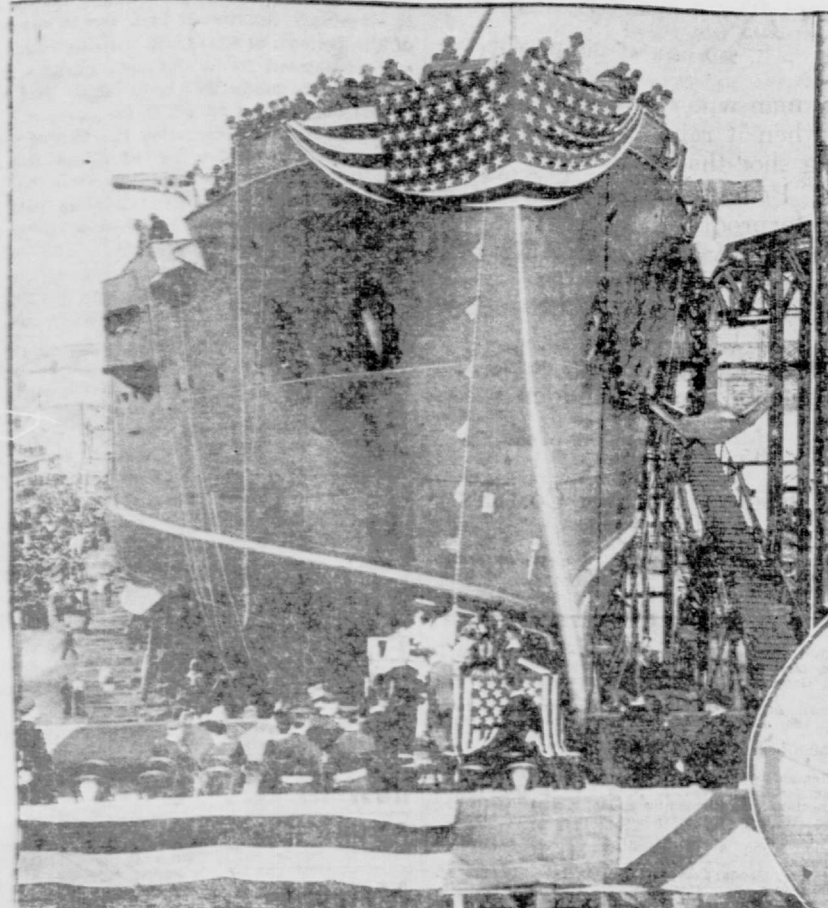


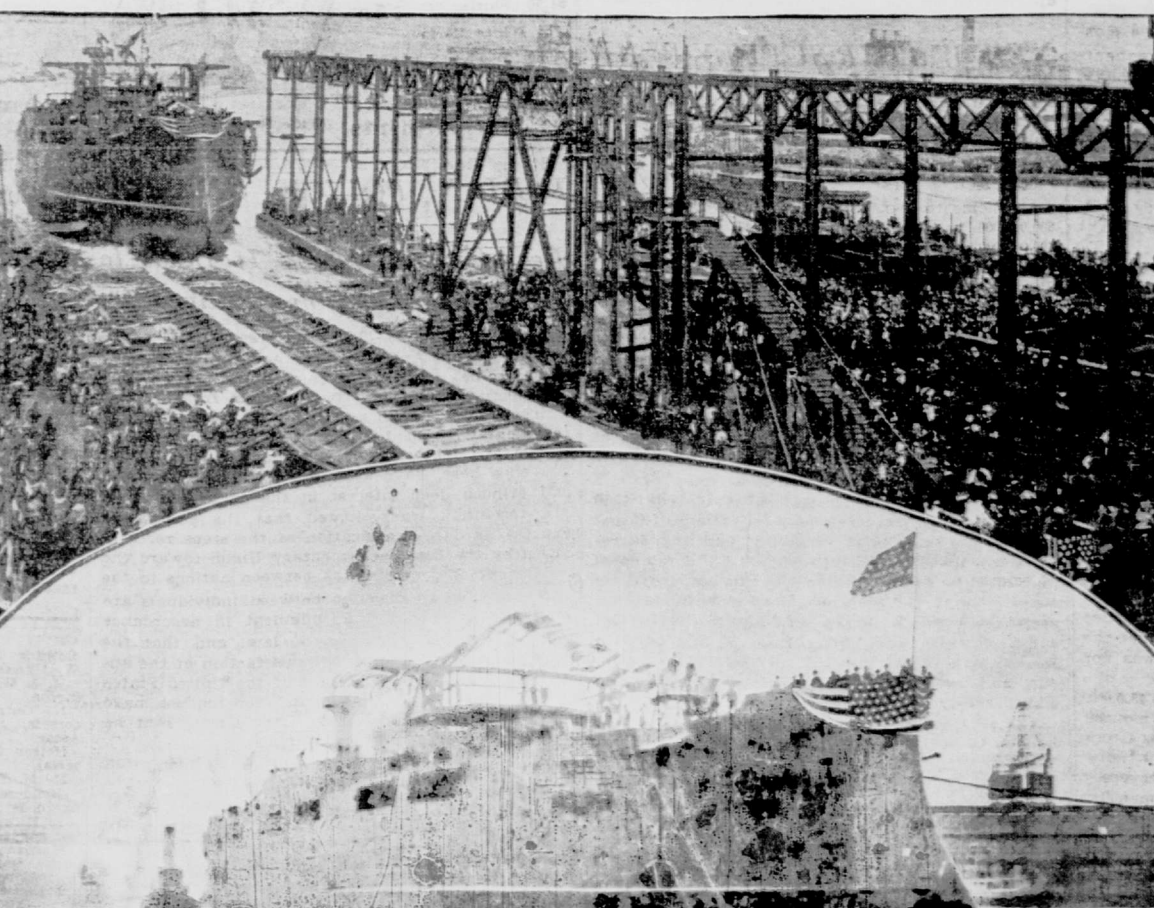


LAUNCHING THE BATTLESHIP