MAY CLARK'S CASE STIRS PLAINFIELD.

Criticism of the Legal Proceeding That Has Landed the Girl in Prison.

Many Charitable Persons Interesting Themselves in the Pretty Prisoner's Behalf.

CURIOUS EXAMPLE OF JERSEY LAW.

The Girl's Offence, as Alleged, Was Resisting Her Sister, Who Attempted to Prevent Her from Going into the Street.

The case of May Clark, the seventeen-year-old girl, of Plainfield, N. J., who is serving a sentence of thirty days' imprisonment in the Union County Jail, at Elizabeth, for alleged disorderly conduct, has aroused widespread comment, and some exceedingly caustic expressions can be heard in church, as well as court circles, about the matter. The charitable ladies of Plainfield are especially anxious to do what they can to have the Court's sentence made less severe, but in the meanwhile their remarks have a ring of intense feeling.

Discussing their probable action in aid of May Clark, one of Plainfield's best-known ladies said yesterday: "Just think! That a child—and a girl at that—should be thrust into prison, and compelled to serve a sentence of thirty days, on a doubtful charge of disorderly conduct, seems incredible, yet it is a fact, and the peculiar interpretation of Jersey law by a Jersey Justice is responsible for it."

May, who is possessed of remarkable beauty, was committed on March 6, by Judge George W. De Meza, of Plainfield. A good part of the history of this bright little girl in connection with her imprisonment has been published in the Journal, but not all. Just now, the fact that she is forced to spend even a brief period among criminals in a county jail has stirred the citizens of Plainfield in a manner they have not experienced in a decade. To properly understand the present predicament in which May Clark finds herself through the complaint of her father and sister, it is best to go back a little into her previous history.

SHE WOULDN'T OBEY.

Early in the present month Thomas Clark called on Judge George W. De Meza, the presiding justice of the city of Plainfield, and complained to him that his youngest daughter, May, was growing incorrigible and refused to obey either him or her stepmother. The father is lame, and advanced this as an excuse for not following the girl on the occasions he claimed she had left home in the evening to accompany young men about town. The parent could offer no excuse for having his daughter brought into court other than his suspicions that she was gradually drifting with an undesirable element.

Mr. Clark consulted his wife, who is May's stepmother, and his other daughters, who are her sisters by his first wife, and all agreed to keep the child at home at night, even if force became necessary. May resented their efforts, asserting her right to enjoy the only recreation she had, but they were obdurate, and watched her constantly, until on March 5 last a fuss occurred between her and Julia, an elder sister. The reports concerning this trouble all agree that May tried to seize her hat to go out, when Julia interfered, and they fought down the stairway. For this May Clark was taken before Judge De Meza, and after her father and sister testified the Court ordered her committed to prison for thirty days. Under this ruling the child was removed to the county prison at Elizabeth and is still there.

The fact that a mere child should be so severely dealt with raised no little surprise in Plainfield. The people of the churches and the Roman Catholic priest of the parish have all interested themselves in the matter. The ladies of charitable and benevolent societies have taken up the cudgel, and a writer in one local paper has sought to criticize Judge De Meza for his severe sentence, while the editor of another local paper tries to justify the action of the Court.

It is asserted by other lawyers, as well as those who deprecate the severe administration of the "justice" which has been meted out to May, that the construction of what disorderly conduct means in Jersey law is flimsy and far-fetched.

Judge De Meza spent yesterday at Somerville in the trial of a case in which he is counsel. A brother of the Judge was seen and asked if the complaint and record could be seen.

"Not in the Judge's absence. If he gives you an order I will produce them, but not otherwise."

This young man gave out the impression that the record had been written up, but was persistent in not showing it, nor would he exhibit a copy of the complaint.

"Who swore out the warrant?" was asked.

"Nobody."

"Do you mean to say she was arrested and received such a severe sentence without any one procuring a warrant?"

"Yes; because her offence was committed in the street and her father and sisters testified against her. That's all there is about it."

LETTER OF THE LAW.

The law under which Judge De Meza finds authority for committing the child prisoner for thirty days is section 2 of the ordinances which govern the corporation of Plainfield, and is as follows:

An ordinance relating to the morals, peace and good order of the City of Plainfield, as amended: Section 2. For disturbing the quiet of the city or of any unlawful assemblage of persons, or of any neighborhood, family or person within the city, by any loud or unnecessary noise with kettles, bells, drums, or other articles, or by shouting, or by using any profane, indecent or obscene language, or by any indecent conduct whatever, or by quarrelling, assaulting or fighting, or otherwise disturbing the public peace, any sum not exceeding one hundred dollars, or imprisonment not exceeding sixty days in the city or county jail, or both fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the Court, before whom a conviction thereof shall be had.

