AN EXCITING CAPTURE

Fairfax County Prisoners Caught in This City.

They Had Made Their Escape From Jail After Being Sentenced to Nine Years' Imprisonment.

Harry Poss and Thomas Henry, two of the four men who escaped from the Fairfax jail on the night of March 18, were captured in this city by Detectives Weedon, Horn, Boyd and Lacy at No. 200 Indiana avenue about half-past 5 o'clock Saturday afternoon. They were not taken, however, until after an exciting chase. Poss and Henry are residents of Alexandria. Poss is considered the more desperate of the two, having attempted to cut the throats of two men, and has been arrested upon several occasions, charged with minor offenses. Henry served part of a sentence in the naval prison at Boston, being pardoned on the plea of insanity.

Information was received at police headquarters that two men answering the description of the two men were in the boarding house of Mrs. Brownleigh, having been driven there at 3 o'clock Saturday morning in a closed carriage by a prominent Alexandria lawyer. The detectives were detailed upon the case, and they were informed when they reached the house that no such men were there. The officers, not believing the statement, proceeded to search the house. On the fourth floor they found a bath room door locked, and, knocking at it for admittance, received no reply. They forced an entrance. The room was empty, but there was a trap door in the ceiling, leading to the attic. Boyd endeavored to open it, but it was found that some heavy weight had been placed on it. After struggling at it for some time, it finally yielded, and to his surprise he found another trap, which led onto the roof.

In a few seconds two of the detectives were on the roof, and the two men were found to be there. Henry ran behind a chimney and tried to hide, but he was soon in custody, but Poss was not to be taken so easily. He made a run to the next building, which is separated from the house he was on by a twelve-foot alley, and about seventy-five feet from the street below. He then ran the whole length of the square on the house tops to Trinity Church, and climbed to the ground on the rain spout. Detective Horne was there and quickly made him a prisoner.

Their Identification.

The men were taken to the sixth precinct and placed behind the bars, and the Fairfax authorities notified. At the station they gave their names as John Williams and Charles Taylor, and said they were from Pittsburg, and that they had been working in a roller mill there. The Alexandria correspondent of The Star, who had known Poss and Henry for a number of years, hearing of the arrest of the two men, came to Washington, and, with Detective Weedon, called at the sixth precinct, and when he called the prisoners by name they pretended not to know him. When told that The Star man was from his home in Alexandria, Poss said that he had never been in Alexandria.

About 10 o'clock Sheriff Gordan, accompanied by Officer Atkinson of Alexandria, arrived and proceeded to police headquarters, and in a short while were on their way in the patrol wagon for the Pennsylvania depot, where they had made arrangements to have the Chesapeake and Ohio train stop at Fairfax station for them.

At Alexandria Officer Beach met the train and proceeded to Fairfax Court House with Sheriff Gordon. The trip to Fairfax station was uneventful, and there the sheriff had a double team, and the prisoners were placed handcuffed upon the back seat while the officers occupied the front.

Their Crime.

The story of the crime for which Poss and Henry were convicted and sentenced to nine years in the Virginia penitentiary was published in The Star at the time. On the evening of the 29th of November last they followed Mr. Alexander McClintock, an old Fairfax county farmer, to Edsall's station, on the Southern railway, and about a half a mile from the station one of them knocked McClintock in the head with a stone, very nearly killing him. They then proceeded to go through him, securing about $5.50. They gagged him, but Mr. McClintock finally got loose and notified the Alexandria authorities of what had happened, and Poss and Henry were arrested in Burnett's saloon. They were taken to Fairfax, tried and convicted, but succeeded in getting a stay of execution for sixty days.

A close watch will be kept on them now until they are taken to the penitentiary.

What They Say.

The prisoners say they have hovered about Washington in the woods the two days and nights of their liberty. The first night they stayed in the woods between Fairfax Court House and Falls Church, and the next night near Hyattsville, Md. They had just come to Washington Saturday. They protest that they had no assistance from the outside, and that the plot was made and successfully accomplished by A. J. Wheaton, a fellow prisoner. Poss says that they had the door of the cell open by 9:30 the night of the escape, but did not leave it until 11:30 on account of the noises they heard in the jailer's house. After coming out of their cells, he said, it was only the work of about half an hour with the leg of an iron bedstead to make a hole through the brick wall of the jail.

Harvey Wheeler, one of the prisoners who stayed in the jail, says that the three white men went out first, and when Cassius Page, the colored prisoner who escaped, tried the hole, it was not big enough to pass his corpulent body. He bemoaned his fate and exclaimed: "So near my liberty, and still I can't go free," but just at that time he thought he heard the jailer coming, so he made an extra effort and effected his escape. Cassius was the most sensible of all, for he took a blanket with him.

