MISS BIGGAR'S OWN STORY.

SAYS MR. BENNETT TORE UP MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE.

In a Fit of Anger Because She Wished to Go Out for a Walk, and She Wrote Stanton Several Times for Duplicate—Dr. Hendrick Hugged and Kissed in the Court.

FREEHOLD, N. J., Dec. 19.—Laura Biggar, the actress, told her own story to-day of her alleged marriage to the late Henry M. Bennett when she was called as a witness in the trial of herself, Dr. Charles C. Hendricks and Samuel Stanton, all charged with conspiracy to get the entire Bennett estate by fraudulent claims of a marriage and the birth of a child. Her fourteen-year-old boy, Willis, a child by her first husband, was also a witness to-day.

That first husband, James Wilkes McConnell, who came on from Wisconsin to testify for his former wife, left town to-day after giving away the last of his stock of photographs of himself as *Joseph Surface* in "The School for Scandal."

Contrary to expectation, Miss Biggar went through her three hours' ordeal on the witness stand without breaking down. The only time when she seemed to falter and collapse was when she told the court that she had not yet received a cent from the estate nor got the diamonds which old man Bennett intended that she should have. But she pulled herself together after that and went through a stiff cross-questioning relative to all the details of the birth and death of her alleged child and of her own physical condition four months prior to the alleged birth, and of the death of her alleged husband without any suggestion of fainting.

Her friend, Mrs. Hendricks, the wife of Dr. Hendricks, also bore up wonderfully well when an interesting note written by her husband to Miss Biggar was produced by the prosecution.

Dr. Hendricks was the first witness to-day. He said that his present abode was in the Monmouth county jail and then told how he begcame a physician and a lawyer, and how Miss Biggar was finally induced to become a patient (he insisted on the word patient rather than inmate) in his sanitarium at Bayonne.

Incidentally, in the opinion of the lawyers for the prosecution, Dr. Hendricks under cross-examination unwittingly disclosed the motive of the alleged conspirators in trying to get the whole estate for Miss Biggar instead of accepting the 60 per cent. of it to which the will entitled her.

The doctor was asked by Edmund Wilson, who is assisting County Prosecutor Foster about a conversation he had had with persons interested in the estate.

"All I said to them," replied Dr. Hendricks when the cross-questioning became very hot, "was that under the will she would have to wait fourteen years before getting a cent."

That admission explains, say the lawyers for the prosecution, why Miss Biggar was willing to risk the penalty of her alleged crime for the sake of deriving some immediate financial benefit from Mr. Bennett's death.

"Why," asked Mr. Wilson, "did you always refer to her as Miss Biggar if you knew that she was the widow of Henry M. Bennett and pregnant with child by him?"

"I called her Miss Biggar," replied Dr. Hendricks "because she insisted on it."

Q. Did you ever refer to her as Mrs. Bennett? A. Yes, to the blood relatives.

Q. Did you tell any of the relatives about this pregnancy? A. No.

Q. Why didn't you consider it worth while to save them the trouble of contesting the will by letting them know that there was to be a posthumous child? A. There was no certainty as to whether the child would be born dead or alive.

Q. Did you fill out the certificate of the child's death? A. No.

Q. Did you furnish the certificate of its birth? A. Yes.

Q. Why didn't you file the birth certificate until several days after the child's death? A. It wasn't necessary.

Q. What treatment did you give Miss Biggar at your sanitarium? A. Electrical treatment and strychnine.

Q. You knew, didn't you, that that was one of the things almost sure to produce an abortion? A. I knew that that was one of the things that wouldn't.

Q. When asked what attitude Miss Biggar was going to take, didn't you say that she would fare better as a common-law wife than under the will? A. No; I said that even as a common-law wife she would fare better.

Hendricks illustrated what he meant by his reply by putting emphasis on "even."

Q. How did you first meet Miss Biggar? A. I saw by the newspapers that she was ill and sent her a letter telling about my sanitarium.

Q. Then you went to see her at Farmingdale, didn't you? A. Yes.

Q. And, although that was the first time you had ever seen her you stayed over night, didn't you? A. Yes.

Q. Did she go to your sanitarium with you the next day? A. Yes.

Q. You were very friendly? A. Our relations were those of physician and patient.

Mr. Wilson then produced a letter and envelope written last June at Freehold and addressed to Miss Laura Biggar at Bayonne. Dr. Hendricks admitted that the envelope was addressed by him, but when he saw the letter inside he said that he would neither deny nor affirm that it was his. The letter was passed back for the defendant's lawyer to read and Mrs. Hendricks, wife of the man who had written it, left the side of her husband's friend, Miss Biggar, to whom it was sent, long enough to lean over the lawyer's shoulder and read it herself. She had never seen it before, but there was no hair pulling nor scratching to disturb the quiet of the court. With wonderful composure Mrs. Hendricks went back to her seat and resumed fanning Miss Biggar, while Miss Biggar kindly held the green bottle of smelling salts to her friend's wife's nostrils.

Then the lawyers for the defence objected to the reading of the letter and it was withdrawn for the time being.

When court reconvened, after the noon recess Miss Biggar and Mrs. Hendricks stayed outside and before they came in Lawyer Noonan withdrew his objections to the letter and it was read. This is the note that Dr. Hendricks wrote to Miss Biggar:

"Well, mamma, how is Kitty? ha, ha. I'm lonely for mamma. That's all. Yours, Charlie."

