

## PLAIN TRUTH ABOUT DEPEW'S WARM FRIEND

No Wonder Mr. Manning Was "Rantankerous" and Had Been for a Long Time.

## HE HELD BIG SECRETS

Truth of How He Exposed Rottenness in Insurance Combine and How the Truth Was Suppressed by the Latter.

Boston, Nov. 25.—Thomas W. Lawson says he has received so many proxies that his control of both the New York Life Insurance company and the Mutual Life Insurance company is absolute.

New York, Nov. 23.—William S. Manning, Dewey's rantankerous upriver friend, wrote a book in 1877, which dealt with the investigation by the legislature of the insurance companies in that year. Very few copies of Mr. Manning's book are in existence. Most of them have been destroyed by the insurance companies. The Brooklyn Eagle has a copy of the book, which came into its possession some time ago. All copies of assembly documents, volume 8 of 1877, containing the testimony in the insurance investigation, have been abstracted from the state library. All but one copy has been taken from the state library. The cover of this last volume is written in ink, "Do not let out of library. Only copy." The insurance ring tried to get that, too. Not a single copy is in the state insurance department.

Truth Was Suppressed. A truthful official report of the testimony taken before the legislative committee of 1877 was never printed. The committee was composed of J. C. Graham, chairman, and Assemblymen Cowdin, Husted, Lang, Skinner, Moody, Weiant and Floyd-Jones. The Husted of this committee was General James W. Husted, father of Thomas D. Husted, who received \$1,000 a year for a long period from the Equitable. The counsel for the committee was N. C. Moak.

According to Mr. Manning's book the legislative committee blocked Mr. Moak's efforts at every step to get at the truth of misdoings in the Equitable and Mutual Life. General Husted was the particular champion of the insurance companies when Mr. Moak got on a hot trail.

Hyde Threatened Violence. When Henry B. Hyde was in the stand Mr. Moak tried to get him to tell whether his family had profited by certain Equitable transactions. General Husted came to the rescue of Mr. Hyde. Manning's book says, by declaring that Mr. Moak's question should be answered with a blow. Mr. Hyde himself made threats, declaring that if such questions were put to him outside of the committee the man who did the asking wouldn't ask any more such questions.

The fact that a genuine report of the investigation was never published was due, according to Mr. Manning's book, to the machinations of Richard A. McCurdy, then vice president of the Mutual Life.

McCurdy's Daring Scheme. McCurdy, Manning wrote, waited until the investigation had exposed an insurance scandal so rotten that it would have ruined the companies involved had it become generally known. When the investigation was over he took the minutes, according to Manning's book, and had them copyrighted, thereby preventing the printing of the report even by the men who had made the investigation. Until this day it is alleged the Mutual Life has held its copyright over that official report.

Instead of having such men as Andy Fields, Andy Hamilton and others, the big insurance companies have endeavored to legislate matters in a more businesslike way. They had what was known as the Chamber of Life Insurance. This was called an organization for the benefit of policyholders, but it is said a policyholder could not have attended one of its meetings if his life depended upon it.

Organization of Highwaymen. The true purpose of the chamber was to procure legislation hostile to the interests of policyholders and beneficial to the men who manipulated the affairs of the big insurance companies to their own pecuniary advantage.

Shepard Homans, chief actuary of the Mutual and the brother-in-law of Mr. Manning, was a witness before the legislative committee of 1877. Homans had been discharged from the Mutual because of his refusal to audit a false statement as correct. Homans charged that Mr. McCurdy had made a blunder in dealing with the surplus of the Mutual which cost the company \$2,000,000 to rectify. Homans is also quoted as having said:

The Darning Testimony. "Mr. Vice President McCurdy keeps the minutes and I say that they were manipulated in such a manner that the investigating committee could not know the truth of the matters before them. These were kept from them and misstated time and again. What the company wants is a fair and full investigation by disinterested persons. I have made them in my official capacity as actuary and they have been investigated and the facts proved. They have been condoned and covered up."

John R. Hegeman, president of the Metropolitan, and John A. McCull figure in Mr. Manning's book. Mr. McCull was then deputy in the state insurance department, which at that period was alleged to be under the absolute domination of the big insurance companies.

Manning Explains It. "Since 1884, or thereabouts, I have been paid through Mr. Nichols \$450 a session," explained Mr. Manning today. "I have held myself in readiness to accept any call made upon me by the insurance companies, and have from time to time given Mr. Nichols valuable information. If the money was paid to me for the purpose of keeping me quiet, I was not aware of it. I was retained to make arguments before committees and to render other legitimate services."

