THE MACON BEACON.

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CHRISTMAS LIKE IT USED TO BE

CHRISTMAS like it used to be!
That's the thing would gladden me.
Kith and kin from far and near
Joining in the Christmas cheer.

Oh, the laughing girls and boys!
Oh, the feasting and the joys!
Wouldn't it be good to see
Christmas like it used to be?

Christmas like it used to be—
Snow a-heading bush and tree,
Bells a-heralding down the lane;
Cousins John and Jim and Jane,
Sue and Rose and all the rest
Dressed up in their Sunday best,
Coming to that world of glee—
Christmas like it used to be.

Christmas like it used to be—
Been a year, long time since we
Wished (when Santa Claus should come),
You a doll and I a drum,
You a hook and I a sled
Strong and spirit and painted red;
Oh that day of jubilee!
Christmas like it used to be.

Christmas like it used to be.
It is sunlit and glad and free,
And so fair and full of truth,
To the clearer eyes of youth,
Could we gladly glimpse it through
Eyes for children's children do
In their joyfulness we would see
Christmas like it used to be.
—Nixon Waterman, in Elliott's Magazine.

EVERYBODY knew that old Mrs. Moon was "plumb set" against Tom White. They also knew that Tom was determined to marry Clarissy Moon. The views of Clarissy herself were locked in the breast of that maiden and no one, not even her grandmother, could draw them forth. She listened to the old lady's diatribes against Tom, just as she listened to Tom's ardent wooing and said nothing.

Mrs. Moon, her unmarried daughter and Clarissy lived in a tiny cabin at the foot of the Little Buckbone, a very pleasant place in summer, though that season was brief enough in a region which is described by its denizens as having "nine months winter and three months cool weather" each year. In winter the cabin was not a pleasant place of abode. Not only did the snow drift high about it, but the playful winds entered through the crevices which Mrs. Moon was always intending to have filled up and never did. It was lonely in winter, too, not even the most persistent suitor could find his way to it frequently when the trail was obliterated by snow drifts and when night came early and suddenly, too, in the shade of the mountains.

Clarissy was thinking of these things as she stood at the cabin door one afternoon in the middle of December. It was rather a cool place for meditations, but her Aunt Phoebe was on what her mother was wont to call a "high," and any place was preferable to her immediate vicinity at such a time. Aunt Phoebe's temper, never very sweet, had ill withstood the strain of prolonged spinsterhood, and she vented her maidenly disappointment on the nearest objects, her mother and Clarissy, who were quite innocent in the matter.

"Seems if I cain't please her, nohow," Clarissy was saying to herself, "I cain't bear that air bothersome Tom White, but he's bettern' what she is, anyhow. Spose' I was t' give him er sign t' come 'n' talk t' me erwhile!" As she hesitated she heard Aunt Phoebe's shrill tones still raised to danger pitch in the cabin. Drawing off the red handkerchief which was knotted coquettishly about her dark hair, she ran down the path and drawing down a branch of the young oak which stood alone, she deftly tied the streamer to it. The handkerchief was Tom's gift and he had begged her to use it as a signal whenever she desired his company. It was the first time she had made use of it, and as she tied it she was assuring herself that she "didn't care er mite fer that great, awkward fellow," but, in spite of that fact, her cheeks rivaled the handkerchief in color. Yielding to a sudden impulse she scurried into the cabin regardless of Aunt Phoebe's tongue.

"I'll peek out'n the window an' watch fer him," she thought, "an' I'll let him cool his heels a bit waitin', before I go out. Anyhow, I ain't promised nothing by tying that handkercher up there."

Clarissy had the sharp ears of the mountaineer and soon she heard steps coming along the trail and finally into the clearing, but she never moved, save to see that her grandmother was dozing in the chimney corner and Aunt Phoebe absorbed with her quilt pieces. The latter had passed from the active to the passive stage of her exultations and was now sulking.

The steps approached nearer and nearer.

"Ef that old stupid ain't comin' in yere, after all," Clarissy thought. "Well, granny'll send him off with a flea in his ear if he does, that's all!" and she assumed an air of elaborate indifference.

"Hello, thar!" called a masculine voice scarcely audible to Clarissy for the beating of her heart. She made no move and the call was repeated.

"Ain't ye got no manners, t' let company wait out there that a way," her aunt said, sharply, and poor Clarissy went flying to the door.

There stood, not Tom, but Amos Purdy, a near neighbor, as neighbors go in a thinly settled country, and a widower of two months' standing who had dropped in once or twice of late. He entered now with a sheepish air which to anyone less preoccupied than Clarissy would have proved that he was on courting bent. He took a chair near the door and where he shut out Clarissy's view of the window.

