The Sun.

Fair and cool to-day and to-morrow.

VOL. LXVIII.—NO. 18. NEW YORK, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1900.—COPYRIGHT, 1900, BY THE SUN PRINTING AND PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION. PRICE TWO CENTS.

CROKER HAS BET $80,000

TO ABOUT $225,000, AND IS RUNNING THE STATE CAMPAIGN.

Hill's Picture Disappears From State Headquarters—Hill Here—Sees Coler but Not Croker—He and Coler to Speak for Stanchfield—Comptroller to Stick to Politics and Fight Croker Next Year, His Friends Say.

Richard Croker had bet up to last night $80,000 to about $225,000 that Bryan will be elected. This information was obtained from the most authoritative sources, and was announced yesterday morning shortly after Mr. Croker visited Democratic State Headquarters in the St. James Building. The *Brooklyn Eagle* printed last night a despatch from its Washington correspondent with Chairman James K. Jones of the Democratic National Committee saying:

"The situation in New York is working out satisfactorily and I think we shall carry the State. Mr. Croker has said that the Democrats would have a plurality of 100,000 in New York city. I have heard him make that statement recently. He has wagered $60,000 that Mr. Bryan will be elected."

Mr. Croker now makes daily visits to Democratic State Headquarters. He had pleasant chats yesterday with Elliot Danforth and John A. Mason, and to-day he is to meet Chairman Frank Campbell of the Democratic State Committee. Ex-Senator Edward Murphy, Jr., came up from Elberon and remained an hour or two with Mr. Croker at the Hoffman House. Mr. Murphy then started back for Elberon.

Mr. Croker said that he felt assured of the election of Bryan and Stanchfield. It was ascertained yesterday that Mr. Croker after the Saratoga convention, where Mr. Stanchfield was nominated for Governor at his behest, had little or no thought of visiting Democratic State Headquarters in the St. James Building. He changed his mind on Saturday, however, after consulting with some of his Democratic friends, who told him that inasmuch as he had nominated Mr. Stanchfield for Governor, he should forego personal feelings and foregather with the Democratic campaigners in charge at the St. James Building. That is, Mr. Croker was told that as he had precipitated the nomination of Mr. Stanchfield, he was responsible for his election, and in fact the entire responsibility for the outcome in the State of New York rested upon his shoulders alone. Mr. Croker told his friends that he had never shirked a responsibility yet, and he certainly was not going to begin now to do so.

Mr. Croker said for publication yesterday: "I never was more confident of Bryan and Stanchfield's election than I am to-day. I am not getting my information from the leaders of Tammany Hall, and yet they are the very best men in the city to understand the sentiment of the voters. No, I have gone around myself. I know how the barbers are going to vote, and the waiters, and all men of that character. I am utterly confident of the success of Bryan and Stanchfield."

Ex-Gov. David B. Hill arrived at the Hoffman House yesterday afternoon from Albany. He said that he was here on law business only, but that he was to make a speech for Mr. Stanchfield in Elmira on Sept. 25. Mr. Hill expects to meet Chairman Jones of the Democratic National Committee at the Hoffman House to-day. Mr. Hill said:

"Stanchfield is a very good fellow. I believe this election is going to be closer than a good many people imagine. That is all I care to say at the moment."

For fifteen years Mr. Hill's pictures have adorned Democratic State Headquarters in every campaign, State and National. When the Democratic State Committee opened its headquarters in the St. James Building nearly two months ago, there were pictures of Bryan and Stevenson and Croker, Murphy and Hill. Since the Democratic State Convention at Saratoga, the picture of Mr. Hill has disappeared from the walls of the headquarters in the St. James Building. It was said in explanation at headquarters yesterday that some of the pictures were taken from headquarters for the purpose of ornamenting the Convention Hall at Saratoga, and that Mr. Hill's picture had been lost. In no previous campaign for fifteen years has "Mr. Hill's picture been lost." Mr. Hill's friends called attention to this omission yesterday, but further than to express surprise they did not seem to care very much. They were well aware that Mr. Croker is in absolute command of the battle in New York State, and if it is desirable to fling Mr. Hill's picture out of a Democratic State Headquarters they did not believe that any protest of theirs would restore it. Still, some of the Hill men did not hesitate to say that in their estimation Mr. Hill deserved honorable mention at the hands of all Democrats in the State for the reason that he had led his party to victory on a number of occasions.

Mr. Croker and Mr. Hill did not meet yesterday. Mr. Croker it was made known, had to see Mr. Hill unless Mr. Hill calls upon him. Mr. Hill's friends said that such a visit was quite unnecessary. Comptroller Coler saw Mr. Hill downtown. The Comptroller received a letter yesterday from Candidate Stanchfield asking him to go on the stump for the Democratic State ticket. The Comptroller said that he would do so. Comptroller Coler's friends repeated yesterday the assertion which they made several times during his canvass for the Democratic nomination for Governor, to the effect that he would be a candidate for the nomination for Mayor next year, and make an active fight against the organized Democratic machines in New York city.