As soon as the note had been read to the jury Mrs. Hendricks came into court and before taking her seat put her arms around her husband's neck and kissed him. 'Twas lovely, and everybody who had believed that Mrs. Hendricks and the doctor were estranged up to the time of the trial felt "muckied" enough, as they say in Freehold.

"Now," began Mr. Wilson, resuming his cross-examination, "You say you called the woman Miss Biggar because she insisted on it. Who authorized you to call her mamma? Is that consistent with your relations as physician and patient?"

"Yes, sir," said Dr. Hendricks, still smiling at his wife, after that last hug in public.

Q. Well, who is Kitty? A. I don't know.

Q. Were there any kittens there? A. Several.

Q. Expecting any more? A. I don't know.

Q. Were you lonely for mamma that day? A. I don't remember.

Right on top of that dialogue Dr. Hendrick had an opportunity on redirect examination to say this:

"I was enjoined by professional decency from telling of Mrs. Bennett's pregnancy."

Dr. Hendrick was followed by the star of the outfit, Miss Biggar. She was still in mourning for Mr. Bennett and nobody doubted her when she said she was worn out and sick. When she first took her seat in the witness stand her lips were almost white and her eyes were half closed. Those who had predicted a faint within the first five minutes got ready to say "I told you so." But the color came back to the lips and Miss Biggar told her story, her voice gaining strength as she went along. When she explained the mysterious disappearance of that alleged marriage certificate she became dramatic.

First, she told about her early marriage and divorce and her career on the stage up to January, 1898, the date of the alleged marriage.

"I have been on the stage since then," she said. "Mr. Bennett, my husband, wanted to see me act once more, so he starred me in "The Queen of Chinatown."

Her story, in reply to the questions of her own lawyer, was in part:

"I have always been known as Laura Biggar, even since my marriage, because that was my stage name. I knew Mr. Bennett very well. On Thanksgiving Day, 1897, he proposed marriage to me in a letter. He said that I had worked hard and long enough. I was then playing in a company of my own and had been losing money, but was just beginning to make some and wanted to fill an engagement on New Year's in Wilmington, Del., because that is my own town and I knew I would make money there.

"I was to get some money to buy some diamonds, but on Jan. 1 Mr. Bennett telegraphed for me to come to him at once. I played in the afternoon to a crowded house, but left Wilmington right after the matinée performance for New York. I went to the Marlborough Hotel.

"The next day I went to the Star Theatre where I found Mr. Bennett in the business office. He said to me, 'Are you ready.' I said that I was, and we took a carriage and went over to Hoboken. We stopped a man on the street there and asked him where we could find a Justice of the Peace. He directed us to one and we went to him and were married. It was Mr. Stanton. He gave me a certificate. We went back to the Marlborough for a week and then went to live on Seventy-second street in one of Mr. Bennett's houses. We lived there every winter, spent the summers at his place at Avon, and spring and fall at his stock farm in Farmingdale."

"What became of that certificate of marriage," asked Lawyer McDermott for the defense.

"About a year after our marriage," replied Miss Biggar, "I was worn out and ill from nursing and caring for Mr. Bennett. He had senile gangrene. At the end of eleven weeks of a very severe strain on me he seemed better and I said that I would go out just to get a little fresh air. He said that he wouldn't let me go out, but I said I would anyway and we had a quarrel.

"I went out of the room to put on my wraps and when I returned to say good-by he held the certificate in his hands.

"As I came in he tore it into fragments and threw the pieces into the fire, saying: 'I care that for your certificate.'

"I went out but came back the next day."

Miss Biggar then told of the visit of her first husband, Actor McConnell, to get their boy, Willis.

"He threatened to take him away," she said, "but Mr. Bennett said he would spend his whole fortune to keep that boy."

Q. What was the result of the senile gangrene? A. Mr. Bennett's leg was amputated.

Q. Did he have a false leg? A. Yes.

Q. Who came to take his measurement for the false leg? A. Mr. Otto Keeter.

Q. Were you introduced to Mr. Keeter, and if so, how? A. As Mrs. Bennett.

The false leg man was on the stand himself the other day and testified about the same introduction.

Q. When did your husband, Mr. Bennett, die? A. Last April.

Q. Before his death did you try to get a duplicate certificate? A. Yes, when his leg was amputated and I was afraid he was going to die. I sent several letters to Mr. Stanton for a certificate, but they were returned to me. Finally, after my husband's death, I wrote again to the Justice of the peace and he sent me the certificate.

Q. Did you know about the will? A. Yes, Mr. Bennett said that I would be properly taken care of.

When asked if she had been properly taken care of, Miss Biggar covered her eyes with her handkerchief and held the fan before her face. It was several seconds before she replied, in a faltering voice:

"No, I have received no money, not a cent from the rent of the house Mr. Bennett left me, and I have not received the diamonds he intended me to have."

But she quickly recovered her composure and told of the birth of the child and said that she selected the casket for him when he died.

"Who was the father of your child?" Lawyer McDermott asked with much gentleness.

"Mr. Bennett."

Q. Did you take any steps to protect the interest of your child? A. Yes, I hired a lawyer to have a guardian appointed for him. After his death I stopped my proceedings to have the will probated in order to establish my honor and the legitimacy of my child.

Q. Was that your purpose all the time? A. Yes.

Q. If that was your sole purpose, why didn't you declare your marriage and your pregnancy at the time of Mr. Bennett's death last April instead of waiting until Sept. 19? A. Because from previous experiences I was not at all sure that I could carry the child to successful issue.