"Right cold day," he ventured, addressing Aunt Phoebe.

"Well, I guess ye can't 'xpect much else, with Christmas only two weeks off," was the ungracious reply.

"Yep, that's so," the visitor responded. Then he relapsed into an embarrassed silence, during which he, with apparent unconsciousness, stared Clarissy out of countenance.

"Ole Zeb White killed er bear last Chuesday," was his next remark, still addressed to Aunt Phoebe. "Biggest one this year, he says. Them Whites is awful liars, though, an' I cain't promise ef he tells th' truth er not."

"Them Whites is a bad stock," Mrs. Moon broke in, suddenly; "one of 'em filled our ole cow full of shot when I was a gal, pretendin' like he thought she was er bear. An' all the satisfaction pap got was puttin' er load o' shot in to him, and pretendin' like he thought he was er buck!" She chuckled at the remembrance.

"That air Tom White's goin' t' see Tiny Koontz;" remarked the guest. "I seen 'em walkin' last Sunday. Reckon they'll be gittin' married soon. Seems s'f they'd be a lot of marryin' round yere before long. Er man ain' worth much nowadays 'nless he's got a wife."

Clarissy had turned pale at the bit of news. She rose now, on pretense of getting more wood for the fire and went outside. Aunt Phoebe had suddenly become gracious and the sound of her voice followed the girl as she ran along the trail to the tree which held her token.

"He ain't goin' t' think I want 'im;" she panted, he can go t' his Tiny Koontz, ef he wants to. I don't want 'im—great awkward thing!" She dashed away a tear, as she did so, and saw that the handkerchief no longer fluttered from the branch. Nervously she searched the ground to see if the wind had carried it into a clump of bushes. But no handkerchief was there! Tom had evidently come and gone, without trying to attract her attention.

"An' he's taken th' handkercher t' that air Tiny Koontz!" she said. Then, with head held high, she marched back, meeting Amos face to face, as he came down the path.

"Mighty purty red cheeks ye got, Clarissy," he remarked; "when I git ernother wife she's got t' have red cheeks, I tell ye. Say, d'ye like red apples? I'll fetch ye some when I come this here way agin; you look in that air holler stump, an' ye'll find 'em."

"I jest plum despise red apples, an' I plum despise you, too, Amos Purdy." And she fled to the cabin before the astonished guest had time to make reply.

To her surprise, Aunt Phoebe was in especially good humor. Her mother had been throwing out some very plain hints as to the intentions of Amos regarding herself, which chimed pleasantly with her own opinions on the subject. She giggled mightily, and assured her mother that she "wouldn't look at that ole silly, no, not fer nothing!" But she was mightily pleased, as anyone could see.

In her anger against Tom, Clarissy forgot all about Amos and his red apples, and, indeed, she attached no importance to the offer, anyhow. She, too, was very gay that evening, for she felt that her grandmother's sharp eyes were on her, and she would have died rather than display her futile rage against her faithless lover. She assured herself over and over again that she never cared a straw for Tom, but the fact that she had sent for him and that he had answered her signal only to carry off the present he had given her to take it to another rankled in her breast.

AND CAME FACE TO FACE WITH TOM.

Heavy snow fell the next day and a cold kept her close in the cabin for a week. Amos was the only visitor during that time, and when he came he brought a substantial offering of venison and a brace of rabbits, gifts by no means to be despised, and which Mrs. Moon received most graciously. Aunt Phoebe's eyes shone, but she kept them on the ground in maidenly modesty and was very reserved and coy in her manner. It never occurred to either her mother or herself that Clarissy was the object of Amos' evident intentions.

"I plum got t' have somebody t' keep house fer me soon," the guest remarked. "I ain't much of a cook myself, an' there's lots o' good meat spoilin' at th' cabin now fer want o' a woman t' look after it. I was er good husban' t' my woman while she was livin'," he concluded.

"So ye was, Amos," Mrs. Moon agreed, eagerly; "I always said so." She was overjoyed at the idea of giving up her daughter; she thought delightedly of the quiet life she could lead with only Clarissy. "An', now that air Tom White's out'n th' way, I'll git t' keep her a long time," she reasoned, complacently, as she listened to the visitor's account of what he intended to do for his wife when he married again.

"An' talkin' erbout marryin'; I guess Tom White an' Tiny Koontz'll be gittin' married a Christmas. I seen her with a red hankercher he give her th' las' time I was over there," he went on. It seemed to Clarissy that she would die as she sat there. It was bad enough to tell herself that Tom had given her handkerchief to Tiny, but to hear it as a certainty was worse yet. She made no sign, but when the talk had once more veered around to the apparently inexhaustible subject of Amos' second wife she slipped softly out of the cabin and wandered about in the snow like some wild thing with a mortal hurt. As she was returning an hour later she found Amos patiently awaiting her at the hollow tree.

