

REAR-END COLLISION.

Two Crowded Trains Come Together in a New York Tunnel.

FIFTEEN PERSONS KILLED OUTRIGHT.

Many Others Seriously Hurt, Some of Whom Will Die of Their Injuries—Cornelius Vanderbilt Denied Admission to the Tunnel by the Police.

New York, Jan. 9.—In the New York Central railroad tunnel that burrows under Park avenue, this city, two local trains collided yesterday. Fifteen passengers were killed and twice that number were injured. A dozen of the latter were seriously hurt, and the roster of the dead may be extended. It was a rear-end collision between a South Norwalk local that ran in over the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad and was halted by block signals at the southern entrance of the tunnel, and a White Plains local that came by the Harlem branch of the New York Central. The wreck occurred at 8:17 a. m., at which hour the trains were crowded by suburbanites. Most of the deaths, injury and damage was wrought by the engine of the White Plains train which plunged into the rear car of the motionless train and was driven through to the middle of the car, smashing the seats and splitting the sides as it moved forward. The victims either were mangled in the mass of wreckage carried at the pilot, crushed in the space between the boiler and car sides, or scalded by steam which came hissing from broken pipes and cylinders. The engine, in its final plunge of 40 feet, carried the rear car forward and sent twisted iron, broken timbers and splinters crashing into the coach ahead. Lights were extinguished and from the wreckage and darkness came the cries of the injured and calls for assistance by those who escaped. Within a few minutes the work of rescue, marked by heroism and sacrifice, began. Alarms that brought every available ambulance in the city, the police reserve of five precincts and the firemen of the Central Eastern district of Manhattan were sounded at once. With police, firemen and surgeons, came a score of volunteer physicians and half a dozen clergymen.

Ladders were run down the tunnel and the firemen and police attacked the debris with ropes and axes. Passengers already had rallied and were trying to rescue those imprisoned in the debris. Injured persons in need of immediate attention were given temporary dressing by the ambulance and volunteer surgeons and then hurried to the street. Many Park avenue mansions were thrown open to the suffering, but most of the injured were at once taken to hospitals. The dead were carried to morgues and police stations. An immense crowd, heedless of the snow which swirled through the street, gathered about the tunnel entrance and shafts and watched the rescue work.

Cornelius Vanderbilt was among those who came to the tunnel, but the police denied him admission, despite the fact that his family controls the railway. Responsibility for the disaster is unshared, but Superintendent Franklin said that so far as he had been able to discover John Wischo, engineer of the White Plains train, is to blame. It is declared that when the South Norwalk train stopped a flagman ran back into the tunnel and, besides placing a torpedo on the track, endeavored to flag the oncoming train. The tunnel was beclouded with steam and smoke, while the snow which fell through the air shafts tended to obscure the view. Engineer Wischo and fireman Chris Flynn were arrested.

MISS FORAKER MARRIED.

The Youngest Daughter of the Senator for Ohio Is Spliced to Francis K. Walwright.

Washington, Jan. 9.—Miss Julia Foraker, youngest daughter of Senator Foraker, was married at her parents' residence here yesterday to Francis King Walwright, of Philadelphia. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Dr. Mackay Smith (Episcopal) and was followed by a reception at which 400 guests were present. President and Mrs. Roosevelt arrived at the house shortly before the wedding and were among the first to extend their congratulations to the newly married couple. The jewels worn by the bride were gifts—a crescent of diamonds from her father and a dog collar of pearls from the groom.

Selected for United States Senator.

Annapolis, Md., Jan. 9.—Arthur Pue Gorman was unanimously selected as the democratic nominee for United States senator at the democratic caucus held last night. The republicans held their caucus in the afternoon and nominated Congressman William H. Jackson, of Wisconsin county, for United States senator.

Perished in a Hotel Fire.

Brinkley, Ark., Jan. 13.—Fire destroyed several buildings here, including the Arlington hotel, entailing a loss estimated at from \$30,000 to \$75,000. Charles Starkey, of Stuttgart, Ark., perished in the hotel.

Killed by Falling Slate in a Mine.

Zanesville, O., Jan. 13.—Ferd Krouskoupt was killed and Robert Maxwell fatally injured in Maynard's mine near Cannelisville yesterday by falling slate.

SAILORS FIGHT.

American and British Seamen Found Russian Sailors and Cause Strained Relations at New Chwang.