The general feeling in Plainfield is that the sentence is severe. Upon the other hand, Judge De Meza and May's father claim to be in possession of certain facts touching recent waywardness on her part which justify summary treatment. "I will not," her father said yesterday, "tell all I know, but May had a good home and we were all kind to her. She was never beaten and would be with us now but for a bad lot of town boys who wanted her to run away."

There is but one institution in the State of New Jersey where an incorrigible child can be committed, and that is the Reform School at Trenton. Here every effort is made to reclaim and reform children, but unfortunately little May Clark has been guilty of no offence which would bring her within the purview of the County Court, in which is vested the right to commit a culprit to this place. Her offence, under the Jersey practice, it appears, is one punishable with incarceration in a felon's jail.

When seen in jail yesterday May's bright face wore a smile as she examined her portrait. Her clothes were clean, but of the ordinary prison garb. Her arms were bare to the elbows and she held them akimbo. She didn't want to talk about her troubles.

Mrs. Opdyke and the Rev. J. W. Richardson, of the Park Avenue Baptist Church, of Plainfield, are taking interest in May's behalf.

DARED HIM TO WED HER.

Happy Ending of a Leap Year Proposal Which a Jersey City Young Man Quickly Accepted.

Although Gustave Eigenrauch, who is employed as a clerk in his mother's grocery store, Central avenue and Irving street, Jersey City, earns only $3 a week, pretty Lottie Monica, of No. 70 Zabriskie street, dared him to marry her. That was on February 27 last, after the couple had known each other about three months.

Gus is nineteen and Lottie eighteen. She is an attractive blonde. Ever since he met her at a reception Gus has admired Lottie, and when she dared him to marry her he said the ceremony could not be performed quickly enough to suit him. So they journeyed to Hoboken with two witnesses and were quickly made husband and wife by the Rev. Dr. Richter, pastor of the German Lutheran Church at Eighth and Hudson streets.

The bride returned to her mother's home, the groom to his mother's grocery store. None of their friends were aware that they were married until yesterday. Both have been forgiven by their parents. The groom's mother, it is said, will start them housekeeping.

RATS AND SNAKES ALLIED.

A Tramp Tells a Story of a Night of Terror, and Farmers Arm for a Battle.

Lambertville, N. J., March 16.—An eccentric old man by the name of Simon Waters, who used to run a canalboat named Susan in the Delaware and Raritan Canal for many years, died some time ago and asked as his dying request that the Susan be allowed to remain where he had tied her up after his last trip. His wish was granted, and the old boat lies in a half rotten condition just below this city.

For some time the boat was used as a hunkering place by tramps, and one of them, familiarly called "Red Top," who is well known by the residents along the Belvidere division, told his story to a farmer residing near here. One night recently as has been his custom when in this section, he got aboard the Susan to pass the night, he found the cabin dry and clean. He had just fallen into a doze, when he was awakened by a gnawing sensation at his arm. Jumping up, he found he was overrun by an army of rats. Striking a match, he saw that the place was alive with them. He bolted for the door, pursued by the rodents, some of which succeeded in fastening their teeth into his flesh before he escaped.

A party of farmers organized a rat hunt and, together with a pack of dogs and lanterns, paid a visit to the hold of the Susan and succeeded in exterminating the rats. A large number of snakes were also found in the forward part of the hold, and it is thought that they also attacked "Red Top" and that in his fright he knew no difference between them.

BARELY ESCAPED DEATH.

A Wagon Containing Three Men Struck by a Locomotive at a Crossing, But One Was Killed.

Vineland, N. J., March 16.—Leads Leighton, Joseph Pierson and Addison Sly, of this place, are wondering how they escaped death in a railroad crossing accident this morning.

At the Third street crossing of the New Jersey Southern Railroad the tracks are obscured on both sides by brush. The men, hearing no bell, started to cross. When directly upon the rails they heard the roar of the locomotive. The driver whipped up the horse, but before they cleared the track the engine overtook them and striking the rear of the wagon tore it from the horse and hurled it a considerable distance from the rails.

The men were thrown in different directions, one being covered by the wreck of the wagon. They were badly injured.

A FOND MOTHER'S DEATH.

She Caught Cold While Searching for Her Runaway Boy and Died When He Returned.

Elizabeth, N. J., March 16.—Mrs. Alice Porter, of No. 529 Livingston street, died this morning at her home of pneumonia. She was the mother of Robert Porter, the seventeen-year-old youth, who ran away from his home two weeks ago. Mrs. Porter was nearly heartbroken over her son's disappearance, and the shock was so great that she became ill. She contracted a cold from the exposure she underwent in searching night and day for traces of her missing boy, and pneumonia developed.

