THE JEANNETTE.

(Continued from the Third Page.)

known record among the higher latitudes of both hemispheres.

THE LEIGH SMITH.

ANOTHER VESSEL.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The *Times* says: "Information has been received from Tromsoe, Norway, which augurs well for the success of the Leigh Smith's voyage. The Captain of a Norwegian whaler reports that July 2 he saw the Eira steaming southward, having seen the same vessel previously, June 30, at Malotshkin Straits, at the edge of the ice."

MATRIMONIAL.

Hooley—Hurlburt.

Miss Grace E. Hooley, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Hooley, was married at 6 o'clock last evening by Archbishop Feehan to Mr. Robert Fuller Hurlburt, of Minneapolis, at the residence of her parents, No. 470 Dearborn avenue. The parlors were decorated very handsomely with flowers, the principal piece being the monogram H H over the mantel. The bride, who is a very handsome young lady, wore a white satin dress, the front of which was embroidered with pearl beads, and the court-train embroidered with Egyptian lilies and trimmed with lace. She had on a veil adorned with white roses, and her ornaments were diamonds. Among those who congratulated the young couple were Mr. and Mrs. Egbert Jamieson, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Kerfoot, Mrs. Gen. Mulligan and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Strout, Mrs. H. D. Colvin and Miss Colvin, Mrs. Shields, Mr. and Mrs. George C. Miln, Mr. and Mrs. Dr. Rae, Robert Rae, Miss Rae, Archbishop Feehan, Mr. and Mrs. James Barrell, Mr. Kirkwood, Miss Marion Faxon, Mr. Will Eaton, Mr. Walter Meadowcroft, Mr. Harry Faxon, Miss Jennie Roberts, Mrs. Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. Willis Rice, Mr. and Mrs. McDermid, Miss Addie Daniels, Mr. E. W. Hunter, Mr. and Mrs. John Alston, Dr. Robert Hunter, Mr. Leahy, Mr. Clarence Faxon, Miss Pussie Conley and Mr. Steele, Miss Hurlburt and Mr. Jackson of Minneapolis. There were a large number of very beautiful presents, the most conspicuous being these: Gold watch and chain, Mr. and Mrs. Hooley; handsome screen, Mr. and Mrs. Hurlburt; coffee set, Miss Pussie Conley; jewel case, Mrs. Robert Hunter; opera-glass, John Hooley Jr.; dressing case, Mrs. S. Quinlin; silver tea set, Mr. and Mrs. Egbert Jamieson; dozen silver spoons, Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Kerfoot; crystal fruit set, Mr. and Mrs. John Alston; silver fruit dish, Miss Sarah Shields; silver chamber lamp, Walter Meadowcroft; pearl-handled carving set and dinner and tea knives, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Jackson Jr.; screen, Misses Mulligan; clock, Mrs. H. A. Sanger; toilet set, Miss Mamie Hooley. After the wedding supper, which was furnished by Eckardt, the guests said "good-by" and "good luck" to Mr. and Mrs. Hurlburt, who left at 9 o'clock for Milwaukee on their way to Minneapolis, where they will reside.

Mr. Edgar S. Foote and Miss Flora Flagg, at Rogers Park.

The beautiful residence of Mr. and Mrs. Dr. L. H. Thomas, at Rogers Park, was last evening the scene of a quiet but elegant wedding, the contracting parties being their daughter, Miss Flora Flagg, and Mr. Edgar S. Foote, bookkeeper for L. H. Thomas, of this city, manufacturer of inks etc. The Rev. Dr. Hemingway, of Evanston, officiated. The bride, a petite and pretty brunet, was attired in a white brocaded satin robe, elaborately embroidered, and diamond ornaments. Among the presents, which were numerous and in excellent taste, were a sealskin cloak and hat from "father and mother;" a pair of Etruscan gold bracelets, from the bridegroom; an elegantly bound volume of "Homes and Haunts of Our Older Poets," from Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Foote, Detroit; silver pickle-fork and butter-knife, from Mr. and Mrs. Norton, Goshen, Ind.; pair of vases, from Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hoffman; silver card-receiver, from Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Thomas, Reading, Mich.; case of silver nut-picks, from Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Easter; silver jewel-case, from Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Spicer; crystal inkstand, from Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Hunnewels; opera-glass, from Mr. W. H. Parker, Cleveland; painted pink satin toilet-set, from Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Kelly, Hillsdale, Mich.; pair of gold cups and saucers, from Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Mosher, Hillsdale, Mich.; an ebony and gilt easel, from Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Hoffman; gold earrings, from Miss Alice Rankin, Cleveland; head lambrequin, from Miss Carrie Strong, Reading, Mich.; clock, from Miss Ida Rice; crystal and silver clock, from Alfred S. Hutchinson; bookcase, from "Brother Burt"; an elegant easy-chair, from "Sister Georgie"; a generous sum of money, from S. T. Lanphear and from J. S. Antisdale. The happy couple will spend the holidays in the East.

Wagdin and Gratiot, at Platteville, Wis.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

GALENA, Ill., Dec. 21.—The wedding of State's-Attorney W. W. Wagdin, of this city, and Miss Sue P. Gratiot, daughter of Col. E. H. Gratiot, of Platteville, which took place today at the latter city, furnished a fitting climax to the unusually large number of notable matrimonial events that have occurred in this section during the latter part of the present year. The ceremony took place at the Episcopal Church, and was performed by the Rev. Mr. Pulford, Rector, in the presence of a select company of the friends of the Gratiot family, including the elite of Platteville and Galena. The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Julia Gratiot, and Miss Jessie Eastman, of Platteville, and the groom by Messrs. John Dowling, of Dubuque, and C. L. Gratiot, brother of the bride. The ushers were Messrs. Lynn I. Harris, of Galena, and George H. Gratiot, of St. Louis. An elegant reception occurred at the house immediately following the ceremony, and lasted until 3 o'clock p. m., when the wedding party, accompanied by the Galena guests, took train for the latter city in a special car furnished by Superintendent Trull, of the Chicago & Northwestern Road. Mr. and Mrs. Wagdin depart this evening for Chicago, New York, and Washington. Among the number of guests present from abroad was Mrs. E. B. Washburne, of Chicago, aunt of the bride. Friends bestowed numerous and elegant testimonials of esteem and affection in the way of silver and other presents.

ROBBING THE MASONS.

Capture of a Thief While in the Act of Despoiling a Masonic Temple in Cincinnati.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 21.—H. Williams, in charge of the Masonic Temple, reported at Hammond Street Station this morning that he had reason to believe that there was a burglarious intruder in the sacred apartments of the Masons. Lieut. Johnston and Sergt. Thornton responded to the case and made a thorough search of the mysterious premises, moving about in an awe-struck style among the yawning coffins, grinning skeletons, and caged goats. Their search was rewarded, for in one of the small apartments they found a defiler of the sacred temple. He had swallowed the contents of several bottles of Masonic wine, and had picked up a silver spoon and several other articles. As the officers were taking him downstairs he dropped something, which his captors picked up and found to be two keys and an "outsider." On Third street he threw a bunch of keys in a convenient ash-barrel. They were identified as the property of the Tyler of the Temple. At the station he gave the name of Henry Volmer.