"I put a lot o' nuts in there and some yellow apples," he announced. "Ef ye don't like red apples ye mus' like yellow ones. Say, Clarissy, sposn' you'n me git married a Chrismus, like what Tom White an' Tilly Koontz is goin' t' do!"

Clarissy never could remember rightly what she said, but Amos construed her answer into consent, and, promising to come with the preacher at seven o'clock on Christmas evening, he went his way.

It was dark when Clarissy came into the cabin, and her grandmother and aunt were in such a state of excitement that they failed to notice her pale cheeks and wild eyes. For they had decided that Amos certainly meant to marry Phoebe and that preparations had better be commenced at once.

"Because widowers don't want t' wait er minute," Mrs. Moon said, sagely; "they makes up their minds quick, an' they expects other folks t' do th' same. I wouldn't be a mite surprised to see 'im come in with th' preacher a Christmas, like what ole Sam Smith did when he got married th' fourth time. Sairy she wasn' 'xpectin' 'em, but she thought she better take 'im when she could git 'im."

Nothing was said to Clarissy, who was regarded as a child by her elders, and she, in her intense preoccupation, failed to notice that the preparations for Christmas were on a much more elaborate scale than usual. She was in a sort of a daze, sometimes determined to marry Amos in order to convince Tom that she cared nothing for him; at others, determined to die before she did such a thing.

Fortunately for her, Aunt Phoebe wanted a quantity of ground pine and red berries with which to adorn the cabin, and as Clarissy knew the sheltered spots where they were likely to be found she was sent out in quest of them. In her anxiety to be alone she made the quest a prolonged one. Amos wisely absented himself from the cabin, a fact which puzzled Mrs. Moon and her daughter not a little. Clarissy gave this fact not a thought; she was quite in ignorance of the fact that Amos was supposed to be the victim of her aunt's bow and spear, and was only thankful to have him out of the way while she wrestled with her problem.

All too soon, it was Christmas eve, and Clarissy went forth for a last load of pine, with which the cabin was already gay. Late in the afternoon, she sat down a moment with her load, still pondering upon the subject which never left her mind. She was in no hurry to return home, for her aunt had gone to the store at the cross roads to make a few purchases and she knew that her grandmother would be dozing and unconscious of the flight of time.

As she sat there, Clarissy let the big tears roll unchecked down her cheeks. It seemed to her now that Tom had left her for another, he had become the one object for which she cared.

"Well, I'll take Amos;" she said, proudly, "an' then nobody 'll know Tom left me fer Tiny Koontz!" As she spoke, she rose from the stump on which she was sitting and came face to face with Tom—Tom pale and haggard, and with a gun over his shoulder, which added to the wildness of his appearance. Clarissy trembled so that she could scarcely stand, but she put on a brave smile.

"That you, Tom," she said, "I—I mus' wish ye well, you 'n Tiny. When ye goin' t' git married—to-morrow?"

Tom put down his gun. "Me 'n who?" he demanded, fiercely.

Clarissy's anger grew at the evasion. "You 'n' Tiny Koontz," she responded. "Amos Purdy, he tole me how you 'n' her was goin' t' get married to-morrow night."

"Amos Purdy tole ye that?"

"Yes, he did; and ye needn't to deny it—I don't care!" All the girl's fierce pride was in arms. "I—I only put th' red handkerchief on th' tree that day because—"

"Because ye wanted t' make er fool er me!" Tom cried, hotly. "Ye had took it down again 'fore I could git there, an' ye give it t' Amos Purdy; he showed it t' me. An' he tole me you 'n' him was goin' t' get married a Christmas, an' ye didn' want no more sight o' me! I on'y wish I'd had my gun that day, an'—"

"Oh, Tom! Tom!" Clarissy and the ground pine were all tangled up in his arms, and Clarissy was crying for pure joy.

"But I tell ye one thing, Clarissy," Tom said, later, "that ole coon did see me with Tiny Koontz that day. I was giving her a message from Walt Thomas over at th' sawmill. Him 'n' her's goin' to git married soon's he gits back."

When Clarissy at last started for home Tom went with her to tell her grandmother that he meant to marry her granddaughter on the following day, with her consent or without it.

"For I ain' goin' t' take no more chances!" Tom affirmed.

Luckily, Aunt Phoebe had not returned when they reached the cabin, and the story was poured out to Mrs. Moon alone. Her dislike for Tom melted away before the idea of Clarissy's marrying Amos, on whom Phoebe had set her heart, and leaving her to bear the brunt of that damsel's rage.

