

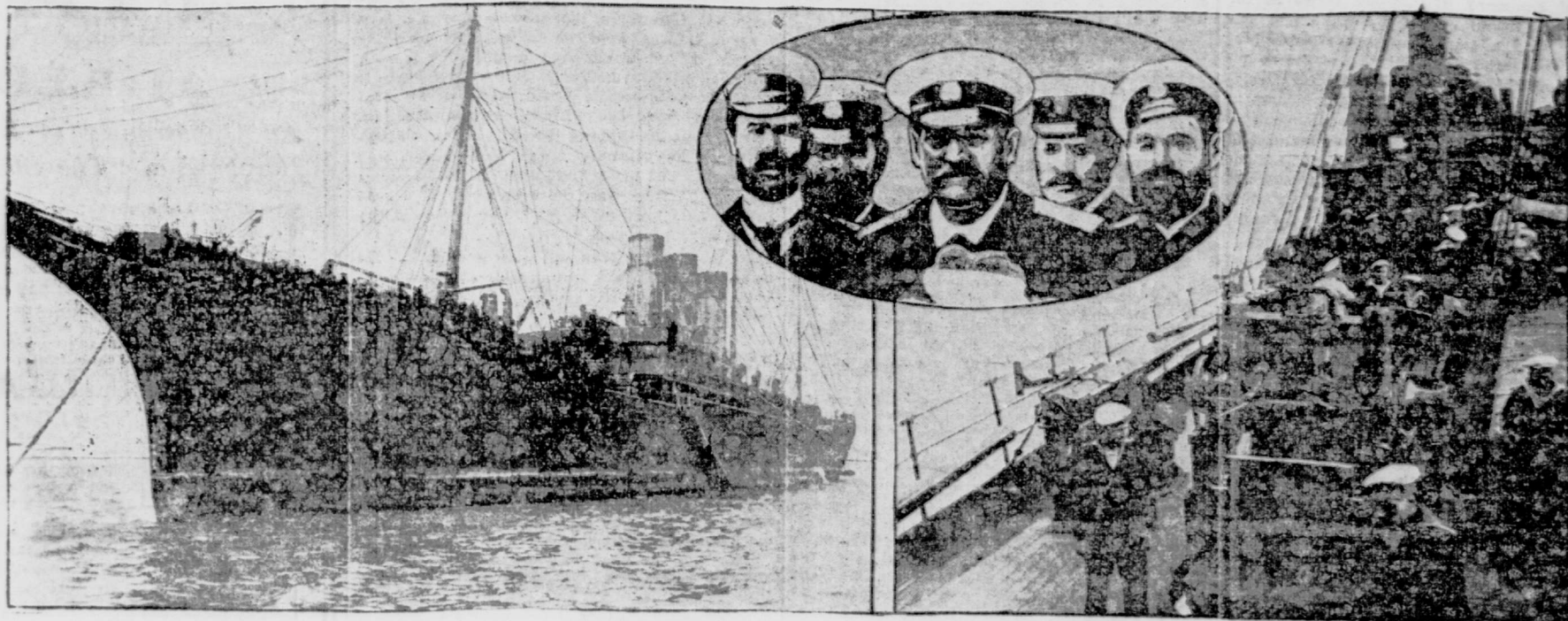
ARMIES' LINES IN TOUCH. AN ADVANCE REPORTED.

Indications That Russians Will Try to Hold Moulken.

Dispatches from Moulken say that the Japanese advance on the Russian flanks continues, and sharp skirmishing is reported between outposts. The Russians are said to hold all the villages in the neighborhood of Moulken. The Japanese, apparently, expect that General Kuropatkin will retreat to Harbin.

THE RUSSIAN CONVERTED CRUISER LENA, NOW AT SAN FRANCISCO.

CAPTAIN BERLINSKY AND OFFICERS.



VIEW OF THE LENA AS SHE LIES AT ANCHOR.

FORWARD GUN DECK OF THE LENA.

OUTPOST SKIRMISHES.

Japanese Expect Kuropatkin to Retire to Harbin.

Moulken, Sept. 17.—The Japanese are reported to be advancing on both flanks, from the east, southeast and southwest.

The outposts are closely engaged twenty miles southeastward, there being almost constant skirmishing.

Indications point to another great battle in the vicinity of Moulken. Russian troops occupy all the surrounding villages.

Refugees are flocking into the city. Chinese among them complain of severity on the part of the Japanese.

