

Sinister Trail of Death Marks Investigation Into New York Vice Graft

BECAUSE of the unusual series of murders that have followed in its wake since the assassination of Herman Rosenthal last summer the New York vice and crime investigation has taken on a sinister fatality. Also the sweeping disclosures of systematic extortion and life taking in New York have made the affair one of national interest.

The murderous side of New York's oddly developed criminal classes is thrown forth in strong relief. As to the phase of graft operations, the investigators recently seemed to have unshined the heads of the conspiracy. Inspector Dennis Sweeney of the Sixth inspection district, which comprises the great section called Harlem, suffered indictment as the man higher up. It was asserted by several informers that he shared in a monthly collection of graft totaling from \$500 to \$1,000.

Policeman Eugene Fox, when accused by a hotel keeper of being a collector of extortion, became himself an informer recently. He implicated his immediate superior, Captain Thomas Walsh. The latter, sick in bed, then in turn made a complete confession. This was the final fastening of charges on alleged culprits.

Originally it was Herman Rosenthal, who had promised disclosures, that started the big series of graft sensations. Though Herman Rosenthal's lips were sealed before he could ever impart the big information he had, that information was more stirringly told as a result of his death than it would have been had he lived. But all along



INSPECTOR DENNIS SWEENEY, AT TOP, AND GAMBLER JAMES PURCELL.

the way of the probing of crime have occurred occasional deaths and the condemnation of several to death.

The most recent murder was that of Agnes Purcell, a girl of twelve years, who was shot and killed by her father, James Purcell, a former gambler, who told the aldermanic investigating committee recently that he had paid graft money to many policemen and named them.

Agnes, the girl, did not know what graft was. She did not know what gambling was. She was a normal child of her years. All she knew was that sometimes her mother and father quarreled. It was in the heat of one of these quarrels that she was killed. She never knew what it was about.

First there was Rosenthal himself, shot because he was about to reveal the workings of the so called police system; then there was Big Jack Zieg, who might have been a witness against Becker and Becker's aids, shot down by a supposed half wit who had a grudge against him.

Then came Agnes Purcell, asleep at the time, shot to death because her mother had called her father in a fit of anger a "squealer."

She was the third actual victim, although if one wanted to count the condemned victims of the courts there might be inserted before her name those of five others—Becker, doomed to death for planning the slaying of Rosenthal; and the four "gun men" for carrying out that death sentence. They are all under condemnation to the chair.

Purcell, an undersized, pallid faced man, appeared before the aldermanic committee and testified that during a long gambling career in this city he had paid tribute to several police captains and inspectors. Then he was dropped out of sight.

But in his home, it appeared, he thought over his testimony and was afraid because of it.

They had one of their never ending arguments one day after Mrs. Purcell had come home a few minutes after midnight from a visit to some relatives uptown, and in reply to his denunciations she called him a "squealer."

This was too much for him. He got a revolver which he had bought a couple of days after he had given his testimony to the aldermanic committee and shot the little girl to death, then tried to shoot his wife. Fortunately for Mrs. Purcell the last bullet in the weapon sped wild, and she had presence of mind enough to feign death for a moment until the man's rage had passed. He saved himself up.

GERMAN PRINCESS ENGAGED.

Feud Is Ended by Betrothal of Princess Victoria Louise.

It is reported from general diplomatic sources that an international feud of fifty years' standing was ended in the recent betrothal of Princess Victoria Louise of Germany to Prince Ernest Augustus, heir of the Duke of Cumberland.

The Duke of Cumberland is a claimant to the throne of Hanover, which



PRINCESS VICTORIA LOUISE.

has been suppressed by Prussia. The kaiser is said to have brought about a reconciliation in order to make his daughter happy, knowing she loved the young prince. The wedding is to take place Oct. 22.

The Princess Louise for a long time had been looked upon as a possible wife for the Prince of Wales. Political reasons would have made the match ideal.

JOSEPH R. WILSON TO FORE.

President's Brother Recently Reported Candidate For Big Job.

A matter of much public interest, emanating from Washington recently, was the report that Joseph R. Wilson, brother of the president elect, had become a candidate for appointment as



JOSEPH R. WILSON.

secretary of the senate. Mr. Wilson is a successful newspaper man of Nashville, Tenn.

Much opposition has been voiced against the possible appointment. Friends of the president have declared it would be an unfortunate thing, as it would appear to be nepotism.

MRS. CURTIS HAS NEW BOOK

Popular Author Produces Another Promising Work.

What promises to be one of the most popular offerings of fiction this year is the latest book by Mrs. Isabel Gordon Curtis. The work, which has just been turned out by the publisher,



MRS. ISABEL GORDON CURTIS.

is entitled "The Lapse of Enoch Westworth." It is a story of unusual dramatic interest.

Mrs. Curtis won high favor with her previous work, "The Woman From Wolverton." She is a well known newspaper writer and dramatic critic.

