knew of their distress, and could vouch for their worthiness. Judge Hagner sent a list of a dozen families that he knew to be in absolute want. The order was promptly filled, and the chickens were laid aside for the families to appear, one by one.

Friends of the Poor.

There were, of course, more colored folks in the crowd than whites, and they waited eagerly and patiently for their turn to come. But here and there could be seen the stylish bonnet of a lady who had come in the interest of some poor family that had no chance to get the fowl. Several ladies arrived with carriages for the purpose of driving around to the homes of sick and suffering poor who were unable to get to the hall. Three of these ladies represented the King's Daughters and carried away a huge basket, filled with Christmas dinners for a dozen or so homes in the southeast.

Rev. J. W. Gaines was on hand with notes

For a Family of Twelve.

of forty families living in the alleys that he knew to be deserving. As the representatives of these sad homes appeared he identified them and sent them away happy.

Miss Hattie Dowas, a pretty young girl of about sixteen, had found three families that were on the verge of starvation. She secured three good-sized packages and went forth to deliver them herself. As she went out her cloak caught the draught of the doorway and there gleamed for a moment the tiny starred button of the Santa Claus Club. She had done her part.

Every one in Washington knows Perry, the fat porter of Willard's. He enjoys the reputation of never having been weighed, and it is one of the local problems just how much Perry would tip the scales at were he to venture on a platform. Perry took a great interest in the proceedings this morning and did great execution by keeping the passageway to the exit clear. When the too-eager ticket holders would press into the lane Perry would take a stroll to the door and made great waves as he left a wake over a yard wide behind him. There was no resisting Perry. He was ably assisted in his work of keeping things humming by Andrew, one of the hotel porters, whose six feet and more of frame loomed far above the crowd. Many a poor woman had been trembling in the throng for an hour or more, too weak to press forward and too small to be seen otherwise. Andrew discovered, and his great form would then cleave the crowd and presently a happy little woman would be brought to the counter and would soon leave with a basket well filled.

A Thousand Hungry Fed.

By noon every ticket holder had been supplied, and many others. Mr. Staples estimated that he had supplied a thousand persons with dinners for Monday. The original 3,000 pounds of fowls had been exhausted long before, and 500 in addition had been brought in by Perry and Andrew. When the hall had been cleared of all the holders of tickets and orders Mr. Staples began supplying the most needy of half a hundred men and women who had drifted into the hall without any means to get turkey or chicken. An old uncle said: "Yes, indeed, judge, I'se been walkin' all 'round town ever sense 5 o'clock this mawn. I ain' got no ticket, no suh, but I hopes yo'se goin' to give me a little bird." He got a big bird.

"No, 'deed I cyant see why I ain' goin' to have no tucky. 'Deed I cyan!" A perfect type of Aunt Tempy sat over in one corner shaking her head and refusing to comprehend the reason why all the world could not get turkeys. She finally received two nice chickens, and hobbled off to "stew 'em up fo' Cinderilla."

After the extra 500 pounds had melted, Mr. Staples telephoned to his butcher for another 500, and he told the thirty or forty people who were waiting to keep their patience for a time. Slyly reaching down under the counter Mr. Staples pulled forth a great fat turkey that he had been saving for a special purpose. He then crooked his finger at the policeman who had been doing valiant service in keeping the crowds in order and presented it to him. The bluecoat tucked the package under his arm and made a bee-line for the porch where an elderly white woman was weeping silently. A little girl held her hand and looked wonderingly into the hall. The big policeman tapped her on the shoulder and thrust the fat turkey into her arms. She gasped as though the veritable Santa Claus had appeared before her. She tried to thank the policeman, but the good-hearted fellow turned away quickly and said to a Star reporter, who stood by his side:

"I guess she deserves her turkey. She says her husband has left her and she does not know where he is. She is more hungry than I am, by a long sight," and the bluecoat hurried away to report for duty.

DINNERS FOR SIX HUNDRED.

How the G. A. R. Relief Committee is Distributing Its Bounties.

Loving hands were busy in the work of charity today at the G. A. R. relief committee headquarters. The work of preparing the Christmas provisions for distribution was in full progress, and rapid headway was being made. One-half the space of the big store room was filled with great paper grocers' bags, standing in rows, to be filled with edibles, and in the other end of the room a number of men were at work filling small sacks and bags with the provisions that need wrapping. As the small parcels were prepared they were checked off and placed in the large sacks. When each sack receives its proper quota it will be tied up, tagged with the recipient's name and address and laid aside for delivery.

