



A NEW YEAR'S Greeting

And the compliments of the season, ladies and gentlemen. We trust that all our friends will find 1898 opening with a brilliant outlook for them.

THE STORE THAT GIVES THE BEST VALUES IS THE STORE WHERE... PEOPLE BUY

Visiting and inspecting where they may. They purchase where best returns for money is obtained.

CUSTOMERS HERE, RECOGNIZING VALUES, BUY.

Our line of Watches is the largest in the state. We have them

IN ALL SIZES. IN ALL QUALITIES. AT ALL PRICES. FROM \$1.50 UP.

Special Bargains This Week in WATCHES Call and See Our Line.



JEWELER AND OPTICIAN OWSLEY BLOCK BUTTE, MONT. Mail Orders Given Special Attention and Satisfaction Guaranteed.

"If we sell it—it's sold right."

\$4.00 \$5.00 AND \$6.00

Men's Pants

AT \$3.85

Hundreds of Men's Odd Pants, all sizes and in all colors, the latest shapes. Everyone a bargain in itself.

Come Early to Get Your Sizes....

GANS & KLEIN BUTTE

ALL READY

Positively No Postponement This Time.

THE ROPE IS DANGLING

Durrant Spends the Day Reading the Bible and Praying.

HIS LAST HOPE HAS GONE

At Washington Justice Brewer Refuses to Interfere—Governor Budd Waits in Vain for Durrant's Counsel to Call. He Refuses to See the Murderer's Father and Mother and Announces That He Will Not Interfere—The Lawyers Serve Papers on the Warden at San Quentin, but the Attorney General Advises Him to Pay No Attention to Them and He Follows the Advice—Everything in Readiness for the Drop.

San Quentin Prison, Cal., Jan. 6.—On the eve of the execution of Theodore Durrant, the only indications of the final scene in his life's tragedy are the presence of the grim gallows near the condemned man's cell and of the unusual number of civilians who are to witness the hanging to-morrow morning. Durrant passed the day, as he has spent most of the days lately, reading his Bible, praying and pacing to and fro across the condemned cell. Chaplain Dahms administered spiritual consolation this morning, the prisoner joining him in prayer. This afternoon Attorney Duprey of the counsel for Durrant, accompanied



BLANCHE LAMONT.

by United States Marshal Baldwin, came over from San Francisco and served on Warden Hale a certified copy of the bill of exceptions taken to-day in the United States circuit court, together with a notice of appeal from the order denying the application for a writ of error. The warden was asked to defer the execution on the ground that the appeal acted as a stay of proceedings. The warden took the 2:30 o'clock boat for San Francisco to consult with Attorney General Fitzgerald, who advised him to proceed with the execution, dis regarding the service, as the questions had already been raised and the contention was frivolous. This left Durrant but one hope. There was the possibility that Attorney Boardman's mission to Washington might be successful and that he might secure a stay from the United States supreme court. Late this afternoon, however, word was received that Justice Brewer had denied the application and that there was at least absolutely no legal obstacle to the execution of the condemned murderer from the gallows. The officials of the prison were greatly relieved and now have everything in readiness for the carrying out of the sentence, four times imposed on the murderer of Blanche Lamont and Minnie Williams.

At the request of Theodore Durrant, an associated press staff correspondent was brought to-night to the structure surrounded by a close wire netting in which the condemned man is confined. His mother sat outside conversing with her son in whispers. Durrant looked well, but his eyes were red from weeping and his lips were parched. The failure to-day of the various moves in his behalf was referred to. "It was a great surprise, but I am prepared for it," replied Durrant. "How do you feel?" "Hopeful, buoyant and ready to meet my Maker. I know the loss is with me. No one knows what faith is until it is tried. I am going to a judge who has never committed a wrong and who cannot. My faith has been so strong that I have been kept up and will be

sustained to the end." Then, turning to his mother, he said: "Mother, I have come to the conclusion that it needs trial to know God. And you may say that to the world," he added. A sudden thought seemed to strike Durrant, for he added in a very different tone from the accents of his previous remarks: "I have had offers of remuneration for a talk with me from the East. I have had three or four telegrams." "All of his words are of great value,"



WILLIAM HENRY THEODORE DURRANT.

interrupted his mother. No offer of compensation being made, Durrant was promptly cautioned to talk no more. He was willing to comply, but his mother being called away for a moment, he resumed in his former strain. "I will make no reference to the past—all will be made clear, if not in this world, then in the next. I feel that I am perfect in Christ."