Last Friday the prodigal returned. He reached home in time to see his mother die. Her condition was such on his arrival that she was barely able to recognize him. She sank steadily until the end came this morning.

NOT HELD FOR INMAN'S DEATH.

Dismissal of Indictments Against Captain Hulse and Pilot Allen.

Richmond, S. I., March 16.—The indictments for manslaughter in the second degree against Captain William H. Hulse and Pilot James Allen, of the Iron Steamboat Perseus, were dismissed by Justice Wilmot M. Smith, sitting at this place, this morning upon motion of District-Attorney George M. Pinney, Jr.

The defendants were in command of the Perseus in August last when, in returning from Coney Island, the steamer collided with Robert W. Inman's yacht, Adelaide. The yacht was not badly damaged by the collision, but several of those on board, including Mr. Inman, sprang overboard. All were rescued except Mr. Inman. Mr. Inman's body was recovered at South Beach, and a Staten Island Coroner's Jury held the captain and pilot responsible, and they were indicted by the Grand Jury at the September term of court.

District-Attorney Pinney, in moving the dismissal of the indictments, stated that material witnesses were beyond the jurisdiction of the Court, and could not be produced, and that, after a careful investigation of the case, he had become satisfied that the people would not be warranted in incurring the expenses of trial.

"Then," said Justice Smith, "you think the indictment should not have been found?"

"Mr. Pinney replied: "I do not wish to criticize my predecessor, but I do not think, after careful investigation, that the averments in the indictment can be proven beyond a reasonable doubt."

Counsellor George W. Wingate, who appeared for the defendants, explained the case, and the indictments were dismissed.

Named for the Naval Academy.

New Brunswick, N. J., March 16.—Congressman B. F. Howell, of the Third District, has nominated George Walter Potts, of Asbury Park, for the Naval Academy at Annapolis. Atwood P. Weldy, of this city, has been named as alternate. The examination for entrance into the Naval Academy will be held on May 15. If Mr. Potts fails to pass the required examination Mr. Weldy will have an opportunity.

A 650

For Auction . . . . . Sale Announcements Watch The Journal's Classified Columns.

SPANKED BY THE JUSTICE.

Summary Punishment Visited on a Lad by a Perth Amboy Magistrate.

Arraigned In a Court Higher Than His Own and Held in Bail for the Grand Jury.

HE CRITICISED RECORDER KANT.

Found a Defect in the Bail Bond, Had It Corrected and Then Refused to Pay the Recorder His Fee.

Perth Amboy, N. J., March 16.—In the City Court this morning the unusual spectacle of a Justice of the Peace arraigned at the bar was presented. The prisoner was Justice H. E. Pickersgill, who late on Saturday had given bonds for a hearing this morning on a charge of assault and battery. The charge was preferred by St. George Kempson, Jr., a fourteen-year-old boy, who alleged that Pickersgill had spanked him with force, against the peace of the State of New Jersey.

Pickersgill is a printer and a Justice of the Peace. For several days last week he acted as foreman of the Kempson Publishing Company's establishment in this city. Of this company St. George Kempson, Sr., is president, treasurer and general manager. Pickersgill told the Recorder that he was annoyed beyond endurance by the younger Kempson's pranks, and on the day of the alleged assault put him out of the office three times. The boy finally became abusive, he said, and called Pickersgill vile names. The foreman admitted that he then put the boy over his knee and spanked him soundly. He then put the boy out of the office and had peace for the rest of the day.

The boy was in court attended by his father and a lawyer from New York. The elder Kempson admitted authorizing his foreman to eject the boy from the office, but he denied that this included authority to spank him first. The Recorder ordered the Justice to furnish bonds in the sum of $100 for his appearance before the Grand Jury in April. Attaches of the court suggested that if Pickersgill had not several times written His Honor up in the newspapers he would have been discharged. A bond was furnished at once with Alderman J. J. Deitche as surety.

The unusual proceeding of a prisoner drawing his own bail bond was then witnessed, as Pickersgill pronounced the bond drawn by the Recorder as defective. Kant has been Recorder two years, but he consented to the correction of the document as directed by the Justice.

When the paper was ready for filing, Kant demanded forty cents, the fee at one time allowed justices for similar work.

"I'll pay it when you prove that you are entitled to it," answered Pickersgill.

The Recorder said that he always collected the fee.

"Then you always do wrong," was the rejoinder.

"Well, I'll tear up the bond and make out a commitment if you don't pay up," said the Recorder.