HERE'S CROKER ON THE ICE TRUST.

Tammany Not Responsible—Wants a Ticket All Absaloms.

The Tammany Executive Committee decided yesterday to call the General Committee together for Monday to ratify the State ticket. The committee in charge of the big Bryan meeting to be held on Oct. 16 will meet this evening at Tammany Hall. It has been decided not to have any street parade on the evening of the meeting, and all the braves who would have taken part in it will be sent to Madison Square Garden with instructions to stay there until the speechmaking is over, and not to march out when Mr. Bryan is half-way through his address, as they did in 1896.

After the meeting of the Executive Committee Mr. Croker walked up Fourth avenue, and on his way he told what he thought about the Ice Trust and the connection of Tammany men with it.

"It is all nonsense to say that Tammany Hall is responsible for the Ice Trust or that it has been favored by the city administration," he said. "The fact is that the trust has smaller dock facilities now than it had during Mayor Strong's administration, and pays the city more for the privileges it enjoys. It has not been favored at all, and the Republicans know it. It is true that members of Tammany Hall own or have owned the trust's stock. What of that? You or I or any man has the right to buy any stock that promises a profit. I bought the stock because I thought it a good investment, and sold out when I thought it wise to sell. Nothing wrong about that. The blame should be cast, not on stockholders, but upon the men who are responsible for raising the price of ice—that is, the directors. Now, every member of the Board of Directors, every man who is responsible for raising prices, is a Republican. There is not a Tammany man on the list. So if any party should be blamed for the Ice Trust oppression it is the Republican party.

"My own dealings in the stock I have fully explained. I want to say now that I have never attended a meeting of any corporation which acted on the prices of commodities—that is, I have never had anything to do with raising or lowering the market price of any article. I don't say I will never do anything of the kind, but I have never done it up to this time. So I am in no way to blame for the rise in the price of ice.

"If Tammany wanted to help the Ice Trust it would give it more docks at a lower price, but it hasn't done it. The books show that. I have made an examination of the thing and that is what I found out. When the ice stock gets down to 25 I may buy it if I think it a good investment. That's all there is to it. They don't ask your religion or your politics in Wall Street when you buy stock. They just take your money. That's all that they care about. I wish we had more ice companies. It would give more employment to men and would make competition. I'd be glad to see a lot of ice companies. But a man can be in a trust and not approve of trusts. Look at Andrew Carnegie. He's the head of one of the biggest trusts, but he knows they are wrong and he is against them.

"All the trusts are a menace to the country—the Ice Trust among the rest. The Republican party is the party of trusts. It is the friend of the Sugar Trust, the Oil Trust, and all the rest of them, and we can never get rid of trusts till we get rid of the Republican party."

Mr. Croker said that he thought the young men of the nation were waking up to the danger in which they are and that they would soon master the trusts.

"All the district leaders are going to nominate young men for office this fall," said Mr. Croker. "At least, I believe they are. They ought to. Let's have a young man's ticket right straight through—a young man for President, a young man for Governor and young men for Senate and Assembly."

CROKER DOESN'T WANT $10,000 EVEN.

Louis Wormser's Offer of a Wager for Charity Declined.

Louis W. Wormser, who has been one of the largest Wall Street bettors upon the success of McKinley, had this to say yesterday:

"I see that Mr. Croker says he is very sure that Bryan will win. I will bet Mr. Croker or any other man $10,000 even that Bryan will not be elected, the winner to give the stake to some public charity."

Mr. Croker didn't fall into the idea of a charity bet, even. He said last evening that all the money which Mr. Wormser would put up would be covered at the prevailing odds.

Aside from charity betting, the odds upon McKinley in Wall Street continued to rule yesterday at 2½ to 1. Mendham Brothers bet $1,000 against $400 put up by J. J. Judge, a curb broker. Patrick C. Cooke, the cashier of a brokerage firm, also bet $1,000 with Judge at the same odds. The principals of Mr. Judge, it was learned, were in the case of the first-named bet W. D. Madigan of Lancaster, Pa., and of the second bet one of the Tammany Hall Commissioners.

HORSES AND DRIVER DROWNED.

Dragged Overboard From the Ferryboat Mineola When the Horses Began to Back.

Frightened by the blowing of a whistle, two large gray horses drawing a dry goods store delivery wagon backed off the deck of the Brooklyn ferryboat Mineola just as she was leaving the Fulton ferry slip in Manhattan shortly before noon yesterday. The driver, Thomas O'Connor, of 28 Leroy street, instead of jumping, clung tightly to the reins trying to urge the horses forward, and he went down with them and was drowned.