Q. But was your own honor not entitled to consideration? A. Yes.

Q. Then why did you not at least declare the marriage? A. Mr. Bennett had made me promise never to reveal it.

Q. Did you receive many letters from Mr. Bennett? A. Yes.

Q. Have you a single letter in which he refers to you as wife or says anything that suggests that relationship? A. No.

Q. During your married life didn't you sign many contracts and business documents for Mr. Bennett? A. Some.

Q. How did you sign them? A. Laura Biggar.

Mr. Wilson asked the witness if she hadn't had a dozen lawyers since Bennett's death, and she availed herself of the opportunity to strike back at the several lawyers who deserted her when she claimed the whole estate.

"Oh, I've had more than a dozen," she said. "They called themselves lawyers, but they were all working for themselves, not for me."

All the lawyers referred to were in court.

Q. Do you know Mollie Deskin? A. Yes.

Q. Did you say to her once: "Oh, Mollie, I wish Pop would marry me. If he dies now I won't get anything"? A. No.

Mollie Deskin is in a hotel at Freehold. She will be called in rebuttal by the prosecution when the trial is resumed on Monday.

Mr. Wilson finished his cross-examination to-day with a long series of questions to show that Miss Biggar's physical condition was such last February that it would have been impossible for her to have had the child.

These questions were based on a letter which Miss Biggar admitted having written to her physician.

COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE B. R. T.

The State Railroad Commission Will Give a Hearing on Dec. 29.

ALBANY, Dec. 19.—The State Railroad Commission will give a hearing at the old Common Council chamber in the Borough Hall, Brooklyn, Dec. 29, at 10 A. M., in the matter of the complaint of the Manufacturers' Association of New York, with headquarters in Brooklyn, and the complaints of Edwin F. Clark, E. P. Barnes, R. W. Smith, B. W. Byington, David Morehouse, J. H. Bragdon, C. E. Keator and W. S. Kitchell, residents of Brooklyn, as to the service rendered the public by the Brooklyn Heights Railroad Company.

The complaints against the company are couched in general terms and declare the name Rapid Transit Company to be a misnomer. They assert that the company runs too few cars, thereby compelling people to stand, and that its service is irregular and that complaints are disregarded or met with promises which the company fails to fulfil. It is alleged that the company has cars in its barns and refuses to put them in service.

Justices Bartlett and Woodward Remain on Appellate Bench.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 19.—Gov. Odell has redesignated Justices Willard Bartlett of Brooklyn, and John Woodward of Jamestown, as Associate Justices of the Appellate Division, Supreme Court, Second Department, for the further term of five years from Jan. 1.

Court Upholds Special Cab Permits.

The Appellate Division has affirmed the fining of G. G. Reesing, the livery stable keeper, for violating the city ordinance which requires that cabs standing on other than the enumerated public hack stands shall have a special permit. The Court says the Constitutionality of the ordinance cannot be questioned.

Jayne's Tonic Vermifuge is a vitalizer.—Adv.

WOMAN FACES MURDER CHARGE

DID MRS. MUNSON GIVE POISON TO OLD MRS. WILSON?

Question Stirs a Connecticut Town—Gossip Connects Names of a Son of the Woman Who It Is Believed Died of Arsenic and Woman Accused of Her Murder.

WILLIMANTIC, Conn., Dec. 19.—Mrs. Lillie Young Rathbun Munson is in jail at Brooklyn, Conn., to-night, charged with the murder by poison of Mrs. Julia Wilson of Ashford, whose nurse and housekeeper she was. The feeling of Windham county against the woman is becoming slowly worked up to as high a pitch as a Connecticut community can be against a person accused of crime.

Resentment is not all against Mrs. Munson. No small part of it is directed against young George Wilson, the son of the dead woman, whose relations with Lillie Munson have kept more than one town gossiping for several months.

To-morrow Mrs. Wilson's body will be disinterred in order that the poison expert who is examining some of the organs of Mrs. Wilson's body may have a fuller opportunity to determine the cause of her death.

Old Mrs. Wilson's family in Ashford had the respect of the community. The boys were truckmen and farmers. The elder brother, George, about whose actions there is so much gossip, has known Mrs Munson for some time. He is married, but his wife has not lived with him for a long time.

Lillian Munson was known until her first marriage as the prettiest mill girl in this part of the country. She is not to be described as beautiful to-day. A plain, rather severe faced woman of 35 with a close shut, rather hard mouth and a decidedly sharp voice and manner, her bearing and conduct are those of a woman who has faced much trouble and has concluded that the less she talks of it the better.

She was married to a man named Rathbun when she was a hand in Johnson's mill at Mansfield Hollow. Nobody can remember just when Rathbun disappeared or how he come to go, but State's Attorney Hunter said to-night that they probably were divorced. She married James Munson soon after Rathbun went away, but separated from him after a rather stormy married life, years ago.

At about that time there was some talk of prosecuting her for an attempt to poison her husband, but he cleared her of any guilt in a statement to the authorities.

There was no question about his having been poisoned. While he was critically ill in the Day-Kimball Hospital at Putnam the woman was placed under surveillance. In some way she persuaded the hospital authorities that even under such circumstances a wife's place was beside her husband and they permitted her to nurse him.

