

A FORGER-BANKER.

Cashier Broach's Confession Makes a Queer Chapter.

HELPED BUY EQUITABLE.

"Raised" Stock to Secure \$25,000 He Borrowed to Do It.

kept an Outfit of Acids and Stencils at the Bank—Began Getting Loans on Crooked Collateral When He Was a Bank Cashier at Lakewood—Caught Last August Borrowing \$10,000 From a New York Bank on More Raised Bank Stock—Financing Episode That Followed—State of Original \$25,000 Loan in Connecticut Undisclosed—Financing Episode Up There.

Charles F. Broach, the young man who used to be the cashier of the Equitable National Bank, near Broadway and Eleventh street, who was arrested on Saturday charged with forging and grand larceny, has had, according to those who ought to be familiar with his career, a somewhat varied experience in raising certificates of bank stock, an industry that he has assiduously pursued. A person who has known Broach for some time, and who also has a very intimate knowledge of the affairs of the Equitable National Bank, made the following statement about Broach yesterday afternoon:

"I have no desire or intention to condone Broach's wrongdoing. He knew perfectly well what he was doing and he must take the consequences. I want to say, however, that he is no coward, which is more than can be said of others concerned. Had he been so inclined, he might have put himself well out of the way of New York justice at any time within the past seven months. Indeed, he did leave town last August and returned here of his own volition.

"He knew that he would be arrested sooner or later, but he has said all along that he would not run away and that he would stay right here and take his medicine. He has been as good as his word.

"About every crooked thing Broach ever did was known to those who had a right to know, as far back as last August, and he told all about his wrongdoings himself, making a clean breast of it. His first misstep was back about 1899, when he was employed in some capacity, I think as cashier, in the First National Bank of Lakewood, N. J. He had formed the acquaintance of a man who passed as a person of wealth and who had a wealthy father.

"This man was playing the stock market and could command what capital was necessary to make good any losses he might sustain. He told young Broach how easy it was to make a fortune by playing stocks and finally the young banker concluded to try it. He had no capital of his own and he didn't know how to get any. One day an enclosed certificate of stock of the Lakewood bank came in and was put on Broach's desk. In that enclosed certificate the young man saw his way to getting enough money to take his initial plunge in Wall Street. He could make everything right when his profits came in.

"So instead of cancelling that certificate of stock on the books of the bank, he held it out, putting it up as collateral with a bank down on Long Island, he raised on it either \$3,000 or \$4,000. That was the first dishonest act he ever did. His stock ventures went wrong and he had to get more money to put up more margins. In some way or other he had got hold of a certificate of stock in a trust company up the State, which called for fifty shares of the company's stock. He raised this to a certificate calling for fifty shares, changing the written word 'five' into 'fifty' and adding a cipher to the figure wherever it appeared in the certificate.

"This also he placed with the Long Island bank as security for a loan of \$3,000. After a time he realized a profit on his stock investments and he was able to take up both certificates. In fact it wouldn't be known to-day that he had done this trick had he not, of his own volition, told the new officers of the Equitable National Bank about it at the time he ceased to be cashier of that institution last August.

"His third and fourth experiences at raising bank stock certificates happened while he was with the Equitable. Broach had been secretary and treasurer of the Fidelity Title and Trust Company of Stamford, Conn. He went there from a bank in Northport, L. I., where he had been the cashier. At Stamford he met Charles A. Nones, who was the treasurer and a director of the Evansville and Terre Haute Railroad and of a couple of other companies allied with it. One day Nones told Broach, so Broach has told the officers of the Equitable National Bank, that he knew Broach could become the cashier of a national bank in New York. That sounded like the real thing to the young country trust company officer and he told Nones that he would like such a job. Broach says Nones told him that if he (Broach) could contribute \$25,000 to the venture, he (Nones) could buy the Equitable National. Broach replied that he didn't know whether he could get so much money or not, but he'd try.

"The young man was known to many bank presidents in Connecticut, and to the president of one of the largest national banks in that State he applied for the loan. For security he offered two of his own notes, one for three months and the other for four months, for \$10,000 and \$15,000, respectively. He offered Nones as the indorser for both notes. Remarkable as it may appear to New York financiers, he got the loan and turned the money over to Nones, and Nones bought the Equitable bank.