Pekin, Jan. 9.—While the actual casualties during the recent fighting at New Chwang between American sailors belonging to the United States gunboat Vicksburg, which is wintering there, and Russian soldiers attached to the garrison of that port are trifling up to date, the matter has resulted in unpleasantly strained relations between the American, Russian and British authorities there. The Washington and St. Petersburg governments are now endeavoring to arrange matters so that there may be no further friction.

The trouble originated in the action of some sailors belonging to the British sloop of war Algerine, also in winter quarters at New Chwang, in carrying ashore six rifles for use in a theatrical performance. The Russian administration sent a force of men to arrest the British sailors. The Russians, however, by mistake, broke into a reading room where a party of the Vicksburg's men were seated and tried to arrest them. The Americans resisted, defending themselves with chairs. They were overpowered after a sharp fight, however, and handed over to the United States consul, who sent them on board the Vicksburg. The bad feeling which arose from the incident resulted in several fights whenever American or British sailors met Russian soldiers, and the latter, not being accustomed to fist fights, were usually badly worsted. This condition of affairs culminated on New Year's day in a more serious affair, and the Russian minister, M. Paul Lessan, complained to Minister Conger that two members of the Vicksburg's crew had fired a revolver at an offending Russian soldier, wounding him in the arm.

Relations between the American and British consuls and naval commanders and the Russian administration at New Chwang are strained, which makes a friendly settlement of the affair difficult. The administrator attempted to enforce a social code which the foreign officials refused to recognize and, consequently, their relations have been limited to strictly official interviews, and these have not been amiable.

Railroad Properties Leased.

Jefferson City, Mo., Jan. 9.—Col. John H. Carroll, general attorney for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railway of Iowa, which was licensed by Secretary of State Cook in last October to do business in Missouri with \$1,000,000 of its capital, yesterday filed an affidavit with the secretary of state to the effect that the railway company has leased all of the properties of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railway company in the state of Missouri for a period of years, amounting to \$12,800,000. The secretary of state issued the company an amended certificate to that effect, for which the company paid a fee of \$6,427.50. The general offices of the company in this state are in St. Louis.

Panic at a Free Methodist Meeting.

Kingston, Ont., Jan. 9.—At a meeting of Free Methodists at Verona, one of the brethren declared he could fly and proceeded to demonstrate his power. He launched into space and his head came in contact with a large coal-oil lamp. The lamp fell to the floor and the oil ignited. At one time five men and three women were on fire and five out of the eight were seriously burned. The flames spread and caused a panic. Many were injured in the stampede.

Farmers Holding on to Their Wheat.

Wichita, Kan., Jan. 9.—With 40,000,000 bushels of wheat in the 20 counties surrounding Wichita the mills of this city are now idle. The farmers will not sell a pound of their wheat at any price and are determined to keep it for six weeks longer, or until the prospects of the growing crop are better determined. Practically all the mills in southern Kansas are idle. Offers of 77 cents were made in vain here yesterday.

Many Claims Will Not Be Proved Up.

Guthrie, Ok., Jan. 9.—Although only 30 days remain in which original homesteaders may file on the claims drawn in the recent government land lottery, there are still hundreds of claims without visible habitation or any other sign of improvement. This shows that parties who drew the claims are not going to file and prove up, thus leaving the lands for other settlers.

A Constable Fatally Shot.

Omaha, Neb., Jan. 9.—Constable Hans Timme was fatally shot here yesterday by John Talsfa, a German, on whom he was trying to serve a writ of restitution. Talsfa says Timme thrust a revolver into his face and demanded him to move his effects from the house in which he was living. Timme has been an officer in this city 14 years.

Packing-House Employees Strike.

Nebraska City, Neb., Jan. 9.—The skilled employes and laborers employed by the Norton-Gregson Packing company went on strike at noon yesterday for higher wages. About 150 men walked out and the plant will probably be tied up, throwing 150 others out of employment. The increase of wages has been refused.

"Crimping" of French Sailors.

Paris, Jan. 9.—According to the Courier du Boir, M. de la Lessan, the French minister of marine, has appointed a commission to inquire into the reports of the "crimping" of French sailors at Portland, Ore.

PRIVATE PENSIONS.

Bills Introduced in the Senate Closely Scrutinized by Committee.

NICARAGUA CANAL BILL IN HOUSE.

General Debate on the Measure to Close To-Day and Perhaps the Vote on the Bill May Be Taken—The Permanent Census Bill.