When he recovered he said that he had taken a dose of arsenic by mistake. But he left her and went to Bridgeport and afterward to Waterbury. Mrs. Munson stayed here. Their boy went with his father. The daughter Esther, who is 6 years old, was kept by the mother.

Mrs. Munson lived with the family of P. A. Weeks, a truck contractor here in Willimantic, for a time. Mrs. Weeks told the Coroner at to-day's inquest that Mrs. Munson was a woman of very bitter temper and that she made ugly threats against any of the family or the neighbors against whom she had a spite.

She said that George Wilson frequently visited Mrs. Munson at her house and once or twice stayed at the house over night when he was in Willimantic.

On July 5 last Arthur Girard, the pharmacist at Cheseborough's drug store, was called to the front of the store by a man and a woman in a buggy. The man was apparently about 24 years old and had a slight black mustache, and the woman was noticeably older than the man and not very good looking. The clerk has never seen either Mrs. Munson or George Wilson so far as he knows. The woman said that she wanted an ounce of arsenic and he sold it to her, registering the sale in the poison book.

The woman said that her name was Julia Wilson of Mansfield Centre. There has never been any Julia Wilson at Mansfield Centre, and the woman was much younger than Julia Wilson of Ashford, the old lady who has just died. George Wilson has a slight black mustache.

Within two months Mrs. Wilson went out to Ashford, so she told her acquaintances, to "look out for old Mrs. Wilson." There was trouble in the Wilson family right off. It first became common talk when a constable from Windham went over to Ashford to serve a body attachment on George Wilson. A South Windham contractor had found a load which George had driven into South Windham for him short several blankets, valued altogether at $25. He swore that he thought George had taken the blankets and asked for his arrest or payment for the blankets.

The constable found George, according to State's Attorney Hunter's statement, in Ashford near his mother's house, walking with Mrs. Munson. The three went together to old Mrs. Wilson, who heard what the constable had to say, and at once made a settlement with him, which saved George from going to jail. Then she addressed the constable as follows:

"Say, now, while you are about it I want you to arrest that woman." She pointed to Mrs. Munson. "She got the boy into this trouble and she will get him into more trouble than this if she isn't taken away from here."

The constable said that he had no authority to arrest Mrs. Munson and left the old woman complaining querulously that if Lillie wasn't arrested they would all be sorry for it.

Three weeks ago Mrs. Munson came to the house of Mrs. Mary Johnston, with whom she once boarded here, and got an octoroon girl, Eliza Olin, who also boards there, to go to Cheseborough's drug store and buy for her some alcohol, some carbolic acid and some peppermint water.

The Olin girl testified to-day that the alcohol was in a big bottle and that the other two solutions were in small bottles. When the bottles were brought back to Mrs. Johnston, according to the landlady's story to the Coroner, Mrs. Munson poured the contents of one of the small bottles into the large bottle.

"What are you doing that for?" asked Mrs. Johnston.

"Oh," replied Mrs. Munson, according to the testimony, "Mrs. Wilson likes to drink this stuff and I think it is strong. This that I am putting in is just so much water."

Mrs. Johnston brought a pitcher of water and said: "Why not use this? It will pour easier."

Mrs. Munson refused the pitcher and went into the pantry and lighted a lamp and completed the operation.

Then she asked Mrs. Johnston to say nothing to George Wilson about having mixed the contents of the bottles.

Some time later the Wilsons, with Mrs. Munson, went over to visit John A. Young, Mrs. Munson's father, at Putnam.

Mr. Young had no high opinion of his daughter. He told Coroner Bill yesterday that he had determined that Lillie should never live with him and that after his last quarrel with her, which resulted in his putting her out of the house, he took samples of all his meal and flour in the house and fed them to chickens before he dared eat of them himself.

Asked why he did this he said:

"'Cause I missed the rough on rats I had always kept in the house, and I knew how mean she was."

The visit of the Wilsons and Mrs. Munson to the Young house did not cause a quarrel, but the next day Mrs. Wilson became partly paralyzed. She grew steadily worse until last Saturday, when she died.

The funeral was set for Wednesday, but Coroner Bill stepped in and stopped it. He held an autopsy with four physicians. They determined that the immediate cause of death was gastritis, but whether the gastritis was the result of poison they could not tell.

A young Brooklyn, N. Y., dentist named Neff, who was at the autopsy, said that he examined the dead woman's mouth and that it showed traces of burns. During her illness she complained that her throat was "burning up."

The stomach and parts of other organs were sent to Dr. Wolff, bacteriologist, of Hartford. He telephoned this afternoon to have sections of muscles and of the brain sent to him in order that he might determine whether there had been a process of slow poisoning going on or not. The body will be exhumed to-morrow for this purpose.

Coroner Bill ordered the arrest of Mrs. Munson. She took it calmly. She said she had guessed she had made a mistake in "going over there to take care of that old woman."

Her greatest concern was for little Esther. She was very unhappy when she found that she could not take the child to jail with her.

In spite of its grewsome subject the proceedings before the Coroner to-day were not without relieving touches. Mrs. Johnston, the boarding-house mistress, said that when Mrs. Munson and George Wilson came to the boarding house and sent the Olin girl to the drug store they were both "like they had been drinking."

"Was there an odor of liquor about them?" asked the Coroner.

"Was there!" echoed Mrs. Johnson, "you could smell it from here to North street."

North street, it should be explained, was two blocks away.