The ferryboat deck was crowded with wagons and the dry goods store wagon was near the rear gate. Despite the efforts of the driver, they backed until the heavy wagon, aided by the incline in the deck, crashed through the iron gate and over into the water. The driver seemed dazed as he and the struggling team of horses were dragged in after the wagon. It all happened so quickly, and the confusion was so great, that not one of the many passengers at the stern was able to reach the horses' heads to check them. The ferryboat was stopped, but nothing could be done, and it soon resumed its course to Brooklyn.

Policeman Murphy of the Harbor Squad, who was stationed at Fulton ferry, hearing the cries of the people on the boat, rushed to the slip just in time to see the truck rising to the surface. The horses, he says, were struggling furiously, and the driver was on the back of one of them. He seemed to be tangled in the harness in some way. Before anything could be done to save him, man, horses and truck were carried down a second time. They did not reappear.

Some of the people who saw the accident thought that there was a helper on the box with the driver, and that he too went down, but apparently O'Connor was alone. The crew of the derrick lighter Atlas, with the aid of a diver, hoisted the horses and wagon in the afternoon. O'Connor's body was found wedged between the two horses and was removed to the Oak street police station.

STARVING MAN TRIES TO DIE.

Leaped From a Recreation Pier After Hearing a Favorite Air.

It was request night at the band concert on Recreation pier at the foot of East Twenty-fourth street last night and when the programme was half over, a shabbily dressed man passed up a request to Leader Bayne of the Sixty-ninth Regiment band to play something from the "Bohemian Girl." The band played "Then You'll Remember Me." The man started to weep and walked away from the band stand. He was lost in the crowd on the pier, but a minute later a woman's scream rang out from the other end of the pier. The crowd rushed toward her and she pointed to the East River and exclaimed that a man had jumped overboard. It was the man who had asked for the music from the opera.

The Greenpoint ferryboat was leaving the next slip. The engines were stopped and a number of lines were thrown to the man, but he refused to take them. Then Lawrence Halloran, an employee of the Dock Department, pulled off some of his clothing and jumped to the rescue. He soon had hold of the drowning man, but the latter fought to be allowed to die. He bruised and scratched Halloran's face badly, but Halloran managed to drag him to the pier, and then Policeman Houseman and a number of citizens pulled them out. Both Halloran and the would-be suicide were taken to Bellevue Hospital. Halloran was all right and went left for home.

The other man said he was Ferdinand Hock, 38 years old. He declared that he had no home, money or friends, and that he was starving. He was in a serious condition from lack of nutrition and the immersion.

NEW WEST INDIAN STORM.

Suddenly Becomes Central Off New England—50 Miles an Hour at Bermuda.

Local Forecaster Emery received last night from Chief Willis Moore of the Weather Bureau a notice ordering up northwest storm signals at stations at this port, New Haven and the Newport, Narragansett and Wood's Hole sections. The storm is apparently a newly discovered West Indian twister. It has been, conjecturally, northeast of the Windward Islands since Saturday. It was central last night off the New England coast. It began to affect this neighborhood, sucking into its course a chilly northwester, which promised to acquire more force before morning. The storm probably will follow the steamship lane. The storm signals for the northwester will be lowered this morning.

Gale Raging at Bermuda.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

HAMILTON, Bermuda, Sept. 17.—A heavy gale is raging here, the wind blowing at the rate of fifty miles an hour from the northeast. No serious damage has been done, but a number of trees have been blown down. The barometer is still falling.

Amputated a Finger as the Result of a Vision.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y., Sept. 17.—Major L. Hoffman of Pharsalia amputated his finger as the result of a vision in which he says he was commanded to sacrifice the member. He awoke from the trance in a delirious stupor and haggled off the finger of his right hand. The shock brought him to his senses and he summoned a surgeon, who completed the amputation. Major Hoffman says that the vision was so strong that he was impelled to commit the act before he fairly realized what he was doing.

From Centre to Centre.

You go from the centre of New York to the centre of each of the great gateways of commerce of the Central West by the New York Central, through the richest country in the world.—*Ads.*

FROM BROTHEL AND SALOON

SAYS PLATT, THE DEMOCRATIC WAR CHEST WILL BE FILLED.

McKinley and Odell Will Sweep the State, but if the Plurality Looks Like 100,000, Strive to Make It 105,000, or if It Looks Like 150,000, Work to Make It 155,000.

Senator Thomas C. Platt returned from the seaside yesterday and took up his old headquarters in the Fifth Avenue Hotel. He will remain at the hotel until he returns to Washington early in December. Senator Platt said:

"All Republicans are convinced that McKinley and Roosevelt will be elected and that the Republican State ticket headed by Mr. Odell will win triumphantly. I share these opinions in a very marked degree. Of course, we must all work and work hard, and we must not take anything for granted. The Democratic campaigners in this State will have a tremendous campaign fund. The brothels and saloons of New York city are to furnish the fund. Let no one be mistaken about this matter. All Republicans not only admire President McKinley, but all who know him are personally fond of him. He has endeared himself to the party in every way. Never was the Republican party more harmonious than it is all over the country today, and as for New York State, the party is one grand unit. Odell, the Republican candidate for Governor, has the admiration of all Republicans in the State. There wasn't a delegate in the Republican State Convention who wasn't personally delighted to vote for him.

