THE GIRDLE ROUND THE EARTH.

Map Showing the Course of the Great Russo-American Telegraph Line.

TELEGRAPH.

The Chord That Unites Two Hemispheres.

"THE RUSSIAN EXTENSION."

ASIATIC EXPLORATIONS.

A JOURNEY THROUGH KAMTSCHATKA.

ROUTE ALONG THE OCHOTSK SEA.

Winter Travel with Dogs and Reindeer.

PROGRESS OF THE GREAT WORK.

&c. &c. &c.

OUR KAMTSCHATKA CORRESPONDENCE.

PETROPAULOVSKI, Kamtschatka, Aug. 1, 1866.

The Western Union Telegraph Company's steamer Wright arrived here on the 25th of July, thirty days from San Francisco. We made the coast of Kamtschatka on the evening of the 24th, with a clear sunset, but too late to enter Avatcha Bay until the following morning. The passage across the Pacific was accomplished with continuous light winds that compelled the ship to go under steam the larger portion of the journey. For nearly twenty-five hundred miles the fogs were continuous and heavy, and the first clear sunset for three weeks was on the evening before our arrival.

In port was the Russian corvette Varlag, which had been ordered here to await the arrival of Colonel Bulkley to proceed in the service of the telegraph company wherever it might be desirable. There was also the Russian coast schooner Poorga, loading for the coast of Kamtschatka, and the Prussian brig Danzig, formerly the American brig Ida. The schooner Allie Jackson, belonging to William H. Boardman & Co., of Boston, arrived on the 28th, from Ghijiga, consigned to the agents of Boardman & Co. The Telegraph Company's bark Clara Bell arrived on the 8th of July, from San Francisco, by way of the Sandwich Islands, having been compelled to seek the latter point for repairs. She left Petropaulovski on the 19th for Ghijiga, on the Ochotsk Sea. The Allie Jackson was twenty-eight days on her passage from Ghijiga, having experienced light winds and calms while passing down the Ochotsk Sea to the Koorile Islands.

Immediately on the arrival of the Wright the Governor of Kamtschatka, who resides at Petropaulovski, sent to Colonel Bulkley despatches from Major Abasa, Chief of the Asiatic Division of the Russian-American Telegraph. These despatches were brought from Ghijiga by a Cossack in the service of Major Abasa, and have been awaiting the arrival of the Engineer-in-Chief. Major Abasa has established his headquarters for the present at Ghijiga, at the head of the Ochotsk Sea, and will probably make it one of the stations of the telegraph line when completed.

The report furnished by Major Abasa of the progress of the Asiatic division of the route is very encouraging. The whole route, from Behring Straits to the terminus of the line at Nikolaefsky, has been explored and the position of the telegraph located through the larger portion of it. Many of the difficulties that were supposed to exist have entirely disappeared and others are greatly diminished. Timber has been cut on a part of the line and other preparatory works begun. The officers have every confidence that the line can be constructed within the years with proper energy on the part of the constructors and a prompt co-operation by all others interested in its success.

On arrival at Petropaulovski last year Major Abasa divided the Asiatic explorations into three parts, placing the from the Anadyr to Ghijiga under Captain Macrae and the one from Nikolaefsky to Ochotsk under Captain Mahod, while that from Ghijiga to Ochotsk he undertook to superintend in person. To proceed from Petropaulovski to the scene of his operations two routes were open—one by water around through the Ochotsk sea and the other by land up the peninsula of Kamtschatka to Northeastern Siberia and the head of Penjinsk Gulf. Thinking it well to explore the peninsula, about which comparatively little is known, and thus learn its resources in case it might be necessary to make use of it hereafter as a telegraph route, he decided to go by land to Penjinsk and Ghijiga.

Major Abasa left Petropaulovski on the 25th of August, and followed along the eastern coast of the peninsula as far as the village of Sherom, on the Kamtschatka river, where the stream begins to be navigable. The road along this route was over mountains and along plains of moss. There were occasional stretches of poplar and birch forests, but very little timber suitable for telegraph purposes. It is a peculiarity of Kamtschatka that the southern end of the peninsula has no wood whatever, and that as one travels north he first encounters low timber, and that the forests become thicker and the trees taller the further he proceeds toward the north pole. The Kamtschatka river rises in the interior and flows north for a considerable distance, when it turns to the east and reaches the sea at the town of New Kamtschatka. The river is quite crooked, and while wide and navigable in some places in others it becomes narrow and broken and sometimes shallows to this only the merest trickle of ice water, and these only with difficulty. Its banks are covered with a dense growth of birch and poplar, with a thick underbrush, that renders summer travel in the forest next to impossible. In our place on the river, Major Abasa found a small forest of tall, straight fir trees, just large enough for telegraph poles, of which it could furnish a considerable number.