General Kuroki's Headquarters, Sept. 14, by way of Pusan, Sept. 17.—The Japanese front is now north of Liao-Yang, almost halfway to Moulken, and confronting General Kuropatkin's outpost lines.

General Kuroki, it is believed, is removing his headquarters to Harbin. Both armies are satisfied to suspend hostilities for a time. They are apparently exhausted after the battle of Liao-Yang.

Tokio, Sept. 17.—Field Marshal Oyama reports that Russian cavalry outposts with bases at Pan-Chia-Gao, Han-Lin-Pao and Tsan-Chia-Tsu, are daily scouting southward in the vicinity of Wuli-Tai and Men-Pu-Lutal, over a twelve-mile front, and to Jin-Tang, three miles from Tatung-Shan-Pao.

The Russian cavalrymen are changing their clothing to their gray and black winter uniforms.

BATTLE NOT EXPECTED.

Russian War Office Thinks Army Not Ready to Advance.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 17.—The War Office regards the continual skirmishing on the flanks of the Russian army rather as the natural desire of the Japanese to keep in touch with the Russian forces than a premonitory symptom of a forward movement, which the authorities are not inclined to believe can begin within a fortnight, unless large reinforcements have been received and the work of getting up supplies has been done more quickly than was supposed to be possible.

The Japanese having been unable to follow up their victory at Liao-Yang when the time was ripe, the War Office sees no reason for feverish haste on their part to come in touch with General Kuropatkin, now that he has had time to recuperate his forces.

The question whether a big battle will be fought in the vicinity of Moulken is considered here to depend chiefly upon General Kuropatkin, as it is not believed that the Japanese will be able to force him to fight at Moulken unless he so elects. The general idea is that when the advance really comes the Japanese will outflank Moulken and go direct against Tie Pass.

The movements of the Japanese land forces and the appearance of a large flotilla in the Liao River are believed to support this view.

While military circles here realize the strategic weakness of Moulken, there are political and sentimental reasons why General Kuropatkin may desire to hold as long as possible the ancient home of the Manchou dynasty. They believe, in spite of official intimations from Moulken to the contrary, that there will not be a repetition of the battle of Liao-Yang at the city.

As far as the public is concerned interest seems again to be gravitating toward Port Arthur, where the gallant fight of Lieutenant General Stoessel's garrison is being watched with intense interest. Importance is attached in military circles to the reports that the Japanese have abandoned the idea of direct assault and are tunnelling the fortifications, and it is believed possible that the end may come as at Sevastopol, with a repetition of the dreadful carnage at the Malakoff Tower.

KUROPATKIN'S REPLY TO EMPEROR.

Difficulties of Russian Retreat from Liao-Yang Explained.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 17.—Under date of September 16 General Kuropatkin telegraphed to the Emperor as follows:

The entire Manchurian army rejoices incessantly at your majesty's appreciation of its labors and military deeds. We are all animated by the one desire to beat the enemy and justify to you the confidence reposed in us by the supreme chief of the Russian army, who may feel perfectly assured of the army's future self-denial.

Our departure from Liao-Yang was unavoidable, and was accomplished under conditions hardly with great difficulty. Even our advertisement upon this occasion were very modest, their report not mentioning the capture of prisoners, guns or other trophies.

General Kuroki's official report confirms the fact that on the morning of September 4 the Japanese army, was on the right bank of the Tai-Tse River and could, if conditions had been favorable, have cut off the troops occupying Liao-Yang from the Russian troops.

Continued on fourth page.

RACES FOR HER DINNER.

Mme. Nordica Has "Auto" Meet Her at Pier—Steamer Late.

Mme. Nordica returned from Europe last night on the steamship New-York. Before sailing from the other side she had accepted an invitation to dine last night with friends at Ardley. This was done under the impression that the New-York would reach here on Saturday morning. When the ship reached Quarantine, about 6.30 o'clock, Mme. Nordica sent a telegram ashore by the doctor's boat, ordering a racing automobile to meet her at the pier and take her to Ardley. She also wired her friends that she would be at the dinner on time.

When the ship was tied up, Mme. Nordica rushed down the gangplank in advance of all the passengers and hurried from the pier, leaving her maid to attend to the examination of baggage. In front of the pier stood a big red racing car, which she boarded, giving the driver orders to make the best time he could to Ardley.