"The Republican party," continued Senator Platt, "in the State is to make the very best possible nominations for Congressmen, Senators and Assemblymen. They are to be men of standing, probity and ability. In every way the candidates of the party in the State are to be men of a character that will bring the most substantial aid to the national and State tickets. While I am personally confident, never more so in my life, that the Presidential and State tickets are to have a sweeping majority in the State of New York, I nevertheless believe that we should get every additional vote we can. If we are to have 150,000 majority for McKinley and Odell, we should strive every hour in the day to make it 155,000. If we are to have 100,000 plurality for McKinley and Odell, we should work day and night to make it 105,000, and even more than that. There should not be and there will not be, I believe, a solitary drone, for all Republicans are aware of the great importance of this battle to the welfare of the country and the well-being of the people. The campaign is going along on good lines. The work is steady and intelligent. The Republican mass meetings have been very largely attended. The policy of the Republican national party as represented by President McKinley is receiving the hearty indorsement of the people. Its policy in the State of New York, the low tax rate, the wise and beneficent laws enacted within the last seven years, are receiving the recognition at the hands of the voters they deserve. But one thing should be kept in mind always, and that is, that the brothels and the saloons of New York city are to contribute very largely to the Democratic campaign fund.

$2 TICKETS AND NO CONCERT.

Several Hundred Victims of the Seaton Enterprise Meet at the Waldorf.

Although the newspapers announced on Aug. 22 that Charles Seaton, who was selling through women tickets for an India Famine Relief Fund concert to be given at the Waldorf of Sept. 17 had been arrested on a charge of forgery and had no authority to use the name of the relief committee some two or three hundred persons who had bought tickets at $1 and $2 apiece went to the hotel last night to hear the concert. There was no concert, and there was a good deal of angry talk. According to one man's story women kept on selling the tickets after Seaton's arrest.

"A week ago," said he, "two women came into my office in the Bank of Commerce Building and talked to me fifteen minutes about the famine in India. They seemed so sincere and primed with so many facts, that I promptly bought four tickets for which I paid $8. The women were so appreciative of what they called my generosity that I bought a couple more to help the work along. I hadn't the least suspicion of my visitors' good intentions and I must own up that they found me easy. I gave four of the tickets away to business friends and now I'll have a lot of explaining to do."

Several men told Detectives Lehman and Kennedy of the hotel that some effort ought to be made to apprehend the women. When asked if they would prefer a formal complaint they refused to go any further in the matter. The majority of the tickets presented at the Waldorf last night were $2 tickets. There were about two dozen $1 tickets. Downtown business men were the victims.

CAPT. CONDIFF SHOT WHILE ASLEEP.

His Wife Charged With the Crime by the Jury of Inquest—No Known Motive.

SOLOMON'S ISLAND, Md., Sept. 17.—On Wednesday night last Capt. Lyttleton T. Condiff, a mariner of this place, was shot to death while asleep in his bed. His wife was beside him at the time and their child was in the same room. At first robbery was thought to have been the motive, as no weapon was found in the room. An investigation was set on foot, as the result of which Mrs. Condiff was arrested to-day charged by the jury of inquest with having killed her husband. At the inquest the State's attorney produced evidence to prove that Capt. Condiff was shot in the side of his head next to his wife, and by a pistol held not more than six inches from his head and in such a position that it was very improbable that the shot was fired by a robber driven to do so to escape, as Mrs. Condiff implied.

Perry Evans, Jr., testified that he had sold to Mrs. Condiff's son a 32-calibre pistol, the calibre of the bullet found in Capt. Condiff's head, and such a pistol was found in the yard of the house, though Mrs. Condiff declared that there had been no pistol in the house. The authorities and the people of the island all believe in the guilt of the woman, but are at sea as to a motive. She has long been known to be a ravenous reader of dime novels and a decidedly queer woman. The woman was taken to Baltimore for safe keeping.

MORE THAN $1,900,000 GIVEN.

Relief That $3,000,000 Will Be Needed for the Relief of the Storm Sufferers.

AUSTIN, Tex., Sept. 17.—Gov. Sayers says that it will be several days before an itemized list of contributions received by him for the Galveston and other storm sufferers can be compiled. It is estimated that the contributions will exceed $1,200,000. In addition many large contributions have been received by the Mayors of Galveston and Houston. Of course several hundred thousand dollars of the contributions have not yet been paid in, as it requires time to make collections by drafts. It is estimated that it will take not less than $3,000,000 to meet the needs of the sufferers, and as there is no decrease in the inpouring of funds this amount will probably be raised.

