TWO WRECKS IN ERIE TUNNEL

ROCKS FALL FROM THE ROOF AND DERAIL TRAINS.

Fireman Scalded to Death—Many Passengers Hurt, but Not Badly—One Engine and Cab Upset—Traffic Tied Up—Narrow Escape From Great Catastrophe.

A large section of trap rock which fell from the roof of the Erie Railroad tunnel near the eastern entrance in Jersey City yesterday morning and broke into several pieces was responsible for the wrecking of two passenger trains thirty seconds after they had passed each other, the scalding to death of a brave fireman who remained at his post and the suspension of all traffic through the tunnel for ten hours. A dozen or more passengers were injured, but with one exception all were able to go to their homes.

The wrecked trains were 205 of the Northern Railroad of New Jersey which left the Jersey City depot at 7:24 bound for Nyack and 504 of the Greenwood Lake division, crowded with commuters, which was due at Jersey City ten minutes later. The westbound train was in charge of Conductor Matthew Broa with W. S. Requa as engineer and Frank De Groat as fireman. The incoming Greenwood Lake train which fared the worst was in charge of Conductor S. J. Snyder. The engineer was George E. McKinnon and the fireman was William Marks.

A clear track through the tunnel was given the westbound train by the operator in the signal tower and it was running at about twenty miles an hour when the pilot of the locomotive struck two or three big rocks 200 feet from the opening. There was a terrific jolt as the engine pushed one boulder along the ties and threw the others to the eastbound track. Finally the pilot bent and the engine climbed over the rock derailing all the cars in the train. The guard rail along the side of the tunnel prevented the cars from going very far, and none of the passengers suffered anything worse than a severe shaking up.

The train came to a stop two or three hundred feet from the place where it struck the pile of rocks just as the eastbound train whizzed by. Owing to the darkness Engineer McKinnon of the eastbound train did not see that the Nyack train was in trouble or that there was danger ahead. His engine struck the rocks which had been hurled from the westbound track and he jammed off his steam. While the train was slowing down the engine reached the spot where the roof of the tunnel had given way and then crashed into another bowlder.

The engine jumped the track and bumped over the rails, pushing the rock almost to the mouth of the tunnel, where it rolled off the track. The engine and tender fell over on the westbound track, some thirty feet outside the tunnel, and the train came to a standstill. The smoker next the tender swung around at the tunnel's mouth, turned over on its side and blocked both tracks. The remaining four cars were not derailed.

Wild excitement ensued as the passengers—mostly all commuters on their way to work in this city—jumped from the platforms and through windows and rushed out of the tunnel. The smoke-laden air was filled with bits of flying glass and splinters. Engineer McKinnon and Fireman Marks remained in their cab with apparently no thought of leaving their posts. They were pinned down in the wreck. Fireman Marks was terribly scalded over his entire body. He was taken to St. Francis Hospital and died in terrible agony shortly after 3 o'clock. He was 28 years old and was married. His wife was unable to reach him before he died.

Engineer McKinnon was scalded on the legs and about the body and received a scalp wound. It was said at the hospital last night that he will recover. Others removed to St. Francis's Hospital were Joseph Morris, 13 years old, of Laurel and Davis avenues, Arlington, scalded on the leg; Franklin F. Ketcham, 22 years old, a clerk living at Montclair, lacerated wrist; Alfred E. Badgley, 30, of Montclair, contused fingers; Parker C. Jacobus, 16, of 66 Forrest street, Montclair, contused knee. There was hardly a sound part of the engine left.

The blocking of the tunnel during the hours when incoming trains on the main line of the Erie, the Jersey Northern, the Greenwood Lake division, the New York and New Jersey and the Newark branch arrive every few minutes brought a line of trains extending several miles to a standstill on the meadows at the west end of the tunnel. Thousands of passengers walked across the Bergen hill to lower Jersey City or patronized the trolley cars leading to the Hoboken and Jersey City ferries. The Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad did a rushing business by stopping trains at West End and taking the Erie's passengers to Hoboken.

There were much confusion and consternation among the thousands of persons who expected to leave the Erie depot in Jersey City when they learned that no trains could be run through the tunnel until late in the afternoon. A Buffalo train was made up at 10 o'clock and taken to Hoboken by way of the Erie's Weehawken branch, whence it was sent to West End on the Lackawanna tracks and then transferred to the main line of the Erie. Trolley cars were run at frequent intervals across the hilltop for the accommodation of passengers, who boarded trains which were made up at the west end of the tunnel. Hundreds waited at the Jersey City depot all day until the track was cleared. Then one monster train was made up on each branch and all were started out in quick succession.