The relief committee has its plan of charity thoroughly systematized. It has the name and address of every family to be relieved and the number of persons in the family. The supplies put in the large bags are proportioned in quantity to the number of persons in the family. A family of four persons is about the average, and they will receive the following: One large chicken, one pound of coffee, half a pound of tea, two pounds of beans, two pounds of sugar, fifteen pounds of potatoes, one pound of butter, twelve pounds of flour and a proportion of the canned goods and sundries which are supplied by private contribution.

The delivery of the supplies will be commenced early Monday morning, and the goods will be delivered simultaneously in the four sections of the city. The Merchants' Parcel Delivery Company will perform this work, and will take a receipt from each recipient of a bag. In addition to the edibles for the Christmas dinner, the committee is also receiving contributions of coal, wood and clothing, and this will also be distributed to the proper persons.

It is estimated that about 600 families of Union soldiers and sailors will be supplied with Christmas dinner in this way, and the majority of them are colored people in needy circumstances.

MANY SAD CASES

Heard by Chief Clerk Sylvester at Police Headquarters.

There was no distribution of articles to the poor at police headquarters today, although there were many poor persons who called in expectation of getting a Christmas turkey. Chief Clerk Sylvester heard many sad cases of persons who were not sure of a Christmas dinner, and he gave orders for the relief of a number of the families. Capt. L. A. Brandenburg of the pension office was among those who called, and he deposited for the poor $105, the amount collected in one division of the office. T. P. Kingsbury contributed a ton of coal. Two contributions amounting to $20 were received, and several bundles of clothing were also contributed.

Many Hungry Persons Fed.

Over 300 persons took advantage of Mr. Jordan's offer to give soup and bread free to the hungry poor last evening, between 6 and 11 o'clock. About 250 were fed on Thursday night. Another opportunity will be given this evening to those who apply at 517 9th street northwest. Those applying should bring their own vessels.

LATE NEWS BY WIRE.

Testimony as to the Sanity of Prendergast.

TRIAL OF CARTER HARRISON'S SLAYER.

Dr. Getchell Tells of the Prisoner's Ideas.

EVIDENCE OF THE JAILOR

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 23.—Dr. Charles Getchell was the first witness examined in the trial of Prendergast, Carter Harrison's slayer, today. He interviewed Prendergast in jail two days ago and found the prisoner reticent and nervous and not inclined to talk with him. He found that the prisoner's conduct at the time he called on him was different from what he had observed it to be in the court room.

"Do you think the prisoner is sane?"

"I do."

On cross-examination Dr. Getchell said that his connection with the case began a week ago today.

"Then you were not thought of in the early part of the case?"

"I object," said Mr. Todd, who evidently did not like the question.

Dr. Getchell said that Prendergast told him that he was a religious martyr.

The witness did not stand the cross-examination very well, and his evidence was weakened by his statement that his opinion was formed on a ten-minute interview, which he considered sufficient.

To Dr. Silas Yount the prisoner had said that religion was the basis of law and that from his knowledge of religion he thought that he knew enough to be corporation counsel. The witness was of the opinion that the prisoner was sane.

On cross-examination the doctor admitted that his specialty was remote from mental troubles.

Jailer Morris was called to tell of having, it was alleged, once forced the prisoner to come out and be interviewed. He said that the prisoner came out of his own accord after the prisoner understood that the caller was sent by Attorney Wade.

Mr. Morris thought that Prendergast had acted in jail like any other prisoner and that he was sane. He denied having said to any members of the grand jury that he thought the prisoner was "crazy as a bed bug."

"Did he say anything to you when you brought him into court to be arraigned?"

"Yes. When we entered the room he said, 'Stand by me, Morris,' and I did."

CODINA GLORIFIES PALLAS.

He Was Assigned to Kill Gen. Campos, but His Courage Failed.

BARCELONA, Dec. 23.—Jose Codina, the anarchist who has already confessed that he threw the bomb that caused upward of thirty deaths in the Lyceum Theater, has made a further confession, giving details of his crimes. He says that he was selected by an anarchist group to assassinate Gen. Martinez de Campos in September last. He, in company with two or three comrades, including Pallas, went to view the march past of the troops, it being his intention to assassinate Gen. De Campos, who was the reviewing officer. He took a position from which it would have been an easy task to have carried out his project, but when the troops arrived his courage failed. The reason for this, he says, was that he realized that if he threw a bomb amid the vast crowd that surrounded Gen. De Campos he would have killed or wounded hundreds of persons. He had the bomb ready to throw, but the thought of the many innocent persons that would suffer restrained him from throwing it. Pallas, as the time set for the assassination drew near, urged Codina to throw the bomb.