SUICIDAL.

A Despondent Jeweler of Cleveland.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 21.—A jeweler named William Kidd committed suicide to-day. He had been a hard drinker of late years. Not being able to sleep the past few nights, he became despondent. He went home this forenoon and told his wife he was going to kill himself. She obtained an ounce of laudanum to enable him to sleep, and he took the whole dose, deceiving her by saying some had been spilled. He died this evening. Kidd was 53 years of age, and leaves a wife and one son. He was a member of several societies, and for thirty-five years has been the leading jeweler here.

Temporary Insanity.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

ROCHESTER, Minn., Dec. 21.—Charles Lenton in a fit of temporary insanity hanged himself in his barn. The Coroner rendered a verdict in accordance with the above facts. Mr. Lenton leaves a large family, and was highly respected.

CONSEQUENCES OF DEFALCATION.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 21.—The annual meeting of the United States Railway Mail Service Mutual Benefit Association is in session in this city today. All the districts except the Eighth are represented, and over fifty delegates are present. During the year the association has suffered the loss of $17,500 by the defalcation of two of its officers, and the question was under consideration until nearly midnight how to make up this deficiency, resulting in an increase of the assessment upon old members from $2 to $5 per month.

STEAMSHIP NEWS.

QUEENSTOWN, Dec. 21.—Arrived, the British Crown, from Philadelphia.

QUEENSTOWN, Dec. 21.—Arrived, the Parthia, from New York.

The only cure for corns. H. S. Frederick & Co.'s Curealine. 25 cents. Fuller & Fuller, 24 Market street.

NEW YORK.

Defalcation of Frederick A. Palmer, Auditor of Newark, N. J.

In Fear of Discovery He Makes a Voluntary Statement.

His Shortage Will Amount to Over One Hundred Thousand Dollars.

He Saves the Bother of Arrest by Putting Himself in Jail.

Belief that He Has Been in Collusion with Other Parties.

Byrne, of "Dramatic News" Fame, Again in the Clutches of the Law.

Prospective Large Shipments of Dressed Beef in Refrigerator Cars from Texas.

Marriage of the Venerable George G. Sickles and Mrs. Mary S. Sawyer, His Housekeeper.

DEFALCATION.

THE AUDITOR OF NEWARK, N. J.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—The excitement caused by the revelation of the enormous defalcation of Oscar L. Baldwin, and the consequent wreck of the Mechanics' National, of Newark, has scarcely died away before the citizens of New Jersey's metropolis are treated to another sensation of a similar character, and Newark now bids fair to win the unenviable distinction of being a city of defaulters. Frederick A. Palmer, City Auditor of Accounts, was committed today to the Essex County Jail, at the request of his own counsel, approved by himself, and on his own confession that he had embezzled in the neighborhood of $125,000 from the city funds within the last three years. Mr. Palmer has been drinking very heavily for the past few days, and when he took his usual seat in his office in the city-hall at 10 o'clock this morning he showed the effects of

TOO LIBERAL POTATIONS,

but beyond this nothing unusual was noticed by his clerks. He wrote two short letters, one of which he addressed to Mayor Fiedler, and which afterward proved to be his resignation of the position of Auditor of the City of Newark, and the other to Ald. Theberath, Chairman of the Finance Committee of the board. Intrusting these to a messenger with orders to deliver them as speedily as possible, he put on his overcoat, and, telling Mr. E. L. Dickerson, his assistant, that he was going out, left the office. He went directly to the office of his counsel, William B. Guild Jr., and told him that he had embezzled the money of the city and lost it in Wall street. An expert, he said, was going through the accounts of the different departments, and, as soon as he reached the Auditor's office, the frauds were

SURE TO BE DISCOVERED.

He had concluded, therefore, to make a clean breast of the matter at once, and he wanted advice as how to act from Mr. Guild. Palmer was in a terrible condition from the effects of whisky and chloral, of which he has taken large doses to quiet his nerves, and Mr. Guild, fearing that he might try to make away with himself, advised him to go at once to the County Jail and surrender himself. This advise seemed to be in accordance with the man's own views, and, in company with the lawyer, he went to the jail. They reached the jail shortly after 11 o'clock, and were met by Deputy Warden Johnson, to whom Palmer repeated his statement that he had embezzled a large sum of money, and requested that a magistrate be sent for. Justice Mills was summoned, and, after the usual formalities,

PALMER WAS DULY COMMITTED

to await the action of the grand jury, which is now in session. The news of this remarkable action of the Auditor spread rapidly throughout Newark, and the city was almost as excited as it was during the first few days after the revelation of Baldwin's rascality. Palmer, as Auditor of Accounts, did not have the handling of a cent of the city's money. His duty was simply to approve the accounts of the city, and settlements were made through the Controller's and Treasurer's offices. It is a mystery how Palmer could defraud the city of so large an amount as he claims to have squandered in speculations, unless he acted in collusion with other officers, or has been guilty of forging warrants. Not a few of the friends of Palmer declare boldly that the man is crazy, and that the defalcation only exists in his disordered brain. The letter to the Chairman of the Finance Committee making

THE CONFESSION

is a remarkable document. It was the last thing written by Palmer before surrendering himself, and is as follows:

CITY AUDITOR'S OFFICE, Dec. 21, 1881.—I have embezzled large amounts of city funds. I have surrendered myself into the hands of the officers of the law, and am now lodged in the county jail. These frauds were committed mainly in the years 1879, 1880, and 1881, and amount to a sum probably of $125,000. That the ends of justice may be speedily reached, I hope for the immediate examination of these years, that, with the aid of my office assistant, enough items may be found to secure my sentence. I desire to say very emphatically that these frauds have been committed without the aid, knowledge, connivance, or assistance of any person whatever. It is useless for me to speak of my ruined life, of the stain on all who know me. I expect only exact justice, but ask that it may soon be reached.

F. A. PALMER.

Palmer told his wife and her sister of the defalcation on Tuesday night, and said to them: "I would have shot myself long ago, but I could not bear to add that disgrace to the burden which I have already cast on my family."

