3 P. M., 29.65.

The temperature as recorded by the official thermometer, and also by THE SUN'S thermometer at the street level, is shown in the annexed table:

	Official.		Sun's.		Official.		Sun's.
	1900.	1899.	1900.		1900.	1899.	1900.
9 A. M.	52°	37°	54°	6 P. M.	62°	42°	60°
12 M.	59°	40°	57°	9 P. M.	55°	40°	55°
3 P. M.	63°	46°	65°	12 Mid.	50°	38°	54°

WASHINGTON FORECAST FOR TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW.

For New England and eastern New York, showers to-day and probably Sunday; diminishing northwest winds.

For the District of Columbia, eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia, showers to-day or to-night; showers Sunday; diminishing west winds.

For western Pennsylvania and western New York, showers and warmer to-day; Sunday showers; brisk southwest winds.

RACE ISSUE AT SANTIAGO.

ALL THE EDITORS OF THE ORGAN OF THE NEGROES ARRESTED.

It Had Published a Scurrilous Article Against the Civil Government—Negroes Hold an Indignation Meeting—Gen. Wood Promises That Justice Shall Be Done.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, April 6.—The bad feeling resulting from the recent dissolution of the Electoral Committee of Santiago, when it was demonstrated that the main political issue in this province will be whether the whites or the blacks shall rule, was the cause of the publication last night by the *Cubano Libre*, the recognized organ of the negroes, of a scurrilous article against the civil government. This morning Alcalde Pedro Guinan, on the authority of Governor General Wood, arrested the entire staff of the paper, numbering five men, and locked them up.

The article, which appeared under the title of "The Official Sewer," denounces at length all Cubans who now hold office under Gen. Wood. The terms employed are extremely abusive. The mildest expressions are "hypocrites," "boot-lickers," and "canaille." The article was aimed especially at Gov. Castillo, the Alcalde and their officers.

The importance of the affair lies in the fact that it indicates that the political disagreements of the Cubans which have already begun in this province will lead to a serious conflict between the whites and the blacks. The negroes are five times as strong, numerically, as the whites. They held an indignation meeting this afternoon at the Maceo Club, and the speakers declared that the issue between the races meant war to the knife. Telegrams were sent to Gens. Miro, Lora and Cabreco, who are in Havana, asking them to come and place themselves at the head of a popular movement in opposition to the henchmen of the hated Americans.

The rural guard has been called to the city to prevent possible violence. To-night the Alcalde telegraphed to Gen. Wood an indorsement of his action in causing the arrest of the trouble-makers. The indorsement was signed by 200 prominent business men.

HAVANA, April 6.—The Mayor of Santiago has telegraphed to Governor General Wood that he has suppressed the newspaper *Cubano Libre* for attacking the Government and has arrested its editors. He asked for authority to expel the editors from the province. Gen. Wood instructed him to let the law take its course, and said that if the courts did not do justice, justice would be done to the courts.

NEEDED REFORMS IN CUBA.

A Lecture Given by Secretary Varona to His Country on Civic Virtues.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

HAVANA, April 6.—Señor Varona, Secretary of the Treasury, has written to a friend a long letter, which is published in to-day's papers, concerning reforms in the municipal treasuries. He tells his countrymen some plain and unpleasant truths about themselves. He holds that many who are preoccupied with political reforms and the nature of the future republic of Cuba are within their right, but he, himself, thinks that there is greater necessity for social reforms. He would uplift the common people, raise their standard of living and lighten their burdens in each little community in order that by their increased wellbeing and economic condition all classes might be improved.

He complains of the lack of proper civic virtues among the people of the higher classes and of their utter disregard of the wants and needs of the common people, all of which, he says, reacts to the detriment of the whole. The country, he adds, is selfish and the prey of class prejudices. Endeavors should be made to cheapen the cost of living for the poor by lowering the customs duties and levying direct taxes, which would be the best system because the least harmful to them. Every one wanted every body but himself to be taxed.

