HALF A MILLION DOLLAR BRIBE.

Standard Oil Company Offers a Stiff Inducement.

MONNETT MAKES CHARGES.

Ohio Attorney General Says He Has Proofs—Lawyers for the Defense Defiant.

New York, March 20.—Upon the arrival of the interested parties in the Standard Oil company hearing at the Hoffman house, it was decided to take no testimony today. It was agreed to have a hearing in the case of the State of Ohio against the Buckeye Pipe company, a branch of the Standard Oil company, in the office of Mr. Mills, acting as commissioner for the State.

Messrs. Elliott and Cline, counsel for the Standard Oil company, sent a letter to Attorney General Monnett of Ohio today, demanding that he make public the name of the man who offered him a bribe to discontinue his fight. This is the letter:

"Hon. F. S. Monnett, Attorney General of Ohio:

"On March 4 George Rice announced to the public press that a bribe of five hundred thousand dollars, less a hundred thousand dollars deducted, had been offered you to induce you to stop or delay proceedings against the Standard Oil company now pending in the superior court of Ohio.

"You are reported to have denied entirely, at Toledo, the Rice story, but by the time you arrived at Columbus, the same day, you concluded that the story was true, and, accordingly, in various newspapers on the morning of the 5th inst. you made a statement that the Standard Oil company, through some friends of yours, had offered $500,000 to influence your action with respect to the case pending against it and other companies in the supreme court of Ohio. Reputable newspapers of the State, notably the Cleveland Leader, the Toledo Blade and the Ohio State Journal, have published you to disclose the name of the 'friend' who thus corruptly approached you.

"You are quoted in the Cleveland Press Dealer of the 7th inst. as saying that if you were to give out the name of your friend, half a dozen departments would be after him at once, and it only shows they could force or persuade him to keep his mouth shut. You do not seem to realize that the common conscience of the people of Ohio demands the name of your friend as an admission that the company does not know the name of any party who, under the circumstances, would be willing to offer you $500,000, and, therefore, you must have known that the whole story could make no sense if given without the authority or knowledge of the Standard Oil company.

"In the New York World of the 8th inst. you are represented as saying that you had written the friend who had tried to bribe you that you would not expose him until public interest demanded it.

"In another interview in the Commercial Tribune, of the 6th inst., you are represented as saying that 'your friend had agreed to protect you.' The arrangement for protection seems to be mutual.

"So far as your statements connect the Standard Oil company with any attempt to bribe you, they are totally false. You have the names of claimants here, not only of the friend who approached you, but also of the acting with him, beginning on the 4th inst., to sold to the public press that these men were acting upon your instructions.

"While nothing in your story has directly connected the Standard Oil company with the attempted bribery, we have desired the public to account, and connections. We now demand that you give the name of anyone in your story who made such an offer to you, claiming to represent the Standard Oil company, that we may take steps to quash this last and most vicious of the many false and sensational stories to which you have given currency."

With reference to this letter, Attorney General Monnett said he would reply to it after he had consulted with the supreme court of Ohio.

A hearing in the case of the State of Ohio against the Buckeye Pipe Line company was begun this afternoon in the office of Commissioner C. Edgar Mills. The hearing was held that the attorney general might take the deposition in the proceedings brought in Ohio to annul the charter of the Buckeye company for violation of the anti-trust laws of Ohio. The claim of the prosecution is that the Standard Oil trust still exists, and that, despite the law, the Buckeye Pipe Line company is still a member of it. The Buckeye Pipe Line company was organized for the transportation of crude oil. Its headquarters are in Lima, O., and its capital stock is $10,000,000. H. H. Hayes is the president.

At the proceedings today M. F. Elliott and Virgil P. Cline represented the company. Attorney General Monnett appeared for the State of Ohio. W. L. Plagg acted as his assistant.

As a preliminary, Messrs. Elliott and Cline agreed to admit a copy of the testimony given in October last by John D. Rockefeller in the Standard Oil company's case, provided the Ohio court should decide that such evidence was competent. Counsel objected, however, holding that such testimony was not competent.

Mr. Plagg called as the first witness called. Mr. Plagg asked him if he ever owned a certificate of the Standard Oil trust, and his answer was that he was identified as his property two certificates, one certificate of the Standard Oil trust, and one certificate in lieu of assignment of legal title, both original certificates.