From Sherom to Klutchi the route lay along the river to the mouth of Elovka river, one of the tributaries of the Kamtschatka, where timber is sometimes cut and rafted down to Nijne Kamtschatka, whence it is shipped to Petropaulovski. From Klutchi the exploring party turned westward, to cross the mountains to Tigil, on the river of that name, a distance of two hundred versts (a verst is two-thirds of a mile). The weather was bad and the roads steep and muddy, sometimes over rocks and again along swamps, where it was difficult to travel. Major Abasa was accompanied by Messrs. George Kennon and J. Dodd, with a few natives as assistants. The natives endured the fatigue very well, but the other members of the party found it fatiguing in the extreme. The pack horses fell frequently in the streams and swamps, and all the supplies and baggage of the party were wet through. The weather was very bad on the mountains, snowing and raining much of the time, and when the party arrived at Tigil, on the western side of Kamtschatka, it took several days to recover from the fatigue of the journey. The distance from Petropaulovski—a distance of about twelve hundred versts—over miserable roads and in bad weather, was accomplished in seventeen days—a rate of travel considered extraordinarily rapid by the inhabitants.

From Tigil Major Abasa wrote to the Ispravnik (Governor) of Ghijiga, informing him that the party was on the way to that place, and making every exertion to reach it, and asking him to notify the inhabitants of his district to be ready to lend any needed assistance in case of distress. He also informed him that a party had been landed at the mouth of the Anadyr river, with the intention of proceeding to Anadyrsk, and thence to Ghijiga. The letter was sent by express from Tigil to the last Kamtschadale village (Sessnoi), three hundred and fifty versts north of Tigil, and from there taken by the Koriak tribes and sent from one to the other till it reached Ghijiga. Major Abasa had sent word to the Koriaks that he would "remember" on his passage through their territory any who had taken the trouble to forward his message, and was gratified to learn that they had acted very promptly. Immediately on the arrival of the letter at Ghijiga the Ispravnik issued the necessary orders to the sub-officials through his district, and sent an express to Anadyrsk to have everything made ready for the arrival of the exploring party that was landed at Anadyr bay.

From Tigil to Sessnoi the party travelled by land along the coast of Kamtschatka, crossing many ranges of hills that push out from the mountains a few miles from the sea, and being obliged to pass many streams that flow between these hills to the sea. Near Sessnoi the mountains almost touch the coast, and for the last twenty-five versts the route was unusually difficult, while the balance of the way bore little resemblance to a route through a civilized country. Beyond Sessnoi, Major Abasa learned it would be difficult to pass with pack horses, the high hills north of that place being already covered with deep snow. This bad road was expected to last up to Bodkaguernaya, a distance of two hundred and fifty versts, beyond which there were wide plains with but little snow.

Before leaving Tigil, Major Abasa procured a whale boat and a "baydara," large seal skin boat to use in transporting his supplies by sea from Sessnoi to Bodkaguernaya, while a part of the exploring party would proceed by land. Having loaded his two boats, Major Abasa took command of the whale boat, and assigned the baydara to Mr. Dodd. Mr. Kennon with the horses and natives was to attempt the road over the mountains. Regular points were arranged for exchanging signals, and for reaching the beach in case either party needed the assistance of the other. This plan was found impossible to be carried out, the sea becoming too rough for the boats, so that they were obliged to land after proceeding about twenty-five miles, and the land party under Kennon, finding it impossible to go over the rough mountains through the freshly fallen though deep snow, the whole party returned to Sessnoi to await the formation of the winter road and to proceed by that means on their way. In consequence of his fatigue and anxiety, Major Abasa was taken ill at Sessnoi, but, happily, soon recovered.

Mr. Dodd was sent back along the road to Tigil to procure teams of dogs as the horses were useless for the winter travel. Mr. Kennon remained in Sessnoi with Major Abasa to assist in superintending the construction of sleighs, and to make other preparations for the journey, and to study the Russian language with a view to facilitate his explorations in Eastern Asia. Mr. Dodd went as far as Tigil in his search for dogs, those animals having been quite scarce for several years in Ochotsk and Northern Kamtschatka in consequence of an epidemic disease which has carried off many of them. It was easier to hire than to buy, the Kamchadales being unwilling to part with their teams. Major Abasa frequently found the Kamchadales refusing 200 roubles for a team of ten dogs.