REVOLUTION IN MEXICO HAS BIG EFFECT ON U. S.

Overthrow of Madero Not Sure
End of War; Many Lives Taken.

THOUGH a rapid coup d'état and consequent quick events seemed on the surface to settle Mexico's bloody revolution, the strife is declared far from over. Various serious effects have been worked upon American interests, and this country for days has been in a difficult position.

With Madero, members of his family and other officials of his administration arrested and held prisoners and with General Victoriano Huerta exalted to the presidency, it was still reported that bloodshed would continue. General Pascual Orozco, with an army in the northern part of Mexico, was reported as steadfastly declining he would continue to fight, as the temporary settlement was not a proper one. He contended for the selection of Francisco Leon de la Barra or General Gerónimo Treviño as provisional president instead of Huerta. The latter, however, was reported the genius of the sudden overthrow of Madero. He personally directed the arrests. He showed himself to be a strong leader.

Students of the Mexican situation declare that, regardless of any possible peace terms by the factions in the City of Mexico, guerrilla warfare will go on unceasingly for a long time in the out-



GENERAL VICTORIANO HUERTA.

lying provinces, where great oppression is worked upon the people. But the fighting in the City of Mexico has been of particular concern to America. Scarcely a district has escaped injury in the capital. It is estimated that after the first ten days of fighting at least 2,000 persons were killed and upward of 10,000 wounded. Detachments of troops were cornered and mowed down in the streets. Hundreds of buildings were riddled.

Carts piled high with corpses have been seen driven through the city to the outskirts, where the bodies were buried.

This bloody handed situation of course put up the prospect of a possible necessity for intervention by the United States. To protect American and other foreign interests in Mexico City it appeared imminent that big forces of men should be thrown across the border, and to do that would mean war.

What would the war mean? What would it amount to? Was the next question. Many public men and the representatives of commercial interests in Mexico brought pressure on President Taft to go ahead and order the



SOLDIERS IN FRONT OF PRISON.

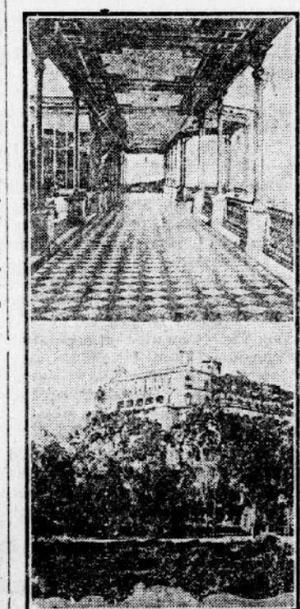
use of the army and navy. They described such a move as being easy and effective. They argued that the war would be over in thirty days.

On the other hand, when President Taft called to his military advisers and got at the real facts it was shown that such a step as intervention would cost this country a million dollars a day for the next two and a half years and would require an army of 200,000 men on the American side.

The executive under the circum-

stances sent a message to Madero urging and warning him to protect foreigners and with the cabinet withheld further action. The various bodies of the army were ordered in readiness at many points over the country for quick mobilization on the Mexican border, and many warships were ordered to posts convenient for quick departure for the south.

Because of the wounding and killing of many foreigners in the streets of Mexico in the first place an exodus



VIEW OF CHAPULTEPEC CASTLE.

from the American colony occurred. Over a thousand Americans, however, were reported stranded in the Mexican capital. Secretary Knox made arrangements to relieve these citizens with funds.

On the other hand, hundreds of young men have become eager for fighting and have been enlisting in the army and navy.

Stocks and bonds representing investments in the southern republic have suffered alarming tumbles in value. As a result similar, sympathetic drops have occurred to many other securities. It is reported that American investments in Mexico total about \$800,000,000. The commercial relations mean millions more to capital in this country. Many imports are made from the revolution ridden land.

The actual warfare going on for a time promised to be the bloodiest and cruellest Mexico had ever known. While Madero steadfastly refused to resign and Felix Diaz, the rebel leader, stead-



SOLDIERS IN FRONT OF PRISON.

fastly demanded complete abdication by the former, the warring troops exchanged shot and shell in the very heart of the city. The bodies of the dead were strewn about, and the once beautiful thoroughfares were stained lavishly with blood.

The leading editorial in the Army and Navy Journal is entitled "Mexico" and deals caustically with the American attitude toward intervention.

After estimating the cost in men and money for two years of warfare, the Journal goes on:

"We trust that the special providence caring for children, fools and the United States of America is still operative."

"One of the best conducted wars thus far to our credit is that with Mexico in 1848-9. The fruits of that war were great, but this fact does not inspire in the American people any spirit of covetousness toward our neighbors."

FIREMEN WIN THEIR POINT.

Arbitration of Railway Controversy Proves of Great Interest.

The entire country is now interested in the arbitration developments between the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and the fifty-four railroads operating east of Chicago. For days it seemed imminent that the firemen would strike the number of 30,000 men and tie up the commerce of the country indefinitely.