"Go ahead. I'll pay you when you prove it due to you," was all the reply he got from his prisoner, who left the court room and is still at liberty.

FEW WORDS AT THE BIER.

Simple Ceremony Marks the Funeral of the Rev. Mr. Tomkins.

Long Branch, N. J., March 16.—The funeral of the Rev. Elliott D. Tomkins, who was pastor of St. James's Episcopal Church, took place here this afternoon, from the residence of the deceased rector, on Chelsea avenue. Funeral Director John G. Sexton, escorted by the vestrymen of the church, who had the funeral in charge; the Rev. Floyd Tomkins, brother of the dead rector, and a number of the members of the church left Mr. Tomkins's residence with the body, a little before 2 o'clock, in order to arrive at the church by that hour, which was set for the lying in state. On the arrival at the church the casket was opened, and the Rev. Floyd Tomkins, brother of the dead man, stood beside the casket, while the Rev. H. A. Miller, of Asbury Park, stood on the opposite side.

During the hour the casket was open several hundred persons of all demominations paid their last respects to the rector by viewing the remains. At 3 o'clock the casket was closed, and further preparations were made for the funeral services, which took place at 4 o'clock, when the family, relatives and the many friends arrived in a body at the church from the Chelsea avenue home.

The Right Rev. John Scarborough officiated, assisted by Rev. H. A. Miller, of Asbury Park. The service was of very short duration. Nothing was mentioned in the way of a text nor were any remarks made. The usual Episcopal service was read.

The remains were conveyed to the New York & Long Branch Railroad Station.

The interment will be made to-morrow at Cayuga Lake, N. Y.

HONOR SYSTEM FOR RUTGERS.

Students Hold a Meeting for the Furtherance of the Plan.

New Brunswick, N. J., March 16.—The students of Rutgers College held a meeting this morning to consider the advisability of introducing what is known as the honor system of examinations. During the past two years several colleges have conducted their periodical "quizzes" without the supervision of their instructors. Princeton adopted the system, and now Rutgers, having experimented in some classes in December, is anxious for the practice to obtain throughout the college.

There were some excellent speeches from the students in support of the plan. It is understood that when a student detects another using a "pony" or "cribbing" from a fellow, his duty is to report the offender. The result of this morning's meeting was to give the matter into the hands of a special committee. This committee will report as to the desirability of the plan and draw up the necessary resolutions and rules. The committee consists as follows: Voorhees, '96; Hobart, '96; Fowler, '97; Decker, '98, and Thompson, '99.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN NEWARK.

Governor Griggs Invited to Be with the Ancient Hibernians.

Newark, N. J., March 16.—Appropriate exercises in celebration of St. Patrick's Day will be held in this city to-morrow night. Entertainments and exercises will be held in all the parochial schools, and all the Irish clubs will give banquets in the evening.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the consecration of St. Patrick's Cathedral will be observed. The Rt. Rev. Bishop Wigger will celebrate a pontifical high mass at 9:30 o'clock, and the sermon for the occasion will be delivered by the Rev. Father C. H. Mackel, of Steon Hall College.

Governor Griggs and his staff have been invited to attend the reception to be given by the Ancient Order of Hibernians of Essex County.

FOR SELLING OLEOMARGARINE.

Two Elizabeth Dealers in Court and One Pays $100.

Elizabeth, March 16.—For some time Deputy Internal Revenue Collector John T. Brennan has been quietly waging war against the dealers in oleomargarine here and in Rahway.

To-day Noble Beatty and John Orr, two local grocers, were on trial in the district court for selling oleomargarine without a license. Beatty settled his case, it is said, by paying the $100 fee, and Judge Gilbooly reserved decision in the other case.

MAD DOG WAS CUNNING.

Three Hillsdale Men Had an Exciting Time Putting Him to Death.

He Hid Under the Furniture, Refused to Budge and Finally Got Behind the Gun.

HIS KILLERS AFRAID TO ADVANCE.

By Strategy the Dog Was Lured Into the Street, Where the Men Poured in a Volley and Ended His Life.

Hillsdale, N. J., March 16.—Thomas Clinton Demarest, the newly elected Township Committeeman and an employe of the New York Custom House, had a lively experience here last night about 11 o'clock trying to exterminate his pet black and tan dog, Prince, which was taken with rabies while quietly snoozing under the stove in the kitchen of Mr. Demarest's house. The family was awakened about 11 o'clock by a peculiar noise in the kitchen, and when Mr. Demarest investigated he saw the dog tearing around the room, biting and snapping at everything in its reach. He saw at once that the dog was mad and called to Richard Johnson, a New Jersey & New York Railroad trainman, who boards with him, to get up and get the gun.