MRS. PALMER

was startled by the news, but advised her husband to make a confession at once. The city officials were one and all struck with amazement when the news of Palmer's confession was made public, and the Mayor, Controller, City Counsel, and all the clerks in the departments agree in stating that they cannot understand how Palmer was able to embezzle any of the city bonds. The city accounts in all the departments, from 1870 to the present time, are now being examined by Mr. Balden, an expert. He said today that he had not as yet discovered any defalcation, and the idea of finding one in the Auditor's office had never entered his head. He remembered, however, that Palmer had displayed a great deal of reluctance in furnishing certain books he required in his investigations." The expert says that in

COMPARING THE AUDITOR'S BALANCE SHEETS

he found that the sheet for 1879 made the total liabilities of the city $8,400,224.63 and the assets $6,036,258.21, leaving a deficiency of $2,403,966.62, while the report of 1880 showed the liabilities to be $8,703,116.17 and the assets $7,862,404.70, leaving a deficiency of $839,704.47. These assets, however, excluded a valuation of city property not accounted for in 1879 of $1,007,057.81, and, this being taken into account, the city really fell behind during the year 1880 $843,785.66. This, Mr. Balden said, had surprised him exceedingly, but that, while he felt that it indicated something wrong, he had not yet sufficiently investigated the financial affairs of the city to give any explanation of it.

FREDERICK A. PALMER

is 43 years of age. During the Rebellion he served as a clerk in the Quartermaster's Department under the late Gen. Burnside. In 1871 the Controller's Department had just been created, and he was appointed Chief Clerk. He developed into a fine financier, and devised what was considered the best system of managing the city accounts ever devised in Newark. In 1876 he was appointed Auditor of the city accounts, and, at the expiration of his term of office in 1879, was reappointed for three years more. His salary was $3,250 a year, and it was supposed that he lived within it. Like Oscar L. Baldwin, the defaulting Cashier of the Merchanics' National Bank, he was looked upon by the entire community as the soul of honor and integrity, and to have whispered a word of suspicion against Fred Palmer would have been regarded as slander until today. He was a communicant of Trinity Church, and occupied a pew adjoining that of Baldwin.

FORGERY.

To the Western Associated Press.

NEWARK, N. J., Dec. 21.—The Mayor has information that the embezzlement has been done by the forgery of the names of prominent citizens, and he said he believed there had been collusion. The expert accountant stated that the frauds were probably in the assessment accounts, and a resolution was adopted directing him to investigate the Auditor's accounts as soon as possible. Ald. O'Connor said Chief Clerk Hall, of the Controller's Department, had been living beyond his means. City Treasurer Winans acknowledged he loaned money belonging to the city.

THAT MAN BYRNE.

INDICTED FOR EMBEZZLEMENT.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—The man Byrne, who used to edit that malodorous sheet, the *Dramatic News*, and who was looked upon as a pariah of journalism, is once more in trouble. He fell out with his former associates of the *Truth*, and was compelled to leave that paper, but was followed by a Nemesis in the shape of Josh Hart, who claimed that Byrne had been guilty of appropriating moneys that did not belong to him. On this ground Hart swore vengeance, and, as Byrne had already been indicted for libel in New Jersey, where they have a summary and effective method of dealing with criminals, Hart determined to make it a little warm for Byrne here also, and thus kept him mindful of the fact that he was not forgotten. Hart laid the matter before the grand jury, and today that body found an indictment for embezzlement against Byrne. There is, therefore, a prospect of some more of Byrne's dirty linen being aired in the court-room.

ITEMS.

LARGE SHIPMENTS OF BEEF FROM TEXAS.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—The Superintendent of the New York Produce Exchange today received a telegraphic dispatch from San Antonio, Tex., stating that 20,000 pounds of beef will be sent in refrigerator-cars from that city to New York between the present date and 1st of January next. The beef will be shipped from this port to France, where there is a great demand for beef, on account of existing prejudice against American pork. It is stated that immense orders from France for beef have been received by New York dealers.

VENERABLE LOVERS.

The wedding of the venerable George G. Sickles and Mrs. Mary Sheridan Sawyer occurred today, as set forth in these dispatches last night. The novelty of the affair drew a large and miscellaneous crowd to the church where the ceremony was performed. Gen. Daniel E. Sickles was not present, but his daughter, Mrs. Carlton, occupied a pew in church.

S. J. TILDEN ENJOINED.

To the Western Associated Press.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Judge Blatchford today continued the injunction restraining Samuel J. Tilden from selling certain stocks in which it is claimed W. L. Wetmore had an interest.

SURRENDER OF A MURDERER.

Policeman Fitzpatrick, who shot and killed Officer Norton, surrendered himself to Inspector Byrnes this morning.

BIG FEES DEMANDED.

Application has been made in behalf of E. D. Sheriff, Conner, and Reilly for $81,000 poundage on a judgment recovered against William M. Tweed for $6,500,000.

GEORGE M. PULLMAN

has the following dispatch from the Montreal Superintendent of the Pullman Palace-Car Company with reference to the reported seizure of Palace cars at Montreal: "Cars have not been seized nor interfered with. Some office records have been seized, but counsel advise that the proceedings are illegal. A demand has been made for the return of the papers, which the officers have promised to deliver today."

BANQUET IN BROOKLYN OF THE NEW ENGLAND SOCIETY.

Two hundred and eighty-eight covers were laid tonight at the banquet of the New England Society, Brooklyn. The first toast of the evening, proposed by President Silliman, was: "Gen. Grant—Whether General, President, or private citizen, honored and loved by the people." Gen. Grant's reply was brief, stating that he proposed to divide the seven minutes alloted him among the representatives of New England. Henry Ward Beecher, Chauncey M. Depew, and Horace Porter were among the speakers.

ELEVATED RAILROADS.

Judge Blatchford denied the application for the injunction restraining the elevated railroad companies' consolidation.

JEFF'S MILLIONS.

Particulars of the Whole Matter from Men Who Ought to Know All About It.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 21.—A correspondent today questioned Representative Reagan, of Texas, about the Joe Johnston-Jeff Davis affair, in which it is alleged, Johnston charged that Davis made off at the end of the Rebellion with the coin reserve of the collapsed Confederacy. Reagan was Postmaster-General of the Confederacy, and was also its last Secretary of the Treasury. After the evacuation of Richmond, and after Davis and his Cabinet had left Charlotte, N. C., Trenholm, Secretary of the Treasury, became so ill that he had to resign and leave. Davis immediately appointed Reagan as Trenholm's successor. Reagan says: "The charge, if it was really made against Davis, is absurd and unfounded. For the last several years of its existence the Confederate States did not have at any time as much as $2,500,000 coin in this country. All the coin we got was in exchange for cotton, and it was kept in Europe, and drawn upon for supplies. At Washington, Ga., when it was evident the collapse had come, the money-chests were opened, and the major portion of the coin distributed pro rata among the Confederate troops there. I believe each man and officer got $10. That is what Gen. Dibrell says, and he was there. The amount of money there belonging to the Confederate States was about $85,000 in gold coin, $35,000 in silver coin, and $36,000 in silver bullion in the form of bricks. I don't know how much was paid out to the soldiers, but Dibrell thinks it was about $100,000. I hardly think it was that much. The silver bricks were put by the Quartermaster in an old warehouse, and were subsequently found and taken by United States troops. A sum of money, I don't know how much, was put in the hands of two naval officers, who were directed to go to Nassau and reach Europe with it. They failed, were captured, and the Government got the money. That is the manner in which the coin of the Confederacy went. Mr. Davis got none of it." Senator Williams, of Kentucky, who commanded the remnant of a division of cavalry and was at Washington, Ga., with his men when Davis' Cabinet disbanded, corroborates Reagan's account, and says: "I got $10 of the money, the same amount each private was allowed. The soldiers knew the chests contained money, and one day they made a raid on them, intending to take the money and divide it. I made a speech to them, advising them to let the money alone, and they respected my advice. The money was hauled away from Georgia in wagons, but after a day or two was brought back, and, in my presence, divided among the soldiers."

