

Frank G. Carpenter, in Sunday's DISPATCH, talks about the different modes of smoking in the far East.

FORTY-FOURTH YEAR.

PIERCING THE PLOT.

Dr. Cronin Undoubtedly the Victim of an Atrocious Conspiracy.

THE GREAT TRIAL OPENED.

Judge Longenecker Presents the State's Case to the Jury.

ALEXANDER SULLIVAN IS IMPLICATED.

A Plain Statement Showing What the Prosecution Will Prove—Denial of the Prisoners—Telling Effect Upon the Jury—The Objections of the Defense Overruled—Introduction of the First Evidence—The Body Positively Identified as That of Cronin—Trajectory of the Ammunition for the Accused—Immense Crowd Present.

With scornful smiles and savage scowls the five men charged with the murder of Dr. Cronin yesterday heard Judge Longenecker present the array of evidence which threatens their lives. An enormous crowd surged into the courtroom to witness the proceedings. The attorneys for the defense declined to make any opening statement. Witnesses were put upon the stand to prove the identification of the murdered man's body.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH. CHICAGO, October 24.—The iron steps leading up to the Criminal Court building could not hold all the persons who clamored for admission to the Cronin trial this morning. Men and women were wedged together on the stairway in a compact, writhing mass. There was another scramble on the sidewalk to gain a foothold on the steps, and for a block on Dearborn street people on their way to work stopped to watch the frantic efforts of the curiosity seekers bawled about the stairway.

The balliffs had instructions to prevent the crowd rushing pell mell into the building, and to eject all suspicious-looking persons. The officers made a bold fight for a time, but were eventually overwhelmed by numbers. Then the rush for the court room began. Within 20 minutes every seat in the room was occupied, and 100 men were fighting for a place to stand.

MANY WOMEN PRESENT. The benches at the Dearborn street side were filled with women who came early under the escort of balliffs who tramped through the Michigan street entrance and over the bridge of sighs. At 9:45 o'clock, the balliffs made another rally against the crowd and by hard work succeeded in shutting the doors. Two persons were admitted after that.

It was 10 o'clock when the prisoners fled into the room. Senior Warden Beggs was in the lead. Behind him were Coughlin, O'Sullivan, Burke and Kunze, in the order named. Each prisoner was followed by a blue billiff. Kunze wore a huge blue neck scarf. All seemed amused at the great audience which was banked against the walls in nearly every direction. Burke's face grew crimson the instant he entered the room. The color never left him during the four hours and a half court was in session.

THE GREAT TRIAL BEGUN. At 10 o'clock the gavel fell. Judge Longenecker, with his hands thrust deep into the pockets of his trousers, was on his feet in an instant. In this attitude he began his opening address, which was in large measure a resume of the case of the State against the prisoners. The effect of Judge Longenecker's indefatigable work within the past month was plainly noticeable. His face was pale and his voice not at its best. The Public Prosecutor spoke for nearly two hours.

There was no attempt at oratory. He confined himself to a plain, succinct statement of the evidence he had collected and would present to the jury. The proof, he was confident, would convince the jury to a verdict of the existence of a conspiracy to murder Dr. Cronin. In his review of the Clan-na-Gael organization, Judge Longenecker took a bold stand. The society, when formed in 1869, had noble aims and a bright prospect. He continued:

THE ORIGINAL OBJECT. It was organized to wrest Ireland from the grasp of England by legitimate means. Hundreds of good and patriotic Irishmen had joined its ranks with this sole object in view. Many unscrupulous Irishmen had also joined the organization for political or mercenary motives. As the Clan-na-Gael grew stronger and its treasury box became filled with money contributed by patriotic Irishmen throughout the land to assist the establishment of a Republic on the little island, the more unscrupulous members of the society sought control of its affairs and the distribution of its money.

