WILLIAM WATSON ADMITS IT

MEANT NOT ONLY ONE, BUT TWO ASQUITHS IN HIS POEM,

And Tea and Conversation Don't Make That Hospitality Which Is Inviolate—In Fact, He Thinks the Breach of Hospitality Was on the Asquith Side.

Well, "the woman with the serpent's tooth—no, tongue," has been identified. William Watson says so, and as William—he her, that is to say, he wrote the poem, he ought to know. In a signed statement, published yesterday morning in one of the newspapers, Poet Watson said the lady was composite photograph of Mrs. Asquith, wife of the Premier of the British Empire, and Miss Violet Asquith, her stepdaughter, the physical attributes being those of Mrs. Asquith, and the mental those of her daughter. It is up to the public now to determine whether a tongue is physical or mental.

This is the poem, "The Woman With the Serpent's Tongue," which, copyrighted by the John Lane Company, is reprinted by permission of the author, who holds the copyright:

She is not old, she is not young,
The Woman with the Serpent's Tongue,
The haggard cheek, the hungering eye,
The poisoned words that wildly fly,
The famished face, the fevered hand—
Who slights the worthiest in the land,
Sneers at the just, contemns the brave,
And blackens goodness in its grave.

In truthful numbers be she sung,
The Woman with the Serpent's Tongue;
Concerning whom, Fame hints at things
Told but in shrugs and whisperings;
Ambitious from her natal hour,
And scheming all her life for power;
With little left of seemly pride;
With venomed fangs she cannot hide;
Who half makes love to you to-day,
To-morrow gives her guest away.
Burnt up within by that strange soul
She cannot slake, or yet control;
Malignant flpp'd, unkind, unsweet;
Past all example indiscreet;
Hectic, and always overstrung—
The Woman with the Serpent's Tongue.

To think that such as she can mar
Names that among the noblest are!
That hands like hers can touch the springs
That move who knows what men and things?
That on *her* will *their* fates have hung!—
The Woman with the Serpent's Tongue.

Now when Mr. Watson arrived here the day before yesterday morning and the reporters of the New York papers met him down the bay he made what seemed to some a vigorous denial that the woman in the case was Mrs. Asquith. He did not say so in so many words, but he pooh-poohed the idea, and when an Englishman of education says "Pooh-pooh!" the innocent American reporter may be easily misled.

Consequently when in one morning paper yesterday appeared a signed statement with Mr. Watson's name at the tail of it declaring that the woman in the poem was not only Mrs. Asquith, but her daughter as well, those simple reporters felt that they had been completely taken in. This is the story, otherwise the "statement," in the poet's own words:

"The Woman with the Serpent's Tongue" is a composite photograph of Mrs. Asquith and her stepdaughter Violet. The poem is a portrait of the physical characteristics of Mrs. Asquith and the mentality of Violet Asquith. The latter is the voice of the family and rules them all. Violet is the real official voice speaking with authority. She it is

"Who slights the worthiest in the land,
Sneers at the just, contemns the brave,
And blackens goodness in its grave."
WILLIAM WATSON.

But this was not all. Mr. Watson showed he had gone into the reporting business himself, for below the "statement" was what purported to be a faithful record of what happened (in the poet's own words) on a day in June, that rare occasion which some other poet has apostrophized, when in response to an invitation from Miss Asquith, Mr. Watson showed up at the residence of the Premier in Downing street. Mr. Watson records a fact that shocks all the English proprieties. Mrs. Asquith was apparently not there. There was no chaperon. The daughter of the house took the poet "downstairs to a sort of a little library of her own, looking on the garden," and gave him—what do you suppose? Tea, ladies and gentlemen—tea and conversation mixed—about an hour of the latter. No mention is made in the report of even an offer of Scotch—and, or even the plebeian arf-and-arf. Tea and conversation—that is all.

A man crossed the garden, and Miss Asquith identified him as Mr. Nash, one of her father's secretaries. "That is the man who used to write C. B.'s speeches for him." (C. B. was the familiar designation of the late Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, who preceded Mr. Asquith as Prime Minister.)

"Yes," said Miss Asquith in response to a look of surprise that chased across the poet's features, "and you know he appeared to think that after my father became Prime Minister the same sort of services would be expected of him." (A few asterisks here, simply to denote matter omitted for lack of space.) "Shortly after my father became Prime Minister he was going down to Scotland and Nash was seeing him off at the station and just as the train was about to leave the platform Mr. Nash bowed in a very respectful manner and handed over to my father a little scroll of paper neatly tied up and said in rather a subdued manner, 'Perhaps this will be of some use to you.'"