The Story as Related by a Former Lieutenant in the Rebel Army.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 21.—The *Journal* will publish tomorrow a lengthy interview with a gentleman of this city, who was a Lieutenant in the Confederate army, in reference to the large amount of money Jeff Davis is alleged to have taken from the Confederacy when the seat of government was temporarily at Charlotte, N. C. The gentleman was with Jeff Davis at that place, and says there was a large amount of gold and silver in boxes sent there from Richmond and other places, guarded by but a few men. A portion of the money was distributed among the officers, he receiving for his share $55. Everything was in terrible confusion, and anybody could have gotten some of it, but the greater portion was taken away with Davis when he left across the country. He does not think Davis got the money, but it was taken by a marauding party or by dishonest officers. He is also of opinion that Gen. Joe Johnston was incorrectly reported, and does not believe he would accuse Davis of taking it, but does not know what became of the money.

THE FIRE RECORD.

Destruction of Several Locomotives in a Round-House at St. Paul.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 21.—About 12:10 this afternoon fire was discovered in the roof of the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba round-house, situated on the Short-Line track, 100 feet below the Mississippi street bridge at St. Paul. The flames spread rapidly, and, as the employés were all at dinner, only one of the nine engines which were in the stalls was run out. The other eight were destroyed. An alarm was sent to St. Paul, and the steamers responded in short order, and succeeded in saving about sixty feet on opposit ends of the building. The round-house was an old one, and practically worthless. The eight engines burned were Nos. 85, 46, 25, 71, 43, and 50 of the Manitoba Road, and 8 and 83 of the Northern Pacific. The one saved was 51 of the Manitoba. The Northern Pacific engines were both new, having been received from the East early last week. The destruction of engines was hastened by the coal in the tenders taking fire. The flames caused a rapid accumulation of steam, and the fears of an explosion scattered the large crowd which had assembled. Several cords of wood and a number of freight cars in front of the round-house were saved. The loss is covered by the blanket insurance policies on all the property of the companies. Several of the striking boilermakers were about the premises, and one of them remarked, "This will be laid to us." This would be unjust, however, as the fire originated in the roof, and, no doubt, caught from a spark from one of the locomotives.

A Close Call for Hudson, Wis.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 21.—A Hudson special to the *Pioneer-Press* says: "At a little after 10 o'clock tonight fire broke out in T. F. Moss' photograph gallery, near the corner of Third and Locust streets, and in a very few minutes the whole building was enveloped. The flames rapidly spread to the adjoining buildings, and for a time it looked as though the whole row of wooden structures would be consumed before the consuming elements could be brought under subjection. It was nearly ten minutes before a stream of water reached there, by which time the buildings of Harry Beard, W. Crowes, and J. J. S. Moffatt, and the sugar factory of John Nash were one red sheet of flames, while the stores of Messrs. Streeter, Hatch, L. Beard & Co., and the markets of Johnston and Coon were only rescued by the herculean efforts of the waterpail brigade. The elements were held in check on Nash's factory, and the better portion of the Moffatt building was soon after rescued, so that the losses were confined to the Beard and Crowes buildings. As near as the loss can be ascertained at this hour it will be as follows: On buildings, $4,000; on stock burned and damaged, $3,500; insurance, $1,300. It was one of the closest calls Hudson has had since 1872 for a great conflagration, as there would have been no preventing it sweeping the town had it once crossed the street.

An Expensive Barber-Shop Blaze.

At 7:45 o'clock yesterday morning fire was discovered in Eden's bath-rooms, under the Tremont House, and the department was called. Although the fire itself was of but trifling importance, the damage to mirrors and other expensive furnishings is estimated at $1,500. There is an insurance of $1,500 in the Boatmen's Fire & Marine and $2,000 in the Firemen's of Philadelphia. Cause of fire not known.

At Battle Creek, Mich., Loss, $1,200, Insured.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

BATTLE CREEK, Mich., Dec. 21.—An incendiary set fire to the furniture warehouse of Buck & Hoyt last night. Before extinguished the fire destroyed about $1,200 worth of furniture. The loss is fully covered by insurance. This is the second incendiary fire this week.

At Galesburg, Ill., Loss $3,000, Insurance $1,800.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

GALESBURG, Ill., Dec. 21.—A fire broke out last night in the large frame building on West and Second streets, and used for the manufacturing of pop by J. R. Inness. Loss, $3,000. The building was insured for $800 in the Queen, London, and the contents $1,000.

A Burning Mine.

MAHANOY PLANE, Pa., Dec. 21.—Stanton colliery is on fire from an explosion of sulphur. Efforts are making to extinguish the flames. Meantime 400 employés will be out of work.

OBITUARY.

Last Tributes of Respect to the Late Justice Miller.

The obsequies over the remains of the late Justice Ammund Miller took place yesterday morning at the residence of the deceased's brother, No. 192 North Carpenter street, in the presence of a large gathering of mourning relatives and friends. The services at the house were under the charge of Blair Lodge, A. F. and A. M., of which the deceased was a member. The services were conducted by the Rev. Charles E. Koerner, of Wicker Park Lutheran Church, who delivered an eloquent and impressive funeral oration, in which he eulogized the many Christian traits of the departed and exhorted the sorrowing throng about him to prepare for the time that must come when they, too, would be called from this world into the presence of their Lord and Creator. The remains were inclosed in a black velvet-covered casket, mounted with silver-barred handles. The floral offerings consisted of a large pillow bearing the inscription "A. M.," given by the West Side Justices and a number of lawyers; an anchor, by Capt. Louis Johnson; and a Masonic emblem, "square and compass," by H. S. Paulsen. After the exercises the remains were conveyed by carriages to the Northwestern depot, and thence to Rosehill Cemetery, where they were interred with Masonic ceremonies conducted by Past Master C. R. Matson, of Blair Lodge No. 91. The following gentlemen acted as pall-bearers: Ancient Order of United Workmen—S. A. Hanlon, William Friese, Fred Ledding, Joseph Heinbrodt, Charles Peterson, Charles Rice, John Sudder; Blair Lodge No. 91—Lieut. Lathum, Jonas Anderson, Capt. Gunderson, ex-Ald. Gunderson, Capt. Johnson, and Peter Anderson.