Alexander Sullivan, Feidy and Boland were the leaders and afterward the court and jury of this conspiracy. Instead of waging legitimate war for the freedom of Ireland a dynamite policy was pursued abroad and a system of embezzlement practiced at home. One policy was in defiance of the laws of England, the other in defiance of the laws of America. Both were atrocious. The money in the treasury was squandered in mysterious ways. Men were sent to England on desperate missions, and a score of them are now in British jails. The commands of the triangle were final. A man who should shirk the responsibility thrust upon him by Sullivan, Feidy and Boland in this corrupt era of the Clan-na-Gael was instantly branded as a traitor to the cause.

MR. FOREST INTERUPTS. Judge Longenecker was now thoroughly aroused. With his right arm swinging wildly in the air, he lashed the triangle in the most denunciatory language. Mr. Forest, leading the defense, objected to the State Attorney's exposure of the workings of the famous and omnipotent triumvirate, but the Court promptly overruled the objection. Mr. Longenecker continued:

Every murder had a motive, but it was not always that the motive was discovered. There was a motive for the assassination of Dr. Cronin. He had had the manhood—and in this instance the manhood was not a quality to be despised—and he did not intend to be a victim of the policy the tri-

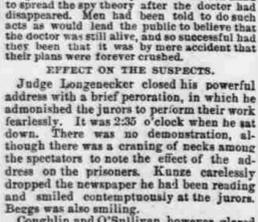
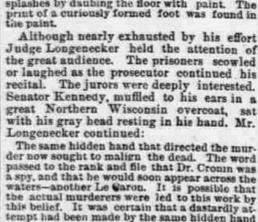
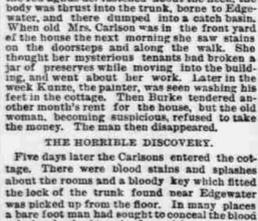
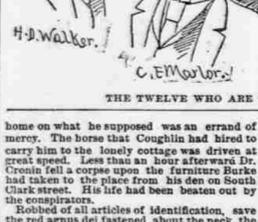
angle had established. He was finally tried, convicted and expelled for treason. Alexander Sullivan had been his prosecutor and Daniel Coughlin was one of the men who sat on the jury. Dr. Cronin was not without followers. Other patriotic Irishmen, who had sickened of the deadly and malicious plottings of the triangle, withdrew from the Sullivan standard. Dr. Cronin continues:

HIS BOLD WARFARE Against his enemies and carried it into conventions and other public bodies. The man was becoming absolutely dangerous to the men who were plotting against him. He was to be put out of the way if the embezzled reputations of the conspirators were to be preserved. Here was the motive for the murder. Active plotting against Dr. Cronin began about the first of the year. The conspiracy was hatched in Camp 20, of which Beggs, Coughlin, Cooney, Burke and O'Sullivan were members. The man's fate was sealed and the conspiracy of the crime intrusted to reliable hands.

During the recital of the prosecutor as to the active part Beggs and Coughlin took in these secret proceedings the Senior Warden twisted his blonde mustache and laughed derisively. Judge Longenecker then pictured the links and connections with which the plotters were about their work.

As early as February the trunk which was to carry the body to the catch basin had been bought and strapped for use. A cottage had been rented by Burke for the scene of the slaughter. O'Sullivan had made a fictitious contract with Dr. Cronin for no other purpose than to assist in carrying him to the place of the murder. He had also been seen talking with O'Sullivan and Coughlin. Coughlin, or a man who closely resembled him, was seen to enter the house a few hours before the murder was committed.

SHOWING A CONSPIRACY. There had been telephonic communication between O'Sullivan and Coughlin, and little Kunze, it would be proven, had driven the detective to the slaughter house to receive the body. Dr. Cronin was taken away from his