"Have you ever owned a trust certificate of the kind called a certificate of equitable interest, which you handed into the trust, and for which you received a certificate known as an assignment of legal title?" asked Mr. Plagg.

Mr. Rice said he could not reply unless given an opportunity to explain, and Mr. Plagg asked, "Did you ever hand in to the trust a certificate for which you received stock of a constituent company?"

Mr. Rice said "Yes," and again asked to be allowed to explain. Mr. Plagg held him to a "yes" or "no" answer.

Mr. Plagg asked an explanation of the exchange of stock certificates, and Mr. Rice showed that at the dissolution of the trust he received in place of a certificate of stock a certificate of assignment of legal title, which entitled him to his proportion of the property owned by the twenty different companies represented in the trust.

"The last certificate conveyed to me," said Mr. Rice, "an equitable interest in the property owned by the trust; the second conveyed to me the legal title.

"To whom did you present the certificate supposed to convey the legal title?"

"I did not present it. It was presented by my agent, Mr. McKemper, to the liquidating trustees."

"What did you receive directly upon presentation of that certificate?"

"I received corporate scrip in nineteen different satellite-set corporations, and a paper acknowledgment of a fractional interest in the Anglo-American Oil company of London.

"Now, having stated so much, will you state if the Buckeye Pipe Line company was a member of what is known as the Standard Oil trust?" asked Mr. Plagg.

"Yes, it was."

"How do you know?"

"By its being represented in the corporate scrip I received from the liquidating trustees."

In answer to questions, witness said he had owned this corporate scrip about three years. He had never received any dividends from any of it. None of the companies in which he received fractional shares were surrender to the trust of the trust certificate paid dividends on such fractional shares. Beside this scrip, witness said he had six shares represented by certificates of the Standard Oil trust.

A special dividend of the Standard Oil trust certificates in the hands of the liquidating trustees, Mr. Rice said, amounted to 21 per cent for the last two years, or 10½ per cent a year. The regular dividend was 12 per cent a year, making a total dividend of 22½ per cent per year. Witness said the fact that the unassessable portion of the stock of the nine line company still remained as it did, constituted the reason for the claimants of his bill to bring a liquidating board of trustees. He understood that the other four-sevenths were similarly situated, judging by the liquidating trustees and the officers of the other nineteen constituent companies. His interest had been that down for about three years. He was still producing oil. He thought the Buckeye company did 81 per cent of the total pipage in the State of Ohio. He was not aware that other companies had failed to obtain some of this business.

Mr. Cline asked the witness if he had not testified in Columbus against the Standard Oil company and against the Buckeye Pipe Line company, and on behalf of Attorney General Monnett. Mr. Rice said he had, and, in reply to other questions, said that his expenses had been paid by the attorney general, but that he had not been paid for his time, nor did he expect to be paid for it.

The hearing will be continued tomorrow.

SHERMAN GROWING WORSE.

Grave Fears are Entertained that the Aged Statesman May Expire on Shipboard.

Kingston, Jamaica, March 20.—The American line steamship Paris, Capt. Frederick Watkins, with the party of American excursionists who are touring in West Indian waters, sailed at 6 o'clock this evening.

Mr. John Sherman is worse, and is not likely to survive the voyage.

The United States cruiser Chicago has not arrived, but it is supposed she will meet the Paris at Santiago de Cuba. The Paris will probably touch first at Guantanamo. She left instructions for the Chicago to follow with all haste.

Mr. Sherman is very feeble, weakened Mr. Sherman, and his nurses feel that unless a change for the better comes very quickly, all hope must be abandoned.

Dr. Minor will have charge of the case until the Paris reaches Fort Monroe, Mr. Sherman appreciates that his strength is declining, and is desirous of getting home.

RAILWAY EXCURSION RATES.

Dates for Cheap Travel on the Transcontinental Roads.

Chicago, March 21.—Round trip excursion rates have been granted by the Western Passenger association lines for the following occasions: Annual meeting general assembly of the Presbyterian church, Minneapolis, Minn. May 1 to June 1, one standard first class normal tariff fare, plus $2, from association territory east and west of the Missouri river.

Annual meeting German Baptists, Roanoke, Va., May 22 to 28, one fare and regular first class fare plus $2 from association territory north of Colorado and Wyoming.

Annual convention United Society of Christian Endeavor, Detroit, Mich., June 5 to 16, one lowest class fare plus $2 from association territory, Utah and east.

