

## DEPARTMENT STORE TRUST

## THE LATEST COMBINE OF J. PIERPONT MORGAN.

Company Organized in New York With \$20,000,000 Capital—Object of the Syndicate.

NEW YORK, April 9.—Official notice of the rumored combination of department stores was given today by J. Pierpont Morgan & Co., who solicit subscriptions to the stock of the Associated Merchants' Company. The company is capitalized at \$20,000,000, and proposes to acquire dry goods businesses or interests in this and other cities. The prospectus states that a one-half interest has been secured in both the H. B. Claflin Company and the Adams Dry Goods Company, and that James McCleary & Co.'s Twenty-third-street store has been bought outright.

According to a source closely connected with the dry goods trade, the syndicate intends to purchase a controlling interest in each of the stores to be included. A new controlling company will then be formed, the common stock of which will be exchanged for the stock of the constituent companies, while the assets of the preferred will be put on the market. The probable stock and bond issue is estimated as high as \$20,000,000. One consideration which makes the transaction somewhat complicated is the difficulty of determining fair valuations for the various stores. It is not often that these securities change hands, and well-informed dry goods men say that it is impossible in many cases to name even an approximate selling price.

## STEEL CORPORATION MEETING.

Directors Elect Officers of the Company.

NEW YORK, April 9.—The first meeting of the directors of the United States Steel Corporation was held today at the offices of the Federal Steel Company. A formal ratification of the election of directors was made, and in addition an announcement was made of subordinate officers. The elected ticket was as follows: President, Charles M. Schwab, president of the Carnegie Steel Company; first vice-president, James G. Gay, of the Carnegie Company; second vice-president, W. R. Walker, metallurgical engineer of the American Steel & Wire Company; third vice-president, W. R. Baker, president of the American Steel & Wire Company; treasurer, Arthur T. Lake; secretary, Richard Trimble, secretary of the Federal Steel Company; Judge E. Gary, of the Federal Steel Company, chairman of the executive committee, and Robert Bacon, of J. P. Morgan & Co., of the finance committee.

The policy of the corporation is announced to leave constituent companies with their own set of officers, but all subject to supervision from the corporation's officers in this city. The first vice-president will have charge of the mines and wherever the corporation has property, and the second vice-president will superintend economic operations, and the third vice-president will have charge of sales.

## WILL FIGHT THE STEEL TRUST.

Plans of the New Purchasers of the Colorado Fuel & Iron Company.

DENVER, Colo., April 9.—The reported purchase of the Colorado Fuel & Iron Company by John W. Gates, John Lambert and I. L. Elwood, independent of the United States Steel Corporation, received additional confirmation today. The following telegram has been received from John W. Gates:

"I, Elwood, John Lambert and myself, now own the Colorado Fuel & Iron Company. We will add to our present works in Colorado 20 tin-plate mills, two rod mills and two blast furnaces. We intend to erect a new steel mill, and to erect a new steel mill under his plan."

The statement that Gates and his two associates are acting in opposition to the United States Steel Corporation is supposed by the absence from the meeting yesterday of an official of the latter and the flat denial by Lawrence C. Phillips, vice-president of the Carnegie Company, who is now in Denver, that the Colorado Fuel & Iron Company is to become a part of the trust.

## NEW EAST RIVER BRIDGE.

Steel Combine May Underbid All Other Companies.

NEW YORK, April 9.—The Tribune says: "Steel men are greatly interested in the bidding for the contract for the steel superstructure of the new East River bridge. Many are of the opinion that it will afford an idea of the means to be employed by the United States Steel Corporation. Those familiar with the steel situation say that there are about four or five available bidders, as follows: The United States Steel Corporation, the Pennsylvania Steel Company, which has the contract for making the steel for the approaches of the new East River bridge; the Carnegie Steel Company, which bid on the same contract; and the Cambria Steel Company. The contract, it is said, will amount to between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000. It is probably the largest single contract for structural bridge steel advertised since the organization of the United States Steel Corporation. If the big company wishes, it is said, it can prevent the smaller companies from getting the raw material at favorable terms as heretofore. Then, also, it is said the big companies may underbid the smaller companies. Under the terms of the official notice, contractors the bids must be in April 15."