Mme. Kirky-Lunn, who two years ago sang here in Italian and German opera, with the Grau company, also arrived on the New-York. She said that she had been singing at Covent Garden and later in concerts throughout the British Isles, closing her concert tour to come to this country to appear in "Parsifal" in Boston early in October.

DARING THIEF IN BANK.

When His Booty Was Taken from Him He Cleverly Escaped.

San Francisco, Sept. 17.—Just at the close of banking hours to-day a man in the lobby of the First National Bank, of this city, observing the cage door leading behind the counter ajar, pushed it aside, walked in, and helping himself to a bag containing \$20,000 in gold coin, made a rapid exit. He immediately slowed down his pace, and walked to a side entrance of the Brooklyn Hotel, which leads to the dining room, closely followed by C. K. Macintosh, an employe of the bank, who had witnessed the theft. Seeing he was pursued, the thief turned into the hotel office, where he was overtaken and seized by Macintosh. When asked to turn over the money he said it was his own.

The bag was taken from him, however, and its contents found to have been undisturbed. The daring robber, who is about thirty-five years old and well dressed, then called on the people in the hotel office to see if he had not told the truth by accompanying him to the bank only a few feet away. He walked to the corner undisturbed, boarded a streetcar which was passing and soon was out of sight. He is now being searched for by the police.

ITALY'S STRIKE GROWS.

More Violence in Genoa—Attempt to Overthrow Cabinet.

Rome, Sept. 17.—The socialist agitation is increasing, especially in the northern part of Italy. In some places it is assuming the character of a rebellion. Another fight has occurred at Genoa between the strikers and police. The whole night was passed in darkness there, owing to the strike.

The Mayor and other municipal officials of Milan came to Rome to-day to present to the government an expression of the indignation of the population of Milan as a result of what they term the slaughter of the people.

The real cause of the whole agitation is an attempt of the Extreme party to overthrow the Cabinet, as in spite of the fact that it is a Liberal Ministry, it energetically keeps the Extreme party in hand.

The strike began at Rome this afternoon, but is not yet general. At Naples it has been decided to strike on Monday.

In other towns troops are kept in readiness and the police everywhere have been reinforced.

VANDALS SCATTER BONES.

Smash Tomb and Coffins of Harrison Family on Island.

The police of New-Rochelle were informed late yesterday afternoon that vandals had desecrated the private tomb of the Harrison family, situated on a small island in Echo Bay, back of Harrison Island, which was formerly the home of the Harrison family, for many years wealthy residents of Westchester County. The culprits broke open the tomb, smashed parts of the coffin and scattered the bones of two members of the Harrison family about the tomb.

The large stone slab used as a door was smashed into small pieces, and the two stones used to form the base on which the coffins rested were pulled out of place. The catacomb was broken, and the brickwork was also demolished.

The slab that was behind the coffin was pulled from its place. The clothing that had been on the bodies was strewn about the floor.

PACIFIC SQUADRON SAILS.

One Warship Left to Guard the Golden Gate.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] San Francisco, Sept. 17.—Unexpected orders from Washington changed the plans somewhat for the sailing of the Pacific Squadron. These orders gave Admiral Goodrich authority to take the flagship New-York to the target ground at Magdalena Bay, so the flagship, with the Boston, the Bennington, the destroyer Paul Jones and the collier Nero, sailed this afternoon. The cruiser Marblehead, under Commander T. S. Phelps, remains here to care for any war vessels that may enter the bay. Admiral Goodrich after leaving port to-day took a wide sweep outside the Farallones to see if any cruisers were visible.

Admiral Goodrich will be in constant touch with Washington by means of the destroyers Paul Jones and Perry. The destroyers will run round Magdalena and San Diego. The distance of 725 miles can be covered in a day and a half. The Bennington after her target practice will relieve the Marblehead, and when the whole squadron has finished shooting it will continue further south. The Chicago will then take the place of the New-York as the flagship and the New-York will go East for her new battery.

Paymaster George C. Schafer, of the battleship Ohio, has received a dispatch appointing him disbursing officer for the Panama Canal Commission. He will start for Washington tomorrow morning, as the orders provide for his reporting at Panama as soon as possible.

DISMANTLING THE LENA.

Vallejo, Cal., Sept. 17.—The dismantling of the Russian transport Lena was begun to-day at the Mare Island Navy Yard. The work is being done under the supervision of Captain Drake, of the ordnance department, assisted by Gunner Shattlerworth. The officers and crew are anxiously awaiting a final decision regarding their disposition.