Tommy Sullivan Whips Andy Daley.

PATERSON, Sept. 17.—Tommy Sullivan of Brooklyn defeated Andy Daley of Boston in the twelfth round on a foul in what was to have been a twenty-round contest to-night. Sullivan outclassed his man, and would undoubtedly have won before the twentieth round. Daley was warned twice about using his head and hitting low, but continued to foul. After a particularly flagrant offence Referee Eddie Dougherty sent him to his corner. The show was under the auspices of the Passaic County A. C., and was well attended. In the first preliminary Terry Edwards of Brooklyn received the decision in a twelve-round bout over Harry Kinney of New York. Young Ryan of this city outclassed Tommy Hayes of Hoboken; the bout was stopped in the eighth round and the decision given to Ryan.

Faster Than Ever to California.

The "Overland Limited" leaves Chicago 6:30 P. M. daily via Chicago, Union Pacific and Northwestern Line—arrives San Francisco 5:15 P. M. third day. Drawing room sleeping cars without change; buffet, library car (with barber). All meals a la carte. Tickets and information at Chicago and Northwestern office, 461 Broadway.—*Ads.*

KILLED HIMSELF IN THE WALDORF.

Suicide Wanted His Family to Be Able to Collect His Life Insurance.

A man supposed to be J. C. Hays of 234 West Thirty-ninth street, went into the toilet room at the Waldorf-Astoria shortly after midnight this morning and shot himself. The boy in charge of the room called Dr. Robert Adams, the hotel physician, but the man died a few minutes afterward.

Three notes were found on the man's body. They were signed J. C. Hays. One was addressed to L. H. Roth of the Hotel St. George, Brooklyn. Another was to a friend, and a third was addressed to the Coroner. It was to the effect that he was in hard luck and without funds, so thought it was best for those he loved that he kill himself, as he had two policies of life insurance for $2,000 each. It closed by asking the Coroner to notify Mrs. J. C. Hays of 234 West Thirty-ninth street.

The suicide appeared to be about 89 years old. He was fairly well dressed. The body was removed to the West Thirtieth street police station.

Hays was a son of Gen. "Jack" Hays. He was a travelling salesman employed by J. H. Lane & Co. of 10 West street. His wife when informed of his death by a reporter went into hysterics. She said that she could not understand why her husband had killed himself as he was in receipt of a good salary from his firm and in addition had an income from his father's estate. She said that he had left her at 3 o'clock in the afternoon and promised to be home by midnight.

NEW BASEBALL ORGANIZATION.

The National Association Formed at Baltimore With Six Cities.

BALTIMORE, Sept. 17.—The new baseball association was practically launched here to-day when the representatives of six cities organized the National Association, each putting up $5,000 in certified checks or Government bonds which have been deposited with the Mercantile Trust and Deposit Company of this city. Those present at the meeting were Philip Peterson and Harry Goodman, representing Baltimore; A. H. Koch, Philadelphia; C. H. Havener and Joseph J. O'Brien, Chicago; Harry D. Quinn, Milwaukee; John Irwin as representative of Thomas H. Carthy, Boston, and J. J. O'Brien, George P. Hoekel and George D. Schaffer, St. Louis. The meeting adjourned subject to the call of Peterson, who was elected President and Secretary. A committee was appointed to locate the fourth club in the West and the fourth club in the East.

The name of the organization was selected to avoid trouble as it is contended that the title to the American Association belongs to the League and bars out Anson, who could not produce the money. Pittsburg, Detroit and Louisville are applicants for membership and Pittsburg seems to have the best chance. The Eastern city will probably be Washington.

President Peterson said to-night that the money put up will be forfeited by the club that backs out. The organization, he said, will not fight the League, but will be independent of it, although willing to arrange so that there will be no conflict of dates.

The Baltimore promoters have secured an option on the grounds a few blocks beyond the park, and Mr. Carthy has a lease on the Charles River Park in Boston. The effort is made to create the impression that the coincident appearance here of McGraw and Robinson was a matter of chance, but the two players have had confabs with Quinn and the other promoters of the new league and will doubtless be at the head of the new Baltimore club. In view of their present relation to the League the two players were unwilling to speak and declared that they had nothing to do with the new association and would enter into no negotiations until the end of the present season.

NORMAL SCHOOL GIRL DISAPPEARS.

Wouldn't Go Home Because She Feared She'd Failed in an Examination.

Jennie Stewart, the daughter of Policeman Stewart of the West Thirtieth street station, told her younger sister three weeks ago that she would never come home again if she failed in the examination of the Normal College, of which she is a pupil. The examination was held yesterday and when Miss Stewart left the college at 3 o'clock with a girl friend she knew that she had failed. She cried bitterly all the way downtown and when she left her friend at Fifty-ninth street and Madison avenue she said she did not want to go home and did not know what to do with herself.