"Tell ye what you do," she said, finally. "You 'n' Tom git ready 't git married to-morrow night an' jest leave Amos t' me when he comes!"

Tom stood out for a personal interview with Amos first, but he was overruled. Just what Mrs. Moon said to that worthy during the few minutes' private talk they had no one ever knew. She said it so convincingly, however, that there was a double wedding in the cabin that Christmas night, and Aunt Phoebe never knew that she was second choice.—Eliza Armstrong, in Banner of Gold.

DOING GOOD.

Earthly Life of Christ a Good One to Emulate—The Story of Scrooge.

To do good is the very salt of life. It is what keeps the love of life from decaying or corrupting. We are told of our Lord that "He went about doing good," and we know that though He was a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief, He had in Him a never-failing source of joy, which from time to time broke forth in enraptured utterances to His Father and in blessing upon mankind. Not the least of the sources of this joy was the knowledge that He was doing good day by day and sowing seeds of happiness in the world which would blossom and bear fruit in after days. The selfish man who lives for himself cannot enjoy life. He is miserable; but let him change and think more of others than of himself and what a difference! How well Dickens puts this in his "Christmas Carol!" At the beginning of the story we have a portrait of Scrooge, a tight-fisted man, hard as a grindstone, sharp as a flint from which no steel had ever struck out generous fire, secret and self contained and solitary as an oyster. Nobody ever stopped him in the street to say, with gladsome looks "How are you?" No beggar implored him for a trifle; no children asked him the time of day. Rich enough he was, but dismal, morose and melancholy. He had never done good to anyone. He had thought and lived only for himself; but he is visited by three ghosts—the ghost of the past, the ghost of the present and the ghost of the future—and they teach him a lesson and he becomes a good friend, a good master and a good man, and opens his heart and his purse to others and, as a consequence, he begins to love the life he once hated and to see the good days he once had no faith in.—Rev. Arthur S. Brooks, M. A., in Central Christian Advocate.

MAKING OTHERS HAPPY.

How We May Enter the Realm of Christmas Joy—Real Spirit of the Season.

There is one self-denial that is so costly that we should deliberate well before we decide to make it. It is the self-denial involved in not entering into the spirit of the Christmas season by doing what we can to make others happy. We can all understand the disposition of the poor seamstress who lived for weeks on the most frugal fare in order that she might enjoy the luxury of making a few Christmas presents to those she loved. Perhaps it was not wise, and she was impairing her own health and efficiency by the self-imposed sacrifice, but we all recognize the nobility of the spirit. Such a woman has the Divine quality that elicits affection because she has it. It is devotion like that which is more lovely to discerning eyes than beauty of face or form, or the possession of accomplishments. Most of us do not have to sacrifice ourselves like that, in order to show our good will and interest in others; but we do not always do it as we might. Too often we suffer our indolence, or thoughtlessness, or unwillingness to have our convenience disturbed, shut fast the door through which we might pass to a ministration and sympathy that would bless others and enrich our own hearts. Whether you have much money or little, you can look around you to see what you can do to make others happier, and in doing it you will find that your own heart enters the realm of Christmas joy.—Boston Watchman.

Outside.

Fate delights in still contrasting
All that comes to mortals here;
Some may feast. The rest are fasting.
For each smile there is a tear.
There are shine and holly berry.
There is hunger's tattered cloak.
There is Christmas when you're merry—
And there's Christmas when you're broke.

When the music, softly playing,
Seems less tenderly to fall
Than the laughter that comes straying
Through the nursery and the hall,
Who shall think that some poor fellow
On the pavement stands afar,
Watching every gleam so mellow
Through your window blind ajar?

When all care is shut behind us
And when love dispels each sigh,
Let some gentle thought remind us
Of the lonely passer-by.
Life to some, though pleasant, very,
Isn't all a gladsome joke.
There is Christmas when you're merry—
And there's Christmas when you're broke.
—Washington Star.

Not That Kind.

"You know what is said about casting your bread upon the waters," said the man with the subscription paper. "After many days it will come back to you."

"Not the kind our cook makes," responded the other man. "It would sink to the bottom like a stone."—Chicago Tribune.

The Christ Child.

You little children, in whose eyes
Undimmed the light of heaven glows,
Whose dreams are bright with paradise,
Whose souls are whiter than the snows,
From holy lips and undefiled
Breathe your soft prayer to Christ the Child!

Schoolhouses in Kansas.

More than 150 new schoolhouses have been built in Kansas within the last year.

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE.

FIFTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.

[Second Session.]

In the senate, on the 10th, Hon. Charles A. Towne, recently appointed by the governor of Minnesota to succeed the late Senator Davis, took the oath of office. No business of importance was transacted in open session, the senate going into secret session on the Hay-Pauncefote treaty as soon as the routine business had been disposed of.....In the house, the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill was passed, after a reading that occupied three hours and ten minutes' debate. The bill carries $24,496,993. No other business was transacted.