Official orders have been issued by Captain Drake, ordnance officer at the Mare Island Navy Yard, to Gunner Shattlerworth to begin dismantling the Lena on Monday morning. The breech locks of the large guns, all the small arms except the officers' side arms and revolvers, ammunition, ordnance stores and torpedoes will be removed.

BIG HOST SUMMONED.

Estate of R. R. Remington, Who Killed Himself, To Be Settled.

What was probably the largest legal notice published in many years appeared in an evening paper on Friday. It contained the names of about fifteen hundred persons and companies, among them many well known newspapers, and required them to appear at the Surrogate's Court, County of New-York, on December 2, to attend the settlement of the estate of Robert R. Remington, the well known advertising agent, who committed suicide in Newport two years ago.

The attorneys for the settlement could not be seen yesterday, but it is supposed that the persons and companies summoned are creditors of the Remington estate.

While Remington died an ostensibly prosperous business man, it was known among advertising men that he was getting rapidly behind financially.

He met Miss Van Alen, daughter of James J. Van Alen, of Newport, R. I., abroad, and their engagement followed in London on his way back to the Van Alen family and was eventually broken off in August, 1902, and Miss Van Alen withdrew her engagement, Remington, who at the time seemed in good spirits, killed himself in the library of the La Farge cottage at Newport.

MR. ROOSEVELT'S WORK FOR PEACE.

Baron de Constant, Unable to Attend Boston Congress, Praises President.

Paris, Sept. 17.—Baron d'Estournelles de Constant, the Deputy who was the most prominent figure in the peace movement which led to the Arglo-French treaty, regrets his inability to attend the Peace Congress at Boston owing to the approaching French elections, in which he is a candidate for election to the Senate. The Baron adds: "I had hoped at Boston to recognize publicly the grand and decisive services rendered to the cause of international arbitration by the United States, and particularly by President Roosevelt. Better than any one I know that the court at The Hague could desert, abandoned and ridiculed until the day when he had the courage, generosity and foresight to save it. That act alone has entitled him to the thanks, for his pacific and liberal spirit, of all Europe."

BATTLEFIELD UNDER THE HAMMER.

Where the Fight of Gaines's Mill Took Place in the Civil War.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Richmond, Va., Sept. 17.—Commissioners will sell at public auction on Monday the famous battlefield of Gaines's Mill, near Gold Harbor, Hanover County. There is still standing a portion of the brick wall around which the fight raged between Stonewall Jackson's men and the Northern troops under General Fitz John Porter in June, 1862. Four thousand of the Union men were killed and about two thousand wounded or taken prisoners, while the Confederates had about eight thousand killed and wounded. The fight at Gaines's Mill was the second of the Seven Days' Battles which marked the close of McClellan's peninsular campaign.

PLOT TO STEAL BODY OF L. Z. LEITER. Washington, Sept. 17.—Through a communication received by the superintendent of Rock Creek Cemetery here from the superintendent of a cemetery in the Middle West, the information was conveyed of a plot to steal the body of the late Levi Z. Leiter and hold it for a large ransom. The communication informed the cemetery officials that the alleged ghoul had left Chicago, and here that the placing of an extra guard in the vicinity of the Leiter mausoleum. The cemetery officials said to-night that the metallic casket containing the body is imbedded in a light-colored cement floor, and there was no possibility of a successful attempt at grave robbing.

NEWS OF TWO CAPITALS.

AFFAIRS IN LONDON. For Iron and Steel Combinations—War Operations in Winter Unlikely.

[Special to The New-York Tribune by French Cable.] (Copyright, 1904, By The Tribune Association.) London, Sept. 17.—The premature attempts to form a British iron and steel combination two years ago failed because it was impracticable to find a basis of valuation for the goodwill and plant of so enormous an industry. There was a series of important consolidations of rival firms, and these were followed by the fusion of the largest steel interests in Scotland. This combination has been exposed to the under-cutting of prices by English producers and has been forced to retaliate in self-defence. The leaders of the steel industry in Scotland and the north of England have been convinced that warfare is fatal when trade is menaced with destructive competition in Germany and America, and have arranged a conference next week. They expect to reach an agreement respecting the prices of steel plates and other branches of production, and practical methods for combining the interests of the two sections. This important fusion of producing firms in the north of England and the Clyde will open the way for a complete combination of the iron and steel manufacturers of the United Kingdom. The Cobdenites assert that trusts are impossible under free trade, but self-preservation involves combination here as in protection countries.

