The Sun.

Partly cloudy to-day; south winds, becoming variable.

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BOER PLANS OF DEFENCE.

PREPARING TO MAKE A STAND IN HILLS SOUTH OF JOHANNESBURG.

British Army Encamped Last Night Across the Vaal—Roberts's Advance Guard Arrived in Time to Save the Coal Mines and Part of the Vereeniging Bridge—Getting Supplies Into Mafeking Now From the North—The British Attacked at Ficksburg.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.

From THE SUN'S Correspondent with Gen. Roberts.

TAALBOSCH, May 26, 5:50 P. M.—Gen. Hamilton, with Gen. Broadwood's advance, is at the drift at Boschbank. Gen. French crossed the Vaal River into the Transvaal at Parys on Thursday. The British advance guard crossed the river to-day without opposition. The bridge had been destroyed. The Boers are reported to be taking their guns and forage toward Johannesburg.

The rail head is now at the Rhenoster River. It is stated here that forty British troops are occupying the coal mines. Gen. Roberts is arranging to support them.

LONDON, May 27.—The War Office has received the following despatch from Gen. Roberts:

"VEREENIGING, May 27, 1:50 P. M.—We crossed the Vaal this morning and are now encamped on the north bank. The advanced troops, who crossed yesterday, were only just in time to save the coal mines both on this and the other side of the river from being destroyed. Our casualties were only four.

"Baden-Powell reports that the railway from Mafeking to Buluwayo has been restored and supplies are being brought in. He says that the Canadian artillery joined Plumer from Beira with incredible rapidity.

"Lieut. Webber of the Engineers was taken prisoner at Hedlbron a few days ago. He went there on telegraph duty not knowing our troops had been temporarily withdrawn."

LONDON, May 28.—The British army, which, since it left Kroonstad, has not fired a shot in action, was disappointed in its expectation that the Boers would make a stand at the Vaal River, and it has now crossed the barrier between the Transvaal and the Orange Free State without opposition. The reason which induced the Boer Generals to abandon that line of defence can at the present only be conjectured, and little more is known than that they have again slipped north taking their guns and stores with them. The English correspondents in the field all declare that their heavy artillery has been sent to the Klip River mountains, a few miles south of Johannesburg, with the idea of defending that town, but these reports are apparently not supported by any authentic proof.

The British advance guard followed closely upon the heels of the retreating commandos across the Vaal, so close, indeed, that the mounted infantry nearly succeeded in saving the Vereeniging Bridge, the southern end of which they seized. They also cut the wires leading to the mines on the south side, which the Boers had laid with the intention of completely destroying the structure. The last train across the bridge seems to have run considerable risk of capture, it being under the fire of Gen. French's guns. The narrowness of the escape of the Boers in their retreat is further revealed by Gen. Roberts's reference to the coal mines, the salvation of which is a great advantage to the British. In ordinary times the chief supply of the Cape railways is drawn from these mines.

Of the position of the Transvaal in respect to a continuance of its opposition there is little new, but a despatch to the *Daily Mail* from Lorenzo Marques is the latest. The correspondent says that his information came from an absolutely trustworthy source in Pretoria. He says that the position from both a political and military point of view has become very critical. President Kruger has admitted for the first time that matters are very grave. The Boer determination is to trust everything to a last stand in the Gatrand Mountains, north of Potchefstroom, where 3,000 Kaffirs are digging trenches. Potchefstroom is west of Vereeniging and commands a road and railway to Johannesburg. The western border of the Transvaal is defenceless, and Gen. Baden-Powell can march in when he likes. Gen. Roberts, according to the correspondent, will encounter the greatest resistance in these mountains.

The Boer endeavor is to lure the British into appearing to threaten Johannesburg with an attack, which will give a reason for the destruction of the mines and other property there. The Government dare not destroy this property without an excuse. Much dynamite has been sent down the railway. There are 100,000 cases of the explosive at Zuurfontein, near Johannesburg. Gens. Louis Botha and Lucas Meyer have pleaded for the preservation of the property, they both being large landed proprietors and fearing confiscation by the British in retaliation after the war, but they have not received satisfactory replies from President Kruger.

Gen. Meyer says that surrender would be at once proposed by the Boers were it not for the fact that the people fear the ignominy of making the proposal. He declares that his men will not stand against the British. President Steyn of the Orange Free State and State Secretary Reitz of the Transvaal are strongly opposed to peace, but President Kruger is not so much against it.

The reoccupation of Hellbron by the Boers, which Gen. Roberts incidentally discloses in his despatch to the War Office, was probably foreseen, but in any cases in view of the disposition of the British forces, the reoccupation can hardly be important.

There has been a sharp engagement at Ficksburg, east of Bloemfontein, but the details are meagre. It appears that the British entered the town last Thursday and were attacked by a Boer force on Saturday morning, but the assailants were apparently repulsed and they retired to Slabberts Nek. The casualties are unknown.