The girl hadn't appeared at her home, 218 West Nineteenth street at midnight last night, and her father went to Police Headquarters and had a general alarm sent out for her. She is 18 years old and wore a light shirt waist and a brown skirt. She had only 50 cents in her pocketbook. Her father made the rounds of the police stations and hospitals last night, but found no trace of her. He said that she had never been out of the house late at night before, and he feared that she had committed suicide.

CHILD ATE STINKWEED.

Another Case of Stramonium Poisoning—This One in Yonkers.

YONKERS, N. Y., Sept. 17.—David Beairsto, the twenty-nine-months-old son of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Beairsto of Palisade avenue, died last night as the result of eating stinkweed. The child was playing with other children near his home on Saturday afternoon. They made mud pies which they decorated with the flowers from the poisonous Jamestown weed. "This is cocoanut, Davy," said one of the party, and the little chap promptly placed some of it in his mouth and swallowed it. The child was taken with convulsions about 10 o'clock and died in a few hours.

The weed that caused death is variously known as Jamestown weed, stramonium and stinkweed.

KINGSBRIDGE DROUGHT STILL ON.

Engineer Birdsall Says It Will Take a 4-Inch Rain to Relieve It.

Commissioner Dalton of the Water Supply Department and Chief Engineer Birdsall went up to The Bronx yesterday morning to see if Saturday's rainfall had done much to relieve the water shortage in the Marble Hill and Kingsbridge sections. They learned that it hadn't.

"Nothing less than a rainfall of four inches," said Mr. Birdsall, "would do much for us, and we really need eight inches. There are still many houses on the high ground in that part of the city to which water can be supplied only at night because of the prevailing low pressure."

STRUCK BY AN ENGINE.

Thomas Flanagan Killed at Yonkers While Trying to Get Out of the Way of a Train.

YONKERS, N. Y., Sept. 17.—Thomas Flanagan, 85 years old, was killed on the Hudson River Railroad tracks this morning. He had stepped off one track to avoid a south-bound express train, when an unattached engine struck him. His right leg was cut off below the knee and his head was badly crushed. Flanagan was unmarried. He was Secretary to the Democratic General Committee for two terms.

MOVING STAIRS TO THE ELEVATED.

A Second Equipment Being Tried, This Time on the Ninth Avenue Line.

The Manhattan Elevated Railway is putting in a moving stairway elevator at the uptownstation of the road at the southeast corner of Twenty-third street and Sixth avenue. The elevator is similar to that at Fifty-ninth street and Third avenue. The work was going on so quickly last night that the elevator will soon be in running order.

Body Mix-Up Still Unsolved.

The orderly in the Metropolitan Hospital on Blackwell's Island who attended Edgar French was taken to the Morgue yesterday and after seeing the supposed body of French there made an affidavit that the body was that of French. Frank L. French, a brother of Edgar, visited the Metropolitan Hospital yesterday and saw all the patients there, but was unable to find his brother among them. French's relatives still refuse to accept the body in the Morgue as his.

Young Vanderbilt Not to Run for Office.

It was announced last evening that Cornelius Vanderbilt, who made his first appearance in politics at the Republican State Convention this month, would not be a candidate for office this fall.

Poland! Poland! Poland! Poland!

The purest natural spring water in the world.—*Ads.*

THROUGH EARTH, NOT AIR;

FRENCH SCIENTIST'S NEW SYSTEM OF WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

Believes Signals Leave the Bottom and Not the Top of the Masts in the Marconi System—To Tap Earth's Electricity in Different Geological Beds by Means of Shafts.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Sept. 18.—A despatch from Paris to the *Daily News* says that M. Willot, Chief Inspector of the French telegraphs, has communicated a paper to the Electricians' Congress indicating a belief that ether wave telegraphy, as recently practised, has already or is about to become obsolete.

M. Willot, who is one of the leading scientists of the telegraph department and the inventer of various telegraph and telephonic devices, seems to have reached the conclusion that it is the earth and not the air through which signals are transmitted without the use of wires. The fact that neither the roundness of the earth's surface nor intervening hills intercepts the signals suggested to him the question whether the matter telegraphed left the masts at the top or bottom. He conjectured that it left at the bottom, especially as the signalling is not affected by wind or fog, and is improved by giving the masts good electric communication with the earth.

His theory involves communicating through the geological beds, in which the earth's electricity has the same tension, the idea being that any disturbance at one point on the same electric level creates what would naturally be called a swell in the whole level, leaving the higher and lower strata comparatively undisturbed. M. Willot proposes to tap these levels, boring shafts and measuring the electrical tensions with the electroscope.

The correspondent does not make the method clear, but the inference seems to be that two points, say London and Brighton, would communicate through one level and Birmingham and Bristol through another.

