and the one at which he maintained his office was the National Bank of North America. Mr. Morse was vice-president and a director of this bank. The other Morse banks with Clearing House privileges are the New Amsterdam National Bank, the Garfield National Bank, in both of which Mr. Morse was vice-president as well as a director, and the Fourteenth Street Bank. Mr. Morse was also a director and one of the largest stockholders in the Mercantile National and was a director in these other financial institutions in this city: Garfield Safe Deposit Company, New Amsterdam Safe Deposit Company, New York Mortgage and Security Company, New York Produce Exchange Bank, the Title Insurance Company of New York, the Van Norden Safe Deposit Company and the Van Norden Trust Company.

[illegible] UP [illegible] AT HIS MONEY BANK.

Mr. Morse resigned first from the Van Norden Trust Company. That resignation was announced before the close of the market yesterday. At no time has Mr. Morse controlled this trust company, and of his resignation President Van Norden said:

"Mr. Morse had only a little stock in the trust company. Several years ago we sold the National Bank of North America to Mr. Morse. Shortly afterward we formed the trust company, and as our relations with Mr. Morse in the matter of the bank had been very pleasant we invited him as a compliment to become a member of our board. He has never been actively connected with our organization."

The other resignations were announced by President Curtis of the National Bank of North America while the Clearing House examiners under the supervision of William A. Nash, president of the Corn Exchange National Bank and acting chairman of the Clearing House committee, were concluding their examination into the affairs of the National Bank of North America and the New Amsterdam National Bank. Mr. Morse remained at the National Bank of North America from early in the morning until 9:30 o'clock last night, denying himself to all inquirers. As he left the bank he declared that the institution was perfectly solvent but beyond that refused to discuss the condition of the institutions with which he is connected or the banking situation generally.

Mr. Morse was reminded of the fact that he stated very positively on Friday that Comptroller of the Currency Ridgely had accepted the offer to become president of the Mercantile National. Mr. Morse replied that he did not yet consider that Mr. Ridgely had definitely declined the presidency of the Mercantile.

FORCED RESIGNATIONS.

The Clearing House in forcing the resignations of the Heinzes and the Thomases from the Mercantile, and Mr. Morse from his banking connection has pursued a policy of separating as far as possible the Clearing House banking institutions from connections of a speculative or over venturesome nature.

In the course of the last six months it was a matter of comment that here has been a great curbing of the activities of many men well known in the financial district for the boldness of their operations. The movement began when John W. Gates retired from business last May. A partial retirement has now taken place in the cases of F. Augustus Heinze and his two brothers, of Orlando F. and Edward R. Thomas and of Charles W. Morse. The prevalent question in the financial district yesterday was "Who's next?"

Criticism was also directed against the Thomases, the Heinzes and Mr. Morse for the reason that such a large amount of the bank stocks owned by them were pledged as collateral for loans. It appeared to have been a part of their business policy on acquiring one bank to hypothecate the stock, using the proceeds to acquire another bank, and so on round and round.

In connection with the hypothecation of F. Augustus Heinze's bank stock an interesting incident came to light. When Mr. Heinze and his associates acquired control of the Mercantile National they wrested the control from Edwin Gould and his associates and took over in the course of the fight for the control the Gould holdings of stock. Altogether Mr. Heinze acquired 12,000 shares of stock at a price since repeatedly reported to have been $300 a share. This stock, it was reported yesterday, is now held by the Bowling Green Trust Company, of which Edwin Gould is president, to secure a loan of $1,250,000 made to Mr. Heinze.

The idea was entertained yesterday that Mr. Gould and his associates might again come into the control of the Mercantile by closing out the loan. Mr Heinze, incidentally, paid more for his stock, it is said, than did either Mr. Morse or the Messrs. Thomas. There was a sale of the stock on the curb one day this week at $180 a share.

Both the National Bank of North America and the New Amsterdam National Bank in the weekly bank statement yesterday showed cash reserves of but a fraction more than 20 per cent. as compared with the legal reserve requirement of 25 per cent. Whether or not the report of these low reserves inspired the Clearing House Association to make the examination of the banks is not known.