Funeral of the Late Charles H. Crowell, of the Board of Trade.

The funeral of Charles H. Crowell took place yesterday morning at 10 o'clock at the residence of his mother, No. 1305 Michigan avenue, the Rev. Charles G. Trusdell conducting the service. Among the numerous friends in attendance, those from the Board of Trade, of which he was a member, were represented in goodly numbers, and the floral offerings in memory of the departed were unusually handsome—a silent but eloquent token of the high esteem in which the deceased was held by his intimate friends. Among them were the following highly ornate pieces: "Gates Ajar," from Board of Trade gentlemen; pillow and anchor, from Mamma, Celia, and Jennie Wendell, friends in Vienna; broken column, from Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Shubart and E. V. and Maurice Wendell; star and crescent, from Jennie Anderson; anchor, from Mrs. H. V. Bemis; pillow, from J. V. Ross; basket from John McKillip; pillow, from Mrs. Hoffman; wreath, from Mrs. C. G. Truesdale.

LYDIAN ART-GALLERY RECEPTION.

An informal reception was held last evening at the Lydian Art Gallery, which, considering the great inclemency of the weather and the fact that no regular invitations were issued, the only announcement being a notice in the daily papers, was a gratifying success in point of attendance. A goodly number of ladies and gentlemen, among them many Chicago artists, braved the heavy rain, and spent the evening most pleasantly in social converse and in looking at the many interesting pictures displayed in the gallery. The chief object of interest was the work of Miss Sarah P. Dodson, the "Deborah," of which a description has already appeared in THE TRIBUNE. The painting was much admired as a composition of extraordinary power. It will remain on view for several weeks. Among the guests present last evening were the following: Miss H. A. Andress, Mrs. Mary Wright, Mrs. A. L. Blanchard, Mrs. Bromley, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Barteau, Mr. L. R. Bromley, Mrs. E. E. Hill, Mr. M. S. Dickson, Mr. Voss, Alex Schilling, Daniel Kotz, Frank Brown, Mrs. Sparks, C. P. Renn, George H. Gay, Mr. Atwater, R. H. Bragdon, T. M. Fenety, W. A. Cooper, Frank Wheaton, W. S. Gale Jr., Charles Goodheim, Prof. Clement Tetedoux, H. Chetain, Mr. Stosson, Charles Macdonald, John Ellingson, Miss Gibson.

A pleasant episode of the evening was the presentation to Mrs. Cadwell of a beautiful basket of flowers by her artist friends.

"WANTED FOR MURDER."

Arrest of Dr. Hugh Nelson on a Warrant from Baltimore.

The Crime the Result of an Operation Forbidden by the Statute.

Dr. Hugh Nelson, late of Baltimore, Md., was arrested in this city last night by Detective George A. Hartman, upon a requisition from the Governor of Maryland, and was placed in the County Jail to await the arrival of an officer who shall take him back to Baltimore to answer to an indictment found against him for the murder, through malpractice, of a Miss Blanche, an aristocratic young woman from Savannah, Ga. The story attached to the case is, so far as a reporter for this paper was able to obtain it, to the effect that the young woman aforesaid having become involved in troubles at home which would ultimately result in her eternal disgrace were the facts known left her home in company with a female friend, and went to Baltimore, there to procure assistance from some physician whose love of money was greater than his fear of the law. The two engaged rooms at Barnum's Hotel, a quiet and select family hostelry in the "City of Monuments," and so soon as convenient after their arrival set about accomplishing the object of their visit. In what way they became acquainted with the man who is now accused of the crime which resulted in Miss Blanche's death does not appear. But that he was called upon to accept the office of confidential physician and that he undertook the doubly-dangerous operation appears from the action of the grand jury at Baltimore to be, to say the least, a matter of very grave suspicion. Shortly after the crime had been committed, and while the patient was thought to be convalescent, Dr. Nelson left the city and came directly to this point, where it seems he has been since that time—about the middle of October. After his departure an indictment was found against him, and the knowledge of that fact led to the publication in one of the Baltimore papers of the details of the case, and a great

SOCIAL SCANDAL AND SENSATION

was produced. The aristocratic connections of the unfortunate young woman and the wealth and position of the Savannah gentleman, who was said to be primarily the cause of the entire affair, added to the interest, which the exposé awakened, and Baltimore as well as the more Southern city gossiped freely about the matter. And when two weeks ago Miss Blanche died from the effects of the treatment she had received, the wealthy relatives of the deceased began in earnest to ascertain the whereabouts of the suspected practitioner. He was thought to have made Chicago the objective point of his flight. So Jacob Frye, the Marshal of Police for the City of Baltimore, opened correspondence with Detective Hartman here, and the man was "located." Two days ago the detective received a telegram from the Marshal urging immediate arrest. Nelson was caught by means of a drop-letter, and last night was taken into custody at the Washington Hotel, corner of West Madison and Canal streets, and was forthwith lodged in jail.

A reporter saw and conversed with him last night through the bars of the cell-door. He is a handsome, dark-eyed, dark-haired man with a full black beard and black hair. His hight seemed to be a few inches less than 6 feet, and his physique is compact though not stout. He talks with the unmistakable Baltimorean accent, and after the manner of a gentleman. He answered the questions put to him without hesitation, after first having denied that he knew wherefor he was locked up. The charge against him was, he said, for malpractice in the case of Emma Hummel, a young woman whom he had professionally attended, and he claimed to have documentary evidence to prove that the girl's brother had threatened him with indictment in case he did not pay him $150. He denied that he had treated the case unprofessionally, said that there were no evidences that any such treatment had been used, and emphatically declared that he had left Baltimore only because he knew how hard it was for a man in the practice of medicine to regain his standing in the community, even after an accusation of criminality brought against him had been bountifully proven groundless.

Up to this point of the interview the mention of Miss Blanche's name had not been made. When her name was mentioned and the prisoner was told that he was accused of the crime which led to her death, he was visibly taken unawares. His face turned very red, and he hesitated with some confusion as to what he should say. Finally he explained by saying that he did not know anything of the case at all. He did not know Miss Blanche, had never seen her, but had heard that a physician, a certain Dr. Worthington, had gotten himself into trouble in attempting, for a sufficient pecuniary consideration, to

SAVE HER FROM DISGRACE.

It is said that the Doctor while in Baltimore was noticeable for the excellence of the horseflesh behind which he was in the habit of disporting himself along the fashionable drives, and for the extreme fashionableness of his attire. His present appearance, while it does not disprove, does not substantiate the story. His attire is of the cheaper order, and his general appearance that of a gentleman out of employment. He has been living part of the time during his stay here with some male friends who room on Wabash avenue, and another portion of the time with a Seymour street woman, who is thought in the neighborhood in which she lives to be the wife of the man who has been her frequent visitor. The Doctor was divorced about one year ago from his wife, who is now in Baltimore.