Seeing that Codina hesitated, Pallas angrily snatched the bomb from him, saying: "You're no good."

Pallas' nerves were evidently unstrung by the wrangle, and for a time he hesitated to throw the bomb that he had seized. Had he thrown it as he originally intended he would have killed General de Campos, but the delay, which allowed the crowd surging about the reviewing stand to grow thicker, saved the life of the general.

Pallas, when arrested, and until his execution, insisted that he alone was responsible for the attempted assassination, and despite the close questioning of the authorities, he never by a word betrayed that Codina, or any one else, had anything to do with the crime. It was this fact that made him a hero in the eyes of the anarchists, who knew all the facts. His stoicism and willingness to accept death rather than to betray his comrade led Codina to determine that he would give effect to Pallas' threat that his execution would be avenged. Shortly after Pallas was shot at Mount Jucich Codina began his preparations to avenge his comrade's death, and the explosion at the Lyceum Theater followed.

Launch of the Jamestown.

CHESTER, Pa., Dec. 23.—The steamship Jamestown of the Dominion Steamship Company was successfully launched at 12:35 o'clock this afternoon.

The vessel has a molded length of 300 feet, a length over all of 342 feet, a beam of 40 feet and 26 feet, 9 inches depth of hold. The propeller is made of manganese bronze and the vessel is expected to develop a speed of fifteen and a half knots an hour.

Capt. O'Shea's Pecuniary Condition.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—Capt. O'Shea, formerly the husband of the now widow of Charles Stuart Parnell, made application today for the rescinding of the receiving order issued against him a few days ago, by the bankruptcy court. He stated in his application that he was able to pay all his indebtedness in full. The registrar refused to grant the application, and therefore, unless Capt. O'Shea appeals, he will be gazetted as a bankrupt.

Receivership of the Reading.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 23.—Argument was heard today before Judge Butler in the United States circuit court on the petition of Isaac L. Rice asking for the removal of the receivers of the Reading railroad. Judge Butler will decide whether or not the matter shall be referred to Special Master Crawford for a hearing, but a decision is not expected today.

Refused Food for Fifty-Five Days.

BANGOR, Me., Dec. 23.—Mrs. Fanny Landers died yesterday at the Brewer alms house from starvation. She refused to take food for fifty-five days, during which time she drank only a little water. Her husband died just before she began her fast, and despondency probably caused her action. She was thirty years old.

Bursting of a Huge Fly Wheel.

DES MOINES, Iowa, Dec. 23.—The huge fly wheel in the power house of the Des Moines electric railway exploded this morning, wrecking the roof of the building and inflicting damages amounting to $10,000. Nobody was injured.

Decrease in Winter Wheat Sown.

TOLEDO, Ohio, Dec. 23.—During the past four days Messrs. C. A. King & Company have received replies from 3,384 grain dealers and millers in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Kansas and Missouri. Each of these states reports a smaller acreage sown to winter wheat this fall than the amount sown in 1892.

Extensive Cotton Fire at Savannah.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Dec. 23.—A fire started in Flannery's cotton warehouse at midnight. It is estimated that 1,500 bales of cotton are damaged. The insurance underwriters are yet unable to make any statement of the losses, which will probably be in the neighborhood of $20,000 or $25,000.

A bomb, charged with dynamite, was exploded Thursday in the village of Soda, near Corunna, Spain. A drug store was wrecked by the explosion, but nobody was killed.

The drought in the Argentine Republic is causing serious damage to crops, &c. Negotiations are proceeding for the conclusion of a commercial treaty between Argentine and Chile.

Sir Robert Palmer Harding died in London last night of paralysis. He was born in 1821, and held several high offices under the British government.

THE DISTRICT POOR.

Noble Work Done by Members of the Police Force.

The Firemen Also Did Well in Selling Tickets for the Charity Concert—What Partial Returns Indicate.

The full returns from the sale of the tickets for the United States Marine Band at Convention Hall last Wednesday evening are not all in, but enough is known to show that, while the total amount will not be quite so large as the committee hoped for, it will be close on to $4,000 and will go a good ways toward relieving the distress of the worthy poor.

This morning representatives of the committee received the returns from the police, through Property Clerk Sylvester, and counted the currency and coin, which amounted to the sum of $3,302.

The Returns by Precincts.

The returns by precincts were as follows:

First precinct	$724.25
Second precinct	484.50
Third precinct	732.50
Fourth precinct	191.50
Fifth precinct	161.75
Sixth precinct	401.50
Seventh precinct	198.50
Eighth precinct	250.00
Ninth precinct	157.50
Total	$3,302.00

It will be seen that the third precinct did the best work, although here there was a check for $100 given by the minister of the Argentine Republic, which was counted in and credited to the individual account of the officer who obtained it. Without that check the first precinct would be ahead. After these two precincts come the second and sixth. All the men, however, did well, and the committee fully appreciate their labors.

