

BIGGEST FIGHT TO BE BITTER. He Will Appeal From Ecclesiastical Authorities to the Courts IF HE IS TURNED DOWN.

A Good Beginning of His Defense Made by Him Yesterday.

He States His Stand in Unmistakable Terms—His Course Not That of a Heretic—Why He Taught and Believed as He Did—Terrible Sarcasm for Colonel McCook—Mrs. Grover Cleveland an Attentive Spectator for Awhile—The Accused Professor's Plan of Defense.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—It took only 20 minutes to call the roll of the Presbytery this afternoon, and then Prof. Briggs was on his feet to begin his defense against the charges of heresy. The galleries were crowded with women, who listened intently to the argument of the accused professor, and a few of them watched him through opera glasses as he stood under the pulpit maintaining, in passionate language, his right to remain in the Presbyterian church.

Prof. Briggs characterized Prosecutor G. W. F. Birch's argument as not even a serious attempt to prove the charges. He said it was an amusing resort to heathen theology. Colonel McCook's argument, said Prof. Briggs, soared into the region of abstract thought and reminded him of the intellectual processes of the scholastic theologian. He did not seem so much concerned about the Holy Scriptures as Prof. Briggs, "as he did with his system of dogma. Poor man! Is his life so steeped in dogmatic faith that he knows no difference between his Bible and the system of dogma?" He would deliberately choose a dogma rather than a Christian life.

SHEPARD IN A STEW. Bob Ingersoll Keeps the Colonel in Continual Hot Water WHILE ON THE WITNESS STAND. He Asks Some Questions About as Pert as They Well Could Be. SHEPARD'S PRT WAY OF DRINKING

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH. NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—A trial involving the business methods of Colonel Elliott F. Shepard is attracting great attention here. It is a suit brought by Frank S. Gray, ex-business manager of the Mail and Express, to recover from the Colonel \$18,145 for breach of contract. The main feature of the case was the production of a letter written by Colonel Shepard in which he endorsed his check for \$5,000 and directed his business manager to use the money in procuring from the Police Commissioners the contract for political advertising valued at about \$15,000.

When Colonel Shepard took the witness stand he was asked by Mr. Gray, "Did you ever see the Colonel?" "No, sir," he replied. "Did you ever see the Colonel?" "No, sir," he replied. "Did you ever see the Colonel?" "No, sir," he replied. "Did you ever see the Colonel?" "No, sir," he replied. "Did you ever see the Colonel?" "No, sir," he replied.

Prof. Briggs resumed his argument at 2 o'clock to-morrow afternoon. He stated that he was not a heretic, but a man of faith. He stated that he was not a heretic, but a man of faith. He stated that he was not a heretic, but a man of faith. He stated that he was not a heretic, but a man of faith. He stated that he was not a heretic, but a man of faith.

LOT OF DEBTS AND SHORTAGES. Agent at Parkersburg, W. Va. PARRKESBURG, W. VA., Dec. 13.—[Special.]—Thomas F. Battigan, manager of the Western Union telegraph office in this city, has left very suddenly, leaving creditors to speculate on the collection of personal debts running into the thousands of dollars. It is said his accounts with the company also show a deficiency, but pending the close of an investigation now being made, the amount cannot be known.

AID FOR HOMESTEAD. Voted by the American Federation of Labor at Philadelphia. MR. WEIHE GIVES AN ACCOUNT Of the Presentation of the Strikers and the Money It Has Cost. PITTSBURG BOYCOTT UNDER INQUIRY

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 13.—The morning session was devoted principally to the introduction of resolutions, including one asking investigation of several boycotts and requesting others against the American Biscuit Company and unfair made Pittsburg clothing. In the afternoon the question of making an appropriation to the Homestead sufferers was discussed. Delegate Skiffington, of Boston, presented the report of the committee on President's report, recommending that the convention donate \$5,000 to aid in the defense of the arrested strikers. This was adopted. Delegate Morgan, of Chicago, moved that \$500 additional be contributed to the relief fund. Carried. President Weihe, of the Amalgamated Association, made a detailed statement of the trouble, and said 225 men are now under indictment, of whom five are charged with murder, over 50 with treason, and the remainder with conspiracy and riot. Four hundred thousand dollars have been given in bail bonds for the release of a number of the accused. Although many strikers have not been released, 2,000 have not gotten back. The total amount contributed during the strike was \$41,000. The cases against the arrested strikers have cost the Association \$10,000 for lawyers and witness fees.