Well, to make a long story shorter, the Premier was quite annoyed when some time later he opened the scroll and found that Nash had written a speech for him.

Just here Mr. Watson has let some links in the conversation escape him. But soon Miss Asquith came in with "Do you know, I have often wondered whether some of these phrases of C. B.'s that caught on so much, such as 'methods of barbarism' and that sort of nonsense, really came from C. B. or Nash." Mr. Watson here makes a comment on her remark, and then he records a statement he made. "You know," he said to her, "I rather expected that your father would make the Bishop of Hereford Archbishop of York." She said: "Yes; and I suppose the Bishop of Hereford thought so too; but don't you think that these things, Archbishoprics and so forth, are not got by trying to bring pressure to bear? They are not got by jobbery, you know."

Mr. Watson, the reporter, next mentions a story about Alfred Austin, cleverly put together by Miss Asquith, but containing "one quite demonstrable lie."

* * * Each of these three asterisks represents a paragraph in which the worthlessness of the poet laureateship was discussed and agreed upon by a *viva voce* vote.

After some time Mrs. Asquith appeared and conducted her daughter and the poet up to the drawing room. Mrs. Asquith, "who seemed to be in a highly tremulous state," talked to the visitor, with intervals of listening, until Mr. Watson pulled out his watch and found to his surprise that it was a quarter to 7. Then he took his departure.

Strolling along the inspiring ways that lead from Downing street to the Devonshire Clubthe poet improvised a quatrain whose title is almost as long as the verse: "To the Memory of the Late Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman." It runs:

This was an honest man, who spoke the truth,
The hated truth, whether men heard or no.
He stood for Honor, Justice, Courage, Truth;
He is gone—and they too go.

Oh, by the way, Miss Asquith had asked Mr. Watson to write some of his own poetry in her album, and he had written one, at the same time apologizing for being unable at the moment to recall anything unpublished. When he reached the club he at once sat down and wrote Miss Asquith enclosing the quatrain, adding that he would be glad to write this in her book, not expecting to hear from her, at the earliest, before the following morning. But bless you, it was hardly more than a couple of hours after sending what Mr. Watson thought was the most unforgivable insult he could fling at the Asquith family when he received a most cordial note from Mrs. Asquith herself in which she assured him of the "enormous pleasure it will give her Violet" to have him write in her album, and adding that she herself wanted Mr. Watson to copy his favorite lines on Wordsworth's grave on one piece of paper and on another some of Wordsworth's that had given the later poet pleasure. The letter is reproduced in Mr. Watson's report in full. "I will be infinitely grateful," adds Mrs. Asquith, who signs herself "Yours sincerely."

Mr. Watson was simply aghast. His insult had missed fire. He waited a full three days before replying. Then he launched at her, in answer to her request, a statement that Wordsworth presented an embarrassment of riches, but suggested writing "such a poem as his sonnet to Milton" or even other poems in which he touched upon political matters and uttered his contempt for timid political hedging and trimming and his admiration of the men:

Who never sold the truth to serve the hour
Or paltered with eternal God for power.

Mr. Watson also added a few well chosen lines about his forthcoming book.

"Now, strange to say, whether Mrs Asquith was too thick skinned to feel the power or point of this satire, Mr. Watson received "to my further amazement a perfectly friendly reply," also quoted, with which she sends her own autograph album containing selections by Gladstone, Meredith and other celebrities, and saying she would be content with Mr. Watson's verses on Wordsworth's grave. The poet did as requested "in my politest manner, as if nothing had occurred," and received this reply:

"I cannot thank you enough, my dear Mr. Watson. I love your lines. Yours,
"M. ASQUITH."

This was too much. "The Woman With the Serpent's Tongue" followed.

Mr. Watson and his wife stuck rather closely to their rooms at the Hotel Astor yesterday, but went out for an hour's stroll in the afternoon.

Mr. Watson rather deprecated the fact that some things were not explained to accompany his article, which he said was not written with the idea of its ever being published in the United States.

"I should not like to state anything offhand in connection with the article," he said. "I made a point of accuracy in writing it. One is apt to make a verbal slip, though my memory is famous among my friends.