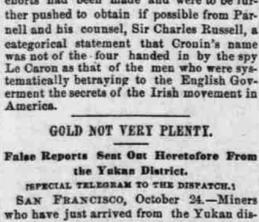
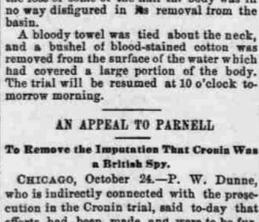
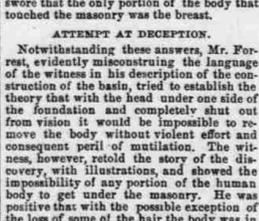
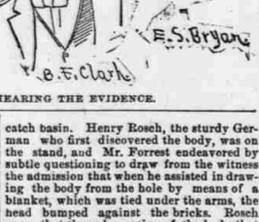
home on what he supposed was an errand of mercy. The horse that Coughlin had hired to carry him into the trunk, he took to Edgewater, and there dumped into a catch basin. When old Mrs. Carlson was in the front yard at the home the next morning she saw signs on the doorknobs and along the walk. She thought her man had been washing his feet in the water. Then Burke tendered another month's rent for the house, but to the old straight-forward woman he refused to take the money. The man then disappeared.

begin, the examination of the State being conducted by Mr. Tugham and that of the defense by Mr. Forrest. The prosecution at once set out to prove the corpus delicti, it having been asserted that the defense would contend that the body dragged from the catch basin had not been satisfactorily identified as that of Dr. Cronin.

Barber J. F. Wisch, who used to shove the doctor, and who saw him one hour before he took his fatal ride, swore that there was no doubt in his mind as to the identity of the corpse he saw in the Lake View morgue. Stephen Connolly identified the body by the front teeth. Maurice Morris by the Agnus Dei, and Joseph O'Byrne by the broken finger of the right hand.

HOPE OF THE DEFENSE. The skillful cross-examination of Mr. Forrest showed that it was the hope of the defense to secure from the State's witnesses admissions that the body was badly swollen and discolored, and thus establish the tangible grounds for the supposition that it would be difficult, if not impossible, to identify a body under those conditions. All of the witnesses admitted that the body was swollen and that the hair on the head and on the mustache had been nearly destroyed, but all were enabled to identify the body by its physical peculiarities, the contour of the face and the little imperial close to the lower lip.

The severe cross-examination of these witnesses by Mr. Forrest soon convinced the officers of the State that the defense would not so serious dispute as to the identity of the body. But Mr. Forrest did make a bold effort to prove that the wounds on the doctor's head were inflicted in the removal of the body from the brick cistern of the



catch basin. Henry Roesch, the sturdy German who first discovered the body, was on the stand, and Mr. Forrest endeavored by subtle questioning to draw from the witness the admission that when he assisted in drawing the body from the hole by means of a rope, which was tied under the water which he had dumped against the bricks, Roesch swore that the only portion of the body that touched the masonry was the breast.

THE NOBLEST ROMAN

Once More on the Stamp, Pleading for His Well Beloved Party.

AN OVATION TENDERED TO HIM. Cincinnati Music Hall More Than Filled by Cheering Hosts.

THEIR APPLAUSE ALMOST CONTINUOUS. The Ex-Senator in Excellent Health and Attentively Listened To.

EX-SENATOR THURMAN SPOKE AT MUSIC HALL, Cincinnati, last evening, to an immense audience. His health is very good, and his speech and manner did not indicate that he is falling very rapidly.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH. CINCINNATI, October 24.—Music Hall was to-night the scene of a tribute that should stir the heart of the cold man. The magnificent hall was draped with American flags that twinkled about the picture of Campbell, the hero of the battle of Shiloh. In both galleries hundreds of ladies lent a brilliant air to the scene. The first floor, with its 3,000 chairs, was reserved for the clubs that, with banners and music, filed in from all parts of the city. On the stage sat hundreds of distinguished local Democrats, a number of ladies being present. The great organ was put in use, and its thunderous notes rolled back in the shouts of thousands. "The Campbells are Coming" and the national air were uproariously greeted.

Hon. William Grossbeck presided, and in his inimitable way introduced the lion of the occasion, the Hon. Allen G. Thurman. Mr. Thurman

RECEIVED AN OVATION. He began to speak then swelled into a shout, ending in a torrent that was heard by the hundreds outside, who could not get in, who in turn sent it back. The appearance of the "Old Roman" was surprising. He did not present that effebled look attributed to him and expected by the audience. On the contrary, he stood erect, and talked even more distinctly than of old. He was in excellent health, and his nights previously. After a few pleasant words of greeting, Mr. Thurman at once plunged into his speech. It was wholly of the character of the platform orator of him, and sought to convince by argument rather than oratory, though at times the old man grew eloquent.