Gen. Buller has not yet made a forward movement in Natal. All his efforts are directed to restoring the railroad, which on Friday evening had been completed to Ingagane. The English correspondents say that the Boers still hold Laings Nek strongly. The estimates as to their numbers differ, some placing them as high as 10,000 men with twenty guns, but this seems excessive especially as regards the artillery. Nevertheless, they seem to have been reenforced from several directions and their front is said to extend from Laings Nek to Vryheid. They are fortifying the latter place. Gen. Hildyard, with the Fifth Division from Glencoe, has now joined Gen. Buller.

The latest news from Mafeking is dated Wednesday. Everything was then going along well. Supplies were arriving from the north, but the bread ration still consisted of six ounces. When people go out to dinner they take their own bread with them. The Horse and Canadian Artillery seem to have been the most welcome of the relieving force. The garrison had been occupied for eight months in keeping a line of defences eight miles long against modern artillery, while their guns consisted of four muzzle-loading 7-pounders, which were constantly under repair, four Maxims, one Hotchkiss, one Nordenfeldt, one ship gun, firing cannon balls, and one homemade howitzer. None of these guns had a greater range than 8,000 yards. It was impossible to express the delight of the town on seeing the Horse and Canadian Artillery gallop into action after their marvelous march of 300 miles in twelve days, and then in watching the effect of the accurately aimed shells bursting immediately over the image. The Boer encampment, which was already packed, was cleared in twenty minutes.

A despatch to the *Times* from Taalbosch ascribes the successful passage of the Vaal River by the advance guards to Gen. Roberts's strategic redistribution of his front, which completely upset the calculations of the Boers, 4,000 of whom were expecting Gen. Hamilton at Englebrech Drift. Meanwhile the British mounted troops pushed across at Viljoens Drift. The correspondents describe the skirmish which followed this move and which accounted for the four casualties mentioned by Gen. Roberts. It was an affair apparently of only a few minutes. The chief opposers of the British were Blake's Irish Brigade.

The *Times's* correspondent says it is rumored that Gen. Christian De Wet was seriously wounded. Another *Times* despatch states that Gen. Rundle occupied Senekal on Saturday without opposition. The Boers in the neighborhood are said to have numbered 1,500, with several guns. A few shells dispersed them. A Field Cornet and several others were killed. The British casualties were eleven killed or wounded.

GLOOMY VOLKSRAAD MEETING.

Many Vacant Seats of Members Who Had Fallen in Battle.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

CAPE TOWN, May 27.—Copies of the *Standard and Diggers' News* of Pretoria, of the issue of April 8, have been received here. The paper says that the Volksraad, upon reassembling, was opened in painful silence as the members present noted the many empty seats of those who had fallen on the field of battle. The cheerfulness characteristic of the reassembling of the house was entirely absent. All seemed oppressed by the fear that they were assisting at the last session of the free parliament of a free country.

BOER APPEAL FROM HOLLAND.

University Professors There Ask Their Colleagues Here to Help Transvaal Envoys.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., May 27.—The professors of Yale University have received the following circular letter, signed by members of the faculties of the University of Leyden, the University of Utrecht, the University of Groningen, the University of Amsterdam and the Free University of Amsterdam:

"*To the Professors of the Universities of the United States of America:*

"COLLEAGUES—The horrible war, which has now for more than six months been ravaging South Africa, impoverishing and exterminating its population, devastating its farms and threatening to destroy its civilization, compels us, professors of the universities of the Netherlands, to apply to you, professors of the universities of the United States of America. We seek your assistance and your support before it is too late, before the overwhelming forces of an empire encircling the globe and with inexhaustible resources has crushed the two Dutch republics.

"In the name of those ancestors, ours who for eighty years fought Spain for their independence, yours who after an eight years' struggle shook off England's yoke of absolute tyranny; in the name of justice and liberty, we ask you to support the efforts of the Envoys of your two sister republics who are now in your midst to obtain from England peace in South Africa with the preservation of their independence."

The circular concludes with an appeal for universal peace.

BRIDGEPORT'S PRO-BOER MEETING.

It Takes the Form of a Democratic Rally—Envoy Wessels Present.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., May 27.—The pro-Boer meeting at the Park City Theatre to-night proved to be a Democratic rally. The Hon. Daniel Davenport, a Democrat, presided. On the stage was seated Alexander Troupe of New Haven, chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee, the Hon. Homer S. Cummings of Stamford, ex-United States Treasurer D. N. Morgan and Archibald McNeil of this city who is spoken of as the Democratic candidate for Governor this fall and about fifty lesser lights in the Democratic party in this State and city. C. H. Wessels, one of the three Boer Envoys arrived from Washington this afternoon and occupied a seat on the stage. An audience numbering about one thousand listened to speeches by half a dozen speakers, and a musical programme which had been arranged which lasted until after 11 o'clock. In his speech Mr. Wessels told of the Boer struggle for liberty and the sacrifice made by men, women and children for the cause. His remarks were interesting but created no enthusiasm.