Finally when the railway managers committee, of which Elisha Lee was



ELISHA LEE, AT TOP, AND W. S. CARTER.

chairman, acceded to the demand of the men to permit arbitration under the Erdman act interest was little abated. There would be no strike, but there would ensue weeks of thrashing out of the firemen's demands. It was seen, W. S. Carter, president of the firemen's organization, made a strong fight to gain the points demanded by his fellow workers.

DE LA BARRA VERY POPULAR.

Mexican Statesman Figured as Possible Man of the Hour.

Francisco Leon de la Barra figured in Mexico for a time as probably the man of the hour. Many leading Mexicans urged him as the provisional president in place of Madero. Even the Mexican senate is said to have begged Madero to step aside in favor of De la Barra, who was thought to be popular enough to weld the factions together and pacify the malcontent.

De la Barra is now only forty-nine years old, but he has had unusually extensive experience in diplomacy and statecraft. His academic and legal education was acquired at the College of the City of Mexico, and from his



FRANCISCO LEON DE LA BARRA.

admission to the bar he made a specialty of international law. His first diplomatic service was as a plenipotentiary with a roving commission to negotiate treaties with various foreign powers. He made a treaty of commerce and navigation with Holland and a treaty of extradition with Italy.

For five years he was a member of the federal congress and in the course of this legislative career was chosen by the Mexican Academy of Legislation and Jurisprudence as its delegate to the Ibero-American judicial congress, which met in Madrid in 1892.

He took a leading part in the pan American congress which met in the City of Mexico in 1901, being president of the international law committee and the foremost advocate of action in favor of the compulsory adjustment of pecuniary claims. He was also a conspicuous figure at the congresses held in Ecuador and Brazil and at the second peace conference at The Hague.

Joaquin Miller Had Adventurous Career Before He Became Poet

UP in the arctic fastness of a woodland estate overlooking the Golden Gate of San Francisco lived Joaquin Miller, one of America's best loved sons. This unusually picturesque character, who died recently, though he mused close to nature in his woodland home far from the sounds of modern life, was, nevertheless, always close to his fellow countrymen. Miller's death at the age of seventy-one caused sorrow to thousands of his countrymen.

For twenty-five years, while the "Poet of the Sierras," as he was lovingly known, lived in the retreat, his cabin was a mecca for both the famed and unknown geniuses of every sort. His writings, coming out of the woods with their seeming breath of green things, kept him ever before thousands of admirers.

Miller had an adventurous career during the early part of his life. He was captured by Modoc Indians and reared with them as a boy. Later he fought in an Indian war, went on a filibustering expedition and was wounded and captured. He figured in several gold hunting expeditions, ultimately acquiring quite a snug sum from one of his ventures.

He always declared he did not care for writing because of his belief that a person who wrote for a living could not think much, and a person who did not think much was not fulfilling the best purposes of life.

His splendid poetry almost entirely treated of the wonders of nature. He had small patience for literature that exploited war and warriors.

Miller was far more widely known by his pen name of Joaquin than by his Christian name, which was Cincinnati Heine. He took the pseudonym after making a chivalrous defense



JOAQUIN MILLER.

of Joaquin Murietta, a Mexican bandit. Miller was born in Wabash district on Nov. 10, 1841. His father was a schoolteacher with an excellent education, and his mother was a cousin of General Burnside. The family was caught in the excitement of the gold craze of '49 and started for the Pacific coast, the father, mother and four children taking two years for the trip amid many hardships, finally bringing up at the forks of the Willamette river in Oregon.

In 1854 young Miller ran away from home with a "packer" who was on the way to the California gold fields. On the trip the man was killed by the hostile Modoc Indians, and the boy was made a prisoner. He was with the Indians nearly five years and adopted many Indian ways, learning the language and becoming a sort of chief. He finally took part with the Indians in the Modoc war, in which they were defeated in 1858, and, escaping down the Sacramento in disguise, he reached San Francisco. He got aboard a steamer bound for Panama and joined Walker's filibustering expedition. In one of the fights with the Nicaraguans he was wounded and made a prisoner, but was set free and went up the coast in a schooner to Portland.

His books include "Songs of the Sierras," "Songs of the Sunland," "The Ship in the Desert," "The First Families of the Sierras," "The Baroness of New York," "Songs of Italy," "Shadows of Shasta," "The Gold Seekers of the Sierras," "Songs of the Mexican Seas" and "Songs of the Soul." He also wrote "The Danites in the Sierras," a story of mining and Mormon life on which his play, "The Danites," was based.

On Rocky hill, above his home at Oakland Heights, Joaquin Miller completed in 1878 a unique funeral pyre. Upon it he gave orders that his body should be cremated and the ashes be allowed to mingle with the winds that sweep in straight from the Golden Gate. The pyre is a solid mass of masonry, 10 by 10 feet and standing eight feet high.