General Superintendent Fitch remained at the scene of the wreck directing operations all day. The work was difficult owing to the small space in which the wreckers had to operate. The men also considered their work unusually dangerous, because they feared that other rocks would fall on them from the roof of the tunnel. The engine of the Nyack train was found tilted on a big rock with its smokestack jammed against the roof of the tunnel.

The train officials congratulated one another that the wreck did not result more disastrously. Had the Nyack train been tilted over on the eastbound train, instead of toward the northside of the tunnel, the loss of life might have been tremendous, as the Greenwood Lake train would have smashed into it.

It was whispered among the railroad men that rocks have frequently fallen from the roof of the tunnel, but not in the way of approaching trains. A gang of men is employed to make frequent trips through the tunnel to see that all is safe. It is said that the accident of yesterday may result in agitation to compel the Erie to elevate its tracks.

WOULD BRIBE BEVERIDGE

Report That a Convict Offered Him $5,000 to Obtain a Pardon.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 21.—It is reported that Senator Beveridge recently had an offer of $5,000 from George W. Ray, formerly editor of a paper at Shelbyville and now a convict in the Michigan City Penitentiary, if his good influence for Durbin to parole or pardon Ray in time to eat his Christmas turkey at home. He wrote the Senator and said:

"I'm ready to get Durbin for $5,000 and I'm good for $5,000 for yourself."

Mr. Durbin would not discuss the matter last night.

It will only add the straw that Ray will not get his Christmas dinner in Shelbyville.

Boy Burned to Death.

NYACK, Dec. 21.—Tucker Henry Hankinson, the ten-year-old son of Frederick Hankinson, was alone in the lower part of his home and while overbalancing a trunk a lighted match fell from his hand and set fire to the contents. In a moment the little fellow's clothes were in a blaze, and shortly his father came from the room to find Henry lying on the floor, having been burned to death.

KINGS PATRONAGE MUST GO!

New Acts Will Hit Register's, Sheriff's and County Clerk's Offices on Jan. 1.

The State Civil Service Commissioners consented yesterday to allow the classification of subordinate places in the offices of Register, Sheriff and County Clerk of Kings county to remain as it is pending a decision of the courts on the constitutionality of the three laws which changed the three county offices from fee offices to salary offices.

"In postponing more definite action on this matter," said William M. Collier, chairman of the Commission, "we act at the request of the county officers-elect who do not want any change. Lieut.-Gov. Woodruff and a lawyer representing Sheriff-elect Guden, County Clerk-elect Hartzheim and Register-elect Neal, attended the hearing, and all spoke against any reclassification in the Kings county offices at the present time."

Chairman Collier and his associate commissioners all expressed the opinion, unofficially, that a reclassification will be necessary after Jan. 1, because of the three acts abolishing fees, and that many placeholders in these three offices will be ousted at the end of the year.

"There is nothing in the present regulations," said Mr. Collier, "which will keep them in office. After Jan. 1 all appointments in these offices, except a few exempt by law, must be made from eligible lists and in accordance with civil service regulations. If there are no lists in existence temporary appointments may be made for not more than a month."

Under the regulations which the Civil Service Commissioners say will have to go into effect after Jan. 1, the patronage in the three offices will be reduced to the following list of places, exempt by law: In the Sheriff's office, one Under Sheriff, twelve deputies, a counsel, a warden, a cashier and a secretary; in the Register's office, a deputy, a chief clerk and chief searcher; in the County Clerk's office, one deputy, a cashier and a confidential clerk.

APPOINTMENTS IN BROOKLYN.

The Sheriff-Elect and Register-Elect Name Some of Their Assistants.

These certificates of appointments were filed yesterday in the County Clerk's office in Brooklyn: By Sheriff-elect Guden—Levi W. Naylor, counsel, $5,000; John J. Johnston, chief clerk, $2,500; Alexander Quinn, bookkeeper at the jail, $1,500; John S. Cohen, secretary to the Sheriff, $1,500; William J. McPhilliamy, equity clerk, $2,500; deputy sheriffs at $2,200 each, Michael J. Wheeler, John W. S. Moritz, Timothy J Dady, George E. England and Richard Mulcahy; assistant deputy sheriffs at $1,000 each, John S. Armstrong, Charles A. C. Ryan and Charles D. Kendall; Michael J. Sims, keeper at the jail, $1,200.

