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Scranton Tribune.

EIGHT PAGES---56 COLUMNS. SCRANTON, PA., WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 17, 1895. TWO CENTS A COPY.

RITER BILL PASSES HOUSE

A New Pension List Approved by a Vote of 107 to 77.

SALARY FOR RETIRED JUDGES

Members of the Supreme Court Who Have Served Twenty Years at Starvation Wages Are to Be Offered Pensions for Resignations.

Special to the Scranton Tribune.

Harrisburg, April 16.—The judges' retirement bill passed finally today in the house. The vote was 107 to 77. The passage of this bill establishes a precedent in the lower branch of the legislature. For a generation efforts have been made to get it to pass such a bill. Once or twice its advocates succeeded in the senate, but this is the first time they have ever passed the bill in the house. The success of the friends of the bill passed today is due principally to the activity of Speaker Walton. He has been energetic from the start in its behalf, and it was largely out of courtesy to him that it was passed. During the discussion on the bill this morning Mr. Walton left the chair and made a powerful plea for its passage. His remarks had a good effect and won even some of the most active opponents of the bill.

The morning session was extended an hour in order to dispose of the bill. The measure was on the calendar for third reading on a special order, and was taken up shortly after 11 o'clock. The debate was opened by Mr. Martin, of Lawrence, with a speech against the measure. He took the ground that the principal involved in the bill was a bad one, and that it ought not become a law. Representatives Seaner, of Indiana, followed with a long speech in opposition to the bill. He read his remarks. At the close Mr. Harrison, of Philadelphia, created much laughter by calling for a second reading.

Mr. Mattox, of Venango, then took the floor and made an earnest plea for the defeat of the measure. He reminded his Republican colleagues that they were committed to economy and reform and declared this contended the bill was one of the most unpopular that the party could pass. Mr. Mattox thought the judges of this state were well paid and that such a measure ought not to become a law when the working men of Pennsylvania were hardly making enough to fed and clothe their families. Mr. Morrick, of Tioga, was opposed to the bill because it proposed to pension judges. He claimed no better reason could be given why a judge should be pensioned than that a pension should be given school teachers. The duties of the schoolmaster are far more important than those of a judge. But it is not a question of which is the most deserving, said Mr. Merrick, it is a question of principle; a question of whether we shall begin the formation of a civil pension list that may extend as far as the politicians with a "pull" can pull it. He believed the measure was a vicious one and ought not become a law.

Ex-Auditor General Niles, of Tioga, appealed to his party colleagues to vote down the bill. It was wrong and the people will not stand it when the treasury is depleted and the public charities are about to suffer. Mr. Niles said the bill was unconstitutional because it was class legislation. He defied contradiction on this point.

Mr. Riter, of Philadelphia, the author of the measure, replied that in his opinion the measure was constitutionally sound. He contended that it would not hurt the charities of the state. In the name of justice and right it ought to become a law. So far as he was concerned, Mr. Riter said, he was ready to take his political chances on his position on the bill.

Speaker Walton then retired from the chair to make the closing argument for the bill. He began by saying it could not be said of him that he had delayed the advancement of the business of the house, or that he had taken the floor in the interest of any measure since the beginning of the session and asked the indulgence of the house. He declared with much earnestness that he was proud of his position which he has taken in endeavoring to accomplish the successful passage of this bill. Mr. Walton contended that the people of Pennsylvania who live in the districts represented by the gentlemen who oppose the bill do not understand its merits, or else their attitude would be entirely different.

Mr. Walton's Missionary Work.

"I have spoken with farmers in Harrisburg from all sections of the state in relation to the matter," Speaker Walton continued, "and I want to say upon my honor as a man that I have failed to meet a man representing the agricultural interest with whom I have talked that before I left him has not told me that he believed this measure a meritorious one. I believe before we leave our legislative deliberations we will find enough money, as Pennsylvania has always done in the past, to take ample care of the poor, the crippled and the blind, and if we do not I for one would recall this measure if I felt it would place a tax on the treasury of our people."

