NEWS OF ALEXANDRIA

Those in Charge of Celebration Being Praised

ASSESSMENT BILL IS PASSED

State Delegate Caton Succeeds in Having House Act Favorably on Measure, and It Is Now Before the State Senate—Funeral of Miss Laura Virginia Brockett Held.

WASHINGTON HERALD BUREAU,
(Bell Telephone 69.)
529 King Street.

Alexandria, Va., Feb. 23.—The only vestige remaining to-day of yesterday's big parade in commemoration of the birth of George Washington is the pennants, flags, banners, and bunting which to-day swung merrily to and fro to the high winds, and for a time it looked as if they would be torn to tatters. They were, however, but mute testimony of one of the grandest military parades ever seen in this historic city. By to-morrow afternoon the city will have been stripped of all signs of the parade, and the big celebration will be but a memory, but one that will be indelibly stamped upon the minds of all Alexandrians as a grand and imposing military spectacle.

Officers, committeemen, and members of the George Washington Birthday Association, under whose auspices the parade was given, are to-day being congratulated upon the successful manner in which everything passed off. There was absolutely no hitch in anything, and the spectators expressed themselves as being highly pleased with the affair.

State Delegate James R. Caton, of this city, has announced that he has procured the passage in the house of delegates of a resolution to amend section 170 of the constitution relating to the right of municipalities to assess abutting property owners for the improvement of streets not exceeding 50 per cent of the cost. He also announces that the resolution is now before the senate, and he is endeavoring to secure its passage by that body. Mr. Caton also states that the bond measure for this city passed the house of delegates, and is now on the calendar of the senate.

The Fairfax County board of supervisors has fixed the following levy for the year 1908: Twenty-five cents on the $100 valuation in real estate and personal property, railroad, telegraph, and telephone lines in the county; school tax, 10 cents; district school tax, 10 cents; road tax, 20 cents in Centerville district and 25 cents in the other districts; 50 cents on each tithe and 50 cents on each dog.

The funeral of Miss Laura Virginia Brockett, whose death occurred in Washington Thursday morning, took place at 3 o'clock this afternoon from the residence of A. D. Brockett, 318 North Washington street. Rev. Joseph R. Sevier, pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church, assisted by Rev. Mr. Pratt, of Washington, conducted the services. The burial was made in the Presbyterian Cemetery.

Those serving as pallbearers were Hubert Snowden, G. William Ramsay, A. G. Uhler, W. A. Smoot, Richard Windsor, and T. H. Brown, the last named of Washington.

Funeral services over the remains of Mrs. Gladys Birchmire were held at 2 o'clock this afternoon at her late home, 222 South Alfred street. Rev. W. W. Van Arsdale, pastor of Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church, conducted the services. The interment was made in Bethel Cemetery.

Rev. Edgar Carpenter conducted funeral services this morning over the remains of Harvey William, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Shaffer.

A concert will be given next Thursday night at the Young Men's Sodality Lyceum Hall for the benefit of Grace Church improvement fund. The first part will be conducted by the Musurgia Glee Club, of Washington, and the second part will consist of solos by special singers of the club and humorous readings by Mr. Edwin Callow, of New York.

Representative James T. Lloyd, of Missouri, this afternoon delivered an interesting address at a men's meeting, held at the Young People's building of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. He took for his subject "The Man Jesus." A solo was rendered by Miss Kate Smoot.

At the Sunday school services at the First Baptist Church this morning an orphan from the orphan asylum of Salem, Va., rendered several songs and also recited for the benefit of the scholars.

The Elks' indoor carnival will be continued until next Thursday night. The committee in charge is arranging for special attractions for every remaining night.

Revival services were begun to-night at the Methodist Episcopal Church South, by Rev. D. Vance Price, of North Carolina. There was special singing, led by a large chorus. These services will be continued until March 8.

"The prodigal's departure; or, the wanderer lost" was the subject of a special sermon delivered to-day at Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church by the pastor, Rev. W. W. Van Arsdale.

Miss Rebecca Wollberg has returned after a visit to relatives and friends in New York and Philadelphia.

RHEA CASE NEAR END.

Legislature Will Decide on Fitness of Two Judges This Week.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Richmond, Va., Feb. 23.—The coming week in the legislature is to witness the end of the investigation into the fitness of Judge William F. Rhea, of Bristol, to be a corporation commissioner. A resolution has been adopted in both branches to hold a joint session Tuesday night for the purpose of receiving the report of the committee conducting the investigation. It can be authoritatively stated that the nomination of Judge Rhea will be confirmed.