Senator Jones and an Indian Delegate Spoke at the Conference. BRUSSELS, Dec. 13.—At the sitting today of the International Monetary Conference, Sir Guildford D. Houldsworth, one of the two delegates representing the Indian Government, protested against the obstructive tactics of the British delegates at this and previous conferences. But for the tactics employed by the representatives of Great Britain, the currency question would have been settled long ago. Sir Guildford declared that the situation in Great Britain had greatly changed since November 22, the date of the first meeting of the conference, and he suggested that the conference adjourn for a week to enable the British Government to reconsider the whole question.

BI-METALLISTS ROUND. Senator Jones and an Indian Delegate Spoke at the Conference.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Certificates of election for President and Vice President of the United States were presented in the Senate today from the States of Texas, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Illinois and Maine, and were ordered to be placed on file.

Pittsburgers in New York. NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—[Special.]—The following Pittsburgers are registered at New York City: J. P. Coleman, Grand Union; Mrs. L. M. Dilworth, J. W. Morris, J. H. Stewart, Hotel Brunswick; A. J. Griffin, W. E. Holmes, Windsor; J. J. Hale, Broadway; C. H. Childs and wife, Hoffman; A. L. Griffin, Imperia; G. Miller, Normandie.

Prof. Briggs maintained that nothing should be regarded as essential which is not contained in all three systems. This principle would rule out of the amended charges all but two of the seven doctrines stated to be essential. "The Westminster standards stereotyped the doctrines of the Westminster divines of the seventeenth century," said Prof. Briggs. "We have subscribed to their system and to the essential and necessary articles of their confession. But we have not subscribed to any other dogmatic system, or to the essential and necessary articles of any other system, whether these are stated in printed books or are bubbling up in speculative minds. It is necessary for the Presbytery to consider that the authority to determine what is essential and necessary according to their views of what is essential and necessary in the present state of theology, but they must determine what is essential and necessary according to the Westminster Confession of Faith. The Westminster system is the rule of judgment, not any other system of theology which may possibly raise your faith and life."

WITNESS STAND. He Asks Some Questions About as Pert as They Well Could Be.

Q. Do you have any trip-up. Do not use the check until necessary. You can probably have this amount added to the bill, say \$20,000. Now Colonel Shepard, what did you mean by the words, "this amount"? A. Whatever the amount of the commission would be. Q. In other words, you can probably have the amount of the commission added to the bill. Was that in your mind? A. I have just said so. Q. Then your intention was that the city should pay the commission? A. My intention was to instruct Mr. Gray. Q. No, no. Was it your intention that the city should pay the commission? A. It was not in my mind, I had no intention about it. Now you are going into a process of reasoning. Colonel Ingersoll looked at him with intense amusement, and said, "No, you might not be a home brewer."

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LATIMER'S RUG SALE WE PUT ON SALE AT THE LOSS TO A CHINESE IMPORTER 1,598 Gray Fur Rugs, \$1.25 1,963 White Fur Rugs, \$1.55 These are identical with those you have purchased all season at \$2.50. This sale price \$1.25. We got a bargain to offer you and know you will appreciate it, and take advantage of this Chinese importer's loss. Also, all our entire line of Black Rugs and all fancy combinations. Also, Smyrna, Dagonet, Turkish and Indian Rugs. T. M. LATIMER, ALLEGHENY.