What the Firemen Did.

The firemen were handicapped by the fact that many of their men were suffering from the grip, and that they could not get around among the people as well as the police. They sold tickets, however, to the amount of $314.50, and one fireman got rid of 100 tickets by his personal exertion.

These were the main sources of revenue, and it will be seen that united the police and firemen yielded $3,616.50. The sales at the box office on the night of the concert amounted to $166, and the reserved seat sale reached $149, so that thus far there has been received $3,831.50.

There are some few tickets out yet, and it is hoped that a full account may be made on Tuesday.

Light Expense Account.

The expense account will not be heavy, the only items now known being the heating of the hall, $11.50, the gas bill of $5 and the actual labor for changing the form of the stage, $9. In this latter account Mr. Luchs, the owner of the patent trestle upon which the stage rests, makes no charge for his services, but only asks compensation for the laborers who did the work, and who are themselves too poor to give their services. It is hoped that the gas bill may be cancelled when the committee shall see Mr. McLean, and that will still further reduce the expense account.

Who Will Get the Prizes.

It was hoped by the committee that the prizes to individual policemen and firemen could be distributed today, but the returns from all the precincts as to sales made by particular officers are not all in. Enough is known, however, to show that Officer Hanley of the third precinct heads the list. This is the one who secured the $100 check, but even without that he sold about 900 tickets, which places him in advance of every one else. Officer Sears of the first precinct is probably one of the fortunate prize winners, but beyond these two it is impossible yet to speak. The fireman who sold the greatest number of tickets was Foreman John Sherman of truck B, who disposed of 100.

FOR THE POOR.

A Special Musical Service at the First Presbyterian Church Tomorrow Afternoon.

A service that will arouse general interest is the one that will be held tomorrow afternoon at 4 o'clock in the First Presbyterian Church, 4 1-2 street. A splendid program of music will be sung by a special choir, formed under the direction of N. Du Shane Cloward, with John P. Lawrence organist. The services of the singers and the use of the church are given without cost, as it is the intention to donate the proceeds of the collection for the benefit of the poor of the city. There will be a brief service, with an address by Rev. Dr. Sunderland. The program will be as follows:

Organ voluntary, John P. Lawrence; Unfold, Ye Portals, Gounod, chorus; Scripture reading; Charity, Faun, Mr. Cloward; prayer; Te Deum in E flat (arranged by John P. Lawrence), Buck, male quartet; address, Dr. Sunderland; offertory, O Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem, Knox, chorus; Christmas, Shelley, Mrs. Dr. Gardner; hymn 153, Adeste Fideles, chorus and congregation; Hallelujah chorus (from the Messiah), Handel; benediction.

The Singers.

The choir is composed of the following: Male quartet—Jacob Scharf, first tenor; George Scharf, second tenor; O. C. Hine, first bass; C. F. Hall, second bass; soprano, Mrs. Dr. Gardner, Miss Lue E. H. Wilson, Miss Marie Macnichol, Miss Mollie McKee, Miss Flora Holden, Miss J. Lusk, Miss N. Hughey; alto, Miss C. B. Rheem, Miss Blanche Alpwell, Miss Daisy M. Dexter, Miss Grace Lewis, Miss Clara Boswell, Miss Agnes Hendrick; tenor, B. W. Beebe, Dr. D. H. Riggs, W. T. Reed, Geo. Scharf, Jacob Scharf; bass, O. C. Hine, C. F. Hall, W. A. Domer, W. G. Deeble, B. Frank Meyers.

LOVED THEM BOTH.

But They Did Not Love Each Other, and Hence the Row on 7th Street.

Late last night when the lights in the store windows were being lowered, and the Christmas shoppers were fast disappearing from the business streets, a young colored man strolled leisurely along 7th street, between L and M streets, and with him was Susan Carter, a good looking young woman. They walked along as lovers, wholly unconscious of the lateness of the hour, and failing to notice other pedestrians. Suddenly they were stopped by Carrie Simms, another young woman, who wanted to know why her lover was out with another girl.

The man, it is said, used violence toward Carrie, and then he deserted the women, and left them to the tender mercy of the crowd and the police. Policeman Scramlin soon appeared on the scene, and he arrested both women. This morning they appeared in Judge Kimball's court on a charge of disorderly conduct, and Carrie justified her conduct by saying, "I'm engaged to the man."

"Then," said the judge, "you had some provocation."