Senator Thurman devoted considerable time to State politics, declaring hollow the Republican claim that to them was due all the efforts to purify the ballot box. He said that a Democratic legislature would be the first to establish a platform for the administration of Governor Hoody had so improved the financial standing of the State that loans were negotiated for less than the rate of interest. He said that he falsely claiming the honor of reducing the debt on this ground.

HIS OPPONENTS DENOUNCED. Mr. Thurman charged that the public institutions were badly managed, inefficient, and that the Democratic party was the present system devised by a Republican Legislature, for governing cities, by which they are deprived of all voice in the election of their boards. Of the latter, he said, the Democrats were in favor of non-partisan election boards, but they did not want boards composed of Republicans and Democrats, and he called for a "yellow" Democratic sentiment that elicited the wildest applause.

The tariff was a subject of serious consideration. Mr. Thurman put himself squarely on the side of the Democrats, and he adopted at St. Louis, and proceeded to show that even the Republican party was on that ground now. He cited the bill introduced into the House by the Republicans, and asserted that he had information that a very similar bill would be presented at the next session, and that, too, by a Republican.

Mr. Thurman emphatically denied that the Democratic party favors free trade, but declared that it was time that we taxes and tariff should be reduced. He said that he had read articles in connection with American products should be abolished, and those on the necessities of life put at the lowest point.

A Subsidy Offered for a Number of Them in the Leeward Islands. (SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.) NEW YORK, October 24.—The following advertisement appeared in a morning paper to-day:

The General Government of the Leeward Islands, in the West Indies, comprising the islands of Antigua, St. Kitts, Nevis, and Montserrat, and others, are desirous of encouraging the establishment of hotels conducted on the American system, and are willing to grant a subsidy or guarantee interest for a term of years to be agreed upon on the capital invested in any hotel or company which is willing to establish such hotels. Persons desirous of further particulars should apply to the Hon. Secretary of the Leeward Islands, care of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul General at New York, 100 Nassau street, W. H. Limond, of No. 9 West Nineteenth street, has this matter in charge. "Governor William Hayes-Smith of the Leeward Islands," said Mr. Limond, "has long been desirous to establish on each of the more prominent islands under his care hotels to be managed by Americans on the American plan. The idea is to develop those islands as resorts for American people. The accommodations there now cannot be said to be of the highest order, and what Governor Smith wants to do is to start them running and keep them running."

A DESPERATE BANK ROBBER. Shoots a Couple of Officials and Finally Kills Himself. LONDON, October 24.—A desperate attempt at bank robbery was made at Drury Lane, London, to-day. An unknown man entered the bank and engaged in a conversation with Mr. Allen, the manager, pretending that he wished to open an account. Suddenly he drew a revolver and shot Mr. Allen, and then fired at a clerk, but missed him.

THE MAN THEN SEIZED £80 AND BOLTED OUT OF THE BANK AND ACROSS COUNTRY. A crowd started in pursuit of him, and he was soon overtaken. He was then engaged in a struggle with the police, and he was shot and killed himself. Mr. Allen's wound is not seriously fatal.

TWO INDIVIDUALS WHO PROPOSED TO RUN THE WHOLE THING THEMSELVES. CHICAGO, October 24.—Judge Prendergast issued warrants this afternoon for the arrest of William F. Kent, Deputy Coroner, and Thomas E. Downey, charging them with attempting to perpetrate election frauds in the Fifth ward.

It is charged that they induced Sam Parker, a clerk in the Election Commissioners' office, to remove from the poll books the names of regularly appointed judges and substitute men of their own choosing.

TRAIN WRECKERS

Succeeded in Getting in Their Work Upon a Past Passenger on the Wabash Road—A Number of Coaches Destroyed—Many Injured.