Nothing has been heard of the other two fugitives. Poss and Henry say that they parted company with them at the jail, and have not seen them since, and know nothing of their whereabouts.

HE SAID HE WOULDN'T,

But Three Brawny Men Convinced Him That He Must.

There was an amusing scene on F street this morning as a result of the excavations which are being made for the underground electric system. Between 13th and 14th streets temporary tracks have been laid as close as possible to the curbing on the north side of the street. A young man in a low buggy or phaeton drove up and stopped in front of one of the stores on that side of the street, leaving his vehicle directly on the track.

The driver had a jag—a jag of such proportions that the spectators believed it must have been left over from Saturday night; it seemed impossible that a man could have accumulated such a beauty by 11 o'clock of a Monday morning. There he stopped, and there he said he was going to stay. In a few minutes three west-bound cars were tied up, unable to get around that light phaeton. The driver of the first car argued with the jagged gentleman with Chesterfieldian politeness. When he was joined by the driver of the second car there was less politeness and more insistence. When the third joined the group the atmosphere became redolent with profanity.

"By blankety blank, you will move your horse;" and it was "By blankety blank, I won't." It was a fight against desperate odds, but he argued that he had a perfect right to stop his horse by the curb, and if the Metropolitan car line chose to move their tracks in his way the responsibility was on the company and not on him if the cars were blockaded. Then it was "By blankety, blank, blank, blank, we'll move your horse for you," and "By blankety blank, blank, I'll be blanked if you do." There was enough profanity to have convicted all four before Judge Kimball, but the end came soon.

They didn't do a thing to that inebriated individual. They simply threw him across the street; that was all. He tried to hang on to the horse's bridle, and the result was that the horse and phaeton were backed across a big pile of iron yokes and rails and considerable of the harness was ruined. The outfit was dumped into a shallow excavation, where the conductor of the third car held the horse while a disinterested spectator held the driver, and thus the blockade was raised.

Some time later a policeman, patrolling his beat, passed that way.

BETTING IN THE DISTRICT

What District Attorney Birney Says About the Bartlett Bill.

He Likes It Pretty Well All Except the Last Paragraph, Which He Thinks Unnecessary.

"So far as I am aware," remarked District Attorney Birney to a Star reporter today, "there is nothing in existing laws which prevents the making of private bets on horse racing in the District—that is, beyond one mile of the limits of Washington and Georgetown. Within those cities, however, the act of Congress of 1891 prohibits betting, private or public, on horse races, boat races, base ball games, etc."

"But," explained Mr. Birney, "in no section of the District, within or beyond the one-mile limit, is public betting of any kind permissible. Nor can any one, gambler or private citizen, engage in anything anywhere in the District in any scheme which amounts to an inducement or enticement of another person to bet with him. For that, under the decision of the Court of Appeals in the Miller case, would be a violation of the act of 1883, which prohibits the setting of a gaming table, a gaming table being defined by the fourth section of that act as 'any game, device or contrivance, at which money or any other thing shall be bet or wagered.' So while I see nothing in existing laws to prevent strictly private betting, yet, if any one, anywhere, by any means induces or entices another to bet, and that, too, whether he does or does not make a memorandum of the bet or in any other way records it, directly or indirectly, he is guilty of setting up a gaming table, and is liable to a term of imprisonment in the penitentiary."

Mr. Bartlett's Bill.

Mr. Birney so expressed himself while discussing a bill introduced in the House of Representatives last month by Mr. Bartlett of New York. The bill is entitled "A bill for the incorporation of associations for the improvement of the breed of horses, and to regulate the same, and to establish a racing commission." The last section of the bill is as follows:

"Sec. 9. That any person who, upon any race course authorized by or entitled to the benefits of this act, shall make, or directly or indirectly shall record, upon sheets or in books, bets or wagers on the result of any trial or contest of speed or power of endurance of horses taking place upon such race course shall forfeit the value of any money or property received or held by him as a result of such wager, to be recovered in a civil action by the person or persons from whom such money or property is received.

"This penalty is exclusive of all other penalties or punishments prescribed by law for the acts above specified: Provided, however, That the occupation of any room, shed, booth or place for the purpose of making registry or record of bets; the exchanging, delivering or transferring therein of a record, registry, memorandum, token, paper or document of any kind whatever, as evidence of any such bet or wager; or the subscribing by name, initials or otherwise of any record, registry or memorandum in the possession of any other person of a bet or wager, intended to be retained by such other person, or any other person, as evidence of such bet or wager, shall be deemed to be bookmaking or the use of gambling devices, and punishable as bookmaking or the use of gambling devices is now punished."