CONNECTICUT AT THE BROOKLYN NAVY YARD YESTERDAY.

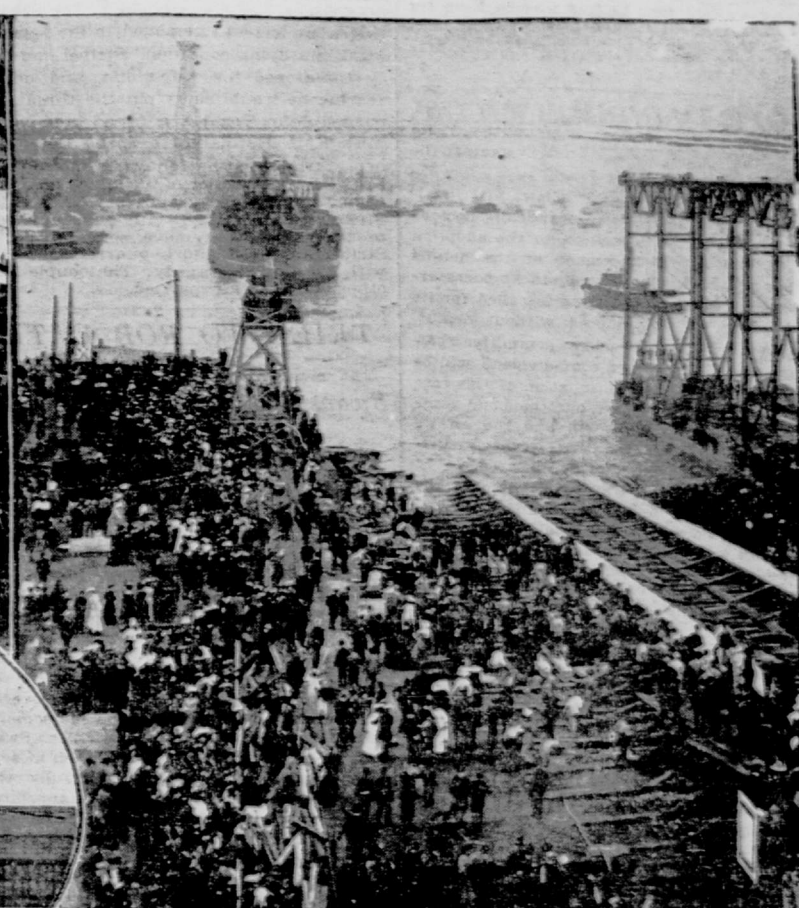
AS SHE STRIKES THE WATER.