The present week will also see the end of the investigation into the charges of immorality and incompetency lodged against Judge J. W. G. Blackstone, of the Eleventh circuit. The committee is expected to make its report on Tuesday, and the legislature to finally consider the matter on Wednesday or Thursday. The consensus of opinion seems to be that Judge Blackstone will be removed.

Alleged Slayer Captured.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Bristol, Va., Feb. 23.—Henry Crosby, charged with the murder of Aaron Nickles in Russell County, Va., was captured last night near Dante and taken to Lebanon, where he was delivered to the sheriff and is now in jail. The killing occurred Friday. Crosby shot Nickles in the breast. He died instantly.

HIST REACHES ANNAPOLIS.

Converted Yacht Released from Cove Point Bar After Five Days.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Annapolis, Md., Feb. 23.—The converted yacht Hist, Lieut. C. E. Courtney, commanding, convoy of the flotilla of three submarine torpedo boats now at the Naval Academy, was released from Cove Point bar, forty miles below Annapolis, on which she grounded during a snowstorm early last Wednesday morning, and steamed up the bay to Annapolis to-night.

The Hist was pulled off the bar by the light draft tug Hercules and another government tug, which were sent out from the Norfolk Navy Yard to her assistance. The Hist is not injured.

TOBACCO SALES SMALLER.

Adverse Weather Conditions Prevent Farmers Coming to Market.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Lynchburg, Va., Feb. 23.—The tobacco sales during the past week were lighter than were anticipated, the marketing of the weed again being prevented by adverse weather conditions. The offerings were in good condition and of fairly good quality, the smaller portion, however, being of the fine grades and wrappers. The trade was active and prices were fully up to quotations.

The sales for the week aggregated 537,800, a decrease of 257,700 pounds over the preceding week. The total sales of the season are 8,036,300 pounds, or 4,003,000 less than at the same time last year.

ESCAPE IN NIGHT CLOTHING

Members of Family Driven Out Into Cold and Snow by Fire.

Home of Harry Shaw Near Hagerstown Destroyed, and Inmates Have Narrow Escape.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Hagerstown, Md., Feb. 23.—Clad only in their night clothing and their feet bare Mr. and Mrs. Harry Shaw and their three children escaped from their burning home, along the Middleburg Pike, three miles north of Hagerstown, this morning shortly after midnight and walked to the residence of a neighbor, where they were given shelter.

Aroused by the cries of his youngest child, Mr. Shaw discovered the entire house ablaze. Grabbing a trunk that contained what money he had in the house, a number of papers and other things of value he pitched it out of the window, and then turned his attention to saving the members of his family.

The fire was already far advanced and there was no time to dress, the stairway collapsing a few moments after they reached the open.

Although the ground was covered with snow and it was snowing at the time, Mr. Shaw and his family were forced to walk in their bare feet a distance of several hundred yards to the home of a neighbor. An alarm was given and persons who gathered succeeded in saving the outbuildings.

Mr. Shaw, who came to Hagerstown today to obtain a supply of clothing and shoes for his family, said he was unable to account for the origin of the fire. His loss is partially covered by insurance.

MRS. MARY J. BARBEE DEAD

Widow of Sculptor Passes Away at the Home of Her Daughter.

Native of Page County, Va., She Lived in Washington for Many Years.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Boyds, Md., Feb. 23.—Miss Mary Jane Barbee, a prominent resident of near Dawsonville, where, for the past nineteen years, she has been residing with her daughter, Mrs. James H. Jones, and a native of Luray, Page County, Va., died this afternoon of general breakdown in health, aged seventy-seven years.

Mrs. Barbee was the widow of William Randolph Barbee, of Luray, Va., a sculptor of national reputation, who was made famous by "The Fisher Girls," of which there were three models, one bought by A. T. Stewart, "The Coquette," "The Star of the West," "The Lost Pleiad," and the "Young American," and who, during Buchanan's administration, had a studio in the basement of the left wing of the National Capitol at Washington.

She was a Miss McKay, daughter of the late David McKay, of Page County, Va., a civil engineer.

Mrs. Barbee had a wide circle of friends in this section and throughout Virginia, in Washington, and other points. The children surviving her are Mrs. J. H. Jones, of Dawsonville; Clifford Barbee, a merchant in New York; Herbert Barbee, a sculptor in Luray, Va., who bids fair to rival his father in famous works, and Mrs. A. W. Lane, of Mount Vernon, N. Y.

SEA GETS HEAVY TOLLS.

Total of 116 Vessels Lost at Sea During Month of December.

