

RICH MEN IN JAIL

Morse's Incarceration Adds Another Name to a Long List of Men of Money, of Power and of Both Money and Power Who Have Been Put Behind Jail or Penitentiary Bars.



TIME out of mind it has been a common remark that the laws are made for the rich; that a man of means is rarely brought to suffer for gross misdeeds, while a trivial charge suffices to land a poor man in jail. More than any event in recent years the conviction of Charles W. Morse seems to have emphasized the fallacy of this contention; but with a view to getting at whatever truth might lie at the bottom of so prevalent an opinion, the New York World has not only sought the opinions of men close to the workings of the law, but from thousands of cases in point it has selected as an exhibit enough to put a more cheerful face on those pessimists who tremble for the continuance of democratic institutions.

Those to whom it has seemed that wealth brings immunity from the consequences of crime or misdemeanor will be interested in the following statements and the list containing a few of the more notable cases, briefly stated, in which men of money, political power, or both, have gone behind the bars.

WEALTH IS UNAVAILING.

Declared Powerless to Afford Security to the Wrongdoer.

"There is a very widespread impression especially among the cynical," said Rev. Dr. Thomas R. Slicer, "that wealth gives security to the wrongdoer and goes far to give immunity from punishment.

"It was openly boasted, in the case of the policy king, Al Adams, that his accumulated stealings from the poor would guarantee immunity, even if indicted. And this impression gains force when the criminal is not of low origin and mean practice, but has surroundings of elegance and associations of refinement. It is a relief to those who believe in the essential right-mindedness of the majority of our citizens to have distinct proof in such cases that wealth is no defense against justice and cannot always be made the reserve force in a conspiracy against honesty.

"When the poor man pays the penalty of wrong-doing society is protected usually by the removal of one not a very dangerous member of its body. But the man of wealth and cunning using the ordinary avenues of business represents more than the individual. He represents power and pride and the infatuation which envy toward the well-to-do is sure to engender. His conviction, therefore, is in a far greater degree a rebuke to evil influences and a defense of the common weal.

"We hope to reach the point after awhile where the mere facts of wealth and poverty will be not so interesting as they now appear. The really interesting consideration is this:

"Is a man so poor that he hasn't the means of growth or hasn't the means of development? Or, on the other hand, is he so rich as to be crippled and encumbered?"

"Whatever removes the superstitious awe which surrounds the wealthy criminal and gives ample justice to each man, as simply a man, must reinforce the morals of the community."

MORSE CASE CITED.

Courts Fair and Efficient, Says Gen. Charles W. Russell.

Gen. Charles W. Russell, assistant attorney general of the United States, who is in New York prosecuting a case of peonage in which the Florida East Coast railway is involved, could see no adequate cause for the popular idea that rich men never go to jail.

"The World's interview with Mr. Moxey at the time of the Morse trial," he said, "shows the absurdity of such a notion. That man alone, and he is only one of a large force of accountants engaged in the successful prosecution of crooked bank officials by the government, has put 33 wealthy and so-called respectable gentlemen in jail.

"The whole matter is analogous to the care of a sick poor man and a sick rich man. The rich invalid can hire the best doctors; he can take all the time that is necessary to get well; he can avail himself of proper climate and environment, and it's a matter of common sense that he stands a better show of recovery than the other fellow. Just so with poor criminals and rich criminals. The rich one's chances of acquittal are better because they can afford to fight longer.

"No, the courts and the prosecutors are fair and efficient, and every year sees a more thorough administration of justice."

MALEFACTORS OF WEALTH.

List of Prominent and Rich Offenders Now Wearing Stripes.

Here is a partial list of wealthy men convicted of offenses against the law, who are behind the bars:

A. F. BONELLI, formerly a banker of Cleveland, O., arrived in New York on September 17 last from Brazil, a

prisoner, in custody of a deputy sheriff and an assistant prosecuting attorney of his home state. He is charged with the theft of \$30,000 which it is alleged he received from laborers under the pretext that he would forward it to their relatives in Italy. The two state officers traveled all the way to Santos, Brazil, to get their man—and got him.

SAMUEL SEELEY was a prominent, respected and influential resident of Brooklyn. His position as cashier of the National Shoe and Leather bank in New York gave him prestige in financial circles. He was accused and found guilty of having defaulted with \$354,000 of the bank's funds and served five years and four months in the Kings county penitentiary.