## SEWER PIPE CONSOLIDATION.

Negotiations on for a Combination of All Plants.

PITTSBURGH, April 9.—Negotiations are now on for the consolidation of a sewer-pipe manufacturing into one incorporation, with a capital of about \$12,000,000. The deal includes the American Sewer Pipe Company, which has a capital of \$10,000,000; the Robinson Bros. Sewer Pipe Company, and the Buckeye Sewer Pipe Company of Akron, O., having a combined capital of about \$2,000,000; the States Clay Manufacturing Company, of Pittsburgh, whose capitalization is about \$300,000, and two factories at Rochester, N. Y., which have a capital of \$100,000. The Robinson Company has two factories, both at Akron, O.; the Buckeye Company has two factories, one at Akron and the other at Canal Dover. Both of the plants of the Robinson Company are located at Lisbon, O. With such a combination as is being meditated, all the clay sewer output in the United States will be controlled by the new company.

## GREAT EUROPEAN TRUST.

Embraces Every Linn-Spinning Concern on the Continent.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—Information concerning the formation of a trust amounts to a gigantic trust embracing every linen-spinning concern on the Continent of Europe has reached the State Department in a report from United States Consul Mahon, at Belgrade, Austria. For some time, says the Consul, it has been understood that the Austrian-German and Belgian spinners of linen thread had decided to unite in a syndicate of production. From Paris has come the news that the French spinners are also to join in the reducing of the output of the mills. The object is believed to be to steady and possibly to enhance the price of linen yarn. Makers of linen cloth have during the Fall and Winter

## AFTER THE TAX-DOGGERS.

## Mayor Johnson, of Cleveland, Says Corporations Must Pay More.

CLEVELAND, April 9.—Mayor Tom L. Johnson has decided that the corporations doing business in this city do not pay their just proportion of taxes, and has taken steps to have their assessments increased. A force of clerks has been put to work making a list of all the extensive concessions, together with blue prints of their establishments, and the taxes they pay. When full information has been obtained, the Mayor proposes to go before the City Board of Equalization and demand that the corporations be compelled to pay what he terms equitable taxes. The Mayor, it is announced, will make a special effort to show that the steam and electric railways are assessed far too low.

## Absorption of the Fuel &amp; Iron.

CHICAGO, April 9.—A meeting was held in the offices of the American Wire & Steel Company today of men interested in that corporation and the Colorado Fuel & Iron Company. It was stated that the conference was for the purpose of completing the details of arrangements whereby the Colorado Fuel & Iron Company will pass under the control of the American Steel & Wire Company, the plans contemplated immediate and extensive improvements and enlargement of the big Pueblo plant and other interests. Chairman Gates, of the American Steel & Wire Company, when asked this afternoon, refused either to confirm or deny the reported absorption of the Colorado Fuel & Iron Company, or to state whether or not the reported meeting had taken place. "For business reasons, I do not care to make any statement in regard to the matter at this time," said Mr. Gates. "I cannot say when I will be prepared to make a statement."

## Association of Grocers.

NEW YORK, April 9.—A special meeting of the executive board and finance committee of the National Association of Retail Grocers of the United States has just been held in Niagara Falls, says a special to the Tribune from Buffalo. Matters of national importance, because they will affect every retail grocer in the United States, were discussed, but decisions reached will be kept secret for some days. The meeting was held on the invitation of Henry Perky, president of the National Food Company, Secretary Pfeffer read the call for the meeting and the minutes of the last meeting. A committee was appointed to consider a proposition made by Mr. Perky along this line and report on it later.