Baltimore, Feb. 23.—The dangers of the deep are fully illustrated in a report just issued by N. K. Sanford, surveyor to the French Bureau Veritas at this port, showing the marine disasters to all flags during the month of December last. According to this report, 116 vessels were lost during the month. Of these 82 were sailing vessels and 34 steamers. The losses were apportioned among the nations as follows:

Sailing vessels—	
American	17
British	18
Danish	1
French	5
German	3
Greek	1
Italian	4
Norwegian	19
Russian	6
Spanish	3
Swedish	5
Total	82
Steamers—	
Argentine	1
Austrian	1
Belgian	2
Brazilian	2
British	11
Chilean	1
German	3
Japanese	8
Mexican	1
Norwegian	1
Spanish	1
Swedish	2
Total	34

In this number are included 6 steamers reported missing.

The causes of losses are given as follows: Sailing vessels—Stranding, 34; collision, 5; fire, 2; foundered, 8; abandoned, 11; condemned, 22.

Steamers—Stranding, 12; collision, 1; fire, 1; foundered, 7; condemned, 7.

In addition to the total losses, the report shows that 217 sailing vessels met with serious accidents, resulting from stranding, fire, collision, stress of weather, &c., while 419 steamers met with similar accidents.

BACHELOR HALL NOW

Maryland Governor's Mansion Minus a Mistress.

CROTHERS IS NONCOMMITTAL

Declines to Discuss Subject of Marriage—Departure of Relatives Leaves Big Mansion House Dark in Evenings—Old Line State's Executive an Early Riser.

Annapolis, Feb. 22.—With the departure of Mr. and Mrs. Delphos Price and Miss Lynn Shaffer, his relatives, who have been with him at the mansion for some weeks, Gov. Crothers was this morning forced back to the condition of keeping bachelor's hall, with only his nephew, Emerson Crothers, to share the big house with him.

When approached on the subject of his bachelorhood and the persistent rumors that he intended changing this for the estate of matrimony, the governor seemed to be rather weary of the constant and unabating interest of the public in this matter.

He lapsed into the noncommittal manner of conversation, of which he has shown himself a master, and, while courteous, managed to convey little intimation of his intentions.

Asked how he liked the Ancient City after his stay of nearly two months, the governor expressed himself as pleased with the town and its people. "It's a fine old town, and the people have been most hospitable," said he.

The governor will not close the mansion permanently after the adjournment of the legislature, as has been generally supposed. "I will keep the mansion open," he said, "but whether or not I shall go back and forth to the office I shall open in Baltimore depends largely upon the exigencies which may arise at the time."

Governor Is Silent.

Whether there is to be a regular mistress of the mansion during the governor's administration is also a matter which will possibly depend largely on the exigencies; but the governor is not taking any one into his confidence on this matter, either. With his appointment of his cousin, Miss Shaffer, as State librarian comes the assumption among his friends that she will be the first lady of the State and attend to the running of the mansion. In her capacity as head of the library, Miss Shaffer will remain in Annapolis, and although it is not so stated, it is thought she will live at the mansion.

The governor is up early each morning, and while most Annapolitans are still busily getting their last forty winks, the head of the State is bestirring himself and getting the exercise which his gubernatorial duties preclude his enjoying during the later hours of the day. He follows the old precept, "Early to bed, early to rise," and by the time taps is sounded and the cadets at St. John's College are turned in each night, the lights in the mansion are out and the big house is among the first in the neighborhood to close for the night.

MIDDIES REGRET THEIR TRIP

Two Members of Academy Come to Washington Without Leave.

Fail to Return and Inspection Reveals Their Absence—Will Probably Be Expelled.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Annapolis, Md., Feb. 23.—For taking French leave by going out of town and remaining over night, one of the most severe offenses against the regulations of interior discipline, Midshipman Richard E. Trippe, a member of the second class, who hails from Kittanning, Pa., will, in all probability, be dismissed from the Naval Academy. Trippe's companion in the lark was John W. Dubose, of Gadsden, Ala., first class, but the punishment to be imposed upon the latter will probably be less severe, as his conduct record generally is better than that of Trippe.

Yesterday, being Washington's Birthday, all the midshipmen were given liberty until evening roll call, at 7:30 o'clock, only, however, to visit within the limits of Annapolis, as no midshipman is allowed to leave the city without authority, and then only for good reason.

Trippe and Dubose took a trolley and made a trip to Washington. Their absence from the Academy was not noticed until an inspection was made before bedtime, and when they were found out of their rooms a strict watch was kept. They did not turn up until 9:30 this morning.