Mrs. Johnston added that Mrs. Munson remarked to her as she was leaving for Ashford that night: "When the old lady dies I'm coming back to board with you for a while."

"No, you're not," Mrs. Johnston says she replied. "Not if I'm up and doin'."

Amos Chaffee was also a pleasing witness. He is of greater girth than height and, for some reason, wore an all-enveloping collegiate sweater with three-inch blue stripes. He is known to most of Willimantic as the "Horse Radish man," but his present occupation is that of sawing wood for those who may send for him. He sat on the witness chair and puffed suspicion and disgust every time the Munson woman's name was mentioned. She is his niece and he took her in for a time. He said that "he was 'scart' most to death when he put her out and he thought he had a right to be."

"Didn't she tell me," he gasped, "that after that I better look out for her, 'cause she wouldn't stop at anything—at anything?"

Coroner Bill came back to town to-night and began a second search of the drug stores looking for further evidence.

It was learned to-night that Mrs. Munson came to State's Attorney Hunter's law office a week or two ago and said she wanted to get a divorce from her husband, James Munson, who works for Rice Bros. in Waterbury. She charged him with "intolerable cruelty." Mr. Hunter told her that she would have to prove that his cruelty menaced her life and limb, and she went away without instructing him to bring suit.

HAMPTON, Conn., Dec. 19.—George Wilson, about two years ago, married Mary Bishop, a woman who was well known all through this part of the State. In consequence of statements and, some say, of encouragement by George Wilson, a committee of citizens from Hampton and nearby towns visited Mr. Wilson late one night and took Henry Latham and Mrs. Wilson from her home and treated them most despitefully.

Latham got a quantity of tar and feathers added to his person and Mrs. Wilson complained of being beaten. She went back to Willimantic and later went to Worcester, Mass.

EXPLOSION VICTIMS BURIED.

Father Faints at the Graves of Children —Mother Improving.

ENGLEWOOD, N. J., Dec. 19.—The funeral of the six children of John G. Pagliughi, who were killed by the explosion of a gas tank last Tuesday, was held at the home of Anthony Pagliughi, brother of John, on Lemoine avenue, this afternoon. The charred bodies, encased in three white coffins, were taken to Madonna Cemetery in three white hearses.

The funeral cortége was led by the Ridgefield Township Fire Department, of which Pagliughi was a member. The hearses formed a triangle and were led by eighteen pallbearers, twelve of whom were firemen and six of whom were fellow workmen of Pagliughi. Following the hearses was a procession of carriages two abreast a quarter mile long, and they were followed by about 200 children from the public and parochial schools.

The scene at the graves was impressive, and was made more so by the presence of the grief-stricken father, who fainted and required the constant attendance of his physician.

Mrs. Pagliughi is in the Englewood Hospital and is improving since the amputation of her left arm yesterday. She has been kept in ignorance of the death of her children.

Coroner Robertson of Tenafly will hold an inquest on Saturday evening in Schlosser's Hall, Fort Lee.

TURF COMMISSIONERS RAIDED.

Lantry After the United States Co-operative Investment Company.

Capt. Lantry of the East Fifty-first street station raided the United States Cöoperative Investment Company, "turf commissioners," on the third floor of the office building at 503 Fifth avenue, opposite Russell Sage's house, yesterday afternoon, and arrested Mary Brown of 331 Lenox avenue, who said she addressed envelopes, and Philip McGovern of 533 West Fifty-seventh street. The prisoners were charged with violating the gambling laws and unlawfully using the mails.

According to Capt. Lantry the "company" offered to bet for "investors" who contributed $5 monthly, on the horse in the first race at New Orleans, tipped to win by an evening paper, and each investor was to get a daily commission and the entire winnings at the end of the month, if the tipster picked the right horse daily.

JOTTINGS ABOUT TOWN.

A judgment for $216,235 was entered by default yesterday against the Muna Wired Envelope Company, formerly of 135 Mulberry street, on an assigned claim from Ward & Gow for loans between May, 1899, and December last and for advertising. The company sold out to the United States Envelope Company of Springfield, Mass., in September last. An execution was issued on the judgment.

The Weather.

Fair weather continued yesterday over all the eastern half of the country. In the western half it was generally cloudy, with scattered light rains, due to the movement of the low-pressure area from the Southern Pacific Coast to Colorado, where it was central yesterday with increasing energy. The pressure was high over the south Atlantic and east Gulf States also over the Rocky Mountain region. There was slight change of temperature in any of the States.

In this city the day was fair, slightly warmer; highest temperature, 44; lowest, 32; average humidity, 75 per cent.; wind, fresh and brisk southwesterly; barometer, corrected to read to sea level, at 8 A. M., 30.02; 3 P. M., 29.88.

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

	—Official— 1902.	1901.	Sun's 1902.		—Official— 1902.	1901.	Sun's 1902.
9 A. M.	33°	17°	37°	6 P. M.	40°	24°	47°
12 M.	39°	23°	41°	9 P. M.	40°	20°	41°
3 P. M.	34°	25°	46°	12 Mid.	38°	18°	41°

WASHINGTON FORECAST FOR TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW.

For eastern New York, increasing cloudiness to-day; rain in west portion, colder in north and central portions; rain or snow to-night and to-morrow; variable winds becoming northeast and increasing.

For New England, fair to-day, colder in the interior; snow in north, rain or snow in south portion to-morrow; fresh north winds.