"I notice that one or two evening papers make the charge that I have been guilty of a betrayal of confidence and a violation of the laws of hospitality. This is taking a pedantic view of things. When one simply partakes of a lady's tea the obligation of hospitality is not so binding when in this case the original betrayal was that of a household willing to talk about Asquith's predecessor; and I really do not think I am the person against whom an accusation can be most appropriately brought.

"I don't suppose many readers in America would at the moment remember that Campbell-Bannerman was not merely the predecessor of Asquith in office but the great chief of the Liberal party. The atrociousness of the manner in which Campbell-Bannerman was alluded to in Asquith's household was amazing, because Campbell-Bannerman was the leader of Asquith's own party, and Asquith had obtained through him the highest office Asquith had ever held before he became Premier, that of Chancellor of the Exchequer.

"The term 'predecessor in office' would rather suggest to the American public in general no idea of what the effect would be in England Perhaps it would be well to emphasize my own attitude toward certain political matters.

"Campbell-Bannerman was what was called in England a 'pro-Boer,' the most active pro-Boer in England. Harcourt was one until he died, and Morley was one and still is. I also, the humble person addressing you, was also a pro-Boer, the only poet in England who was such, so far as I know.

"Kipling, Austin and Swinburne and the late W.E. Henley denounced the Boer. I wrote whole volumes which I called 'For Empire' entirely in denunciation of the war. During that time, Asquith, Sir Edward Grey, Haldane, the present Minister for War, and Sir Henry Fowler, who is now Lord Wolverhampton, though all nominally Liberals, joined forces with the Tories in full support of the war and were as jingoistic as any Tory.

"The Asquiths, being a literary family, for they are all literary, knew perfectly well what had been my opinions, and therefore the way in which they spoke of C. B., their predecessor, was a case of insulting me over my well known opinions, which they knew because they had all of my works, indeed duplicate copies of some, for I have seen them in their house.

"The impression may have gone forth that the Asquith household were"—the grammar is Mr. Watson's—"only traducing the memory of a political opponent, which in no country would be considered a heinous crime, but they were really casting aspersions on the memory, not of a political opponent, but of the chief of their own party, into whose shoes Asquith stepped upon the owner's death. It was just exactly the same as if members of the Roosevelt family had flung innuendo and malicious reflections upon President McKinley after the latter's decease. It was an exact parallel.

"My opinion of the Asquiths is that they are only sham Liberals. During the war they stood up for the jingo side. They are among the sham Liberals who made the Boer war possible.

"I fancy I spoke rather slightingly of Nash in my report. I have every reason to believe that he is a very honorable, sterling gentleman. I have been told by leading Liberals to whom I gave the story referred to that the statement that Mr. Nash wrote Campbell-Bannerman's speech had no foundation in fact.

"What Mr. Nash did do was what all Parliamentary secretaries to Prime Ministers have done when his chief was going down into the country to deliver a big speech—he simply put before him a few points in their barest form for the Minister to bear in mind.

"There is absolutely nothing in any report that I have come over here for any advertising purpose," Mr. Watson said in answer to a question. "I am the least given to that sort of thing of any person in England. No, my publisher did not suggest my coming. He knew nothing about my intention until just before I started, and then he was against it.

Why, on account of my attitude during the Boer War the circulation of my books dropped to almost nothing, and I lost thousands of pounds," Mr. Watson continued.

"To return to Miss Asquith. She is by no means a young girl herself. Oh, dear, no. Why she's about 26. She is not like a young girl who might be said to have prattled on irresponsibly and rattle off anything of that sort. She is a most intelligent woman. Why, it is said her father himself has taken the greatest pains in her education. Miss Asquith certainly reflects the tone and sentiment of the Asquith family. Her sentences in talking are as well rounded and finished as those of the most talented parliamentary debater could be. I never heard a girl talk quite so cleverly."

"How does Mrs. Asquith come in?" asked the reporter.

"Well, Mrs. Asquith herself has not said to me anything that amounted to absolute calumnies on Asquith's predecessor, but I could not help feeling perfectly that she and her daughter stood together fully in matters of feeling and opinion. One reflected the other.

And that is why Mr. Watson gave them a double jointed "serpent's tongue."

LONDON, Dec. 4.—Only the faintest echoes of the Le Gallienne-Watson feud have reached the British public and it is not even published here that Mr. Watson admits that the identity of "The Woman With the Serpent's Tongue" lies in a composite photograph of Mrs. Asquith and her daughter. It cannot be expected that even Mrs. Asquith's friends will take the matter seriously when the subject is fully exploited. Least of all would the wife of the Prime Minister herself be likely to do so.