## President of the Carnegie Company.

PITTSBURGH, April 9.—William E. Corey, general superintendent of the Homestead steel works, the Corey furnaces and the Homestead axle works, will, at a meeting of the Carnegie Company, be elected president of the Carnegie Company and the Carnegie Steel Company, be elected president of both of these corporations. Charles M. Schwab, who is now in the laboratory of the Carnegie Company, is expected to devote his time to the duties of the presidency of the United States Steel Corporation. Mr. Corey is only 35 years of age, and began his career in the laboratory of the Carnegie Company at the age of 15. He succeeded C. M. Schwab as general superintendent of the Homestead mill.

## After the Crucible Steel.

PITTSBURGH, April 9.—Officers of the Crucible Steel Company of America have a proposition from J. P. Morgan to take the Crucible Steel Company into the United States Steel Corporation on equal terms. As was provided for taking in the American Steel Hoop Company and the American Steel Company. This is an exchange of both classes of stocks for similar stocks of the Morgan company at par. Semi-officially it is said that the Crucible officers are holding off for better terms. A meeting of the Crucible Company directors, yesterday, President C. H. Holcomb said no action was taken in relation to the proposition.

## A Machinery Trust.

MILWAUKEE, April 9.—Charles Allis, of the great plant of the E. P. Allis Company, is in New York in connection with a proposition to consolidate all the big machinery and stationary engine plants of the country. The trust will, if formed, have a capital of \$5,000,000 and include over 100 plants. The plan is to have a combination has been under consideration for some time, but that his company has never given an opinion on the plan. None of the other officers would confirm the report that the machinery trust has been formed and that the Allis Company is in it.

## Receiver for the Salt Trust.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, April 9.—Attorney A. W. Lamson was today appointed receiver for the Sherman House Salt Company of this city. His bond was fixed at \$25,000. The National Salt Company, otherwise known as the salt trust, recently secured a controlling interest in the local concern. J. M. Henderson, who applied for a receiver, avers in his petition that the National Salt Company is endeavoring to wreck the Cleveland concern. Lamson is a shareholder in the latter concern.

## Gasoline Lamp Combine.

CHICAGO, April 9.—Representatives of 20 manufacturers of gasoline fixtures gathered at the Sherman House last night to attend a preliminary meeting, with a view to the formation of a gasoline lamp manufacturers' association. The manufacturers were unanimously in favor of the association, and committees were appointed to bring about a permanent organization.

## Furnaces Resume Operations.

SHARON, Pa., April 9.—The Ella furnace at West Middleburg, have resumed operations, after an idleness of over a year. The Fannie and Sharpsville furnaces, the only idle stacks in the valley, will start next month.

## Chicago Invites the President.

CHICAGO, April 9.—A committee representing the National Business League has gone to Washington to invite President McKinley and the members of his party to stay two days in Chicago on their return from the Pacific Coast in June. It is proposed by the League to have a banquet at which representative men from various sections will speak of the advancement made in industries. The President will be asked to speak on "Our Greater National Life" if he should consent to stop over.

## The Invitation to the President is signed by President Phelps and other officers of the National Business League.

In addition to these names a number of other prominent citizens signed the invitation. Colonel Elliott Durand was at the head of the committee which left for Washington with the invitation. The present plans for the Chicago visit provide only for a delay of a few hours here.

## Burlington Deal Concluded.

NEW YORK, April 9.—The Evening Post says that President J. J. Hill, of the Great Northern Railway, will leave this city tomorrow with his negotiations for the Burlington Railway successfully concluded. According to the Evening Post, Mr. Hill would not make any personal statement, but informed his close associates that the Burlington negotiations had been concluded, and that when he left for New York tomorrow, he would leave only minor points unsettled.