By Register-elect Neal—Walter T. Bennett of the Twenty-eighth ward, counsel.

Magistrate-elect J. Lott Nostrand has appointed Richard W. Bennett clerk of the Fifth district Magistrate's court. Mr. Bennett is a brother of Charles G. Bennett, clerk of the United States Senate.

Rives Asks Blandy to Stay Awhile.

Charles Blandy, Assistant Corporation Counsel, had signified his intention to resign at the opening of the new year, but Mr. Rives, the new Corporation Counsel, has asked Mr. Blandy to remain a while, until the routine of the office is in hand. This Mr. Blandy has consented to do. Mr. Rives has also decided to retain Mr. Blandy in a number of cases which are pressing for an early trial.

SUICIDE BY CHLOROFORM.

Domestic Found Dead in Bed, Bottle Under Her Pillow.

A woman, whose name from papers found in her possession is supposed to be Annie Reed, was found dead yesterday morning in her room at 247 West Thirteenth street.

There was a bottle that had contained chloroform under her pillow. The woman was about 21 years old and had worked as a domestic in the neighborhood.

Among her effects were two letters addressed to Irving W. Reed, Boothbay Harbor, Me., and Miss Annie Reed, High street, Bath, Me.

Hall—Thomson.

OSSINING, Dec. 21.—Miss Sarah Eidder Thomson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George H. Thomson of this village and Samuel Prescott Hall of Plainfield, N. J., were married in St. Paul's Episcopal Church this evening. The matrons of honor were Mrs. Robert Fuller Dennison of Cleveland, Ohio, and Mrs. Harrison Merrick Reed of Jacksonville, Fla., sisters of the bride. The bridesmaids were Miss Mabel Huntington Thomson, sister of the bride, and Miss Minturn Hall and Miss Alice Maud Richards of Gardiner, Me., cousins of the bridegroom. The best man was McCready Sykes of New York city. The ushers were Michael S. Stillman, Abner J. Hayden, Julian Thornley of New York, Henry E. Newell of Syracuse, Warren Brown Thomson, brother of the bride and John Howe Hall of Plainfield, brother of the bridegroom.

Mulford—Blackwell.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 21.—At Grace Church to-day Miss Margaret Guest Blackwell was married to Roland Jessup Mulford, formerly of Boston, but now head master of the Country School for Boys on Charles street. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Arthur Chilton Powell. The bride entered the church with her stepfather, Josiah Low Blackwell. Whitney Mulford was best man.

W. K. Vanderbilt on an Inspection Tour.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 21.—William K. Vanderbilt passed through Pittsburg today on what one of the party described as the annual inspection tour of the Vanderbilt lines. In the party were W. H. Newman, President of the New York Central and the Lake Shore railroads, E. H. Harriman of the Union Pacific Railroad, and his brother, J. D. Harriman.

Oberlin Alumni Trying to Raise $300,000.

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—In an effort to secure $200,000 offered by John D. Rockefeller on condition that $100,000 additional be raised by Jan. 1 next, the Illinois Alumni of Oberlin College at its annual banquet last night pledged themselves for $10,000.

NEW TIPS
DON'T MAKE YOUR GAS LIGHT BILLS
EXCHANGE THEM FOR THE
KERN BURNER
THAT RIVALS THE SUN
AND SAVES
50% ON
GAS BILLS
HANDSOME DESIGNS FOR
HOLIDAY PRESENTS
AGENTS WANTED
CATALOGUES ON APPLICATION
FOR SALE BY ALL LEADING
GAS FIXTURE HOUSES & PLUMBERS
KERN INCANDESCENT GAS LIGHT CO.
NEW YORK CITY
WHOLESALE
18 MURRAY ST
TEL. BEEK MAN
RETAIL
NO. 18 MURRAY ST
TEL. BEEK MAN