"What will you say at the last?" he was asked. "This was a rather difficult question, but the answer was quick and in a firmer voice than he had been using. "I shall only proclaim my innocence

mother remained with him until 11:30 o'clock and will see him in the morning. The officers are confident that Durrant will not attempt suicide, even if he had the opportunity, which he has not. San Francisco, Jan. 6.—Unless something unforeseen intervenes to prevent it, William Henry Theodore Durrant, the condemned murderer of Blanche Lamont, will expire his crime upon the gallows at San Quentin prison to-morrow morning. This morning his attorneys were still confident that they could save him from the hangman's noose, but after Governor Budd had announced his refusal to interfere with the execution and the news flashed over the wires from Washington that Allen Boardman had failed in his mission to the supreme court of the United States, they were compelled to acknowledge themselves nonplussed. Attorney Duprey, as a forlorn hope, resorted to the expedient of applying to the judges of the federal courts for a bill of exceptions to their ruling denying his petition for a writ of habeas corpus yesterday. After a consultation, Judges De Haven and Morrow decided that the allowance of the bill of exceptions would not act in the nature of permission to appeal to the supreme court, and after examining the documents affixed their signatures to the bill of exceptions as requested. Immediately thereafter, Attorney Duprey secured from the clerk of the circuit court a certified copy of said bill of exceptions and called upon United States Marshal Baldwin to serve it and a notice of appeal upon Warden Hale at San Quentin. It was claimed by Attorney Duprey that this notice acted as a stay of proceedings, and that the federal judges having signed the bill of exceptions, nothing could prevent him from perfecting his appeal thereon. Marshal Baldwin at first demurred to being pressed into service, but, acting upon the advice of the United States attorney, he accompanied Attorney Duprey to San Quentin and served the documents upon Warden Hale. That official at once referred the matter to the state attorney general, who advised him that the acceptance of service of such documents as had been submitted to him does not act as a stay of execution, and that there was no legal reason why he should not proceed with the execution. On returning to this city, Attorney Duprey at once repaired to the United States circuit court in order, if possible, to perfect his appeal, but acting under the instructions issued by both federal judges yesterday in passing upon the question of Durrant's alleged right to appeal, the clerk refused to accept the

bill of exceptions. The audience accommodated at the Box Office While the Theater Was Burning. San Francisco, Jan. 6.—The Columbia theater on Powell street, near Market, the smallest, but most popular of the three play-houses controlled in this city by Friedlander, Gottlob & Co., was gutted by fire this evening. The flames caused about \$12,000 damage to the interior walls, ceilings, and furniture, but the damage from water before the fire was extinguished considerably increased this sum. The insurance was \$2,000. It was fortunate that the fire, which is supposed to have started from a defective gas fitting, broke out not later than 7:45 o'clock this evening, when there were only about 100 persons in the theater. At the first sound of the alarm all these people were quickly and safely escorted to the box office, where their money was returned. Meanwhile Matthew and Bulger, who have been playing "In Gay Coney Island," superintended the removal of the scenery to the fire-proof vault. While engaged in this work, Matthew and Bulger inhaled smoke and were partially suffocated. They were subsequently revived, however, and this was the nearest approach to casualty. The "In Gay Coney Island" company will complete its engagement at the California theater, also controlled by Friedlander, Gottlob & Co.