West Shore Conductor Drops Dead.

UTICA, Dec. 4.—Hugh S. Casler, 55 years old, a conductor employed on the West Shore Railroad and residing at Ravena, dropped dead in the station at Frankfort to-day, a victim of heart disease. Casler signed a report book and was walking toward his train when he toppled over.

IN SOCIETY.

There will be no letup in the whirl of social pleasures up to the Christmas holidays. The smart festivity of to-morrow night will be the dinner dance given by Mrs. F. Egerton Webb at Sherry's for her daughter, Miss Laura Virginia Webb. Mrs. Webb and Miss Webb recently returned from a brief European trip. Mrs. Henry R. Hoyt of 2 East Seventy-fifth street will give the first of two dances for her débutante daughter, Miss Elisabeth Hoyt, on Tuesday night. On Wednesday Mrs. James Gayley will give a dance at the Colony Club for the Misses Agnes Gayley and Florence Gayley. On next Friday night Mrs. Hamilton Fish Kean will give a dinner dance at 1030 Fifth avenue for Miss Catherine Livingston Hamersley. Also on Friday Mrs. George W. Forsyth will give a dance at Sherry's.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick W. Vanderbilt had in their last week end house party at their country place at Hyde Park on the Hudson Mr. and Mrs. J. Laurens Van Alen, the latter Mrs. Vanderbilt's niece, whose sister, Mrs. Thomas Howard, has a cottage on the estate. Mr. and Mrs. Reginald C. Vanderbilt have entertained at dinner at the Plaza during the week. Mrs. Elsie French Vanderbilt and her young son, William Henry Vanderbilt, were at the St. Regis for two or three days before leaving on Wednesday for England. Mrs. Vanderbilt, who has taken a house in London, contemplates returning in the spring, and during her absence will have much work done on her Newport establishment. Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt wore an effective black satin and jetted lace costume at the Metropolitan Opera House on Thursday night and was accompanied by her débutante daughter, Miss Margaret Rutherfurd.

Lady Coleridge, widow of the Lord Chief Justice, of England, accompanied by her sister, Miss Baring Lawford, is on a visit here for a few weeks. Her last stay here was fifteen years ago. Sir George Prescott of London during the week has been at the Hotel Belmont. Lady Evans, widow of Sir Francis Evans, is the guest here of Jocelyn Evans, 250 West Fifty-seventh street, with her daughter, Miss M. de Grasse Evans. It is several years since her last visit to this side and she will return to England in the middle of January. Lord Terence Browne is one of the titled Britishers here for the winter. He was over here last season. The Hon. Evelyn Fitzgerald is also in town from London. The Hon. Rachel Kay-Shuttleworth has been in town during the week with her sister, the Hon. Mrs. James, wife of the Military Attaché of the British Embassy, with whom she is passing the winter. Lady Alan Johnstone, who will shortly leave for Europe, came on yesterday from Washington with her mother and brother, Mrs. James W. Pinchot and Gifford Pinchot.

The wedding of Miss Lydia R. Hartshorne and Charles S. Deshler will take place at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Richard R. Hartshorne, 9 West Fifty-first street, on next Thursday, December 9. The Rev. Dr. Ernest M. Stires, rector of St. Thomas's Church, will perform the ceremony and there will be no bridesmaids. Tracy Hyde Hasrris will assist Mr. Deshler as best man.

The marriage of Miss Ada H. Brown and Andrew L. Gardiner will take place on Wednesday, December 8, in St. Stephen's Protestant Episcopal Church. There will be no bridesmaids and Mrs. Le Roy Brewster will attend as matron of honor. The Messrs. Alfred P. Gardiner, James D. Gardiner, Le Roy Brewster, Arthur S. Leland and Drs. Lewis G. Langstaff and Robert S. Adams will be ushers and Dr. William Gardiner will assist his brother as best man. Mr. Gardiner and his bride contemplate leaving for Egypt in February and making a tour of the world. Mr. Gardiner is a brother of the late Charles A. Gardiner, who was his partner in the law firm.

Princess de Blankenburg arrived early in the week with her son, who is to finish his education on this side. They are staying at the Park Avenue Hotel. Count and Countess Lionel de Montesquiou-Fezensac, the latter a daughter of Mrs. Henry Wisner Miller of New Brighton, Staten Island, returned during the week from a five months European honeymoon trip and will remain for three months on this side. Count de Beaufort has been at the Hotel Knickerbocker during the week.

