

THE PRESS.

THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 31, '74

CITY AND VICINITY.

New Advertisements To-Day.

ENTERTAINMENT COLUMN.
At Congress Hall, Dr. Hobbins.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.
Mrs. Manchester—Physician.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.
Wanted—Colored Girl.
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DARING ROBBERY.

County Treasurer Pennell Assaulted and Robbed of \$10,000.

THE THIEVES STILL AT LARGE.

Dangerous Situation of Mr. Pennell.

The most daring robbery ever perpetrated in the city of Portland happened last evening about six o'clock. At that time two men entered the office of Mr. George Pennell, County Treasurer, and engaged him in conversation, knocked him senseless, robbed the open safe of \$10,000, took a pocket book containing a considerable sum of money, from Mr. Pennell's person, raised the back window of the office, jumped out, made their way to Chestnut street, and thence to parts unknown. The assault and robbery were audaciously planned and executed. It was the affair of but a few minutes. At five minutes past six Mr. Pennell was alone in his room. At twenty minutes past six he was found senseless on the floor of his office.

At twenty minutes past six a newsboy, who was on his rounds with the evening paper, called at the County Treasurer's office, and there saw Mr. Pennell stretched senseless upon the floor. He at once ran for assistance, and met in the corridor Mr. George Lobb, clerk in the City Treasurer's office, and Mr. Edward Wilson, Deputy United States Marshal. These gentlemen hastened to Mr. Pennell's office and found him in an unconscious condition with a large bruise on his head. A glance told them that he had fallen in a fit, but a look at the room showed papers scattered about the floor, the safe opened and apparently robbed, and the back window open. By this time a general alarm had been given, and messengers were at once dispatched to the City Marshal and to the physician, City Marshal Parker and Dr. C. A. Ring were soon on the spot. By this time Mr. Pennell had recovered consciousness, though his mind was still in a confused state. The statement which he made is substantially as follows:

Shortly before six o'clock last evening he went to the Advertiser office for a copy of the evening paper, turning out all the lights in his office except one, before he left. On his return he noticed a man standing in the doorway, and he and whose face was hidden. On entering the office he turned up the light and felt to reading the paper. A few minutes after he closed a man entered the room, stepped up to the railing in front of the desk and asked him if he could cash a check. Mr. Pennell, who at once felt suspicious of the man and his motive, replied that he could not at that hour in the day. Just then a tap on the window behind him arrested his attention, and he turned to look. A slight movement of the man before him caused him to turn quickly around. He saw another man entering the door, and that was the last he knew of the robber. He found himself upon the floor, with his neighbors about him, though he has an indistinct recollection of feeling a kick about his throat. He then saw Mr. Pennell describe the man who asked him to cash the check as small sized, with dark hair, short mustache, square frame, thin face, about five feet and eight inches high, wearing a dark suit, sitting stool, and Astrakhan hat. He thought he saw the man at the office about a year and a half ago, on a similar errand. The other man, who came into the room at the time of the tap on the window, resembled in personal appearance the notorious "Scotty," and that he resembled him is recalled, but he is most insignificant looking. He saw no man at the window when he turned to look.

A hasty examination of the safe revealed the fact that it had been robbed, and that about \$10,000 in bank notes and bonds had been taken. Most of the bills were in packages of \$1000 each. There was considerable amount on hand, much money being required to settle many bills coming due at the end of the year. A portion of the stolen funds was the personal property of Mr. Pennell. In their hands the thieves overlooked a box containing several thousand dollars in government bonds, the property of Sewall Barker of Windham, a ward of Mr. Pennell. A wallet containing considerable money was taken from Mr. Pennell's person. Mr. Pennell's coat. Mr. Pennell was much confused from the effects of the blow, and could give but little account of the amount or denomination of the money. At first he could not recall of seeing but one man in the office, but after a time he remembered that the man who stepped in at the tap on the window pane. It is possible that the tap may have been on the stained glass in the door, and intended as a signal from the confederate in the corridor that he was to enter.