For the District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, and eastern Pennsylvania, cloudy to-day; rain to-night and to-morrow; light to fresh south winds.

For New Jersey and Delaware, increasing cloudiness to-day; rain to-night and to-morrow; variable winds becoming east and increasing.

For western New York, rain or snow to-day, colder in northeast portion; variable winds becoming west and fresh to brisk; snow and colder to-morrow.

STRIKE VIOLENCE? READ THIS.

ONE DAY'S TESTIMONY AS TO OUTRAGES BY STRIKERS.

Dynamite the Weapon Most Frequently Used on Non-Union Men—One Man Weeps as He Tells His Story of Abuse —Men Clubbed, Stoned and Beaten.

SCRANTON, Pa., Dec. 19.—At the session of the Anthracite Strike Commission here to-day counsel for the non-union men continued to pile up evidence that the cases of violence reported during the strike were even worse than the newspaper accounts pictured them.

The Commissioners are anxious to get home for the Christmas holidays and it is likely that they will adjourn at 11:45 to-morrow morning to meet in Philadelphia on Jan. 5.

At the opening of to-day's session Judge Gray made a statement exonerating Capt. May, general manager of the Pennsylvania Coal Company, and Major Warren, his counsel, from the imputation that they meant to mislead the commission as to the amount of wages that were paid by that company. The clerk that had prepared the statement had not understood the matter properly.

George W. Bowen, the poet miner, was called to the stand for cross-examination. Mr. Darrow seemed to enjoy making the fun. He read some of Bowen's poems, including one entitled "The Miners Have Agreed, Mary," in which Bowen favored the miners' union. The witness got out of it by saying it was a satire, and meant just the opposite to what it said.

James Elias of Richmond, who worked during the strike for the Delaware and Hudson company, testified that his house was dynamited. Prior to that time some of the strikers told him if he didn't stop work they would "fix" him. The men told him that on Saturday, and his house was dynamited on Monday. The men who made the threats against him were arrested and held under bail to keep the peace.

James Fahey, a special agent for the Lackawanna road, submitted a list of the non-union men boycotted and a copy of the *Courier-Herald* of Wilkes-Barre, containing the same list.

Max Hussa of Old Forge was the victim of four dyanmiting parties and was kept busy repairing his house after they had gone away. He and his nephew took turns at night watching the house. Once he saw a man who, he said, was a striker throw a bottle full of powder through a window of his house. There was a lighted fuse attached to it.

Eugene Detty of Green Ridge said that one night when he was going to Justus he was attacked by a crowd of men and struck on the head with clubs and stones. He was working for Morrell Bros., gardeners, and was not at the mines. He tried to explain to them that he was not scabbing, but they told him he was and several of them said: "He is a scab; give it to him."

Thomas Kennedy, 15 years old, of Carbondale, was working for a druggist named Kelley in Carbondale. His father was employed as a fireman for the Delaware and Hudson company during the strike. A committee of the union called upon Mr. Kelley's head clerk, as Mr. Kelley was away, and told him that the lad's father was working and unless he was discharged the union would boycott the store. The boy left.

William Kennedy, the boy's father, corroborated the story. He said he had three younger children attending school. They were called "scabs" and abused by the other children. Rather than have any trouble he took his children from the school and put them in a convent.

Joseph H. Duggan, a gray-haired man, told of being stoned twice by runners, drivers and slate pickers. On the second occasion a crowd of men urged the boys on. The witness was forced to withdraw from the Father Whitty Society because he was working. Duggan broke down on the witness stand and wept.

David E. Lewis of Olyphant, a foreman for the Delaware and Hudson company, testified that on one occasion he was surrounded by a crowd of 300 and prevented from returning to work.

John Lewandofske, who worked in the Dodge mine of the Lackawanna company, testified that an attempt was made to dynamite his house. He saw the fuse burning and was able to extinguish it.

Mrs. Mary Koltz, whose house is in Hazleton, testified that a mob attacked her house, broke the windows and threatened to hang her husband, who was a non-union mine worker. She was corroborated by her husband, Peter Koltz.

James Conglin of Plains, a mine foreman for the Lehigh Valley company, a member of the school board of the same town, testified that a committee of miners had appeared before the board and had asked that three teachers be not employed because their fathers were non-union men.

Frank McCarty, a schoolteacher of Miners' Mills, told how he could not retain his place as principal of the schools there because his father was a mine foreman. The school board refused to employ a young woman whose father was a non-union man.

A huge banner that was stretched across the street at Miners' Mills containing a list of alleged "scabs" was unfolded before the gaze of the commission.

Christopher McDermott, employed during the strike as a foreman for a Pennsylvania Coal Company mine, said his house was frequently attacked by mobs and his butcher and his grocer refused to sell to him. A committee of the miners had waited upon them and had requested them not to do so.

David Dock of Old Forge testified that he was told that if he did not stop work his house would be dynamited. A short time after that he was shot at while sitting on his own porch.

Joseph Webb of Pittston testified that he was held up by mobs on several occasions.

William Boose of Pittston, another employee of the Pennsylvania Coal Company, testified that the house of his father-in-law was blown up by dynamite at 3 o'clock in the morning.

William Moax of Port Blanchard, employed by the same company, testified that he was stoned during the strike.

John Tuttle, an employee of the same company at Avoca, told of being stoned during the strike. The grocer, butcher and milkman said that they dare not sell to him.

James Mitchell of Browntown testified that he was forced to leave the society of the A. O. H. because he had returned to work.