Demarest ran back in the bedroom and, wrapping a shawl about him, put a blanket over the back of a chair and pushing that in front of him sallied forth to kill the dog. By this time the animal had crawled under the lounge. He refused to budge when his master tried to coax him out. Demorest set upon him and beat him until he was nearly exhausted. The dog finally darted for the other corner of the room, where the gun was kept, and then Demarest and Johnson were in another dilemma. They could not get at the gun for fear of being bitten.

Demarest pounded on the floor to arouse John F. Winters, the store keeper, who slept on the next floor below. Mr. Winters appeared on the scene with a gun and revolver, and after a long time and by using considerable strategy the dog was made to leave his corner, and started for the stair door leading to the street, with Demarest, Johnson and Winters in hot pursuit, each armed with gun or revolver.

As soon as the dog reached open air he ran and was lost in the blinding snow storm. Demarest called him, and after awhile he came tearing back. Then all three men let go their firearms and soon put the dog to death.

DR. REINER'S BAIL REDUCED.

The Amount Fixed at $5,200, Which He Will Furnish at Once.

Elizabeth, March 16.—Warden J. C. Blore, of the Union County Jail, took Dr. J. M. Reiner, editor of the Elizabeth Herald, to Trenton this morning to appear before Judge Van Syckel, of the Supreme Court, on an application for reduction of his bail from $13,000. He is charged with criminal libel by Mayor J. C. Rankin. The lawyers on both sides went with him.

Judge Van Syckel heard arguments on both sides and decided to reduce the bail to $5,200, or $200 on each of the twenty-six counts. Police Justice Neill, who fixed the bail, refused this morning to reduce it. Dr. Reiner will furnish the reduced bail at once and will probably be released from jail to-morrow. He was incarcerated a week ago last Saturday.

While Dr. Reiner was in Trenton to-day Damon & Peets, dealers in printers' supplies, of New York, brought suit against him in the District Court, to secure payment of a bill for $150. An attorney for Dr. Reiner asked for an adjournment until he was able to see to the matter, which was refused. Judgment for the full amount was given to the plaintiffs, in default. Constable Oliver Conlin went at once to the Elizabeth Herald office to attach the property to satisfy the judgment. He was told that the plant belonged to the New Jersey Herald Publishing Company, and was unable to touch a thing. Dr. Reiner's employes say the suit was brought at this juncture to still further embarrass the editor, an dthat the bill will be paid when due, if it is correct.

A HOT SCHOOL BOARD FIGHT.

Religious Question at Issue in the South Amboy Election.

South Amboy, N. J., March 16.—An exciting time is looked for in this place to-morrow evening, when an election for members of the Board of Education will be held. It is Protestant against Catholic, and the feeling is high.

The terms of Robert Kerns, Protestant, and William Birmingham and Michael Summons, Catholics, expire and successors to them are to be elected. Three Catholics have been nominated, and the opposition ticket is composed of three Protestants. The Protestants are backed by the American Protective Association and the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, while the Catholics are supported by the Friendly Sons of America and St. Patrick's Alliance.

REVIVAL FRUITS IN RAHWAY.

Railroad Employes and Others Ask Prayers and Join the Church.

Rahway, N. J., March 16.—Mrs. Grace Weiser Davis, of Jersey City, has been conducting a very successful revival at Trinity Methodist Church for several days. Yesterday the men's meeting was largely attended and twenty men requested prayers. Many of them were railroad employes.

Mrs. Davis will probably close her labors here on Thursday night, when she will return to Newark, where she has met with great success in several of the churches during the past Winter.

Fifteen persons were taken into full membership at the Second Presbyterion Church and several on probation in the Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church.

MISSING FROM PARK RIDGE.

Mrs. Felter Disappears and Leaves No Trace Behind.

Park Ridge, N. J., March 16.—The mysterious disappearance of Mrs. David Felter, of this place, on Saturday, has caused considerable misgiving in the village and surrounding country. Mr. Felter, who is employed in the carbon factory of Mittag & Volger, left home on Saturday morning at the usual time and left his family, consisting of his wife and two children, in a happy frame of mind, as far as he knew. When he came home at noon he found the house deserted, his wife and children having disappeared.

A general search has been made throughout the neighborhood, but without avail. No one could be found who had seen anything of the woman.

Elks' Banquet at Elizabeth.

Elizabeth, March 16.—The Elizabeth Elks gave a "social" at the Armory to-night. Arthur Moreland, Nick Engel and other prominent New York Elks were present. Drake's band supplied the music. Many well-known citizens attended. The Elks here have recently secured one of the finest suites of lodge rooms in the State.

Oil Makes Troubled Waters.