While in Sessnoi Major Abasa had some very interesting interviews with chiefs of the Koriak and Tchuchti tribes. It was the period of their annual migration southward, when they go to hunt the sable on the plains and in the mountains of Kamtschatka. In January they gather around Tigil to exchange their furs for tea, sugar, coffee, powder, lead, &c. Bad weather detained them in Sessnoi, and by a judicious distribution of presents they succeeded in making them communicative. They advised him in proceeding from Sessnoi not to follow the seacoast, but to incline to the eastward and pass through a country comparatively little known to the whites. Everything being ready the party left Sessnoi on the 30th of October, passing over the mountains and finding a very bad road. Four days later they reached Bodkaguernaya, having found the temperature at night from forty to forty-five degrees below zero. North of Bodkaguernaya the mountains gradually diminish, and the country is cut up into plains covered with moss and ridges, on which there is a growth of low bushes that sometimes attain to the dignity of small trees. Viewed from an elevation the whole region has a very desolate appearance. The country is inhabited by the Koriaks, some of the tribes wandering from place to place, as their fancy strikes them, and the others remaining in a fixed locality. The wandering Koriaks are kind, hospitable and peaceable, but the settled Koriaks are the reverse. A stronger and more efficacious representation of the Russian government is needed among them. The Koriak country and the Ghijiga and Anadyr districts are all supposed to be under the direction of the Ispravnik, at Ghijiga, who has only twenty-five Cossacks under him, and neither time nor ability to visit a hundredth part of his immense territory.

Major Abasa exchanged his dogs for reindeer at the first Koriak camp, a hundred versts from Bodkaguernaya, and travelled with the latter animals to Kammenoi, where the party arrived on the 16th of November. The Major wished to go to Anadyrsk from this place but the natives refused to go there; they were willing to go to Ghijiga, and in fact had received orders from the Ispravnik to go there if the party desired it. The Russian officers were at Kammenoi, on their way to the coast of Behring Sea and the Koriaks were anxious to accompany them, but were ordered not to do so until after Major Abasa had proceeded on his way. Nothing had been heard from Macrae's party, and as people had come from Anadyrsk with empty sleighs, it was certain that the exploring expedition was not there when they left. Disappointed in his efforts to induce the natives to take him to Anadyrsk, the Major preferred to go to Ghijiga, but first desired to explore the streams flowing into Penjinsk Gulf. He sent Kennon and Dodd to Ghijiga with orders to prepare to go to Anadyrsk, and made the proposed exploration in person. He found these streams very favorable, with good timber on their banks, and located the line for four hundred versts along the Penjinsk river. He then proceeded to Ghijiga, where he found Kennon and Dodd preparing for their northward journey. The Ispravnik rendered them every assistance in his power, giving them an escort of five Cossacks, who proved afterwards of the greatest service. He gave Mr. Kennon a letter to the Starost (mayor) of Anadyrsk, ordering that individual to be entirely at the disposal of the telegraph service and give them all possible assistance. Having purchased such stores as could be found in Ghijiga, Kennon and Dodd started on their journey.

Soon after the departure of these gentlemen Major Abasa left Ghijiga on the road to Ochotsk and Ayan, this being the portion of the proposed telegraph route that he was to survey in person. The journey from Petropaulovski to Ghijiga was undertaken to obtain a knowledge of a country that might hereafter be useful, but not with any present design of making a telegraph line through its limits. The information hereby gained was valuable, though procured at the expense of great fatigue on the part of the explorers. This journey through the peninsula of Kamtschatka and around the head of Penjinsk Gulf was accomplished with greater hardships than any other expedition undertaken by Major Abasa.

In winter the intercourse between Ghijiga and Ochotsk is quite limited. The yearly mail and a dozen of sleighs with goods for some traders are the only passengers over this distance, and there is, consequently, no regular road, travellers following no track, but going in certain directions guided by the positions of the mountain streams and forests. Sometimes snow storms and fogs conceal the signs which guide the traveller and force him to remain stationary for days or even weeks at a time. No means have been taken by the inhabitants to render the road practicable. They themselves know very little of the country when forty or fifty miles from their homes. The settled population of the few villages along the coast consists of a mixture of Russians, Koriaks and Yakuties. There is a floating population known as Tungusi, who wander through the mountain and forest regions from Kalyma nearly down to the Amoor. These tribes never use sleighs, but perform their migrations on the backs of reindeer, of which they have not a very large number, barely sufficient for their necessities. The Koriaks are much more wealthy, some of them owning from one to two thousand deer, a very comfortable fortune, but nothing of the kind is known among the Tungusi, except in two or three instances.

The Tungusi have heretofore been unwilling to let the Russians know the best routes through their country, and have maintained secret paths of their own. Major Abasa did not find them badly disposed toward the telegraph enterprise, but fearful that it might impair the value of their hunting grounds. He succeeded in establishing friendly relations with them and convinced them that the damage in that respect would be more than made good by the supplies they would be enabled to obtain by the establishing of the company's forts among them. Their indolence and carelessness will operate only in a negative manner in preventing them from being actively useful in building the line.