GOV. CRANE TO SUCCEED GAGE

PRESIDENT ASKS HIM TO BE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

He Has the Offer Under Consideration and Will Probably Accept—Those Persons in Washington Who Know Him Intimately Tell What Kind of Man He Is.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Gov. Winthrop Murray Crane of Massachusetts is personally known to a limited number of public men in Washington, but all of that number, as far as could be learned to-day, are pleased, at what is now known to be a fact, that President Roosevelt yesterday asked him to be Secretary of the Treasury as the successor of Lyman J. Gage, and that he will probably accept. Those persons in Washington who do know Mr. Crane, know him very well, and they took delight to-day in telling what kind of man he is. According to their statements he is a business man of fine ability, a politician of the shrewdest and broadest-minded kind, a Governor practical, wise and entirely acceptable to the people of Massachusetts, and one of the wealthiest men in the State, his fortune being rated at ten or fifteen millions of dollars. Moreover, his friends unite in describing him as one of the most modest, unassuming, democratic men who ever held a political office, and yet as possessing a backbone made of the same material as that which sustains the moral and physical frame of Theodore Roosevelt. Mr. Crane's friends declare that this estimate of him is based entirely on his acts as a business man and public official in the State of Massachusetts. He is the owner of paper mills of world-wide reputation, and first came prominently into national politics in 1896, when he marched into the Southern Hotel in St. Louis at the head of a great procession of brass bands and New England delegates, shouting for the nomination of "Tom" Reed for President, although they already knew that they were enlisted in a lost cause.

Mr. Crane is such a retiring man and makes so little noise in the world that he is less known to the masses of the people of Massachusetts than any man who has ever held public office in the State, but it is said that he has made a first-class Governor, and that he has stood like a rock between the interests of the people and the grafters who hang about the Legislature of every great State. He dislikes to appear in public and could not make a speech to save his life. He is a man of the class of Gen. Leonard Wood, who talk very little, but who are immovable when they know they are right. Mr. Crane has had strong influence on public matters in Massachusetts long before he was made Lieutenant-Governor, and he has been for several years a member of the Governor's Council, as his father, grandfather and great-grandfather were before him. His quiet and unobtrusive way of doing things was never better illustrated than when he came to Washington yesterday, wrote his name on the hotel register in such small chirography that nobody noticed it, took breakfast with the President, agreed to go home and arrange his affairs so that he could become Secretary of the Treasury, and then quietly went back to Massachusetts, leaving so slight a trail that it was several hours before any body knew he had been in town.

It is generally understood that Gov. Crane will assume the duties of his new office in about two months and that Secretary Gage's formal letter of resignation will take effect at such time as is most convenient to Mr. Crane, in view of his obligations as Governor of Massachusetts.

BOSTON, Dec. 21.—Gov. Winthrop Murray Crane has received an offer of the Treasury portfolio to succeed Lyman J. Gage of Chicago, when Secretary Gage shall see fit to retire. Gov. Crane arrived at his home in Dalton this morning. He said in a telephone interview:

"The office has been offered to me and I have the offer under consideration, but it is not true that I have accepted it."

It has been known to the intimate associates of President Roosevelt, as was said by the best of authority to-day, that he has for some time been desirous of inducing Gov. Crane to take a place in his Cabinet. The President wants him for several peculiar reasons, among them his experience in large affairs, his extended acquaintance, which is much larger than many of his Massachusetts friends are said to realize, and his admirable faculty of dealing with men.

WOULDN'T RESTRICT ICE POND.

John Maher Refuses an Offer to Make His Place Exclusive.

GREENWICH, Conn., Dec. 21.—The boys and girls of Greenwich are taking off their hats to John Maher, the iceman, to-day. When a few wealthy men went to the iceman one day this week and wanted to hire his pond for the winter his reply was:

"It would break my heart to have the boys and girls who have been used to skating on Ten Acres come here and find that they couldn't skate any more and that the pond was no longer public."

They offered him a tempting sum of money.

"No," he said, "I couldn't do it."

After considerable urging they finally got Mr. Maher to permit them to fence off two acres for their use as a racing track. So the other eight acres are open to the free use of the public. Ten Acres is a famous skating pond and has been in use by the boys and girls here for upward of a hundred years for this invigorating sport.

MRS. DALE OUT ON BAIL.

Released in $5,000 Following Grand Jury's Refusal to Indict Her.

Mrs. Elizabeth Rose Dale whom the Hudson county Grand Jury refused to indict on a charge of murdering her five-year-old daughter, Ernestine, in Hoboken was released in $5,000 cash bail yesterday by Judge Blair in Jersey City. Mrs. Dale has been a prisoner at St. Mary's Hospital since her arrest. The Grand Jury will make a presentment in open court on Jan. 3, when it is believed the bond will be cancelled.

Mrs. Dale returned to St. Mary's Hospital last night. She is still ill and is said to be in danger of another relapse. She has expressed a wish to see the body of her daughter, which is in a receiving vault at Flower Hill cemetery in North Bergen.

OHIO FARM BURNING UP.

Loam Has Caught Fire Under the Surface After a Dry Spell.