Trenton, March 16.—Ex-Judge J. Frank Fort appeared before the Senate Committee on Railroads and Canals, on behalf of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad, in opposition to the bill introduced the other day for the purpose of giving the United States Pipe Line equal rights with the Standard Oil Company. He argued against the bill on the ground that it gave too much power, allowed the company in whose interest it was drafted to take any property it chooses, and sweep aside the riparian rights of the State. This law would not prevent the Standard Oil Company from bonding innumerable companies. He doubted if the United States Company was acting in good faith.

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Ex-Congressman Henry Harris, of Belvidere, declared that there was some strong bond of union between the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad and the Standard Oil Company. The agents of both were hand in glove with each other.

Ex-Senator Lee argued that it would be unconstitutional to amend the pending bill in the matter of taxation as suggested by Mr. Fort, because there is a constitutional provision concerning the House in which all laws relating to taxation shall originate. The Senate cannot do this. His company did not object to another act providing for this, but did not want its efforts rendered nil at this late stage in the session by this move on the part of the railways.

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Ex-Senator Emery, president of the United States Company, charged that the "Standard Trust," composed of twelve men; in 1872, agreed with the Pennsylvania Railroad to a compact whereby the Trust became practically master of the situation. This compact was still in existence, and to-day it crushed competition by freights from fifty to one hundred per cent higher than those charged competing oil companies. It was carried on in violation of the Interstate Commerce law, and he was prepared at any time to bring incontestable proof of this fact.

The people of New Jersey had been assessed $750,000 a year for twenty years for the oil they consumed because of the Standard monopoly's excessive charges for that commodity. His company wanted to be taxed; wanted to live up to all the requirements of the New Jersey laws. "For humanity's sake, gentlemen," he said, in closing, "place a clause in this act whereby our charter will be forfeited forever if we merge with the Standard Company!"

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Mr. Fort will present his proposed amendments to the bill to the committee on Wednesday morning, when the bill will receive immediate consideration and be reported that afternoon.

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Nineteen thousand and three hundred dollars will be appropriated for the Naval Reserves of New Jersey, that sum having been set apart by the Joint Committee on Appropriations, which met this evening. This branch of the State service had asked for $23,500, but the committee could not see its way clear to appropriate that amount. The Camden armory appropriation was fixed at $90,000, the amount asked for being $135,000.

LAW FOR EMBALMERS.

Hearing on the New Jersey Legislative Bill for a Board to Control Their Work.

Trenton, March 16.—The House bill having for its object the creation of a State Board of Embalming, whereby embalmers will be licensed, had a hearing this afternoon before the Committee on Corporations. Mr. Arthur Rooney, of Jersey City, and Mrs. J. Riker, of Plainfield, appeared in support of this measure, showing how loosely the present system of embalming the dead is conducted. Persons having no practical knowledge of this work are employed by undertakers, or it is done by the latter, who, generally speaking, are as poorly equipped as the hired assistants. Many dealers in undertakers' supplies furnish the latter, giving them a diploma which is not worth the paper upon which it is printed.

It has been authoritatively stated that the methods of these incompetent people have caused the spread of contagious diseases, as they have no knowledge of the proper means of disinfecting the apparatus, fittings, etc., used in embalming. Some persons even go further and state that without a doubt persons from whom the breath of life has not entirely departed have been given their quietus by the unprofessional methods of these so-called embalmers. Mrs. Riker's explanation of the method of procedure of such persons lends a great deal of color to this charge. To prevent the continuance of such dangers this bill requires that all persons who desire to engage in the practice of embalming must pass an examination before the State Board of Embalming created by the act, and after giving evidence of the possession of the requisite skill and knowledge of the science shall be licensed at a cost of $5. The cost of a renewal of such license is fixed at $2. The Board will be supported by the fees thus received, and will not in any way be an expense to the State.

A penal clause is attached whereby any one practising embalming without the requisite license after the 1st of January, 1897, is made liable to a fine of not less than $50 or more than $100 for each offence, one-half of these fines to be paid to the county where the offence is committed and the remainder to the Board of Embalming expense account.

REFUSED CALVARY BURIAL

Mintern's Friends Wanted to Bury Him in the Catholic Cemetery, but the Church Refused Permission.

Elizabeth, March 16.—William H. Mintern, who fell dead from heart disease in a butcher shop Friday night, was buried to-day in Evergreens Cemetery. His relatives wished to have his remains buried in Calvary Cemetery, Long Island, but the Rev. Father Gressner, of St. Patrick's Church, refused to give the necessary authority, alleging that Mintern had not been a good member of the parish.