"When the first note came due, Broach, who had been made cashier of the Equitable, didn't have the money to meet it and he couldn't get it from Nones. He borrowed himself of his old Lakewood trick. He got hold of a certificate of one share of Equitable stock, changed the 'one' into a 'hundred' and the figure '1' to '90'. Having thus manipulated the certificate, he offered it to the president of the Connecticut bank as additional security for the extension of the note. This satisfied the Connecticut banker and the note was allowed to remain in the bank.

ninety shares, as he had done in the first instance, and got a loan of \$3,000 on it from the Northport bank, where he had been formerly employed. This money he applied on the second note held by the Connecticut bank. These are the only Equitable stock certificates that are outstanding, and it was this loan from the Northport bank that led to his arrest.

"His fifth and last venture in certificate raising was tried last August, just before he left the Equitable, and it failed. In some way he had got hold of a one-share certificate—I have no doubt he bought it in the market—of the stock of one of the largest national banks in New York, whose stock at this time was selling about \$900 a share. This certificate he raised to 100 shares and he negotiated a loan with another well known New York bank for \$10,000. This money, he had to get it, was to have been used to pay the smaller of those Connecticut bank loans.

"But the bank which had passed the \$10,000 on his credit notified the bank whose stock certificate had been offered that it would apply to have the certificate transferred on the books of that bank into the name of the loaning bank. It then came out, of course, that that particular certificate called for only one share of stock. The president of the bank which had made the loan called on Broach as quickly as he could and told him to straighten the thing out or go to jail.

"It was late in the afternoon. All the other officers and directors of the Equitable had gone. Broach and the paying teller were alone in the bank. Seeing that there was no possibility of delay, Broach drew a draft on his own bank for \$5,000 and told the teller to give the money to the waiting bank president. Broach then told his caller that he couldn't do any more that day, but would fix up the rest of the loan in the morning.

"Whether he ever did or not I don't know, but the officers of the Equitable found out about the draft the next morning and then got a full confession from Broach. In short order they got after the man who had the draft, told him that the \$5,000 belonged to the Equitable and that unless he returned it at once the Equitable people would report the case to the police. The bank president returned the money in the form of a certified check.

"Broach confessed to the Equitable people that he had had, at one time, one five-share certificate and three one-share certificates of the Equitable stock, all unissued. He said he had destroyed all the one-share certificates which he had raised, and I believe he told the truth. They found, after he had left the bank, however, the tools with which he had done the raising. They found a kit of acids, a stencil, some brushes and other things."

Broach was arraigned before Magistrate Barlow in the Centre street police court yesterday morning. After a talk with Mr. Hanson, one of his attorneys, the prisoner waived examination to await the action of the Grand Jury. Mr. Hanson asked that Broach be admitted to nominal bail, in order to secure his liberty as soon as possible to enable him to take means to make good the loss to the Northport bank, on a loan secured by raised certificates, notes of Leonard B. Imboden, etc.

For the District Attorney Paul Krotel asked that the amount of bail be fixed at \$5,000. He said that it would come out later that Broach had defrauded other banks and that, therefore, he should not be turned out on small bail. With this view the Magistrate concurred, saying that he was inclined to think that the case was one in which, no matter what restitution was made, the law must take its course.

Broach was taken back to the Tombs, his lawyer saying that he thought he would be able to get bail early on Monday morning.

DR. MCCONNELL ILL.

Down with Grip and Unable to Preach in All Souls' Church.

The Rev. Dr. S. D. McConnell, rector of All Souls' Episcopal Church, has been seriously ill of grip for several days, but was somewhat better yesterday. Dr. McConnell left his bed to preach a week ago, but returned to it immediately. At one time it was feared that an operation would be necessary, but now he is believed to be in his right cheek. He will hardly be able to enter his pulpit for several weeks.

The Weather.