SANTA CLAUS Will hold his levee every day from 10 A. M. to 6 P. M. at SOLOMON & RUBEN'S OUTFITTING ESTABLISHMENT. I AM HERE. Come And See Me. To the Little Folks of Pittsburg and Vicinity, Greeting: MY DEAR, GOOD LITTLE CHILDREN—As you have no doubt read in yesterday's paper, I arrived in this good old city on Monday morning, and pitched my headquarters on the second floor of that grand new building on Smithfield street, which I understand is called PITTSBURG'S PRIDE. To my mind, it is justly named. Everybody should be proud of it, for a grander store I have never in all my experience held a levee in. I found Messrs. Solomon & Ruben real nice and kind gentlemen. They did everything in their power to make me feel at home, and only ask in return that I shall distribute the beautiful gifts which I brought with me. Now, my dear little children, tell your parents not to think of buying your Christmas Suit or Overcoat of anyone but Messrs. Solomon & Ruben. Assure them that they will find the prices here much lower than elsewhere. With every purchase, no matter how small, I will deliver a nice present out of the list published below. Children accompanied by their parents will receive a nice box of candy, even if they don't buy anything. So I invite you all to come and see me. Yours, for presents, SANTA CLAUS. P. S.—Boys, tell your parents not to buy any toys. You can get them at Solomon & Ruben's free.

LIST OF PRESENTS: 300 Xylophones, 150 Hobby Horses, 150 Boxes of Tempins, 150 Tool Chests, 120 Express Wagons, 100 Nice Christmas Story Books, 200 Drums, 125 Wheelbarrows, 250 Guns, 500 Boxes Fancy Candies, 150 Boxes Blocks, 150 Trumpets, 100 Humming Tops, 250 School Bags, 350 Typewriters, 150 Writing Desks, 200 Foot Balls, 150 8-Key Cornets, 300 Magic Lanterns, 250 Boxes Lottos, 200 Drawing Slates, 150 Telescopes, 250 Boxes Dominoes, 350 Money Purses, 150 Combination Savings Banks, 150 Handsome Ties, 150 Paint Boxes, 200 Drawing Books, 250 Autograph Albums, 200 Scrapbooks.

BOYS' SUITS AND OVERCOATS MAKE REAL Sensible Holiday Gifts We have selected over 1,000 Suits and Overcoats which, owing to the better quality and higher values, have not sold rapidly. These are now reduced to the prices of the cheaper grades, which we know will move them at once. Make your selection of the following: BOYS' SUITS (Sizes 14 to 18 years) \$6 Will purchase a suit of plain or fancy Cheviot, Worsted, Cassimere, light and dark colors. Single or double-breasted. Reduced from \$8.50. \$8 For a single or double-breasted and straight cut Sack Suit, of Silk, Mixed Worsted, plain and fancy Cheviot, Cassimere, Twill or Scotch Mixture. Reduced from \$10.50. \$10 Will buy a Suit of English Clay Worsted, Undressed Worsted, Imported Cassimere and Silk or Fancy Worsteds. Reduced from \$12.50. BOYS' OVERCOATS. \$3.50 At this price we are offering a splendid Overcoat, well-made and finished in the very latest styles. This is an unexceptional value. Reduced from \$5. \$5 For an Overcoat of Blue, Black, Brown, Oxford, Gray, Melton or Kersey. Trimmed and finished in the very best manner. Reduced from \$7. \$8 Buys an Overcoat or Ulster of Melton, Kersey, Frieze, Vicunas, Cheviot or Fur Beaver, Cassimere and Farmer's Satin Lined. Nothing like them at this price. Reduced from \$10.50. Rich Neckwear. SILK AND SATIN Suspenders Continue to be popular as Holiday Gifts. Our assortment is the largest in town. Fine Overshots, 50c and up. Extra quality Silk, embroidered and plain, 75c and up. Beautiful Hand - Embroidered Satin, 75c and up. Superior qualities in Silk and Satin, handsomely decorated. Each pair in a glass case. To Parents: It is well worth your while to inspect our immense variety of Boys' Suits and Overcoats. While our stock is heavy, you'll find the prices light. If you fail to take advantage of our light prices your loss will be quite heavy.

SOLOMON & RUBEN