Washington, Jan. 9.—During consideration by the senate yesterday of private pension legislation some important statements were made by Senator Gallinger, chairman of the committee on pensions, in respect to regulations adopted by the committee to govern it in consideration of private pension bills. He announced that none but absolutely meritorious cases would be presented to the senate for its consideration and that the closest scrutiny would be given by the committee to every bill introduced. He said that no pension exceeding \$30 a month would be recommended by the committee for the widow of a general officer and that pensions for the widows of other officers would be scaled down proportionately.

The interesting case of Dr. Lazare, who, at the instance of John Hopkins university and of the government, went to Cuba and submitted himself to inoculation with yellow fever through mosquito bites and died from the disease thus contracted, was brought to the senate's attention by Senator McConas, who inquired whether Dr. Lazare's widow would be entitled to a pension. No decision was reached, but it was the opinion of Senators Gallinger and Cockrell that the case had no pensionable status.

Senator Hawley introduced a resolution in the senate directing the senate committee on Indian affairs to investigate the question of the leasing of mineral lands owned by Indians.

The debate on the Nicaraguan canal bill in the house yesterday developed sentiment in favor of giving consideration to the recent offer of the Panama company to sell its franchise and property for \$10,000,000, this sentiment taking the form of advocating the Morris amendment to empower the president to select the latter route if the canal commission, upon considering the company's offer, recommends it and the required concessions can be obtained from Colombia. Of 16 members who spoke yesterday nine favored the Morris amendment. It was agreed that general debate should close to-day at two o'clock, after which the bill will be open to amendment under the five-minute rule. The final vote probably will be taken to-day. The speakers yesterday were Messrs. Shackelford, of Missouri; Parker, of New Jersey; Lovering, of Massachusetts; Morris, of Minnesota; Burton, of Ohio; Hill, of Connecticut; Brownell, of Ohio; Gillett, of Massachusetts, and Littlefield, of Maine, in favor of the Morris amendment, and Messrs. Burgess, of Texas; Bell, of Colorado; Cooney, of Missouri; Cummings, of New York; Gibson, of Tennessee, and Lacey, of Iowa, for the bill in its present form.

Mr. Hopkins, of Illinois, secured unanimous consent that the bill to establish a permanent census bureau be made a continuing order until disposed of, after the Nicaraguan bill is acted upon. Mr. Sulzer, of New York, introduced a resolution, stating that as the absorption of money by the United States treasury was detrimental to business interests of the country, that the secretary of the treasury be directed to deposit all surplus belonging to the United States government with national banks having a capital of not less than \$500,000 and a surplus of not less than \$500,000 and that such deposits shall be a first lien on the assets of the bank. Mr. Kieberger, of Texas, introduced a bill for an international board of engineers to adopt a plan for irrigation in the Rio Grande valley.

Fire in an Elevator.

Chicago, Jan. 13.—Fire which broke out about 1:30 o'clock yesterday morning in the elevator of the American Maltng company in Fifty-first street, near the Panhandle railroad tracks, threatened the destruction of the company's entire plant. The elevator, in which was stored 300,000 bushels of barley, was destroyed with its contents. The loss, it is said, will be near \$500,000.

They Investigated a Blast.

Lehigh, Pa., Jan. 12.—James Burgess was killed and two men injured by the explosion of a blast in the mines of the Webster County Coal and Land company. The men placed the blast, which did not explode at once, and they started to ascertain the trouble, reaching it just as the explosion occurred.

Mother and Son Killed by a Train.

Garnett, Kan., Jan. 13.—Mrs. Henry Moberly, 55 years old, while driving in a farm wagon with her 13-year-old son, was run down and both were killed by a Missouri Pacific passenger train at a crossing east of the city. The team became unmanageable and ran in front of the train.

Stabbed Him in a Quarrel.

Bellamy, Mo., Jan. 13.—John Keithley, 17 years old, stabbed Charles Sheppard, 16 years old, in a quarrel, severing an artery in the neck. Sheppard will probably die. Keithley was arrested.

THE CENSUS BUREAU.

The Bill to Make It Permanent Re-committed in the House.

A BIG SALARY FOR EX-PRESIDENTS.

The Bill to Give Mrs. McKinley the Free Mailing Privilege Unanimously Passed—Hearings to Be Given on Statehood Bills.