It is possible that the committee would have inquired into the collateral in the banks in any event in view of the disclosures of the character of the collateral carried in many loans of the Mercantile National Bank. Members of the Clearing House committee, including William E. Nash, chairman of the committee, and J. Edward Simmons, president of the Fourth National Bank, looked into the affairs of the National Bank of North America in person. They left the bank shortly before 11 o'clock last night, refusing absolutely at that time to give any intimation concerning the findings of the committee or the discoveries they had made.

At the National Bank of New Amsterdam when the examiners departed there was the same silence. It was understood then that a statement would be made later.

LOANS OF THE TWO BANKS.

The National Bank of North America in the bank statement showed loans of $15,011,000; cash holdings, $2,675,000; deposits, $13,083,000. The previous week the bank reported these items as follows: loans, $14,929,000; cash holdings, $3,003,000; deposits, $13,320,000. The New Amsterdam National Bank reported yesterday: loans, $4,474,600; cash holdings, $992,000; deposits, $4,945,000. The week before the report showed: loans, $4,485,000; cash holdings, $1,190,000; deposits, $5,132,000.

When Mr. Morse formed his steamship merger last spring he put up the stock of all the merged companies as security for an issue of $60,000,000 4 per cent. collateral trust bonds. These bonds were sold on the curb last spring at prices well above 30. Latterly they have declined very sharply, and yesterday when more than $200,000 of them changed hands they sold down to closing prices of 16½ bid and 17 asked.

There has been very heavy liquidation of the bonds in every market session since the crash in United Copper. The liquidation was started, so it was said in Morse circles, by Otto Heinze & Co., who held $250,000 of the bonds and were forced to dispose of them in order to hold up their corner in copper.

The stock of the American Ice Company, another Morse enterprise, sold on the Stock Exchange yesterday at 20, the lowest price on record and a decline of more than $60 a share from the high price in January.

MERCANTILE CAN'T CLEAR FOR ITSELF.

The Mercantile was again assisted by the Clearing House yesterday. It had a debit balance of $1,137,000 in the morning arrangement of clearances and the Clearing House banks advanced more than $900,000 to enable it to meet its obligations. Clearing House authorities after this payment took pains to make it clear that the Clearing House banks were only assisting the Mercantile from day to day. They had not bargained to go further, it was declared, and the general assumption was that unless plans for a rehabilitation of the bank are perfected meanwhile the Clearing House will withdraw its support to-morrow or Tuesday. Seth M. Milliken of Deering & Milliken, one of the directors of the bank, appeared yesterday to be the man most active in plans for the continuance of the bank in business.

BIG BANKS HEAP UP CASH.

The weekly bank statement showed a surprisingly favorable feature in the general situation. There was reported a decrease of $[illegible] in loans and notwithstanding the withdrawals of cash from the Mercantile an increase in the aggregate cash holdings of about $[illegible]. These changes brought the surplus reserve up to $11,187,000, the largest amount since last May and an increase of $8,527,000 over the preceding week. The Mercantile in its report of reserve was far below the legal limit, reporting but 15.3 per cent. as compared with the legal requirement of 25 per cent. Two other banks showed but a 20 per cent. reserve. On the other hand, the First National Bank showed the surprisingly large reserve of 30.5 per cent. and the National City Bank was not far behind with 29 per cent. Most of the other large banks showed themselves in an exceptionally strong position.

THE RIDGELY EPISODE.

As stated in THE SUN yesterday bankers important in the Clearing House were considering on Friday a plan whereby support could be given to Mr. Ridgely in the purchase of a controlling interest in the Mercantile and the rehabilitation of the institution. Sixteen thousand shares of the 30,000 of the bank's capital stock had been offered to Mr. Ridgely, and the bankers discussed several plans for financing the purchase of this stock and putting Mr. Ridgely in control.

One plan was so far advanced that a draft of it was made on paper and submitted to several bankers. It contemplated the formation of a holding company with a capital of $500,000 to take over the bank stock holdings not only of the Heinze-Thomas-Morse combination in the Mercantile but of the Thomas holdings in various banks, the Heinze holdings in other banks and the Morse bank holdings. The holding company was to issue debenture bonds to be secured by the bank stocks to be acquired and was to pay the interest on the bonds and accumulate a fund for their retirement out of the dividends on the bank stocks.