READY TO NAME THE BATTLESHIP.



TUGS BRINGING HER BACK TO THE YARD.



OUT IN THE STREAM.

JAPANESE TAKE PASSES. BATTLESHIP LAUNCHED.

RUSSIANS FALLING BACK. CROWDS SEE CEREMONY.

Bulk of Kuropatkin's Army Said To Be North of Moukden.

The eastern flank of the Japanese armies, according to a dispatch received at St. Petersburg from Moukden, has captured Da and other passes in the range of that name. The bulk of the Russian army is reported north of Moukden, and it is not believed that General Kuropatkin will offer serious resistance to the Japanese advance. The approaches to the town are said to be mined.

The only news from Port Arthur was contained in a dispatch from Vladivostok, which said that the garrison was confident of its ability to hold the fortress until the beginning of the year. The message added that the report of the destruction of three Japanese torpedo boats and of damage to a cruiser had been confirmed.

An order prolonging the term of service of Japanese reserves was issued at Tokio. It is expected to add about 200,000 men to the nation's fighting strength. A Russian estimate places the number of Japanese available for service at 1,100,000.

GUARDING THE RETREAT.

Roads to Moukden Reported Mined—Port Arthur Isolated.

London, Sept. 30.—Telegraphing from New-Chang yesterday "The Daily Mail's" correspondent says:

The main force of the Russian army has retired to the north of Moukden. Strong bodies of troops have been thrown out to defend both flanks and the southern approaches to the city have been carefully mined. The indications are that no serious attempt will be made to hold Moukden.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 29.—News has been received here from Moukden to the effect that the Japanese have at last begun the offensive. They have captured Da Pass, and are pressing on General Kuropatkin's left flank.

The War Office is unable to confirm this officially, because Kuropatkin's dispatches are following the Emperor, but the Associated Press is informed by the general staff that all indications point to the news being correct.

It is believed the Russians abandoned Da Pass without serious resistance. Several other passes of the Da range eastward of Bentlapudza (twenty miles southeast of Moukden) are also in the hands of the Japanese.

General Kuropatkin is evidently drawing in his forces to the less mountainous country to the west, where he may decide to give battle. In the mean while sharp fighting is regarded as imminent southeast of Moukden, whence the Japanese are expected to deliver their main attack, the flank movement from the west being of secondary importance.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 30.—The absence of the Zenger, who has gone to Odessa, has caused an even greater dearth of official news from the front than has been experienced heretofore.

Communication with Moukden has been practically suspended, and St. Petersburg is therefore suffering another period of suspense just when the information has been given that important developments are imminent between the armies of General Kuropatkin and Field Marshal Oyama. Port Arthur is more isolated than ever, and the only news from that place comes by way of Vladivostok.

It was reported last night that Grand Duke Nicholas Nikolaevitch's commission as commander of the Manchurian armies has been made out, but the statement cannot be confirmed. The report was coupled with the revival of the story that Viceroy Alexieff will return to St. Petersburg and become Chancellor of the Empire. The latter report is not credited to the best informed circles, although it is admitted that the Viceroy will probably return to Grand Duke Nicholas is sent to the Far East.

The cruiser Oleg, which was preparing for sea at Cronstadt, broke her cylinder while making her trial trip, and probably six weeks will

Miss Welles Fails to Break Bottle, but Workman Does It.

Despite the ugly rumors of attempts to tamper with her cradle, the battleship Connecticut was successfully launched yesterday, gliding with silken ease down smooth, untrammelled ways. Fully thirty thousand persons in the shipyard and as many more from outside saw the ponderous mass of fighting steel sweep down into the water of the Wallabout Channel, at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, at exactly 11.18 a. m. The success of the launching was considered a magnificent tribute to those responsible for the management of the affair. The launching was probably the last official act of Rear Admiral Rodgers, commandant of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, who retires on Monday, and gave the crowning touch to a long career.

Of the scores of workmen swarming over and beneath the ship, not one was hurt. In all the vast and complex machinery needed for the launching, nothing went awry. The stern, though blunt, cut into the water with sharp precision, holding finely to the ways till the ship was waterborne.

If there was a single incident to temper the joy of the occasion it lay in Miss Alice Welles's, the sponsor's, failure, probably through nervousness, either to name or sprinkle the monster craft. Even so, a quartermaster standing at the bow of the boat, saved the day and averted a sailor's hoodoo.