CAPT. OBERLIN M. CARTER, CAPT. B. D. GREENE AND E. H. GAYNOR have all felt the iron hand of the law for having attempted to disobey its commands. Capt. Carter was one of the leading young officers in the engineering department of the United States army. When it was decided to make extensive improvements in the harbor at Havana Capt. Carter was appointed to take charge of the work. Certain revelations made started an investigation and Capt. Carter was found guilty of having conspired with Gaynor and Greene to defraud the government. After fruitless appeals Capt. Carter was taken to Leavenworth, where he served his

was sentenced to five years in the county jail. After serving six months he was released in \$1,500,000 bond. Ruef was charged with bribing members of the board of supervisors. The bond which set him free was signed by 20 sureties and is considered the largest amount ever given in California.

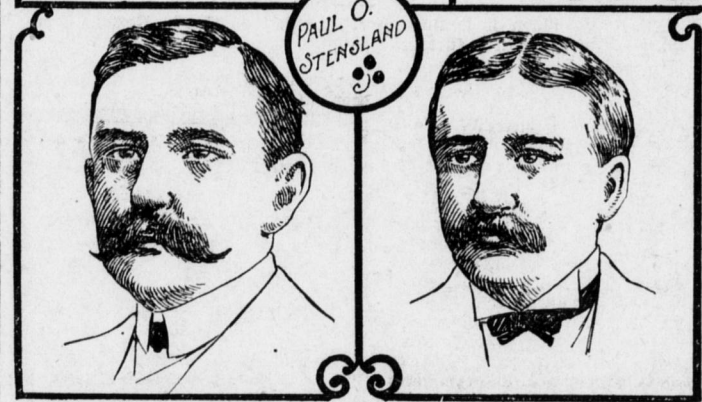
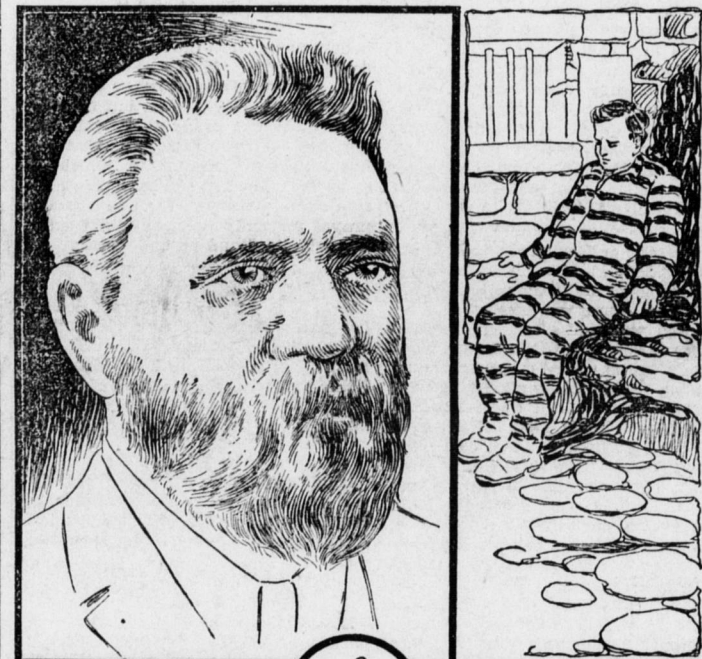
JOHN W. WOOTEN, formerly a New York lawyer and partner of August Belmont in the banking business, was sent to Sing Sing prison in May, 1905, to serve nine years and six months for looting the Wersell estate of \$70,000.

DAVID ROTHSCHILD, wrecker of the Federal bank, was convicted in 1905 and sent to Sing Sing to serve nine years.

HARRY BRUNAUGH, formerly secretary to Mayor Bookwalter of Indianapolis, Ind., and superintendent of the Western Construction Company, was sent to the penitentiary last June to serve a term of from two to fourteen years for defrauding the city.

WILLIAM O. MILES, ex-district attorney of Brooklyn, is now serving a term in the penitentiary for presenting fraudulent sewer claims to the city for payment.