Representative Lawrence, of Washington, closed the debate with a plea for the defeat of the bill. He referred to the efforts which have been made in the past to pass such a measure. He was opposed to the principle involved and did not thing the measure should become a law. He appealed to his colleagues to vote against the bill in the name of justice and right and reminded them of the depleted condition of the state treasury.

The measure provides for the retirement of judges on full pay who have served twenty consecutive years on the bench, or thirty years altogether, and have reached the age of 70. The only justices who now come under the provisions of the act are Judges Hare, Finletter and Allison, of Philadelphia, and Bershing, of Schuylkill.

ROUTINE WORK IN HOUSE.

The Vote on the Justice Pension Bill Given in Detail.

Harrisburg, Pa., April 16.—The house met at 10 o'clock this morning and immediately proceeded to the consideration of bills on third reading and final passage. Representative Keene's bill authorizing the boards of school directors to appropriate funds for the purpose of establishing and maintaining public school libraries was defeated, the yeas being 96 and nays 51, less than a constitutional majority.

The bill authorizing the incorporation of companies for constructing and maintaining boulevards was also defeated.

The Riter bill, providing a compensation for judges who shall resign their office after twenty years consecutive service on the bench, at the age of 70 years, came up on final passage. It was vigorously opposed by Messrs. Martin, of Lawrence; Seanor, of Indiana; Mattox, of Venango, and others. Mr. Mattox called the attention of the house to the fact that at every turn members are met with the warning that the revenues of the commonwealth will not justify the appropriation of a cent of money to the private hospitals and charities of the state, yet here is a proposition to pension judges at the expense of the people. "In these times it is difficult for poor men to make sufficient to keep their families, and it is an insult to slap them in the faces with such a bill as this."

He warned the Republican majority that the passage of the measure would react, because the people would hold the majority responsible.

Speaker Walton called Mr. Keyser to the chair and took the floor, and in an earnest and eloquent speech defended the measure.

This great state, he declared, could well afford to pension the few aged men who might come under the provision of the bill and who have served the people so long and so faithfully. In closing he appealed to the house to consider carefully the fact that two venerable judges in Philadelphia are now past the age of 78 years and have sat over forty years. Such a bill, in his judgment, would be in the interest of economy, inasmuch as three of the judges who could retire under the provisions are not able to sit owing to old age, thus retarding the work of the courts. As he concluded the speaker was loudly applauded.

The Vote in Detail.

Finally the vote was taken and the bill passed—yeas, 107; nays, 77—as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Abrams, Ames, Anderson, Clark T. Baldwin, Beam, Beyerlein, Bliss, Boland, Buckwalter, Clarency, Collins, Comly, Connell, Conrade, Cotton, Crothers, Cruise, Culbertson, Curtin, Curtis, De Velin, Dunlap, Ennis, Farr, Fletcher, Foilweiler, Fow, Garvin, Gilmore, Goentner, Gould, Grausback, Griffiths, Grigsby, Griner, Grover, Harrison, Harshaw, Harvey, Hershey, Hicks, James, Jeffrey, John Kearns, Kephart, Kerkelager, A. J. Kern, Kerr, Keyser, Kidd, Kipp, Kunkel, Littley, Mackrell, Millard, Daniel F. Moore, Linus W. Moore, Muehlbronner, Mullin, McClain, McDonald, McFarlane, Nickell, Parcells, Pasco, D. Hunter Patterson, John K. Patterson, Peltz, Penniwell, Phillips, Prichard, Raven, Reed, Reese, Reeves, Reinoehl, Richey, Riebel, Riter, George W. Rhoades, Robb, Rutledge, Salinger, Salter, Saunders, Scaife, Schrink, Scott, Shuey, Singer, Robert Smith, Spangler, Staples, Stewart, Talbot, Underwood, Vare, Wallace, Weaver, Weiss, Weyadn, Williams, John S. Wilson, Matthew M. Wilson, Zehnder, Zulick, Walton, speaker.—107.