It is also said he refused to allow the funeral to be held in the church, and so the body was buried from an undertaker's. The dead man's friends claim he was a devout Catholic.

MRS. ALMSTAEDT IS SINGLE.

She Gets Divorce from Her Husband in the Richmond County Court.

Richmond, S. I., March 16.—In the Supreme Court for Richmond County, before Justice Wilmot M. Smith, at this place, this afternoon, the suit of Mrs. Elizabeth M. Almstaedt for an absolute divorce from Julius Almstaedt, her husband, was tried. The divorce was asked for upon statutory grounds, and Mrs. Georgie Johnson, a blond widow, was named as the co-respondent.

Almstaedt is an old and widely known resident of New Brighton, and both he and his wife have highly respected connections. He was for some time proprietor of the Bay View Hotel, a large building in a quiet locality at the foot of Arrietta street, Tompkinsville. On October 11, during the absence of her husband, Mrs. Almstaedt hired a furniture van, removed all of her personal effects and some of the furniture, and has not since lived with the defendant.

Two months later the hotel was raided by the police. The trial created a sensation in the county, as the names of prominent citizens and business men were involved in the case. The plaintiff was granted an absolute divorce.

THE GIRL WIFE NOT A STRANGLER.

Staten Island Grand Jury So Declares in the Case of Antonietta Pinte.

Though Evidence Against Her Was Strong the Girl's Wrongs Aroused a Telling Sympathy.

SOLD TO HER HUSBAND FOR $250.

Her Life Made Miserable in the Home with Her Husband and the Woman She Was Accused of Killing. Free at Last.

Richmond, S. I., March 16.—Antonietta Pinte, the girl wife of Carmine Pinte, who was charged with strangling her aged mother-in-law on Sunday, January 26, is free. The Grand Jury which was sworn in at the opening of the March term of the Supreme Court at this place this morning failed to find an indictment against the girl, and upon motion of District-Attorney Pinney she was discharged from custody.

The action of the Grand Jury was a general surprise, as there was strong circumstantial evidence against the girl, and it is believed that sympathy for her had considerable influence on the result. It is understood that the vote stood 11 to 5 in favor of an indictment for murder in the first degree, and that a vote upon an indictment for murder in the second degree was the same. As twelve votes are necessary for an indictment the girl was saved by one vote.

The testimony against Antonietta brought out before the Coroner's jury and the committing Magistrate was that she and her mother-in-law, Maria Pinte, were left alone at the shoe shop of Carmine Pinte, on Second street, New Brighton, on the afternoon of Sunday, January 26. Between 5 and 7 o'clock three Italians, who had rooms in the house, returned to find the door to the Pinte apartments locked and the girl greatly excited and anxious to keep them away from the bed where the old woman lay dead. The autopsy proved that death had been caused by strangulation and a canvas strap was found covered with blood and skin of the same width as the abrasions upon the dead woman's neck.

It was proved that the girl and the old woman were constantly quarrelling and that she had threatened to kill the old woman only a week before, when Justice of the Peace Van Vechten, who had been called, found the old woman crouched in a corner and the girl brandishing a poker and crying: "I will kill her!" All of the witnesses examined at the preliminary hearings were before the Grand Jury.

Sympathy for the girl was aroused by her story, and by the story of neighbors, who declared that the girl wife had been terribly abused by Pinte and the old woman. It is alleged that Pinte always took sides with his mother, and not only beat the girl himself, but held his wife while the old woman plied the lash.

The girl's story was one of great wrongs. When only thirteen years of age her father, Antonio Spennelli, of No. 113 Mott street, New York, had sold her to Pinte for $250, compelling her to marry the man she had never seen more than twice in her life, by threats that he would kill her. She had twice left Pinte because of his ill-treatment, and had been forced to return to him. It was also proved by the autopsy that the old woman could not have lived two months longer.

After her discharge Antonietta was interviewed by a reporter. The girl said that she was going to New York with her mother, who accompanied her, and would never live with Pinte again. She declared that she had been confident of acquittal, as she knew nothing as to the cause of the old woman's death. The girl speaks excellent English, has an attractive face, and says that she is now eighteen years of age. She has two children by Pinte, and the youngest, a babe of eighteen months, is with the girl's mother. The elder child was retained by Pinte.

BETRAYED BY FOOTPRINTS

Three Railroad Thieves Traced Through the Snow and Captured with Their Booty.

Footprints left in the snow by three men who robbed a freight car on the Erie Railroad in Jersey City late Sunday night, and then carried away their booty on a hand sled, led to their detection and arrest.

Detective Frank Kiernan, of the railroad, about 3 a. m. yeserday saw the footprints in the snow and the marks made by the runners of a small sled. These showed that there had been three in the party.