Objection to the Last Paragraph.

"I like the bill pretty well," said Mr. Birney, "with the exception of the last paragraph, which prescribes a penalty for bookmaking which, I very much fear, may result in some form of gambling not exactly covered by that provision of the proposed law. As the laws now stand, I fail to see any necessity whatever for such a provision. It is, however, contradictory, and may cause no little trouble. Therefore I would suggest that the provision in question be stricken out. We have, by the decision of the Court of Appeals in the Miller case, the offense of bookmaking and all that sufficiently defined and guarded against by the act of 1883, as construed by that court.

"I cannot quite understand why the section in question is desired. I do not mean to intimate that the provision is a device to evade existing law, for, in fact, I think it may have been intended for just the opposite purpose, but I do fear that unless it is stricken out a contrary effect may be given it. If the section be stricken out, I think the bill would then be unobjectionable. Therefore, I can but oppose it as it now stands. As I have stated, I can see no necessity for such a provision. Strictly private betting outside the mile limit is not now prohibited, and, furthermore, I do not believe that strictly private wagers were ever intended or attempted to be prohibited."

AFFAIRS IN GEORGETOWN.

Several Important Sales of Real Estate Recorded Saturday.

There were several important sales affecting Georgetown property recorded Saturday. Amzi L. Barber of the Baroer Asphalt Paving Co. bought of Thomas, Rosa D. and Thomas J. Chew, trustees, a part of Mt. St. Alban's tract, containing 26¼ acres. The price paid was $125,000, or a little less than $5,000 an acre. The land is located on the Tenleytown road, just at the south intersection of Woodley Lane road, and embraces St. Alban's Church. In the purchase $25,000 was paid in cash, and a deed of trust of $100,000 given, to be equally divided among the children, Rosa and Thomas J. Chew. It is understood that Mr. Barber contemplates erecting a magnificent residence on the place.

Upton B. Mackall and R. A. Casilear have sold for John Devine to Harry W. Blunt, jr., premises 1529 34th street, improved by a two-story brick house, with a frontage of 17 feet and a depth of 96 feet. The price paid was $1,275.

Mary E. Swann has bought of Frederick H. Wilson part of lot 190 of Barr and others' subdivision of square 40, of Beall's addition. The consideration is not given, but the property is subject to a trust of $3,000.

A Dangerous Game.

Some of the children of the West End have struck upon a new scheme, though rather dangerous, of amusing themselves. The latest thing is to monkey with the water and sewer traps, which are everywhere seen. The young Americans have found out that the gas generated in the closed space will ignite. They drop a lighted match at the hole of the trap, and an explosion occurs, which throws the iron covering up in the air over a sheet of flame. Last evening a crowd of youngsters were fooling with the water main man-hole at 32d and N streets. The heavy iron trap went up in the air for a distance of fifteen feet, and one youth was badly burned around the head and face.

Officers Elected.

The home of Mr. John W. Brauner was the scene of the meeting of the Senior Club of the Central High School, class of '95, Saturday evening. The meeting was especially important on account of the fact that officers were elected to serve for the ensuing term of three months. The officers elected were: President, R. S. Warfield; vice president, Miss Edith Marean; secretary-treasurer, Philip Tindall.

A Pump Being Removed.

The old pump which for so many years has been a landmark on the east side of 32d street just below P street is being removed.

McKinley in Minnesota.

The outlook is said to be that Senator C. K. Davis cannot count on more than two of the delegates of his own state.

The counties have gone heavily against the Minnesota Senator, and of the thousand delegates to the state convention tomorrow McKinley has over 700.

Five of the seven district conventions are to be held today, and of these the second, third, sixth and seventh will instruct for McKinley. The fourth is for Davis. The fifth, held Saturday, instructed for McKinley.

The first district convention will not be held until Friday, but it will be for McKinley.

It is a question whether McKinley's friends will push his advantage to the extent of claiming the state delegation of four.

HANCOCK STATUE ARRIVES

It Reached This City From Providence Today.

A Notable Addition to the Monuments of the Capital to Be Erected in Market Space.

The equestrian statue of Gen. Hancock, which is to be erected on the reservation on the north side of Pennsylvania avenue between 7th and 8th streets, arrived in this city this morning, and it is expected will be put in position with as little delay as possible.

The statue came over the Pennsylvania road, securely packed in huge boxes, and made a heavy load. It is now stored at the freight office of the Baltimore and Potomac railroad, and the contractor who has charge of its removal has been notified of its arrival.