WAYNESBURG, Ohio, Dec. 21.—During the long spell of dry weather just passed the black loam soil of the Mahoningo Valley, east of here, has become dried out and great care was exercised to keep the loam from catching fire. Several weeks ago the farm of John Finnegan in some way caught fire and has been burning ever since. It is now a raging furnace, and the fire has gone on the bottom and cannot be reached, and the only thing that will stop it is plenty of water to soak the loam through.

This is the second time within ten years that the farm has been afire.

Incorporated at Albany.

ALBANY, Dec. 21.—The Downtown Realty Company of New York was incorporated today, with a capital of $100,000. The directors are Stephen Pratt, E. T. H. Talmadge, J. F. Talmadge, E. D. Lounsbury, W. J. Chapel, J. M. Wainwright and Alexander Bryant of New York city; D. S. Lord of Rye and C. W. Kane of Bronxville. The Gas Fuel Company of New York city was incorporated with a capital of $100,000 to manufacture machinery for the generation of heat from liquid and gaseous hydrocarbons. The directors are S. H. Thomas and F. W. Hengst of New York city, E. S. Hilliard of Brooklyn and E. J. Barrett and G. H. Humphrey of West New Brighton.

WOMAN DEAD AT GROGAN'S.

Registered There With a Man as Frank Dillon and Wife—Inhaled Gas.

A man and woman went to Grogan's Raines law hotel on the southeast corner of Seventh avenue and Thirty-sixth street at 5 o'clock yesterday morning and registered as "Frank Dillon and wife." They got a room on the second floor and nothing more was heard from them until 11 o'clock, when the man was seen to leave the hotel alone. Nothing was thought of this, because people who go to Grogan's are not asked many questions. At 5 o'clock in the afternoon Joseph Harris, the negro porter smelled gas coming from the room which the early-morning visitors had occupied and he tried the door. It was locked and he burst it in. The woman who had come to the hotel with "Dillon" was lying on the bed with one end of a gas tube connecting with a burner in her mouth.

The porter notified the proprietor and Dr. Walter Gilday of 132 West Thirty-sixth street was sent for. He said the woman had been dead for some time. She was undressed and her clothes lay strewn about on chairs in the room. Her death was reported to the police of the West Thirtieth street station and Detectives Hawkins and Churchill were detailed to investigate. They concluded that the girl committed suicide, but up to a late hour last night had not found the man who went to the hotel with her. Grogan, the proprietor of the place, knows the man by sight, but doesn't think "Dillon" is his right name. The man has been to the hotel before, but never with the woman who was found dead in the room. The police don't think the man had anything to do with the woman's death, as the room was locked from the inside.

The dead woman looks as if she might have been a shop girl. She was about 21 years old, 5 feet tall and weighed about 125 pounds. She was rather good-looking, light complexion, blue eyes and dark brown hair. She wore a dark skirt and waist, tan jacket, a white velvet hat, red stockings and button shoes. Her body was sent to the Morgue.

DOCTOR'S DAUGHTER HELD.

Taken From a Train—May Have Been About to Meet a Man.

NEW HAVEN, Dec. 21.—Miss Belle Morgan, 19 years old, daughter of Dr. Edward Morgan of New York and niece of Dr. John Morgan, a specialist of Boston, was arrested in this city last night when a train from Middletown arrived at New Haven station. She is charged with the theft of $10 in money and a black silk petticoat from her aunt, Mrs. L. Gates of Middletown.

The girl was on her way to New York city to spend the holidays there. She was locked up at Police Headquarters for the night in the woman's general cell and made no protest. To-day she was turned over to a Middletown policeman, who took her to Middletown, where she appeared in the police court. Her case was continued and her father sent for.

It is given out that just before Miss Morgan left Middletown for New York yesterday a telegram was taken from her by Mrs. Gates's son and it is said that the telegram was from a man whose name has not been disclosed. It is also said that the young woman left Middletown without her aunt's permission. The arrest of the young woman surprised her many friends in Middletown, many of whom believe the statement of the girl that she is being persecuted.

REWARD FOR NEGRO PARKER.

Man Who Knocked Down Czolgosz to Be a Messenger in Washington.

ALTOONA, Pa., Dec. 21.—James B. Parker, the negro who knocked down Czolgosz when McKinley was shot, passed through here to-day on his way to Washington to receive as a Christmas gift official recognition of his act.