R. M. SNYDER, the promoter of the Central Traction bill in St. Louis, was convicted and sentenced to five years in the penitentiary for bribery on October 4, 1902. This was the first conviction in the famous boodle scandal of St. Louis, following a year's inves-



JOSEPH R. BURTON

CHARLES W. MORSE

sentence of three years and seven months. Gaynor and Greene, after their conviction, fled to Canada. They were brought back to this country, however, and are now serving out their four-year terms.

WILLIAM H. BELCHER was mayor of Paterson. He was an honored member of the bar of the state of New Jersey. He was entrusted with scores of estates, and friends had no hesitancy in placing limitless sums in his hands. While occupying the position of mayor he suddenly fled from the city. His flight disclosed embezzlements of thousands of dollars. Search for him was unavailing, but he finally returned, surrendered to the authorities and pleaded guilty to embezzlement. Judge Scott, one of his closest friends and associates in former days, sentenced him to 12 years' imprisonment.

EUGENE A. SCHMITZ was mayor of the city of San Francisco. Abraham Ruef was one of the city's influential men and an acknowledged power in politics. Disclosures made by certain city aldermen started an investigation which ended in the conviction of both Schmitz and Ruef and their sentence of five years' imprisonment by the lower courts. The court of appeals of the state of California on a technicality reversed that decision and acquitted the two men. During their trial and part of the time their appeal was pending, however, both men were incarcerated in jail.

ABE RUEF, convicted as a grafter,

tigation. Snyder was accused of bribing Councilman Uthoff to vote for the Central Traction bill. Uthoff was to receive \$100,000, but failed to collect more than \$5,000. He was one of the state's witnesses in the trial.

LOUIS GLASS of San Francisco, vice-president of the Pacific States Telephone & Telegraph Company, was convicted and sentenced to five years for bribery, September 4, 1907. He was charged with bribery. Glass, before conviction, was one of San Francisco's leading citizens and possessed of considerable wealth.

HORACE E. HAND, a prominent lawyer in St. Louis and a leader of society in the fashionable suburb, Kirkwood, was arrested on January 17, 1907, at his home on the charge of forgery, while entertaining his pastor and a deacon of his church. He pleaded guilty on the next day to forgery, and by three o'clock in the afternoon was on his way to prison, sentenced to five years.

CHARLES T. GROTEFEND was one of the most prominent young men in St. Louis. Although only 30 years old, Grotefend was teller in the Washington National bank, and generally thought to be one of the coming financial men of the city. It was discovered that he had embezzled more than \$3,000 of the bank's money and he fled to Germany. He returned after a time, and upon pleading guilty was sentenced to five years at Fort Leavenworth.

CHARLES H. THORNTON, note



FUTURE OF SAVAGE

BRAIN ONLY NEEDS DEVELOPMENT AND CULTIVATION.

Scientists in Convention in London Express Belief That Aborigines of World Are Better Endowed Than Supposed.

In many of the out-of-the-way corners of the world are to be found savage peoples upon whom the world spends little thought and concerning whom the general opinion prevails that they are little better mentally than the beasts of the fields among which they dwell. But these same savages found defenders recently among the foremost scientists of Europe who had gathered in London. There noted scholars presented arguments to prove that in many cases the aborigines of the world were not so far behind civilized man in respect to natural brain power as the world has been wont to believe.

No less than a savant than Principal Jevons of the Durham university, speaking to the lower culture section of the history of religious congress in London, advanced the remarkable proposition that to exchange the environment of the savage and the civilized man of Europe would demonstrate in a few generations that the former would accustom his ways and himself to civilization just as certainly as the white man, surrounded only by wild and savage conditions, would lapse into the ways of the aborigine.

Then came a series of astonishing propositions.

L. T. HOBHOUSE, professor of sociology at London university, compared the skill of the Polynesian with that of an Englishman. He admitted that the brain reservoir of the savage was just as great as that of the Briton, and he further conceded that the natural life of the savage spared him many of the weakening impulses that result from the vices of the man of civilization.

The only cause of the undoubted mental superiority of the Englishman he conceded was because the latter profited by the intellectual bequests of previous generations, while the Polynesian remained at the same mental level as his remote ancestor.

This was quite an admission for an Englishman to make, but it was cast in the shade by the report of Prof. Diechmann, a German savant, who told how he had been studying the arts of hypnotism and suggestion, which are now taking a more potent place in the medical beliefs of the modern world.