The statue of Gen. Winfield Scott Hancock will be a notable addition to the equestrian figures which decorate the national capital. From an artistic point of view it is said to be a fine piece of work, and it will add considerably to the general appear-

ance of the avenue. The statue was shipped from Providence, R. I., about the middle of last week.

In a competition held two years ago the model submitted by Mr. H. J. Ellicott of this city was chosen, and the contract awarded to him, an appropriation of $49,000 being made to provide for the entire cost of the monument. Of this sum $18,000 has already been paid, the remainder to be paid on the receipt of the statue. Mr. Ellicott immediately commenced work on it, and on the 15th of last July it was sent to the foundry of the Gorham Manufacturing Company, in Providence, to be cast in bronze. Their contract requires that the statue be insured to the amount of $25,000, and be delivered by their own men on the ground in perfect condition. Several weeks ago Col. Wilson inspected it in Providence, and found it to be an excellent bronze casting and satisfactory in every respect.

The statue shows Gen. Hancock as he appeared on the morning of the last day at Gettysburg, in which battle he was later in the day severely wounded in the moment of victory. He sits firmly in the saddle, slightly checking his impatient steed, and wearing a look of cool, quiet dignity. The action of the horse is spirited, but the animal seems to be under the restraining influence of the steady hand, and the whole statue gains in power from the reserve force that appears to be latent in both horse and rider. It is regarded as one of the best things Mr. Ellicott has done, and shows, more than the Gen. Spinner memorial, now awaiting a place at the treasury, his thorough knowledge of his art.

The pedestal for the Hancock statue, designed by A. B. Mullett & Co., architects, is of red granite, and aside from the carving around the shields, at either end, is quite simple and substantial in its lines. There is no inscription on the base, nor will there be unless it be simply the name. The statue will face to the west in order that it may be seen to the best advantage from the avenue, and in many ways the position of the monument is a very good one, as it may also be seen from Louisiana avenue in both directions, and for a short distance on 7th street.

Of the many generals whose memory the nation has honored with a monument General Hancock deserved as much as any one such a recognition. Conspicuous for his gallant conduct in the Mexican war, while still only a lieutenant, and taking active part in the Seminole troubles in Florida, his ability and courage were thoroughly proved before the civil war called upon him to play an important part. He received the nomination for the presidency in 1880, and while he failed of election he lost nothing of the respect and admiration of his countrymen. He retained his distinguished position in the army for the remainder of his life. Few, if any, of our officers of high rank had such a long, continuous service, reaching as it did from the Mexican war to the date of his death in 1886.

VALUE OF FOOD SUBSTANCES.

Man Confined in an Air Tight Box for a Week in Good Health.

Dr. O. F. Tower, the instructor at Wesleyan University, who for the last week has been in a hermetically sealed box for the purpose of testing the effect of various food products upon the human system, came out of his prison Saturday.

All the food he has eaten, and even the air which has been pumped into his cage for the last week, have been weighed. He was in excellent health. After taking a little exercise he said that he never felt better in his life.

The experiment of which Dr. Tower was the subject is one of a series conducted under the auspices of the United States Department of Agriculture by Prof. Atwater for the purpose of ascertaining the value of certain substances as food and to determine what proportions of them go to building up muscular tissue and the creation of heat.

Dr. Tower, when he went into the box, which is a modification of Pettenkorfer's calorimeter, weighed 160 pounds. Prof. Atwater declines to make public the result of the experiment until he has presented the results of the series to the Department of Agriculture. This will not be for several months.

Another man will enter the calorimeter, to remain ten days. Dr. Tower will have charge of the diet of the new subject, a task toward which he looks forward with much interest.

NOTED THEOSOPHIST DEAD.

William Judge, the President of the Society in America.

William Q. Judge, president of the Theosophical Society in America, died in New York Saturday. He has been, since the death of Mme. Blavatsky, the most conspicuous theosophist in this country.

Mr. Judge was one of the original members and the first secretary of the first theosophical society in this country.

When Mme. Blavatsky died, a few years ago, there was a question as to which was the "parent" organization, and Annie Besant, on behalf of the London Theosophists, became embroiled with the leaders of the society in this country. Henry S. Olcott, the first president of the American society, and William Q. Judge upheld the theories of the theosophists on this side of the Atlantic. The upshot of this difference was that at the national convention of the society, in Boston, last year, the American theosophists declared themselves free and independent, and established the Theosophical Society in America.

Board of Trade Action Indorsed.