The cold weather was completely dissipated yesterday in the Atlantic States, save in Northport, N. Y. It was above the freezing point over all the country in the afternoon, except in the extreme northern districts and in the Northwest. The high pressure area was passing off the north Atlantic coast and a second high was occupying the Northwest and Rocky Mountain States, while an intervening area of low pressure covered the Central States and the upper Mississippi Valley. Cloudy weather prevailed, with some rain in the latter sections and extended into the Lake regions. Conditions were similar in the south Atlantic States. In the middle Atlantic and New England States it was fair, becoming cloudy in the former section in the evening.

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OFF THE SWAMPING KENTIGERN

SKIPPER AND CREW OF 21 SAVED IN MIDSEA BY THE ALBANO.

Will Never, Never Go to Sea Again in the Winter with Grain and Lumber—Last Next Time—Left Their Ship, Starboard Bait Awash, After a Desperate Fight.

The British steel steamship Kentigern, which sailed from Portland for Limerick on Feb. 7 with a full cargo of grain in bags and bulk, was so badly disabled in midsea last to abandon her with her starboard rail under water and the heavy swells of a restless sea washing intermittently into her broken hatches. All hands were rescued by the Sloop Line steamship Albano, in yesterday after a prolonged and tempestuous trip from Hamburg. Chief Officer Humphries of the Kentigern has a broken left arm and Steward Harry Schroeder was badly bruised about the legs and body by seas that came aboard while the wreck was lying almost on her beam ends. The ship's cat, which was born aboard the freighter, refused to leave her, but a kindly sailor man saved the kitten by tucking it under his coat when he left the ship. The skipper's three canaries perished in the cabin.

Chief Officer Ulrich Leuen of the Albano was on the bridge at 7 o'clock on Tuesday morning when he sighted the Kentigern about six miles off the starboard bow, with a heavy list to starboard, and flying signals which he could not make out. He sent word to Capt. Kudenhoff, who ordered him to bear down toward the freighter and find out what she wanted. He soon saw the international code signals N C, meaning "In distress; want immediate assistance."

The Albano set bunting asking the freighter what kind of assistance she wanted, and she answered in a hurry, "Want to abandon ship." Capt. Kudenhoff and the chief officer ordered four of his best men to lower the starboard quarter boat. There was a tall and bothersome swell that slammed the boat against the ship's side, slightly damaging it.

But the gallant crew got it away and pulled toward the freighter. Simultaneously the crew on board, the best of several that had been stove by the invading seas. Its stem was twisted and it was leaky, but by constant bailing eleven men, including the Kentigern's skipper, Capt. Raymond Parker, kept it afloat until they reached the side of the Albano, which had steamed to leeward of the wreck after sending down the rescue crew.

Some of the Kentigern's men had to swim to the Albano's boat with lines thrown to them, as getting close to the heeling and rolling ship was a hazardous task. The greatest trouble of the rescuers came when the two boats came alongside the Albano. They were stove against her side before all hands could get on board. The ladders and the fumes of the engine were blown away by the wind. The water came through the ventilator holes, flooding the cargo and fire and engine rooms. The cabin was full of water and the men were unable to get out. On Saturday the ship ran into a roaring storm from the eastward, which piled up gigantic head seas, smashing a life boat and ripping up the steam pipes. The cabin was full of water and the men were unable to get out. On Saturday the ship ran into a roaring storm from the eastward, which piled up gigantic head seas, smashing a life boat and ripping up the steam pipes. The cabin was full of water and the men were unable to get out.

On the night of Monday, Feb. 15, a gale came out of the west, creating a heavy cross sea. It blew with hurricane force and was accompanied with hail and snow. Waves boarded the ship, tearing tarpaulins from the hatches and flooding the cabin through the main companionway. Every man aboard, except an engineer, who kept the engines barely moving, was sent into the hold to shift the cargo. Bags of grain were transferred from starboard to port, the men working steadily for twelve hours.

"But, our labor," said one of the crew "did not right us an inch. The grain in bulk under the grain in bags, had shifted. The five men were set shovelling coal from starboard to port and that had no effect either. The ship heeled more and more, and finally her starboard rail was awash. The crew followed by the mate, Humphries, who had also been hurled against a rail by one of the crests, and was nursing a broken arm. The gale went down before dawn on Tuesday, when the skipper saw that the Kentigern had sailed her last voyage. He called the men aft and said: "Boys, I don't think we can stay afloat much longer. I have a belief that we ought to leave the ship the first chance we get. What do you think?" All the men responded heartily, "Ay, ay, sir," and the mate and crew were seen diving under down over the taffrail from a

WIDOW MURDERED IN HER SHOP

ITALIAN WHOSE LOVE AFFAIR SHE BLOCKED IS ARRESTED.