In the course of the consideration of this plan inquiry was directed toward the whereabouts of the stock holdings of the persons from whom the stock was to be purchased. It was ascertained, it was said, that the stock was widely distributed and much of it was in banks in one town and another as collateral for loans. Obviously it was impossible for the many loans to be taken up and the stock put in shape for delivery in time to make the plan of any benefit. With the greatest expedition it would have been impossible to carry the transaction through in less than two weeks. Immediate action was necessary.

Almost concurrently with the abandonment of this plan the other plans were abandoned for an equally important reason. As THE SUN stated yesterday, it was the purpose of these bankers prominent in the Clearing House to separate control of the bnak entirely from all its recent affiliations, whether with the Heinze banks, the Thomas banks or the Morse banks. On no other conditions would they support Mr. Ridgely in acquisition of the stock of the bank, and it was intimated quite plainly that under no other condition would the Clearing House continue to accord support to the bank.

It began to dawn on these Clearing House bankers that the plan to get Mr. Ridgely into the presidency might be a clever bit of strategy on the part of Mr. Morse, who is a past master in the art of financial politics. Presently one and then another of the bankers came to the conclusion that Mr. Morse, after deciding that Heinze must go and perhaps accelerating his departure, himself conceived the idea of getting Mr. Ridgely to step into the breach, bring Clearing House support to the bank, and incidentally put it under his own control. Whether or not the bankers were positive that this was the case is not known, but they abandoned the Ridgely idea and Mr. Ridgely was told that they withdrew their offers of support.

Mr. Ridgely, before his departure for Washington late Friday night, had plenty of opportunity to learn the sentiment of the Clearing House and declared that he would not take the place without Clearing House support. Otherwise financial support, it was said yesterday, was offered to him in the transfer of ownership in a big block of Mercantile Bank stock pledged as security for a loan. This transaction could have been affected without any great expenditure on Mr. Ridgely's part. He announced his final declination yesterday in Washington after receiving word that the plans for support from Clearing House bankers had fallen through.

BELIEVED THAT THE MERCANTILE WILL GO ON.

The Clearing House committee met with other bankers early in the morning. There were present at the conference William A. Nash, president of the Corn Exchange National; Alexander D. Gilbert, president of the Clearing House and president of the Market and Fulton National Bank; A. B. Hepburn, president of the Chase National and former Comptroller of the Currency; George F. Baker, president of the First National; Dumont Clarke, president of the American Exchange National, and J. Edward Simmons, president of the Fourth National.

It was considered significant that no representative of the two big Standard Oil banks, the National City, which is the largest in the city, and the Hanover National, was present. Their lack of representation was all the more significant because either James Stillman, president of the City, or Frank A. Vanderlip, its ranking vice-president, has been influential in all recent events of importance bearing on the financial situation and because President Woodward of the Hanover is chairman of the Clearing House committee. Apparently the Standard Oil felt that the downfall of Heinze would be ascribed to revenge on its part if it took an active interest in the affairs of the Mercantile and it accordingly refrained. At none of the conferences over the Heinze matter, as far as known, has either of the Standard Oil banks been represented.

It was reported at the meeting that the Mercantile's debit balance was $1,137,000. It was then known that the plan to rehabilitate the bank under Mr. Ridgely had failed, but it was decided nevertheless to extend further aid to the bank. The sum of $400,000 had been advanced to it the previous day. To this the Clearing House added more than $900,000, making the total advances to the institution more than $1,700,000. A committee sent to the Mercantile arranged the transfer of collateral from the Mercantile to the Clearing House to secure the Clearing House advances of the day.

Analysis of the condition of the Mercantile showed that it had a large number of prime mercantile loans. The Clearing House committee recommended to the officers of the bank that they endeavor wherever possible to persuade the borrowers to take up these loans in advance of maturity and thus replenish the bank's cash resources. Seth M. Milliken, one of the directors, busied himself in this endeavor and was successful in securing the payment of several such loans.

It is upon Mr. Milliken that the Clearing House now rests its principal hope for the bank's rehabilitation. He is a rich man, a member of the firm of Deering & Milliken, well known as cotton factors and merchants, and has excellent financial connections. Nothing would please the Clearing House more than to have Mr. Milliken successful in his efforts. As has been stated, its only interest in the matter is the protection of the depositors and the public and the placing of the bank in reliable hands.

