#### DESERET EVENING NEWS: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1901.

# mannannannannannannannannannannan THE MAN WHO HOUNDED BONI How the Greatest of Curiosity Dealers Gained Name and

Not one of Count Boni de Castel- | late's creditors has made such adequate revelations of the little nobleman's methods of accumulating debts as Ashey Wertheimer of London, who was so charmed with the appearance of the count and countess that he perwitted them to take to Paris art treasges to the value of \$337,090 without sea The story became known in rica through Mr. Wertheimer's sit against the trustees of the estate at against the there is the terms of the counters in New York. It is one deration of Mr. Werthelmer that Boni resold at an advance in he antiquities for which he had It is a counter allegation one of the antiquities were

dealer. The works of the great masters, the pictures, the Reissner furniture, the sculpture, the thousand and one decorative objects of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries-French, Italian, Ger-man-had, in the mass, found secure resting places in the hands of great collectors or museums. Asher Wertheimer had to strike out a new line, and he did

The millionaires of all countries took up the curiosity-buying craze. The Rothschilds, who had always been ac-cumulating treasures from father to son, bought French sixteenth century decorative art and furniture, together with English eighteenth century portraits, into fushion. The combination was first adopted with conspicuous success by the late Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild at Waddesdon manor, the and the source of art and luxury he through whom the priceless Dutch ple-

# When count the process putch ple-

The window of his shop in Bond street displays nothing but a high screen, with his name and the simple legend. "Dealer in Works of Art." The shop is a rendezvous of a morning for smart people. Scarcely a day passes that Alfred Rothschild's brougham does not stand outside for an hour. Lord and Lady de Gray, Lord Carnar-yon, Lord Rothschild Lord Burton the von, Lord Rothschild, Lord Burton, the Duke of Marlborough and other wealthy customers rarely pass Mr. Wertheimer's without going in to have a chat about enjoyither a chat about curiosities.

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He has a perfect genius for fulfilling difficult commissions. A wealthy client sees in some great house a picture or a piece of furniture that would suit a vacant place in one of his rooms. Asher Wertheimer is in-formed, and forthwith he proceeds to lay his plans to induce the owner to part with the desired object.

There was recently for sale one of the most perfect specimens of English thirtcenth century silver-an embossed cup-in existence. Many collectors bid for it, but Mr. Wertheimer outbid them all, paid \$39,000 for the cup and pre-sented it to the British museum. Still more recently he paid \$10,000 for

a splendid marble bust of Cromwell by Bernini. This he presented to the house of commons, and it stands in one of the public lobbies-one of the few sculptures of any artistic value that the palace of St. Stephen's contains. Mr. Werthelmer was the intermediary

### JEFFRIES, THE WORLD'S CHAMPION.

tures of the Van Six collection were purchased by some members of the Rothschild family seven or eight years ago, at an average price, it is said, of \$50,000 apiece.

Asher Wertheimer has been making good the ravages of time and impecu-niosity among the pictures and decora tive objects at Blenheim palace by the aid of the Vanderbilt millions. He has had a full discretionary commission to buy first class Gainsboroughs, Rey-noldses and Romneys, as well as French sixteenth century furniture, for Alfred Beit for his new palace in Park Lane, which sent up the value of these

### RUHLIN, WHO IS AFTER THE WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIP

#### WHERE RUHLIN IS TRAINING.

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gun from a shoulder to carry arms, and then to present arms, in accordance with the manual of those days. After General Lee had passed a few steps I heard him say to Mr, Custis: 'Do you'



Owner-Here! What are you doing in my safe? Burglar-I just wanted to learn something about your financial standing for our new credit book. Have a card!



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been among his clients. Everyone, in fact, who makes millions and wants to establish a "smart" house must go to Asher Wertheimer to obtain the real cachet of decorative distinction.

He is about 65 years of age square-ly built, with a closely-cropped iron gray beard and mustache, a nose large and heavy, a mobile mouth and a pair of small but intensely keen brown eyes. His manner is pleasant, apparently con-fiding, but quick and short, as would be expected in a man of such large and responsible interests. His London house is at Connaught

place, where he was a next-door neigh-bor of Lord Randolph Churchill. He objects 20 per cent at a bound; the Neumanns, the Wernhers, the J. B. has another house at Brighton, his sons

Robinsons and even Mr. Rhodes have are at Harrow and his daughters may be seen riding or driving in the park, turned out in faultless style. Asher Wertheimer is the Napoleon of the curiosity world, and is little concerned about the Boni de Castellane affair.

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"When a man wants to avoid paying for things he has had he must make some excuse," said he nonchalantly. "M. de Castellane is giving the excuse that the articles I sold him are false. It is the best he can do. But it does not affect my position, which does not depend, thank heaven, upon the good opinions or testimonials of Count Boni de Castellane."

#### FITZHUGH AT WEST POINT

General Lee confesses to a decided wookness for pranks when he was a cadet during the years 1852-56 at West Point. He tells with evident relish some ridiculous stories of the days when he was engaged in making the ilves of the fourth class men spicy or was himself the subject of a hazing party.