Up to 1884 Mr. Manning was a bitter opponent of the insurance ring. He scored heavily against them in 1883, when the senate was investigating life insurance companies, and was active at the time the Graham committee of the assembly had Henry B. Hyde, Richard A. McCurdy and other insurance bigwigs on the witness stand. Nearly all the printed evidence taken during that investigation has disappeared.

Manning Finds It Valuable. The stenographic record of the testimony came into the hands of Mr. Manning, and he had it printed in book form. The copy contained all the evidence that was suppressed in the official printed documents of the assembly.

The copies got out by Manning became valuable, and but few are now in existence. Mr. Manning said that he himself had given up his copy, but in the official report said Mr. Manning, "questions and answers were changed or left out altogether. I suspect that these 'mistakes' were not inadvertent."

## WRECK IS FATAL TO 15.

Fog Causes the Most Disastrous Wreck That Ever Took Place in Massachusetts.

Lincoln, Mass., Nov. 28.—The most disastrous wreck in this state for many years occurred at 8:15 o'clock last night at Baker Bridge station, a mile and a half west of Lincoln, on the main line of the Fitchburg division of the Boston and Maine railroad. The regular Sunday night express, which left Boston for Montreal via the Rutland system, crashed into the rear of a local train which started from Boston for points on the main line and the Marlboro branch.

At least fifteen persons were killed outright, burned to death or suffocated, and thirty or more were seriously injured. Many passengers sustained minor cuts, bruises and burns. The wreck was primarily due to thick weather, which apparently obscured signals sent up by the forward train, which at the time of the disaster was standing in front of Baker's Bridge station. The Montreal train, drawn by two locomotives, and consisting also of nine cars, crashed into the rear of the Marlboro branch train, demolishing the rear cars. All of the dead and seriously wounded were in these.

The passengers lived in Concord, Wrentham, Maynard, West Hudson, Marlboro and several smaller towns in the Assabel valley. None of the passengers on the Montreal train were seriously hurt, but the engineer and fireman of the leading locomotive were killed. The wreckage caught fire and some of the passengers were incinerated. Few persons live near Baker's Bridge station, and no fire department was available, so that the flames practically burned themselves out.

A partial list of dead is as follows:

EUGENE BARNARD, engineer of the Montreal train.  
— LIONS, fireman of the Montreal train.

ANNA HILLBRIDGE, aged 50 years, of Acton.

WILLIAM J. HARRIS, Maynard.

CHILD OF MR. HARRIS, 3 years old.

DANIEL WEATHERBEE, Acton.

MAY CAMPBELL, Maynard.

MAY COLLINS, Concord Junction.

NELLIE SWEGNEY, Concord.

The uninjured and a number of train hands, assisted by villagers, went to the aid of the injured and many persons were rescued.

A special train sent from Boston brought out a number of doctors, while many doctors from Waltham and other places in this section were sent to the scene in carriages and by other trains.

The train upon which practically all the casualties occurred left the north station in Boston with four cars filled with passengers. The train runs over the main line of the Fitchburg division and stops at way stations.

The second train which figured in the collision is known as the Sunday night Montreal express, with St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, as its destination. The express consisted of two locomotives, two milk cars, two baggage cars, a mail car, three coaches and a Pullman sleeper.

The Montreal train does not stop at the small stations and after passing Waltham does not stop ordinarily until it reaches Concord, two miles west of Baker's Bridge station.

## BOLD COUP BY JAPAN.

Russian News Agency Tells a Sensational Story About Korea's Subjection—Emperor Didn't Sign.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 28.—The official Russian news agency has received a dispatch from Shanghai giving a sensational account of the manner in which Japanese forced the Korean government to acquiesce to the treaty between Korea and Japan.

The telegram purporting to be based on direct news from Seoul and contains the following particulars: "At noon, November 17, Baron Hayashi and M. Harivara and M. Kokubu entered the palace with the object of forcing the emperor to sign the treaty. The emperor and ministers obstinately resisted. At 8 o'clock in the evening, Hayashi having informed Marquis Ito of the situation, the latter accompanied by General Hasegawa, commander of the Japanese troops in Korea, with a military escort, came to the palace, but without success. He succeeded in persuading the emperor to sign.

Very High Handed Course. The foreign secretary Stevens brought from the ministry of foreign affairs the official seal of the ministry, which was obtained by force and at 1:30 o'clock in the morning the Japanese themselves placed the seal on the treaty, the emperor to the end refusing to give his signature.