Mr. C. B. Church, chairman of the board of trade committee on harbor improvements, has received the following letter, signed by more than thirty prominent residents of Anacostia:

"We, the undersigned business men, property owners and residents of Anacostia, desire to express our heartfelt thanks for the interest your board has taken in the matter of the Anacostia flats and the deepening of the channel of the river. These flats are a menace to the public health, and the reclaiming of them is, we believe, essential to the health of our citizens, and likewise to the health of the citizens of Washington.

"We heartily indorse your action in the matter, and will co-operate with the board in any way we can."

AFFAIRS IN ALEXANDRIA

Nelson, the Jackson City Saloon Keeper, Indicted Today for Murder.

No Charge Yet Made Against the Jockey Club—Call for a Republican Convention.

The March term of the Alexandria county court began in this city this morning, with Judge D. M. Chichester presiding. A special grand jury has been summoned, and was sworn in and returned the following true bill: John Nelson, for the murder of Benj. Hines, colored, for felonious and malicious shooting of Deputies E. M. Deutermann and Milton H. Johnson, and for permitting gambling on his premises; Albert Carpenter, for housebreaking, and William McReynolds, for feloniously and maliciously causing bodily harm to Augustus Green. The grand jury was then discharged for the term.

The Jockey Club Case.

The county officials did not today present the indictment which they have been busily engaged in preparing for several days against the officials of the Virginia Jockey Club for violating the Maupin anti-gambling bill. Commonwealth Attorney Johnson, when asked by The Star man as to what action would now be taken, said that he had not made up his mind as to what he would do or in what manner or form it would be done. When asked as to who had the matter in charge he replied that he had entire control and would not say whether anything would be done this week. The receiving of commissions at the track is still going on today. About 150 people are present.

A Republican Convention.

A call has been issued by Chairman Crupper of the city republican committee for a convention to be held at Sarepta Hall Friday night for the purpose of electing delegates for the district convention, which meets at Manassas April 21, and the state convention, which meets at Staunton on April 23. The city committee recommend that ward meetings be held Thursday night to elect delegates to the city convention. The places for holding these meetings in the wards are not given in the call.

Police Court.

Mayor Thompson this morning disposed of the following cases: Samuel Tennyson, C. R. Govang, J. W. Conies and Scott Butler, colored, charged with being drunk on the street on Sunday; fined $1 each. Ella Brown, Lottie Short and Henry Bradley, arrested by Sergt. Smith, charged with being drunk and disorderly; fined $2.50, in default of which they will go down for thirty days. Sarah Levi, colored, arrested by Officer Howson, charged with indecent conduct; fined $2. Grace Nevitt, arrested by Officer Hall, vulgar conduct; fined $5. Margaret Alexander, charged with selling liquor on Sunday, plead guilty, and was fined $12. John Schafe, charged with running a speak-easy, was fined $17.

Notes.

The brick house on the west side of Lee street between Franklin and Jefferson streets was offered for sale Saturday by the trustees of the Mt. Vernon Building Association, No. 2, and was bid in by the association for $550.

The report that an attempt had been made last Thursday night to burglarize the George R. Hill Company's cracker factory is denied.

Commissioner Thos. R. Keith has sold 154 acres of land in Mt. Vernon district, Fairfax county, to Mr. Peter Hall for $2,000.

Ex-Mayor Henry Strauss is confined to his home on King street suffering with the grip.

LAUNCH INTO THE DEEP.

Large Crowds Attend the Services Conducted by Gipsy Smith.

Chairs were placed in the auditorium of the Metropolitan M. E. Church yesterday to provide seats for the great throng of people who were anxious to hear Rev. Rodney Smith, the gipsy evangelist. It was the second Sunday of his labors in this city, and it is apparent from the attendance that the interest continues unabated. The meetings will close next Sunday evening, services being held each evening during the present month.

The text of the sermon delivered yesterday morning by Rev. Mr. Smith was from Luke, fifth chapter, a part of the fourth verse, "Launch out into the deep." He said the average Christian was afraid to launch out, but stood on the beach, just letting the water of holiness touch his toes. He represents the Christian who goes to church but once a week. The Christian who wades in up to his knees is the one who goes to church twice on Sunday, and when the water reaches the loins he can be depended on as going to church twice on Sunday and to prayer meeting during the week. What churches need is the earnest Christian who "launches out into the deep." He said: "You can't catch large fish in shallow water." The great want of the church today is more of Jesus and less of the world. If members of the churches had more of real spiritual religion they would not need any Gipsy Smith to help them. "Some of you unhappy, long-faced Christians think you have lots of religion, when, in fact, you are only bilious."