The French Telegraph Department has appointed a committee to sink shafts to ascertain the distribution of the electric levels. When this is done, M. Willot undertakes to construct an apparatus that will meet every case.

The correspondent makes no reference to the transmission of signals at sea.

DUKE OF YORK TO GO TO AUSTRALIA.

Will Represent the Queen at the Opening of the First Commonwealth Parliament.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Sept. 17.—It is officially announced that the Duke and Duchess of York will visit Australia in the spring. The Duke will open the first session of the Parliament of the new Commonwealth of Australia on behalf of the Queen, who in the announcement says that she desires to give this special proof of her interest in all that concerns the welfare of her Australian subjects, while at the same time she wishes to signify her appreciation of the loyalty and devotion which prompted the spontaneous aid so liberally offered in the South African war and the splendid gallantry of the colonial troops.

PRINCE ALBERT OF SAXONY KILLED.

Thrown From His Carriage Near Army Field Quarters and Died Soon After.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

DRESDEN, Sept. 17.—Prince Albert of Saxony, while returning yesterday from Pillnitz to the army field quarters at Wolkan, was thrown from his carriage while the horses were running away. He died in ten minutes.

Prince Albert was the youngest nephew of the King of Saxony, being the fifth son of Prince Frederick George of Saxony, brother of the King. He was born in Dresden, Feb. 25, 1875; was a Captain in the First Regiment of Uhlans and was a Chevalier of the Order of the Black Eagle. He was unmarried.

NEW PLAGUE CASES IN GLASGOW.

Family of a Hospital Worker Stricken and the Scare Is Renewed.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

GLASGOW, Sept. 17.—Five additional cases of the bubonic plague were reported to-day.

The cases are those of the wife and two children of a hospital worker and his mother and sister. It seems that they had been in constant contact with suspected plague cases since Aug. 22, and had been ill without the knowledge of the authorities. The family comes from the neighborhood where the plague appeared at first. This new outbreak has caused a fresh scare.

ANARCHIST GRANOTTI COMING.

Italian Police Ask American Authorities to Arrest Him Here.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

ROME, Sept. 17.—The *Tribuna* says that the Italian police have cabled to the American authorities informing them that the Anarchist, Granotti, has sailed for the United States, and requesting his arrest and extradition.

Scandals in the Congo Free State.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

BRUSSELS, Sept. 17.—Baron van Eetvelde, Secretary of the Congo Free State, is about to resign his office. It is reported that his action is partly due to the fact that he is disgusted with the recent scandals growing out of the operations of the commercial companies that are exploiting the country.

To Dissolve Parliament on Sept. 25.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Sept. 17.—It is officially announced that the Queen has signed a proclamation dissolving Parliament on Sept. 25. The new Parliament will assemble on Nov. 1.

SMASHUP ON THE CABLE ROAD.

Car Grip Took One Slot and the Wheels the Other Track—Gripman Badly Hurt.

In attempting to take an open switch in Lexington avenue, between 104th and 105th street, at midnight last night the grip of a Lexington avenue cable car went on the east slot while the car went on the left tracks. The bottom part of the car was completely wrecked, the conductor, Michael Cunningham, was thrown the length of the car and bruised, and fourteen passengers were badly shaken. Charles Comiskey, the gripman, was thrown over the dashboard into the street and was taken to Harlem Hospital suffering from severe internal injuries. The road was blocked.

STOLE FRIENDS' BICYCLES.

More Than Twenty Complaints Against Meyer, the Police Say.

Max Meyer of 2 Rivington street was arrested last night at Fifth avenue and 140th street by Bicycle Policeman Vose on a charge of stealing a bicycle from William J. Lyle of 327 West 115th street. Meyer was riding the wheel when arrested. The police say they have more than twenty complaints of similar thefts against Meyer, and that in almost every case the man from whom he stole the wheel was a friend of his. Meyer's twenty friends will be in the Harlem court this morning to prosecute him.

Shot Himself in the Street.

Charles Ernest, 40 years old, a butcher of 251 Woodward street, Jersey City, shot himself in the head while standing at Bramhall avenue and Halliday street at 10 o'clock last night. He died almost instantly.

The Day Boats are steam heated and comfortable. Best time to enjoy Hudson River Day trips.—*Ads.*

SAYS BOERS WILL FIGHT ON.

Kruger's Companion Speaks for Him and Says He Is Still President.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Sept. 18.—A despatch to the *Telegraph* from Lorenzo Marques, dated Sept. 15, describes a visit of the correspondent of that paper to the Governor's residence for the purpose of interviewing President Krüger. The latter did not receive the correspondent, but deputed Mr. Berdell, the Transvaal Commissioner of Police, to answer questions. Mr. Krüger sat in an adjoining room with the door open. The correspondent describes him as white, shrivelled and pitiable, yet a striking object. He wore spectacles and one of his eyes was shaded.