MINNIE WILLIAMS.

loudly, strenuously," answered Durrant. "Make this as strong as you please, I will not falter at the end. I will die

bravely, knowing that I am going to a better world. I thank God my hands are clean, not stained with blood, but the fair name of California will stand stained with a crime that can never be wiped out—the blood of an innocent man—say boy." Shortly after midnight Durrant prepared to retire, telling Captain Edger that he wanted to get some sleep before morning. He shows no signs of weakening, and all who have seen him to-night agree that he will die game. His

HE CUT THE BAGS OPEN If He Hadn't Been in Such a Hurry He Might Have Helped Himself to \$25,000 More—Pinkertons on the Trail. New York, Jan. 6.—The American Express company was robbed to-day of \$16,520, and Clark Braden, jr., a trusted employe, is missing. Central officers and private detectives are hunting for him. Three days ago the night manager in charge of the office at Forty-seventh street and Madison avenue, was taken ill and Braden—a clerk of the company for more than 10 years—was temporarily substituted. This office the company uses as a clearing-house for all its matter sent or received from the Grand Central station. Among the parcels to be sent out on the 9:30 o'clock train on the Hudson River road this morning were several containing cash to the amount of \$5,520, and one containing five \$1,000 Chicago Gas bonds. It was Braden's place to take these packages to the train, return to the office and remain until 7 o'clock. When the day employe arrived Braden was left in the office, and the safe was locked. There were no receipts for the valuable packages by the morning train, although the books showed that several such packages had been received at the office. At first the absence of Braden and the receipts were set down to carelessness. But a few minutes later the leather bags which had contained the packages were found under some other freight. They had been cut open and the money and bonds taken. That the robbery was hastily carried out is shown by the fact that \$25,000, mostly in bonds, was left in the office and that the bonds were taken. Notices were sent to every bank and financial institution in the country warning them against purchasing the stolen gas bonds. These notices have a face value of \$5,000, but are worth in other markets \$5,580. They are for \$1,000 each, issued in 1896, and bearing 3 per cent. Braden, about three years ago, left the company's employ to go West, and for a time was a fish dealer in Oregon. Last summer he returned to New York. Chicago, Jan. 6.—The Chicago police requested this evening by the Pinkerton detective agency to apprehend Clark Braden, jr., the absconding night clerk of the American Express company in the New York office. Instead of a \$10,000 robbery, as rumored at first, the loss suffered by the express company through the clerk's disappearance is, the Pinkertons allege, \$30,000. According to the statement made by the detective agency of the amount taken by Braden, \$25,000 were in currency, consisting of five \$500 and five \$1,000 gold bonds of the Consumers' Gas company of Chicago. General Manager Antisdel of the American Express company this afternoon said that the story of the robbery of \$1,000,000 at New York amounted to nothing more than the loss of one package containing less than \$3,000. The theft was committed at the Grand Central station and was the result of carelessness of a new employe, who was handling the money, the result being that snout thieves secured one package.

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SHORT OF PROVISIONS. Anxiety Felt for the Safety of the Crew of the Steamship Pelican. San Francisco, Jan. 6.—There is much speculation among local shipping men as to the fate of the steamship Pelican, she is now out 83 days from Port Townsend for Tokyo, Japan, and nothing has been heard of her since she passed through the straits outward bound. Shipping men generally are of the opinion that the vessel has broken her propeller shaft and that she is sure to be picked up by some other steamer and towed to some other port. It is the fate of the crew that is worrying the shippers. She carried 45 officers and men, and when she sailed from Port Townsend she was provisioned for 40 days' voyage. Assuming that the accident happened to her when she was 20 days out there would then have remained sufficient provisions for but 20 days. Sixty-five days have elapsed since then. Even assuming that the crew were put upon one-third rations from the day of the mishap, still the available supply of provisions would have been exhausted by New Year's day.