THE MIMIC STAGE.

A Delightful Entertainment at the Residence of Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Chandler.

A very enjoyable entertainment was given last evening at the beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Chandler, No. 182 Rush street, for the benefit of the Women's and Children's Hospital, a worthy charity. Mr. Chandler has a miniature theatre on the upper floor of his residence, admirably suited to the production of such light entertainments, and a large and brilliant assemblage of ladies and gentlemen, representing the first social circles of the city, assembled last evening to witness the performance.

The program presented was as follows:

Overture, "Tannhäuser"....John Hand's Orchestra
Harp Solo....Miss Rose Buckingham

TABLEAUX VIVANTS.

I.

ROMEO AND JULIET.

Romeo	Mr. James B. Waller
Mercutio	Mr. William Sturgis
Tybalt	Mr. C. H. Douglas
Count De Paris	Mr. William J. Johnston
Friar Lawrence	Mr. J. George Rapelje
Juliet	Miss Belle Quan
Lady Capulet	Miss Helen Swing
Nurse	Miss Clara Schmidt
Guests of Capulet	Miss Bettie Hamilton; Miss Virginia Hamilton; Miss Bowmie Ashby

Scene first, meeting; scene second, parting; scene third, reunion.

II.

ELIZABETH AND MARIE STUART.

Queen Elizabeth	Miss Lina D. Harrison
Marie Stuart	Miss Rose Buckingham
Hannah Kennidy	Miss Clara Schmidt
Margaret Kurl	Miss Emma Smith
Maids of Honor	Miss Bettie Hamilton; Miss Virginia Hamilton; Miss Bowmie Ashby
Lord Burleigh	Mr. William Sturgis
Earl Leicester	Mr. William J. Johnston
Melville	Mr. C. H. Douglass
Page	Master Eugene Pike

Scene first—The Encounter. Scene second—The Death Warrant. Scene third—The Last Consolation. Scene fourth—The Execution.

III.

OTHELLO.

Othello	Mr. Henry Guy Carleton
Iago	Mr. Harry W. Walker
Cassio	Mr. Charles H. Mitchell
Brabantio	Mr. Edward May
Desdemona	Miss Hattie P. Emery
Emelia	Miss Helen Swing

Scene first—Wooing. Scene second—Instigation. Scene third—Fate.

La Cracovienne....Miss Rose Buckingham
Tableau...."The Green Room"

The tableaux were very handsomely mounted and dressed, and the young ladies and gentlemen taking part acquitted themselves with great credit. The tableaux which were most enthusiastically received were

THE BALCONY SCENE,

from "Romeo and Juliet," and the execution scene, from "Marie Stuart." The first two scenes from "Othello" were presented as tableaux vivants, and the remainder of the scenes were acted. Mr. Henry Guy Carleton, as *Othello*, looked the part and acted it remarkably well, and Mr. Harry Walker was an acceptable *Iago*. Miss Hattie Emery was pretty and piquant as *Desdemona*, and Miss Helen Swing acted *Emelia* charmingly. The entertainment was thoroughly enjoyed by those present.

During the evening a lunch was served by Kinsley, and after the entertainment on the stage the hall was cleared, and dancing occupied the attention of the young people until a late hour. The entertainment will be repeated this evening, and, as the sale of seats has been quite large, it is probable that the hospital will realize quite a sum.

Among the ladies and gentlemen noticed in the audience last evening were Mr. and Mrs. Perry H. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Kimball, Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Chandler, Miss May Buell, Mr. Warren Salsbury, Mr. Henry Strong, Mrs. Stearns, Mr. Mason Starring, Miss Tobin, Miss Stearns, Mr. George Roberts, Mr. Walter Meadowcroft, Mr. Will D. Eaton, Mr. Henry Whitehouse, Miss Spruance, Mr. Chandler, Mr. Ernest Smith, Miss Preston, Miss Strong, Mr. W. C. D. Grannis, Miss Stearns, Mr. and Mrs. Uri Balcom, and Col. Abner Taylor.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.

Tragic Result of a Disregard of the Laws of Property.

Frank Boyce, engineer of the tug E. S. Allen, attempted suicide yesterday morning by shooting himself in the left breast. It was about 6 o'clock when he went aboard the tug, then lying near the Air-Line Elevator, and after testing the steam, and telling James Dwyer to light the lamps, he went up into the pilot-house. A little later a shot was heard, and upon going to the pilot-house Dwyer and Capt. Pelter found Boyce lying upon the floor with a smoking revolver by his side. He was removed to his boarding-house, No. 27 Kinzie street, and attended by Dr. Mann, who found that the bullet had penetrated the breast on the left side, five inches below the nipple. Pursuant to his orders, the young man was removed to the County Hospital, where at a late hour he was still alive, though in a precarious condition. The cause of the attempt at self-destruction, so far as could be ascertained, was undoubtedly fear of exposure in a rather questionable transaction in which he had been concerned. Yesterday Joseph Joyce was arrested upon a warrant sworn out before Justice Brayton by Hon M. Boyce, Frank's uncle, charging the defendant Joyce with compounding a felony. It is claimed that the would-be suicide stole from Joyce $52, two rings, and a pocketbook, and that, instead of causing the arrest of the young fellow, Joyce, by threatening to do so, was enabled to make Boyce give him a watch and chain worth $115 and a rubber coat, and, moreover, induced him to promise some more articles, which he was to give up yesterday noon. Fearing that Joyce would prosecute him after all, the young man attempted to take his own life as detailed.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

An Outbreak of Small-Pox in Monticello, Ia.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

DUBUQUE, Ia., Dec. 21.—Small-pox is said to have made its appearance in the Village of Monticello, and citizens are greatly alarmed thereat. The case reported is very violent. One meeting was held last night to decide what course to take in the matter.

No Small-Pox at Springfield, Ill.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 21.—There has been no case of small-pox in Springfield for two years, and none are known to exist here now, the quarantine of the Warden of the Joliet Penitentiary against this city to the contrary notwithstanding.

MISSISSIPPI MASSACRE.

Some of the Bottom Facts Regarding the Occurrence—How the Real Truth Was Distorted.

Washington (D. C.) Republican.

MERIDIAN, Miss., Dec. 10.—After its usually comprehensive style, the *Republican* has frequently cautioned its readers against receiving as true the reports coming through Democratic sources of the late election riot at Marion Station, Lauderdale County, Miss., where a number of white Democrats were killed by colored men and Republicans. Marion is only five miles from Meridian, the county seat, where the writer of this resided nearly four years, and, being well acquainted with most of the persons named in the dispatch in connection with the so-called massacre, I have taken great pains to learn the bottom facts in regard to it, and here present them as they come to me through the most reliable and trustworthy sources. My informants, some of them eye-witnesses, embrace every shade of politics; all live near the scene of the riot, and agree as to the main facts.