As early as 8 o'clock the vast crowd began to stream into the navy yard, special details of marines and yard policemen being stationed near every entrance and along the roadways leading to the scene. By 10.45 o'clock, fifteen minutes before the hour set for the launching, the throng had become fairly settled, and made a spectacle not lightly to be forgotten. Dressed rainbow-wise, the Connecticut, red lead hull from keel to gunwale, a section of main bridge and a stumpy aft turret alone showing above her hull, lay stern on toward the river, resting on her ways. On her starboard quarter lay the Kearsarge, flying the red pennant of Rear Admiral Barker, the bluejackets laying aloft to her signal yards and manning her fighting tops as thick as swarming bees.

Over on the Hancock on the Kentucky and the Texas further thousands gazed and waited. Two hundred feet away from the Connecticut the big Cock Dock showed black with living humanity, and within the inclosure was the same dense throng.

On every side, far as the eye could reach, men thronged the piers, wharves and abutments, perched themselves dizzily in the rigging of sailing craft near by, stood framed in casements, hung over steep roofs, gathered by thousands on bridges and pre-empted every conceivable vantage of vantage within a wide radius.

Among the first of the guests to arrive was Miss Welles, the sponsor, who is a granddaughter of Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy in the Cabinet of President Lincoln. With her was Rear Admiral Rodgers, who carried an armful of American Beauties. Behind them were Governor Chamberlain of Connecticut and Mrs. Chamberlain, as well as Miss Welles's two special guests.

The sprinkling stand now began to fill rapidly. The arrivals including Mrs. Rodgers, wife of the commandant of the yard, Secretary Morton, Rear Admirals Coghlan, Melville, Barker, Sands and Chester, Chief Naval Constructor Capes, Rear Admiral Rivet, of the French main-of-war Duplex, with the captain of the Trower; Major General Corbin, Brigadier General Grant, Major General Heywood, Commander Combs, Commodore F. G. Bourne of the New-York Yacht Club, Colonel John W. Vrooman and Police Commissioner McAdoo. The Navy League of the United States was also well represented.

VESSEL STARTS EASILY.

By the time the patrol fleet of tugs and cutters had cleared the navy yard waters of all moving craft it was 10.55 a. m.

Then suddenly from the waiting warships six bells sounded. A ripple of excitement swept across the waiting throng, but ten minutes passed and still the red lead colored vessel lay inert, giving no sign of life. The crowd grew uneasy, the rumors of a plot to mar the launching or to destroy the vessel surging up. Then across the water a boy's whistle began to blow, and the excitement mounted. Then upon the narrow walkway directly under the Connecticut's bow, just where the forefoot rose to the ram, Naval Constructor Baxter was seen to raise a megaphone. A moment later he called "Stand by."

At that a hush fell on the crowd. Then from somewhere a muffled bell began to whirl. On the sound men sprang to the keelblocks, bled the sandbags and knocked the blocks away. Those at both sides of the sole piece drew their saws across, cutting stroke for stroke.

Continued on third page.

ROBBED IN CAB IN PARK.

A WOMAN LOSES \$1,000.

Companion Says He Is Theatrical Agent—Fired at as He Escapes.

In the arrest last evening of two men, now locked up in the West Thirtieth-st. station on charges of grand larceny, it became known for the first time that Mrs. Albert M. Rehl, a wealthy woman of Philadelphia, was beaten and robbed of her jewels in Central Park at 1 a. m. last Tuesday.

Mrs. Rehl was in a cab, being driven to the Grand Hotel, in this city, with a man who had been introduced to her as a theatrical agent. She received a severe blow in the face, and she told the police that her jewels, which were taken, were worth over \$1,000. The man jumped from the cab. Several shots were fired at him by a policeman, but he got away, she returned to her home next day, but last evening, being told of the arrests, telegraphed that she would come here to-day and appear against the prisoners.

The prisoners said they were Charles D. Castleman, a gambler, of No. 14 West Park-st., Newark, and Victor Anderson, of No. 312 West Twenty-third-st.