Señor Varona recently stated publicly that he was opposed to large sugar plantations and urged the introduction of small holdings because great estates led to the perpetuation of class prejudices, which are detrimental to the spirit of the republic which the Cubans are trying to form. The sugar aristocracy attacked him for his position, but he has not changed his determination to air his views.

Gen. Wood is determined to smash the meat monopoly that now controls the slaughter-house. There is a difference of 100 per cent. between wholesale and retail prices. The slaughterhouse concession will be denounced and the abattoirs thrown open to the public. This will result in the cutting of prices in two.

LOCKED HERSELF UP AND DIED.

Had Been in Her Room for Five Days When the Door Was Broken.

The attention of the Richmond borough Coroners was called on Thursday to the death of Mrs. Jane Elizabeth Harcourt at 31 Prince street, Clifton. Mrs. Harcourt was the widow of Dr. DeWitt Harcourt, a well-known Staten Island physician. She lived in a small cottage with her sister, Miss Margaret Swinton. She was 72 years old. Neighbors say that they often took pity on the old women, who seemed to be poor, and sent food to them. One of these, James McMullen, an inspector in the Richmond Borough Health Department, says that he has often furnished them with food and they have apparently been grateful for it. The women are said to have had frequent quarrels, and at such times one would go to her room and remain for hours at a time.

Late Thursday afternoon Miss Swinton went to McMullen's house and told him that her sister had been locked in her room since the previous Saturday. McMullen went to the house, broke in the door and saw Mrs. Harcourt dead in an armchair. Coroner Seaver was notified and an autopsy was performed by Coroners' Physician George Mord. The autopsy showed that death was due to heart failure.

In Mrs. Harcourt's dress was found $15 in cash and in her room were two bank books, one on the Broadway Savings Institution, and the other on the Seamen's Saving Bank. Each showed $500 to Mrs. Harcourt's credit.

JURY'S PROTEST ADMITTED.

Commissioner Wilcox Overrules District Attorney Gardiner's Counsel.

The Gardiner hearing was resumed before Commissioner Wilcox yesterday, but no witnesses were examined. Mr. Deming offered in evidence a transcript of the proceedings before Recorder Goff on March 15, when the March Grand Jury made a protest against the presence of the District Attorney while it was listening to the testimony of Dr. Parkhurst. Mr. Untermyer objected to the introduction of this evidence, but he was overruled.

He made a further protest, demanding that the transcript be held over until the motion before Judge Foster to expunge the presentment of the March Grand Jury from the record had been decided, but the Commissioner again overruled him and the transcript was admitted in evidence. An adjournment was then taken until Wednesday morning.

American Women to Teach in Constantinople.

OSHKOSH, Wis., April 6.—Miss Hester D. Jenkins of this city has been appointed professor of English in the American College at Constantinople, Turkey. Miss Given Griffiths of the University of Chicago has been appointed to the chair of science at the same college. They will sail for Constantinople on Aug. 11.

JOTTINGS ABOUT TOWN.

The Cotton Exchange will close on April 13 and 14, Good Friday and the following Saturday. The New York Produce Exchange will close on Good Friday.

The autopsy made by Coroner's Physician Donlin yesterday disclosed that Mrs. Kate Walsh, who was found dead on Wednesday in her room at 348 Hudson street, had been accidentally choked to death by a piece of meat, which stuck in her throat at dinner.

A poorly dressed man about 50 years old was found unconscious in an areaway in East Houston street, yesterday, and died on the sidewalk soon afterward. It is supposed he fell into the area and broke his neck. No one knew him and his body was removed to the Morgue.

When Thomas Aiello, 13 years old, was arrested yesterday on suspicion of being responsible for a series of thefts in the jewelry store of his employer, Edward Hirschfeld, at 212 Sixth avenue, jewelry worth $92 was found in his pockets and a pile of silverware in a girl playmate's trunk. Both were held.