He spoke of what little interest some so-called Christians take in trying to save souls, and illustrated it by referring to two revivals held in England in 1877. After the close of each the "cranks" in both the churches where these revivals were held found fault because but one person in each church had been converted, and they were boys. Who were these two boys? The first was the Rev. Mr. Cook, the great English evangelist, who recently was the means of converting 9,000 people in Australia, and the other was Gipsy Smith.

At the close of the sermon the evangelist asked that all who desired to lead a Christian life would signify such desire by standing. A very large number arose.

At the evening service the attendance was even larger than in the morning. The evangelist made a strong and convincing argument in favor of Christianity and Christian life, which resulted in a score or more giving evidence of their desire to lead a higher and better life.

In the Churches Yesterday.

Methodist churches were crowded yesterday, the large congregations being attracted by a desire to see and hear the new pastors who have just been assigned by the Baltimore conference or to greet the ones who had been returned to their flocks for another year's labor. Those who delivered their initial sermons to their present congregations were Rev. Dr. W. R. Stricklen at Hamline, Rev. W. G. Cassard at Twelfth Street, Rev. Dr. G. W. Leech at Grace, Rev. S. L. Bryant at St. Paul's, Rev. Dr. H. K. Naylor at McKendree and Rev. G. W. Hobbs at Trinity. The copastor of the Metropolitan Church, Rev. Dr. Luther T. Townsend, and Rev. Samuel Shannon, who has been assigned to Gorsuch, did not preach yesterday. After the sermons the pastors held informal receptions, the members of their congregations crowding forward to make their acquaintance and assure them of a hearty welcome and loyal support.

Cardinal Gibbons preached at St. Augustine's Church yesterday morning, and in the afternoon officiated at the confirmation services, at which a class of new communicants numbering about 140 persons was received.

Miss Mabel Hartford delivered an address before the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society yesterday afternoon in Foundry Church. Miss Hartford is one of the missionaries who narrowly escaped death in China at the time of the recent riots, and her recital of the stirring events through which the missionaries passed in that time of peril was eagerly listened to by the large audience.

The regular meeting for men held under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A. was addressed yesterday afternoon by Staff Captain Cox of the Salvation Army.

Capital Camera Club Lecture.

"Posing in Relation to Photography" was the subject of an interesting lecture delivered Saturday evening in Carroll Institute Hall by Mr. Charles E. Fairman of the Capital Camera Club. In connection with the lecture a number of artistic slides were shown.

ELECTION BY THE HOUSE

That May Be the Result of the Voting Next November.

Neither Candidate May Receive a Majority of the Electoral College—How It May Happen.

The posibility that the next President may be elected by the House of Representatives is frequently discussed by the politicians at the Capitol, and there are many who do not regard it as an uncertainty. The speculation on this interesting point arises because of the muddled political condition. While everything points to the election by an overwhelming majority of the republican nominee, that outcome may not be certain.

Sitting in the cloak room of the House a few days ago were a number of Representatives discussing the political situation from various points of view. The question of an election by the House was talked of, and then the alleged candidacy of Secretary Carlisle was injected into the discussion. Representative Livingston remarked that Carlisle could not carry a southern state. A Kentucky democrat added the remark that four years ago the opinion was that Cleveland could not be elected. "The situation is such," he said, "that every prediction is the merest guesswork. There is as much likelihood that the next House will be called upon to elect a President as anything else. I know that the outlook is not hopeful for the democrats, but the history of our party is full of election surprises. In many an election in which it was thought the democrats had no chance they have won handsomely. This is too big a country, and there are too many voters in it for any party to think it has a 'cinch.'"

How It Might Happen.

The election of a President by the House could come about in several ways. Should there be a bolt of the silver republicans at St. Louis, a bolt of the silver democrats at Chicago, and a union of all the silverites and populists, a strong new party would be the consequence. Then, should the republicans, which is likely to be the case, adopt a platform favoring the use of the two metals, and the gold element of the democratic party put out a platform favoring the single gold standard, and giving silver the grand bounce, it can be easily seen how uncertain the situation would be. The nomination of Mr. Cleveland or Mr. Olney on a single standard platform, the nomination of Gov. McKinley or some other republican on a platform for the use of the two metals, and the nomination of a free coinage candidate would complicate matters considerably.

The dissatisfaction over the McKinley platform, up to date, comes mainly from the New York bankers and their followers, who want to see silver relegated to the rear. Mr. Cleveland has always held the esteem and confidence of these men. Would not they put up money heavily to secure his re-election on the platform named? Would they not also contribute to the republican campaign fund?

Speculation as to States.

