

MRS. LEASE AS A MASON

Tells How She Learned the Secrets of Masonry.

WITNESSED A FULL INITIATION.

Saw the Whole Procedure From Behind a Door Through a Sliding Wicket—Has Tried to Work Her Husband, Who Is a Mason—Peculiar Circumstances Under Which She Announced Herself a Mason.

CHICAGO, Feb. 27.—"Yes, I am a Mason," said Mrs. Mary Ellen Lease in her room at the Palmer house. "It is surprising that that assertion of mine has been sent all over the country," and Mrs. Lease laughed with all the glee of a schoolgirl. "Why do you know that I have received telegrams from several New York papers offering me sums of \$50 and upwards to tell the story of how I became a Mason."

"When I was 16 years old, I was living in Lockport, N. Y., a friend of mine who was a prominent Mason, put it in my way to witness a Masonic initiation and I saw the three degrees administered to a candidate."

"Were you admitted to the lodge room?"

"No, I was behind a door that had a sliding wicket in it and I saw the whole procedure through the wicket. So you see that is the way I became a Mason. For to be in possession of the secrets of the craft is to be a Mason."

"Might not it have been a mock initiation?"

"No, it was not a mock affair. I have tested my knowledge of the secrets of the craft and they have been confirmed. I try to find out from my husband, who is a Mason, but he has never given me any satisfaction. I once told him how I came into possession of the secrets of the order and his only answer was to term the gentleman that placed me at the wicket a fool, emphasized with a strong advice."

"How did I come to make the announcement after so many years? Under rather peculiar circumstances. It was while the decision of my suit with Governor Lewelling was pending before the supreme court. A gentleman said to me: 'You will lose your case, the governor is a Mason.' 'So am I,' I retorted, and knowing him to be a Mason, I gave him the grip. He looked astonished and remarked that I certainly knew something about Masonry. I then told him that I was going to organize a woman's branch of the order, and so the story got out."

NEWS FROM FOREIGN LANDS.**Didn't Call for Government Aid.**

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 27.—The interpreter of the United States legation called upon the porte, on behalf of the United States minister, Mr. Alex W. Terrill, in regard to the statement generally published to the effect that he, the United States minister had severely remonstrated with the porte in regard to the treatment of Americans who had obtained American citizenship and that Mr. Terrill had threatened to ask the United States government to dispatch two war vessels to the scene of the alleged outrage. The interpreter informed the porte that Mr. Terrill deeply regretted the publication which originated in French sources and which was entirely unfounded.

Costa Rica Election.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 27.—A local firm of coffee dealers has received partial returns of the presidential election held in Costa Rica. It is reported that the Liberal candidate, Manuel de Jimenez, was completely routed at the polls as was also the new party headed by Felix Monro. The election appears to be in doubt between Rafael Iglesias, candidate of the Civil party, and Jose G. Trejo, candidate of the Catholic Union, with chances in favor of Iglesias.

Honduras War at an End.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—The State department has received confirmation of the report of the triumph of the revolutionists in Honduras in the shape of a telegram from the United States Minister at Managua. The minister says: "Bonilla has occupied the palace in Honduras (doubtless meaning at Tegucigalpa) and the war seems to be at an end."

To Settle the Silver Question.

CALCUTTA, Feb. 27.—At a meeting of natives and Europeans in the town hall, resolutions were passed urging the government to try to settle the silver question by international agreement and to appoint a royal commission, to include residents of India who are not officials of the government.

Entire Crew Perished.

NEW YORK, Feb. 27.—A special from Rio confirms the reports of the sinking of the rebel ship Jupiter in Rio bay last Thursday. A shell exploded in her boiler room and set fire to her powder magazine. Her entire crew perished and many vessels were injured by flying splinters.

English Mariners to Go to Africa.

LONDON, Feb. 27.—Four hundred mariners, who are now stationed at Chat-ham, have been ordered to be in readiness to proceed to Bathurst, West Africa, to take part in the expedition against the slave traders.

Gladstone's Eyes Falling.

LONDON, Feb. 27.—There is an unconfirmed report that Mr. Gladstone informed the queen Monday he was to undergo an operation for his eyes and that he desired the royal sanction to Lord Rosebery acting as premier pro tem.

Twenty-Five Killed.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 27.—A terrible boiler explosion has taken place at the big iron works at Alexanderowski. Twenty-five men were killed and ten were seriously injured.

Parliament Will Be Prorogued.

LONDON, Feb. 27.—The house of commons adjourned until Monday. Parliament will be prorogued on Monday and the new session will open on March 12.

any minister who has accepted the position in many years. This is a apropos of the story that Mr. Saville had incurred the illwill of Hayti by interfering in the affairs of that country.

Bryan Called to Washington.