Miss Leila Haven, who was introduced by her mother, Mrs. George Griswold Haven, Jr., at a tea on Thursday afternoon, will have a dance given for her by Mrs. Haven on Friday night, December 17, at Sherry's. Miss Eleanor Burrill, who was the partner of Stowe Phelps, who led at the Junior Cotillion on Tuesday night, made her social début at a tea given by her mother, Mrs. Edward Livingston Burrill, on Wednesday afternoon. She will have a dance given for her on next Friday night, December 10, at Sherry's, by Mrs. George W. Forsyth. Alexander M. Hadden will lead the cotillion at the dance to be given by Mrs. Woodruff G. Langdon at her home, 719 Fifth avenue, on the night of Friday week, December 17, for her débutante daughter, Miss Helen Montgomery Langdon, introduced at a tea she gave on Tuesday afternoon.

Invitations have been received for the wedding on Tuesday of Miss Laura Wells and Lieut. Julian Wilcox, U. S. M. C., at Wash ington D. C. Also for that of Miss Jane Bieshaw Pedlar, daughter of Mrs. Thomas Pedlar, formerly of San Francisco, and Edward Carleton Baker, United States Consul in Antung, China, to take place also at Washington on next Saturday, December 11, in the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. The couple are to go at once to China.

John Ridgely Carter, who has been Secretary of the American Embassy in London, and Mrs. Carter reached here yesterday on the Lusitania. They will remain over the holidays. Mr. and Mrs. S. Townsend Burden and their daughters, the Misses Gwendolyn Burden and Evelyn Burden, are home after a sojourn of several months in Europe. Mrs. Foxhall P. Keene is also again here and will pass the winter with her father, Frederick Newbold Lawrence, at 37 West Fifty-seventh street. Incidentally Mrs. Keene is now known as Mrs. M. Lawrence Keene, and her nieces the Misses Howland are with her and her father.

The marriage of Miss Evelyn Norton and C. Linn Seller, son of Dr. Carl Seller of Philadelphia, will take place on next Saturday, December 11, at the home of the bride's father, Edwin Norton, 156 Riverside Drive. The Rev. Dr. Remington of Philadelphia will perform the ceremony, and Miss Henrietta Norton will attend her sister as maid of honor. There will be no bridesmaids or ushers, and Everett Brown of Philadelphia will assist the bridegroom as best man.

The wedding of Miss Louise Taft and George H. Snowdon will take place at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Taft, 36 West Forty-eighth street, on Thursday, December 30. Only relatives and some friends of the couple will be present at the ceremony, which will be followed by a general reception. Mr. Snowdon and his bride will sail after a brief preliminary wedding trip on January 5 on the Cedric and will go to Egypt. They will settle on their return in Seattle, where Mr. Snowdon has been in the lumber business for some years. Miss Taft made her social début three seasons since. President Taft, her uncle, with Mrs. Taft and members of the family, will be present on the occasion. Six months hence there will be another wedding in the family, when Walbridge Taft, now at the Harvard law school, will be the bridegroom and Miss Ethel Herrick, daughter of Mrs. Frederick Herrick of Paris, the bride.

William Phillips, now First Secretary of the American Embassy at London, whose engagement to Miss Caroline Astor Drayton was announced just prior to his departure, left on Wednesday for the other side. The expectation is that he will return shortly on leave, when the wedding will be celebrated.

Mrs. Richard Irvin of 7 West Thirty-ninth street, who returned early in the week from her Thanksgiving visit with her mother, Mrs. Morris, in Baltimore, has still some seats and boxes to dispose of for the concert and theatricals to be given to-morrow afternoon in the new ballroom of the Hotel Astor in aid of the Loomis Sanatorium annex.

Mrs. Douglas Robinson, who left on Wednesday for Europe with her husband and son, Monroe D. Robinson, is in bad health. They will go to Italy in a few weeks and probably thence to Ceylon, China and Japan, returning by way of San Francisco. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Carnegie Phipps, who also left on that day, will return in April. They are going to Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, England, for the hunting season, and Mrs. Phipps and her twin sister, Lady Granard, will pass some time together. Mrs. George Cavendish Bentinck, aunt of Mrs. Phipps and Lady Granard, who was left a widow in London a few months ago and who has been here for several weeks with her mother and twin sister, Mrs. Maturin Livingston and Mrs. Ogden Mills, also departed for her home on Wednesday.

