

GAGGED, BOUND AND ROBBED.

COMMERCIAL MERCHANT ACCUSED OF A HANDFUL LIKE ACT.

Sporting Man Says E. S. Armstrong of Philadelphia Lured Him to His Office and There Robbed Him of His Money and Jewelry—Merchant Held in Jail.

PHILADELPHIA, April 19.—John B. Coover McKee, a sporting man of New York, told a dime novel tale of luring a faro bank, coming to Philadelphia and being assaulted, bound and robbed of all he had to-day before Magistrate Koehler's court. When he finished, Edward S. Armstrong, a commission merchant of good standing, with offices at 108 Spruce street and a house at 1740 Diamond street, was held in \$1,500 bail on charges of assault and robbery. As he was leaving the court room he was arrested and held in \$1,200 bail on a third charge of conspiracy.

McKee testified that he had known Armstrong for about four years. Early in March he met him at the Flinders Hotel, and Armstrong told him that he had won \$5,000 on the horses, but had recently lost about \$5,000, and would like to know how to get square. McKee and Armstrong agreed to put in \$3,000 each and try their luck against a bank at 213 West Fifty-fifth street.

"We put up the money," continued McKee, "and went to New York. At first we won about \$5,000, but luck turned and we went broke. Armstrong beefed about losing the money. Three or four days later I received a letter from Armstrong and came to Philadelphia. We had a shad supper, and Armstrong suggested that we take four stacks instead of two and try it again. A few days later I came here again. I called Armstrong up on the telephone. He told me to get a girl, a little friend down at his office that night and invited me to come down.

"I thought a commission office a rather strange place for a dining, but said that I would be there. As I entered the door the room was pretty dark. Armstrong met me, and as he took my hand two men seized me from behind. One man held my other hand and another man tried to force a dry handkerchief into my mouth. I refused to open my mouth until one of the men drew a knife.

"After I was tied up they threw me on an old freight elevator. It worked by hand. My feet were tied, and Armstrong told one of them to double my knees up so I would not be hurt. At the third floor they threw me off and Armstrong dismissed the other men. He then demanded the \$3,000 he had lost, and told me I would have an hour to think it over, and that I would be kept there until I did. Then Armstrong would take me to the street, and a knife on guard at the head of the stairs.

"This was at 7 o'clock. It was 10 when Armstrong came back. After his return he told me it was no use negotiating, as he was a thirty-second degree Mason and that there was a sewer back of his place where he could be thrown. He told me the fellows downstairs were thieves and that they would save them from going to jail. He had a candle in one hand and a revolver in the other. He ordered me to give him my diamond ring.

"He took the diamond pin from my tie and my purse with \$187. In my inside vest pocket he found \$1,000 in gold. After getting these things, he said that he would spare my life because of the love of some one between us. He said that the men would be there to help me if I was a thief. He would take my watch, stud and cuff buttons to prevent me from being robbed.

"I pleaded to be untied before the men came, as I was afraid they might attack me again and I was badly done up. After about twenty minutes the men came and untied me, put me in a cab with the curtains drawn, and carried me to the Hotel Flinders, where I told my story to the manager. He called the police, and five days later Armstrong called me up at the Colonnade and told me that when I gave him \$3,000 I would get back my things.

"I have \$1,200 in my pocket, a \$200 pin, a \$175 watch, my \$75 cuff buttons, and a diamond cigar cutter." Cross-examination failed to shake McKee. Armstrong entered a plea of not guilty. Bail was furnished for him at once.

Asked to explain a "rise and fall" system, which he mentioned, McKee said it takes two to play it. It is a copy of a losing game and bet in fours, sixes and eights to qualify on the fall of the cards.

DUKE OF NEWCASTLE HERE.

Two African Explorers in With Him on the Cedre—Other Seekers.

The Duke of Newcastle, brother of Lord Francis Hope, F. R. Burnham, an American scout on the British side in the Boer war, A. R. Brown, an E. B. Bick, who has just led an exploring party into the Uganda region, W. R. Cuthbertson, J. Beasley and Tex Rickard, who are returning to the Klondike, where they own claims, and Capt. C. B. Wheeler, were passengers aboard the Atlantic liner, the Minneapolis, in yesterday from London.