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HE CALLS A CONVENTION

Hanna Asks the Ohio Republicans to Come to Columbus. IT'S A DESPERATE FIGHT

Columbus, Ohio, Jan. 6.—Conservative estimates to-night placed the legislative vote 75 to 79 against Hanna. The workers of the senator claim they have 71 votes, and assurances of the necessary two additional votes and possibly four more. The opposition insists that Hanna will never have 70 votes on joint ballot and that they have gained two votes since the legislature adjourned until Monday. Until the chairmanships and preferred places and other patronage are disposed of, the opposition says that Hanna's men will be reduced below 70. The opposition to Hanna consists of the 65 democratic members and 10 republican members. Included in the list of those supporting Hanna are Representatives Drost and a silver republican fusionist from Cincinnati, who are counted on for Jephth Gerrard. The developments to-day indicated that Gerrard would not only be voted for on the ballots for senator, but that he might lead on the first ballot, if the present efforts are successful to make him the free silver republican candidate. Gerrard is one of the most wealthy men in Cincinnati and he has always been a radical free silver man. Representative James Joyce of Guernsey, who is included in the 70 votes claimed for Hanna, is considered as doubtful. The Hanna men claim Jones, Mark Beckley of Highland, Rutan of Carroll and Harrison and Manuel of Montgomery, who are on the list of the opposition as doubtful.

THE "COMBINE" WORKERS WERE AGGRESSIVE until the past day or two, when they not only had enough votes to defeat Hanna but also reported all the doubtful members. The opposition is now on the verge of a majority in line. The contest has settled down to a siege, in which the opposition holds the fort and the Hanna men are charging the breastworks. With the quarrel over the constitution, the state administration and other uncovered ramparts, the opposition feels well fortified. It is conceded that the opposition is well organized and drilled and also desperate in its fight. Ever since Kurtz was released as state chairman by Hanna, at the state convention in Toledo last June, efforts have been made to lower the Hanna standard. There will be a fight to a finish on that issue. The talk about Senator Burke being in the doubtful list has about subsided. He was elected president pro tem of the senate by the opposition. As he was not present to qualify, Senator Burke, E. Crumley, democrat, was elected president pro tem. It transpires that Senator Crumley wrote out his resignation before his election and it is in the hands of Senator Fink, the leader of the democratic side. Whenever Senator Burke is ready, Senator Fink will present the resignation of Crumley as president pro tem, and Burke will get the place.

So far the opposition to Hanna is not only holding its men well in line, but it has executed all the plans provided for previous to the caucus on last Saturday night. The opposition managers are having no trouble in holding their men out against Hanna, but admit their trouble in finding any candidate for whom all the bolting republicans and democrats will vote. The bolting republicans are unanimous in declaring they cannot vote for any democrat under the circumstances for senator. Enough democratic members to give the managers trouble and anxiety say they will vote for a republican for a senator. The solicitude of the combine on this issue is shown in the following editorial leader in this evening's issue of the democratic Press, the organ of the combined opposition to Senator Hanna: "The democratic members of the legislature now have it in their power to defeat M. A. Hanna for the senate and the blame for a failure to do so will rest with them. They can make no satisfactory explanation if they fail. Stupidity in such an emergency as this present is as intolerable as guilt. Every republican vote against Beckley for speaker was cast to show unflinching opposition to Hanna and has no other meaning whatever. If so, the overthrow of Hanna can be accompanied by the casting of a vote for Beckley for speaker. How can this be brought about? Of course, Hanna cannot be elected so long as every democrat and Foraker republican is in his seat and refuses to vote for Hanna. But if any of them remain away from the vote is being taken, he may be elected (or so declared) by less than a majority of all the members elected to the assembly. The failure to do this chance let every democratic member be present when the ballots for senator are to be taken."

"But this is not all. Let them all vote for the same candidate, Beckley, for Hanna, and let this candidate be one for whom every Foraker republican can vote. This will not only defeat Hanna's election, but it will insure the election of another. A failure of the democrats and Foraker republicans to agree is exactly to the liking of Hanna. Do the democratic members of the legislature suppose that a time will ever arise during the session when a democratic candidate for the senate can be induced to read himself out of his party and thereby justify the charge of 'traitor and deserter' that even now is being made by the Hanna faction. Be these Foraker republicans stand up, now to unite with the Bryan democrats to agree on a republican or Mark Hanna, no democrat will be hesitant. Let the vote be split between all who oppose Hanna. It is in opposition to Beckley is the only sure method of overthrowing Hanna. It is not only idle to receive a complimentary check from any democratic member of the legislature. On the contrary, any member in the democratic party who permits complimentary votes to be cast for him will desert the cause of the next democratic state convention for his life."