They stated that they intended to return to Annapolis on the evening car, but missed it. This, however, could not be accepted as an excuse.

MANY Y. M. C. A. MEN PRESENT

Great Crowd Hears Fred B. Smith Make Address at Lynchburg.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Lynchburg, Va., Feb. 23.—Eighteen hundred men crowded the Academy of Music this afternoon to hear the address by Fred. B. Smith, the International Y. M. C. A. Secretary, of New York, on "The sins that kill." Fully 300 men that could not get seats were turned away.

Never before has such a meeting been held in Lynchburg. After an impassioned address by Mr. Smith fully 400 men asked for prayers, of the meeting, and ninety-five converts were reported. This noted worker held his large audience for near two hours, the inetrest throughout being marvelous.

Two hundred and fifty delegates to the Y. M. C. Association participated in the services.

The closing day was filled with services by workers in the principal churches and a farewell service at 9 o'clock to-night at Centenary Methodist Church before an immense audience.

The credential committee reports the convention was constituted as follows: City delegates, 98; railway, 30; county, 18; college, 131; State secretaries, 3; international secretaries, 6; specials, 3; State committeemen, 5; total, 300.

Officeholders in Control.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Harrisonburg, Va., Feb. 23.—Republican primaries were held throughout Rockingham to-day for the purpose of selecting delegates to a county convention to be held in Harrisonburg on Monday, which will in turn send delegates to the Congressional convention to be held at Luray on March 11. The indications are that Federal officeholders are in control and will dominate Monday's convention.

David C. Doup Dead.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Hagerstown, Md., Feb. 23.—David C. Doup, a well-known business man of Hagerstown, died to-day following an illness of five weeks from pneumonia and dropsy, aged fifty-three years. His widow and six children survive.

HIDDEN TREASURE FOUND.

Searchers Discover $3,200 in Home of Murdered Man.

York, Pa., Feb. 23.—In the bottom of a closet in the home of David Heckert, who was murdered a week ago, searchers found a hoard of more than $3,200.

Although it is believed that Heckert's slayer searched for several hours he failed to find this money.

The sum found was in old bills and gold and was done up in several packages. Upon one of the bundles there was written in the handwritting of the murdered man, "Saved by me from my earnings in Memphis."

The identity of the murderer who was so close to Heckert's hidden treasure is still a mystery.

STEAL TWO HOT STOVES.

Robbers Leave Only Canary Bird When Looting House.

St. Louis, Feb. 23.—While Mrs. Jennie Griffis was downtown shopping to-day four energetic burglars drove an unlettered moving van up to her home, at 2206 Cherokee street, and looted the house of everything except'ng the canary bird.

Even two stoves, with fire in them, were taken. Neighbors who saw the four men industriously at work supposed Mrs. Griffis was moving out of the house.

When Mrs. Griffis returned home she found only the frightened bird flying about the smoke-begrimed vacant rooms. She had left the door key under the doorstep, where the robbers found it.

GRAFT IN GEORGIA CONVICTS

Nephew of Senator Tillman Brings Charges of Corruption.

Deputy Warden Acknowledges Receiving Salary for Lessees—State Laws Transgressed.

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 23.—R. A. Keith, nephew of United States Senator Tillman, of South Carolina, has got from court an award of $2,500 punitive damages against the Durham Coal and Coke Company, which leased Keith from the State of Georgia after he had been convicted.

Keith was sent up for life for killing a man who, Keith alleged, had broke up his home. He was pardoned some months ago.

Immediately he brought suit, alleging cruel treatment by the lessees, and also that he had been forced to work hours overtime every day. Keith also alleged that State wardens at convict camps were paid by lessees to ignore transgression of State laws for the protection of convicts.

At trial State convict officials put on the stand admitted, in addition to the salaries paid by the State, they also received salaries from the coal company. Deputy Warden Goode swore he had received $75 per month from the company in addition to the $75 per month paid by the State.

Goode testified that he did not know for what purpose the money was paid to him. He swore the same conditions existed at almost every camp in the State, and that State Warden Jake Moore knew the money was paid by the company.

Revelations of graft in connection with the convict lease system have caused much indignation. Gov. Hoke Smith proposes to go to the bottom of the scandal.

DEACON BALKS AT POLITICS.

Says No When Church Votes on Local Option Bill.

Morristown, N. J., Feb. 23.—The passage of resolutions at the service of the First Baptist Church this morning advocating the passage of the local option bill by the legislature was the cause of a lively exchange of opinions between prominent members of the church.