Passengers by the White Star liner Cedre, off to-day for Queenstown and Liverpool, are: Mrs. E. B. Bick, who died suddenly in Pasadena, Cal., on March 20; the State real and personal, is left to the widow, Margaret Garr Colgate, during her lifetime, and at her death it is to be divided equally between the three sons, the lawyers, her brothers are Robert W. Colgate of Fishing, L. L. and Romulus A. Colgate, Sharon, Conn.

Alice R. Wood of New York and Mrs. George F. Stone of this city are sisters of the testator. The executors named are Margaret Colgate and George W. DeWitt of New York. The daughter, Aileen S. Colgate, will also be entitled to a share after her mother's death. The estate is valued at half a million dollars.

Lord & Taylor Incorporated.

ALBANY, April 19.—Lord & Taylor, the New York city department store firm, filed articles of incorporation with the Secretary of State yesterday. The firm's name is Lord & Taylor, Inc. The capital stock is \$5,000,000, divided into 2,500,000 2-cent common shares, preferred and \$3,000,000 cumulative preferred. The directors are: Edward Hatch, Wilson H. Tucker and Walter L. Titus of New York city and Howard P. Bell of Arlington, N. J.

To Study White and Black Southern Schools.

Robert C. Ogden of this city and a large party of friends, all of whom are interested in educational matters, left Jersey City at 7:15 o'clock last night on a special train for a trip to the South. It is the purpose of the party to inspect schools for whites and blacks and make a study of the educational question in the South. The train will stop at four or five points in the South. The pressure was low from the north Pacific coast southeast over all the mountain States to Texas, where the weather was cloudy with scattered rains. The pressure was high over all the interior States, with the centre moving southeast from Minnesota, throwing off colder weather. The temperature was from 6 to 16 degrees lower in the Mississippi Valley, from Minnesota south to Missouri, and in the Lake region; in the other States it was warmer.

The day was fair, save for an occasional sprinkling of rain; fresh to brisk northwesterly wind, 4 to 12 miles per hour; temperature, 44 to 64 per cent. barometer, 30.0 to 30.2; sea level, 64 to 8. A. M., 79.92; 3 P. M., 29.70.

The Weather Bureau had storm warnings displayed on the coast from Delaware Breakwater to New York. For what reason, Dunbar declined to guess, being of the opinion that the weather promised to remain fair for a day or two longer, but slightly cooler.

The temperature yesterday, as recorded by the official thermometer, is shown in the annexed table:

Table with 4 columns: Date, Time, Temperature, and Wind. Rows include 1904, 1903, 1902, 1901, 1900, 1899, 1898, 1897, 1896, 1895, 1894, 1893, 1892, 1891, 1890, 1889, 1888, 1887, 1886, 1885, 1884, 1883, 1882, 1881, 1880, 1879, 1878, 1877, 1876, 1875, 1874, 1873, 1872, 1871, 1870, 1869, 1868, 1867, 1866, 1865, 1864, 1863, 1862, 1861, 1860, 1859, 1858, 1857, 1856, 1855, 1854, 1853, 1852, 1851, 1850, 1849, 1848, 1847, 1846, 1845, 1844, 1843, 1842, 1841, 1840, 1839, 1838, 1837, 1836, 1835, 1834, 1833, 1832, 1831, 1830, 1829, 1828, 1827, 1826, 1825, 1824, 1823, 1822, 1821, 1820, 1819, 1818, 1817, 1816, 1815, 1814, 1813, 1812, 1811, 1810, 1809, 1808, 1807, 1806, 1805, 1804, 1803, 1802, 1801, 1800, 1799, 1798, 1797, 1796, 1795, 1794, 1793, 1792, 1791, 1790, 1789, 1788, 1787, 1786, 1785, 1784, 1783, 1782, 1781, 1780, 1779, 1778, 1777, 1776, 1775, 1774, 1773, 1772, 1771, 1770, 1769, 1768, 1767, 1766, 1765, 1764, 1763, 1762, 1761, 1760, 1759, 1758, 1757, 1756, 1755, 1754, 1753, 1752, 1751, 1750, 1749, 1748, 1747, 1746, 1745, 1744, 1743, 1742, 1741, 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