WABASH, IND., October 24.—The fast east-bound passenger train on the Wabash was wrecked to-night at Keller's station, five miles west of this city. There is a heavy grade at that point and the train was running 40 miles an hour when Engineer George King saw that the switch was partly thrown. He immediately applied the air-brakes, but there was no time to check the train. The engine and baggage and express cars left the track and plunged along the embankment for about 40 rods. The engine turned over and the passenger car hurled down the embankment, a distance of 30 feet.

The engineer and fireman, Charley Dixon, clung to their places in the cab, which was reduced to splinters, being telescoped by the baggage car. The smoker, chair car and Wagner sleeper kept the track, but they were all racked by the engine in passing and were considerably damaged. The front end of the smoker being carried away in striking the engine. Some of the passengers were slightly injured, but their escape was certainly miraculous. One man was sent flying backward by the blow. Fireman Dixon had his collar bone broken. Engineer King was badly bruised. A dead-end car, owned by William Hutchinson, of Logansport, was injured.

Pacific Express Agent Frank Brownell, of Toledo, was found under a pile of trunks together with Baggage Master Gerhart Myers. Both men were badly bruised. The car is a total wreck. Investigation showed that the switch lock had been broken by the engineer and fireman, but that the lock was supposed being found close by. A purse was made up by the passengers for the engineer and fireman. The track was fully cleared to-night, and trains are running around the wreck.

FORMING A DAIRY TRUST. The Milkmen of Four States Hold a Convention for Two Days. (SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.) MIDDLETOWN, N. Y., October 24.—An important convention of representative milk producers of this and adjoining States has been in session here for two days. The convention was called under the auspices of the Milk Producers' Union and Association recently organized in New York for the purpose of combining the whole body of dairymen in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Connecticut, who are engaged in supplying milk to the New York City market, for mutual protection and advantage. The plan is to form a branch union at every shipping station, and to elect a central body to be composed of delegates from the branches and shall fix the prices of the product of the members of the union, and otherwise direct and regulate the traffic.

It was stated at the convention to-day that the number of producers engaged in shipping milk to New York City is about 10,000, who ship about 17,000 cans, of 40 quarts each, a day, and realize therefor at present prices about \$5,000,000. About 40 branch unions of shippers have been organized in the State, and the principal work of the convention has been to take measures for expediting the organization of new branch unions with all possible energy.

PRINCE HATFIELD'S BROTHER. He is a Poor Man and Lives in Obscurity at Hamilton, O. COLUMBUS, October 24.—Count Ferdinand Edmund von Hatfield, brother of Prince Paul, who is to marry W. C. Huntington's adopted daughter, is living obscurely and in comparative poverty at Hamilton, this State, in a little one-story house.

"I don't know much about the marriage," he said to-day. "I have heard they were engaged. I don't like to meddle with my brother's affairs. My name is Ferdinand Edmund von Hatfield," he continued, "and I am the son of Prince Ferdinand von Hatfield by his second marriage with Countess Sophia, the great German Socialist. I have two half brothers, Malinda Paul and Ernest, and had one sister, Malinda. My father was the German Minister to London and Prince Ernest is a statesman in Germany.

"Upon my father's death all the von Hatfield estates in the United States were bequeathed to my share by my brothers, Paul and Ernest. I don't know whether I shall ever go back to Germany or not. My mother came from a race of Magyars to whom Marie Theresa, of Austria, once fled for protection."

SWINDLED THE SWINDLEERS. Chicago Gamblers Fined by an Alleged Combination of Swindlers. (SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.) CHICAGO, October 24.—Algeron Granville, Frank Gerrish and E. Harmon Clark were arrested to-day for swindling. They worked the old green goods game quite successfully, but, trying of this, started out to swindle the gambling houses. They were fined \$1,000 each, and named Riley, Gains and Pillsbury. Their lawyer was named Manning. One of the pigeons would enter a gambling house and sit down to a game of faro, while the rest would sit around him playing the pigeon game. He would play for a while, followed at certain intervals by his colleagues. The next day the lawyer would visit the proprietor of the gambling house and threaten him with legal proceedings unless he refunded a certain amount of the fictitious losses.