In the senate, on the 11th, the oleomargarine bill passed by the house was sent to the committee on agriculture. An order directing that vacancies on several committees be filled by appointment of Senator Towne (Minn.) was rattled. The ship subsidy bill was taken off and Mr. Clay (Ga.) delivered a speech in opposition to the measure.....In the house, a resolution was adopted for the appointment of a committee of five members to investigate the death of Oscar L. Boos, as alleged, as the result of hazing at the West Point Military academy. The revenue reduction bill was then taken up.

In the senate, on the 12th, the Davis amendment to the Hay-Pauncefote treaty was adopted by a vote of 65 to 17. A feature of the session was a three-hours' speech by Senator Hanna in favor of the ship subsidy bill, which was listened to throughout with close attention by senators on both sides of the chamber.....In the house the dull and uninteresting debate upon the war revenue reduction bill was continued. Mr. Bartholdt criticised the action of the ways and means committee for not making a deeper cut in the tax on beer. The house adopted a joint resolution for a holiday recess from December 21, to January 3, 1901.

In the senate, on the 14th, no business of importance was transacted during the brief open session. At 2:50 p. m. the senate went into executive session for the further consideration of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, and at half-past four o'clock adjourned for the day.....In the house the session was occupied with a further consideration of the war revenue bill, but without disposing of more than half of the proposed measure, the house adjourned.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

The Standard theater, St. Louis, advertised as "The Home of Folly; Two Frolics Daily," managed by Congressman-elect James Butler, of the Twelfth Missouri district, was gutted by fire, on the night of the 13th, following a very "warm" performance by the Utopian Burlesquers.

The Coal trust is perfecting deals that will give it control of all the mines in the Wyoming and Lackawanna valleys, comprising a district from Nanticoke to Carbondale, Pa. A number of options have already been secured.

The building, foundry and machinery of the Lane & Booley iron works, Cincinnati, were burned, on the night of the 13th, with a total loss of from $200,000 to $250,000. They were large manufacturers of saw mills, traction engines and many other articles.

The mail car on the Cotton Belt passenger train from Waco to Memphis was entered, at midnight of the 12th, and robbed by two unknown white men, under masks, near Bassett, Tex., a small station about twenty miles south of Texarkana.

Mrs. August Beck, of Milwaukee, died in Chicago, on the night of the 14th, of injuries sustained by reason of the recent boiler explosion on the Northwestern railroad. The death of Mrs. Beck is the eighth to be charged to the explosion.

Representative Brosius, of Pennsylvania, on the 14th, introduced a resolution for a constitutional amendment designed to permanently fix the membership of the house of representatives at 357, the present number.

Frank H. Hamilton, in jail at Minneapolis, Minn., as a result of the killing of Millionaire Day, was arraigned in the district court, on the 14th, on a charge of murder in the first degree. His attorneys asked leave to withhold his plea until the 20th, which was granted.

The two-year-old daughter of Peter Eder, saloonkeeper of Elwood, Ind., fell into a ten-gallon kettle of soup, made for lunch at that place, on the 14th, and was literally cooked before her screams brought assistance. Death resulted a few hours later.

Senator Vest, of Missouri, on the 14th, introduced a bill for the establishment, in connection with the department of justice, of a bureau of criminal identification. The measure is urged by the police superintendents of the United States.

The secretary of war has cabled instructions to Maj.-Gen. MacArthur, at Manila, to begin the work of returning the volunteer troops from the Philippines in order to permit of their discharge in this country by the 30th of June next. This action has been taken in anticipation of the authorization by congress of the enlistment of regular regiments to replace the recalled troops.

The statement of the treasury balances in the general fund, exclusive of the $150,000,000 gold reserve in the division of redemption, issued on the 14th, showed: Available cash balance, $138,949,445; gold, $100,186,601.

An earthquake shock, lasting nearly a minute, was experienced in Joplin, Mo., on the 14th, at 7:45 a. m. The motion was from north to south, and of a quivering nature. No damage is reported.

Failures for the week ended on the 14th, as reported by R. G. Dun & Co., were 240 in the United States, against 218 last year, and 26 in Canada, against 26 last year.

The jury in the case of Jessie Morrison, for the killing of Mrs. Olin G. Castle, at Eldorado, Kas., could not agree on a verdict, and was discharged on the 14th. The jury stood nine for acquittal and three for guilty of manslaughter in the fourth degree.