## Avoid harsh purgative pills. They make you sick and leave you constipated.

Carters Little Liver Pills regulate the bowels and cure you. They are

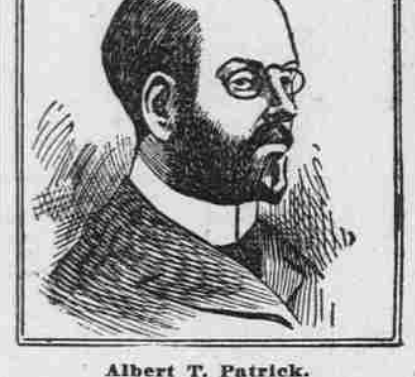
## VALET JONES' CONFESSION

## IT WAS FIRST MADE TO HIS LAWYER AT THE TOMBS.

Patrick, Who Was Present, Explained the Motive for the Murder of Rice.

NEW YORK, April 9.—A feature of the examination of Valet Jones in today's session of the hearing concerning the death of William Marsh Rice, the Texas millionaire, was a line of questioning which led to a heated scene at the noon recess between Attorney Moore, who represents Lawyer Patrick, and Assistant District Attorney Osborne. The cause of the dispute was Mr. Osborne's success in winning from Jones certain testimony against Patrick. Frederick House is one of Patrick's lawyers. Previous to Jones turning state's evidence, Mr. House represented the valet as a man of honor. During the long cross-examination of Jones, which lasted about an hour and a half, Mr. Moore made it apparent that his alleged-hammer questions were all directed at one point. He sought to show that Jones' story was concocted at the instigation of some of the men interested in disproving the second Rice will. He

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laid special stress on Jones' conversations with Captain Baker, executor of the first will. The cross-examination was full of insinuations and recriminations against Jones, Mr. Osborne and Mr. Battle, the latter Jones' special counsel. When Jones' special counsel, Mr. Battle, asked Jones, "We are through with the witness," Mr. Osborne, in rebuttal, asked quietly, "Jones, to whom did you first tell the story of your having chloroformed Rice? I mean the story you told here?"

"To Mr. House," was the reply. The question apparently was a surprise. Mr. House flushed and looked hard at the witness, who was sitting at the counsel table. Patrick turned at his board, and Mr. Moore sprang to his feet. "We object to that question," he shouted. "We have some rights in this court. Anything the witness said to his counsel involves the prisoner. It is a professional confidence which must not be revealed."

But Justice Jones only said, "Objection overruled," and Jones then described at length his first interview with Mr. House in the Tombs council-room. On Patrick's advice he told Mr. House that he had murdered Rice, said Jones. "I told him that I gave him mercury pills, where I got the chloroform and all about it. 'Did you tell him about the oxalic acid?'"

"Yes," he replied. "And what did Mr. House say?" "He told Patrick that it would not do for him to put all the blame on me; that he was as much in it as I was."

Mr. Osborne brought out the fact that the talk with Mr. House occurred several days before the District Attorney had had the faintest idea that the prisoner would make a confession. "What did Patrick say to Mr. House?" Mr. Osborne said. "Why, he explained that we had put Mr. Rice out of the way because the drafts were coming due from Texas," said Jones.

Miss Lillian Scherer, a telephone operator, testified that a call had been received between 6 and 7 o'clock Sunday, September 8, from some person using the telephone in Rice's apartments for a connection with the telephone used by Lawyer Patrick. This was the day Rice died. Jones testified that he called up Patrick on the telephone between 8 and 9 o'clock the day of Rice's death.

Miss Nellie J. Mellett, another operator in the same exchange, identified a slip which showed that the telephone had been connected with the instrument used by Patrick between 8 and 9 o'clock on the same evening, September 23. There was another call between 8 and 9 o'clock, which Joseph B. Bodeau, a wagon driver for the American Express Company, testified to having delivered a package addressed to Jones, the valet, at the Berkshire apartment house, August 2, 1900. The package



Charles F. Jones.

came from Galveston, Tex. This testimony was brought in for the purpose of supporting the evidence of Jones, who said that he had given orders for a package from his brother in Galveston, George F. Schmidt, another employee of the express company, gave some testimony.