Mr. Berdell said that Mr. Krüger had not arranged definitely to go to Europe. If he went he might return in six months. He had not resigned the Presidency of the Transvaal. Vice-President Schalkburger's appointment as acting President in the President's absence was according to custom.

In reply to a question why the Boers continued fighting, Mr. Berdell said: "We are fighting for our birthright, our country. Accordingly we are compelled to fight to the last drop of blood. It is not useless to continue. We must fight to the bitter end. If we desist St. Helena or Ceylon is facing us. We shall fight and hope on."

Referring to Gen. Roberts's recent proclamation, Mr. Berdell said it was all wrong, adding: "Gen. Roberts has not done with us in the field yet. We are not beaten yet. At the worst he may conquer us, but he will never subdue us."

FIVE CHILDREN KILLED.

Gasolene Explosion in a Day Nursery in Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Sept. 17.—Fire started this afternoon about 4:20 o'clock at Slum Post No. 5 of the Salvation Army at 403 East Front street in this city. It was caused by explosion of gasolene as near as one can tell. The institution is also a nursery, some young children being kept during the day while their parents are at work. The building, a three-story brick, a dilapidated affair is almost a total wreck.

Six of about twelve persons who were in it are dead and it is believed that five at the City Hospital may not survive the injuries received by burning and inhaling flames. Those known to be dead are: Herbert Harkins, Sr., who attempted to save his little ones; Herbert Harkins, Jr., aged 3 years; Rhoda Harkins, 5; Edward Mullins, 6; Myrtle Farrell, 6 years, and Maggie Williams 4. Of these the elder Harkins and young Mullins were taken out dead.

It is expected that Staff Capt. Hilda Erickson, until recently of the Salvation Army Cherry Street Slum station, New York city, and Capt. Hannah Anderson, for some time past in charge of the institution, cannot survive long, probably not another day.

COAL MINERS' WAGES RAISED.

Pacific Coast Company Makes an Unsolicited Advance of About 15 Per Cent.

SEATTLE, Wash., Sept. 17.—The Pacific Coast Coal Company announced to-day a general increase in the wages of their miners working in the New Castle, Franklin, Lawrence and Coal Creek mines. The advance is about 15 per cent. over the old rates, and enables the men to make from $2.50 to $3 a day. Nearly 1,000 men are employed in these mines and all are rejoiced over the advance, which was voluntary on the part of the company and came as a surprise to the miners.

Two hundred men employed in the Leary mines also had their wages raised to-day after a mutual understanding with the mine owners. These men are making from $3 to $3.50 a day. The demand for coal on the Pacific Coast is so great that the mining companies are unable to meet it, but the prices have not been raised.

GIRL STUDENT IN THE INSANE WARD

Annie Lohman Seems Crazy at Noon and a Few Hours Later Quite Sane.

Annie Lohman, the fifteen-year-old girl found in Central Park two weeks ago and who was sent to the hospital in a hysterical condition after telling a tale which proved to be untrue about being turned out of her home, was again sent to Bellevue yesterday by Magistrate Hogan in the Harlem police court to be examined as to her sanity.

The girl was a pupil in the Packard Commercial College. Her aunt believes that overstudy has affected her mind. Dr. Sangree of 1480 Madison avenue told the Magistrate that the girl's mental condition puzzled him greatly, as she would appear to be insane at noon and a few hours later, after a short sleep, her mind would appear to be normal.

The girl has been living with her aunt, Mrs Lena Striker, of 21 East 101st street.

STOLE TO AID A FRIEND.

Chicago Bank Teller a Suicide After Helping to Embezzle $20,000.

CHICAGO, Sept. 17.—Misplaced confidence in William B. Dunton, a fellow employee and friend, for whom he had taken funds from the bank, is believed to have led George S. Forbes, receiving teller of the First National Bank, to kill himself. It developed to-day that the shortage of Dunton with the Union National Bank, which has been consolidated with the First National, amounted to $20,000. The investigation shows further that Dunton must have had an accomplice. This Forbes admits in a letter to the bank officers which he wrote before leaving home to end his life. He asserts in letter that he had no part of the stolen money, in that but was simply a cat's-paw. Dunton has disappeared.

BLAZE UNDER "CHURCHMAN" OFFICE.

Hard to Fight on Account of Smoke From Paper Stores—$12,000 Damage Done.

The sub-cellar and basement of the building at 47 Lafayette place occupied by the *Churchman* were partly destroyed last night by a fire which started in the sub-cellar, used as an engine and boiler room. On account of great stores of paper in the cellar, the firemen had great difficulty in getting at the fire. When they did get downstair the smoke was so thick that fresh squads of men had to be sent down every few minutes, to give those who had been below a chance to come up and breathe. The damage is estimated at $12,000. The building is called the Astor house, because it was occupied for many years as a residence by Mrs. Langdon, a sister of John Jacob Astor.

*BULLET THRO