On the 22d of February, Captain Mahood, with Lieutenant Bush, arrived in Ochotsk from Nicolaefski, at the mouth of the Amoor river. Captain Mahood reached Nicolaefski in 17 days from Petropaulovski last year, and commenced preparations for his journey immediately on his arrival. Governor Fulyhelm, the new commander of the sea coast provinces of Siberia, gave him every assistance in his power, and procured him some information about the country. Governor Fulyhelm had once travelled from Argan to Nicolaefski on the backs of reindeer, but not by a very direct route, as he kept a considerable distance inland. On consulting the maps, Captain Mahood thought a more direct line could be followed and found to be feasible. He found in Nicolaefski a gentleman who had a fishing establishment on the coast, near Ayan, who had travelled several times over the route. With the information thus obtained, Captain Mahood made his preparations accordingly. Governor Fulyhelm and other gentlemen furnished him with several maps of the sea coast and interior country, some of which proved of great value.

Governor Fuleyhelm sent to the Tungusi a hundred versts to the northward to procure reindeer for Captain Mahood's expedition. These were ordered to Orelle Lake, north of the Amoor, and to this point the party proceeded, when all preparations were completed. After some little difficulty they found the Tungusi, who were waiting them with twenty deer. After a little delay in arranging the loads the expedition started, each of the men riding a deer, while twelve of the animals were required to carry the baggage and provisions. The saddle for a reindeer is placed on the animal's withers, the back not being strong enough to sustain the weight of a man. The saddle is a mere pad, and has no stirrups, so that it requires constant care to retain one's balance, a novice in this kind of travelling being sure to get many tumbles before he learns to manage his new beast of burden. The deer is guided by a halter and a single line. One is required to exercise considerable dexterity to mount one of these reindeer without the assistance of stirrups. A staff is always used to assist one in mounting. The pack saddle is placed on the shoulders of the animal, and carries a load of from seventy-five to a hundred pounds. A Tungusi rides one deer and leads a pack train of four to a dozen animals, the halter of each deer being fastened to the neck of the one that precedes him.

Between the Amoor and Ochotsk there is not, nor has there ever been, any kind of road, but the guides and travellers follow whatever route they think proper, always keeping their general course in view. The reindeer go through forests, over hills and along wide stretches of barren land. The rivers are forded where shallow, and when too deep for this rafts are built for men and baggage, while the deer are forced to swim over. In winter the ice offers a secure foothold, and from this reason travelling is much better in the cold season than in summer. Reindeer food grows on all parts of the route, so that in any season it is only necessary to turn them out at night, and they will be found well fed in the morning. All along the coast the rivers are numerous, though not large, and though causing delay to travellers, will be found useful in transporting material and supplies, as many of them are navigable for flatboats from ten to forty versts from their mouths.

Captain Mahood's journal makes frequent mention of crossing rivers, winding over mountains and through forests, and traversing stretches of barren land. Several times he was delayed by inability to procure a sufficient number of deer for his purposes, some having given out, and the term for which others were employed having expired. Sometimes guides were lacking, and it was necessary to send a considerable distance for them.

At Ayan it was found that the Russian American company which formerly maintained a post there had departed, having given up all business on this coast. The agent of the company still remained with a single clerk, both of whom, with the officials, were ready to lend all assistance. The latter sent at once to the "starost" of Neikan, ordering him to have deer and men ready to assist the party on its way to Ochotsk. On the 6th of February a party started for Ochotsk, following a somewhat circuitous route, in order to avoid some of the high mountains that skirt the coast. This range, known as the Janovoi, comes close down to the water's edge, and renders it impossible to adhere to the coast route. The Tungusi guides took the party through a route very favorable to the construction of the telegraph. In some places there were heavy growths of timber, while in others it was very sparse, with an occasional stretch of land that has been burned over. In some of the places where the mountains are to be crossed, timber was scarce or entirely absent, so that it will be necessary to bring the poles from the valleys, but on most of the route there is enough for building purposes, with the necessity for carrying it but a short distance. Further explorations will, no doubt, develop points where the route can be improved, as the present journey has been somewhat rapid, and followed the directions indicated by the guides. Though a survey for the telegraph purposes, it was by no means a thorough examination of the country.

In the Anadyr district Captain Macrae and party were landed at the mouth of the Anadyr river by Colonel Bulkly, and prepared, as much as possible, for their journey. There is no permanent settlement of any kind at that point, so that the process of preparation was very difficult and slow. On the bay opposite the point where the party landed were two villages of Tchuchtis, which Captain Macrae visited, and found large herds of reindeer. The natives received him very kindly, but for want of an interpreter his communications with them were greatly restricted. The captain found one who claimed to be chief (named O-carg-carg), and with whom he commenced negotiations for reaching Anadyrsk, five or six hundred versts up the river. On examination of the country in the vicinity of the Anadyr river he found a place five miles above its mouth where there was a sufficiency of firewood, and there selected his camp and erected a building for a storehouse and winter quarters. The party consisted of Captain Macrae, with Lieutenants Arnold, Harder, Robinson and Smith. Part were to remain at the mouth of the river, while the others proceeded to Anadyrsk and Ghijiga. As the river would close early in the season, the land route was the only one available.