AGAINST THE ICE TRUST.

The Attorney-General to Begin Proceedings Before a Justice in Albany.

ALBANY, May 27.—The proceedings to annul the certificate authorizing the American Ice Company of New Jersey to transact business in this State will be begun before a Supreme Court Justice in Albany by Attorney-General Davies under the Anti-Trust law passed last year. These proceedings will be the same as those instituted by the Attorney-General's department a few years ago under the Lexow Anti-Trust law against the alleged Coal Trust. The Lexow law was declared unconstitutional by the Appellate Division and the Court of Appeals. Justice Alden Chester originally granted the petition of the Attorney-General, citing certain members of the alleged Coal Trust to appear before a referee to enable the Attorney-General to secure sufficient evidence upon which to base an action against the alleged Coal Trust.

The Court of Appeals, in declaring the Lexow law unconstitutional, said that the petition of the Attorney-General should state the grounds of belief and sources of information upon which were based the charges. In this way it was thought that the persons cited should be asked to appear. Thus the court practically declared that such a petition could not be granted under the Lexow law unless the Attorney-General could show sufficient grounds upon which to proceed against a trust, which was the sole purpose for which he had asked the appointment of a referee. The law of last year was intended to remedy the Constitutional defects in the Lexow law, and Attorney-General Davies believes that under it he can secure the appointment of a referee and the presence before him of the principals in the American Ice Company, and thus obtain all the evidence he desires on which to base an action to revoke the company's certificate of authority to do business in this State.

This is the first action to be brought under the amended anti-Trust law, however, and it is likely that the Constitutionality of the law will be tested, and the case carried to the Court of Appeals, but it is not likely that that court can pass upon the question before next October.

TEN OF A JURY POISONED.

Case Was of Murder by Poison—The Water Probably Doctored.

GALVESTON, Tex., May 27.—The trial of F. A. Brooks, charged with murder in the poisoning of an unidentified man in a "Fat Alley" resort, was suspended last evening, one of the jurors becoming suddenly and violently ill as counsel for defence finished summing up. An attempt to resume the trial was made, but two jurors fainted, and within an hour ten of the twelve were prostrated. The deputy sheriff in charge of the jury also collapsed.

Physicians say the symptoms indicate poison. It supposed something the men ate was impure, but the fact that the worst case is that of a juror who ate nothing but soft boiled eggs and toast leads to the belief that the water in the jury room was tampered with.

Judge Allen stayed at the Court House all of last night, he and a Deputy Sheriff ministering to the sick men. To-day the jurors are reported somewhat better.

New York and Princeton Special, Via Pennsylvania Railroad.

New through service between Princeton and New York. The train, with parlor car and coaches, leaves Princeton 8:00 A. M., arrive New York 9:33; leave New York, West 23d St., 3:55 P. M., Cortlandt and Desbrosses Sts., 4:00 P. M., and arrive Princeton 5:25 P. M.; every weekday.—*Adv.*

WU TING-FANG A LOBBYIST?

THE CHINESE MINISTER MAKES TWO VISITS TO THE CAPITOL.

Interested in Proposed Legislation Affecting His Countrymen—He Says a Diplomat May Go and See a Senator and Not Be a Lobbyist—Says He Went for Information and Got It.

WASHINGTON, May 27.—Mr Wu Ting-fang, the Chinese Minister, is being called a lobbyist on account of two visits he has made to the Capitol recently. At one time he appeared, uninvited, before a sub-committee of the Senate Committee on Appropriations. Yesterday he called on Senator Allison, chairman of that committee; both calls having been made on account of Mr. Wu's interest, representing the Celestial Empire, in a bill before the Senate to make an appropriation of $150,000 to provide for a stricter enforcement of the law excluding alien contract laborers, and to place under Commissioner General Powderly of the Immigration Bureau the duty of enforcing the Chinese Exclusion act. This duty has heretofore come under Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Spaulding.

At the time Mr. Wu called on the Senate subcommittee, he asked at the committee door, he says, to see one of the Senators, and was ushered into the committee room by the doorkeeper. His presence astonished the Senators of the sub-committee, and they had scarcely concealed their surprise when the object of Mr. Wu's call became apparent. The visit of the diplomat was an innovation, but his suavity was irresistible, and his inquiries, covering suggestions in diplomatic language, were listened to. Mr. Wu is a most polished gentleman and placed himself in the hands of the Senators, as it were.