The entire palace, even the private apartments of the emperor, are now occupied by Japanese gendarmes and it is probable the Japanese will soon compel the emperor to sign."

United States Acknowledges It. Washington, Nov. 28.—Secretary Root has informed the Japanese government that he will hereafter conduct affairs relating to Korea through the Japanese legation here. American consuls in Korea will be maintained, but the Korean legation in Washington and Minister Morgan will be withdrawn.

## CANNIBALS AFTER THEM

Massacre of Shipwrecked Party on Solomon Islands Is Narrowly Averted.

Victoria, B. C., Nov. 25.—Details of the loss of the American ship Susquehanna, abandoned in a sinking condition off Solomon Islands, show that some of the crew had a narrow escape from massacre by cannibal blacks on Solomon Islands because of a belief that an ex-chief, whose home was occupied by the shipwrecked Americans, had died because of their presence. Mrs. Edwell, an American lady who was a passenger with her husband, suffered privations with the seamen and was much admired for her pluck.

## WELCOME NEW RULERS

Norwegians Accord a Cordial Greeting to King Haakon VII. and Queen Maud.

Christiania, Nov. 25.—The state entry of King Haakon VII. and Queen Maud into Christiania took place this afternoon. The new sovereigns were welcomed with every demonstration of good will.

## ANOTHER MUTINY HAS BROKEN OUT

Sevastopol Is This Time the Scene of Trouble and Is in Throes of a Panic.

## AFTER "RUSSIAN NERO"

Radical Press Demands That the Former Prefect of Odessa Be Punished Even After He Has Been Removed from Post.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 28.—At midnight the Associated Press was informed by an official of the admiralty that the reports received up to that hour showed that there had been no conflict at Sevastopol yesterday. So far as the sea fleet were still loyal, but beyond that nothing was vouchsafed. It is known that the troops ordered to proceed from Simeropol have arrived at Sevastopol. The sailors who mutined numbered about 4,000 and belong to various equipages from the Twenty-eighth to the Thirty-sixth. Including the sailors on board the ships there were about 8,000 in Sevastopol when the mutiny occurred.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 28.—The successful mutiny of the sailors at Sevastopol, accompanied by the first open revolt of an entire regiment of troops has created the greatest alarm in government circles and no attempt is made to disguise the seriousness of this latest crisis. The army is the least of the government's troubles, and the epidemic of revolt which has attacked in turn practically all the units of the navy from Vladivostok to Cronstadt is now feared is destined simply to spread through the army.

Reports have been repeatedly circulated of sedition among the soldiers in Manchuria and it was specifically reported a week ago that General Linevitch had put down a mutiny with considerable bloodshed and that probably he executed forty-two officers. No confirmation of the report is obtainable, but whether it be true or not the morale of the troops on garrison duty in Russia has certainly everywhere been shaken by the revolutionary propaganda, and the fidelity of individual units, even of the guard regiments, is in question.

During the disorders following the promulgation of the imperial manifesto some of the imperial governors refrained from testing the loyalty of the troops, preferring to rely on the Cossacks, who showed no signs of wavering.

Count Witte called an extraordinary session of the cabinet Saturday and another session was held in the evening to consider the situation. Grand Duke Nicholas Nicolaevitch, president of the council of national defense and commander of the imperial guard, was present and this fact caused a revival of the rumor that the grand duke might be immediately appointed dictator; but it can be taken for granted that such a step has not been decided upon, as it is plain that a dictatorship at the present juncture would be sure to precipitate an immediate armed revolution.

Sevastopol, Nov. 25.—Sailors at this port and the Brest regiment have mutinied and joined workmen who are holding a meeting under a red flag. The city is in a state of panic.

Sailors yesterday attempted to hold a meeting. Rear Admiral Pisarevski announced the meeting would be dispersed by use of fire-arms, whereupon the sailors fired on and wounded the admiral.

Odessa, Nov. 25.—Troops have been sent from here to quell disorders at Sevastopol. The mutineers have sent the chief admiral a black coffin and demanded that he leave town immediately.

Railway traffic with Sevastopol is interrupted.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 25.—Radical press are pursuing the same plan they did in the case of General Treppoff, former assistant minister of the interior, and have now opened a regular campaign against M. Durnovo, minister of the interior, accusing him of being the enemy of the constitution and supporter of reaction.

They also join in a general demand for the immediate trial of governors and other officials thus far removed, making a special point against M. Stikhard, former prefect of Odessa, who is called the "Russian Nero," and who, although removed from the prefecture, remains in the ministry of the interior.