It was suggested to Mr. Milliken that he might enlist the cooperation of William Skinner, also a wealthy man with high business reputation and good connections. Mr. Skinner is a director of the New Haven railroad and its subsidiary companies, including the Ontario and Western, and is president of the William Skinner Manufacturing Company. He was in Holyoke yesterday. Mr. Milliken accordingly was obliged to work without Mr. Skinner's assistance. He took practical charge of the affairs of the bank, superseding Miles M. O'Brien, the ranking vice-president. The directors of the Mercantile will meet this morning.

"It is believed," said Manager Sherer of the Clearing House, "that the Mercantile National Bank will continue as heretofore, but the action of the Clearing House committee will be governed by conditions from day to day. The members of the Clearing House committee discussed the general banking situation. The directors of the Mercantile Bank are still responsible for its management, and the demand for their resignation was merely a precautionary measure."

National banking examiners again inspected the condition of the Mercantile yesterday. They found nothing at variance with the findings of the Clearing House examiners.

MERCANTILE HELPED AGAIN.

The Clearing House committee notified the Mercantile to cease clearing for other banks. The Mercantile cleared for the Hamilton Bank, a Thomas institution of which E. R. Thomas is president, and for the Nineteenth Ward Bank. This action, it was explained by a banking examiner, was taken on account of the condition of the Mercantile and not because of any alarm over the condition of the banks for which the Mercantile cleared. This action of the Clearing House committee forces the Hamilton and the Nineteenth Ward banks to secure new Clearing House agents or make their exchanges direct by messenger as a number of banks do customarily. The Nineteenth Ward Bank announces that the Fourth National will clear for it hereafter; a change for some time contemplated.

HEPBURN ON THE CRITICISM OF RIDGELY.

There were criticisms of Comptroller Ridgely yesterday because of the discovery of unmarketable collateral in the Mercantile. It was argued that Mr. Ridgely's examiners should have discovered the collateral and thrown it out. A. B. Hepburn, former Comptroller of the Currency and president of the Chase National Bank, said last night:

"The criticisms of Comptroller Ridgely for the condition which exists in the Mercantile National Bank are unjust and made under a misapprehension of the powers and duties of the Comptroller's office. Any irregularities in banking the Comptroller may and should criticise, but so long as a bank's capital is unimpaired and it meets its current obligations there is little more that he can do. It is no part of the Comptroller's duties to look after the interests of the stockholders. In insisting upon good banking he does incidentally protect stockholders, but the stockholders are expected to look out for themselves. They are responsible for its board of directors and the directors are responsible for its officers and management.

"According to the report of the Clearing House committee the bank has its $3,000,000 of capital unimpaired and a very considerable surplus. The troubles of the bank arise from official bad management and the connections of such officials with unsuccessful outside speculation, such as no one, least of all a bank officer, should engage in.

"The Comptroller cannot remove bank officials under existing laws, and it is very doubtful if he should possess such powers. I feel very confident that the records of the Comptroller's office will show that whatever acts have been committed in the Mercantile in violation of law or good banking have been properly criticised.

"Should the bank fail to settle its debit at the Clearing House or pay checks upon demand it will be guilty of an act of insolvency and the Comptroller may appoint a receiver. Should its capital be impaired he may levy an assessment upon its stockholders to make good such impairment. Should a bank be under its reserve he may notify that bank to make good, and if it fails for thirty days to do so he may appoint a receiver.

"Bearing in mind that the bank has a large capital unimpaired and a very considerable surplus, it is evident that the Comptroller has done all he should have done under the circumstances."

Comptroller Ridgely, when informed of criticisms that had been made against him here yesterday, said over the telephone last night:

"My best answer to criticism of my conduct in this matter is that after the bank's deposits had shrunk from nineteen to eleven millions and the bank was then examined by the Clearing House committee its capital was found to be unimpaired."

READY TO OUST THE THOMASES.

The bank from which, according to W. O. Allison, a director, the Thomases are to be ejected from control is the Consolidated National, which is opposite the old home of the Consolidated Stock Exchange at Exchange place and Broadway. It was with this bank that the Messrs. Thomas first embarked in the banking business in this city. Orlando F. Thomas is president of the bank and among its directors are Edward R. and Orlando F. Thomas and F. Augustus Heinze. Mr. Allison, individually and through one of the officers of the bank, sent out an offer some time ago to stockholders for the purchase of their holdings. It was said at the time by one of the officers that the offer was made on behalf of the Messrs. Thomas, but Mr. Allison declared yesterday that the contrary was the case.