"And so am I engaged to him," said Carrie.

Under the circumstances the judge said he would not undertake to tell which one had the greater provocation, and dismissed the case.

They Made Others Happy.

On account of the death of the father of Miss Pollock the Froebel Institute had no public entertainment this year, but instead the children and their teachers bought and trimmed a Christmas tree, which they sent to a poor family of seven little ones under twelve years of age, whose father is a day laborer and who otherwise would not have had any merry Christmas.

Personal Mention.

Prof. John Langdon Weber, formerly well known as associate editor of the News and Courier of Charleston, S. C., but now professor of English at Trinity College, Durham, N. C., is at the Cochran, where he will spend the holiday season.

Rev. Dr. William Alvin Bartlett, the pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, who has been sick for the past week, will be able to occupy his pulpit tomorrow.

Dr. Wade H. Atkinson, 604 12th street northwest, was yesterday appointed physician to the Actors' Fund for this city by the executive committee in New York.

A Known Quantity.

It is the practice of The Star to print on Saturday a sworn statement of its circulation day by day for the preceding week. It would seem self-evident that the advertiser is entitled to this protection, but The Star is alone in this custom as far as Washington is concerned. Below will be found the statement for the week just past.

The average circulation exhibited is believed to be nearly, if not quite, double the combined circulation of the other Washington dailies, and fully five times that of its afternoon contemporary.

CIRCULATION OF THE "EVENING STAR."

SATURDAY, Dec. 16, 1893	39,581
MONDAY, Dec. 18, 1893	37,520
TUESDAY, Dec. 19, 1893	34,251
WEDNESDAY, Dec. 20, 1893	33,839
THURSDAY, Dec. 21, 1893	33,912
FRIDAY, Dec. 22, 1893	33,476
Total	212,579
Daily average	35,430

I solemnly swear that the above statement represents only the number of copies of THE EVENING STAR circulated during the six secular days ending Friday, December 22, 1893—that is, the number of copies actually sold, delivered, furnished or mailed, for valuable consideration, to bona fide purchasers or subscribers, and that none of the copies so counted were returned to or remain in the office unsold.

J. WHIT. HERRON,
Cashier Evening Star Newspaper Co.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this twenty-third day of December, A. D. 1893.

A. B. KELLY,
Notary Public, D. C.

The Star on Christmas Day.

The Evening Star will be issued as usual on Christmas day.

The accounts of The Evening Star Santa Claus Club are being settled up today, and it is believed that over $2,000 in cash will be available for the work of relief which is to begin Monday, besides a large amount of material contributed in the form of provisions and clothing. The returns were being received today from the different divisions of the public schools, and as soon as the returns are complete a full statement will be printed, showing how much money was raised in each division. In some of the districts the amount paid in dues by members of the club exceeded the records of last year. It is a noticeable thing that the schools located in parts of the city where it is commonly believed the greatest amount of poverty exists have, so far as numbers go, taken the most interest in the work of the Santa Claus Club. It may be because the pupils in these schools had their sympathies aroused by actual touch with poverty. But all the districts did well, and the good that will be done this year in the name of the children of the city, and especially of the public school children, will be recorded as one of the most glorious things of Christmas, 1893.

In other schools not connected with the public school system interest was shown in the work. Out of Washington Seminary thirty young ladies became members and wore the badge of the Santa Claus Club. The Friends' School, conducted by Mr. Sidwell, furnished forty eager recruits for Santa Claus' army, and other schools did nearly as well. Then the friends of the club and those who recognized its efficiency as an agency for extending promptly relief at Christmas time have contributed liberally to the treasury, and the result is the handsome amount which will be at the disposal of the managing committee of the club. It is hoped to begin the active work of relief on Christmas day. A canvass of the city has been made by the members of the club, under the direction of the public school teachers, and hundreds of cases of needy ones have been listed. These lists will be used as a basis for apportioning the funds among the different districts of the city, and relief will be given in every case, so far as the available funds will permit. In addition to these lists, scores of applications for relief have been made directly to the Santa Claus Club. The letters that come are usually from children, and are of the most touching description. They show a childish faith in Santa Claus, and appeal to that good saint to send them bread. The Santa Claus Club, while extending relief generally, will make the poor children its special care and strive to see that no little one is cold or hungry on the best of all days. The funds of the club will be expended for fuel, shoes and supplies of that character. The need is great, and every dollar that good people may contribute to the treasury of the club can be laid out to good advantage.