Rev. Oliver C. Horsman, the pastor, read the resolutions and immediately called for a vote. Almost all those present voted for the adoption. When he called for negative votes, a deacon got up and said he was against them because he thought their passage at that time was a mistake. He was followed by a member of the board of trustees, who jumped up and shouted:

"This is a church and not a political meeting. I vote no."

The resolutions place the church on record as being heartily and unswerving in favor of the bill and opposed to its side tracking in favor of any other reform measure, however good. In the discussion that followed the close of the service, the pastor was assailed for presenting the resolutions while presiding and for not giving an opportunity to those opposed to present their reasons before taking the vote.

FINEST OF DUTCH STEAMERS.

Rotterdam Ready for Launching; Will Carry 3,525 Passengers.

New York, Feb. 23.—General Agent A. Gips, of the Holland-American Line, received yesterday a dispatch from the home office at Rotterdam telling of the approaching launch at the yards of Harland & Wolff in Belfast of the steamship Rotterdam, biggest, finest, and fastest of the line's fleet. She is 668 feet long over all and displaces 37,190 tons.

Her saloons and social halls will be decorated in the most artistic Dutch style, and she will be equipped with electric passenger elevators and long distance wireless apparatus, and will have a daily newspaper, a palm garden, imperial suites, sixty staterooms with private baths, and about 100 staterooms for the exclusive use of one passenger each. She will accommodate 505 first cabin, 520 second cabin, and 2,500 third-class passengers. She will start from Rotterdam on her first trip to this port on June 13.

KING HUSHES UP SCANDAL.

Edward Makes Personal Request of Irish Nationalists to Keep Silent.

London, Feb. 23.—King Edward has intervened to stop the scandal that threatened to grow out of the theft of the Irish crown jewels from Dublin Castle, and the subsequent appointment of a commission to investigate the conduct of Sir Arthur Vickars, Ulster king of arms.

The King sent a personal request to the Irish Nationalist members of Parliament that the matter be dropped, and they in turn commanded their allies in Ireland, who had intended using the theft for political capital, to keep silent. It is impossible more than to hint at the nature of the scandal threatened, but many prominent persons are said to be involved, indirectly.

A close friend of the Duke of Argyle is one of those mentioned, and as the duke married the King's sister, this close tie, it is thought, helped decide his majesty to interfere.

Deposed for Beating Girl.

Greensburg, Pa., Feb. 23.—Charged with having administered a beating to Jennie Sutton, fifteen years old, with a pick handle, the Rev. P. D. Runyan, a Baptist minister, principal of the West Derry schools, was fined $10 and costs and deposed by the school board. The services of a physician were required for the girl.

ITALIAN FOUND DEAD

Police Hold Kin, After First Believing It Suicide.

TAKES POISON; HEAD CRUSHED

Officials Declare Victim Could Not Have Inflicted Skull Wound After Taking Sulphuric Acid—Stepson Believed to Know Something of Crime—Makes Will and Disappears.

New York, Feb. 23.—Gerolamo Cella, one of the partners in the firm of Cella Bros., importers of wines and wholesale groceries at 528 and 530 West Broadway, and credited with being one of the wealthiest business men in New York's Italian colony, went to a lawyer on Saturday to get advice on the matter of changing his will.

He said at the time that he was going away from home, never to come back. At 1 o'clock this morning he was found by his brother, Dominico Cella, lying in a heap on the floor of his darkened office in the West Broadway store, with his skull fractured by a blow from a hammer, his throat bruised by the marks of fingers, and an empty vial, which had contained concentrated sulphuric acid, on a table beside him.

When the police were called in by Dominico, they accepted the case as one of suicide, persuaded as they were by a letter, believed to be in the handwriting of Gerolamo Cella, which said that the writer was going to kill himself, and which was signed by the name of the dead man.

Two Relatives Held.

Later Coroner Harburger learned some things which convinced him that a murder had been done, and the police arrested Dominico Cella, first as a material witness, and later rearrested him as a suspicious person; and they also held Cesare Bianchi, a stepson of the dead man, as a witness.

Corner Harburger was supported in his belief that Gerolamo Cella had been murdered by the opinion of the two doctors and by evidences of an unusual character in the office of the West Broadway store. Coroner's Physician Schultz, after making an autopsy on the body, declared that there was enough poison in the stomach to kill three men, and that no man, after taking that much concentrated sulphuric acid, could have had the strength to dent in his skull to the depth of an inch with a hammer.

Equally impossible was it, said Dr. Schultz, for any one to have dealt himself such a blow with a hammer and then to have swallowed the acid afterward.

Trailed by Blood.