He had just secured enough stock, he declared, to insure majority control by himself and his associates, and it was his intention to deprive O. F. Thomas of the presidency of the institution at the earliest possible moment. Mr. Allison said that he had long taken an active interest in the affairs of the bank and watched its business closely.

Other banks with which Orlando F. and Edward R. Thomas are connected are the Hamilton Bank, of which E. R. Thomas is president; the Hudson Trust Company and the Mechanics and Traders. Last January they sold an interest in the Mechanics and Traders to David A. Sullivan, president of the Union Bank of Brooklyn, and Mr. Sullivan was chosen president. Last January also the Thomases acquired control of the Provident Savings Life Assurance Society. They sold this control recently to a syndicate of Philadelphia men. They are among the directors of the Mercantile who have tendered their resignations so the process of their retirement from the control of New York financial institutions is already well advanced. The Hudson Trust Company, of which O. F. Thomas is president, was evolved by the Thomases from the old United Bank.

MORSE CHRONOLOGY.

Nine Years Since He Began to Need Banks in His Business and Got Them.

Charles W. Morse was born in Bath, Me., October 21, 1856. His first business venture was in Bowdoin College, where he was a student and where he bought and sold candy to help support himself during a college course. After leaving college he entered the business of his father, who owned a line of lumber vessels plying between Maine ports and Boston.

In 1896 Morse began to be a power in the New York financial world. He then entered the shipping field as owner of the majority of stock in the Eastern Steamship Company and the Hudson Navigation Company. With profits made from these lines and with the assistance of stockholders in various banks in which he became a power Morse started out to control the steamship lines of the Atlantic coast. In rapid succession he bought up the Metropolitan Line, the old Clyde Line, plying between all coast ports from Maine to Florida, and the Mallory Line. Last February he got control of the New York and Cuba Mail Steamship Company and the New York and Porto Rico Line and later organized the Consolidated Steamship Lines Company, a Maine corporation, as holding company for all his lines, under a capitalization of $60,000,000.

Morse's connection with banks began in 1898, when he became a director of the Bank of the State of New York and of the Sprague National of Brooklyn. A year later he became vice-president of the Garfield National Bank. From that time on he continued to get controlling interests in various banks and trust companies, until the string of "Morse banks" became established.

In 1897 Morse was the leading stockholder in the Consolidated Ice Company, and later, after he had the controlling interest in the Knickerbocker Ice Company, he merged the two into the American Ice Company, a New Jersey corporation, with a capitalization of $35,000,000. This was in March, 1899. In 1900, when the so-called Ice Trust raised the price of the commodity and an investigation followed in New York city, the stocks of the corporation dropped. Morse severed his connection with the concern in 1902.

Another of his activities was displayed in the formation of the Telephone, Telegraph and Cable Company of America in 1901. This company was designed to become a rival of the Bell Telephone Company but its stocks gradually declined.

The six banks with which his name has been last connected there were others that he bought into and sold out of are: Fourteenth Street Bank, capital $1,000,000; Garfield National Bank, $1,000,000, vice-president and director; Mercantile National Bank, $3,000,000; National Bank of North America, $2,000,000; New Amsterdam National Bank, $1,000,000; New York Produce Exchange Bank, $1,000,000.

These banks, with $9,000,000 capital, have had more than $70,000,000 of deposits at times.

MR. RIDGELY'S REFUSAL.

They Hear in Washington That Heinze Wouldn't Give Up His Stock.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—William Barret Ridgely, Comptroller of the Currency, announced this afternoon that he had decided to decline the offer of election to the presidency of the Mercantile National Bank of New York. As late as 1 o'clock in the afternoon Mr. Ridgely had not fully made up his mind, but hardly more than an hour later he announced his decision. The Comptroller declined to discuss his reasons for declining, but said merely that he preferred to live in Washington. In declining the offer of a bank presidency Mr. Ridgely gives up a salary of $25,000 in place of his present salary of $5,000 a year, but he is fairly well endowed with this world's goods.