WHY COAL IS HIGH.

Lehigh Valley Man Says the Independent Operators Get Big Prices.

The contract for coal for the Police Department expired yesterday and the last delivery, consisting of ten tons, was made. The Fire Department has for some weeks been buying coal in open market and the Police Department will have to do the same.

W. H. Sayre, vice-president of the Lehigh Valley Railroad and member of the committee of three appointed by the coal companies to regulate the sale of coal by the pail, said yesterday that the distribution was being well watched to make sure that it was as effective as possible. In reference to the arrivals of coal here he said:

"There are enormous quantities of anthracite being mined now, but the demand is still more enormous. You can take it from me that this company and all the other companies, realizing that Greater New York has 4,000,000 of population, are rushing not only more coal actually here, but more in proportion than to any other place. Boston and other cities are being neglected to care for New York."

The big companies, he said, had charged the circular price of $5 a ton right along. He was sorry to say, however, that independent dealers were charging $8 and $9 a ton.

Dealers generally admitted that the companies were doing their best to supply New York. The official price was $7.50 a ton, but as high as $12 a ton was charged in some places. In every such case the individual operator was blamed. One well-known individual operator was charged by a dealer with selling at $9 a ton.

The annual meeting of the Retail Coal Dealers Exchange was held last evening at Vienna Hall, 131 East Fifty-eighth street. The coal situation was discussed, but according to the dealers who attended the meeting, no action as to prices was taken.

The following officers were elected: president, Henry Brennick; first vice-president, G. D. Curtis; second vice-president, George Eltiz; secretary, A. F. Keckheissen; treasurer, John Rodenberg, Jr.

$60,000 for Hospital Coal.

The Board of Estimate decided yesterday to transfer $60,000 from unexpended balances to be divided among the hospitals and institutions of the city and spent for coal.

STRIKERS DESERT FIRE CO.

Because Some Continued to Work—Now It Disbands.

MOUNT CARMEL, Dec. 19.—Previous to the recent strike the Mount Carmel Hook and Ladder Company was prospering with a membership of over 300. It installed a $4,000 hook-and-ladder truck in its own truck house and bought a pair of valuable horses which were used in hauling ice and coal.

When the strike was inaugurated several members remained at their places in the mines and refused to resign from the company.

When they could not be ousted the membership began to dwindle and a boycott was placed on the company's team. Finally the membership was reduced to eight and last night they got together, sold the truck and team, and turned the hook and ladder truck over to the borough.

PONSONBY OGLE IS DEAD.

He's the Man Whose Modest Farm Swelled Into a Baronial Estate.

Ponsonby Ogle, well known as a newspaper writer and a wit, died of pneumonia in Milan, Italy, on Wednesday night. Ogle spent a good deal of his time in this country and last winter lived at the Hotel Savoy in this city. Ogle bought a farm in the Berkshires during one of his visits to this country. It was just a plain, every-day New England farm, but a country editor printed a story about it, and before long Ogle had been advertised all over the country as the proprietor of 5,000 acres, which he was going to convert into an estate on old English lines.

Ogle was never able to get rid of the reputation that this story gave him. His fame as the owner of a baronial estate preceded him everywhere. As a matter of fact, the property consisted of about 200 acres. Ogle was a member of a well-known English family and was once connected with the *London Times*.

OF IMPORTANCE TO PIANOFORTE BUYERS

The Steinertone Pianofortes

Among the many different makes of pianos offered to the public, the STEINERTONE is the most desirable because it is the only artistic Pianoforte in the market. The STEINERTONE Pianoforte, both grand and upright, on account of its modern action, is capable of superior tone gradations and more delicate and rapid repetition. Prices are low.

THE STEINERTONE CO., 87 and 89 Fifth Ave., Between 16th & 17th Streets.

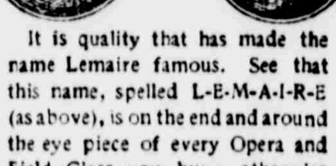
The Wonderful Chase & Baker Piano Player

We are the sole representatives of the CHASE & BAKER PIANO PLAYER. If you are looking for the BEST player, buy the CHASE & BAKER. You will like it better than any other player offered. Price, $250.00.

THE STEINERTONE CO., 87 and 89 Fifth Ave., Between 16th and 17th Streets.

OPEN EVENINGS UNTIL CHRISTMAS.

LEMAIRE Et PARIS



It is quality that has made the name Lemaire famous. See that this name, spelled L-E-M-A-I-R-E (as above), is on the end and around the eye piece of every Opera and Field Glass you buy; otherwise you will buy worthless imitations.

For sale by all responsible dealers.

FOR PURE CANDIE GO TO
T. HUMBERT,
Manufacturer and Dealer in
FRENCH CONFECTIONERY,
9 WOOSTER ST., 4 doors above Canal St.
Highest grade confectionery and chocolates; all candies of my own manufacture are warranted pure sugar. Also importer of fruits and marrons glaces, fancy boxes and costumes, mottoes, &c. N. B.—Original manufacturer of the old-fashioned hand-made chocolate cream drops. Sunday Schools supplied at the lowest prices, quality considered. Wholesale and retail; established in 1863. Telephone 3397 Spring.

George H. Squire,

A special selection of Diamonds, Watches and fine Jewelry, suitable for holiday gifts.