Several weeks ago Mrs. Rehl met the man, a friend introducing him as C. D. Hullis. He said he was a theatrical agent, and told Mrs. Rehl she had an excellent voice. She had wished to go on the stage. He told her and her husband that he knew Henry W. Savage well and would speak to him about her. Mr. Rehl finally was persuaded by his wife to allow her to come to this city. On her arrival she asked at the Grand Hotel, where she registered, if "Hullis" was there, and was told that he was. He had registered at the hotel a few days before. Next day he sent his card to Mrs. Rehl, and she met him in the parlor. He proposed, she said, that they go to the theatre that evening, and she accompanied him to a theatre on Broadway.

After the play "Hullis" proposed that they go uptown and meet some theatrical people whom he knew. He then ordered a cab and they drove to One-hundred-and-eleventh-st. and Seventh-ave. She said that she did not like the place, and then "Hullis" ordered the cabman to drive them to One-hundred-and-Tenth-st. and Fifth-ave. After being there a short while "Hullis" said that he would drive to a restaurant and he would introduce her to Mr. Savage. He then ordered the cabman to drive, she says, to a restaurant at Seventy-fifth-st. and Columbus-ave.

On the way to the restaurant "Hullis," she declares, told her that Mr. Savage was very eccentric and did not like jewelry. He advised her, she says, to take off her jewelry and place it in her handbag. She did so, putting a diamond brooch, among other things, in the bag.

When they arrived at the restaurant it was shortly before 1 a. m. Few persons were there. "Hullis" said Mr. Savage had gone away. They had something to eat and then entered the cab, the driver being told to take them through the Park, entering it at Seventy-fifth-st.

After they had been driven a short distance, she alleges, "Hullis" grabbed her by the neck, struck her a hard blow in the jaw and leaped from the cab. Her screams attracted the attention of the driver, and he shouted, "Hullis" had snatched her handbag containing the diamonds, and she was alone.

Patrolman McNamara, of the Central Park station, saw the man running through the brush. He fired several times, but "Hullis" could not be found. Mrs. Rehl was without a mustache, but the police said it appeared as if one had been shaved off recently.

Mr. Savage's general manager, Colonel Braden, has been told that a man calling himself C. D. Hullis, and claiming friendship and business connection with Mr. Savage, had made an appointment with several young women in Philadelphia to meet him last Thursday morning preparatory to an engagement. The curious feature was that the man had offered to advance money to them on account, evidently content of getting it more than back. In some way he got suspicious, however, and never kept his appointment, at which it had been planned to have detectives present.

PAYNE SERIOUSLY ILL.

SYMPTOMS ALARMING.

Postmaster General Suffering from Heart Trouble.

(FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.)
Washington, Sept. 29.—Postmaster General Payne is dangerously ill in his rooms at the Arlington Hotel. Alarming symptoms have developed in the last twenty-four hours, and this evening his condition is so grave that it has been deemed advisable to inform members of his family and close personal friends living at a distance.

Dr. G. Lloyd Magruder, the family physician, who has been in close attendance on him, made the following statement late to-night:

The Postmaster General has not been feeling well for some days. Recently decided symptoms of heart trouble have developed. These were serious during the night and early portion of to-day. He is responding to the remedies employed and is resting easier to-night.

Surgeon General Rixey has been called in consultation, and trained nurses are in constant attendance. Mrs. Payne is here, and Miss Jones, niece of the Postmaster General, has been summoned by telegram.

When the Postmaster General returned from his extended trip recently he was apparently in fairly good health, although suffering from a cold. He immediately plunged into his department work with his accustomed energy, but found himself unable to bear the strain. He was at his desk last Saturday, but remained at home on Monday. On Tuesday he went to the department, and then attended the Cabinet meeting. Since then he has remained at home, but, despite all efforts, has grown steadily worse, suffering severe pains and growing perceptibly weaker.

The development of the heart trouble, accompanied by inability to take or retain nourishment, is causing grave concern, although his physicians believe that his will and recuperative powers, which in his recent severe illness stood by him so loyally, will again come to his aid and enable him to rally from his present attack.

President and Mrs. Roosevelt and Secretary Shaw were among those who called to express their sympathy this evening.

AUTO FOR DEATH VALLEY.