The following subscriptions have been made to the club:

Heretofore acknowledged	$305 12
Myer Cohen	10 00
Cash	25
F. H.	5 00
Lady in Black	1 50
Mrs. F. W. B.	1 00
Warren (a little boy)	01
Cash	50
W. De B. Filton	5 00
Miss M.	1 00
L. T.	1 00
Anti-Slang Club	2 00
N. O. P.	2 00
Cash	1 00
Kitty	1 00
E. J. M.	1 00
Cash	1 00
Woodward & Lothrop	100 00
C. L. S.	5 00
L. G. Taylor	1 00
Madge	1 00
Louise	1 00
H. S. S.	8 00
S. M. D.	1 00
St. John's	25
	$975 88
Estimated receipts from membership dues up to date	$1,700 00
Estimated total	$2,675 38

Subscriptions have been received by The Star for other funds as follows:

General Relief Fund.

Heretofore acknowledged	$20.00
Lewis Jennings	.15
Charles McCann	.15
J. McBride Sterrett	10.00
Mrs. S. A. Chapman	1.00
J. G. G.	4.00
Mrs. M. J. Perry	5.00
H. L.	.25
Total	$40.55

Newsboys' Aid Society.

Heretofore acknowledged	$25.00
Mrs. F. W. B.	1.00
Total	$26.00

Hope and Help Mission.

C. E. B.	$5.00

Dolly Madison Chapter.

The Dolly Madison Chapter of the D. A. R. met at the residence of Miss Mallet, Rhode Island avenue. Thirty members were present. Mrs. Amos Draper, the regent of the chapter, presided. Some changes in the by-laws were harmoniously made. Music, conversation on subjects pertaining to American revolutionary history and a paper on the statesmen of the English parliament in the colonial days of America, read by the historian of the chapter, Mrs. W. Ross Browne, all rendered the evening intellectually profitable and most agreeable.

Henry Pettit, the dramatist, is gravely and probably fatally ill of typhoid fever in London.

DEMAND PROTECTION.

American Merchantmen at Rio Ask Naval Aid.

Vessels Liable to Be Fired on—The Marine Association Ask What is Being Done—Mr. Gresham's Reply.

That no startling events took place yesterday at Rio Janeiro such as the capture of the city and the abdication of President Peixoto was pretty conclusively shown today through the fact that a cable message dated at Rio last night and received at the State Department this morning failed to make mention of any circumstance tending to confirm the sensational reports in circulation. The dispatch was from Mr. Townes, the U. S. consul general at Rio, and was so badly punctuated that it took some time to make its meaning plain.

It relates altogether to the difficulties of American merchantmen at Rio, and as finally deciphered says: "The American masters of merchant vessels hold specific permits from the Brazilian government to land cargoes. The docks specified are contiguous. Protection from shore fire is promised by the government. Instruct Capt. Picking (commanding U. S. forces) to anchor off that point for defense of the merchantmen until the question of protection is equitably suited. Insurgents make their line of fire anywhere to suit their purpose, thereby indefinitely blocking neutral commerce without previous notice."

A Change in Position.

Some time ago President Peixoto directed all merchantmen to move from their regular anchorage to a point further removed from the line of fire. This proved a foolish move on his part, as it gave the insurgents a clear way for bombarding Rio from forts in different parts of the harbor held by them. In this way they were able to pour a constant fire into the custom house and government buildings.

The new position prevented the masters from landing their cargoes without danger, and Peixoto has now given them permission to land their cargoes, promising that the government forces will suspend firing while this is being done. The merchantment have asked, through Mr. Towner, that Capt. Picking place his ships in a position so as to prevent the insurgents from harming them in case they attempt to take advantage of Peixoto's permission to load and unload.

No answer has been made to this dispatch and one is thought to be unnecessary, inasmuch as it is a matter entirely within the discretion of the American naval commander, under his general instructions to protect American interests and allow no interference with its commerce.

A VISIT TO HAWAII

Under the Entertaining Guidance of Prof. Libbey and His Camera.

Prof. William Libbey, jr., of Princeton College delivered an illustrated lecture last night at National Ries' Armory Hall on the Hawaiian Islands. The occasion was a special meeting of the National Geographic Society. The lecture was profusely illustrated and appreciatively attended by a large audience. Prof. Libbey prefaced his remarks by saying that he essayed the subject with a good deal of hesitation, as probably Prof. Alexander, who was present, knew infinitely more about the islands and the islanders than he, the lecturer. He had spent but a brief time there, but had brought a large assortment of pictures with him. The islands, he said, were the most wonderful in the world, from the standpoints of politics, geography and geology. He did not intend to discuss the question of politics. He was a scientific man, had visited the islands with a scientific object and would attempt to tell of his travels through them.