1 MAIDEN LANE, 2d Door from Broadway

Siberian Squirrel Stoles, fashionable lengths, muffs to match, complete set, $50, $65, $85 up. C. C. SHAYNE, Manufacturer, 42d St., near 6th Av. Carriage entrance 41st St., bet. B'way and 6th Av.

ART SALES AND EXHIBITIONS.

American Art Galleries,
MADISON SQUARE SOUTH.
For Christmas Gifts. Beautiful Butterflies AND Japanese Water Colors.
Admission Free, 9 A. M. to 6 P. M.

Fluffy Furs, Black Lynx the most beautiful, boas, extra long, $65, $75, $100; medium, $25 to $50; Collarettes, $15, $20, $25; Muffs, correct styles, $25, $35, $40; extra large, $50. C. C. SHAYNE, Manufacturer, 124 and 126 West 42d St. Carriage entrance 41st St., bet. B'way and 6th Av.

3,500 Seamen Gain a New Wage Scale.

A demand for a new wage scale for the members of the Atlantic Coast Seamen's Union, affecting 3,500 men in the coastwise trade from Newfoundland to Mexico, has been granted by shippers. At the headquarters of the union in this city it was reported yesterday that the new wages are the highest ever paid to coastwise seamen. They are as follows: On vessels under 300 tons, $25 a month; over 300 tons and not exceeding 1,500 tons, $30; exceeding 1,500 tons, $35.

The Coward Good Sense Shoe

Remember the story of the engineer, who set the refractory steam-pipe a-going with a single hammer tap?

His bill was $50. When asked how he figured that out, he said:—

"One dollar for labor, the rest for know-how."

It's the know-how of the "instep" fit that has made the Coward shoe famous. Brains behind the "Coward" Shoe have studied how to fit insteps for over 30 years.

We want the hard to fit feet. All styles and shapes for Men, Women and Children.

SOLD NOWHERE ELSE.

JAMES S. COWARD,
268-274 Greenwich St., near Warren St., N. Y.
Mail Orders Filled.
Send For Catalogue.

DIED.

BIDDLE.—Suddenly, on Wednesday, Dec. 17, Harriet S., beloved wife of John Biddle.

Funeral services will be held at her late residence, 104 East 17th st., on Saturday, Dec. 20, at 8 P. M. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend. Interment, Greenwood, will be on Sunday, Dec. 21, at 11 A. M.

HUGHES.—Died in Buffalo, Dec. 19, in the 45th year of his age, Eugene Hughes of Syracuse, husband of Mrs. Mary Corrick Hughes.

Funeral services Monday morning, New York city.

SWAYNE.—On Thursday, Dec. 18, at his residence, 10 West 43d st., Gen. Wager Swayne, in the 69th year of his age.

Funeral services will be held at St. Bartholomew's Church, corner Madison av. and 44th st., Sunday, Dec. 21, at 2:30 P. M. Interment will be at Arlington Cemetery, Washington city, Monday, Dec. 22, at 10:30 A. M.

MILITARY ORDER, LOYAL LEGION, UNITED STATES, COMMANDERY STATE OF NEW YORK.—Companions of Military Order, Loyal Legion United States, Comandery State of New York, are informed of the death of Major-Gen. Wager Swayne, U. S. A., past Commander of this Commandery.

The funeral services will be held on Sunday, Dec. 21, at St. Bartholomew's Church, Madison av. and 44th st., at 2:30 o'clock P. M. The Commandery, which will attend in a body, will assemble at the Hotel Manhattan, Madison av. and 42d st., at 2 o'clock. Companions will wear the insignia. By order of

Gen. HENRY L. BURNETT, Commander.

A. NOEL BLAKEMAN, Paymaster, U. S. Navy, Recorder.

MEMBERS OF THE OHIO SOCIETY OF NEW YORK.—At a special meeting of the Ohio Society of New York, held at its rooms in the Waldorf-Astoria, Friday evening, Dec. 19, 1902, it was unanimously

Resolved, That the society attend the funeral of the late Gen. Wager Swayne in a body, and for this purpose all members are earnestly requested to meet in the lobby of the Hotel Manhattan, Sunday afternoon, at 2 o'clock and go from there to St. Bartholomew's Church, where the funeral is to be held.

COLGATE HOYT, President.

F. M. APPLEGATE, Secretary.

THORN.—On Thursday, Dec. 18, 1902, at her residence, 23 West 16th st., Augusta A. Raguet, wife of L. Mortimer Thorn.

Funeral services at 23 W. 16th st., on Saturday, 20th inst., at 10:30 A. M.

WEIBEL.—Rev. John W. H. Weibel, at Riverhead, L. I., suddenly, of heart disease, on the night of Dec. 17, 1902.

Funeral services will be held at Grace Church at Riverhead on Saturday, Dec. 20, at 1:30 P. M.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

TO NEGLECT THE HAIR is to lose youth and comeliness. Save it with PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM. HINDERCORNS, the best cure for corns. 15 cts.

BUSINESS PERSONALS.

DETECTIVES authorized, civil, criminal investigations confidentially conducted. SAMUEL SHELDON, 13 West 42d st. (ex police detective-sergeant.)

"TRUTH crushed to earth" sometimes needs assistance to rise. FULLER'S DETECTIVE BUREAU, 866 Broadway, near 17th.

HIGHEST prices paid for ladies', gentlemen's discarded Clothing, Diamonds, Jewelry, Furs. M. NAFTAL, 744 6th av.