Following the line indicated, supposing the gold-standard democrats could carry New York, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Maryland, or a few other states; the republicans carry the usual republican states, with the exception of the south and west; the silver men the south and west? Neither party would have a majority in the electoral college. It is reasonable to suppose that a party adhering to a single gold standard would stand a chance of carrying a few states. It would be almost sure to carry New York, it is argued. The platform might not suit Tammany, but that organization would support it in preference to the republican or silver party. The gold-standard people might also pick up several northwestern states.

Southern democrats say that Cleveland could poll thousands more votes than Carlisle or Olney. His position is known, and there can be no doubt how he stands. Carlisle has changed positions, and there is not the confidence in him that there is in the President. Mr. Olney is not well enough known.

The foregoing is the way the politicians talk about the situation in the cloak room and wherever else they meet.

THE VENEZUELAN COMMISSION.

No Decision Yet Reached as to the Boundary Question.

Mr. Mallet Prevost, secretary of the Venezuelan boundary commission, has made an official denial of the report that the commission has reached a decision with reference to the boundary question favorable to Venezuela. "It must be evident to all persons," he says, "that so long as anything remains to be examined and considered, the commissioners are not in a position to form an opinion respecting the merits of the controversy. As a matter of fact neither the commission nor the individual commissioners are as yet in possession of all the evidence. The papers presented by Venezuela are but a part of what has been promised. The blue book of the British government, while remarkably full and detailed, does not include all the documents which may be adduced in support of its contentions. The commission has not and will not limit itself to the consideration of what those two governments may present; it has been engaged upon independent lines of inquiry and will continue to follow those lines until all its sources of information shall have been exhausted. Then, and not until then, will it be in a position to form any opinion or to make any report."

THE INDIAN SERVICE.

A Presidential Order Extending the Civil Service Provisions.

The President has issued a comprehensive order extending the civil service rules to practically the entire Indian service, save those offices above and including that of agent, to which appointments are made by the President, and the few minor positions of a laboring character, like cooks and washerwomen. Indians who show their fitness hereafter are to be allowed appointment to any of these positions, though they cannot secure transfer to positions in the classified service outside of the Indian work. The order amends the classification of the Interior Department, so as to include among the positions classified thereunder and subject to competitive examination clerk, assistant clerk, issue clerk, property clerk, storekeeper and all other clerical positions at Indian agencies and Indian schools. It also amends the classification of the Indian service, so as to include among the positions classified thereunder supervisor of Indian schools, day school inspector, disciplinarian, industrial teacher, teacher of industries, kindergarten teacher, farmer, nurse, assistant matron and seamstress.

Recent Robberies Reported.

William Weber, 1326 6th street northwest, complains of the theft of a silver watch, revolver and a razor from his house several days ago.

David Chambers reports to the police that an overcoat, two suits of clothes, eight shirts, derby hat and $10 in money were stolen Friday night from his house on the Conduit road.

A pocketbook, containing $18, the property of J. T. Campbell, 111 11th street southeast, was stolen Thursday night from his house.

Charles C. Gaines of 2005 15th street complains to the police of the theft of twelve silver table spoons, eighteen teaspoons, thirteen forks, thirteen knives and forty-two table napkins. They were stolen on the 28th of December, but the fact was not reported until this morning.

Oscar Bache, 1325 4½ street, has reported the loss by theft of an overcoat from his house Saturday evening.

Scott Green, 611 7th street northwest, complains of the theft of a dark suit of clothes from his house.

Two silver cups and $10 belonging to J. F. Dempsey, 418 G street southeast, were stolen from his house two or three days ago.

General Mocenni, minister of war in the Crispi cabinet, and Sig. Barzalai have fought a duel arising out of a personal altercation in the chamber of deputies Saturday. Sig. Barzalai was wounded in the left cheek.

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—the food drink. By taking a bottle a day you will gain from 2 to 5 pounds a week. It contains the nourishment needed by nursing mothers, consumptives and sufferers from wasting diseases.

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WE WILL SEND YOU EITHER

2 Silver-Plated Teaspoons, OR, 1 Tablespoon, OR, 1 Fork,

IN EXCHANGE FOR 30 Coupons, OR, for 2 Coupons and 30 Cents.

You will find one coupon inside each 2 ounce bag, and two coupons inside each 4 ounce bag of

BLACKWELL'S GENUINE DURHAM TOBACCO.

THE QUALITY of this silverware is first-class. Rogers' make, King's pattern. NOT the ware ordinarily offered as premiums. Will last for years. Smoke Blackwell's Durham Tobacco and secure a set of silverware suitable for palace or cottage. Send coupons with name and address to

BLACKWELL'S DURHAM TOBACCO CO., DURHAM, N. C.