George F. Wallace, a paying teller in the banking house of Swenson & Co., testified that, in his opinion, the signature on the \$25,000 check presented by David L. Short was not in Rice's handwriting. The Patrick will of 1900, the general assignments of the Rice property to Patrick, the letter in which Mr. Rice is alleged to have given orders for the package, and a will which was a certified check for \$25,000 which Patrick gave to Potts the day after Mr. Rice's death, were handed to witness and in each instance he declared that the signature of "W. M. Rice" attached thereto were forgeries.

Walter O. Weatherbee, clerk in the Swenson bank, was the next witness. Weatherbee was one of the witnesses to the will of 1896. According to testimony given at this hearing by Valet Jones, Patrick urged Jones to try to get Weatherbee to witness a will which he contemplated forging before he drew the so-called "Patrick will." According to Jones, Weatherbee refused to be a party to the forgery, but was nevertheless made a beneficiary to the "Patrick will" as an inducement for himself to keep secret the fact that he had been approached in the matter. The object was, it was said, to keep known Valet Jones for two or three years and then, in the face of objections of Attorney Moore, who was overruled

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## NEGRO GOVERNOR TRIED TO START AN UPRISING.

Could Not Secure a Following—Aguinaldo Reluctantly Signed His Peace Manifesto.

DUMGUATE, Island of Negros, P. I., April 9.—Since the United States Philippine Commission was at Bacolot, the capital of this island, March 21, the native civil Governor of the island, Senor Soriano, has attempted to start an insurrection against the establishment of the commission's new system of civil government. He failed to secure a following.

The sentiment of the provincial government is almost unanimously in favor of the division of the fund of 10,000 Mexican currency, now in the hands of the present government of Negros, between the provincial government of Occidental and Oriental Negros. The bone of contention has been that the commission set apart two-thirds of this fund for Occidental Negros, one-third for Oriental Negros, the difference in the amounts to be offset by taxes still unpaid at Bacolot. A resolution in favor of the reorganization of the two provinces has been adopted. Details have been embodied providing for the obligations of the present government. The provinces will be created later.

## STILL NEED FOR LARGE ARMY.

General Young Opposed to Reducing Philippine Force.

NEW YORK, April 9.—A special to the Tribune from Washington says: "General Young, who has just reached Washington after serving nearly two years in the Philippines, had this to say about conditions in the islands: 'In the six weeks that have elapsed since I left the islands, some important changes have been wrought, so that I am unable to say accurately just what the situation is in Luzon now. I do believe, however, that the capture of Aguinaldo and his acceptance of American authority will have a beneficial effect, and no doubt a strong tendency to bring about peace and order. Some of the leaders will probably come and surrender, as I see small bands are doing from day to day.'

"It is impossible to say what such men as Aguinaldo and Santos will do. They may decide to follow Aguinaldo's example, and again they may be ambitious and desire to become leaders in his stead. Aguinaldo, who has been spoken of as Aguinaldo's possible successor, is an able and intelligent Filipino, but I understand that his command is well scattered and small. General Tino is the Filipino leader in Northern Luzon, and is quite able. Under him are perhaps 300 men, with more or less loose and disconnected organization, divided into guerrilla bands, who drop down on quartermaster and commissary supply trains, and are organized by small parties. They never fight in the open, and take to the mountains when a force of American soldiers appears."

"Even if all the leaders do come in and surrender there will be some organized bands for some time to come, which will cause trouble. I am not in favor of reducing the military force in the islands below 10,000 men. We shall need fully this number of men to maintain peace and give assurance of tranquility. Had not General Tino surrendered before the capture of Aguinaldo, would not doubt have been selected as the Filipino leader and have made an effort to continue the insurrection."

## SURRENDER OF FUNES.

Brought the Insurrection in Sargoso Province to an End.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—Late mail advices to the War Department contain the details of the surrender of the insurgent leader, Milto Funes, at Buluan, February 22 last, which has already been touched upon briefly in the cable dispatches. The expedition to capture Funes was organized by the Philippine army, and consisted of Second Lieutenant F. F. Disque, of the Forty-seventh Infantry, and 22 enlisted men of Company B of that regiment. The soldiers were accompanied by four members of the Philippine army, and upon arrival at Irocin, addressed the people of the village gathered in a convent, setting forth to them the terms of the new peace treaty, and by a declaration of fealty to the American cause. As a consequence, 1073 natives from the surrounding country took the oath of allegiance within the next few days.