Lauderdale is hopelessly Democratic, but the precinct of Marion Station, when a free vote and a fair count can be had, is largely Republican, and it is the only Republican precinct in the county; hence at every election since the organization of the party in the State there has been "trouble" at Marion. It appears on good Democratic authority that "trouble" was anticipated on the day of the late election. This will be seen from the following:

"We encountered a squad of young men of the city last night who are intent upon going to Marion to the election today. We think they mean business; and every one of them has a white skin, and, we believe, a white heart. They will keep the peace there themselves today, and see to it that everybody else does. They are true, and some on elections."—*Mercury (Meridian, Miss.), Nov. 8.*

One of these "young men" who went to Marion on that day, being "some on elections," was Moore, foreman of the *Mercury* office. Moore has acted as a bully and general fighting man for the *Mercury* for the past eight or nine years, the editor himself having no capacity whatever for that branch of the profession, though in Mississippi it is the most essential qualification of an editor. It is a melancholy feature in reviewing this matter to learn that Moore escaped with a slight wound. The two Seagers brothers spoken of in the dispatches, one of whom was killed at the polls that day and the other mortally wounded, were young drunken desperadoes, one of them but a few weeks before he was killed having murdered a colored man in cold blood, but escaping the gallows on the ground of "temporary insanity, superinduced by the use of intoxicating liquor." Harvey, candidate for Assessor, who also lived at Meridian, was the only one killed at the polls that day whose loss the community will mourn. Joe Barnett, spoken of in the dispatches as an "innocent old man," and the first victim of the slaughter, was the only Democrat killed who belonged in Marion or had any legitimate business there other than that foreshadowed by the *Mercury*. This "innocent old man" (about 40 years of age) was the prime mover of the difficulty, as he was first to pay the penalty. When the polls opened at 9 o'clock in the morning, says an eye-witness, there were about forty whites and seventy-five colored men on the ground. Barnett carried a cudgel about two inches in diameter and three feet long, which he used in the most approved Bourbon style. As the situation became more alarming the colored men huddled together some thirty yards distant from the polls, Barnett, and Harvey and these young devils from Meridian following them up with sticks and pistols in their hands.

About this time Barnett stepped up to a colored man named Gillespie and demanded his ticket. Upon his refusal to comply with this demand Barnett struck Gillespie with his club, knocking him down. When Gillespie rose from the ground he seized a brickbat. Then Barnett drew his pistol and Gillespie retreated. Some one held Barnett and prevented him from shooting. When Gillespie returned some four or five of his colored friends and relatives gathered round him, apart from the body of colored men assembled. While thus awaiting developments they were confronted by about an equal number of whites, headed by Barnett and the two Seagers, when the fight began in earnest, Seagers firing the first shot.

ONE COLORED MAN—ALEX BROWN—

did nearly or quite all the shooting for the colored side. When the smoke of battle had cleared the polls were deserted, and not a colored man was to be found on the ground, but the bloody corpses of the *Mercury's* "young men," lying here and there, told too well the result of the contest. Ed Vance, an honest, plodding, hard-working Irishman, who lived some three miles from his voting-place at Marion, at once took refuge with his two young boys in his own house. A few negroes living on Vance's place, becoming alarmed, went into the house with Vance for safety, those who did the shooting at Marion having ridden off in another direction. Vance, it may be well to to mention in this connection, was a loyal man during the War, and has been a Republican ever since, in consequence of which his persecutions have been enough to drive any man to desperation.

It was doubtless thought by the Democrats that a good opportunity now offered for getting the Vances out of the way, as they were becoming quite an important factor in the politics of the county. Accordingly, they rallied in large numbers, surrounded Vance's house, and demanded the surrender of all within. The demand was not complied with, Vance being master of the situation, until the Sheriff arrived with reinforcements from Meridian, at which time a parley ensued, Mrs. Vance coming out with a white flag and acting as spokeswoman. Warren, of the Sheriff's posse, approached Mrs. Vance in an angry and threatening manner, with pistol in hand. Just as this time the eldest of Vance's sons, who had not been engaged in the mêlée at all, riding up from the outside, was shot dead by the Sheriff's posse. Seeing his brother shot down and his mother's life being threatened, one of the young brothers from inside the house shot and killed Warren. Vance, it is supposed, then fled from the rear of the house, followed by the colored men who were barricaded with him, but in doing so a number of the latter were shot and killed.

VANCE IS STILL SECRETED IN THE WOODS,

and one of his sons, with eight or ten negroes, are in the Meridian Jail. What their fate will be is hard to tell at this time, but it is generally conceded now that Vance had nothing whatever to do with the trouble at Marion Station. It is important to state in connection with this affair that the Republicans had no ticket in the field in Lauderdale County, and gave only a negative support to what is known there as the "Anti-Monopolists." Consequently there would have been no unusual inducement for Republicans to have precipitated a riot on the day of the election. It is no more than justice to say that Henderson, the Sheriff, has acted fairly and manfully throughout in this matter, and it is doubtless owing to his influence that scores of lives have been saved since that fatal day.

Since the above was written I have been furnished with additional information bearing upon this subject. The following is a copy of an anonymous letter received in the post-office at Meridian but a few days ago.

To Colored Route Agents at Meridian Hills: You colored route agents, in view of the late trouble caused by your race at Marion, are notified that you must resign your positions as route agents at once or you will be *forced* to do so, or find trouble, and don't you forget it.

J. M. W.

OUGHT WE TO VISIT HIM?

A Social Problem Disturbing Washington as to a Distinguished Foreign Diplomat—A Perplexity Without a Precedent, Yet Not Without Parallels.

Dispatch to New York World.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 19.—Washington official society is now being much exercised in its mind over a great social question which will probably lead to what may be called "an international episode," at least as interesting as the issue raised in New York society some time ago by the advent of Mlle. Sarah Bernhardt. The question in this case is not, "Ought we to visit her?" but, "Ought we to visit him?" And, as the individual directly concerned is no less a person than the new Minister of Great Britain to the United States to whose arrival the gay world of Washington had looked forward as the harbinger of a season of unrivaled festivities at the new and handsome house of the Legation, it may be easily imagined that the question is fast taking precedence for the time at dinner-tables and boudoirs of the gravest political subjects.