About the 1st of November there was sufficient snow for sledging. Captain Macrae hoped to set out soon after, and attempted to purchase reindeer for that purpose. The Tchuchtis have a superstition about selling live reindeer, though they have no hesitation about killing them and selling their carcasses. Captain Macrae was unable to purchase deer for his transportation, but finally negotiated with "O-carg-carg" for transportation to Anadyrsk, by way of the Tchuchti villages south of Anadyr Bay. After some delay this personage took Captain Macrae and Lieutenant Arnold to the "Great Deer Chief," who invited these gentlemen to join the Tchuchtis in a winter excursion to Anadyrsk. As there was no other way to make the journey, they accepted the proposition, and after some delay moved away. The progress was slow, about eight miles a day, the Tchuchtis having no particular appreciation of time and not understanding how any one can ever be in a hurry. The journey occupied forty-two days, in addition to twenty-two consumed in reaching the Deer Chief's camp, making sixty-four days that Captain Macrae and Lieutenant Arnold passed among the Tchuchtis. They were kindly treated, though the accommodations were not of the finest character, and the *cuisine* was not suited to civilized tastes. Added to the slow mode of travelling, the route was very circuitous, and thus extended the journey further than it would otherwise have been.

There are two villages, about twenty versts apart, both known by the name of Anadyrsk, the former being designated as the "Crepast" (fortress) and the other, farther up the river, the "Markova." When Captain Macrae reached the Markova he found there the other members of his party, who had been brought up from the mouth of the river by the direct route. From there Captain Macrae and Lieutenant Arnold proceeded to Ghijiga. Above the Markova the Anadyr is well wooded, but below that point there is no timber that can be used for telegraph poles. The river is sufficiently large to be navigated by a small steamer, so that there will be no difficulty in rafting from the upper to the lower waters all the timber that may be required.

Lieutenant Kennon, it will be remembered left Ghijiga by order of Major Abasa soon after their arrival in that place from Petropaulovski. He proceeded direct to Anadyrsk, and on his arrival could learn nothing save some vague rumors concerning Captain Macrae and party. From Anadyrsk he followed the Anadyr river to its mouth, where he found Messrs. Robinson, Harder and Smith in camp. Macrae and Arnold were then absent among the Tchuchtis. No fears were entertained for their safety, though it was thought they might be a long time absent in their wanderings. It was decided to transfer the whole party, with their stores, to Anadyrsk, and there await the arrival of Captain Macrae.

Between Anadyrsk and Ghijiga Lieutenant Kennon ascertained the existence of a branch of the Anadyr known as the Myan. On making an exploration he found that the Myan rose in the mountains to the south, near the head of the Penjinsk river, from which it was separated by a single ridge of land. Along its banks, for nearly its whole extent, there is a belt of timber of the proper size for telegraph poles, and outside this belt is a stretch of open ground. Penjinsk river is somewhat like it in character, and as both streams are navigable for small boats there exists a continuous water communication (broken only at the dividing ridge) from the Okhotsk sea to the point where the cable will be landed on Anadyr Bay. As there is an abundance of timber either where needed or at points where it can be rafted, this portion of the route of the great telegraph can be easily constructed. The Myan seems heretofore to have been almost entirely unknown.

RESUME.

A brief recapitulation of what has been accomplished in Asia may assist to a clearer understanding of the situation.

Major Abasa has explored the route between Ghijiga and Ochotsk and found it favorable for the construction of the telegraph.

Captain Mahood has explored the route from the mouth of the Amoor to Okhotsk, and found it feasible for the work.

Lieutenant Kennon has explored the route from Ghijiga to Anadyrsk, and from that point to Anadyr Bay, and found it feasible for the work.

Captain Macrae has travelled among the Tchuchtis, the savage tribes in the northern part of Siberia, and found them entirely friendly.

Major Abasa has travelled among the Koriaks and native Kamchadales, and found them entirely friendly.

Captain Mahood and Major Abasa have travelled among the Tungusi and other tribes, between Ghijiga and the mouth of the Amoor, and found them entirely friendly. The Tungusi revealed to them a number of paths through the mountains which they have hitherto kept secret for their own uses.

Work has been commenced at several points, wherever workmen can be procured. Poles were being cut and houses constructed for stations and supply depots.

Points have been selected along the Okhotsk sea for landing supplies and material for the line. These are mainly at the mouths of rivers that may be used for transportation to the interior.

A sufficient number of workmen will be procured at Yakoutsk for building the line, where the natives are not unwilling to labor. Major Abasa has already made arrangements for obtaining them as the ships arrive at Ghijiga.

The ice in their power for the prosecution of the enterprise, having received special orders to this effect from the imperial government. With their co-operation the completion of the work in the time proposed can be readily assured.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Secretary Stanton is still in town and the guest of Judge Rierrepont. His movements have been confined to a few visits among his friends in the city, and no demonstration of a public nature has attended his stay among us. He will leave for Washington this evening.