"All military satraps must be brought to justice," is the cry of radical papers.

Witte Appreciated. A popular address is being prepared, to bring thanks of the country to Witte for his services at Portsmouth and for his present endeavors to pacify and regenerate Russia.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 27.—Twenty-four additional squadrons of Don Cossacks have been ordered to be mobilized to suppress agrarian disorders.

Jews Must Pay Fines. Warsaw, Nov. 25.—The governor general has instructed the provincial governor to immediately collect fines imposed on Jews for evading military service.

Treaties Are Exchanged. Washington, Nov. 27.—The exchange of ratified treaties of peace between Japan and Russia took place at 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon at the state department. The ceremony was simple.

## ROBBER DEFIES POSSE

He Robs a Farmer of \$25 and Then Fights Band of Pursuers with Big Revolver.

Ottumwa, Ia., Nov. 25.—One lone highwayman defied a posse of farmers near Centerville and escaped. The man robbed Thomas Williams of \$25 at the Ennis bridge over the Shariton river. Williams notified some friends and a posse armed with shotguns and revolvers attempted to capture the man, but he frightened them off with his revolver.

## DIDN'T WANT SILVER.

Run on Keokuk Bank Ends When Depositors See Four Wagon Loads of Silver.

Keokuk, Ia., Nov. 25.—The run on the State Central Savings bank stopped this morning almost entirely after arrival of four wagon loads of silver dollars from Chicago and St. Louis. The run was probably caused by a statement that the president's health was failing.

## FIERCE FIGHT AT MISSOURI PRISON

Two Officers and One Convict Killed at Jefferson City.

## A BREAK FOR LIBERTY

Four Convicts, Well Armed, Shot Down Guards and Made for Gates and a Fight Ensued Through Streets of Town.

Jefferson City, Mo., Nov. 27.—A desperate attempt to escape from the state penitentiary was made by four convicts last Friday, resulting in a terrific battle with weapons and nitroglycerin at the prison gate, a running fight through the streets of Jefferson City and the final capture of the convicts, of whom were shot, one being killed. Two prison officers were shot dead and a third was severely wounded.

The dead: JOHN CLAY, a gatekeeper. A. ALBISON, officer of the commissary department.

Convict HIRAM BLAKE. Deputy Warden K. E. See, shot in the arm and hip.

Harry Vaughn, convict, St. Louis, shot in the arm and leg.

Mutineers captured unhurt: George Ryan, from St. Louis. Charles Raymond.

Warden Matt Hall, Yardmaster Porter Gilvin and five prison guards departed this morning for Fort Leavenworth, Kan. in a special train conveying seventy-one federal prisoners, who are being transferred from the Missouri state penitentiary to the government prison at Fort Leavenworth. It is believed that this fact had much to do with the outbreak yesterday, as it is asserted that the convicts had counted on Warden Hall's absence in their premeditated attempt to escape.

Were Well Armed. There was not the slightest premonition of any trouble within the prison walls. Suddenly convicts Harry Vaughn, Charles Raymond, Hiram Blake, George Ryan and Eli Zeigler, who were working in close proximity to the prison gate, inside the inclosure, as if by a given signal, made a rush for the gate. From their pockets they drew pistols and it is presumed that at least one of them carried a bottle of nitroglycerin. These weapons and the explosive were obtained has not yet been ascertained.

Rushing past the gate they entered Deputy Warden See's office and shot him as he sat in his chair. He sank back and was unable to resist them. He died in a few minutes. Warden Hall and Gatekeeper John Clay, who had been alarmed by the shots. Before he could raise his weapon he was shot dead.

Guard E. A. Allison, who was attracted by the shooting, was his next victim. He was shot through the head and died in a few minutes. When the convicts saw that the attempt to escape had failed they started the convicts seized the bell rope hanging by the gate and momentarily rang the bell. Gatekeeper Clay had left the wagon gate ajar when he engaged an army guard.

The convicts rushed through, dragging his body with them, slammed the gate shut and fastened it on the inside. They were in the wagon entrance to the penitentiary, this entrance being about forty feet long by fifteen feet wide and leading into a public street through the other double gate of steel. This outside gate was locked, but the desperadoes were deterred but for a moment.