Robbery and Revenge His Motives, the Police Say—A Comic Valentine Figures, Too—Slain With Her Own Knife, While a Band Was Playing At Her Door.

There was a murder set to music in East 103rd street some time about midnight on Saturday night. A woman was stabbed to death while a band played on her doorstep, and a comic valentine stuck in her window is supposed to have been at least a minor incentive for the crime.

The victim was Wilhelmina Hickson, a widow, 52 years old, who kept a little cigar, stationery and candy store at 215 East 103rd street.

In less than an hour after the woman's body was found in a room back of her store, the police arrested, on the charge of murder, Giovanni Di Gregorio, a young stucco worker of 23 East 103rd street. He was seen outside the candy store at 11 o'clock on Saturday night shaking his fist at Mrs. Hickson, who was standing at her window. Later on he was seen inside the store. Two months ago, according to the janitress of the house, he was heard to say to Mrs. Hickson: "I'll put a knife into you some time for keeping Daisy away from me."

Daisy is Daisy Hoffman, good looking, romantic and 18 years old. She lives upstairs at 209 East 103rd street. Two years ago Daisy ran away in boy's clothes to go on the stage, but was restored to her parents a day later by the police. After that she ran away in her own clothes and got a job on the stage up the State somewhere, which she kept till the police found her and sent her back to 103rd street again. There she has earned an occasional half dollar by looking after the candy store when Mrs. Hickson was away.

Di Gregorio and several other young Italians on the block bought their cigarettes there, and generally did their trading when Daisy was in charge. Di Gregorio took her to the theatre just once. Then her parents, about the only German family on the block, put a stop to it, and told Mrs. Hickson that their daughter couldn't tend store for any more if the young Italian was allowed to come there and court her.

The next time Di Gregorio came Mrs. Hickson sent Daisy upstairs and told the caller that he mustn't speak to her. It was then, according to the janitress, that the Italian said he would kill the widow some time.

The widow only laughed at Di Gregorio. When she got in her new supply of comic valentines she found one bearing the picture of a dejected looking young man with his back to her. Under the picture were the words: "Don't mope. If your lover jilts you, get another."

Mrs. Hickson stuck that in the most conspicuous place in her little show window. Di Gregorio saw it and cursed. That was less than a week ago.

Another habit that Mrs. Hickson had, and which the neighbors thought impudent, was the frequent showing of her money and jewelry, of which she had a plentiful supply. Her husband, who died a year ago, left her some and she had made good through her shop. She had no cash drawer, but kept all her wealth, including her late husband's gold watch, in her right stocking. Whoever killed her knew that, for when her body was found it was fully clothed except for the right stocking, which had been pulled off, turned inside out, and thrown into a corner of the room. No money or jewelry was found on the premises.

DELaware FLOOD FEARED

Ice Jam Extends From Easton Clear to the River's Headwaters.

EASTON, Pa., Feb. 21.—Intelligence from the headwaters of the Delaware causes great anxiety to lumbermen here and to the effect that should be done in the Delaware headwaters, and in some places, especially at the Water Gap, it has been impossible to move the ice or clear a passage, even with dynamite. Capt. Bie managed to get a stretch of nine miles, where the river is narrow, there has been crowded ice, which came from a distance of twenty miles, washed there as the result of a thunderstorm last week.

This jam of ice is in some places thirty feet high. The water of the river has been forced from the bed of the stream, and runs through fields.

SUSQUEHANNA'S ICE GORGE. People Preparing to Move to the Hills in Expectation of a Flood.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Feb. 21.—Residents along the sixty-mile stretch of the gorged Susquehanna are preparing to move to the mountains. The heavy rain which the weather departments at Washington and Harrisburg have said would cause a flood, is now coming, and a steady thaw of thirty hours and to-morrow it is expected the river will rise rapidly. It is now so gorged with ice that there is not room for the water now going downstream.