"It's to be a messengership in the Senate," said Parker, "and as far as I am concerned it comes unsolicited and unexpected. Senators Hanna and Mason and Secretary Cortelyou, who, I understand, represents the President, have been interesting themselves in my behalf and have kindly solicited the place of all places that I have wished for. Museum and theatrical managers have made me flattering offers. One of them was a $3,000 offer, but it is against my sense of decency, with 10,000,000 of colored citizens with their eyes on me, regarding me as hundreds of letters have told me, as a colored man who was first to the aid of his stricken President, I couldn't go around the country as a museum freak, could I?"

After spending to-morrow in Washington Parker will go to his home in Atlanta to visit his aged mother before beginning work in his new place.

Obituary Notes.

John J. Valentine, eighth President of Wells, Fargo & Co., died at his home, Cedar Croft, East Oakland, Cal., yesterday morning. He had been suffering from heart and kidney troubles for some months and his death had been expected for several days. He leaves a widow and half a dozen children. He was born in Bowling Green, Ky., on Nov. 12, 1841, and in 1854 began his business career with Younglove Bros., druggists, Bowling Green, who were also agents for Carter, Thomas & Co.'s stage and express lines. Not long afterward he became connected with the Adams Express Company and continued in its service until 1861, when he resigned and went to California, where he was appointed joint agent for Wells, Fargo & Co., the Pioneer Stage Company and the California Telegraph Company at Strawberry Hill, Eldorado county. Shortly afterward he was transferred to Virginia City, Nev., as agent and superintendent of the Pioneer Stage Company. In 1866 he received the appointment of route agent for Wells, Fargo & Co., but in 1867 was transferred to San Francisco as cashier for the same concern. In 1868 he was made superintendent of Wells, Fargo & Co.'s lines in California and Oregon, and in July, 1869, he was transferred to New York city as general superintendent of the company. However, the business then being principally on the Pacific coast, he was retransferred to San Francisco in the summer of 1870 and had since resided in East Oakland. In 1882 he was elected Vice-President and director of Wells, Fargo & Co., but in 1884, it being necessary to create a new office, he was unanimously elected general manager, also retaining his former place of Vice-President and director. Upon the retirement of Lloyd Tevis in 1892 Mr. Valentine was selected to succeed to the Presidency.

Joseph A. Sisson, President of the Water Board of Newburgh, died yesterday. Mr. Sisson was stricken with paralysis two weeks ago while on his way to Washington, Iowa, on a hunting expedition. He fell in the meadow and he was found lying in the snow when he regained consciousness. He was taken to a farmhouse, where he was found by his wife. He was born in Newburgh, where he was a member of the firm of Sisson, Ward & Co., grocers, for the past twenty years. He was a member of the Fire Department for twenty years, and served in the Assembly in 1884. He was President of the Board of Education for the last twenty-five years, and resided in Newburgh being part of the time engaged in farming.

John Hoyt, 80 years old, a veteran employed in the Hoyt Mill of the Pepperell Company in this city, and famous for the size of his shoes, died yesterday morning. He was a descendant of Deacon Samuel Hoyt, who came from England with a company of Puritan adventurers in the ship Lion in 1631. Mr. Hoyt was born in Pepperell, Dec. 12, 1821, and he began work in the mill when he was a boy. He was married three times and left a widow and twenty children.

Col. Benjamin H. Pope died yesterday at Tarrytown, N. Y. He was a native of Pennsylvania county, N. Y. He had been connected with various in the Southern War. He was editor of the Wilmington (North Carolina) Journal, and other North Carolina papers, in addition to being a member of the North Carolina Legislature and clerk of the Senate. He was appointed by President Cleveland Major and Lieutenant Colonel of the Tenth North Carolina Artillery. In 1886 he was elected State Superintendent of Education for the ensuing two years, and he had resided in Tarrytown being part of the time engaged in farming.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS.
"Light of Asia"
Portable Electric Lights are Attractive and Useful Holiday Presents.
PRICES $2.50 AND $3.00
ELECTRIC CONTRACT CO.,
52 MAIDEN LANE.
Also Importers of Novelty Flashers.

The demand for Pianolas as Christmas Gifts is the natural sequence of the instrument's great popularity.

THE PIANOLA

Its Practical Use.

THE COST of the Pianola is $250.
Does it bring enough pleasure in return to warrant the investment?

The Pianola will enable every owner of a piano to play upon his piano whenever he desires. Not only this, but every member of the family can also play upon it—not one or two pieces, but practically every composition ever written for the piano.

