

and suffering from severe bruises and cuts that covered his head. He is unable to tell how he was injured. It is evidently a case of hold-up. Truster may die.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—At Hawarden today Wm. E. Gladstone is celebrating the eighty-fifth anniversary of his birth. He received many congratulatory telegrams. Gladstone's eye sight has been restored and his health is good. He spends hours daily in classical and theological study. Gladstone will receive deputations from the American associations of London and Paris today. Congratulations upon this occasion of Tory newspapers seem to be mingled with fear that Gladstone may be prevailed upon to return to active political life.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Dec. 30.—This community is highly excited over the brutal murder of H. L. Webber and his wife in their home, which was subsequently plundered by the murderers. Webber was an elderly grocer, reputed to be wealthy. Singularly, he kept no account at any bank, but is supposed to have had a considerable amount of money about his house. He and his wife lived alone above his store.

The dead bodies of Webber and his wife were discovered this morning by the grocer's son, who went down to the shop, and found blood dripping through a hole in the ceiling. He found both parents lying dead in the kitchen, their clothing torn from their bodies in places, and their heads gashed and crushed by blows from an axe. Webber's face was cut into strips.

TUCSON, Ariz., Dec. 30.—Frank Debs, formerly a resident of Tucson, was murdered by Yaqui Indians in the state of Sonora, Mexico. Debs established an Indian village at the San Francisco Midwinter Fair last summer, but left San Francisco before the exposition closed, failing to pay the Indians he had brought from Arizona and Mexico, and leave them to return as best they might. Two of the Indians were with Debs at the time he was killed, and the opinion prevails that they killed him out of spite for his having failed to pay them what was due.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—A special dispatch to the *World* from Montevideo says:

Peixoto is reported to be very sick. Some say his illness was brought on by an accident but others believe he has been poisoned.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—A special to the *World* from Lima, Peru, says:

The government is unable to suppress the rioting here, which is of daily occurrence. The people are starving and desperate. Some shops on the outskirts of town have been looted. Some of the soldiers threaten to go over to General Peirola, the rebel leader, unless they get something to eat soon.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—At ten minutes to 9 o'clock tonight the Lexow committee adjourned subject to the call of the chair, thus closing a session of investigation which was brimful of startling investigations.

STOUC CITY, Ia., Dec. 31.—A remarkable case is being tried at Riverdale, Iowa, involving a large amount of property. Last summer a father and son named Hayes were drowned while bathing together, going down in

each others arms. The question is, which died first. If the father, then the widow is entitled to the entire estate; if the son, as he was an only child, the widow can have only half and the rest goes to the other heirs, the brother and sister of the husband. They have commenced suit for half on this ground.

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—Confidence men do a fairly good business in the levee district last night. Carl Carlson of Salt Lake, Utah, and James Uker, of Marble Rock, Ill., helped the guild by contributing \$210. Sykes' saloon, in Plymouth Place was raided, but Mr. Carlson or Mr. Uker failed to identify any of the occupants as being their new found friends. Carlson had a through ticket to Copenhagen, and likewise considerable money. While wandering about he met a countryman who could talk Swedish. The latter was no other than a confidence man known to the police as "The Big Swede." Mr. Carlson, over a dice game, was induced to give his new found friend \$110 in change for a blue cigar label. Mr. Uker parted with \$100 because a strange man whom he met on the street said he knew his family in Illinois. Both men complained at the Harrison street station.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 30.—The Delavan house, the Mecca of politicians and the center of all big state political events for forty years past, was destroyed by fire tonight.

In less than fifteen minutes after the fire alarm was turned in the entire building was wrapped in flames, resembling a big crater, and all hopes of saving the famous structure were given up. The hotel takes in the entire block, about 110 by 450 feet, and this was in another fifteen minutes a seething caldron, only bounded by the four walls.

The Delavan house was fifty years old, and one of the most famous hotels in the country. The total loss is estimated at \$500,000, with an insurance of \$300,000.

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—Sixty persons were roused from their beds in the Ohio Apartment building, 6066 and 6068 Wharton avenue, a little before 3 o'clock this morning by an alarm of fire. They awoke to find their rooms filled with smoke, to hear the bewildering roar of flames mingled with the snorting of steam engines and the shouts of firemen. Some of them were able to make their way to the streets in their night clothes; others were so overcome by the smoke that they had to be dragged from their beds and carried out unconscious by the firemen and policemen.

Twelve persons had to be carried out. They were taken to neighboring flats and houses and were soon revived.

The building was built at a cost of \$25,000 and will be a total loss.

The tenants lose everything. It is estimated that the loss of each family will average \$1,000.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Owing to misapprehensions caused by the publication of the statement that the decree concerning secret societies was not final and was to be submitted to the bishops to secure from them their opinions thereon, Monsignor Satolli authorizes the Associated Press to make the following brief statement of facts: The

archbishops of the United States have taken counsel with respect to three societies, namely, Odd Fellows, Sons Temperance and Knights of Pythias.

The archbishops decided that the whole question should be submitted to the Apostolic See. In a communication from his Eminence Cardinal Manaco, to Monsignor Satolli, the action of the General Congregation of Cardinals to whom his holiness committed the question is made known. The congregation, after considering carefully the matter, made a decree. This decree his holiness fully confirmed, and gave it complete effect. The decree is therefore transmitted to all archbishops, bishops and other ordinaries in the United States to be by them carried into effect. Mgr. Satolli has acted merely as a medium of transmission, but in view of the contradictory and confusing reports emanating from various parts of the country the facts are thus briefly stated.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—The Business Men's Democratic association will celebrate the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans with a dinner at the Plaza hotel, on the evening of Tuesday, January 3. Invitations have been sent to President Cleveland, Vice President Stevenson, Secretary Lamont, Postmaster General Bissell, Senator David B. Hill, Joseph S. Miller, U. S. Commissioner of Internal Revenue Miller, Governor Pattison, of Pennsylvania; Governor Morris, of Connecticut; Governor Werts, of New Jersey; ex-Governor Russell, of Massachusetts; Senator Walsh and a number of other prominent men.

PLATTSBURG, N. Y., Dec. 31.—Daniel Finley, the oldest convict in Clinton prison, it not in the state, as well in point of years as in service, will this morning, through the clemency of Governor Flower, cease to be an inmate of that institution, his life sentence having been commuted after he has served thirty-four years. Finley was convicted of murder in the second degree in New York in 1860. His crime consisted in pushing his wife out of the window of the tenement house in which they were living, the fall killing her. Since his conviction he has spent nearly the entire time of his imprisonment in Clinton prison having been taken there in a draft from Sing Sing just after he was taken to that prison. Thus for over a quarter of a century has Finley expiated his crime in the bleak hillside of Dannemora mountain. Finley was comparatively an old man when he arrived at the prison, but is a patriarch now, being nearly ninety years of age. No one, even Finley himself, can tell exactly how old he really is. In a conversation some four years ago, Finley said that as near as he knew he was 87 years old. He expressed a great desire for a pardon and when asked what he would do if one was granted him, as all his friends were dead, he said he would go back to Ireland and die in peace. It is understood that he has two brothers living in New York.

PARIS, Dec. 31.—The appeal of Captain Dreyfus, sentenced to be deported or life, and interred in fortress, after having been convicted of treason in disclosing important military documents to representatives of a foreign nation, was heard by a military