Discussing the life at West Point,

General Lee said: "In reply to your question I desire to say that I remember very well when I was a cadet at West Point the hazing of the fourth class men, or plebes, was frequently practiced. Nearly every ca-det in the three upper classes had either been hazed himself, or had witnessed it, and therefore felt as if the new coming in sh ould have the same experience. A boy who was good naured, amiable and took everything as he found it, got off easily, but a surly, conceited fellow was sometimes handled a little roughly. I remember the olde cadets came into my tent during my first encampment and, seizing hold of the ends of the blanket upon which I was lying asleep on the tent floor, pulled me rapidly out into the company street, while two cadets standing upon either side of the entrance of the tent threw buskets of cold water on me as I went out. I took it good naturedly, telling them they were very kind, as it would save me from washing in the morning, but I thought at the time a cyclone had struck me. "I am sorry to say that I was one of the wild boys at West Point, did not study much, but could always be relied upon to join in hazing or any other pranks. I admit, too, I frequently went down to the well known Benny Haven's of that day, and one night, owing to the dummy which I had dressed up and put in my bed to represent me while I was absent, not showing some life and little animation when the inspecting officer came around about midnight and threw the light of the lantern on the bod I was court-martialed for be-ing out of quarters between taps and reveille, and sentenced to walk ten ex-tra tours of Sunday guard duty, ten extra tours of Saturday afternoon guard duty during the time cadets were al-lowed to be out of barracks, and to be nfined to the plain of West Point for "While I was walking one of those "While I was walking one of those Saturday tours all alone in front of the barracha I saw General R. E. Lee, then barracha I saw General R. E. Lee, then captain of engineers and superin-tendent of the academy coming in the direction of my post with his father-in-law Mr. George Washington Custis of Arlington. As he passed I brought my



#### NOT SO PLENTIFUL, AFTER ALL.

Whipps-That political orator said the other night that there were thirty million kings in this country. Chipps-I wonder if he ever opened a jackpot with a pair of them and

stood three raises before the draw.



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Here is a striking picture of the world's champion showing just how the big ighter looks when delivering his favorite blow. The champion's friends point with confidence to his splendid condition. They claim his wind is good, his eyes keen and piercing, his legs finer drawn than ever and his thighs narrowed down to their least circumference. They see under these circumstances nothing but defeat for Ruhlin.

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art and a rival to the Rothschilds, the elis, the Basses and the Guinnesses. curiosity-buying world it was vitable that he should seek the seres of Asher Wertheimer, of Old Bond

There are two Wertheimer brothers Asher and Charles. They were left int proprietors of the curiosity-deal-at business founded in the '50s in Bond est by their father, old Charles Wermer, but after a few years of part-ship they separated. Asher Werimer has retained the original shop, He Charles resides in a mansion in rtolk street, Park Lane, where sevstately rooms are given over to the lay of works of art. His foible is to \* artistic objects among suitable sundings-in their habit as they id live. Both are extremely clever ir business and both have made fortunes. Asher, however, is a naire in sterling, while the youngbrother, Charles, now about 50, has ely attained that grand pre-emi-

When old Charles Wertheimer died t a million dollars among his fam-In his time the curlosity dealer a his coups by unearthing some

ite work of art in some unexpected s, buying it for a song and selling a small fortune. The dispersal of ons, owing to the French revowas carried out on so gigantic plent a scale that they got scat-

to pose as a connoisseur of works of erected for himself on an eminence that commands the Vale of Aylesbury, in Buckinghamshire. The interiors of French chateaux-paneling, tapestry, ceiling, fireplaces, doors-were fitted to the rooms of the beautiful reproduction of the famous palace of Chenonceaux which Baron Ferdinand built for himself.

His chief agent in securing these things, together with a priceless collection of Reynoldses, Romneys and Gainsboroughs, was Asher Wertheimer. This was the foundation of the great dealer's fame and fortune.

It is said, though doubtless an exaggeration, that Baron Ferdinand spent close upon \$25,000,000 on Waddesdon in ten years, and a great part of this sum went through Mr, Wertheimer's hands. But not only that. The decorative style so successfully adapted to Waddesdon was not only imitated by the other members of the Rothschild family here and on the continent, but genuine old French decorative furniture and English eighteenth century portraits be-

came the fashion. Mr. Wertheimer is the greatest living expert on these objects, and he com-mands the curiosity market, virtually in all its branches, through his being ready to find a purchaser at a mo-ment's notice for any really good article

of any age or period. He knows at this moment where every eighteenth century portrait of the

and violent a scale that they got scat-stanty being rediscovered and exploit. It is the same with all the fine singhtest value or importance is. It is the same with all the fine the Bouchers, the Fragonards, the Wat-teaus-the Reissner furniture, the ta-bles the whole situation had contry suctions and the pawnbrokers' lies had ceased to yield mouldy and 



Of course this will not be a prize-fight-merely an innocent little sparring exhibition. So emphatically declares the management of the Saengerfest club. They are very indignant that Gov. Nash should refuse to allow the contest to come off in his State and at his threat to call out the State militia to prevent the bout. This photograph of the fighters at close quarters will convey an impression of how innocent and lamblike this contest will be.

#### PRESIDENTS OF FOUR BIG BASEBALL LEAGUES.



Here are the latest photographs of the presidents of the four large baseball leagues this country now boasts. Baseball enthusiasts may sergeme-thing indicrous in this quartet of leagues where one only seems necessary, presidents Wallins, Johnson, Powers and Young, however, are confident that this unusual competition will lead to gratifying results. They claim text healthy and clean ball playing is in sight and prognosticators grady, results of the interest and enthusiasm which existed during the eightles.

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Peading doctors in New York City, Philadelphia and Chicago failed.
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Cousin Tom-Well, Uncle John, did you witness the game from the grand stand? Upcle John Bleecher-Waal, I guess thet wer about th' size of it. I had ter stand fer two hours.



A VIVID DREAM. Weary Walker-I dreamed last night dat I was chewin' de rag wid a farmer. Farmer-What of it?

Weary Walker-Well, I woke up an' found I had chawed up half of a horse blanket.



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HYPN OTIC. Prof. Bum-In a moment I'll have the lion in a hypnotic trance.