Mr. Wu's "constituents" in San Francisco object to the vigor with which Commissioner Powderly enforces the Alien Labor law. They would be sorry to see Commissioner Powderly made responsible for carrying out the Chinese Exclusion act. They object to Mr. Powderly's lack of tact, to his apparent earnestness in excluding aliens according to the letter of the law. They say that he is a great labor union man and consequently opposes the advent of almost any foreigner into this country. They prefer that the duty of enforcing the Chinese Exclusion act should remain in the hands of an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

When the bill, which had been passed by the House, was reported to the Senate by the subcommittee, it was noticeable that the part that the Chinese Minister objected to had been amended to the effect that the Commissioner of Immigration's administration of the law should be under the supervision of the Secretary of the Treasury, the latter to prescribe the rules and regulations for the enforcement of the Exclusion act.

In Friday's debate on the bill Senator Lodge offered an amendment to the amendment, providing that these rules and regulations should be made by the Commissioner General of Immigration. Whether this attracted Mr. Wu's attention or not, he went to the Senate and saw Senator Allison yesterday, consulting with him for some little time. Mr. Wu says to-day that he saw Senator Allison upon an entirely different matter.

Mr. Wu is very much surprised that his visit to the Capitol on these two occasions is to be treated as an innovation and to become the subject of comment. He said to THE SUN reporter to-day:

"May a diplomat not go to the Capitol? Yes. May he not go to the Capitol for a stroll? Yes. If he goes to the Capitol and sees a Senator is he a lobbyist?" With a most convincing laugh the diplomat brought out the conclusion: "Not necessarily—not at all. This is a free country, is it not?" The Minister smiled, as if to say that that is understood everywhere.

"This matter has been exaggerated," said Mr. Wu. "I wish to comply with the customs. Is it an innovation to go to the Capitol? May a diplomat not go and listen to the speeches? Yes? Well, it is all as you take it. You see a man waiting on the street. Do you say that man is on his way to commit a robbery, to break into a house? Or is it likely that he is on his evening walk to visit a friend?"

"What object did you have in visiting the Capitol?" was asked.

"I went for information. Is that such a strange thing, that a man should go to the Capitol for information? I had received a telegram from San Francisco asking me about a bill of which I had heard nothing. If I had gone to the State Department perhaps I would have been delayed in finding just what I wanted. Time and information were important for my case. I had heard nothing of any bill which it had appeared to be my duty to look into. The call was sudden and I was prompt."

"Did you get the information you sought?"

"Oh, yes. But I did not argue; I did not 'lobby,' as you call it. I did not complain or protest, for you see I went to the Capitol just for information."

"Do you oppose as strict an enforcement of the Exclusion act as can be administered under the terms of the treaty?"

"Not by any means, for that is the treaty and it is law until courts declare against it or it is repealed."

"Do your people object to the matter being placed in Commissioner Powderly's hands?"

"Personally, I can see no reason why it should not be. He has charge of excluding other aliens prohibited by law, and it seems a natural thing to place this matter in his charge. But the bureau of which he is the head is under a man who is very close to the labor unions. I have been very much annoyed by the way some of our people who have a right to come here under the treaty have been deported. The treaty exempts officials, teachers, students, travellers and merchants. Rich men, some of them bankers, doctors, and others, have been turned back repeatedly when seeking to come here from my country, because of the slightest irregularities in their passports. I protested to the State Department two years ago about this. Ninety-nine per cent. of the American people believe that the Exclusion act refers to laborers only. My people claim that there is a fair way of carrying out the meaning of the treaty and that there is an unfair way. Perhaps they fear that under the Bureau of Immigration enough care would not be exerted to be considerate of Chinese entitled to enter this country. If the treaty is enforced as it was intended there can be no objections made."

"Will you continue to go to the Capitol?"

Mr. Wu raised his hands as a Frenchman raises his shoulders, and replied:

"I suppose not, if my visits attract so much attention. If I dressed as an American perhaps I could go with the crowd. As it is, when my robes are seen now, if they should be seen passing through the halls at the Capitol, perhaps people will say 'he is here to influence the statesmen in the interests of the East,' and perhaps I had better not go. Perhaps I will not go again. But why give it importance? I assure you the importance of my visits has been exaggerated. May I not pay a Senator a social call, now, at his house or at the Senate?"

An attempt by a foreign representative to interfere with or influence pending legislation in any way has been regarded by this Government in several cases as sufficient cause to secure the withdrawal of the offending diplomat. While foreign representatives do sometimes talk with officials of the State Department about matters affecting their Governments pending in Congress, the conversations are always strictly informal and are never begun by the Ambassador or Minister unless he is sure that he will not give offence. Even then he will be on delicate ground, for reference to pending legislation is supposed to be strictly tabooed and could be used by the State Department as justification for a request for the recall of the Ambassador or Minister. While Lord Pauncefote may have mentioned to the State Department the non-recognition of the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty in the Nicaragua Canal bills now before Congress, he did not do so formally or in writing, and none of the officials of the Department would admit that the subject had ever been mentioned by the Ambassador.