DENVER, Feb. 27.—The Graystone club's banquet, which was set for Wednesday evening, Feb. 28, has been postponed until Congressman Bryan of Nebraska, who is to be the principal orator, can be present. While enroute to Denver he was called back to Washington to aid Mr. Blaine in his fight for the secession bill.

Captain Reaches on the Retired List.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—Captain G. T. Beale, the only medical storekeeper in the military establishment, was placed on the retired list of the army in consequence of age and the office has gone out of existence.

Tupper's Resignation Requested by Carlisle.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—The resignation of J. B. Tupper, the chief of the sugar bounty division in the office of commissioner of internal revenue, has been requested by Secretary Carlisle.

CONGRESSMAN WILSON'S CONDITION

He Now Has a Good Fighting Chance For His Life With Typhoid Fever.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 27.—A special to The Republic from the City of Mexico says: Congressman Wilson is in the private car of A. A. Robinson of the Central railway in the company's yard at Guadalajara. The car is sidetracked and removed as far as possible from all disturbing influences. The distinguished patient is receiving the utmost care and now has a good fighting chance for his life. His temperature was unchanged Monday and in consequence the physicians think this is the 13th day of the typhoid fever. It is not possible to give the exact age of the disease, as his temperature was not taken daily enroute from Kansas City to Agnes Caliente, consequently the physicians are guessing somewhat at random as to the age of the disease, but are confident it is at least the 10th day and believe it to be the 13th. Consul General Crittenden and Congressman Tarsney are in close communication by wire, watching for every change in Mr. Wilson's condition, but so far nothing of note is seen.

McKane Must Pay the Penalty.

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., Feb. 27.—Following closely the refusal of Judge Cullen to grant a stay for McKane, Judge Dykman also declined to interfere in the execution of the sentence pronounced.

Lawyer Joachimson of New York appeared in White Plains and made the application. Justice Dykman at once refused to interfere and the transaction was over. The grounds on which the application was based were the same as those presented to Justice Cullen.

New Mexico Hello Company.

SANTA FE, N. M., Feb. 27.—After incorporation of the New Mexico Telephone company, organized to construct and operate a system of telephone lines connecting Santa Fe, Cerillos, Albuquerque, Las Vegas, San Pedro, Golden and Cochiti, were filed in the office of the territorial secretary. The charter runs for 50 years.

Violated the Lottery Laws.

DENVER, Feb. 27.—F. L. Welles of St. Louis, secretary of the Guarantee Investment company of Nevada, Mo., was arrested in this city by a deputy United States marshal on a charge of violating the United States lottery laws. He admits having sent through the mails the circulars of the company.

Fire in San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 27.—The Golden Rule bazaar, owned by Davis Bros., dealers in toys and notions, was destroyed by fire. Loss about \$200,000; insurance, \$175,000.

Farmer Smith Not a Candidate.

TOPEKA, Feb. 27.—Farmer A. W. Smith of McPherson, has decided not to be a candidate for Governor.

Winter Wheat a Failure.

WEST UNION, Ia., Feb. 27.—Winter wheat in northwestern Iowa will be practically a failure.

The NEWS IN SMALL SLICES.

A vein of coal 7 ft. 9 in. in thickness has been struck at Litchfield, Ills.

Mrs. George Palley of Wellsville, O., committed suicide with morphine. Domestic trouble was the cause.

The motion for a new trial in the case of Haley, convicted of murder, was overruled and he was sentenced at Anamosa, Ia., to life imprisonment.

The trial of August Monkhauser, ex-policeman at Belleville, charged with wife murder, has been set for next Thursday in the St. Clair county court at Masontown, Ills.

The court-martial in the Kearsarge case opened Brooklyn navy yard.

The old Manhattan opera house in Brooklyn, N. Y., burned.

Edward M. Field is still held in Ludlow Street jail, New York, on dentist's bill.

Pugilists Corbett and Mitchell left New York for Jacksonville, Fla., to answer in court for their recent fight.

Governors Brown of Maryland and O'Farrell of Virginia held an amicable conference in relation to the oyster fields.

Tough by experience that wheat is no longer profitable, Illinois farmers are finally turning to diversified farming.

Hundreds of western Kansas farmers are irrigating, inspired by the success of George Aliaman, who started the system.

Claims at Ashland, Wis., to Omaha reservation lands have organized into a club to push their interests.

Professor Woods of Peoria, Ills., is charged with manufacturing unwholesome degrees and selling them at low prices.

Hon. Daniel Paul, the banker of Centerburg, O., ex-state senator, has mysteriously disappeared.

The girl tramp discovered at Paducah, Ky., will be sent home to her mother at Allegheny City, Pa.

The story is told of a secret expedition to Cocoons Island in the Pacific to hunt for gold buried by pirates.

A colony of about 25 Memonito families have settled in Fayette County, Illinois, and more are expected.

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