Mr. Thomas McGrath, a graduate of Harvard Law School, has been appointed Assistant District Attorney for the Eastern district of New York.

General J. S. Fullerton, U. S. A., of St. Louis, is stopping at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

John F. Coyle, of Washington; Mark Sheldon, of San Francisco; Geo. W. Jones, of Dubuque, Iowa, and Dr. E. L. Bedel, of Poughkeepsie, are stopping at the Everett House.

Mr. Cantagallo, Italian Chargé d'Affaires, is stopping at the Brevoort House.

General Geo. B. Hodge, of Kentucky, is stopping at the Southern Hotel.

General E. O. Babcock, of General Grant's staff; J. Mobray, of Richmond; E. Keyes, of Madison; A. Lancaster, of Bangor; Hon. G. H. Williams, of Oregon, and Judge Pascal, of Texas, are stopping at the Metropolitan Hotel.

P. H. Smith, of Chicago, Ill.; R. R. Bridges, of North Carolina; General A. Logan, of Illinois; Governor R. B. Mitchell, of New Mexico, and R. R. Springer, of Cincinnati, Ohio, are stopping at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Roger Ramsdell, of Newburg; J. C. Hulbert of Washington; R. E. Rollins, of Washington; J. S. Filkinson, of Washington; R. H. Bryson, of Albany; Captain Dodge, U. S. A.; Tyson Crow, of Washington, and J. K. Hoover, of Washington, are stopping at the Astor House.

THE SECOND AVENUE CALAMITY.

Continuation of the Coroner's Inquest—The Evidence—Kane's Barkeeper Placed in Custody, &c.

The inquest on the bodies of the victims in the recent tenement house fire, on Second avenue, was continued yesterday. Since the adjournment of the inquest on Saturday two additional deaths have taken place among the persons injured. The deaths at the present time are five—Mary L. Sandford, her three children, Martha, Charles and William, aged respectively ten years, six years and three months, and Mrs. Margaret Webb. As soon as the jury had assembled they proceeded in a body to Bellevue Hospital to view the bodies of the two persons who died on Saturday. On their returning to the Twenty-first precinct station house, Coroner Gover at once resumed the examination of the witnesses.

STATEMENT OF PETER LONGWORTH.

Peter Longworth, sworn—Reside at No. 1 Carroll place, Brooklyn; contracted to paint and paper Kane's house; was to commence work on Thursday; sent some paint, two gallons of turpentine, some oil, white lead, paper, glue, brushes, ladders, &c., to the house on Wednesday, and put them in the cellar by Kane's directions; Kane first told me to store them in the back part of the store, but I said that the place was too open, and some of the things might be injured; he then asked me to put them in the cellar; there was nothing in what I put there of an explosive character, but it was easily combustible; turpentine will only explode when a light is applied to it. Witness here identified a can which had been taken from among the ruins as one of those he had placed in the cellar, saying, in addition, that there was another one like it.

STATEMENT OF JOHN CITTI.

John Citti sworn:—Witness occupied the second floor of the house burned; rented it from Mr. Kane; was in bed with his family when the alarm of fire was first made; witness thought it was Mr. Shehan who cried out from the barroom; thought Shehan cried "Murder" when awakened; he opened the window and saw the fire coming from the area; the rear part of the house was full of smoke; jumped up, shut the door and rushed to the front; saw Mr. Shehan outside; Shehan had a ladder put up against the side of the house; witness and family escaped by the ladder; the stairs were then burned away; he was certain of that; met Mr. Kane in Thirty-first street after he had got out; Kane's wife was with him; Kane only had one boot on; his wife had no shoes or bonnet or dress.

STATEMENT OF OFFICER REID.

Thomas Reid, Police Sergeant, sworn—When the fire broke out on Thirty-first street was on duty at Thirty-first street; it was about twenty-five minutes past twelve o'clock; was looking for the man on the post when he saw Kane's barkeeper open the door on Second avenue about one foot and then close it again, as if he saw or heard witness; that was before the alarm of fire; was not certain whether anyone else was there; saw no one on the street in any direction; not seeing the man on the post turned down Second avenue to find him; when passing Kane's smelt some kerosene oil burning; had no doubt whatever that it was kerosene; the smell was unmistakable; looked to see where the fire was; when near Thirty-second street heard somebody crying out "fire," and turned back to Thirty-first street; found a German near Kane's, who told him there was a fire in the kitchen; looked in at a window in the rear on Thirty-first street, and saw the room all in a blaze; there was no smoke outside to attract attention; immediately gave the alarm, and a number of policemen came to give assistance; on giving the alarm Shehan came and helped open the door; tried to go up stairs, but was driven back by the smoke, and had some difficulty in getting out; on coming out he saw a ladder against the house, and wondered where it came from so quickly; did not know whether Shehan was there or not; there was cry from the third story, "For God's sake save us!" and he and others ran with the ladder to the front of the house, and saw a man in his shirt at a window; heard afterwards it was Mr. Sandford; the ladder was several feet too short to reach him; he then told him and the others to escape by the roof; witness and some other officers went up to the roof, through the adjoining house; found a number of women and children on the roof; and some men were coming through the scuttle; Sandford was among them; Sandford did not complain of being burnt; one of the officers upon the roof said the smoke was very thick; he had to shout to the men who came up last to escape through the scuttle to show them the way.