The most recent case of a foreign representative giving offence by attempting to influence legislation is that of Lorrin M. Thurston, Minister from Hawaii. While the acute cause of Mr. Thurston's recall was the complaint of this Government that he had given out a letter reflecting on the Hawaiian policy of the Cleveland Administration, he had seriously offended Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Gresham, then Secretary of State, by an active participation in the attempt to induce Congress to ignore Mr. Cleveland's recommendations concerning Hawaii. Esterhazy, Russian Minister to the United States, was recalled on the complaint of this Government that he had written a letter to a newspaper with the intention of influencing action on a matter pending in Congress.

Minister Wu, however, appears to be the first foreign representative who ever went before a committee of Congress to argue the side of his Government in a pending legislative measure. While this may possibly result in action by the State Department there will probably be no complaint made against him for attending the sessions of the House while the Chinese matter was under consideration. That constituted no offence. Mr. Wu is so universally respected and admired that there is little danger that his childlike and bland break of etiquette will cause resentment in any quarter.

IRISH EX-CONVICTS DEBARRED.

Fitzharris of the Phœnix Park Murders and Mullett Can't Land in America.

The Board of Special Inquiry at the Barge Office considered yesterday the cases of James Fitzharris, nicknamed "Skin-the-Goat," and Joseph Mullett, the Irish revolutionists, who arrived on Saturday aboard the Cunard steamship Lucania. The board decided that they were properly ex-convicts and should be debarred. Fitzharris drove the jaunting-car from which the Phœnix Park murderers alighted and stabbed Lord Frederick Cavendish and Mr. Burke to death. Mullett attempted to assassinate a juror in the murder trial.

The board consists of William Wethe, James A. Toner, H. H. Moler and Major Charles Semsey. Dr. Lilo was present as legal adviser.

To the inquiry, "What was the nature of the crime of which you were convicted?" Fitzharris responded "Treason." The board asked him to be more specific, and he then explained that he had been accused of and condemned to imprisonment for life for complicity in the murder of Cavendish and Burke. Mullett also undertook to make out that his crime was political. The board could not see that there was any difference between ordinary convicts and those of the Fitzharris-Mullett type, and promptly declared that they should be returned to Liverpool, whence they came.

"Rocky Mountain O'Brien" was at the Barge Office to see the revolutionists and wished to be present at the hearing. He was informed that all the hearings in such cases were secret. It is said that friends of the two Irishmen will appeal the case to the Secretary of the Treasury.

BOUND TO KIDNAP TAYLOR.

Kentucky Refugees Decide to Stick Close to Friends in Indiana.

INDIANAPOLIS, May 27.—Gov. Taylor, ex-Secretary of State Finley and R. N. Miller, the Kentucky refugees now in this city, intended going to Martinsville, Morgan county, to spend several days and were to have left this afternoon. Their plans were changed suddenly when word was received from Kentucky telling them to be on their guard as schemes were being laid there to secure their return to that State to answer indictments for conspiracy in the Goebel case. The Kentucky word said that persons close to Gov. Beckham were offering to bet that Taylor and Finley would be within the jurisdiction of the Kentucky courts within a week, and it was believed that some scheme was being hatched to circumvent Gov. Mount and get possession of the suspects. What the plans of the Democrats are could not be learned.

The officers of Morgan county are Republicans and Taylor feels that they would afford him all the protection in their power, but believes that he will be safer in this city, where he has received so many evidences of sympathy and where the Republicans have assured him that they will protect him against violence.

SCENE NOT ON THE PROGRAMME.

A Chorus Girl Whips the Musical Conductor in a Boston Theatre.

BOSTON, May 27.—The engagement of "Broadway to Tokio" had a spectacular finish at the Tremont Theatre last night. The show was full of little surprises not down on the programme, the most noticeable of which was the assault upon Paul Schindler by Miss Nellie Parker, a former member of the chorus of that company, in the early part of the second act. Mr. Schindler was leading the orchestra in the "Tiger Lily" song when a young woman in street attire was seen to rush from the wings and begin striking him with a switch of birch. Mr. Schindler warded off the blows with his baton as best he could and William Gould came to his rescue and carried the young woman off the stage. So quickly did the affair occur that it caused little disturbance in the house.

When seen by a reporter Miss Parker said that on the previous evening Mr. Schindler had objected to her holding a note too long and rebuked her with an oath over the footlights. Later, Mr. Schindler met her in her dressing room and again swore at her. She was then discharged from the company. Last evening, concealing the switch in her clothing, she made her way past the stage doorkeeper on the pretext of getting her make-up, and rushing on the stage began to whip the musical conductor. Miss Parker said that she had no husband or brother, and considering that her honor had been injured she had taken this method to revenge herself.

Mr. Schindler emphatically denied having sworn at Miss Parker, and his statements were backed up by many friends. He said that he had rebuked her for holding a note too long, considering that it was his duty to do so. She had answered him back over the footlights, and this being strictly against orders, he had demanded her discharge. He greatly regretted that the affair had happened, but felt that the greater part of the company would corroborate his statement that he never swore at women.