Nays—Messrs. Richard J. Baldwin, Biddle, Brown, Burrell, Cochrane, Creasy, Dambly, Douthett, Duttera, Eaton, Eby, Ellis, Focht, Fredericks, French, Fritz, Funk, Graham, Heaky, Heidelbaugh, Hermon, Herzog, Hollenbach, Hopwood, Hunter, Keen, King, Kratz, Lawrence, Long, Luden, Lytle, Maple, Algernon L. Martin, Jacob H. Martin, John M. Martin, Mast, Mattox, Mauer, Merrick, Miller, Millken, Frank N. Moore, James N. Moore, Murphy, McAllister, McGaughey, Newman, Niles, North Ormes, James Patterson, Samuel D. Patterson, Pomeroy, Porter, Rice, Cyrus J. Rhodes, Rutter, Schwartz, Seanor, Seyfert, William C. Smith, William O. Smith, Snively, Stineman, Stuck, Tiffany, Tilbrook, Weibel, Welliver, Wenk, West, Hugh L. Wilson, Woodring, Womelsdorf, Wyatt, Young.—77.

Absent or not voting—Andrews, Bolles, Compton, Dixon, Hammond, Hawkins, Jennings, Kinney, Lemon, Mansfield, John H. Marshall, Newbury, O'Malley, Page, Patchin, Raymond, Smiley, Wannemacher and Wilcox.—20.

Work in the Senate.

These bills passed finally in the senate: Creating the office of fire marshal in cities of the third class; organizing a department of education in cities of the first class; for the appointment of fish wardens by the Pennsylvania commissioners of fisheries; equalizing and fixing the compensation and mileage of the members of the several boards to examine candidates for appointment as inspectors, foremen and fire bosses in the anthracite and bituminous coal mines, and providing for the employment of a clerk to each of said boards; prohibiting prize fighting and regulating boxing with gloves; to carry into effect section 8 of article VIII of the constitution to provide for the punishment of bribery at nominating, primary and general elections; authorizing councils of incorporated boroughs to change the designation of wards; creating the office of county controller in such counties containing 150,000 inhabitants.

The bill providing for the examination and regulation of miners in the anthracite coal regions and preventing the employment of incompetent persons therein, was defeated—yeas 13, nays 14, less than a constitutional majority voting for the measure.

Ex-Senator Wilson Ill.

Des Moines, Ia., April 16.—Ex-United States Senator James F. Wilson is suffering from paralysis of the brain at his home in Fairfield, Ia., and is not expected to live through the night. Ex-Senator Wilson is 67 years old. He was elected to congress in 1861 and was three times re-elected, retiring in 1869. He was out of public life until 1882 when he was elected to the United States senate.

STATE GLEANINGS.

Josephine Rosette, of Shamokin, is in jail charged with the murder of her infant daughter.

Many southern negroes have arrived in the Sharon district to work in the soft coal mines.

The trial of E. K. Smith, the ex-banker of Columbia, for alleged embezzlement, has again been postponed.

Western Pennsylvania soft coal miners declare that company stores are the greatest evil that afflicts them.

A hundred metal wheelers at Carnagie's Homestead steel mill struck for an advance of 20 cents a day wages.

Divers near Montoursville are searching for the body of John Powers, a woodsman, who was drowned by the breaking of a log jam.

Ex-Cashier Wise, of the suspended bank of Dubois, was arrested last night on a charge of embezzlement. He gave bail in $2,500 for a hearing.

THE SAN FRANCISCO FIEND

Suspicion Connects Durant With the Third Missing Woment.

A VERITABLE JACK THE RIPPER

The Behavior of the Prisoner Tends to Establish His Guilt—Excitement Over the Double Crime Is Increasing—Probably a Maniac.

San Francisco, April 16.—Theodore Durant was, last evening, formally charged with the murder of Minnie Williams. The coroner's inquest upon Miss Williams will be held today. It will be a dual investigation. The police will produce their evidence regarding the murder of both girls. They say they have more than enough testimony to convict Durant of murder. A further mystery is added to the affair of the Emanuel Baptilst church by the report that Mrs. Ella Forsyth, who has been missing for a week, was also a member of that place of worship. Her husband, who has been searching diligently for her, says she left home to go to the beach to gather shells. She has never been seen since or heard of, and it is surmised that she may have shared the same fate of Blanche Lamont and Minnie Williams.