Mrs. Joseph S. Auerbach of 11 West Tenth street gave a luncheon on Monday for Miss Laura Livingston, débutante, daughter of Mrs. Robert R. Livingston. On Wednesday Mrs. Allen Fitch of 38 West Fifty-sixth street gave a luncheon for the American Ambassador to Germany and Mrs. Hill.

The marriage of Miss Caroline de Billier, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick de Billier of New York, and the Hon. Victor Gibson will take place on next Wednesday, December 8, in St. Peter's Church, London. The bridegroom is the fourth son of Lord Ashbourne and served with the Imperial Yeomanry in the South African campaign of 1900. He is a barrister at law.

Lord and Lady Greville, formerly Mrs. Henry Kerr of New York, will entertain considerably during the London seasons. Just ten days or so ago the wedding of the couple was cabled from England, and meanwhile the bridegroom has unexpectedly come into possession of the family title and estate. The widow of the elder brother, Ronald Greville, who left no heir, is now here.

The first of the Saturday night dances took place last evening at Delmonico's. The cotillion was led by Alexander M. Hadden, and following the dancing a supper was served at midnight, the guests being seated at small tables. Among the patronesses who received were Mrs. Charles R. Huntington, Mrs. Charles E. Sands, Mrs. Sackett Moore Barclay, Mrs. E. Morgan Grinnell, Mrs. F. Tilden Brown and Mrs. Lindsley Tappin.

WOMEN TEACHERS REJOICE.

They're Confident That Any New Charter Will Have an Equal Pay Provision.

Women teachers met at Normal College, Sixty-eighth street and Park avenue, yesterday and rejoiced. They have made up their minds that the legislative committee which has been hearing arguments for and against the proposed new City Charter will embody in its report a provision for equal pay to women teachers for equal work. The committee has not as yet handed in any report, but the teachers are sure that the members of the committee will be in their favor, for Assemblyman Murphy of Brooklyn told Miss Grace C. Strachan that the women teachers are a very intelligent lot. Miss Strachan, who presided, said that she was down to speak at the last hearing of the committee, which was held two weeks ago, before any of the men, but she wouldn't stand that, as they put her down as the last speaker.

A woman who refused to give her name arose at this point and asked if it wouldn't be a good plan to appoint a committee to sympathize with the striking waist makers. Miss Strachan said that it certainly would not, so that there was an end to that.

It was then decided to hold a mass meeting at Carnegie Hall on December 17 and get citizens to say that they wanted equal pay for equal work.

"We are tired of working all by ourselves," said one teacher yesterday, "so we are going to put this great question up to the people and let them decide whether or not we are entitled to equal pay."

Sanchez to Be Extradited.

ALBANY, Dec. 4.— Gov. Hughes to-day authorized the extradition to Savannah, Ga., of Juan E. Sanchez, who is under arrest in Buffalo charged with "cheating and swindling." The Savannah authorities contend that by representing himself as an heir to an ancient estate in Spain he borrowed money on his prospects and an investigation showed that the estate did not exist.

SHE FOUGHT IN 1812.

The Ancient Privateer Polly Changes Owners—D. A. R. Gets Her.

ROCKLAND, Me., Dec. 4.—The two masted schooner Polly, said to be the oldest craft in the world in active commission, famous as a privateer in the War of 1812, has changed owners again. J. H. Weldon of Dighton, Mass., has bought her for $1,000 from Capt. Walter V. Spencer of Rockland.

Since the Massachusetts society, Daughters of the American Revolution, has been negotiating for her purchase it is believed that Mr. Weldon may intend to turn the Polly over to it. For any purpose the Polly is still seaworthy. She has been partly rebuilt several times, but her frame still contains many of the timbers laid down in her original construction at Amesbury, Mass., in 1805.

In the War of 1812 the Polly captured eleven prizes, only to be captured herself by the frigate Phœbe. She was afterward recaptured by the Yankees. In 1840 she became a coaster. In 1849 and succeeding years the little sixty foot craft rounded Cape Horn several times, and twice sailed around the world. Since that time she has plied the main coast in humdrum service.

PHILADELPHIA GAS MELON.