NEELY'S STAMPS IN PARIS.

Some That Should Have Been Destroyed Sent From France Here.

HARTFORD CITY, Ind., May 27.—Father Charles Dhe, a Catholic priest of this city, has in his possession one dollar's worth of stamps which Charles Neely, the Havana Treasurer of the Post Office should have destroyed and which may prove a clue to his alleged illegal operations in Cuba. The stamps are of the 1-cent, 2-cent, 5-cent and 10-cent denominations like those used in this country except that across the face has been printed "1 centavo, Cuba," "2 centavos, Cuba," and so on.

The stamps came in the possession of Father Dhe through a woman member of his congregation at Montpelier. She had sent to a Paris, France, book concern for a book and had enclosed a dollar bill. Being unable to furnish the book she desired, about a month ago the concern returned the amount she had enclosed in Cuban stamps instead of the dollar bill. The Government has been informed of the matter and is now tracing the matter to its source. This would indicate that Neely has sold stamps all over the world.

BAD DAY FOR SCORCHERS.

98 Arrests Recorded, 38 in High Bridge Alone—One Rider Hits a Pillar.

The High Bridge police arrested 38 bicyclists yesterday for scorching. The returns for the entire city showed 98 arrests on this account. This is the high-water mark, the largest previous record for one day being 60. To-day 38 scorchers will be arraigned in the Morrisania court, 17 in Harlem court, 11 in Yorkville court, 26 in the West Side court and 2 in Jefferson Market.

Isaac Buxton of Ackerman street, Highbridge, while racing on his bicycle yesterday afternoon, with a few friends, struck a pillar on Pelham Bridge, was thrown from his wheel and his collarbone was fractured. He was taken to Fordham Hospital.

To Send 75,000 Tons of Pig Iron to Glasgow.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., May 27.—The Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railway Company, has just closed a contract for the delivery of 75,000 tons of pig iron to a firm in Glasgow, Scotland, within the next nine months.

Great Bicycle Sale at O'Neill's To-day.

They offer to-day a large lot of reliable bicycles, sold by first makers at $50.00 and $60.00, at $19.75 each. 6th Ave., 20th to 21st St.—*Adv.*

Scenery an Additional Attraction.

The Hudson River, Catskill Mountains, Mohawk Valley, Foothills of the Adirondacks, Niagara Falls, Lake Erie and Lake Michigan are a few of the attractions offered by the New York Central Lines.—*Adv.*

CROKER TO FIGHT HILL.

DELEGATES MUST BE INSTRUCTED FOR BRYAN, SAYS CARROLL.

Wantage Sends No by Cable to the Shifty Programme Put Forth by Wolfert's Roost—Hill Will Have to Strive, Indeed, if He Is to Control the Next State Committee.

The Hon. Richard Croker, away off in England, flung his gauntlet in the face of the Hon. David Bennett Hill yesterday afternoon. He did it by proxy through the Hon. John F. Carroll, temporary leader of Tammany Hall, at the Democratic Club, when Mr. Carroll issued the following statement:

"I do not believe that the attitude of the Tammany Hall organization at the State Convention will be either doubtful or equivocal. As far as I have been able to consult with the representative men of the organization they entirely accord with my view of both the propriety and expediency of sending to the National Convention a delegation instructed for William J. Bryan as the Presidential candidate. It is safe to say that every delegate from the organization will favor this programme, and whatever influence I may possess will be exerted to impress the desirability of its adoption upon the delegates from the other localities in the State."

This means that Mr. Hill must put up the stiffest battle of his life to control the Democratic State Convention which is to assemble in the Academy of Music on June 5. This convention, according to a resolution adopted by the Democratic State Committee a month ago, is also to elect a new State Committee, one member from each Senate district in the State or fifty in all. The convention is to name the delegates and alternates-at-large, two Presidential Electors at large and the Presidential Electors for the State. The main battle, though, will be a resolution calling for the instruction of the delegates for Bryan at the Democratic National Convention to be held in Kansas City on July 4.

The affront of Mr. Croker to Mr. Hill, for such it was considered last night, is all the more marked when it is recalled that from time immemorial the Democratic delegates from New York State to a Democratic National Convention have not been instructed except when the State had a candidate of its own for President. This was the record where Samuel J. Tilden, Grover Cleveland and Mr. Hill were concerned. On other occasions the New York delegations of Democrats have been sent to National Conventions uninstructed.