The city was alive yesterday with sencational rumors regarding the horrible tragedy. The street in front of Emanuel Baptist church was blocked all day with curious and excited crowds. Police and dectectives spent the day in searching all nooks and corners of the city for further evidence which may throw light upon the crime. The police believe it impdssible for the butcher of Miss Williams to have accomplished this brutal murder without having smeared with blood some article of clothing. To find some trace of the assassin's presence was the object of their unsuccessful search.

The Organist's Story.

George King, organist of the church where the horrible crimes were committed, made a statement to Chief of Police Crowley which tends to fix one crime, at least, the murder of Miss Lamont, upon Durant. King says that on April 3 (the day Miss Lamont was missed), he went into the church about 5 p. m. to practice on the organ. "I saw Durant there, much to my surprise. He came down to the organ loft in a highly excited and overheated condition. I asked him what was the matter and he replied that he had been overcome by the gas up in the loft. He was very weak and pale and asked me to give him a glass of bromo-seltzer. I knew he was fitting up an electrical contrivance about the church and thought nothing strange about his going up in the loft."

This is direct evidence of the most startling nature. Miss Lamont, it will be remembered, left the high school about 3 p. m. on the day she was last seen, April 4. She was seen with Durant. The theory is now that Durant had just finished his fiendish work when seen by the organist. Judge Thompson, Durant's attorney, has received permission from the coroner to be present at the inquest with a stenographer, that he may follow the testimony in behalf of his client. King says that he went to the drug store at the corner of Sixty-first and Howard streets and purchased a bottle of bromo-seltzer, and continued:

"When I returned Durant took a dose, and it seemed to nauseate him. He asked me how he looked. I told him he was pale, and his eyes were a little congested. What he did during the time I was gone I don't know. Afterward he went into the ladies' parlor to look into a mirror, and I afterward found on the little shelf underneath a little clot of blood, as though he had wiped his finger on it. We then carried a little organ from up stairs down into the lecture room. Several times he stopped to rest, and seemed quite weak. At 6 o'clock he left and went a short distance with me down the street. I do not remember whether he went back to the church or not."

Durant a Medical Student.

In addition to this damaging evidence, other equally incriminating evidence has been furnished. In the search for the crime many curious theories have been evolved assuming that Durant is guilty. One theory for the motive of the murder is the crimes were committed for the purpose of medical investigation. It is known that Durant was an ardent medical student. The theory is that he was crazed on the subject, and being unable to conduct his investigation in any ligitimate manner, murdered the girls for that purpose. The condition of the bodies after they were found tend to carry out this line of reasoning.

Instead of abating, the excitement over the horrible crimes is on the increase. Every fresh rumor is an excuse for an extra edition of the newspapers, which are eagerly bought by crowds of people on the streets. Other crowds gather in front of the bulletin boards and haunt the scene of the crimes.

POISON IN HIS PULPIT.

Aged Pastor Jessup Swallows Strychine with Sugar.

Birmingham, Ala., April 16.—Having tagen poison in his pulpit, Rev. J. M. Jessup fell to the floor and died in spasms before his startled congregation, at Sandy Ridge, before he had finished his sermon, yesterday.

Pastor Jessup was a venerable Primitive Baptist clergyman. An investigation as to his shocking death disclosed the fact that he had taken a lot of strychnine which he carried in his pocket on bread-crumbs to poison English sparrows that infested his yard. He was also in the habit of carrying sugar in his pockets Sundays, to clear his throat for his sermon. He took the strychnine by mistake with his sugar.

LOOKS LIKE FOUL PLAY.

Body of an Italian with Bullet Hole in His Chin Is Found.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., April 16.—The body of a well known Italian, named Vaute Merchetti, was found late last night by a party of railroad men on the roadway near the mining town of Derringer. A large hole in his chin showed that he had been shot and that death must have been instantaneous. Near the body lay a huge revolver. On examination of the weapon it was shown that two cartridges had been discharged and there was nothing to indicate self-destruction, as only one bullet hole was found in the body.