The gang of desperadoes that robbed Doerschuck's bank at Shanesville, O., arrived at Bridgeport, W. Va., on the 14th, on the Massillon accommodation of the Cleveland, Lorain & Wheeling road. Two of the gang were captured, after a desperate encounter with officers and trainmen. Four others escaped.

Henry Zelmer, charged with subornation of perjury in connection with procuring divorces on false evidence, was found guilty in the New York court of general sessions, Recorder Goff presiding. The maximum punishment for the offense is ten years in state prison.

By the burning of the Fredonia State Normal and Training school, at Fredonia, N. Y., on the 14th, Phineas J. Morris, the aged janitor and six young lady pupils were cremated. It is said that heavy wire screens were nailed over the windows leading to the fire escapes.

A ST. LOUIS SENSATION.

Policemen Charged with Accepting Hush Money from Female Panel Workers and Robbers.

ONE ARREST AND SIX SUSPENSIONS.

A Chance Remark Gave a Clew and a "Sweating" Brought Out an Array of Charges that Led to a Trap Being Laid, Into Which One Officer Blindly Walked.

St. Louis, Dec. 18.—St. Louis has been rudely awakened to the fact that not only is there a vast amount of robbery of citizens and strangers going on in the vicinity of the union station, without an adequate police effort for its suppression, but that the police officers on the beats where the crimes are committed are actually fattening off the proceeds of the robberies by exacting a rake-off from the women who, for the most part, carry on the nefarious business. The Globe-Democrat says:

Officers In the Toils.

"One officer of the Central police district was arrested, yesterday, one suspended and five others rest under charges, two rather slight, made in confessions of negro panel-workers, of accepting bribes to protect criminals from arrest. In the confessions of the women, in part borne out by developments, the assertion was made that in the past five years enough money had been stolen under protection on certain blocks in the vicinity of union station to pay for the real estate embraced in them, and more. The confessions and accompanying developments add confirmation to the story told on the witness stand in the court of criminal correction a few days ago to the effect that the witness, the defendant also, was arrested for a disturbance of the peace resulting from a quarrel over a balance left from a bribe of $2 paid to a police officer for protection for his negro mistress, who had committed a robbery.

The Confessions.

The confessions made were by Marie King and Jennie Winn, both negresses, and followed their release on bond after warrant for relieving a victim of $80. A chance remark led to their being sweated, and following that a trap was set, one of the officers mentioned in the confessions being caught accepting $10 as part of a bribe, based on a 25 per cent. division of the robbery for which the women had been arrested. The officer arrested in the case was Dennis Ryan. The others mentioned in the confession were Richard Kennedy, John J. Noonan, Louis Lang, Joseph Kohrs, John Lawton and Albert Kuehner, all of the Central district. Of these, Kuehner was suspended when he reported at roll-call at 11 o'clock last night. Kennedy and Lang reported ill, and Noonan reported that his child had died during the day. No action was, therefore, taken in these cases. They will be suspended at their homes this morning by their sergeants. The whole case goes before the grand jury to-day, and the police board to-morrow."

Four Indictments.

At 1:30 p. m. Monday the grand jury found indictment against Police men Ryan, Kennedy, Noonan and Lang charging them with accepting bribes. None were found against Lawton, Kohrs and Kuehner.

The Chronicle says:

Worst Yet to Come.

The worst part is to come. It is avowed that the detective force, or rather, a part of it, is notoriously "open to gifts" from confidence men and from a most reliable source it is learned that certain confidence men have promised to "talk" as soon as Chief Campbell summonses them to appear before him. The grand jury will hear all of the startling testimony which is said to be forthcoming.

FUTILE ATTEMPT AT RESCUE.

Three Men Attempted to Rescue So Temple From Sheriff Butts, of Enid, Okla.

Wichita, Kas., Dec. 18.—Sunday night, on the Santa Fe train near Emporia, three men tried to rescue So Temple from Sheriff Butts of Enid Okla. Temple, some months ago, held up Sheriff Butts, who had him in charge for larceny, bound him and went off with the sheriff's team. He was arrested last week in Kansas City, and was on his way to Enid when supposed cronies attacked Butts to secure the release of Temple. Sheriff Simons of this county was aboard the train. He assisted Butts, and the three desperadoes were driven off. They escaped from the train at the next station. Temple did not succeed in escaping.

Texas-Oklahoma Boundary.

Washington, Dec. 18.—A bill was passed authorizing the secretary of the interior to fix the boundary between Texas and Oklahoma, and to inquire into the claims of the state of Texas for moneys expended while Greer county was a part of Texas.

A Feud at Eldorado.

Eldorado, Kas., Dec. 18.—Since the mistrial and discharge of the jury in the Jessie Morrison case public opinion has divided almost to the extent of a feud, the female factions being exceptionally prominent and bitter.