The military attaches with the Russian and Japanese headquarters are beginning to record opinions of the strong and weak points of the two armies. The lack of initiative seems the main defect of the Russian officers, who hang back and wait for orders when the soldiers under them are being slaughtered. The Russian artillery practice is good and the guns are equal in range and mobility to the Japanese batteries. The Japanese scouting is superior to the Russian, especially when the batteries are moved. The terrible losses on both sides are due mainly to the destructive artillery fire, upon which both armies depend for attack or defence. While one force is as brave as the other, the Japanese army is more thoroughly trained in German infantry and artillery tactics. While a winter campaign is threatened from St. Petersburg, it is probable that operations will be suspended after the capture of Port Arthur and the occupation of Moulken by the Japanese, and not resumed until both armies have been heavily reinforced. The experts agree that Russia is in the superior position for raising recruits and Japan for meeting heavy war expenses. The opinion prevails among military men here that the Japanese will go into winter quarters at Moulken and not assume the offensive until next spring, except possibly at Vladivostok, where a fleet can be brought into action. The optimists are unable to suggest a more practical method of bringing the war to a close than an offensive and defensive alliance between the belligerents for the future command of the North Pacific and the control of China. French journalists and Russian conservatives play with this idea, but there is no proof that any Foreign Office is seriously impressed by it.

The solemnity with which the leader writes discuss the judgments of the Vladivostok printer coach amuses men in the British diplomatic service. The decision of the case of the Calchas was a foregone conclusion when the law had been defined in the Czar's ukase respecting the classification of foodstuffs as contraband of war, and the prize court was under obligation to administer it. One of the best informed officials tells me that prize courts and naval officers have work cut out for them, and that the only method of settling the Calchas, Arabis, and Knight Commander cases is the diplomatic one, since England and the United States cannot accept the principle that foodstuffs are contraband of war, and Russia must ultimately pay heavily for the confiscation of cargoes of that sort. The same informant predicts that the operations of Russian cruisers in searching and seizing ships on the Red Sea and the Mediterranean will never be repeated in future warfare, since the United States Government is likely to summon an international conference at Washington for the purpose of defining contraband of war and regulating naval operations against neutral commerce.

The naval expansionists here are alarmed by the political rumor that Mr. Balfour intends to take three or four pence from the income tax before ordering a general election. They leap to the conclusion that there will be a shrinkage in naval armaments, and give warning that there must be no reduction in Admiralty estimates while Germany continues to increase her fleets and menace the supremacy of British sea power. The revival of the discussion of a secret understanding between Russia and Germany is due to the activity of the Blue Sea patriots in the Admiralty, rather than the animosity of Mr. Maxse and the other German-hating writers. Sensible men smile at the absurd attempts to prove that the naval expenses of the country must be enormously increased when the Russian fleet has been half destroyed and England's

Continued on fourth page.

WHEN YOU ARE SICK USE Dewey's Port Wine and Grape Juice.

H. T. Dewey & Sons Co., 133 Fulton St., N. Y.

LOW RATES TO WORLD'S FAIR.

The West Shore and New York Central offer exceptionally low rates and first class service. Ask ticket agents.—Adv.

MANY WALDORF THEFTS.

Lawyer Says Bellboy Was Catpaw for a System.

According to a statement made last night by Mark Alter, counsel for James Riley, a bellboy at the Waldorf, who was arrested last week in connection with the theft of a stud valued at \$60 from C. A. Henderson, of the International Mercantile Agency, and who will be arraigned in the Jefferson Market Court to-morrow morning, testimony will be produced before the magistrate which will show that there has been for some time a systematic robbery of the guests of the hotel. Alter says he will prove that the boy has been used only as a tool in the thefts, and that the principals are more important persons who have been in the hotel.

Riley worked on the fourteenth floor. The stud was taken from Mr. Henderson on July 30, but the bellboy was not arrested till a few days ago. The manager of the hotel has made a short affidavit asking to have the boy held indefinitely until further evidence can be obtained. Since June 1 a number of large robberies, chiefly of jewelry, have been reported to the police from the Waldorf, but have not been made public. It is understood that it is the intention of the management, acting on information furnished by the house detectives, to charge the bellboy with a number of the thefts.