A rise of fifteen to twenty feet is expected in the next twenty-four hours with no hope of the massive gorges breaking. All week a railroad of the State has been considering plans for breaking the gorge at Kipp's Run, the most dangerous of all, but no plan has yet been put into effect. Rivermen expect the worst flood this part of the Susquehanna has ever known.

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PIANOLA RECITAL

Today, at 3 P. M. (No Cards of Admission Necessary.)

SOLOISTS: Mr. PERRY AVERILL, Barytone. Mr. S. HERVEY GROVER, at the Organ. Mr. ERNEST R. HUNTER, at the Pianola.

THESE recitals, while given for the purpose of demonstrating the artistic possibilities of the Pianola and Aeolian Pipe Organ, will be found exceedingly interesting from an educational point of view.

Any one who has not so far found the opportunity to visit Aeolian Hall on these occasions will be amply repaid by attending this Recital.

AEOLIAN HALL, 362 Fifth Avenue, Near 34th Street.

PROGRAM: (a) Tondresse.....Homer Bartlett (b) Barcarolle.....Alex. Von Flotow (c) Black Key Etude.....Chopin

Pianola.....Verdi Aria from Ballo in Maschere.....Weber

Mr. AVERILL. (Accompanied with the Pianola.) Oberon Overture.....Weber

Aeolian Pipe Organ. (a) Vale Capric.....Nevin (b) Polonaise, Op. 53.....Chopin

Pianola. (a) Winks in the Trees.....Goring Thomas (b) Border Ballad.....Fred Cowan

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Japanese bronze low bowl lamp, melon ribbed, dragon, birds, etc., in relief, dark brown and green finish (like cut), at \$8.75 (shade extra). Hundreds of others to select from. No two alike.

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about 45 minutes they returned with Di Gregorio, whom they found in bed at his home, 223 East 103rd street. Now they are looking for two more men.

The first person questioned by the detectives was Pearl Jackson, the negro janitress who told the story of the Italian's threat and then said: "They were having high old times in the Italian saloon last night. I came out about 11 o'clock and saw three men on Mrs. Hickson's steps trying to get in. The young man who said that he would kill her was one of the three and he was shaking his fist. The woman was laughing at them

and the band was playing so I couldn't hear what was said. Pretty soon the Italians went into the saloon and then they came back and burst in the door. Then I skipped."

At the police station the colored woman identified the prisoner as the man who had threatened Mrs. Hickson and as the one seen on the steps steps on Saturday night.

The police have another witness who said that he saw three men in the store after 11 o'clock drinking with the widow. They expect to arrest the other two to-day. The knife with which the woman was killed belonged to her.

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Of course we sell the same quality for less than Manhattan Stores and we sell every article as low as any store, no matter how low the price is quoted.

Here are a few of the bargains for Tuesday. We could add the hypnotic force of an avalanche of argument describing these goods, but we have a lot of faith in the common sense of our readers.

- Sheer White Lawn..... 3c. yd
Hemmed Sheets..... 35c.
Pepperell Sheeting..... 15c. yd
37c. Damask Linen..... 25c.
25c. Huck Towels..... 10c.
6c. Huck Towelling..... 4c.
10c. to 25c. Embroideries..... 7c.
35c. to 65c. Black Escorial Laces..... 25c.
40 in. Sash Curtain Muslin, 7c. yd
50c. White Lace Curtains, 19c. ea.
38 in. all-wool Voiles..... 39c. yd
Fairy and Copco Soap..... 4c.
Japanese Fern Balls..... 21c.
\$1.00 W. B. C. and Elan Corsets..... 69c.
10c. Porcelain Plates..... 5c.
Women's \$2.80 Shoes... \$1.40
Black Taffeta Silk..... 49c. yd
Rich Colored Taffeta..... 25c. yd
All Silk Crepe de Chine..... 39c. yd
Corded Gingham..... 9c. yd
Boys' Knee Pants..... 29c.
Men's Suits & Overcoats, \$5.50
White Enamel Beds..... \$1.98
\$7.00 Morris Chairs..... \$3.98
Sewing Machines \$5.00 down, \$1 a week.

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