Liverpool Grain Imports.

Liverpool, Dec. 18.—The imports of wheat into Liverpool last week were: From Atlantic ports 41,500 quarters; from Pacific ports none. From other ports 14,000 quarters. The imports of corn from Atlantic ports last week were 105,900 quarters.

Roland Reed Worse.

New York, Dec. 18.—Roland Reed who has been ill for some time at St Luke's hospital, is worse. At the hospital it was said his condition has become critical.

POLITICS ARE TAKING ROOT.

First Political Party Under the American Regime Being Formed in the Philippines.

Manila, Dec. 18.—Advices just received from Ilo Ilo, Island of Panay, say that the insurgents, Saturday night, burned a large part of the village of Cabatuan. Assistant Surgeon Frederick A. Washburn, Jr., of the Twenty-sixth volunteer infantry, with 18 men, held the principal buildings. A strong wind was blowing at the time. The Americans sustained no casualties.

The first political party under the American regime is in process of formation. Its principles have been embodied in a platform which will shortly be made public. It is understood that the declarations of the platform give the fullest recognition to American sovereignty and also favor a considerable degree of native autonomy concerning internal and local affairs.

Several of the more intelligent Filipino leaders, who have been instrumental in bringing the matter to a head, have been in conference with those interested and believe the platform will be outlined to the Philippine commission by Senor Buencamieno, former premier, in the so-called government of Aguinaldo, Col. Aulles and Dr. Frank S. Bourne, an American, formerly chief surgeon with the rank of major, and health officer of Manila. Dr. Bourne was with Prof. Dean C. Worcester prior to the American occupation, and has confidential relations with the Filipino leaders.

The commissioners are not likely to give public expression to their views regarding the formation of political parties.

REPORT OF ANOTHER BATTLE.

A Boer Force Said to Have Been Defeated, with Heavy Loss, at Orange River.

London, Dec. 17, 5:10 p. m.—The report of another severe battle, resulting in a British victory, is current here. According to the story, the fighting began at daybreak and lasted for several hours. The Boers, who numbered from 1,500 to 2,000 men, were surrounded at the Orange River and totally defeated with heavy losses in killed and wounded. A number of Boers, it is added, were captured.

DE WET WAS TWICE REPULSED.

The Third Time He Led in Person and Broke the British Line.

Maseru, Dec. 16.—It appears that DeWet's force was twice repulsed before it broke through the British lines in the neighborhood of Thaba N'Chu. In the third attack DeWet led in person. With a few determined men he charged and broke the British lines, the rest of the commando following. He was forced, however, to leave in the hands of the British a 15-pounder and 15 wagons with ammunition and stores.

Commandant Hansbroek, with a commando and two guns, tried to get through Springkants Nek, but was driven back, losing 40 men.

SHOULD GIVE AN EQUIVALENT.

The Westminster Gazette on the United States Senate's Attitude on the Treaty.

London, Dec. 18.—Discussing the attitude of the United States senate relative to the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, the Westminster Gazette says that it is perfectly natural the United States should desire to exact guarantees against the use of the Nicaragua canal by an enemy in the event of war. The article in question declares, however, that because America desires a concession is not sufficient reason for taking it without giving an equivalent in return, and suggests that "a way out of the difficulty is to settle the vexatious Alaskan boundary against the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty."

FOLLOWS THE SHELDON IDEA.

Rev. Joseph Parker Puts Out His First Edition of the London Sun a la Sheldon.

London, Dec. 18.—The first issue of the London Sun, under the editorship of Rev. Dr. Joseph Parker, pastor of the City Temple, has appeared. The column where the day's betting is usually published contains, under the caption, "latest news," "the wages of sin is death," and other familiar texts, followed up by vigorous protests against gambling. The article declares, "if a paper can not live six days without pandering to the gambler, the drunkard and the sensualist, let it wither away."

In another editorial Dr. Parker urges the magistrates to "apply the cat and wipe out Hooliganism."

Otherwise the paper is much the same as usual, the advertising columns being filled with company prospectuses, and the news columns announcing "Another Ghastly East Indian Tragedy."

Court-Martial of Capt. Steedman.

Washington, Dec. 18.—Capt. Richard R. Steedman, Eleventh infantry, was tried by a general court-martial, of which Lieut.-Col. Charles L. Davis, Eleventh infantry, was president, at San Juan, P. R., on a charge of "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman." The court found him "guilty of conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline," and sentenced him to be reprimanded in general orders and reduced in rank 50 numbers on the list of captains of infantry.

Seeing Things at Night.

Cincinnati, Dec. 18.—The duke of Manchester was shown Cincinnati after midnight. Among the places visited were a negro dance hall, where he saw a cake walk, and a cheap lodging house occupied by men who buy floor space for five cents per night.