$5,045,000 in Profits to Go to the Shareholders as New Capital Stock.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 4.—The United Gas Improvement Company management unexpectedly took action to-day by which about one-quarter of the big accumulation of undivided profits will be capitalized and handed to the shareholders in the shape of $5,045,600 of new stock, which, at current prices, will be worth to the more than 6,000 recipients something like $8,500,000.

The effect of this stock dividend, which is to be 10 per cent. on the present capital of $50,456,150, will be also to increase the present annual dividend distribution by the company to its stockholders by over $400,000, or to $4,440,141 a year. It will bring the outstanding capital stock of the United Gas Improvement Company up to $55,501,750.

Before the distribution can be made the shareholders must make it possible by authorizing an increase in the present capital stock of the company by the amount necessary to cover the new stock to be given to them. For this purpose a special stockholders' meeting will be held in February.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

When Rubbers Become Necessary

and your shoes pinch, shake into your shoes Allen's Foot-Ease, the antiseptic powder for the feet. It cures painful, swollen, smarting, sweating feet, and takes the sting out of corns and bunions. Just the thing for patent leather shoes, dancing parties and for Breaking in New shoes. Many people cannot wear heavy stockings comfortably without shaking Allen's Foot-Ease into the shoes. Sold everywhere, 25c. Sample FREE. Address, Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y. *Don't accept any substitute.*

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Mahogany Tea Tables
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These and other appropriate and lasting remembrances will be found here in unusually comprehensive assortments. The tea table illustrated here is made of rich dark mahogany, finished with delicate lines of inlaying and removable glass tray. This is but one design of the many that we show.

Schmitt Brothers,
Furniture Makers. Established 1886. **40 East 23d.**
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The purity and excellence of our candies has received decided approval of **ladies** everywhere who are naturally the best judges of fine confectionery.

You can sample and test Park & Tilford's confectionery at any of our stores.

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HOLIDAY GIFTS
OF PERMANENT VALUE

To those seeking to combine art and utility in Christmas remembrances, however modest or pretentious, our Holiday Exhibit offers a ready solution to the all-absorbing question "Where to find the right gift at the right price?"

With the selection of Holiday Gifts bearing the Flint Trademark comes that sense of satisfaction attending an investment well made and the giving of something of permanent value.

Early selections will be held for specified delivery dates.

GEO. C. FLINT CO.
46-47 WEST 23RD ST. | 24-26 WEST 24TH ST.

Lord & Taylor

Monday, December 6th

Wrapper Dept.

House Gowns
In Albatross, Lingerie collar, lace trimmed..$9.75
In Fleecedown Flannel, satin trimmed...$2.95

Eiderdown Wrappers
satin bound
at $3.45, $4.95

Japanese Wadded Wrappers
at $10.50

Kimonos
In Rajah Silk, albatross lined.....$8.75
In Fancy Silk, albatross lined...$6.95, $7.95
In Fancy Crêpe.....$1.95, $2.75
In Fleecedown Flannel...$1.95, $2.75, $2.95
In Albatross.....$3.95

Dressing Sacques
In Outing Flannel.....75c., 98c., $1.25
In Eiderdown.....98c
In Albatross, Dresden ribbon trimmed...$2.95

Imported Albatross Sacques
embroidered.....$3.45

Silk Petticoat Dept.

One Lot of
Wool and Silk Jersey Top Petticoats
with silk flouncings
from $4.95 to $7.95
(exceptional values)

Black and Colored Taffeta Petticoats
(best quality)
at $5.95, $6.75, $7.95, $8.75

One Lot of
Chiffon Taffeta Petticoats
(Black only) at $5.00

A Manufacturer's Sample Line of Fancy Silk Petticoats
from $8.75 to $10.75
values up to $25.00

Apron Dept.

A Large Assortment of
Maids' and Nurses' Aprons
for the Holidays
Special Values for Monday
at 38c., 50c., 65c., 85c., 98c., $1.25

Maids' House-Dresses
in a large variety of styles.

Special for Monday
In Percale.....98c., $1.25, $1.75
In Black Mohair.....$3.95

Wash Waist Dept.

A Large Assortment of Waists
in Batiste and Marquisette, both Imported and Domestic. Also Tailored Linen and Madras.

Special for Monday
In Batiste, lace trimmed
at $2.50, $2.95, $3.95

Imported Hand-Embroidered Waists
at $6.95

Tailored Linen Waists
at $1.95 & $2.45

Broadway & 20th St.; 5th Ave.; 19th St.

NO EXTRA CHARGE FOR IT

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