National convention Baptist Young People's Union, Richmond, Va., July 12 to 16, one lowest regular first class fare, plus $2, from association territory, Utah and east.

Annual encampment and Grand Lodge meeting of Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, St. Louis, Mo., June 26 to 28, one lowest regular first class fare, plus $2 from association territory east and west of the Missouri river.

Annual meeting of the general assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, Denver, Colo., May 18 to 26, one lowest regular fare, plus $2, from association territory to Denver, Colorado Springs, and Pueblo, Colo., inclusive.

Escaping From Herself.

When a weak, pain-racked woman is suddenly and completely relieved of her misery it is like shaking off the clutches of a sad, pursuing spirit. She escapes from herself, unhappy self and becomes a new self; literally *another being.*

My wife is as good as any pills since she has taken your Pleasant Pellets, and she is another person." Write R. Todd Hagaler, Ins., of Mount Jackson, Shenandoah Co., Va., July 10 in R. V. Pierce of Buffalo, N. Y. "When I heard my wife screaming in the agony of neuralgia I thought I would try Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery and Pleasant Pellets." Write for testimonial of Joseph Hoge, Box 30, and he'll thought it could do no harm if it did not help.

"When I try to describe the result I fail to do it justice. We shall never forget to thank God for giving us the means of relief. I know if my wife had not taken Dr. Pierce's medicines she would now have been in her grave." You can ask any one who is alluded this to write to me for more particulars."

This only serves to show that what ordinary physicians of merely local and limited practice will often fail to accomplish, may become entirely possible in a thoroughly scientific and radical treatment, based upon a life-long and world-wide experience with the several and most obstinate forms of so-called incurable diseases. Do not despair, but write to Dr. Pierce. He will send you the most authoritative advice in a plain sealed envelope free of charge. His splendid thousand page Illustrated Common Sense Medical Adviser will be sent paper-bound for 21 one-cent stamps to pay the bare cost of mailing, or in heavy, handsome cloth binding, for 31 stamps. A whole medical library in one moderate volume.

LAWLESSNESS IN CUBAN CAPITAL.

Nanalgos Attack Police, whose Let Is Not a Happy One.

3 KILLED AND 25 WOUNDED.

Another Anti-Police Riot Takes Place in Havana, in Which Officers and Populace Clash.

Havana, March 20.—During the trouble between the Havana police and the populace last night three policemen were killed, and about twenty-five persons were wounded on both sides. Public opinion supports the police without reserve.

There seems to be a concerted action among the Nanalgos, the secret society of the lackeys, whose let is to attack the police on every possible occasion. All the trouble of the last two nights occurred in the outlying wards, which are inhabited by the worst classes.

The city of Havana is much excited this morning over the riotous night, the bravery and determination shown by the police is much commended, with the result that the force is rapidly regaining the prestige which it had lost among the better element.

The police station at Cerro was attacked yesterday afternoon by a number of colored men, a band of men from the city slaughter house. The police repelled the attack and the rioters left three men badly wounded when they retired. Upon this occasion no policemen were hurt.

Chief of Police Menocal gave orders to suspend the public balls last night and Gen. Ludlow, in command of the city of Havana, sustained the chief of police. The police were approaching the place where the hall of the Society of Pilar was in progress, near Cerro, for the purpose of dispersing it, in accordance with orders, when the people fired on them from the houses. The fire was returned by the police. The result of the fusillade was that two policemen were seriously injured and eighteen of their opponents were wounded.

In different wards three policemen were assassinated while on duty. The murderers crept up behind them and sculpted the officers to death.

Three negroes in Guiana street attacked a policeman with knives. The officer defended himself with his revolver, killing one of the assailants and wounding another one. The third took to flight.

A Cuban officer attached to the command of Col. Arce attacked the prisoner in San Rafael street with a machete. The officer shot him through the heart. An American negress was killed by a stray bullet.

The police in all cases of conflict with the populace have followed their duties and have fulfilled their duties. When approaching disturbances of the police, customarily, the mob fires and they were attacked before they had finished speaking. The agitation promises to continue.

Col. John G. Evans, superintendent of the department of correction, thinks the attempt to blow up the Santa Ana was prearranged to the extent of word being sent to the ice cutes that the guards were to be "taken off" on that Jose street, which accounts for the large armed crowd there. Two of the prisoners captured admit there was a conspiracy to drive the police out of the city by a series of outrages.