The facts are simple enough. The new British Minister, the Hon. Lionel Sackville-West, is a younger brother of the present Lord Sackville and of the present Earl Delawarr. In virtue of his descent from Lord Delawarr, Governor and Captain-General of Virginia, who died in that province in 1618, and to whom Delaware and the Delaware River owe their name, Mr. West, it will be remembered, was invited by the Pennsylvania Steamship Company to accept a passage to this country on one of the company's steamers and was received with much effusion and enthusiasm by the amiable Philadelphians on his arrival. He is a brother also of the present Countess of Derby and of the present Duchess of Bedford. Few men in England come of so ancient a stock, and no man in England is more highly connected. He is a man of ability also, and has served with credit in the diplomatic service. Why, then, this question, "Ought we to visit him?" Well, any one who will take the trouble to look at a record of the house of Delawarr in the Englishman's Bible will see that Mr. Lionel Sackville-West, born in July, 1827, and therefore but a little turned of 54, is a bachelor. And yet it appears to be an unquestioned fact that Mr. Sackville-West has a family of children, two at least of whom, it is understood, he wishes should live with him; and it is an open secret that a lady of American origin, long connected with the Spanish Court, was at some pains, before Mr. Sackville-West came from the British Legation at Madrid to this country, to assure her numerous correspondents in this city that the connection, now of some years' date, of the British Minister with a Spanish actress had caused much scandal and led to a number of social unpleasantnesses at the Spanish Capital, notwithstanding the somewhat liberal reputation in such matters of the city which so long acknowledged the sway of the regnant Queen Isabella. People who remember the unchallenged despotism wielded over Washington by the late Thaddeus Stevens may naturally ask why official society at Washington should concern itself with the domestic relations of a foreign Minister. But it must be remembered that Thaddeus Stevens no longer lives, and that Washington society, on at least two comparatively recent occasions, has taken very decided ground as to the social relations it would maintain with the wives of two foreign Ministers concerning whom it was alleged that their matrimonial experiences had been more romantic than regular; and, all precedents apart, it must be admitted that it cannot fail to be awkward for heads of families to explain to their families how a foreign Minister can be at once a bachelor and the head of a family.

MINE SUPERSTITIONS.

How a Terrible Accident Was Caused by Whistling Far Beneath the Earth—The Great Burning Mine—The Whistle of the Bullet That Caused Morgan Powell's Death.

Correspondence Philadelphia Times.

LANSFORD, Pa., Dec. 16.—A singular superstition prevails among foreign-born miners in the great Pennsylvania coal-fields that if any person whistles in a mine some disaster is sure to follow. Miners born in this country do not share this superstitious belief to any great extent, but in deference to the wishes of fellow-laborers they never whistle in the mines. Sometimes they sing and hum their plaintive ballads hundreds of feet below the surface of the earth, and as a rule miners are cheerful and contented. The superstitious believe that a "good luck spirit" lurks in every mine and that at the sound of whistling it flies and leaves the miners at the mercy of the numberless "spirits of evil." A terrible mine disaster occurred in 1840 which was caused, it is claimed, by the whistling of one of the miners. The mine was the property of the Delaware & Hudson Canal Company, and was not properly supported with strong timbers. This fact was known to most of the miners, and the shaft, a mile in length, was to have been abandoned in a few days. The miners were about to quit work when a reckless person named "Jack Richards" suddenly laid down his pick and startled his comrades by saying that he would whistle a jig so they could dance a farewell in the mine. The miners in vain protested, but Richards laughed at their superstitious ideas and commenced whistling. The miners were preparing to leave the place at once, and the more frightened they became the louder and faster Jack whistled. In the midst of the tune a dull, roaring noise was heard, and every cheek blanched with terror, for they knew the mine was caving in. "Jack" advised them all to run for their lives, and he led the way. Another crash came, masses of falling rock thundered down, and they were imprisoned, those seventeen men, in a space only forty feet square.

The gust of wind that had rushed through the shaft when the caving in occurred had extinguished every lamp, and, for a wonder, there was not a match in the party. They cursed Richards heartily, but he did not respond. Subsequently he was found dead, crushed by the fallen coal and rocks. He was the only one of the party who was injured in any way. The imprisoned men worked as men never worked before, and as they were about giving up all hope of ever seeing their friends again a noise was heard against the rocks and they could hear the regular click of the "pick" of the men who were working to rescue them. Presently a ray of light was seen, and in half an hour more the men were saved. The body of Richards was extricated and taken to his home for burial. Very few of the miners attended the funeral, believing that the disaster was due entirely to Richards having driven the "good spirit" out of the mine with his lively whistling. Richards had no relatives in the world but a sickly sister, and she was so prostrated by the loss of her brother that she died the next day, and the two were buried at the same time. A mine boss named Hoslo was also imprisoned in the mine and given up for dead. Three days after the terrible accident he made his appearance, haggard and pale. He had dug his way for an incredible distance through the débris, without food or water to sustain him. This mine tragedy is a favorit topic among the old miners, who never fail to warn visitors who descend into the shaft that they must not whistle or talk loud enough to frighten away the "good spirits."

Near this place and within a few steps of the famous Switchback Railroad is the great burning mine, which has been on fire since 1858. The origin of this fire is accounted for by the superstitious from the fact that a skeptical miner was whistling in the shaft, and hardly had he ceased when the announcement came that the mine was on fire. This mine has been flooded, but the fire cannot be extinguished and every year it keeps on gnawing its way through the vast veins of coal, destroying millions of tons of anthracite.

On the 2d of December, 1872, Morgan Powell a mine boss, imagined he heard a man whistling in the shaft. Investigation proved that no one had been whistling at all. He was told by the miners that he had had a bad omen, and that some trouble would befall him. That night as he was leaving the store of Capt. Williamson at Summit Hill, midway between Lansford and Mauch Chunk, he was shot dead by Mollie Maguire assassins, who were afterwards captured by Detective McParlan and hanged at Mauch Chunk. The miners think it was the whistle of the fatal bullet he heard that morning.

A CASE OF MUTINY.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Dec. 21.—The British ship Resolute, from Rio, came in today in charge of the mate, the crew having mutinied and made way with the Captain, Nichols. The whole party were arrested and placed in the parish prison.

To the Western Associated Press.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Dec. 21.—The crew of the ship Resolute arrived today under arrest. The charge is mutiny on the voyage from Rio to Valparaiso, overpowering the officers, placing the Captain in irons, and forcing the other officers to sail for New Orleans. The Captain managed to get out of the cabin, jumped overboard, and was drowned.

BREACH-OF-PROMISE SUIT.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 21.—Today a sensational breach-of-promise suit was instituted in this city by one Mary Belton, of Chicago, against D. L. Schler, connected with the wholesale furniture establishment of Abernathy, North & Orrison. The girl, who is the daughter of a farmer living near Chicago, knew Schler in the last-named city, where he was engaged in business, and says she was seduced by him under promise of marriage. Over $15,000 worth of property belonging to Schler has been attached.

Ministers, lawyers, teachers, and others whose occupation gives but little exercise, should use Carter's Little Liver Pills for torpid liver and biliousness. One is a dose.