Views of magnificent valleys and volcanic overflows were displayed on the screen. The lectured emphasized the fact that every available acre of cultivable soil was under culture, and he said that one of the secrets of the agricultural success of the islands lay in liberal irrigation.

Prof. Libbey told of his acquaintance with a native lady and showed a portrait of her astride of a horse. The ladies of the islands rode in this position and after the novelty of the thing wore away its propriety and good sense became apparent to the stranger. This sentiment evoked loud applause. The great volcano of Kilauean, with its boiling chasms of red hot, seething and rolling masses and its sulphur-steaming fissures, was visited.

Santa's Club Night.

Santa Claus is going to spend this evening at the Columbia Athletic Club so as to be in town and ready for an early start on Christmas eve. The club has arranged for an immense Christmas tree, upon which will be suspended all manner of presents which members may desire to give to each other, presents ridiculous or useful, cheap or expensive. While the club "smoker" is in full swing the tree will be tapped and the lucky ones called to the front by Santa Claus to receive their presents.

There will be music by Cardilla's orchestra and by members of the club. No cards of invitation will be issued and members are at liberty to bring as many friends as they choose.

Henry Seebode's Will.

The will of the late Henry Seebode was filed today. He leaves $500 to be paid his niece, Dora Giesecke, on reaching twenty-one years of age, and the balance of his estate to his wife, and names Wilhelm Hasselbusch executor.

HE HAD NOTHING TO SAY.

Though He Was Father of the Baby, in Naming It He Did Not Count.

From the Chicago Post.

The father thought he should have something to say in regard to the name the child should bear, and when his wife proposed George Augustus he accepted the first part, but rejected the last; that is, tried to reject it.

"Make it George William," he said. "William is a better name than Augustus, and then it will please Uncle Bill."

"Yes, and every one will call him Bill," she protested. "I don't like the name. Augustus is better."

"You won't make the change?"

"I don't see why I should."

"Very well," he said, as he started for his hat and coat; "I am going to the office."

The next morning, as he was putting on his coat, he asked:

"How about that name?"

"Why, we'll call him George Augustus," she returned, in surprise.

"Good day," he said, as he went out and slammed the door.

When he came home that night he asked: "Is it still Gussie?"

"Augustus," she corrected.

After supper he remarked, sneeringly: "Gussie! Gussie! That's a nice kind of a name, isn't it?"

"Augustus is a very nice name," she replied, calmly.

Before going to church for the baptism the following morning he asked, sarcastically:

"Do you still stick to Gussie?"

"George Augustus," she said, sweetly.

He shut himself in his room for a few minutes and wrote plainly on a sheet of paper, "George William." Then he put it and a $10 bill in an envelope and joined the baptismal party. Once at the church he slipped off to one side and handed the clergyman the envelope.

"Thank you for the fee," said the latter, "but I already have the name. Your wife gave it to me."

"I thought you might make a mistake in it," suggested the father.

"Oh, no. It's written very plainly 'George Augustus.'"

The father sighed and gave up the struggle, but he is getting his revenge now by informing admiring friends in his wife's presence that the baby's name is "Gussie."

Jersey City's Paving Contracts.

TRENTON, N. J., Dec. 23.—Judge Abbett filed a decision in the supreme court today declaring that the action of the board of street and water commissioners of Jersey City in dividing a street paving contract between the Trinidad Asphalt Company and the Barber Asphalt Company is illegal and void. Jeresy City's charter provides that contracts shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

Another Successful Raid Made by the Bears.

THE LONDON MARKET WAS NOT OPEN.

Advance in Atchison Bonds the Day's Feature.

GENERAL MARKET REPORTS.

Special Dispatch to The Evening Star.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Today's short session resulted in another bear triumph, and closed with only a slight gain over low figures. There was no London market today, and foreigners will not figure in stock speculation again until Wednesday.

Renewed liquidation in New England resulted in depressing the price of that property 4 1-2 per cent to 15 1-4. As was the case at the time of the first break in price earlier in the week, everybody interested in the stock denied all knowledge of any legitimate reason for the decline. That the pool selling started the break there is no doubt, but the continued weakness leads to the presumption that, reports to the contrary notwithstanding, insiders have been marketing considerable long stock.

Western Union was active again at a decline of 1 1-4 per cent to 81. New York Central sold down to 3-4 per cent to 97 3-4, and Lackawanna gained 2 1-8 per cent to 161.

Distillers was weak on a continuation of short selling, and declined 2 1-2 per cent to 21 3-4. Sugar gained 1 per cent to 80 1-2, and Chicago Gas advanced 3-4 of a point to 61 5-8.