To Be Used in Prospecting for Gold in Californian Desert.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)
San Francisco, Sept. 29.—The automobile will be used by Professor Gilbert E. Bailey, of this city, to search for gold mines in the Death Valley region, which has proved fatal to hundreds of prospectors because of the intense heat and the difficulty of carrying across it supplies of food and water. Professor Bailey's automobile is a strong runabout, to which he has made a number of attachments for carrying implements and supplies. He will test its capacity by some preliminary tests in Southern California. Professor Bailey, who is an expert mining engineer and assayer, will follow up the valley of the Amargosa River and will thoroughly explore Funeral Mountains and Furnace Creek.

Every one knows this region is rich in minerals, but parties that have ventured into it even in winter are forced to carry a large outfit to guard against death by thirst. For three prospectors eight horses are necessary, six being devoted to hauling food stuff. This makes travel slow.

Professor Bailey will follow a new road into Death Valley made by the Pacific Coast Borax Company. This company will supersede the old twenty mule team by traction engines and trains of wagons. Recent discoveries of rich ore near Furnace Creek show that Death Valley has never been thoroughly prospected.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)
Austin, Tex., Sept. 29.—According to information brought here to-day by F. W. Seabury, of Rio Grande City, Tex., who is a member of the State legislature, all of the town of Camargo, Mexico, situated about six miles from Rio Grande City, was destroyed by a flood in the San Juan River. The town had a population of about five thousand people, who are now camped on the surrounding hills. Many of them are in destitute condition. Large financial losses are large.

JUMPS FROM FAST TRAIN. TAGGART'S BIG OFFENCE.

A. J. WHITEMAN ESCAPES.

Alleged Forger and Thief Leaps Through Car Window.

Buffalo, Sept. 29.—While being brought from St. Louis to Buffalo Alonzo J. Whiteman to-night escaped from Detective Sergeant Albert Solomon, of Buffalo, and William H. Field, assistant superintendent of a detective agency here. Whiteman escaped in a daring manner, jumping from the Lake Shore fast mail train near Dunkirk.

Whiteman and the two officers were in a station room on a Pullman car. Whiteman was lying on a sofa. The train was pulling out of the Dunkirk yards, and was running at about thirty miles an hour. Whiteman left his seat and jumped head first through the car window. Solomon and Field rushed to stop him, but were too late. They saw Whiteman on the ground as the train rushed by.

The two officers went to the conductor of the train, Mr. Rogers, and demanded that he stop the train. He refused, on the ground that the train was carrying United States mail on a fast schedule. The train was stopped at Silver Creek, however, just for a moment, to allow the clerk on an accommodation train.

Search for Whiteman is now being made. Whiteman was being brought back to Buffalo on a charge of forgery and grand larceny, the grand jury now sitting having returned an indictment against him. He is suspected of being implicated in a swindle in which the Fidelity Trust Company of Buffalo was the victim. Whiteman is a graduate of the Columbia Law School, and, after he had been graduated, went to Michigan and Minnesota, where he was prosperous. He was elected to the Minnesota Senate as a Democrat when twenty-five years old, and made an excellent record. He is the author of the Whiteman Election law, now in force in Minnesota. He served for a time as chairman of the Democratic State Committee of Minnesota, and was a delegate to the national convention of his party in 1888. In 1894 he lost all his money in wheat speculations, and his downward career began. He became a bookmaker. He has been arrested several times in various parts of the country.

TERRACE GARDEN BATTLE.

Columbia Underclassmen in Fierce Fight—Reserves There Two Hours.

The freshmen of Columbia University gathered last night to hold a vandeville entertainment, and it was reported, boxing also. They held the entertainment in Terrace Garden, in Princeton sixteen sophomores.

Then three hundred sophomores entered the hall and beat the two hundred freshmen till the reserves of the East Fifty-first-st. and East Sixty-seventh-st. police stations interfered. Many hats were smashed and many noses bled. The police made no arrests. In the hall railing was smashed and chairs were demolished. Those who were dining and drinking in the garden were kept in excitement, and a large crowd gathered.

The freshmen had hired Trocadero Hall, at Fort George, for the night, but the manager did not know until they came who his guests were to be, and he then refused to let them have it. They took cars for Terrace Garden, and paid for the dancing hall, which happened to be free, for the night. They had a big moving van, driven by one of their number, and he backed it up to the curb. Then the freshmen opened the back of the van and dragged out sixteen dressed sophomores bound hand and foot. Singing and howling, the freshmen carried the sophomores to the dance hall and slammed them into a closet.