Judgments of absolute divorce were granted in these cases yesterday: By Justice Fitzgerald, to John J. Daly from Catherine L. Daly, and to Margaretha Nicastro from Louis Nicastro; by Justice Bischoff, Jr., to Harry Thome from Amanda Thome. Justice Giegerich has granted a limited divorce to Marie E. Clausman from Modeste L. Clausman.

ROYAL
Baking Powder
Absolutely Pure

Makes hot breakfast-breads wholesome—no yeast germs, no alum. Makes cake, biscuit and pastry of superior fineness, flavor and delicacy. Makes food that will keep moist and sweet. Is most economical, because it is the purest and greatest in leavening strength. In the easy, expeditious preparation of the finer cakes and pastries Royal is indispensable.

Care must be taken to avoid baking powders made from alum. Such powders are sold cheap, because they cost but a few cents per pound. Not only will they spoil the cake, but alum is a corrosive acid, which taken in food means injury to health.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 100 WILLIAM ST., NEW YORK.

THE HESS-GODDARD FIGHT.

COURTS TO BE ASKED TO REVIEW CONVENTION'S ACTION.

Goddard Faction Threatens to Proceed Against Chairman John Sabine Smith for Violating the Primary Election Law—Bitter Against Richard M. Lush.

The Twelfth Congress district convention, which began at 8:30 o'clock on Thursday evening, didn't end until 2 o'clock on Friday morning, when the alternates nominated by Charles A. Hess were declared elected. The adherents of Capt. F. Norton Goddard refused yesterday to accept the result of the convention and announced that they had perfect confidence that they would win in the courts. An action will be begun early next week for the review of the whole proceeding.

"We will not appeal to the courts until the action now pending before Justice Freedman in regard to the Fifth Election district delegates of the Twenty-fifth district is disposed of," said John H. Hammond, Capt. Goddard's counsel. "As to John Sabine Smith's action in excluding these two delegates, we hold it to have been utterly illegal. We may proceed against him for violation of the Primary law, but it is very difficult to get a jury to convict in cases of this kind. Mr. Smith's action in omitting the names from the roll raises the question whether the meeting of delegates on Thursday evening was in reality a convention at all. He had no other duty than to call the convention to order on the temporary roll certified by the Custodian of Primary Records, and on March 30 Mr. Quigg wrote to Capt. Goddard saying that every name on the roll would be called. But Smith was put there to do the work and he did it. I expect that Capt. Goddard will get the certificate as a delegate, and that C. N. Agnew and Henry Birrell, the Goddard candidates for alternates, will also get certificates."

The result of the convention was decided when Fred A. Ware, the Hess candidate, was elected temporary chairman by a vote of 34 to 54 for Charles A. Peabody, Jr., the Goddard candidate. The Committee on Contested Seats threw out George Stewart and Samuel Moran, the Goddard claimants from the Fifth district of the Twenty-fifth, and Christopher Stewart and James McAneny, the Hess contestants, were seated. The committee granted half a vote each to Lawrence Havian, a Hess man, and Frank Skillington, a Goddard man, from the Fourth of the Twentieth. After that the vote on all questions was 53½ to 50½, except on the Hon. Cornelius N. Bliss's election, which was unanimous.

The Goddard faction showed great bitterness toward R. M. Lush, a delegate from the Fourth of the Twentieth, who voted for Hess. Before the convention a crowd of young men, not delegates, gathered at the entrance to the hall and threatened to knock Lush out. Sydney H. Goodacre, deputy sergeant-at-arms of the Republican County Committee, finally induced them to go away, and there was no demonstration against Lush except in the convention hall, where the Goddard faction, in spite of the efforts of a few older men to stop them, hissed and hooted him whenever his name was mentioned. Some of the Goddard men declared that they would drive Lush out of the district. Lush told a SUN reporter that he had received many threatening letters since the campaign began, but that he didn't believe any one would attempt to harm him.

When ex-City Magistrate Job E. Hedges rose to nominate Mr. Hess, Chairman Ware recognized him as Judge Hedges. The Goddard men immediately began to howl: "He a Judge? Oh, no!"

"The gentlemen who are making that noise never bore an honorable title," said Mr. Ware.