The authorities and his friends are satisfied that it is a case of foul play.

PITTSBURG WATER FAMINE.

The Entire City Suffers from a Break in the Water Main.

Pittsburg, April 16.—As a result of the break in the old main water pipe from the brilliant pumping station of the Pittsburg water works, the entire city is today suffering from a water famine.

Many important houses and industrial plants and the Wylie avenue cable line have been crippled, and exceptional inconveniences are being experienced in all parts of the city. It is not expected that the damage will be repaired before tomorrow. There are but two feet of water in the big highland reservoir.

SIBLEY'S SILVER SPEECH.

The Champions of White Metal Are Enthusiastically Received by Colorado Citizens.

Denver, Col., April 16.—The open air mass meeting held from the steps of the capitol this afternoon, in honor of the silver agitators, General Warner, of New York, and ex-Congressman Sibley, of Pennsylvania, was one of the largest ever seen. Before the hour which had been set for the opening, people began to gather, and at 2 o'clock there were many thousand listeners. Excursion trains brought in hundreds from the mining camps. Judge A. W. Rucker introduced Congressman Sibley, who was greeted with cheers.

"Any place but Colorado to talk silver," he said. "I did not come to talk silver. I can do that in the east, where it is needed, but I can ask you to advance and exalt the spirit of patriotism even at the sacrifice of partisanship. The president has said the ignorant people of Colorado have got to be educated on the money question, and I wish he were here to see whom he proposed to educate. Silver sentiment is steadily growing, and even in Boston and Michigan it is crystalizing. It is spreading in spite of the efforts of J. Sterling Morton and other members of the cabinet. The people of the east will think the white ballots for silver in 1896 will amount to a snowstorm, and will lie down and die like the blind mule in the storm of pop corn. If silver had got its rights when Cleveland took the president's chair, Denver would now be the center of population of the United States. But I did not come here to attempt to educate you on the subject of bimetallism, but to meet the people of Colorado and talk with them like brothers and fill myself up with the life and vigor and electrical force which one gets from breathing the pure ozone of Colorado and shaking hands with her people."

Mr. Sibley was frequently interrupted with applause and expressed himself as more than gratified with the earnestness of the people in the cause of silver.

General Warner followed Mr. Sibley in a practical, business-like discussion of the subject, which has been his life study. As to the future movements of the party in this state, the committee having he matter in charge have arranged for a special train over the Denver and Rio Grande, in which the party will start tomorrow morning. It is the intention to stop for an hour or two at a number of the smaller towns along the route and receptions will be given at the larger places. The cities visited will include Colorado Springs, Pueblo, Glenwood Springs and Aspen.

Democrats Gathering.

Harrisburg, April 16.—The Commonwealth and Bolton hotels are rapidly filling with prominent Democrats from all parts of the state who come to attend the meeting of the Democratic state committee tomorrow. Robert E. Wright, of Allentown, will probably be elected chairman. The anti-Harrity Democrats will support James F. Kerr. They held a caucus at the Bolton tonight and denounced the dominant faction of the party. The convention will probably be held Aug. 27 or Sept. 3.

Merrimac Quieting Down.

Concord, N. H., April 16.—Water in the Merrimac river has lowered eight inches since midnight and is slowly receding. Trains for Boston were sent out this morning. The highest point recorded showed the water to be eighteen inches higher than in the great flood of October, 1869.

Hit by the Pitcher.

York, Pa., April 16.—Albertus Keller was struck by a pitched ball on the temple during a game of base ball at Eichelberger academy yesterday, and last night he died from hemorrhages caused by concussion of the brain. He did not feel the effects of the blow until several hours after it was received.

Dead in a Mine Hole.

Hazleton, Pa., April 16.—Tonight the body of Patrick Early, constable of Hazle township, was found in a mine hole at Lattimer. Several deep wounds in the head showed that he had been murdered. The crime is supposed to have been committed by foreigners.

Bismarck Is Resting.