A score of gamblers were caught in the trap and fined \$1,000 each. It is estimated that the losses of the rest of the proprietors will amount to \$5,000. The prisoners were held over to the Criminal Court.

SECTARIANISM IN SCHOOL. A St. Louis Teacher the Cause of One of the Worst Cases of Sectarianism in the State. ST. LOUIS, October 24.—For the first time in the history of the public schools of St. Louis a teacher is charged with exerting sectarian influence with his pupils, and the result is a tall row. Prof. D. H. Harris, of the branch High School, is the delinquent. The professor was delivering a lecture on art and architecture, and in his treatment of the subject embraced church architecture. While the school was in session he is accused of offensively giving utterance to the following remarkable statement:

"Protestants go to church to hear a sermon, while the minister has prepared. Catholics go to church to pay their tithes for confession, go home, and think that their sins have been forgiven them."

CHAIRMAN ANDREWS HAPPY. Quite Well Satisfied That Republicans Will Turn Out to Vote. (SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.) ST. LOUIS, October 24.—For the first time in the history of the public schools of St. Louis a teacher is charged with exerting sectarian influence with his pupils, and the result is a tall row. Prof. D. H. Harris, of the branch High School, is the delinquent. The professor was delivering a lecture on art and architecture, and in his treatment of the subject embraced church architecture. While the school was in session he is accused of offensively giving utterance to the following remarkable statement:

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A COMBINATION TICKET IN THE FIELD. NEW YORK, October 24.—The Republican County Convention, at its meeting to-night, indorsed the candidates for county office proposed in nomination by the citizens meeting last night.

IF REED IS SPEAKER

The Chairmanships of the Best Committees Are Nearly in Sight.

A COMPLETE SLATE NOW MADE UP. His Principal Opponents Likely to Get the Pick of the Places.

CANNON THINKS MR. REED IS SOLID. Though Blaine's Influence May Make His Road a Little Rough.

Nothing has yet occurred to shake the Washington correspondents' belief that Reed, of Maine, will succeed Speaker Carlisle, and acting on that presumption, they are figuring out who will head the important committees. An elaborate slate has been made out.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH. WASHINGTON, October 24.—Every day appears to put a new phase on the question of the Speakership, notwithstanding the fact that only one of the candidates, Cannon, is here. Burrows has returned to Virginia to make a few more speeches, McKinley is in the thick of the Ohio campaign, and Reed and Henderson live so far away that they will not make their appearance till after the November election, when the members of the Fifty-first Congress will come trooping in. But each of the candidates has trusty friends on the ground. Congressmen are being sounded in every part of the country, messages and letters fly constantly between the absent candidates and the present lieutenants, and the situation is resolving itself into a condition to be understood.

By those who have figured closest, and who have the best information, it is conceded that Reed will be elected beyond a doubt. The only objection that can be made in the way, or the only influence which can bring about any other result, is the alleged opposition of Secretary Blaine to the election of the man who has been named as his successor. Blaine is thought by his closest friends to be more imaginative than real, and that the Secretary will not permit his name to be mentioned in any way or the other in the Speakership canvass.

CONCEDED BY CANNON. A friend of Representative Cannon said this evening to THE DISPATCH correspondent that Cannon privately admitted that he thought Reed would be elected, and the war-horse from Illinois is said to be fully prepared to resign the Speakership if he is elected. Cannon said that he would not be elected, and that he would not be elected, and that he would not be elected.

With Reed in the chair and Cannon at the head of the Appropriations Committee, the chairmanship of the Ways and Means Committee would naturally lie between Burrows and McKinley, and Chairman Reed, if he becomes Speaker, would have a fight to settle between these two gentlemen and their friends. Hon. William D. Kelley will insist that to avoid a rupture he should be given the chairmanship of the Ways and Means Committee, and that he should be given the chairmanship of the Ways and Means Committee.