Woman Suffrage in Porto Rico.

San Juan, P. R., Dec. 18.—In the house of delegates yesterday Mr. Descartes introduced a bill granting unrestricted suffrage to women on the same terms as men.

GOULDS MAKE RESPONSE.

The Suit Begun in New York to Tie Up the Castellane Income.

THE GOULDS QUESTION JURISDICTION.

They Also Allege that the Plaintiff is Not the Real Party in Interest, and that the Countess de Castellane is Not Responsible for the Debts.

New York, Dec. 18.—An answer was made in the suit of Anton J. Dittmar against George J. Gould, Edwin Gould, Howard Gould and Helen M. Gould, as trustees under the last will and testament of the late Jay Gould, to restrain them from continuing to pay the countess and Boni de Castellane the income of the countess from the estate of Jay Gould.

The defendants allege that the supreme court of this state has no jurisdiction of the person of the count de Castellane or Anna Gould, countess de Castellane, the alleged debtors; that they had not, either of them, been served with the summons in the action, and have not appeared therein, and that the court is, therefore, without jurisdiction to decide the question of how much of income is necessary to the proper support and maintenance of the countess of Castellane.

The defendants also allege that the plaintiff is not the real party in interest, and that the alleged assignment and transfer to him of the alleged drafts and acceptances, and claims, and causes of action are without consideration and void; and transfer to said plaintiff, Asher Wertheimer, plaintiff's alleged assignor, was not the owner or holder of the said drafts and acceptances, or claims or causes of action, but had sold them to Julius Cohen & Co., bankers, of London.

The defendants further claim that the alleged indebtedness is for merchandise sold to count de Castellane, and not to the countess, and that by law of France where said drafts were accepted and payable, and also by the terms of a certain ante-nuptial agreement, the countess is not liable for the debts of her husband.

The defendants say that a previous action in the same case was begun in France and that the present suit should not hold.

The injunction proceeding in the case was called before Judge Blanchard. Charles A. Gardiner and E. C. James appeared for the Gould trustees and Samuel Untermeyer for the plaintiff. On request of Mr. James the case went over till Thursday. Mr. Untermeyer asked if the agreement made before Justice Leventritt that the allowance of the Castellanes of $250,000 a year should continue for the present and this was agreed to.

THE LOSS OF THE GNEISENAU.

Spanish Sailors Eulogized for Their Efforts to Save the Cadets—Caused Sorrow in Berlin.

Madrid, Dec. 18.—In the senate, yesterday, Senor Polanco eulogized the sailors who had perished in their endeavors to save the crew of the Gneisenau. He proposed a resolution directing the minister of foreign affairs, Marquis Aguilar Campos, to communicate the sentiments of the senate to the German government. The minister of foreign affairs replied that he had already sent a telegram of condolence, and added that the government would be represented at the funeral of the victims. The resolution was adopted.

THE GNEISENAU DISASTER.

One Hundred and Thirty-Six Lives Lost by the Foundering of German Ship.

Berlin, Dec. 18.—An unofficial dispatch from Malaga received here accounts for 314 survivors out of the 450 persons who were on board the German training frigate Gneisenau, which foundered at the entrace to the port of Malaga, Sunday, while she was taking refuge from the terrible storm prevailing at the time.

A RUMOR OF SUICIDE.

The Commander of Gneisenau Said to Have Committed Suicide.

Malaga, Dec. 18.—It is rumored that the commander of the Gneisenau committed suicide when he saw that all was lost. A nephew of the imperial chancellor, Count Von Buelow, named Berndt, was among the saved, though he was injured about the head. A sailor who survived the wreck went mad as a result of his experience. The first engineer, the assistant engineer and a number of petty officers were drowned.

It is hoped that the guns, the treasure chest, and perhaps part of the hull will salvaged.

Against the Order of Chosen Friends.

New York, Dec. 18.—The sheriff received five attachments aggregating $6,094 against the supreme council of the order of Chosen Friends of Indianapolis, Ind., in favor of five creditors. Copies of the attachments were served on officers of the Park national bank, where the order is said to have an account.

Earthquake Shock.

Knoxville, Tenn., Dec. 18.—A perceptible seismic wave at this place at 5:30 o'clock last night startled the people of this city, but did no damage.

Will Become a Mother.

Rome, Dec. 18.—The Messagero asserts that the king of Italy, Victor Emmanuel, has informed the premier, Signor Saracco, that the queen will become a mother about six months hence.

To Race in Europe Next Summer.

Boston, Dec. 18.—"Major" Taylor, the colored bicyclist of Worcester, yesterday signed an agreement to race in Europe during July and August of next year.