From the evidences of the fractured skull and the poison in the dead man's stomach, there was the presence of a broad trail of blood, twenty feet long, in the office where the body was found, and the marks of a struggle on Cella's throat and wrist to lead the police to accept Coroner Harburger's theory of murder and make a thorough examination into the circumstances surrounding the wealthy merchant's death before dismissing it as a suicide.

Gerolamo Cella lived, with his wife, on the top floor of a tenement which he owned at 25 and 27 Wooster street, the lower floor of which is occupied by a confectionery factory owned by is stepson, Bianchi.

On Saturday night Cella had dinner with his wife and left the house shortly after in the best of spirit, according to the story she told the police to-day, to go to a restaurant at 100 West Houston street to play cards with friends. His nephew, Crazzetti, a cigar dealer on Broadway, was one of the players at the restaurant.

About 11 o'clock the card game broke up and Cella left for his home.

Went Home Alone.

Since, as far as the police could learn to-night, no one accompanied him from the restaurant on his way home, the hours between 11 o'clock and 1 o'clock, when the wine merchant was found dying on the floor of his office, being unaccounted for.

Dominico Cella, the brother of the dead man, says when he entered the office his brother was alive and breathing heavily. Blood was all over his head, face and hands. Dominico bent over him and asked him who did it. Gerolamo could not speak, but lifted his hand and pointed to himself several times. He shortly after became unconscious.

Held Under Bond.

Dominico Cella was taken before Magistrate Butts, of the Jefferson Market Court, this morning, and remanded into the hands of the coroner, who held him under $1,000 bonds. Bail was provided later and Cella was released.

Information which was brought to the coroner later in the day, and which was by him turned over to the police, led them immediately to go to the home of Caesare Bianchi, the stepson of the dead man, who lives at 39 Grand street, in a house owned by Cella, and arrest him. He was held as a witness without bail.

He told the detectives a story of domestic troubles between himself, his mother, and stepfather, which had led to a quarrel something over a month ago, and which had induced strained relations between the two families since.

WOMAN BEATEN BY THIEVES.

Robbers Brutally Attack Mountain Widow, Aged Eighty-four.

Allentown, Pa., Feb. 23.—Alone in her isolated home on the Lehigh mountain with a blind granddaughter, Mrs. Gelara Wenner, aged eighty-two years, was terribly beaten by robbers who visited the place last night, hoping to get the pension money which she had received a few days ago.

Mrs. Wenner is the widow of a civil war veteran and received $172 recently. The money was deposited in an Allentown bank. At midnight robbers attempted to force her to give them the money by torture, and beat her into insensibility when they heard the approach of neighbors, who had been aroused by the granddaughter, who had slipped out of the house unseen.

There were three in the party, and all escaped. Mrs. Wenner has almost recovered from the terrible beating.

MEN FIGHT WAGE REDUCTION.

Engineers and Firemen Will Meet at Peoria Next Monday.

Peoria, Ill., Feb. 23.—Pursuant to a call issued by Grand Master John J. Harahan, of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers, a meeting of the joint protective boards of all roads east of Chicago will be held in Peoria on March 2.

The object of this meeting is to fight any attempt that may be taken by Eastern railroads to reduce wages. Every mile of road east of Chicago will be represented in the meeting.

Only ten cents a week, delivered at your door—the daily issues of The Washington Herald. 'Phone Main 3300.

MATCH BIG TROTTERS.

Talk of Race Between George G. and Sonoma Girl for $5,000.

From the Buffalo Express.

It is reported upon unquestioned authority that during the recent New York sale Alta McDonald, the Albany trainer, challenged Frank Smith, manager of the Crabtree Stable, to make a match for $5,000 a side between George G., 2:05¼, and Sonoma Girl, 2:05¼.

Mr. Smith asked how long such a challenge would remain open, and was informed that any time between now and the start of the Grand Circuit at Detroit would do. Miss Lotta Crabtree, owner of Sonoma Girl, is at present in California, and until Mr. Smith could bring the challenge to her attention nothing in the way of consummating a match between the two great trotters is likely to be done. Miss Crabtree and her brother, Jack Crabtree, believed last fall that Sonoma Girl could beat any trotter living, and if the great mare winters well, she may feel like making such a match as McDonald wants to make. George G., it will be remembered, was a far better horse last year for McDonald than he had ever been for other trainers, and when fall came was certainly one of the three greatest trotters on the turf. Sonoma Girl, after she became familiar with M. E. McHenry, was also in the best form she had ever shown. There are good reasons for believing, however, that the great mare will not be driven by McHenry this year.