Berlin, April 16.—Prince Bismarck passed the day quietly in resting after the fatigue consequent upon the recent celebration. Friedrichsruhe has lost its festive appearance and all the decorations at the castle, with the exception of those in the great waiting hall, have been removed.

SPARKS FROM THE WIRES.

The shortage at the Carson City mint is $75,499.75.

Florida threatens to compel insurance companies to pay losses in full.

Baltimore's ancient Washington monument is cracking, and likely to become dangerous.

The army worm is devouring tobacco plants and every other green thing near Russellville, Ky.

After visiting her husband's grave Mrs. Barbara French drowned herself in Mad river at Springfield, O.

Pearl Smith, a negress, confessed that she cut the throat of her paramour, William Ferguson, also colored, in Chicago.

Archaeologist W. McAdams is believed to have been drowned while trying to wade the Missouri river during an Indian-mound expedition.

The American Newspaper Publishers' association in New York adopted resolutions in memory of James W. Scott, late publisher of the Chicago Times-Herald.

Near Salineville, O., the Old Shaft mine was flooded, at a loss of $25,000, by Yellow creek leaking through into it, and throwing 200 miners out of work.

PEACE REPORTS CONFIRMED

Japan Willing to Relinquish Claims Upon Portion of the Yen.

SURPRISE AT THE CONDITIONS

It Is Thought That an Offensive and Defensive Alliance Would Weaken Japan Owing to China's Lack of Military Strength.

Washington, Ajril 16.—The reported signing of the treaty of peace between China and Japan is confirmed by a cablegram received this morning from Hon. J. W. Foster, the adviser of the Chinese plenipotentiaries.

The terms of peace agreed upon between China and Japan as cabled from London are thought to be in some particulars inaccurate, notably in regard to Japan's retention of already conquered portions of Manchurian territory and the fortifications of Port Arthus and Wei Hai Wei, if by retention is meant permanent occupation.

It is now officially stated that the compromise which Japan agreed to make from her original proposition was a material reduction in the amount of the indemnity and her willingness to withdraw from certain of the Chinese territory which she had expressed a desire to occupy. The statement that Japan has agreed to accept an indemnity of only $100,000,000 is regarded as erroneous. Her demand at the beginning of peace conference was 400,000,000 yen, equal to $200,000,000 (American gold dollars). According to advices previously received Japan reduced this amount by 100,000,000 yen, thus leaving the indemnity at 300,000,000 yen, or $150,000,000 in gold.

Conditions of Peace.

Astonishment is expressed that one of the reported conditions of peace should have been an offensive and defensive alliance between the two nations. Such agreements are always regarded as a close secret and are never under any circumstances made public. If this be the conclusion reached by the two countries it is regarded as the more extraordinary that it should have been so publicly announced. It is pointed out, moreover, that Japan has nothing to gain by an alliance of this character. Both nations are at peace with the rest of the world and aside from this China's internal weakness and lack of military strength, as shown in the war just closed, would render an alliance with such a nation a source of weakness to Japan.

Washington, April 16.—Late this afternoon Secretary Gresham received a cablegram from Minister Dun, at Tokio, Japan, confirming the press dispatches that a peace treaty had been signed by Japan and China. The message was terse and simply stated that "peace negotiations between Japan and China were concluded today."

INCOME TAX COLLECTIONS.

Commissioner of Internal Revenue Instructs the Deputies.

Washington, April 16.—Commissioner Miller late this afternoon issued an additional circular to internal revenue collectors in which he says:

"In case of incorrect income tax returns now filed in your office, you will notify the person who filed returns that they must appear within a reasonable time, specifying the date and place for appearance, and correct or explain said return; that on their failure to appear and make said correction you will correct and increase the amount of such returns, stating the particular corrections which shall be made and the amounts by which said returns will be increased.

"Where persons and corporations liable to make return have neglected or refused to make return and where, in your opinion, false or fraudulent returns have been filed, you will give notice to the delinquents and to those who made such false or fraudulent returns to appear and show cause why penalties shall not be assessed against them."

SUICIDE OF A DOCTOR.