When the manager of Terrace Garden said over the telephone to Acting Captain Bingham, of the East Fifty-first-st. station, "Send me your reserves, captain. They're smashing up the place," the captain hurried his patrol wagon to the scene.

The sophomores meanwhile had found a rear entrance in Fifty-ninth-st. through a dark hallway. Into the dancing hall they rushed, and the first freshmen they met were quickly bowled over. Then the main bodies of the two classes met, and for some minutes the fiercest of fights resulted.

When the 67 men pushed their way to the closet where their sixteen comrades were locked up the freshmen made another stand. The sophomores undid the door, however, and let their men out, and cut the ropes. The sixteen rushed like crazy men at the freshmen "to get square."

HIS LONE HARMONY HUNT

He Tried to Get Cleveland and Bryan on Same Stage.

The reason so vigorous an effort is being made to force Chairman Taggart to go West is that he, without consulting the other Democratic leaders, tried to get Cleveland and Bryan together on the platform in Madison Square Garden. The ex-President accepted the invitation, but Bryan declined with vigor.

Arrangements have been made for a Democratic rally at the Garden at which Parker, Cleveland and Herrick will appear.

Republican Congress conventions were held in New-York County last night.

The Rhode Island Democrats nominated a State ticket and chose Presidential electors.

BRYAN SPURNED OFFER.

Ex-President Willing to Meet Man from Nebraska.

Despite the utmost efforts of the Democratic National Committee to conceal it, the real reason for the endeavor to exile Chairman Taggart to Indiana came out yesterday.

A few weeks ago Mr. Taggart conceived the idea that a capital way of harmonizing the discordant elements of the party would be the bringing together of Grover Cleveland and William J. Bryan on the same platform. His plan was to have Mr. Cleveland preside over a rousing Democratic rally in Madison Square Garden and to have Mr. Bryan as one of the speakers. Carefully guarding at first his purpose from the knowledge of even members of the national executive committee, Mr. Taggart set about to accomplish his formidable task.

Letters in which he described graphically what was to be the master stroke of the campaign and urgently asked them to contribute their services, were addressed by Mr. Taggart to Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Bryan. The United States mail was not trusted with the precious missives, but emissaries were sent forth to deliver the requests in person. The envoy to Mr. Cleveland returned with the sealed reply that the former President would be glad to be of any service he could to his party, and accordingly would act as chairman of the proposed rally in the Garden.

The reply from Mr. Bryan was anxiously awaited, and in due time the messenger returned from Lincoln. Mr. Bryan's letter made Mr. Taggart shiver, for in curt fashion the Nebraskan declared that conscientious devotion to sacred principles would preclude his having anything to do with any Democratic gathering presided over by Grover Cleveland.

Mr. Taggart had been so sanguine of the success of his plan that on the receipt of Mr. Cleveland's acceptance, and before the Bryan wet blanket arrived, he took his associates at Democratic headquarters into his confidence. It was while there was a storm of protest at what Messrs. Sheehan and Belmont denounced as a ridiculous and blundering attempt to promote harmony that the letter from Mr. Bryan came. The grand reconciliation meeting in the Garden was straightway abandoned.

After that there was no comfort for Taggart at national headquarters. He was attacked on all sides for making a miserable fiasco.

SAYS CROKER IS COMING.

Van Wyck Explains His Betting Offer Related to Cleveland.

Since ex-Mayor Van Wyck, according to report, rashly offered to place a bet of \$5,000 that Judge Parker would carry this city by the greatest majority ever given a Democratic candidate he has experienced a change of heart. Yesterday, when he arrived on the Baltic, he said the offer was off. "I don't make my living by gambling," he remarked. He admitted that he had made some such wild proposal, but said that it had been made previous to the Democratic National Convention, and then only on the condition that ex-President Cleveland be the nominee.

"As he was not nominated," said the ex-Mayor, "of course, the bet is off."

Then Mr. Van Wyck entered on a long panegyric of the candidate on whom he is afraid to place his money.

Mr. Van Wyck brought back with him news of an impending visit to this country of Richard Croker. He said:

"I saw Mr. Croker in June. He was then in splendid health, and leading an idyllic, pastoral

Take the Day Line Steam route to St. Louis. The Hudson is at the height of its beauty. Maud—Adv.

Continued on third page.