The Pianola is the only thing which warrants the investment in a piano by nine-tenths of those who own them. At least it is the only thing which makes a piano worth a hundred cents on a dollar.

Did you ever stop to consider how much pleasure there is stored up in your piano, then count the number of times in a month it is used, aside from the tedious practice of a child? Perhaps you or your wife or your daughter "play a little," but the difference between playing a little and playing everything you wish is considerable. It is worth thinking about. The Pianola supplies the deficiency. It even makes no difference if you do not know one note from another.

With the Pianola you can play every style and class of music ever composed—Liszt Rhapsodies, Chopin's Nocturnes, the grand operas of Wagner and Verdi, light operas of Sullivan and De Koven, and all the latest ragtime favorites. In fact, with the aid of the Pianola, you can play upon your own piano any selection you wish—you can have dance music or song accompaniments, and the question of "finding some one to play" need never arise.

The Pianola is an ideal Christmas present, for it supplies pleasure for the entire year.

PRICE $250.
May be bought by instalments if desired. Visitors welcome.

The AEOLIAN COMPANY,
18 W. 23d St., New York. 500 Fulton St., Brooklyn. 657 Broad St., Newark.

MRS. PARTINGTON'S LOST CAT.

A Multitude Appears at Her Front Gate With a Few More or Less Like It.

MONTCLAIR, N. J., Dec. 21.—Mrs. Grace Partington of 116 Walnut street, lost a cat a few days ago. It had been a pet in the family a number of years. Mrs. Partington waited for the cat to return, but when it failed to appear she published that she would pay a liberal reward to anybody who would bring it to her. The news spread over the town and when Mr. Partington started to leave the house to go to business he was confronted by an army of boys and girls, all of whom had cats in their arms or carried baskets containing cats. In some instances sounds of conflict came from baskets in which there were several cats.

Mrs. Partington had neglected to give a description of her lost pet and there were cats of every known and some unknown species. When one of the cats began to squall the others followed suit, and the neighborhood was aroused. Mr. Partington called his wife, who was dumfounded when she saw a line of children extending from the front piazza far out into the street. On the lawn there were others, and all had cats. Mr. and Mrs. Partington retired for consultation and then decided to dismiss the crowd, even though such action should result in the permanent loss of their beloved tabby. They found it no easy task to get rid of the crowd, as the majority insisted that each cat should be examined until the missing one was found. It was only after Mr. Partington threatened to summon the police that the children began to disperse.

It was noticed that as most of the children reached the street they released the cats which scattered, some entering the yards of neighbors.

SOLDIERS REJECT A DINNER.

Guard at McKinley's Tomb Refuse the Offer of a Christmas Feast.

CANTON, Ohio, Dec. 21.—The detail of United States Regular soldiers guarding the vault in which lie the remains of William McKinley will not have a big Christmas dinner as guests of a local Epworth League. Several weeks ago the Leaguers of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, of which McKinley was a member, decided to give the soldier boys a complimentary dinner on Christmas. The soldier boys got the idea they were looked upon as subjects of charity and became angry. They sent a committee to the leading Epworth men telling them that they did not want any charity dinner. The soldiers said they would obey their Captain and march to the church for dinner, but as to eating they are always their own judges, and fancy a bite would they swallow when lined up at the festal board. They intimated also they were trying to get even with the Captain for some real or fancied wrong.

The Leaguers called off the dinner.

TRAIN FALLS 150 FEET.

Goes Off a Trestle in Tennessee—Three Men Killed.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 21.—At Ridge Top a fatal freight wreck occurred to-day on the big trestle. The first section of Train No. 67 jumped the track and plunged down a distance of 150 feet. The engine and entire train went over and the cars were crushed, broken and piled one upon the other. Engineer William Fitzgerald of Nashville was caught under the engine and killed instantly. Brakeman Anderson of Baker's Station and Eskridge of Nashville were also killed instantly. Conductor Mike Bohan of Farington, Ky., was injured seriously. Another trainman who was on the train and went over with it escaped uninjured.

Some of the cars were loaded with horses and mules and several of these were killed, while others were injured. The property damage by the smashing of the engine and cars will be heavy. Wrecking crews have been up at the wreck and will work night and day to get the engine and cars in shape to move and it is expected that the road will be cleared in a few days.

Dinner of the Pilgrim Mothers.