Blow Up the Wall. Placing the nitroglycerin under the gate they blew an opening through the massive door and before the smoke cleared away they had dashed past a number of "trusty" convicts. They ran and threw a man madly for twelve feet. Zeigler, it was found, had failed to leave the penitentiary walls. Almost before the four escaped convicts had covered the distance of one block the prison officials, heavily armed, were in pursuit, shooting as they ran. Prisoners who were behind bars, ran into houses and crouched down behind any obstacle that presented refuge.

Those living in houses along the line of flight, alarmed by the shooting, rushed out to ascertain the cause. Women screamed and the men seized weapons and joined the prison officials in the pursuit. A desperate fear gave speed to the convicts and they outran their pursuers. Near the Missouri Pacific railway depot they came upon a wagon new after which Driver Orville Lane held him to act as a shield from the bullets of their pursuers. One of the convicts lashed the horse into a run.

Fight in the Streets. The wild ride was of short duration, however, as another posse, consisting of city police, augmented by citizens appeared in front of them, and seeing they stopped the horse and made a desperate stand. Lane was thrown to the bottom of the wagon and, crouching over him and shielding themselves to the best possible advantage behind the side of the vehicle, they opened fire back on their pursuers.

The prison officials shouted to them to surrender or they would be shot dead. Their only reply was a volley from their revolvers. Then followed one of the most desperate street battles that ever took place in the annals of escaping convicts in Jefferson City. The policemen jumped behind trees and shot with telling effect, splintering the wagon and finally putting a bullet through one of the convicts, who fell to the ground. Thereupon, seeing that death was inevitable and further resistance useless, the convicts surrendered. With a rush the officers closed around the wagon, prepared to shoot to the death if the surrender was a ruse. But no resistance was offered. It was found that Convicts Vaughn and Blake were suffering from bullet wounds. Driver Orville Lane and Convicts Ryan and Raymond were uninjured.

Convicts Retaken. The convicts were immediately taken back to the penitentiary, where the wounded were given medical attention, while the uninjured were placed in solitary confinement in dungeon cells.

A rigid investigation was immediately started to ascertain from what source the mutineers obtained their weapons and the explosive.

Convict Harry Vaughn, from St. Louis, was sentenced for thirty-five years for first degree robbery. Vaughn is the man who was a member of the Morris-Rosenau gang, with which three detectives fought a terrific battle on Chestnut street in St. Louis. One detective was shot dead and the other two detectives died later in the city hospital from wounds. Rosenau, one

## RESCUE IS EFFECTED FROM WRECKED SHIP

Life-Saving Crew at Holland, Mich., Saves Passengers and Crew.

## BIG STORM ON LAKES

The Argo, After a Trying Voyage Through the Night, Goes Aground Just Before Dawn and May Go to Pieces.

Holland, Mich., Nov. 27.—During a terrific storm on Lake Michigan last night the passenger steamer Argo of the Graham-Morton passenger fleet, went hard aground on a bar near north pier and all efforts to release her have been futile. The boat is in great danger of being pounded to pieces. Owing to heavy seas it was impossible for a life-saving crew to reach the steamer and thirty passengers and crew numbering twenty-two, were safely taken off by the breeches buoy.

Had a Rough Voyage. The Argo had a rough passage across Lake Michigan last night and tremendous seas were rolling when the steamer arrived off Holland light at 4 a. m. today. Captain Stewart approached the harbor mouth as usual, when, just as she was entering the piers, a great sea struck the Argo and hurled her against north pier, carrying a portion of it away.

The steamer was carried along on the crest of a wave until she went aground on a sandbar. The vessel struck midships with her head to shore. As soon as the lookout at the life-saving station in the harbor saw the Argo was in trouble he turned in an alarm and immediately put out in their surf boat.

Heroism of Rescuers. Fighting a powerful headwind and enormous seas, the lifesavers after herculean efforts, succeeded in pulling their boat out to the harbor mouth, but the seas were so high it was impossible to reach the side of the Argo. The crew of the surf boat then stepped and dragged their cannon and shot line apparatus to the beach and began rescue work from there.

The first persons brought ashore were Mrs. P. J. Misker, Mrs. C. Johnson and Mrs. W. C. Conan and little daughter of Big Rapids, Mich., and Mrs. C. W. Earl of Chicago. All of them were thoroughly soaked.

Spray was dashed over them in clouds by a fifty mile an hour wind, but all reached the beach without suffering any injury.

Men Taken Off Last. After their arrival, the work of taking off male passengers was begun and one by one they were drawn to the beach.

Passengers retained their self possession throughout the trying experience and there was nothing like panic at any time. They were all rescued unless aid comes within a very few hours it is thought she will surely go to pieces on the beach.