The industrials were all in good demand at the close, and, in comparison with the rest of the market, were fairly steady throughout the day.

The feature of the day was the sharp advance in the price of Atchison bonds on the rumor that the company had made provision to meet all interest demands maturing January 1. While no official announcement to that effect was made, the room was inclined to the belief that some satisfactory disposition of the interest problem had been reached.

The bank statement again fell short of the improvement predicted early in the day, but compares favorably with its immediate predecessors. The banks have gained $2,600,000 in lawful money, which, added to the increase in loans, brings the total amount of deposits up to $3,300,000. This latter increase will require over $800,000 additional reserve and leave 1 3-4 millions to be applied to the surplus reserve, making the latter item $78,000,000.

A summary of the statement follows: Reserve increased $1,768,950, loans increased $865,100, specie increased $972,500, legals increased $1,620,600, deposits increased $3,296,600 and circulation increased $199,900.

The market has shown practically no recuperative power during the week and has had no material rally from bear raids, which have been persistently renewed each morning. Prices have advanced slightly on every attempt at cornering, but the new selling orders which this process invariably uncovered quickly discounted the improvement and grafted new energy into the bear campaign. The sentiment of the room was bearish at today's closing, which was irregular at a net decline for the day.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

The following are the opening, the highest and the lowest and the closing prices of the New York stock market today, as reported by Corson & Macartney, members New York stock exchange, Correspondents Messrs. Moore & Schley, No. 80 Broadway:

Stocks.	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
American Sugar	79¾	80⅛	79⅝	80⅛
American Sugar, pfd	.....	.....	.....	.....
American Tobacco	68	68	68	68
American Cotton Oil	27⅞	27⅞	26⅝	27
Atchison	14⅝	14⅞	14	14⅜
Canada Southern	50⅛	50⅛	50	50
Canada Pacific	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ches. & Ohio	16⅛	16⅛	16⅛	16⅛
C. C. C. & St. L.	35⅝	35⅝	35⅝	35⅝
Chicago, B. & Q.	75⅞	75⅞	75	75⅞
Chic. & Northwestern	96⅝	96⅝	96⅛	96⅛
Chicago Gas	60⅞	61⅝	60	61⅝
C. M. & St. Paul	58	58	57⅝	58
C. M. & St. Paul pfd	116	116	116	116
Chic. R. I. & Pacific	65⅛	65⅛	64⅝	64⅝
Del., Lack. & W	158⅞	161	158⅞	161
Delaware & Hudson	128⅛	128⅛	127⅞	128⅛
Den. & Rio Grande	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dis. & Cattle Feed'g	24⅛	24⅛	21⅝	23⅛
General Electric	36⅞	37⅛	36⅛	37⅛
Illinois Central	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lake Shore	123	123	122⅝	122⅝
Erie	14⅛	14⅛	14⅛	14⅛
Louis. & Nashville	47⅞	47⅞	47⅞	47⅞
Long Island	.....	.....	.....	.....
L. N. A. & Chicago	.....	.....	.....	.....
Manhattan Elevated	122	122⅛	122	122⅛
Michigan Central	.....	.....	.....	.....
Missouri Pacific	21⅛	21⅛	21	21⅛
National Lead Co.	22⅞	22⅞	22⅞	22⅞
Nat. Cordage Co.	17	17⅞	17	17⅞
Nat. Cordage pfd	.....	.....	.....	.....
N. Jersey Central	114	114	114	114
New York Central	98⅛	99	97⅞	98⅛
N. Y. N. Haven & H.	19⅞	19⅞	19⅛	19⅛
N. Y. C. & St. Louis	.....	.....	.....	.....
Northern Pacific	5	5⅛	4⅞	5
Northern Pacific pfd	19	19	19	19
North American	3⅛	3⅛	3⅛	3⅛
Ont. & Western	15⅞	15⅞	15⅛	15⅛
Pacific Mail	.....	.....	.....	.....
Phila. & Reading	18	18⅛	18⅛	18⅛
Pullman P. Car Co.	163⅛	163⅛	162⅞	163⅛
Richmond Terminal	2⅛	2⅛	2⅛	2⅛
Southern Pacific	20⅛	20⅛	19⅞	19⅞
Texas Pacific	7	7	7	7
Tenn Coal & Iron	15⅛	15⅛	15⅛	15⅛
Union Pacific	18⅞	19⅛	18⅞	19⅛
Wabash	7	7⅛	7	7
Wabash pfd	13⅞	13⅞	13⅞	13⅞
Wheeling & L. E.	13⅛	13⅛	13	13⅛
Wheeling & L. E. pfd	50	50	49⅞	49⅞
Western Union Tel