The tenth annual Pilgrim Mothers Dinner given by the New York Legislative League was held at the Waldorf-Astoria yesterday afternoon. The guests of the League included State Social Guard and many Presidents of women's clubs and societies. Mrs. Lulu Ensworth Blake presided. She and Miss Louise Boyle made addresses and toasts were responded to by Mrs. Caroline Ratcliffe, President of the New York State Federation of Clubs; Mrs. Julianna Harbinger, President of the New Jersey Federation of Clubs; Mrs. Helen Clark, President of the Society for Political Study; Mrs. Hugh Reid Griffith, President of the Society of American Women in London, and Dr. Lucy Ricardo Rogers.

New Rochelle Church Calls Rev. Dr. Eghert.

NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y., Dec. 21.—The First Presbyterian Church of this city, which has been without a pastor since the resignation of the Rev. S. B. Walker last summer, has extended a call to the Rev. Dr. F. B. Eghert of Flushing, L. I.

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YALE STUDENT WED SECRETLY.

T. D. Newmeyer, Law School, Married a New Haven Shop Girl on Oct. 6, 1900.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Dec. 21.—It became known to-day that Thomas Davidson Newmeyer, a middle-class man of the Yale law school, and Miss Frances Elizabeth Healy, who up to the time of her marriage was employed in a local department store, were married in New York city on Oct. 6, 1900, by a Baptist clergyman. The marriage took place just after the young man matriculated as a law student. Previous to that time Newmeyer had spent four years in the academic department of Yale, from which he graduated in June, 1900. He is the son of Porter Newmeyer of Connellsville, Pa.

Two weeks ago the young man's father came to New Haven on a visit to his son, and then met for the first time Mrs. Newmeyer. He was favorably impressed with the young woman. Soon after the son confessed that he had been married. The father extended parental blessing and returned home. The young man will finish his course in the law school and will then go to Pittsburg, where he has wealthy friends, to practise law.

Gen. Burnett's Country Home Robbed.

GOSHEN, N. Y., Dec. 21.—Gen. Henry L. Burnett, United States District Attorney, was called to Goshen by a letter stating that his summer home had been robbed, the wine cellar being looted and the barn plundered of its contents. Gen. Burnett, on his arrival, went to the country seat and on the window frames found the marks of a jimmy. As far as he could learn not much had been taken. The General is having plans prepared to convert his home into twice its present size. It is the old home of John Cosner, the late Jim Fiske's private secretary.

BIG IRRIGATION SCHEME.

Capitalists of Baltimore to Develop 140,000 Acres of California Land.

BALTIMORE, Md., Dec. 21.—As a result of the recent trip of Gen. John Gill, President of the Mercantile Trust and Deposit Company, and Major Richard M. Venable to southern California, it is proposed to organize a company with a capital of $5,500,000 in stock and $1,500,000 in bonds to develop an irrigation system in the Rialto Plateau, San Bernardino county, Cal.

Something like 140,000 acres of land will be affected by the development of an existing water plant which furnishes moisture for 10,000 or 12,000 acres. More than usual interest attaches to the plan because of the mention made of irrigation in President Roosevelt's message to Congress. In pursuance of the plan adopted by local capitalists, the Bonita Water Company has been chartered under the laws of the State of New Jersey. The capital stock will be divided into $4,500,000 common, $500,000 first preferred, 5 per cent. and $500,000 second preferred, 5 per cent. stock. Of the $1,500,000 6 per cent. gold bonds, $500,000 will be retained in the treasury.

Steamship Shawmut Launched.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 21.—Notwithstanding a biting northwest wind and a low tide, the 10,000-ton steamer Shawmut of the Boston Steamship Company was launched at the marine department of the Maryland Steel Company at Sparrows's Point about 2:35 o'clock this afternoon. Miss Henrietta Hoffman, daughter of Mr. R. Curzon Hoffman, of Baltimore, was the sponsor. The vessel carried the Union Jack at her stern, the Stars and Stripes at her bow and a rainbow of signal flags stretched over her full length.

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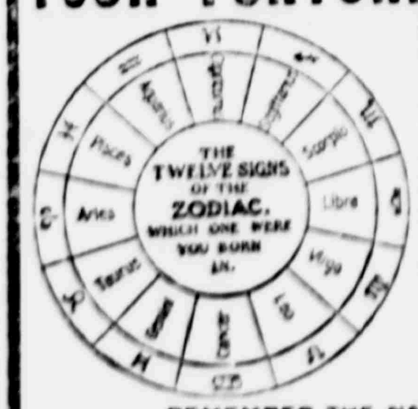
BY THE ZODIAC.



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