It is believed that the principal consideration which led to Comptroller Ridgely's declination of the place was the question of control of the bank. He made it known that he would not accept the position unless he could have full control. This would mean the elimination of F. Augustus Heinze, the largest stockholder, and it is believed that the most Mr. Heinze would agree to do was to assent to the election of Mr. Ridgely.

STATEMENT BY F. A. HEINZE.

He Did Not Intend to Criticise the Clearing House Committee.

Mr. F. Augustus Heinze gave out the following statement last night at his home:

"Hr. Heinze said his attention had been called to what purported to be a quotation from him in some of the morning papers, and wanted to say that he had been misquoted.

"What he did say was that he felt the Mercantile was entirely sound and that under present conditions of unrest the public should be given every assurance conditions would warrant.

"Statements had been made in the press, not attributed to the Clearing House Committee, which he did not consider were correct. The newspapers quoting Mr. Heinze gave the impression that his remarks referred to members of the Clearing House Committee.

"This is untrue and is as unfair to Mr. Heinze as to the eminent gentlemen composing the committee. The bank and its officers submitted their affairs to the committee's investigation fully and voluntarily, and no one connected with the institution has any idea of criticising the committee in any way. We are fully conscious of and appreciative of their timely and public spirited assistance."

Mr. Heinze was in consultation at the Waldorf-Astoria yesterday from 1 o'clock in the afternoon until 10:30 at night with Orlando F. and E. R. Thomas, David A. Sullivan, president of the Mechanics and Traders Bank, W. R. Montgomery, vice-president of the Hamilton Bank, and others.

WHO SOLD THE COPPER

That Otto Heinze Would Not Take Off the Hands of Gross & Kleeberg ?

Harry Content and Maurice Wormser, who consented on Friday to act as a committee for the settlement of the Gross & Kleeberg accounts with brokers, received yesterday statements of accounts from those brokers who are creditors. No action will be taken until after the meeting of the creditors of Otto Heinze & Co., which is scheduled to take place to-morrow. Gross & Kleeberg will be represented at the meeting and interesting developments are expected.

A drastic investigation is to be made into the source of the selling orders given to brokers who sold United Copper stock to Gross & Kleeberg. An intimation that in Boston as well as here it is felt that the investigation may disclose a Heinze origin for these orders was received by friends of the assigned firm. The representatives of Gross & Kleeberg will act in cooperation with representatives of the six prominent Boston houses which are creditors of Otto Heinze & Co.

Harry Content and Maurice Wormser are brokers of long experience and each is clever at detecting the devices of manipulation.

STOCK MARKET WAS FEVERISH.

Banks Show Significant Increases as Well as Decreases in Reserve.

Though there was some irregularity in the opening prices on the Stock Exchange yesterday stocks were generally slightly higher in sympathy with the quotations from London. This gain, however, was all lost in the first few minutes of trading on renewed talk of sale by banks and trust companies of shares held as security for loans. The sagging tendency continued throughout the first hour of the session and was followed by a rally which carried stocks back almost to the high point of the day. A half hour before the close there was a renewed and violent selling movement which forced prices in the active stocks down from 1 to 3 points and made new low records for the year in a number of the market leaders.

The slump was attributed to the bank statement, which, though showing on the surface a marked improvement over last week, indicated several facts which traders interpreted as danger signals. Some of the strongest banks showed a ratio of reserve to deposits which was so unusually great that it created as much apprehension as the peculiarly small ratio shown by other banks. Before the close of the market it became current talk that other banks besides the Mercantile would probably have to seek aid from the Clearing House.

Smelters, which has been the weak spot in the market recently, held comparatively strong in the slump yesterday. On Wednesday it sold as high as 77¾ and Friday as low as 61. Yesterday it closed at 63½, a loss for the day of only ½ of a point. The most marked weakness was shown in the Harriman stocks. Union Pacific sold down in the last fifteen minutes from 114½ to 112½, a new low record for the year. Southern Pacific also touched a new low, 69¾. The former low record, [illegible], was made in March. Since that time the directors have put the stock on a 6 instead of a 5 per cent. basis. Other new low records were Amalgamated Copper, 43½; American Ice, 20; Reading, 82⅝, and Missouri Pacific, 52¼.