Fifty Cuban soldiers from Martanas, belonging to the command of Gen. Rodriguez, kidnapped three former Spanish guerillas, employed on the Toledo plantation, on Saturday, and took them to the bush, where the prisoners were maltreated, and it is supposed one was killed. The other two, who were stabbed with machetes, were rescued by the detachment of the Second Illinois cavalry. Three of the Cubans were arrested, charged with murder. The Cubans set fire to the plantation in five places on Saturday night, but Maj. Hanset H. Harrison, the provost marshal, had a party of Illinois men put out the fires and captured several of the Cubans. The plantation is situated two miles from the camp of General Fitzhugh Lee, was half destroyed.

MAINE MYSTERY SOLVED.

Discovery of a Submarine Cable Leading from Fuerza Prison, Havana.

Keyboard to Operate the Wires Had Been Torn from the Walls.

Cincinnati, March 20.—A local paper prints a story that the location of the keyboard by which the Maine was blown up in Havana harbor has been found by an American engineer officer. The story is that Captain Hanna of the volunteer engineers, who entered the service from Cincinnati, and to whom had been assigned the duty of cleaning out the fortifications of Havana, had discovered in the attic of the prison of the Fuerza, a wooden box or box, in which he found a gutta percha tube, containing nine copper wires, and several smaller wires. He also found evidence of a keyboard having been torn away. Captain Hanna finally established his discovery to Mr. Warren J. Lynch, semi-appointed general passenger agent of the O.V. Post, who was visiting Havana, and said he was about to trace the wires to prove his theory that the torpedo was exploded from that point. The wreck of the vessel can be seen from this gun room, not more than a km. distant. Captain Hanna himself was "a part of the prison to which access was only allowed by a few officers."

Havana, March 20.—Captain T. I. Huston of the volunteer engineers was questioned today by a correspondent of the Associated Press on the subject of the story printed by a newspaper at Cincinnati, O., saying that the location of the keyboard by which the United States battleship Maine was blown up in Havana harbor on Feb. 15, 1898, had been found by him in a gun room of the Fuerza prison, opposite Cabanas fortress. The wire was connected with a disused telegraph instrument in a neighboring government building. Though the cable has not been investigated by the United States engineers, the supposition is that it runs to Cabanas across the harbor, and has been used for telegraphing. There is a remote chance that the wires in the cable were connected with mines or torpedoes, but there is no indication that it had anything to do with the blowing up of the Maine. The end of the cable stacking out of Fuerza prison has been seen by tourists for weeks past. Many soldiers have also seen the cable, and many have expressed the belief that it was used to blow up the Maine.

American Ships in War Practice.

New York, March 21.—A dispatch to the Herald from Guantanamo, Cuba, says:

The United States cruisers New York and Brooklyn arrived here at 4 o'clock yesterday night from Puerto Cabello. Other American war vessels here are the Indiana, Texas, Marblehead, Yankee and Castle, supply ship Lebanon, and coal barge No. 2.

The battleship engaged in target practice off Cayo Rey, Cuba, some days ago, fired 1,000 shots with her 6-inch guns. The aim was exceedingly excellent, shots were made. Ten shots were fired from the three guns and 10 from the other guns including the sub-calibre pieces.

Men of the Marblehead, Brooklyn, Indiana and New York practiced at boxing parties today. They had short drill and the sailors generally report for small arms practice.

Cuban insurgents are causing some trouble by assuming serious aspects.

HAVANA POLICE AHEAD.

Gain Respect by Their Vigorous Enforcement of Law.

Courage in the Fight with Malcontents Shows that the Cubans Can Govern.

New York, March 21.—A dispatch to the Tribune from Havana says:

The exhibitions of lawlessness, which for the last two days have shocked the city's growing sense of order and security, proved a dire trial to the newly organized Havana police. The members of the force were put to the test to which public opinion scarcely thought it equal and as a result General Menocal's lieutenants stand higher today in popular estimation than would have been thought possible after the fiasco committed in attempting to suppress the anti-assembly demonstrations a week ago.

It was charged then against the police that they clubbed women and children, but begged men to move on with the most scrupulous politeness. On Saturday night and yesterday the lineaments showed they could face fire and their bones in the face fire and their bones in the face fire and their bones in the