TOO CIVIL TO LEAD. Reed himself and Brewster, of Indiana, both have preceded McKinley and Burrows. Brewster is a man of fine abilities, but has been in poor health for some time, and is a cynic, and when there is a scramble for any place he would rather look on and enjoy his feeling of contempt than take a hand in the matter.

The general opinion is that in view of McKinley's supposed superior knowledge of the tariff subject, and as that will be the chief work of the Ways and Means Committee, he will be allotted the chairmanship of the Ways and Means Committee, and after them there is little choice as to rank between several committees. As there may be a rupture between Burrows and McKinley, and Chairman Reed, if he becomes Speaker, would have a fight to settle between these two gentlemen and their friends. Hon. William D. Kelley will insist that to avoid a rupture he should be given the chairmanship of the Ways and Means Committee, and that he should be given the chairmanship of the Ways and Means Committee.

ST. PAUL'S WARM WELCOME. The International American Delegates Received With Open Arms. ST. PAUL, October 24.—The international American excursion train rolled into the St. Paul Railroad station at 10:30 o'clock this morning. The delegates were driven to the City Hall, where they were warmly welcomed to the city and State. A welcome address was made by the chairman of the reception committee, who called attention to the fact that the first State and the present United States Senators, and in the name of all welcomed the visitors. A short visit was taken to the Council Chamber to examine a fine exhibit of the mineral and vegetable wealth of the Northwest, including manufactures, grain, fruits, and ores from Minnesota, Dakota, Montana and Washington.

After lunch at the residence of Governor W. R. Merriam the delegates were driven around the city, viewing Summit avenue, one of the finest drives in the country, and visiting the residence of the Governor, and taking a look at the industries. This evening a big reception was held at the Ryan Hotel, the banquet having been abandoned at the request of the State Department.

IMPORTANT TO COMMERCE. A Railroad Across Guatemala to Connect the Atlantic and Pacific. PANAMA, October 24.—A contract has been signed by Guatemala with the Suez Canal Company for the construction of a northern railroad which will be united to the northern, or rather the central, line of Guatemala. This line will be of great importance to Guatemala and all Central America, as well as to all those doing business on the Pacific coast, as it will establish direct communication between the Atlantic and Pacific across Guatemala. The French company will place at the disposal of the Government 100,000,000 francs. When the State Chairman entered the committee headquarters to-day at the Continental Hotel, he expressed himself as satisfied with the outlook. "In spite of its being an off year, politically," said he, "I feel perfectly satisfied that Republicans generally recognize the importance of the contest, and that they will vote."

DAVITT'S DEFENSE

The Noted Irishman Appears Before the Parnell Commission—An Exhaustive Review of the Events Leading up to the Present Situation.

LONDON, October 24.—The interest in the proceedings of the Parnell Commission to-day was centered in the speech of Michael Davitt, whose many independence and unquestioned patriotism command the respect of all classes alike. Mr. Davitt will probably occupy the time of the commission for several days, as he proposes to enter into an exhaustive review of the events which led up to the peculiar political situation in which Ireland is placed to-day.

Although it is given out that Mr. Davitt is appearing before the commission at all its sittings, it is the wish of Mr. Parnell, the man of all others most concerned in the decision which the commission may reach, and in setting against the advice of the other Irish leaders, there is reason to believe that in the preparation of his speech Mr. Davitt had the assistance of Mr. Parnell and many of his followers.

The Irish charge that Mr. Davitt is guilty of a piece of willful deception in stating in the opening of his speech to-day that his appearance before the commission was without the approval of his colleagues. As a matter of fact, however, his statement is literally true. Mr. Parnell and his following have all along insisted that the commission should be permitted to conclude its labors without any further assistance or advice from the Irish leaders, and they earnestly attempted to dissuade Mr. Davitt from appearing before the commission. Mr. Davitt, however, that he was resolute, without in any way sanctioning the step, they concluded that if Mr. Davitt must defend the Irish in a speech, they might as well let him do so. It was only in this way that Mr. Davitt obtained the assistance of his colleagues, and the charge of willful deception against him is unfounded.