There are 450 delegates in a Democratic State Convention or three for each of the 150 Assembly districts in the State. Tammany, with the thirty-five Assembly districts in the borough of Manhattan, thus had a start of 105 delegates in the convention to meet on June 5. In addition, it was said last night, that Tammany will have the support of the 24 delegates from Erie, 6 from Jefferson, 12 from Monroe, 12 from Onondaga, and 9 from Rensselaer. So that, according to the Tammany mathematicians last night, Tammany will "go to the post," as the racing folks have it, with 168 delegates. The Albany delegation of 12 delegates may split even. Eugene D. Wood, after the hardest kind of labor of twelve years, has just unhorsed Supreme Court Justice D. Cady Herrick as leader of Albany county, and Mr. Wood, wherever he goes now, is hailed as "the new boss of Albany." In many ways Mr. Wood has not been unfriendly to Mr. Hill in days gone by and Mr. Hill has been elected a delegate to the State Convention from the Third district of Albany. Very great interest is manifested in the prospective action, in view of the fight now precipitated, of the 63 delegates from Kings and the delegates from Queens counties. It will require 226 delegates to control the convention.

The lieutenants of the Hon. Hugh McLaughlin have on recent important occasions decided against Mr. Hill. At the Syracuse Convention of 1898, which nominated Augustus Van Wyck for Governor, Mr. Hill was in opposition, although he and Mr. McLaughlin and Mr. Van Wyck had been friends of a lifetime. Mr. Hill thought it had politics to nominate Mr. Van Wyck for Governor when his brother Robert was Mayor of New York city.

"The newspapers in opposition," said Mr. Hill to Mr. Croker at the conference in the Gates House, Syracuse, the night before the convention, "will bring this consanguinity right out and shout 'Van Wyck!' 'Van Wyck & Co!' and it will damage us."

"They wont do it," replied Mr. Croker to Mr. Hill, "if you don't tell 'em of it."

"Do you think the newspapers are fools?" rejoined Mr. Hill; "they'll find it out quick enough, rest assured of that."

Mr. Hill believed that a country Democrat should have been nominated in 1898. But he bowed the knee when James Shevlin and Senator Patrick Henry McCarren, Mr. McLaughlin's representatives at Syracuse, insisted upon Van Wyck. At the meeting of the Democratic State Committee in the Hoffman House last fall Mr. Hill read the riot act. Mr. Croker, Mr. Murphy and Mr. McCarren were present. Mr. Hill assailed Mr. Croker and declared that upcountry Democrats were sick of the lavish display of wealth by Tammany, and he swung his fist at Mr. Croker and declared that he, Mr. Croker, had certainly changed his mind on the Bryan question three or four times. Mr. Croker smiled cynically and retorted that Mr. Hill was a fine man to talk about consistency, and then he rallied Mr. Hill on his shiftless and unintelligent course in the 1896 battle. The circus in the committee had been precipitated over an effort to settle the never-ending row among the Monroe county Democrats. Upon its settlement rested the control of the committee.

All the time that Mr. Hill and Mr. Croker were slapping each other Senator Murphy was calling "Vote! Vote! Vote!" Mr. Hill didn't like that and he turned upon Mr. Murphy and cried "you ungrateful man!" Mr. Murphy fired a shot back at Mr. Hill. Senator McCarren took a hand in the circus and the lie was liberally passed between them. On the vote Mr. Murphy for Rensselaer and Mr. McCarren and others for Kings voted against Mr. Hill and Mr. Hill lost control of the committee. Since then he has been working quietly to regain control.

Mr. Hill, when he arrived in New York city on Friday started in to convince Mr. Murphy and all others with whom he talked that at the forthcoming State Convention it would be sufficient to indorse Bryan for the Presidency and stop at that. He argued that to do anything further would be contrary to precedents of Democratic State Conventions for a lifetime in this State. Neither did he want the delegates to Kansas City instructed for Bryan. Mr. Hill's friends said that he would not attend the Democratic National Convention if as a delegate-at-large he was to go instructed. A sort of love feast had been secretly arranged in the Savoy Hotel for that evening. Mr. Hill, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Carroll, Mr. McCarren and others were present. Mr. Hill left for Albany on Saturday afternoon satisfied and gratified that his views as to the programme of the State Convention were to be adopted.

All day Saturday, though, Mr. Carroll and others were in cable communication with Mr. Croker and as a result Mr. Carroll issued his manifesto last night at the Democratic Club. The fight is now on for fair. The friends of Mr. Bryan and Mr. Croker are now to visit every Assembly district in the State for the purpose of securing a majority of the delegates in the approaching State Convention. Mr. Hill and his friends are also to go to work.

Niagara Falls and Return, $6.

Buy Lackawanna Railroad tickets May 29. Good to return on any regular train on or before May 31.—*Adv.*

MRS. GLADSTONE VERY ILL.

Members of the Family Summoned to Her Bedside.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, May 27.—Mrs. Gladstone, widow of William E. Gladstone, is so seriously ill at her residence, Hawarden Castle, that the members of the family have been summoned and are now assembling there.

FIFTH VICTIM IN ST. LOUIS.