"But some of the gentlemen making that noise have been before the man with an honorable title," said Mr. Hedges.

The only delegation that was solid and unbroken was the Hon. William Henkel's from the Eighteenth. Their twenty-six votes were cast for Hess on every roll call, although some of Capt. Goddard's workers had declared that there would be a break in the delegation.

Capt. Goddard said last night that Mr. Hess attempted to last week influence J. J. Shannon, one of his delegates, through Al Adams, the policy king. Capt. Goddard said that Shannon, who is a carpenter, did a great deal of work for policy shops, and that Mr. Hess went to Adams, and asked him to influence Shannon's vote. Adams, according to Capt. Goddard, had one of his men, named Dolph, who acts as his manager, take Shannon to see Hess on Sunday. According to Capt. Goddard Mr. Hess and Dolph urged Shannon to vote for Hess or to go out of town, Mr. Hess suggesting that Shannon might go to Chicago, and that his expenses might be $500. Shannon took a day to think it over and then declined to desert Goddard. Capt. Goddard also said that Mr. Hess promised to get a job in the Federal service for Frederick Peffer of the Twenty-second district in return for his vote.

"I began by charging that Mr. Hess used improper methods in this campaign," said Capt. Goddard. "I think that his acts have proved that I was right. I think that he is not a fit person to be the leader of the Twenty-fifth district."

Some of Capt. Goddard's friends propose to hold a mass meeting next week to denounce John Sabine Smith.

Syracuse Democrats Indorse Mayor McGuire.

SYRACUSE, April 6.—Delegates to the Democratic State Convention were named to-day in the four Assembly districts of Onondaga as follows: First district, John Q. Fellows, Sidney Cook, W. H. Hoffman; Second district, Anton F. Baumer, Thomas W. Sheedy and Dr. W. L. Barnes; Third district, John J. Cummins, James L. Dolan and Isaac Rosenbloom; Fourth district, Charles A. Lockhard, Charles H. Gang and John L. Seager.

Resolutions were adopted at all four conventions indorsing the McGuire administration, denouncing the majority report of the Lewis Investigating Committee and urging McGuire as the Democratic candidate for Governor against Roosevelt.

POLITICAL RIOT IN MONTCLAIR.

Fierce Party Rivalry for the Italian Vote Leads to Brick Throwing.

MONTCLAIR, N. J., April 6.—A riot in the Fourth ward of this town last night during a Republican parade resulted in seven being injured. The Republicans had been parading through the town with Thomas Alworth, candidate for Councilman, at the head of the procession. When they were near Hartley street they gave three cheers for Alworth. On the sidewalk close by were a crowd of supporters of James Durning, the Democratic nominee, who began to hiss. While this was going on someone threw a stone at a company of Italians in the parade. The Italians responded with a fusillade of stones and other missiles against the persons on the sidewalk. Thomas Noonan was cut in the head with a stone, Harry Reiby was cut over the right eye, Joseph Cramer was injured in the head and James Howlett was cut in the leg with a beer bottle. Noonan had seven stitches sewed in his head.

Ever since last Tuesday there has been a bitter feeling between the two political parties because over one hundred Italians were added to the poll list. Each side has been fighting to get control of the new voters. One night the Democrats have them in tow and the next the Republicans. The Italians are having a good time at the expense of the rival party leaders.

LEGAL HEIRS TO $700,000.

Settlement at Hand in the Harlem and Bloomingdale Road Case.

The long litigation over the title to the old Harlem and Bloomingdale roads will be ended in a few days when the title company which has been trying to determine who are the legal heirs to the property makes its report to the Supreme Court. Several years ago the right of the Apthorpe heirs to these Harlem roads, which have all been built upon, was settled in the Court of Appeals, and all that remained to be done was to decide how many of the forty claimants were legally entitled to a share of the property. For more than a year a local title company has been working on the matter, and at the office of James A. Deering, counsel for a majority of the heirs, it was said yesterday that the rights of all of the claimants had been established and that several persons who had not put in claims at all had been added to the list of those legally entitled to shares. The property is valued at about $700,000.