Alter says that he will prove that the boy, whether he actually committed the robberies or not, was used entirely as a "catpaw," and received little or no profit from the crimes. He declares that a number of persons in the hotel have known for some time that the systematic robbery was going on, and that he has the names of several who will substantiate his statements, and bring home the crimes to the principal criminals, when he puts them on the witness stand.

The list of robberies reported to the police, but not made public, is a long one. The first was on June 10, when Isaac Emerson, who occupied Room No. 684, was robbed of jewelry valued at "several hundred dollars." On July 20 three robberies were reported, the largest being of jewelry and money to the extent of over \$18,000. This was stolen from Prince Gumatowski, who married a daughter of George Crocker, of California. Of this amount \$1,800 has been recovered from various pawn shops in the city. Other robberies on the same day were those of a pin valued at \$700 from George Feist, of Virginia, who has a room on the fourteenth floor, an "H" of diamonds worth \$1,000 from H. C. Davis, who was staying in room No. 1,200. The next day the robbery for which Riley is under arrest was committed.

One other robbery which is connected by the police with the series at the Waldorf was on September 4. On that day R. M. Dunsmeier, who came to town from Astoria, R. C., to testify in the suit of Edna Wallace Hopper, was taken by a man in the hotel to a disorderly house near by, where he lost diamonds worth \$1,500.

MINERS ON PAYROLL.

Hired by Democratic Committee to Talk Against President.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Chicago, Sept. 17.—Secretary Dover, of the Republican National Committee, and Colonel Harry S. New, of the executive committee, announced to-day that they had received information from various sources in the West that the Democratic National Committee had employed Colorado coal miners involved in the recent disturbances in that State to visit coal mines in Illinois, Indiana, West Virginia and New-York and urge the men to vote against President Roosevelt.

According to the information received at Republican headquarters the Democratic committee made arrangements with twenty coal miners' unions in Colorado to select one representative each to tell their troubles to coal miners' unions in the States designated.

Obviously, it is shown, the Colorado representatives are in the East as the accredited agents of their home unions, with no other motive than the mutual protection of coal miners, whereas, as a matter of fact, they are on the payroll of the Democratic National Committee at fat salaries.

It is also reported that union men are to be sent from California to spread the gospel of discontent among laboring men in the East and central West.

"I have no doubt that the story is true," said Secretary Dover. "The information has come to us from several sources and we have corroborated it."

TANK STEAMER ON FIRE.

Explosion on River in Oregon—Engineer May Die.

Portland, Ore., Sept. 17.—The tank steamer George Loomis of San Francisco, is burning at Forestmouth, a few miles down the Willamette River from this city, where the immense storage tanks of the Standard Oil Company are located. It is reported that the engineer of the vessel received injuries from which he will die. Several other persons on board were injured. From the nature particulars received here it is supposed that the fire was caused by an explosion. The vessel, it is said, will be practically a total loss.

KILLED BY A BATTED BALL.

Chicago, Sept. 17.—Edward Johnson, a member of the Oak Park Baseball Club, was killed by a batted ball in a game this afternoon. The ball struck him just below the heart, and he died in three minutes.

DEMOCRATS CHANGE PLAN.

It Was to Spring Palmer's Name on Convention Eve.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Esopus, N. Y., Sept. 17.—Justice William J. Gaynor, of Brooklyn, is now the favorite in Democratic circles as the nominee for Governor. For some weeks it has been the plan to spring the name of Assemblyman George M. Palmer, of Schoharie, on the night before the convention and have it go through. Tammany had agreed to the plan, but at the eleventh hour there has been so much protest that it seems likely that if Senator Patrick H. McCarren will consent the Brooklyn judge, whose nomination was advocated by ex-Senator David B. Hill in 1894, will become the leading candidate, now that Colonel Lambert is out of the field by his own declaration and District Attorney Jerome by the will of the bosses, whose advice at Rosemount is received and accepted.

GAYNOR THE FAVORITE.

McCarren's Yes Needed.

Brooklyn Judge Said to Lead in Governorship Contest.

Justice William J. Gaynor, of Brooklyn, it was said at Esopus last night, was the favorite in the race for the Democratic nomination for Governor. The consent of Senator McCarren was necessary for the success of this plan, it was asserted.

The campaign in Illinois was opened with a Republican mass meeting in Chicago, at which Senator Foraker was the principal speaker.

Thomas E. Watson, the Populist candidate for President, in a speech at Paducah, Ky., called Judge Parker an "artful dodger" and David B. Hill's favorite political pupil.