Policeman Shoots and Kills a Strike Sympathizer Who Attacked Him.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., May 27.—Arthur J. Bunce, a blacksmith, is the fifth victim of the street railway strike. He was shot by Policeman James Dockery shortly after 6 o'clock this morning and died in an ambulance while being driven to the dispensary. Dockery had just left the police barracks. At the corner of Pine and Twelfth streets stood half a dozen men, among them Bunce, who denounced the policeman as a "dirty scab," he having acted as guard on Transit Company cars.

Bunce knocked Dockery down with metal knuckles. The policeman grabbed Bunce, but after a hard fight the companions rescued him and they ran north on Twelfth street. Dockery followed and fired two shots. Bunce ran into a saloon and fell to the floor. He had been shot in the back.

The Transit Company to-day operated the Lindell division, the Compton Heights, Olive street and Laclede avenue lines under strong police protection. They were fairly well patronized. No attempt was made to interfere with operations. To-morrow business men generally and heads of commercial bodies will confer in an endeavor to adjust the troubles between the Transit Company and its employees.

KANSAS WANTS 20,000 FARMHANDS.

Must Have Outside Help to Harvest This Year's Immense Wheat Crop.

TOPEKA, Kan., May 27.—Twenty thousand men can secure employment in assisting the Kansas farmers in harvesting their wheat. One county alone is calling for 2,000 men.

"While Kansas will raise the largest wheat crop this year in the history of the State, I don't believe that the yield will reach 100,000,000 bushels or anywhere near it," said State Grain Inspector A. E. McKenzie to-day. "The largest crop the State ever raised was 82,000,000 bushels. I believe that we will raise 85,000,000 bushels this year. I have been all over the wheat belt recently and the prospects could not be finer. The millers all expect it to be the banner crop. Harvest will begin in the southern part of the State within the next ten days and there is much activity displayed by the farmers in securing help. No man needs to be out of work in Kansas this summer. Outside help will have to be secured during harvest time and 20,000 extra men can find employment in the wheat fields."

MUST RISK LIFE TO BE RATED BRAVE

New Rule Adopted for the Fire Department's Roll of Merit.

Members of the Fire Department were notified yesterday of special orders issued by Commissioner Scannell that hereafter the roll of merit of the department must stand only for rescues made by firemen at personal risk. When a fireman rescues a life at a fire at the risk of his own his name will be inscribed on the roll of merit but when his own life is not in jeopardy no mention will be made of the act, on the ground that the man has only performed his plain duty. Heretofore there have been two classes of rescues on the roll, one for meritorious conduct attended by personal risk and the other for meritorious conduct unattended by personal risk.

NEW YORK GETS IN LATE.

American Liner Anchored at the Bar All Night—Will Be Up To-day.

The American liner New York, first of the great twin screws, which gets here from Southampton and Cherbourg in pleasant weather on Saturday morning, was not sighted off Fire Island until 7:55 o'clock last night. She dropped anchor outside the bar at 11:15 o'clock, and will come up to Quarantine this morning, when marine reporters will find out the cause of her long trip. The French liner La Touraine, which is not so swift a ship and not a storm-defier, got in seventeen hours ahead of the American, which passed the French liner on Sunday afternoon when the latter was about a day out from Havre.

Capt Santelli of La Touraine reported that he had seen the New York put into Cherbourg on Saturday afternoon, just after he had left Havre. She came out and began chasing the tri-color, and at 4 o'clock on Sunday afternoon she overhauled it. Before nightfall the New York was nearly hull down to the Touraine. Capt Santelli was surprised to learn when he reached Quarantine that the American liner had not been reported.

It is thought that she may have had trouble with her machinery. Both ships had several days of heavy weather.

GIRL KILLS A BULL.

He Had Attacked Her Mother—She Used a Pitchfork Bullfighter Fashion.

ALTOONA, Pa., May 27.—Mary Potter, aged 15, of Milesburg, is the heroine of the village through a deed of courage by which she saved her mother's life and killed a vicious bull. The girl's mother, who is near 60, was driving cattle to the barn when a Jersey bull turned on her, throwing her into the air and trampling and kicking her. The screams of the injured woman attracted the attention of her daughter, who secured a pitchfork and ran to the rescue. The bull bore down on the girl, but she stepped aside and ran the tines into the animal's side. The second stroke sent the fork into the bull's heart and he rolled over dead.

Mrs. Potter was found to be terribly injured, but will recover. After killing the bull and finding her mother yet alive the girl fainted. Mother and daughter were both carried to the farmhouse.

TWO HURT BY AN AMBULANCE.

Several Were Knocked Down as It Ran Full Speed Into a Harlem Crowd.

An ambulance, racing from the J. Hood Wright Hospital to 112 Manhattan street, early last evening, ran into a crowd at Amsterdam avenue and Lawrence street. There is a transfer point there for the Fort Lee ferry cars and the noise was so great that nobody heard the ambulance bell until it was in the middle of the crowd. The driver of the ambulance said afterward that when