NAVY YARD NEWS.

Ammunition Being Put Aboard the Battleship Massachusetts.

The battleship Massachusetts, which is anchored in the Brooklyn Navy Yard, has been taking on ammunition for two days from a barge which lies alongside. This is taken as an indication by the officers of the vessel that the big battleship is soon to leave, although it was reported that she was not to leave until the first week in May. It is not the custom to supply a vessel with ammunition unless she is about to leave.

Subscriptions to the fund for the purchase of a silver model of the Maine, which is to be presented to Miss Helen M. Gould, are pouring in rapidly, and the amount is nearing the $2,000 mark, which is the sum the model is to cost. Many of the ships yet to be heard from are on foreign stations, and it will take some time for their subscriptions to reach here. There is rivalry among the ships' companies on the home stations as to which shall subscribe the largest amount. It has already been decided that a committee consisting of four sailors and four marines shall be appointed to make the presentation to Miss Gould when the model is ready.

Preparing the Stringham for Her Trial.

NORFOLK, Va., April 6.—The torpedo-boat destroyer Stringham came to Norfolk this evening. Considerable work remains to be done aboard her and she will lie at the dock here while the force of machinists is at work. She will sail from here next Monday on her official trial trip.

Car Upsets a Salvage Corps Truck.

While the fireman of Salvage Corps No. 2, whose headquarters are in Stagg street, Williamsburg, were responding to an alarm of fire early yesterday morning, the wagon they were in was run into at Lorimer and Stagg streets by a trolley car. The wagon was upset, the front part of the car was smashed and the motorman, Patrick Farrell, was stunned. Three firemen were hurt. Edward P. Mundy was injured about the chest and left leg; his brother James had his right hip dislocated and Edward Pullim had both legs and hands severely cut and bruised. In the Ewen street police court Farrell was held in $1,000 bail pending a hearing.

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PRESIDENT VAN DYKE NOW.

THE PROFESSOR MADE HEAD OF THE HOLLAND SOCIETY.

He Chaffs the Members From Retirement in the Country and They Have Fun With Him—Boers Hailed as Heroes and a Proposal to Save on Good Cheer Squelched.

The Dutch brotherhood represented in the Holland Society of New York had a great deal of fun last evening at their fifteenth annual meeting at Delmonico's over the Rev. Henry van Dyke of Princeton, whom they elected with hearty approbation as their President for the ensuing year. To the regret of the members Dr. van Dyke was not present, but the men who filled the long Red Room made merry in anticipation of his presidency.

The ticket of officers for the year, headed by Dr. van Dyke, was elected unanimously. Secretary Banta read a letter from Dr. van Dyke, written, the doctor stated, in rural retirement. "The retiring disposition," he wrote, "is not native, but has been acquired at great expense." Whereupon there was a general indulgence in laughter of the best-natured kind. Cincinnatus had deserved his retirement, the Murray Professor of English literature wrote; he, the professor, had leaned a long time on the handle of his hoe, but the command of Judge George M. Van Hoesen of the Nominating Committee had made him consent to run for the office, so far as that word rapid transit could be made to apply to a Dutchman.

An engagement to lecture in Pennsylvania prevented Dr. van Dyke being present. He would be satisfied, he wrote, with what the meeting decided to do; he would remain with the cauliflowers or come to the Presidency.

When, upon this letter, Dr. van Dyke was elected, with the rest of the ticket, the retiring President, Tunis G. Bergen of Brooklyn, remarking that the letter was written before election, observed that that, he believed, was the usual way of men who ran for office, and added that Dr. van Dyke had run so well he had run away.

"As a reverend poet or a professional orator," Mr. Bergen said, "I know he will be welcome. I've known the professor—Henry (laughter)—well, General, van Dyke—he's given me several titles; I'm willing to give him as many—for many years. I've told him time and again that I still believe in Christianity after hearing some of his sermons."