ERICSSON'S NEW EXPLOSIVE. He Shows a Party What It Won't and What It Will Do. (SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.) NEW YORK, October 24.—Rudolph Ericsson experimented this afternoon, on the new transverse road, at Ninety-seventh street, in Central Park, with an explosive of his which he calls extralite. It looks like powdered sulphur, and feels like brown sugar. He burned two pounds of it in a charcoal fire in the open air. It burned slowly, with a hiss, and exploded in a half-second in the open air. Mr. Ericsson put a full cartridge on a stone and pounded it to his with another stone. It didn't go off. Mr. Ericsson filled a cartridge with extralite, and fired it three feet away, shot a bullet through the can. No harm done.

Having shown some of the things his explosive would do, he turned to show what it would do. He got some small holes drilled, 12 and 18 inches deep. About 8 ounces of extralite were put in the first two, and at other intervals, six ounces were put down with a stick and stuck a primer in each hole. The holes were filled with dirt and the wires connected with a battery. With a pistol he fired the first hole, and the hole was filled with extralite. The chief ingredients of the explosive are an ammoniacal salt, a hydrocarbon and chloride of potash.

ENGINEER MOODY'S PLAN. The body organized by clearing Captain John A. Wood, President; Mr. Shallenberger, Treasurer; and Mr. Brewer, Secretary. Mr. Brewer asked the commission to hear Mr. G. Lyman Moody, a civil engineer of Erie, who had prepared a map of the water sources of the upper Allegheny district. Mr. Moody is an elderly gentleman who has been engaged for many years in the territory, and is intimately acquainted with the entire region. He displayed to the commission a map about 6 by 4 feet, showing all the territory between Lake Erie, the headwaters of the Allegheny river and the river below Franklin. He had divided this territory into three drainage basins: one of 3,000 square miles, the central Oil Creek, with an area of 200 square miles; the western, Conneaut or French creek, with an area of 600 square miles. The French creek basin supplied the water for the old Erie and Beaver canal. Mr. Moody believed that the water from the three basins could be made available for the proposed ship canal. The drainage of the Allegheny basin is very small, the water of the lake coming mainly from springs, and there is little surplus in the summer.

Mr. Moody said that it would be possible to build a conduit to feed the canal, starting from the Allegheny river at Tidoute, where the river elevation is 1,112 feet, running down the river almost to Oil City, but not making so great a fall in the conduit as there is in the river. At Oil City the conduit would be away up on the bluff, above the river level. The central Oil Creek, which conduit across to Oil Creek, and receive the water from the Oil Creek basin. He would cross a short distance north of the town of Franklin, from the Allegheny valley to the valley of French creek, and build his conduit up the valley of French creek, though all the time finding a slight descent in the conduit. French creek has a very small fall, and the conduit could be built up its valley to Conneaut Lake, whose elevation is 50 feet below the elevation of the Allegheny river at Tidoute. This would make Conneaut Lake the summit level of the proposed ship canal as it was of the old Erie and Beaver canal, and would draw the water from all three of the basins into which the region is divided. Over this whole area, Mr. Moody said, there is an annual rainfall of 40 inches, nearly equally distributed among the four seasons of the year. If it were necessary to build storage reservoirs, this matter of the rainfall distribution would be an important and favorable feature. The proposed conduit would be from 60 to 90 miles long.

"This water supply," Mr. Moody said, "would furnish water for a canal wide and deep enough to float a vessel that will on Lake Erie. In my calculations I have allowed for an evaporation and leakage in the canal equal to the water contained in 20 miles of its length in three months. At Tidoute the Allegheny will supply at least 100 cubic feet of water per second, during the eight months of canal navigation, and when the water is used to fill the canal I don't take half of it."

Mr. Moody left his map with the commission, and received the thanks of the members for his explanations. The gentleman spent the remainder of the afternoon, until 4:30 o'clock, in discussion, naming themselves as to the main lines of information necessary for to secure it.

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A Non-American Romance by Hjalmar H. Boyesen, will be published complete day's DISPATCH.

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