Chicago Physician Uses Chloral, a Razor and a Carver.

Chicago, April 16.—Dr. N. J. Neilson, a prominent physician who had, until six months ago, enjoyed a lucrative practice, made a desperate and probably successful attempt to kill himself this morning at his home in the presence of his mother. She was horrified to find him writhing in agony on his bed from the effects of taking a dose of chloral. While the mother was trying to find some antidote Dr. Neilson suddenly rose, seized a razor and drew the blade across his throat before Mrs. Neilson could stop his hand.

She sprang on him and wrested the weapon from his grasp. Breaking away, the crazed man rushed into the kitchen, where he seized a knife and again slashed his throat. Then he ran back to his room and turning on the gas tried to keep his frantic mother out, but the loss of blood and the chloral made him unconscious. He had become despondent through illness and consequent loss of practice.

PERRY IS CAPTURED.

The Train Robber Is in Hudson County Jail at Hoboken.

Hoboken, N. J., April 16.—The arrest of train robber Oliver Curtis Perry at Weehawken this morning, settles all reports of his having been seen at many points between the Matteawan asylum and Amsterdam since his escape from Dr. Allison's custody on Wednesday last in company with four other convicts confined in the Matteawan institution. Perry is now in the Hudson county jail, Jersey City, awaiting the arrival of New York state officials.

As he is a fugitive from justice, extradition proceedings are unnecessary, and he will be surrendered to the proper officials on application.

NANSEN AT THE NORTH POLE.

Rumor Has Norway's Explorer Flagging Earth's Coldest Spot.

Paris, April 16.—The North Pole, says the Figaro, is reported to have been found by Dr. Nansen, the Norwegian explorer, who sailed on board the Fram for the icy north on June 24, 1893.

The report has it that the pole is situated on a chain of mountains. It adds that Dr. Nansen planted the Norwegian flag upon this northernmost spot on the earth. The story is doubted here.

Dr. Nansen's plan when he sailed was to make for the New Siberian Islands, and thence directly north till the Fram should be imbedded in the ice and drift along with it, following the west coast of any land that might be met with northward.

The doctor sent a dispatch from Vardoe on Aug. 23, 1893, which he had written at Charabowa, in the Yugorski Straits, on Aug. 2, reporting that he was about to sail into the Kara Sea, and that so far the Fram had behaved splendidly, especially in forcing her way through the ice that had been met with. Since then nothing has been heard of him.

OIL CRAZE CONTINUES.

Pennsylvania and West Virginia Fields Alive with Prospectors—Plunger Burge's Fortune.

Wheeling, W. Va., April 16.—Since the rise in oil, Sisterville field has grown alive with prospectors. People have gone wild and evrything is oil. Every man who can raise a few hundred dollars is out trying to locate a well. Prospectors are running all over the country and they offer cash bonus on land, which, by the way, is hard to get, as farmers are holding off for more money. It is estimated that 400 small wells have been located for spring operations, and the number is increasing. Thus far no very big deals have been made, although it is hard to tell what developments a day may bring. The runs during the past twenty-four hours have been about 7,850, an increase of a hundred barrels over the preceding day.

Operators are complaining of scarcity of labor and work is hampered very much on this account. Thousands of dollars are being sent to Oil City and Pittsburg for investment. James Burge, a "plunger," invested $100 a week ago, and is now worth over $50,000, investing all as he goes.

STANDARD ON WAR PATH.

Pipe Line Companies May Be Crushed Out by High Prices.

Pittsburg, Pa., April 16.—Oil made another big jump toward the $3 mark today. On the exchange the first quotation was $2.80 bid, and the market remained firm after some fluctuations until near the close when an advance of 7 cents was recorded, sales being made at $2.54 for the May option.

Some say the Standard has contracts for refined oil at a figure that they could not possibly fill, and purchase producers' balances at the price now quoted. Others, however, well informed, say the Standard bought plenty oil around sixty cents and below, and that any contracts they have to fill now, they can do with crude bought nearly $2 lower than at the present price.