Anthony Comstock's Demand for \$30,000 Is Considerably Sealed Down. New York, Jan. 6.—A jury in the United States court awarded Anthony Comstock a verdict of 8 cents in a suit for \$30,000 damages brought against Dr. M. T. Crozier. Mr. Comstock claimed that his character had been damaged to the extent of his claim by the following assertion published by Dr. Crozier: "Ladies and gentlemen, this man is Anthony Comstock, a notorious blackmaileer, who never earned an honest dollar in his life."

KILLED BY THE SPANKER. San Francisco, Jan. 6.—Word comes from Honolulu of a double fatality that occurred on the American barkentine Kilkitt, Captain Cutler. The Kilkitt arrived at Honolulu Dec. 23, 31 days from Port Townsend. On Dec. 5 First Mate Anderson and Seaman Weston were thrown overboard by a sudden lashing of the sparker sheet. A southeast gale was running so high that it was found impossible to lower a boat. The barkentine cruised about four hours, but saw no signs of the missing men.

WILLIAMS IN COLORADO GEORGE FRED RECEIVES AN ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION. Party Lines, He Says, Are Breaking Up in the East and Massachusetts Silver Men Are Solid. Denver, Col., Jan. 6.—George Fred Williams of Massachusetts arrived in Denver to-day, and was met at the depot by a reception committee. Democratic clubs took the initiative in preparing for his reception, but the people generally regardless of party affiliation, joined in the arrangements to extend characteristic western welcome to the man whom they regard as the leading champion of the silver cause in New England. In an interview to-day Mr. Williams said that party lines were breaking up in the East. In Massachusetts, he said, there was a slim chance for democratic success, but Massachusetts' Press, the organ of the convention would be as enthusiastic as from any part of the West.

Pacific Express Company. Omaha, Neb., Jan. 6.—At a meeting of the directors of the Pacific Express company this afternoon, William F. Brechel resigned his position on the board and his position as auditor of the company. Erasmus Young, auditor of the Union Pacific, was elected to succeed Brechel. President and Treasurer Morseman gave up the position of treasurer, a gentleman of St. Louis named Taylor being named for that position. The session of the directors lasted four hours and was attended by all directors.

Reindeer Coming. Washington, Jan. 6.—A cablegram received at the war department today from Lieutenant Devore, who was sent with Dr. Jackson to Europe to secure reindeer for the Klondike expedition, that a ship had been chartered for the transportation of the reindeer to the United States and it was expected that the party would be able to sail for New York on the 20th inst.

Increasing the Army. Washington, Jan. 6.—The senate committee on military affairs today ordered a favorable report on the bill increasing the military force of the country to the extent of two regiments of artillery. The purpose of the bill is to afford a sufficient number of men to protect the new guns and mortars which are being put in place.

For the Alaskan Trade. San Francisco, Jan. 6.—Captain William Kibston, Pacific coast agent of the North American Transportation & Trading company, started for New York tonight to buy for his company several ocean and river steamers which will be used for the Alaskan trade.

Weyer the Impudent. London, Jan. 6.—The Madrid correspondent of the Times says: "Although the supreme council has decided not to prosecute General Weyer, it is not expected that the government will allow the matter to end there."

Money Nominated by Acclamation. Jackson, Miss., Jan. 6.—A joint democratic caucus to nominate a United States senator this afternoon. Hon. H. D. Money was nominated by acclamation.

Governor Wolcott. Boston, Mass., Jan. 6.—Roger Wolcott took the oath of office of governor of this Commonwealth at noon to-day for the second term.

Frye Introduces a Bill in the Interest of the Treasury Department. Washington, Jan. 6.—Senator Frye today introduced a bill authorizing the secretary of the treasury to have eight vessels constructed for the use of the revenue cutter service, four of them to cost \$150,000 each, and the other three \$150,000 each. The first four are to be used in

Eight New Vessels.

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