## A VENEZUELAN'S VIEW

Does Not Expect War Between His Country and the United States.

SAN JUAN, Porto Rico, April 9.—Avila Blanco, Consul at San Juan for Venezuela, who is a member of the board of directors of the Associated Press, said he had received no official communication regarding the withdrawal of the American Minister from Caracas, but was of the opinion that the relations between his country and the United States he readily believed the report to be true. He did not think, however, that the formal withdrawal of their respective Ministers from Caracas would affect the relations between the two countries. The whole difficulty, Senor Blanco thought, lay in the delay of the Venezuelan Court in reaching a decision in the controversy over the asphalt companies' courts, he said, have the matter under consideration and it is not the custom of Venezuelan courts to render a decision hurriedly. As to a declaration of war against the republic, Senor Blanco said he hardly thought this probable. In each of the Venezuelan free ports there are such heavy foreign interests that any declaration of war would involve international complications. As to the outbreak of any serious revolution, Senor Blanco said he does not think such an occurrence at all probable. He said that Senor M. Boerman, a lawyer practicing in Ponce, came to San Juan last week to secure a license to act as a notary. He was obliged to return to Ponce without one, because the most important reason for his not being able to obtain it was that he was not a citizen of Porto Rico. The law says that any citizen of Porto Rico who qualifies may become a notary public. Senor Boerman, an American citizen, is also a citizen of Porto Rico, is a matter for the Attorney-General, Mr. Harlan, to decide, Senor Blanco said.

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From 25,000 to 50,000 Killed Since the War Began.

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## AGUINALDO'S MANIFESTO.

Signed at Manila Yesterday, but Not Given Out.

MANILA, April 9.—Although the officials are uncommunicative, it is nevertheless said that Aguinaldo signed the peace manifesto this morning. Chief Justice Arana drafted the document. Aguinaldo strongly objected to two clauses of the manifesto, and considerable argument was required to overcome his objections. General Malvar, who took the most distinguished American missionaries in China, Rev. Mr. Allen, who has resided in the Orient for fifty years, is making a visit to his old home in St. Louis.

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## TEST FOR YOURSELF

## The Wonderful Curative Properties of Swamp-Root

To Prove What This Wonderful New Discovery, SWAMP-ROOT, Will Do for YOU, Every Reader of The Oregonian May Have a Sample Bottle Sent Absolutely Free by Mail.

It used to be considered that only urinary and bladder troubles were to be traced to the kidneys, but now modern science proves that nearly all diseases have their beginning in the disorder of these most important organs. The kidneys filter and purify the blood; that is their work.

Therefore when your kidneys are weak or out of order, you can understand how quickly your entire body is affected, and how every organ seems to fail to do its duty.

If you are sick or "feel badly," begin taking the famous new discovery, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, because as soon as your kidneys are well they will help all the other organs to health. A trial will convince anyone.

Among the many famous cures of Swamp-Root investigated by The Oregonian, the one which is published this week for its benefit to our readers speaks in the highest terms of the curative properties of this great remedy. Mr. Robert Berner, 14 West 11th St., New York City, writes: "I had been suffering from kidney trouble for many years. I was on my feet, but my strength and power were on hand; my former strength and power, if I could hardly drag myself along. Even my mental capacity was giving out, and often I wished to die. It was then I left the city and went to a sanatorium. I was there for some time, but would not have paid any attention to it, had it not been for a small bottle of Swamp-Root which I bought there. I am now a healthy man, and I can do my work as well as ever. I am now a healthy man, and I can do my work as well as ever. I am now a healthy man, and I can do my work as well as ever. I am now a healthy man, and I can do my work as well as