William B. Hornblower yesterday was selected as temporary chairman of the Democratic State Convention.

The announcement that ex-Judge Parker will come here every week till election was taken to mean that he would virtually take charge of his campaign.

DEMOCRATS CHANGE PLAN.

It Was to Spring Palmer's Name on Convention Eve.

That the Democratic leaders are anxious to have the assistance of the District Attorney and pay as high a price as the Attorney General nomination is well known, but the McCarrens and Murphys, the Sheehans and the McDonalds, are unwilling to have Mr. Jerome as Governor, possibly because Mr. Jerome has told his friends that his great ambition as Governor would be efficiently to administer the \$101,000,000 appropriated for the canal, possibly because there is fear that if his personality were injected into the campaign the "same and safe" tradition might vanish. At all events, he is now regarded as out of the race.

Judge Parker has no notice of any more conferences before the convention, and the report that Senator Dowling was coming here proved only a rumor. But it is clear that the visit to New-York City had immense importance, and that despite the insistence that the candidate would not interfere in the State campaign, his own opinions on the matter were very freely expressed, and he listened to endless advice from other leaders. Now that the judge has returned, the tradition that he will not have anything to do with the nomination may be revived, and it will probably be asserted that the Saratoga "handicap" will be free for all.

Judge Parker arose early to-day, and accompanied by his guest, Charles S. Hamlin, of Boston, drove to Kingston, where Mr. Hamlin took a train for Albany, and where the judge visited friends and transacted personal business during the forenoon. He was one of the pallbearers at the funeral of Dr. Jacob Chambers, which took place at Kingston to-day.

Hundreds of letters touching on State politics and suggesting men for the Governorship nomination have been received at Rosemount in the last two days. As Judge Parker was in Kingston nearly all day, he was not able to give this correspondence his personal attention.

Representative Francis Burton Harrison, of New-York, chairman of the bureau of organization for the up-State campaign, is a guest at the home of William F. Sheehan at West Park, and to-morrow will confer with Judge Parker.

STILL ONLY GUESSWORK.

W. B. Hornblower Selected as Temporary Chairman.

"Every one is entitled to a guess," said Charles F. Murphy yesterday, when asked who would be nominated for Governor at Saratoga. From the gossip flying around yesterday it would appear that every one was exercising that prerogative. Rumor after rumor was circulated, until the man who tried to run down each individual report felt much like a dog chasing his tail. The latest report last night was that Murphy had agreed to take Justice Gaynor of Brooklyn, and that McCarren would drop Groat and Hill would drop Stanchfield, and Gagner would be nominated. This was denied. There was another story that Groat had agreed to resign as Controller, and that Murphy would support him for Governor and McCarren would step aside as leader in Kings County after election. This was denied. The name of Edward M. Shepard was dragged in with aggressive certainty, but it was denied that there was any agreement upon Mr. Shepard. The whole situation seemed to be in the air.

It might be well, in the swirl and excitement of politics, to chronicle the great joy that befell Charles F. Murphy yesterday. J. Sergeant Cram, his social mentor and political guide, returned from Europe. Murphy, who has just purchased a golf club, and forsaken the GasHouse District for the soft luxury of upper Fifth-ave., greeted Cram joyfully. They were in close consultation for some time, but neither had anything to say after the talk was ended. They will journey to Saratoga together, and it is safe to assert that it will be a long time before Murphy will permit Cram to go away from him again.

David B. Hill is handing out paper bouquets with magnanimity. William F. Sheehan yesterday announced that William B. Hornblower, whose nomination as a Justice of the United States Supreme Court was blocked by Mr. Hill, had been selected to be the temporary chairman of the Democratic State Convention. It is understood that Mr. Hill suggested that the honor go to Mr. Hornblower. The sitters around the Hoffman House winked wisely last night when the announcement was made, and suggested that Mr. Hornblower was the sugar coating to the Stanchfield bitter pill, and that Dr. Hill would compel the convention to swallow it.

The Hill men around town had a good deal to say last night about Justice D. Cady Herrick, of Albany, as a compromise candidate. They argued that with Mr. Herrick at the head of the ticket Attorney General Cummins could be provided for by running him for the Court of Appeals against Justice Werner.

The Jerome boom attracted less attention yesterday than it did the day before, but Mr. Jerome did not go to Lakeville, as usual.

Controller Groat told his friends yesterday that