STATEMENT OF OFFICER LORAM.

Peter Loram, officer, sworn—On the night of the fire witness was on duty in Second avenue; about a quarter after twelve o'clock he passed Kane's store; as he was passing two men went into the store; he went on until he had nearly got to Twenty-eighth street, when he heard some one cry out once or twice; he then turned back, but had only gone a few steps when he heard a policeman's rap; he hurried to the scene of the fire, and saw the fire rushing from the door of the cellar in Thirty-first street; witness then ran round to send all the policemen he could find to assist; on returning to the fire he found the people in the house calling out for help; witness went to the next house and tried to burst in the door, but just as he was raising his foot Shehan, who was also there, burst it in; he rushed up stairs and assisted the people to escape through the scuttle; did not see Kane come up the scuttle, but saw him subsequently on the roof of the next house; Kane seemed to be under the influence of liquor; he told Kane that if he did not go down he would arrest him. (Kane, who was present, here interrupted the witness by exclaiming, in a tone displaying great irritation, "It's a pity that a man like like you should talk so much." Kane then went out, but shortly returned with two overcoats—his own and Shehan's. Handing Shehan his coat he said, "Let us go," when the Coroner informed them that they must stay until the proceedings were concluded.) Witness continued—After Kane had gone down the scuttle he attempted to return, and witness had to close the scuttle to prevent him doing so; Kane's wife was with him at the time; Kane was fully dressed, except that he was bareheaded and had only one boot on; did not see Kane when he first went on the roof.

STATEMENT OF CAPTAIN WILSON.

Monmouth B. Wilson, police captain, sworn—Was aroused at twenty-five minutes past twelve, and immediately proceeded to the fire; the people had then just got down from the ladder on Thirty-first street; witness went up to the roof through the adjoining house; met the people burned on the stairs, and was informed by an officer that everybody was out of the house; sent the people injured to the drug stores, with the exception of Mrs. Webb, who was taken to the residence of her brother by her own request; witness made an examination of the premises as soon as the fire was extinguished; he found that the fire originated in the rear basement, occupied by five woodhouses, directly under the stairs which led to the upper part of the house; in the basement he found the remnants of eleven barrels and four beer barrels; two of the eleven contained some liquid, which by the smell he supposed to be liquor; the houses all contained coal, but only some of them kindling wood; he also found one can and some whitelead; he found another can near the hall door entrance, on the first floor, near the stairs; the can in the cellar contained turpentine; the can up stairs was smaller and smelt strongly of kerosene oil.

The Coroner then stated that owing to the lateness of the hour he would postpone the further investigation of the case until to-day at half-past two o'clock. Turning then to Shehan he informed him that, looking at the inculpatory nature of the evidence thus far against him, he felt it to be his duty to retain him at the station house until the close of the present proceedings. He (the Coroner) sincerely hoped that he would be able to clear himself from the suspicions excited by the testimony; but in the present state of the case he had no alternative but to adopt this course of ensuring that justice should not be defeated.

Kane, the liquor store keeper, then stepped forward and requested the Coroner to take bail for Shehan, stating that he could get bail to any amount not exceeding $50,000, and that he had with him at the time two bank books, with $10,000 in his favor, which he would deposit. He added that he would rather lose $10,000 than have Shehan imprisoned for a day.

The Coroner replied that he could not, under the circumstances, take bail, and that Shehan must for the present be content to remain at the station house. There was no great hardship in this, since he would, no doubt, be well treated by the police.

A juror then asked Kane how it was that on Saturday he had not, when on the witness stand, in reply to a direct question made to him, stated the full number of policies he held upon the house burnt. He understood that, in addition to the four already named, he held a further one for $1,000.

Kane replied that he did certainly hold the policy for $1,000 alluded to, and that if he had not mentioned the fact on Saturday it must have been an oversight. He scarcely knew himself what policies he held, as they had all been procured for him by an agent.

The case was then adjourned until to-day at half-past two o'clock.

THE COMPTON HOUSE CALAMITY.

Another Victim—Investigation Before Coroner Gamble.

Yesterday morning at an early hour Kate Flanigan, recently head cook in the Compton House, northeast corner of Third avenue and Twenty-fourth street, who was burned by the explosion of a barrel of oil last Friday evening, as already reported, died in Bellevue Hospital, whither she had been conveyed immediately after the occurrence. Coroner Gamble being notified took the matter in charge, and on reaching the Hospital commenced an investigation, but all the witnesses not being at hand, the case could not be concluded.