Washington, Jan. 11.—The house spent yesterday considering the Hopkins bill to create a permanent census bureau. While the general sentiment was in favor of a permanent bureau, there was strong opposition to the bill as drawn, on the ground that it was not well matured. There also was an overwhelming demand for a provision to place the present employees of the census bureau under the protection of the civil service law, and the bill finally was recommended with instructions to report back a bill containing a plan for a detailed organization of a permanent census bureau, to include also a provision to place the present employees under the civil service. The fight to recommit was made under the leadership of Mr. Barrett, of Nebraska, the new member of the appropriations committee.

Mr. Sherman, of New York, introduced a bill continuing in force all laws prohibiting the curing of Chinese.

Mr. Lovering, of Massachusetts, introduced a bill providing a salary for ex-presidents of the United States at the rate of \$25,000 annually from the date of retirement from the presidency. The bill is to apply to any ex-president living at the time the law is enacted.

The pension appropriation bill was reported by the committee. It carries \$133,842,220, exactly the amount of the estimates, as against \$115,243,220 appropriated last year.

A bill passed unanimously to give Mrs. McKinley the free mailing privilege during the remainder of her life. The house then adjourned until Monday.

The house committee on territories yesterday fixed the 23d instant for hearings on the Oklahoma statehood bill, the 31st for the Arizona statehood bill and February 7 for the New Mexico statehood bill.

The bill to create the territory of Jefferson out of the Indian territory was referred to a sub-committee headed by Mr. Knox, of Massachusetts, and including Mr. Flynn, the delegate from Oklahoma.

Washington, Jan. 14.—The director of the census announced yesterday the percentage of increase of population in different parts of the country, showing for the last decade a rapid decrease from previous rate of growth of population in the west, a less marked but decided decrease in the north and a slight increase in the south. For the first time in the history of this country the population of the south has increased somewhat more rapidly than that of the north. The east geographically is included in the term north. The rate of the growth in the north, west and south is far more nearly the same than it ever has been.

The official announcement divides the country as follows: West, from the Pacific to the eastern boundary of Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico; north and south, the respective sides of a line formed by the Potomac and Ohio rivers and the southern boundaries of Missouri and Kansas. The percentage of increase from 1860 to 1880 was 61.9 in the north; 48.4 in the south and 185.6 in the west, while in the last 20 years, 1880-1900, it was 45.7 in the north, 48.5 south and 131.5 west.

Prior to the civil war the northern states nearly doubled in population with each 20 years, while in the southern states the increase of population was only about two-thirds as great.

Since 1860 the rate of growth in both parts of the country has been much less, but while the rate of growth in the north has decreased steadily, that in the south during the 20 years from 1860 to 1880 has been slightly less. During the last 20 years there has been no substantial difference in the rate of growth of the two sections. The per cent. of increase of growth of these regions during each of the last two ten-year periods follows: 1880-90—North, 24.8; south, 20.1; west, 71.3. 1890-1900—North, 19; south, 22.4; west, 31.9.

If the comparison is limited to the states east of the Mississippi river classing Minnesota and Louisiana with the western states, the result is slightly different. It would show the increase to be: 1880-90—North, 20.1; south, 16. 1890-1900—North, 19.9; south, 17.7.

When the transmississippi states are omitted the rate of growth in the north is slightly greater than that in the south, but the present difference between the two sections in this respect is about half what it was between 1850 and 1860.

The frontier, as a large area of rapid but intermittent growth, is no longer an important factor in the progress of American population and the rate of growth in the several great areas of the United States is now nearly the same.

Denver, Col., Jan. 14.—About 1,000 members of the recently organized committee of safety last night began patrolling the residence portions of the city. It is hoped this will result in the detection of thugs whose outrages have caused a reign of terror in the city for several months.

The Two Villages.

Over the river on the hill
Lies a village white and still;
All around it the forest trees
Shiver and whisper in the breeze;
Over it sailing shadows go
Of soaring hawk and scolding crow,
And mountain grasses, low and sweet,
Grow in the middle of every street.

Over the river under the hill
Another village lies still;
There I see in the cloudy night
Twinkling stars of household light,
Fires that gleam from the smutthy door,
Mists that curl on the river's shore;
And in the roads no grasses grow,
For the wheels that hasten to and fro.

In that village on the hill
Sever a sound of smither or mill,
The houses are thatched with grass and flowers;
Never a clock to tell the hours;
The marble doors are always shut;
You may not enter at hall or hut;
All the village lies asleep;
Never a grain to sow or reap;
Never in dreams to moan or sigh,
Silent, and idle, and low they lie.