Since the first grounding the gale increased steadily until at noon it reached a peak of thirty miles an hour. The Argo is a steel steamer of 740 net tons, 173 feet long and thirty-one feet beam, valued at \$90,000.

## MARRIED ON A DARE.

Sudden Wedding of Wealthy Chicago Young People in a Restaurant.

Chicago, Nov. 27.—Miss Louise Mills, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Mills, and Jesse Whitehead, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elsie J. Whitehead, were married under romantic circumstances yesterday at a downtown restaurant.

On the day previous they became engaged and announced their betrothal during the course of a school party several friends at the same cafe. Some one dared them to marry yesterday, and they accepted the suggestion. In the presence of four witnesses, all chums of the young people, they were wedded by the Rev. John Archibald Morrison, pastor of the First Presbyterian church.

It practically was an elopement, for the parents of the couple knew nothing about the affair.

Following the ceremony in the restaurant, the wedding party enjoyed a dinner, after which Mr. and Mrs. Whitehead left for New York and other points on a brief honeymoon.

## GREETED BY ROOSEVELT

President Tells the Standpat Bay State Lieutenant Governor Elect His Success Pleasures.

Hopeville, Mass., Nov. 27.—Eben S. Draper, lieutenant governor-elect of Massachusetts, was given a reception at the town hall tonight by the employees of his mills and citizens of Hopeville in general. During the evening the following letter was read:

"White House, Washington, Nov. 19.—My dear Governor Draper: No man can rejoice more than I do in your success and I must send you a message to say so. You stand for those ideals of fearlessness and upright conduct in public life which I regard as of more consequence to the future of our people than any possible question of merely partisan politics.

"Theodore Roosevelt."

## SENTENCED FOR FRAUD

Two New Yorkers Punished for Election Crimes—Hearst Makes More Gains.

New York, Nov. 25.—Two sentences for illegal voting were passed yesterday by the supreme court. Thomas Halle, who confessed that he voted illegally under the name of Thomas Hall, received an indeterminate sentence of not less than a year and ten months.

The same sentence was meted out to Thomas D. Brennan, who pleaded guilty to voting another man's name.

Both men voted in the Third assembly district.

Counsel for W. R. Hearst raised the legal point that Mayor McClellan will be mayor of New York only as a holdover after December 31 next unless Mr. Hearst's fight for a recount is ended before that time. This was said to be due to the fact that under an order issued last week by Justice Amend, of the supreme court, the board of canvassers of New York cannot issue a certificate of election either to Mayor McClellan or to the comptroller or president of the board until the proceedings attending the movement for a recount are ended.

In many of the districts canvassed by the board of canvassers of the New York district discrepancies were found yesterday and the Hearst representatives claim their candidate gained more than 150 votes. This gain was disputed, however.

## NORDICA DECLINED.

A Brooklyn Girl Played Sulamith in "Queen of Sheba" in New York.

New York, Nov. 27.—This city enjoyed a brilliant revival of Carl G. Oldmark's opera, "The Queen of Sheba," in the Metropolitan opera house. The presentation, which was one of the most elaborately staged in many years in this city, was intended to open the New York season, but Mme. Nordica declined the part of Sulamith and it was necessary to postpone the work. The libretto is by Mosenthal and the 1,200 costumes were prepared in Vienna. Last night Edyth Walker played the title role and Marie Rappold, a Brooklyn girl, new to the operatic stage, was the Sulamith. Miss Rappold won the applause and sympathy of her big audience and at the end of the first act was cheered and applauded. The company, with others of the company, responded to a curtain call.

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## DUPE OF "KING SOLOMON"

Notorious Black Clairvoyant Accused of Hypnotizing and Kidnaping a Woman for Her Wealth.

Chicago, Nov. 27.—By the use of hypnotic powers, "King Solomon," a negro clairvoyant, formerly of Minneapolis, is alleged to have practically kidnaped Mrs. Jennie H. Doolittle, 60 years old, and to have taken her to New York, where she is spending her \$20,000 estate for the support of his mediumistic enterprises.

Her daughters, Dr. Adelaide H. Hoefel and Mrs. John F. Hoeffel, 22 Aldime square, filed a petition in the superior court yesterday to restrain their mother from disposing of her Illinois property, and asking for a receiver. The probate court was also asked to appoint a conservator for Mrs. Doolittle on the ground that she is "under the influence of false and fraudulent mediums."

A petition was filed recently in the county court to have Mrs. Doolittle declared insane, because of her acceptance of the domination of the negro, but she