Two employés of the Compton House were examined, and subjoined will be found a copy of their evidence:—

TESTIMONY OF EPHRAIM M'GINNIS.

Ephraim McGinnis, residing at No. 339 Second avenue, being duly sworn, deposed and said:—I am employed as carver at the Compton House; about ten minutes to eight o'clock last Friday evening I went below to get away my meats and had done it, and coming out of the storeroom Kate Flanigan called me and said, "Oh Mac, look at this;" I immediately ran up stairs and called for Mr. Compton to come down immediately; I then ran down myself, not waiting, and tried to draw the water; while in the act of drawing the water Mr. Compton came down; every one in the kitchen was drawing water to throw on the fire, which was blazing around the barrel; I took hold of Mr. Compton and told him not to go, as the barrel would explode; he then went in; I saw Mr. Compton and Miller in the act of rolling the barrel when it exploded; I was burned by the explosion; the parties who were burned were all taken to Bellevue Hospital except Mr. Compton and myself.

TESTIMONY OF HUBERT M. SCOVILLE.

Hubert M. Scoville, residing at the Compton House, corner of Third avenue and Twenty-fourth street, being duly sworn, deposed and said—I am bookkeeper at the Compton House; it happened about ten minutes to eight o'clock on Friday evening, the 14th inst.; the first I heard was, a little girl came to the bar room and said there was a fire in the kitchen; I immediately ran into the back dining room to get down cellar; I was nearly across the dining room and reaching over the barrel when it exploded and raised the floor and threw me down; I did not get any further down; Mr. Compton started before I did and had got far down the cellar; the next I saw of Mr. Compton he came up all in a blaze; I took hold of him as soon as I could and threw him to lie down on the floor; some one handed me a coat and I threw it over him; after the fire was out he went to the drug store; he was afterwards taken to his room for medical attention; he died from the effects of the burns on the 16th instant, about five o'clock A. M.; John Blake was employed as fireman for running a boiler; I did not see him until after he was burned; he was removed to Bellevue Hospital, where he died; I do not know anything concerning the origin of the fire; the oil we bought for "phosgene," and had been using it for about ten days; there were five men and two women burned.

The further investigation of the case was adjourned till eleven o'clock this morning, at Bellevue Hospital dead house.

Mr. Compton was forty-six years, five months and ten days old, and a native of this city.

Blake, the fireman, was only twenty years of age and was born in Ireland. He had been but eight months in this country.

The woman Flanigan was born in Ireland, but her age did not transpire.

POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

GAMBLERS IN COURT.—Yesterday morning John Jackson and Andrew Baker, alias John Brown, together with about thirty other men arrested in the gambling house 568 Broadway, on Sunday night, by Acting Captain Garland, of the Fourteenth precinct, and his officers, were arraigned before Justice Hogan at the Tombs. All the prisoners, with the exception of Jackson and Baker, were discharged with a reprimand. Officer Murray, of the Fourteenth precinct, testified to arresting Jackson and Baker, the former being the dealer and the latter backer of the game of "faro." Baker confessed to the officer that he kept and maintained the premises. The magistrate required Jackson and Baker to give $500 bail each to answer before the Court of Sessions. The gaming implements taken from the house in which the arrests were made were delivered over to the property clerk by order of Justice Hogan.

THEFT OF A COAT—THE PRISONER PLEADS GUILTY.—Oliver H. P. Lucker, a man twenty-nine years of age, was arrested on the charge of stealing an overcoat, valued at $50, from David Demarest, residing at 257 West Thirteenth street. After his arrest Lucker acknowledged taking the coat, and told where he had pawned it. The property was recovered, and Justice Hogan committed him to the Tombs for trial in default of $500 bail.

YOUNG POCKETBOOK THIEVES.—Two lads, named respectively William Lounsberry and Michael Kavanagh, were brought before Justice Ledwith, at the Jefferson Market Police Court, yesterday morning, charged with stealing a pocketbook containing $296 from Mrs. H. M. Browning, of 288 West Twentieth street. The lads were arrested together with several others, for snatching pocketbooks from ladies' hands in the street, and Mrs. Browning, who had lost her pocketbook some two weeks ago in that manner, repaired to the Sixteenth precinct station house and identified the two above mentioned, as the parties by whom she had been relieved of her pocketbook. The lads both pleaded "not guilty," but they were each committed for trial in default of $1,000 bail.

ALLEGED LARCENY BY A TAILORESS.—Margaret Barry was arraigned yesterday at the Essex Market Police Court, on complaint of Michael Hopkins, of No. 86 Cherry street, who stated that in November last he gave her six pairs of cassimere pantaloons to make up, which she had failed to return, and that he was informed the same had been pawned. Margaret replied in answer that they had been pawned by her husband, who subsequently enlisted in the United States army, and he having been since sent away had taken the tickets with him. Further, that she