That an engagement of $1,500,000 gold for export to Germany had been made was another disquieting feature. Later it came out that the engagement, which was by Muller, Schall & Co., was in the nature of a special transaction independent to some extent of exchange quotations and was intended for the relief of Hamburg, where two large failures have taken place lately.

FLOODS ALL OVER FRANCE.

Farms, Fields and Orchards Devastated —Storms Add to Damage.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, Oct. 19.—Storms and floods continue to inflict terrible damage all over the country. The Rhone has risen from 16 to 20 feet and other rivers like the Loire, the Saone and the Allier, continue to rise and flood large tracts. The district around St. Etienne is a dreary waste of waters.

The situation is worse in many parts of the South of France because the area of devastation is greater. From Auvergne and other central parts there comes the same story of farms, fields and orchards under water and villages isolated.

Telegraphic and telephonic communication between Paris, Lyons and Marseilles has been reestablished after an interruption of many hours.

CORN PRODUCTS SUIT BEGUN.

Allegations That the Standard Oil Men and Others Are Trying Jugglery.

CHICAGO, Oct. 19.—Proceedings to have a receiver appointed for the Standard Oil Company, the Corn Products Company, the Corn Products Refining Company and the Corn Products Manufacturing Company, all of New Jersey, were begun to-day in the Superior Court by George F. Harding of California. The complainant is owner of 500 shares of the Corn Products Company, the stock of which, he avers, is controlled by the Standard Oil Company and others named in the bill.

The suit is similar to one filed in the Circuit Court on May 4 by the Chicago Real Estate Loan and Trust Company, which is pending in the United States Circuit Court. Charges are made that the Standard Oil Company with certain individuals conspired to wreck the Corn Products Company, capitalized at $80,000,000, and for this purpose formed a pool or trust, unlawfully controlling the price of glucose, grape sugar and corn starch. Thirty-eight factories were joined in the pool by the so-called conspirators. Harding charges C. H. Mathieson, Charles K. Glass, William W. Heaton, Norman B. Ream, William J. Calhoun, Joy Horton, Benjamin Graham, T. B. Waggoner, H. G. Herget, Thomas P. Kingsford, W. C. Sherwood and E. T. Bedford are made parties defendant.

It is charged in Mr. Harding's bill that the forming and carrying out of the pool is "an unlawful and fraudulent stock jobbing scheme for the purpose of fleecing the public as well as the complainant, in the devious ways and methods originating in Wall Street and practised by financial pirates, constituting the system by which the public is fleeced and plundered continually and by which it is intended by said conspirators to freeze out and defraud your complainant."

Denver Bank Clearings Reach $10,000,000

DENVER, Oct. 19.—Ten million dollars in bank clearings is the record made this week at the Denver Clearing House. It is the largest record in the history of Denver. The exact figures are $10,015,437.48. It is the first time that the total has reached the $10,000,000 mark.

STOLEN STATUE SENT BACK.

French Magistrate Gets $10,000 Worth of Restitution From London.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LIMOGES, Oct. 19.—When some heavy boxes arrived this evening addressed to the Magistrate who is inquiring into the Thomas church robberies he hesitated about paying the extra 12 francs for their carriage.

The boxes, it subsequently proved, contained the Virgin's statue from Sauvetat, Thomas's first theft, in 1904. It was sent anonymously from London. The statue is valued at $10,000.

DEBTOR IN PRISON FOR KEEPS.

Topolenski Can't Pay a $500 Breach of Promise Judgment—His Outlook Dark.

Frank Topolenski, 6 years old, has been a prisoner in the Essex county jail at Newark for two years because he cannot pay a judgment of $500, and he wonders if he is to be deprived of his liberty for life. The lien against Topolenski was obtained in a breach of promise action brought by a woman whom he says he knows only as "Felizon." As his freedom depends upon his satisfying the judgment, the prisoner can see no future beyond the jail walls, as he has no money, no friends with wealth, and as long as he is in prison no means of earning the $500.

Topolenski met his accuser in his brother's home in West Orange about two years ago. He said he paid little attention to her. In November, 1905, he met and married Bertha Yanoska, a West Orange girl, and soon after the breach of promise suit was brought against him and resulted in a judgment.