In that village under the hill,
When the night is starry and still,
Many a weary soul in prayer
Looks at the other village there,
And weeping and sighing, longs to go
Up to that home, from this below;
Longs to sleep by the forest wild,
Whither have vanished wife and child,
And hearth, praying, this answer fall—
"Patience! that village shall hold ye all!"
—Rose Terry Cooke.

A NOVEL EXPERIMENT.

Mrs. Parker, the blacksmith's wife, was hurrying along the street toward her husband's shop.

It had been her daily custom for years to carry him his noonday meal, as Parker declared too much time was consumed in going to and from his shop.

He was a big, burly fellow with a scowling countenance and a right arm strong enough to fell an ox, and as his disposition was none of the best people were careful not to provoke him to anger.

His wife was his opposite in every particular, she being a tiny, timid creature of a mild nature and, like "Allee" of "Ben Bolt" fame, "trembled with fear at his frown."

Why she ever chose Parker for a husband or why he selected her for his wife was a matter of comment, as there seemed to be no love between them. Yet Mrs. Parker was a faithful spouse, and strove to administer to her husband's comfort, though she never received anything but harsh words and surly looks for her pains.

Glancing at a clock in a shop window, she perceived it was past the dinner hour and her heart sunk within her in anticipation of the scolding she was sure to receive, as the blacksmith set punctuality above all things.

On reaching the shop she was greatly relieved at not seeing her husband within. The place, however, bore evidence of his recent presence, and everything indicated that he had taken a hasty departure. A fire brazed in the forge and a horseshoe, which still retained its warmth, lay upon an anvil.

Mrs. Parker glanced around in hope of finding a suitable spot on which to place the dinner pail, but, seeing nothing more convenient than the anvil, deposited the pail beside the horseshoe and took her departure.

Upon arriving home, she busied herself with household affairs, as she was a thrifty housewife, despite any other shortcomings.

That evening, when Parker returned from his work, he was in a worse humor than usual, and his habitually scowling countenance was more forbidding than ever. He hung his dinner pail upon the table with a crash which startled his wife into a cry of terror. She fully expected the vials of his wrath to be poured upon her, as calling at his wife was Parker's chief occupation when at home. But, strange to say, on this occasion he never even glanced toward her, but strode across the room and, taking a basin of water, began removing the traces of toil from his hands and face.

After which he made his way into an adjoining room for the purpose of substituting fresh garments for his grimy ones.

Mrs. Parker breathed more freely as the door closed sharply behind him, and she picked up the pail and examined it. A sigh escaped her as she discovered a deep dent in the side which had come in contact with the table. On removing the lid she perceived that the nice meal she had prepared had been scarcely tasted. Another sigh escaped her as she emptied the contents of the pail into a receptacle near by.

Presently a rat-tat-tat sounded upon the door, and Mr. Cobb stood without. Mr. Cobb was a short, stout individual, with a bald head and rubicund countenance. A coroner by occupation, yet, notwithstanding the gloomy nature of his business, he was a jolly chap, and frequently dropped in to enjoy a chat with the Parkers, with whom he had struck up a sort of friendship. In his younger days he had been something of a ventriloquist, but this fact was unknown to many of his later acquaintances.

"Oh, good evening, Mr. Cobb," Mrs. Parker said, as she perceived her visitor. "Walk right in. James will be here directly. He has gone to get cleaned up a bit."

Cobb entered the kitchen and took a seat. Mrs. Parker continued her work. "You are as industrious as ever," he remarked, glancing at the pail she was rubbing. "I don't believe Satan ever finds any mischief for your hands to do."

"Well, I always find plenty to keep me busy," she replied, smiling at the banal compliment.

The blacksmith's wife was invariably pleased at a tribute to her industry. "I believe it," answered Cobb, "as I never yet have seen you idle. Oh, hello, Parker"—as the blacksmith appeared. "How are you? I suppose you have heard of the murder?"

"I—no," replied Parker, confusedly. "What murder?" And as he spoke he turned toward the mantel shelf and began filling a pipe with tobacco.

"I supposed every one in town had heard of it by this time," said Cobb. "News travels so fast."

"I have no time for gossip," said Parker, with a frown.

"Certainly not. But one cannot always avoid hearing of certain happenings. Well, old man Jenkins was found dead in his barn this afternoon."