The professor told how he had been astounded to find that the savages of many centuries had through their medicine men long exercised these arts of influence and suggestion that have the effect of curing a person of

ill through the brain rather than through the body.

Another expert sneered at the self-superior pose of the white man, and recalled how in England until the eighteenth century there was a belief in magic, and that not much more than a century and a half ago persons suspected of witchcraft were burned in many civilized countries.

He argued that considering the superior advantages of the white man's countries the progress made was far from being great enough in comparison to permit the patronizing of the savage in all parts of the world.

But the most wonderful of all the arguments for the possibilities of the savage were purely mathematical. They represent the researches of Prof. Sollas, a noted German scholar.

He adduces the law of dimensions to show that there is no reason why the



A Maori Chief.

savage should not some day be the equal of his white brother, provided that brain capacity counts.

He even demonstrated that no immeasurable chasm exists between prehistoric man and the cultivated citizen of to-day.

Prof. Sollas made an exhaustive series of measurements. The results he attained surprised him, for he expected to find the skull of the modern man of education would demonstrate beyond cavil that he enjoyed advantages with which the savage could never hope to catch up. What he did find was exactly the reverse.

He found that the men of the so-called Neanderthal race and the Polynesian or Australian type of blacks, who really represent the lowest type of man, are in reality of the same family.

The savage is a better man, mentally, than he has received credit for.

A HOTEL FOR BOYS

HARLEM'S NEW INSTITUTION FOR THE MAKING OF MEN.

Wealthy Woman Who Has Provided a One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollar Property for Benefit of Homeless City Youth.

The Harlem Boys' hotel has taken its place among the many institutions of Greater New York for the making



Playing Ball on the Roof.

of men out of the boys of the big metropolis. The hotel is the gift of a wealthy woman who has given \$150,000 for land, building and equipment and who has turned over the property to the Children's Aid society for control and management. That it has a promising future is evident from the fact that when the hotel was opened the other day it had 79 boy patrons registered, about half the capacity of the hotel. The building is a handsome five-story fireproof structure at the southwest corner of Lexington avenue and One Hundred and Twenty-seventh street. The rates are calculated to fit the financial resources of its patrons, who are all wage-earning boys between the ages of ten and eighteen. Few are under 12, though those younger may be received as transients.

The Boys' hotel is run entirely on the American plan, with some improvements. Board, lodging, bath and

laundry work may be had for 15 cents a day, or \$1.05 a week. Patrons whose requirements as to privacy are more exacting, and who prefer (and can pay for) a bedroom instead of a bed in a dormitory may be accommodated at an expenditure of \$2.50 a week. Nobody gets anything for nothing—long, at any rate. If a boy applies at the desk—there is a real hotel desk, with a clerk and a register—and says that he is without money to pay his bill he is not turned away if he is otherwise a desirable patron, but is told that he will be expected to pay when the management has found work for him. Before he is admitted to the privileges of the house each patron signs a promise to obey all the rules and regulations as directed by the manager.

"But there isn't much need of formal rules," said Abel C. Kenyon, the superintendent. "No one is sharper to notice and reprove breaches of etiquette among the boys than their fellows. I have seen a boy who had a visitor who failed to remove his hat steal up behind him and quietly remove it, and a boy's bad table manners are made unpopular by the judgment of his peers."

In the spacious dining room on the ground floor, with its white table linen and its big rubber plants, the diners are seated on one side of the tables only. This is in accordance with Mr. Kenyon's belief, strengthened by lifelong experience, that when you put a large number of boys where they can easily make faces at one another they will make them and will indulge in other table pleasantries which are frowned on by good manners. By his expedient he has been able to cultivate among the boys a policy of non-interference at meal times which has had gratifying results.

"Where are all the boys who are registered?" a visitor asked Mr. Kenyon a few evenings ago, after having seen only a minority of the 79. "Oh, some of them are calling on friends; some of them are in the street; they are all spending their evening about as the average boy would do.

"I believe," continued Mr. Kenyon, expounding his favorite theory of boy development, "in inspiring boys to respect themselves by treating them as if they were worthy of respect.

Legs Were Numb.

She—Are you tired of holding me dear?

He—No, darling. I lost all feeling long ago.—Life.

Nct Safe Now.

He—I used to flirt desperately with that woman.
She—You quit it, eh?
"You bet I did. Her husband died."
—Smart Set.