Finding he would be unable to raise the amount of the judgment, Topolenski about a year ago retained a lawyer to get him out under the insolvent debtors act. Topolenski said he gave the lawyer $75 and the latter promised to look into his case. Later the lawyer sent a letter to Topolenski stating that the date had been fixed for a hearing, but the prisoner heard nothing more of the case.

Topolenski's wife is working to support herself and save enough money to get her husband out, but she has been able to save only $93.

The lawyer says he has made an application for Topolenski's release, but before the date for the hearing the man's relatives took the case out of his hands and gave it to another lawyer.

He Meant to Buy a Pianola Piano—
But It Was An Entirely Different Instrument

The Aeolian Co.
Sir:—Will you please send me catalogs of music for the Pianola Piano, suitable for the " . . . . Pianola Piano," as that is the kind of Pianola mine is, and oblige.
( )

THIS letter illustrates how mistakes sometimes happen. The gentleman started out to buy a Pianola Piano, but he went to a store which sold an imitation. The salesman did not feel under moral obligation to enlighten the customer.

The sale of the Pianola and Pianola Piano is restricted to one store in a city. The other stores handle different "combinations" of pianos and piano-players. The practice of permitting uninformed customers to buy other instruments under the misapprehension that they are getting the genuine Pianola or Pianola Piano is not countenanced by the best houses in the music trade.

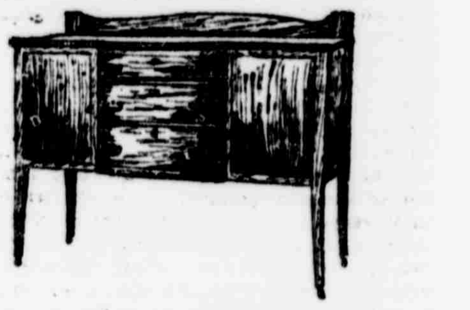
The person who owns a Pianola has a right to be proud of it. It is the standard instrument of its class all over the world. It is the only one that the greatest musicians have endorsed.

IT IS THE PIANOLA, and **not** some other piano-player, that enjoys the distinction of having been purchased by every member of the English Royal Family. It is the **Pianola**, and **not** some other piano-player, that is used by one hundred of the leading colleges and educational institutions.

There is But One Pianola Made Only by The Aeolian Co.

¶The only pianos into which genuine Pianolas are built are the Weber, the Steck, the Wheelock, and the Stuyvesant. Other so-called "Player-pianos" must necessarily have some other player, lacking the Pianola's prestige, and its important musical advantages.

THE AEOLIAN COMPANY, Aeolian Hall, 362 Fifth Ave., New York



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Three ★★★ Star
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Massage Rubber for Shavers
Softens the beard; assuring a smooth, velvety shave.
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Send for descriptive circular of the new "TRICEL" Metallic Hot Water Bottle, $1.75 and $2.50. Lasts a lifetime. Won't leak or burst.

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P. O. Box 52. Summit, New Jersey.

ENGAGED.

SCHWALBE—MEYER.—Mr. Louis Meyer of 65 West 115th st. announces the engagement of his daughter Mildred to Mr. Martin Schwalbe.

MARRIED.

RIGGINS—SAXTON.—At East Orange, N. J., on October 16, 1907, by the Rev. H. W. Ballantine, D.D., Madeline Faxon, daughter of Mrs. Mary L. Saxton, to Edwin N. Riggins, M.D., both of East Orange, N. J.

DIED.

BACON.—At Geneseo, N. Y., October 19, Sophie Carey Bacon, widow of Oscar F. Bacon.

MACARTHUR.—At Troy, N. Y., October 18, 1907, Ella Elizabeth Griffin, wife of Colonel Arthur MacArthur.
Funeral Monday afternoon, October 21, at 2 o'clock at First Presbyterian Church, Troy.

SHAW.—Charles Mussey Shaw, beloved son of John M. and Nellie Mussey Shaw, in the 16th year of his age.
Funeral services at the residence of his parents, 667 Madison av., on Sunday, at 2:30 P. M.

WILLIAMS.—At Jersey City, Saturday, October 19, Thomas H. Williams.
Funeral services at his late residence, 574 Bergen av., Monday, October 21, at 2 P. M. Interment private.