Mrs. Parker clasped her hands together in speechless horror.

"How do you know it was murder?" queried the blacksmith, sitting down near his visitor but not looking at him.

"It seems like it," answered Cobb, crossing one leg over the other, as he seated himself more comfortably in his chair. "And there are several wounds on his head, any one of which was sufficient to cause death."

"Poor, poor man!" wailed Mrs. Parker, rolling her eyes heavenward. "Why did any one do such a cruel thing?"

"Robbery could not have been the motive, as Jenkins always boasted that he never carried money on his person. But some one might have had a grudge against him."

"Yes," assented the blacksmith, applying a match to his pipe and taking a few preliminary puffs. "Will you smoke, Cobb? There is an extra pipe here."

"No thanks, I never indulge," answered Cobb, surprised at the blacksmith's unusual hospitality. "Oh, by the way, Parker, I came to summon you."

"The pipe fell from the blacksmith's mouth and the tobacco was scattered far and near, while a perceptible tremor ran through his massive frame."

"What do you mean?" he asked, hoarsely, and his face grew ashy white.

Cobb stared in amazement at the effect his words produced.

"I mean you must appear at the inquest which takes place tomorrow at 9 o'clock sharp."

"Oh, yes, of course," said Parker, with an unnatural laugh, as he reached for his pipe. "But, you know, Cobb, I never could look at a corpse."

"Nonsense," laughed Cobb, derisively. "The idea of a big fellow like you afraid of a dead man!"

"I am not afraid," protested the other, "but I cannot do what you ask."

"But you must. There is nothing more to be said about it," answered Cobb, decidedly.

"A fool made such a custom as that," muttered the blacksmith, rising to refill his pipe.

"Of course," assented Cobb, pleasantly. "Every one is a fool who dares to differ with ourselves." Parker constrained the remark as a thrust at himself and his face grew dark with rage. He clinched his fist as though he would dent his visitor a blow. The instant Cobb's eyes fell upon the hand he cried out:

"Why, how did you hurt your hand?" Parker, with a half-muttered curse, quickly drew the member out of sight, but the next instant thrust it forward again.

A dark purple bruise extended across the knuckles.

"It struck it," he explained, sullenly. "It amounts to nothing."

"It must have been quite a hard crack," said Cobb, lightly. "Well, I must be going. Good-by, Mrs. Parker, good-by, Parker; don't forget tomorrow evening at 9 o'clock," and, with this parting injunction, he left the house.

His face wore a thoughtful expression as he wended his way along. There was that in the blacksmith's manner which set him to thinking and there dawned in his mind a suspicion that Parker knew more about the murder than he cared to tell; and he (Cobb) cudged his brains for a plan to force a confession from him. At last he hit upon one he deemed expedient, and, forgetting where he was, he fairly shouted out:

"I'll do it, by Jove! I'll do it. The experiment is worth trying!"

The next morning the coroner and his jury assembled in the barn where lay all that remained of Samuel Jenkins. It was a ghastly looking corpse, with eyes wide open and numerous cuts and bruises about the head and face. The blacksmith avoided facing the dead man, as he fancied the latter was looking at him, so he kept near the door, which was out of the range of those wild, staring eyes. He trembled like a person with the ague. But only one man present observed his uneasiness, and that was Mr. Cobb. He watched every movement. As the men drew near to examine the body they all fell back in consternation as a wale proceeded from the dead man saying: "Yonder stands my murderer! Selze him!"

Horror was depicted upon every countenance as each individual stared at his neighbor.

But the blacksmith with a wild shriek of terror fell back against the wall. Instantly all eyes were riveted upon him.

Then, as though something impelled him forward, he staggered to the feet of the corpse.

"Yes, I killed you!" he screamed, his eyes fastened on the dead man. "But you struck the first blow. You did!" as though his victim had denied the charge. "You would not pay me, so I followed you here. We had words, and you aimed a heavy blow at my head with your whip handle. But I warded it off and received it on my hand instead. You were no match for me," with a horrible laugh. "I had no weapon, but my fists served me well, and I gave you many blows even after you were down. Oh, take your eyes from my face!" he cried, with renewed frenzy. "Take them away, I say! You will not? Then there is but one way to get rid of them," and before the awe-struck assembly could interfere he quickly drew a knife from his coat and stabbed himself to the heart. Then, with a low, gasping moan, James Parker, the blacksmith, sunk dead upon the floor.