Just why this is likely to be so is hard to say, excepting that the best advices seem to be, in effect, that the Crabtrees will make no attempt to engage that trainer again, even if he decides to leave the runners for the harness horses again next summer. Who will hold the reins behind the sensational mare no one seems to be able to state, but, no matter who may be selected, it is impossible to foretell just how the somewhat notional mare will take to him. It took McHenry nearly a month to get her confidence, but the man who is finally decided upon to drive her next summer will have many weeks before the racing season to do what McHenry was compelled to do right in the racing season.

It is a sure thing that some one of the leading trainers will be engaged to drive Sonoma Girl and the other horses in the Crabtree Stable, but at present none of the horsemen is able to point out the man. Under these conditions it is hardly likely that the great mare will be matched against George G. until after the new trainer selected for her will have had a chance to get acquainted with her.

RACING CARDS FOR TO-DAY.

New Orleans.

FIRST RACE—Three and one-half furlongs.

Romp	104	Columbus	104
Grotto	104	Trappe	104
Regards	104	Dispute	107
Bookbinder	107	Westmore	107
Tommy	107	All Red	107
W. A. Leach	107	Counter	107
Edwin L	112	Silverton	107
Moritza	107		

SECOND RACE—Steeplechase; short course.

Jim Hutton	120	Kemp Ridgely	132
Berry Waddell	138	Captain Jarrell	138
Dacra	138	Lindale	140
Dell Leath	146	Waterway	147
Coal Black Lady	147	Rip	155
Dunning	159	Sam Hoffheimer	158

THIRD RACE—Selling; one and one-sixteenth miles.

Dixwell	102	Dorset	102
Moxey Mead	102	Masson	102
Heap Talk	102	Busy Boy	102
Major Mack	102	Watercooler	105
Berand, jr	107	Tyrol	107
Ben Walmsley	107	Coster	110
Tom Kelly	110	Jennie's Beau	110

FOURTH RACE—One mile.

Hans	93	Albert Star	93
Banridge	93	St. Ilario	103
Severus	93		

FIFTH RACE—One mile.

Lad of Langden	105	Ace High	103
Zipango	106	Quarga	106
Hyperion II	106	Tokalon	109

SIXTH RACE—Selling; seven furlongs.

Silverball	89	Caper	96
Mr. Peabody	98	Gibson	101
Artful Dodger	102	Biscuitcheen	104
Miss Strome	105	Dr. McCluer	105
Posing	106	Beau Brummel	107
Jersey Lady	109	Ananias	111

SEVENTH RACE—Selling; one and one-sixteenth miles.

Rose of Pink	95	Donna Elvira	95
Jack Witt	102	Gild	102
Hadur	102	Sam Rice	102
Belle Scott	100	Anna Ruskin	109
Delmore	103	Rappahannock	105
The Clansman	103	Cull	107
Lafayette	107	High Bear	110
Gilpin	110		

Los Angeles.

FIRST RACE—Five and one-half furlongs.

Oreagna	106	Harcourt	107
Kintuck	104	Rastus	107
Port Mahone	104	Bambro	104
Inspector Bird	102	Dr. Matthews	107
Arthur Hyman	107	Talaca	107

SECOND RACE—Four furlongs.

Cull Holland	102	Foreguard	93
Horace H	102	Madriteno	99
Seydenbis	102	Lampass	102
Vasmerito	102	Traffic	102
Force	102	Thunder Hill	102
Live Oak	102		

THIRD RACE—Seven furlongs.

Charles Green	109	Rudabek	109
Tattenham	109	Bird of Passage	109
Gossiper II	107	Nattie Bumpo	109
Melingo	112	Matador	112
Red Thistle	109	Fisher Boy	112
Ampedo	109	Catalina	109
Pal	109	Rauble	107
Summer Cloud	104	Black Mate	106

FOURTH RACE—Five and one-half furlongs.

Compound Interest	102	Godfather	107
Dredger	107	Salwagerlator	104
John C. Rice	104	Cardinal	104
Waldorf Belle	104	Bonnie Bairn	104
Sain Ala	104	Tarabon	104

FIFTH RACE—One mile; selling.

Diamonito	102	Sparkles	109
Stratt Martin	107	Pan de Oro	109
Grindstone	109	Barney Oldfield	109
Lonia	107	Bellarus	112

SIXTH RACE—One mile; selling.

L. C. Widrig	84	Our Sallie	100
Ida Lytle	87	Franculo	98
Brawny Lad	92	Master Lester	104
Elizabeth F	104	Uncle Henry	112
Gateway	109	Elie	103
Black Dress	84		

Oakland.

FIRST RACE—Six furlongs.