The independent pipe line people and refiners, however, must by this time, feel the advance in petroleum from the fact that the amount of oil, outside the Standard holdings on April 1, only aggregated 98,000 barrels.

Should the price of oils become so high that the independent people could not fill contracts for their foreign customers, it would give the Standard virtual control of the oil market in the United States and that part of foreign countries where they sell their product.

While this rapid advance in crude oil continues, producers who sell to both the Standard and Independent lines are reaping the long-looked-for harvest that they have awaited for many years, and the wildcatter is now seen in territory heretofore unheard of.

GROW COUNTY EXPERTS.

Commissioners Appointed by the Governor Will View the Promised Land.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., April 16.—Messrs. Harvey, Wheelock and Snyder, the commissioners appointed by the governor to look over the Grow county situation, arrived here today and were in consultation with Civil Engineer W. U. Sturdevant.

In a day or two they intend tracing along the Schuylkill, Columbia, Wyoming and Sullivan county lines looking up the area which it is proposed to incorporate into Grow county.

ANOTHER TRAMP FIRE.

Hobos Cause the Destruction of Valuable Buildings and Stock.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., April 16.—A barn and other outbuildings, belonging to Michael Binnick, a farmer residing near Nanticoke, were destroyed by fire today. Before assistance could be rendered, eight cows, several heifers and five horses were burned to death.

The fire was started by tramps who had been sleeping on the premises. It is not known whether any of them were burned or not. The loss will reach $8,000.

Haverhill in Darkness.

Haverhill, Mass., April 16.—The city is without electric lights tonight as the works are flooded by the rising water. The machinery in nearly a dozen large factories has been flooded, throwing 2,500 hands out of work. The damage already done amounts to many thousand dollars.

Strike Declared Off.

Augusta, Me., April 16.—The 10 per cent. increase in wages demanded by the spinners and weavers of the Vassalboro woolen mills has been granted and the strike has been declared off. All the help have returned to work.

Bi-Partison Bill Passed.

Albany, N. Y., April 16—The Lexow New York city bi-partisan police commission bill passed the senate today, ayes, 17; noes, 11; a party vote, with the exception of Reynolds voting with the Democrats in the negative.

FOREIGN NEWS NOTES.

Floods in Hungary have swollen the Danube till it has inundated many houses in Presburg.

The American swindler, Frank Taylor, alias Tarbo, has been remanded for examination in London. His partner in crime, William Carroll Woodward, is still at large.

Scotland Yard detectives have offered $250 reward for the arrest of the men who robbed Sir Roderick Cameron's daughter of a box containing jewels and bonds worth thousands in the Victoria station, London.

WEATHER REPORT.

For eastern Pennsylvania, showers; warmer.

EASTER

LINEN SALE!

During this week we will offer some EXTRAORDINARY VALUES from our LINEN DEPARTMENT. We quote a few of the special prices in

TABLE DAMASKS:

56-inch 23c; recent price 29c
58-inch 27c; recent price 35c
60-inch 33c; recent price 45c
64-inch 38c; recent price 48c
67-inch 43c; recent price 55c
72-inch 55c; recent price 68c
72-inch 89c; recent price $1.00
72-inch 98c; recent price 1.19
72-inch $1.25; recent price 1.65
80-inch 2.00; recent price 2.35
90-inch 2.20; recent price 2.50

Napkins to Match.

SPECIAL PRICES ON QUILTS:

Full size, soft finish, Crotchet, 98 cents; recent price, $1.35.

Eleven-quarter Marseilles Crochet, $1.19; recent price, $1.50.

Also about 50 dozen all Linen Napkins, odd lots and broken dozens, the low prices of which will sell them.

FINLEY'S

510 and 512 Lackawanna Ave.

H. A. KINGSBURY

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CHAS. A. SCHIEREN & CO.'S

LEATHER BELTING

THE VERY BEST.

813 SPRUCE ST., SCRANTON, PA.

A HUNDRED STYLES OF EASTER SHOES.

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FINE WATCHES

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the Jeweler, can repair your watch to give perfect satisfaction, having had ten years' experience in our leading watch factories.

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