Mr. Bergen's references to the Boer war were very guarded. Events there had shown that it was still true that a few Dutchmen could make themselves heard, he remarked. Right or wrong, they displayed the heroism of the old blood.

"Right! Right!" came in concert from the auditors.

"If it is true that fortune ordains that the British shall conquer in South Africa," said Mr. Bergen, "still, humanity is staggered to-day by the stand of these few men against such onslaughts, and will paint them as the heroes of the opening of the twentieth century. It is a comfort to know that the world knows again something of the ancient blood and that we have done something again besides dining."

The sentiments expressed by Mr. Bergen were heartily applauded. A proposal from a member that more money be spent for monuments and less for entertainment—heretofore, out of $4,100 of annual receipts, $1,500 having been expended upon the pleasures of the flesh—was spontaneously frowned down, jumped upon and otherwise maltreated and finally rejected.

"I supposed," said Dr. D. B. St. John Roosa, amid applause, "that the characteristic of the Dutchman was to eat and drink of the best, and that to the New Englander was left the task of asking what his ancestors would have thought of a thing."

Robert B. Roosevelt of the Sons of the American Revolution discoursed upon the lesson of that historic occasion when there was so much bread and so little sack, and fervently requested the society to spend less for records and to keep up the entertainment. "How many of you would be here to-night," he asked, "if it were not for that best part of the notice of the meeting which said that refreshments would be served?" And the response to this question settled the matter adversely to the wishes of the member who wanted monuments. In the heat of humor the assemblage dissolved as a business body and turned to the trencher and bowl.

TWO CLAIMANTS TO A BULLDOG.

Were Locked Up Charged With Stealing Him—Dog Locked Up, Too.

Frank Farrell, a salesman of 227 West Thirty-eighth street, was locked up in the Tenderloin police station last night charged with stealing a bulldog. The bulldog was locked up, too, and the police will hold the brute until a Magistrate decides who his rightful owner is. Daniel Gardiner, an actor of 252 West Thirty-ninth street, says he owns the dog.

Gardiner met Farrell and the dog on Broadway near Forty-first street last night and recognized the dog, he says, as one he lost a few days ago. Both men seized the dog while disputing over the ownership and a policeman finally had to hale all three to the station. Farrell insists that he bought the dog for $2 earlier in the day from a man whose name he did not know.

INCREASE IN THE LEOPARD FAMILY.

Pair of Cubs Born to the O'Gradys in the Park Menagerie.

Two cubs were found tumbling about the floor of the spotted leopard cage in the Central Park menagerie when the keepers went on duty yesterday morning. The cubs had been born over night to Thomas O'Grady and his spouse. The O'Gradys came from Germany last summer and they have the distinction of presenting the first baby leopards in many years to the menagerie. O'Grady was chased out of the family domicile yesterday lest he should eat the youngsters and the keepers made a small wooden shelter and bed of straw in a corner of the cage for the mother and her young.

WHALEN WANTS TO TEST LAW NOW.

Corporation Counsel to Ask Final Decision in Prevailing-Rate-of-Wages Matter.

Corporation Counsel Whalen has obtained an order from Justice Bischoff of the Supreme Court advancing the hearing of the argument on demurrer to April 12 in an action brought by Thomas McAvoy to recover $75 from the city under the Prevailing-Rate-of-Wages law. The Corporation Counsel had confessed judgment in a number of these cases against the city on authorities which seemed to sustain him, but, in view of the recent decision of Justice McAdam to the contrary, he says that he intends to carry the McAvoy case up on appeal, so as to definitely settle the matter. The affidavit of Mr. Whalen in support of the motion states:

"That the above-entitled action was commenced on Feb. 8, 1900, and is brought to recover the sum of $75 for the difference between the prevailing rate of wages and the wages paid the plaintiff as a rammer in the Department of Highways of the city of New York. That a demurrer to the complaint was served on the 4th day of April, 1900. That this action is one of several thousand which have been commenced against the city of New York, commonly known as prevailing-rate-of-wages actions, in which the amounts cla