San Alvarado	114	Hercules	98
Seworten	105	Mrs. O'Farrell	92
Filmare	100	Happa	114
Catherine F	93	Ed Davis	103
Sycamore	114	Steel Blue	99
Othmar	103	Expectant	87

SECOND RACE—Seven-sixteenths of a mile.

Hazlet	110	Little Jane	107
Roulon	107	Right Easy	97
Solus	100	Carmisa	107
Sir Freefull	97	Judge Cronin	109
Ocean Maid	107	Tom Hayward	98

THIRD RACE—One and one-half miles.

Berrolio	122	Lone Wolf	118
Rose Ely	122	Confederate	124
Millsong	119	Rhinock	121
Alaric	115	The Broker	121
Helisme	112	Fappy Rice	115
Henry O	117	Prince of Orange	110

FOURTH RACE—One mile and twenty yards.

Sugar Maid	107	Rather Royal	100
Dollie Dollars	102	Edor	104
Lucrece	98	Cadichon	104
Tavora	98	Royal Maxim	98
Isolados	98	Timothy Wen	98
St. Elmanade	98		

FIFTH RACE—One and one-sixteenth miles.

Gargantua	108	Vronski	91
Prestige	105	Patriotic	83
Nigrette	100	Wolfville	91
Banlord	88	Emily M	100
Baker	103	Moniva	105
Standover	104		

SIXTH RACE—One and one-sixteenth miles.

Smiley Corbett	110	Center Shot	93
St. Avon	110	Braggart	95
Lee Crest	98	Blue Heron	107
Asteria Belle	93	Grace Marie	93
Lord Primrose	98	Lady Irene	95
Jeremiah	93	Mein Liebling	85

HARRIMAN TO BUILD SMELTER.

Rich Mineral Region to Be Opened by Union Pacific Magnate.

Mexico City, Feb. 23.—E. H. Harriman and associates will erect a large smelter at the port of Mazatlan, on the Pacific coast of Mexico, according to the statement of E. Randolph, the representative of Mr. Harriman in the Southwest and Mexico.

The concession for the smelter was obtained several months ago by Col. W. C. Greene, of New York. It has just been transferred to the Harriman interests.

The new railroad which Mr. Harriman and associates are building down the Pacific slope of Mexico from Guaymas will reach Mazatlan by the time the new smelter is finished. A rich mineral region is tributary to Mazatlan.

Set on Fire in Bicycle Accident.

London, Feb. 23.—While cycling near Halesworth on Friday night, Henry Keable fell, and his clothes were set on fire by his bicycle lamp. He was found lying unconscious next morning, and died on being removed home.

FISH GIVES UP SUIT

Harriman Case Withdrawn in Chicago Court.

FEARS LONG LEGAL BATTLE

Declares When Union Pacific Manipulator Tells Truth to Federal Government, State Will Oust Him from Illinois Ceneral—New York Magnate Owns but 130 Shares.

New York, Feb. 23.—Stuyvesant Fish gave out a statement to-night, in which he announced that the suit in Judge Ball's court in Chicago, to prevent the voting of the Illinois Central stock held by Harriman corporations, is to be dismissed forthwith.

Mr. Fish said, in part:

"On February 20, 1908, the Hon. Farlin Q. Ball, judge of the Superior Court of Cook County, Illinois, dissolved the injunction granted by him October 14, 1907, restraining the Union Pacific Railroad Company from voting 231,000 shares of Illinois Central stock, which constitutes nearly three-tenths of the total capital of 954,400 shares.

"The terms of the directors now to be elected will expire before an appointment can be prosecuted to the court of last resort. In the meanwhile, the Union Pacific will have filled the whole Illinois Central board with creatures of its own selection. As three Illinois Central directors are elected annually for terms of four years each, it would thereafter take three years more to put an end to the Union Pacific domination.

Means Endless Litigation.

"Under any circumstances a final decision in our favor would be circumvented by the transfer of the stock heretofore enjoined to friends of the Union Pacific, all of which transfers would have to be attacked by additional litigation, in which the proof of their simulated character would depend upon the elasticity of the consciences of the transferees.

"Under the advice of counsel, based on these reasons, my complainants and I, in Judge Ball's court, have decided to dismiss the suit brought to test the right of the Union Pacific to vote the stock owned by it in the Illinois Central.

"The Union Pacific has announced its intention of electing as directors the following citizens and residents of the State of New York: John Jacob Astor, who owns 7,000 shares; A. G. Hackstaff, 176 shares, and E. H. Harriman, 130 shares, together with a fourth person, as