Buy a bag of this Celebrated Smoking Tobacco, and read coupon, which gives a list of other premiums and how to get them.

2 CENT STAMPS ACCEPTED.

SHOT HER LOVER TWICE.

A Beautiful Woman Uses a Pistol in Lancaster.

Bertie McConnell shot Henry Thompson, a traveling salesman, Saturday, in a hotel at Lancaster, Pa., and boarding an express went to her home in Coatesville, and placing the same revolver that had ended her lover's life at her own breast, she pulled the trigger and inflicted a wound from which she will probably die.

The story of the flirtation, love, elopement and this final blotting out of probably two lives is a pathetic one. Miss McConnell is the daughter of John McConnell, a well-known citizen at Coatesville. She, too, was well known, her bright disposition and attractive personality winning for her many friends. She was a saleswoman in a dry goods establishment, and it was there that she first met the man whom she murdered.

The acquaintance began two years ago. Thompson was a sewing machine agent, and his smooth tongue soon won favor with the fair young woman. Friendship ripened into love, and Thompson became a frequent visitor at the McConnell homestead.

He said he lived at Harrisburg with his mother, but it soon became whispered around that he was a married man. All such allegations, however, he announced as false. A few months ago Miss McConnell left, and it was stated that she and Thompson were married and living happily in Lancaster. They caused a good deal of talk there, owing to the beauty of the young girl. Apparently they were on the best of terms and devoted to each other. No one was prepared for the terrible tragedy that came.

Miss McConnell went up to the room in the hotel where her lover was, and what passed between them is known only to themselves. They quarreled, the girl said, and she drew the revolver from her pocket and shot Thompson. Then, fearing that this might not prove fatal, she fired again, and Thompson fell at her feet. Then she walked out of the room and took the express train for Coatesville.

The noise of the shooting did not attract the attention of any one at the hotel. It was not until next morning that the murder was discovered. When called for breakfast they made no reply, and later the chambermaid found the door open. She saw blood scattered on everything. Thompson was found in bed with a bullet wound in his head. He was conscious and asked not to be disturbed. When asked where his wife was, he said he supposed she had gone for a doctor. A physician found the bullet back of his eye. When questioned he refused to tell who shot him.

In the meantime the woman had reached her father's roof. She went upstairs, and placing the revolver on her left breast, fired. The ball missed her breast, but passed through her lung and lodged in the back. After firing the shot she went downstairs and told her family what she had done. Physicians were summoned, and the ball located, but there is no hope of saving the woman's life. In her rational moments she expressed the hope that Thompson was dead. She said she fired two shots at him for fear one might not kill. He had deceived her, she said, and blighted her life, and having nothing to live for, she wanted him to die, too, before he could blight the lives of others.

The feeling against Thompson here is intense, and much sympathy is expressed for Miss McConnell and her family.

Thompson, some time after the shooting, was removed to his brother's home in Lancaster, where he stubbornly refuses to permit the physicians to probe for the ball, and declines to talk about the case or make an ante-mortem statement.

Ballington Booth's Volunteers.

The uniform for Ballington Booth's new volunteers has been chosen. It is dark blue. The style is similar to the short, tight-fitting sacque coat of the Salvationists, with five brass buttons, having the Volunteer crest and a rolling collar. The cap is the "fatigue cap" of the regulars. The officers will wear the picturesque cavalry hat, with soft, rolling brim.

It is asserted that Ballington Booth is ready to give up the Salvation Army property held in his name, and that the delay is on the part of the army officers.

Prizes for Target Work.

It is expected that increased interest will be given to target practice in the navy by a new system and more liberal system of prizes for good work. Prizes of $5 and $3 will be awarded to ships and of $10 and $5 to squadrons for the best semi-annual records. The competition is to be between gun captains working only the same caliber of guns. There are also to be silver medals for gun captains having the best records for a year.

The report that President Cleveland had purchased ducking grounds on the Potomac river is unfounded.

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CURES DYSPEPSIA, BILIOUSNESS, LIVER COMPLAINT, NEURALGIA, CONSTIPATION, And all KIDNEY DISEASES.

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A thing of the past when Nattan's Crystal Discovery is used. Guaranteed to restore gray or faded hair to its natural color in 3 to 10 days—positively not a dye. Stops the hair from falling out, arrests dandruff and makes the nicest dressing for the hair one can use. No poison. No sediment. No stains. Price, $1. Trial size, 50c. KOLB PHARMACY, SOLE AGENTS, 438 7TH ST. N.W. Sent, express prepaid, to any part of the country on receipt of price.

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