Kiernan reported the case to the Third Precinct and Sergeant Wade, two policemen and the detective followed the trail in the snow. It led them to No. 147 Germania avenue, owned by Mrs. Mary Feeney, a widow. The apartments of one of her tenants, John B. Bushell, an Erie Railroad brakeman, were searched. A large sack of white beans was disclosed under a bed. Kiernan identified them as part of the stolen freight. Two long bars of copper, weighing several hundred pounds, which Kiernan knew had been taken, could not be found. Bushell admited his guilt and implicated Patrick Murphy, aged twenty-two, of the same residence, and Thomas Matthews, aged twenty, of No. 168 Hudson boulevard. Bushell and Murphy were placed under arrest, but refused to tell where the copper was hidden. The party then went to Matthews's house and arrested him. When he learned that Bushell had told about him he was so angry that he revealed the hiding place of the copper bars. They were concealed in a snow bank in the yard of No. 147 Germania avenue.

The hand sled was found in the cellar. Justice Douglass held the prisoners for trial.

BURIED IN A SNOW BANK.

Horse Took Fright and the Sleigh Filled with Women and Children Upset.

Orange, N. J., March 16.—A French woman, who gave her name as Mrs. Le Sance, of Newark, and a sleigh load of women and children, were buried in a snow bank on Valley road, West Orange, opposite Edison's laboratory late this afternoon. The horse took fright at a trolley car, and turning short upset the sleigh. Mrs. Le Sance held to the reins and was dragged some distance.

Police Officer Murphy caught the horse after the sleigh was demolished. Two of the children landed on their heads and were injured.

Many Candidates for Wifehood.

Rahway, N. J., March 16.—Two weeks ago Daniel Sullivan, claiming to be a Rahway farmer advertised in a New York paper farmer, advertised in a New York paper number of letters in the Post Office addresed to him. As he has not called for them, and such a man is not known here, the supposition is that the name is fictitious. The letters are from almost every part of the country.

BRIDGE PLANS APPROVED.

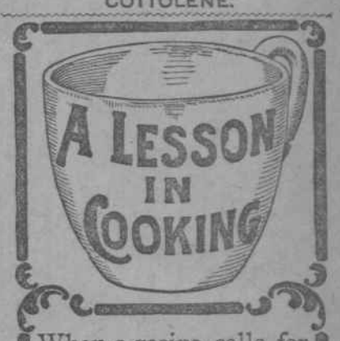
Secretary Lamont Communicates the Fact to Mr. Swan, of the New York and New Jersey Company.

Secretary Swan, of the New York & New Jersey Bridge Company, yesterday received a communication from Secretary of War Lamon, saying that he approved all the plans for the great bridge, and also approved the locations selected by the Commissioners of the bridge and the Sinking Fund Commissioners, of the city of New York. Mr. Swan had this to say about it:

"The action of the Secretary of War in approving of the plan and location of the bridge and approaches thereto gives the New York & New Jersey Bridge Company the absolute right to build the greatest railroad bridge and terminals ever constructed in this country. This last act of the Secretary of War places the company squarely before the financial world, and we can say that up to this time we have never considered the question of finance, but now the company will make ready to take up that question.

"The question of how a railroad terminating opposite to this city could get an all-rail route into the city of New York without too great an expense has been uppermost in the minds of the management of the railroads for many years. The company will do all within its power to build the great bridge and terminals. It will take some time to make ready for the work, but we shall endeavor to lose no time. We are very much pleased at the action of the Secretary of War."

COTTOLENE.



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is sold everywhere in tins, with trade marks—"*Cottolene*" and *steer's head in cotton-plant wreath*—on every tin.

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BRIGHT'S DISEASE cured by RIPLEY BROM-LITHIA

The evidence and there are others

158 Van Buren St., Brooklyn, Dec. 9, "I have been suffering from acute BRIGHT'S disease for eight months. It did not respond to any medicine until Dr. J. S. King, of 823 De Kalb Avenue prescribed your R. B. L. water. I have taken 3 gallons *and am entirely cured* and so pronounced by the doctor, and able to attend to business." Wm. Detmerling.

Water delivered free in New England, New York and New Jersey.

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"To-morrow may be too late!" This lady believed that. It's common sense.

She has made hosts of friends, because she knew how to prepare this Balsam, and they say: "Had it not been for 'Madame Porter's,' the cold and cough would have been worse, perhaps fatal." Madame Porter's portrait has appeared for sixty years on every bottle of Balsam sold, and has become familiar in homes without number. It is a Balsam perfectly safe and pleasant to take. Everybody likes it.

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