Mr. Pennell was soon removed to his home on Smith street, where he was attended by Dr. Ring. A mark was found on the side of his head, apparently made by a slug-shot, and a cut over the right eye-brow, which may have been made by the blow. There were also marks of strangulation about the throat. The slug-shot caused concussion of the brain, and there is great danger of inflammation. The gravest consequences are apprehended, and strict quiet is enjoined on Mr. Pennell.

After the robbery the thieves opened the back window, jumped out and made their way to Chestnut street, leaving the tracks of their feet in the snow. No further trace of them has been found, though the police have been on the search ever since. It is possible that they left by the back, though the best opinion is that they are secreted somewhere about the city. From the coolness, skill and audacity displayed in the affair, it is surmised that it was managed by professionals. Boston detectives who have been in the city have stated that they have traced the robbers of Dearborn's jewelry store in Boston to this city, and it is possible that the expert thieves assumed their leisure by cracking a safe and a head at the same time.

Mr. W. C. Beckley, a resident of the city, who after six o'clock, all was quiet. Young Hall, the news-boy, said it was ten minutes past six when he discovered Mr. Pennell there.

Resolved, that we will not ignore all party lines in this work, and that we will not vote for any candidate for office who is not a prohibitionist and a total abstainer.

Resolved, that the burdens down, upon us by the party traffic, be taken away to be borne, and that we will not submit to such wrong, which were all adopted unanimously.

In the evening a very large temperance meeting was held, and addressed by H. M. Bryant, Job Sanford, J. B. Filbeckson, Rev. O. P. Russell, A. J. Chase, and others, with music by Misses Alice Witham, Carrie Clark, and Mr. D. D. Dresser; and thus closed another of the pleasant gatherings of the Temperance League of East Deering.

The people of East Deering entertained the strangers present highly. Over sixty signed the pledge and joined the Association. There will be another meeting in the new hall Sunday evening, when good speakers will be present to address the meeting.

STATISTICS.—During the year of 1874 there have been 200 intensions of marriage recorded in the City Clerk's office, against 209 for 1873. There have been 732 deaths against 693 for the year 1873. During the month of December there have been 46 intensions of marriage recorded and 34 deaths have occurred. The police have made 3549 arrests, being the largest number of arrests that have been provided for the past year.

BANK DIVIDENDS.—The banks have declared the following semi-annual dividends payable next Saturday: Cumberland National, 6-14 per cent, on \$250,000, \$16,125; National Traders 5 per cent, on \$500,000, \$15,000; Merchants' National, 5-13 per cent, on \$200,000, \$16,000; Coseo National, 5 per cent, on \$600,000, \$30,000; First National, 5 per cent, on \$800,000, \$40,000.

ACCIDENTS.—Yesterday morning a number of barrels of fish were left on Commercial street near the railroad track when a passing locomotive hit them, making the street look fishy for a long distance. The locomotive was slightly injured.

Last Friday, Mr. Greenville J. Jordan, cooper on Cross street, was passing away on a pile of staves, injuring him seriously.

A CAUTION.—People should exercise much economy in the use of water now, as the supply would be serious. Yesterday morning there was but ten pounds pressure at the Machigone engine house, and for some days there has been no water on the hill. An attempt is being made by machinery at Camp Lake to force water into the pipes.

A water famine is imminent.

THE COCHING EVENT.

The Maine Poultry Association.

The annual exhibition of the Maine Poultry Association at City Hall next month promises to be the largest exhibition ever held in the state. Reports received from the exhibitors of the parts of the state tend to show that all the available space in the city building will be occupied. There has been a large number of special premiums offered by individuals and the association. We give below the special premiums offered by individuals:

P. E. Wheeler, Portland, for best pair of chickens, \$10.
P. E. Wheeler, Portland, for best collection of fowls, \$10.
Gibson & Waterhouse, Portland, for the best five pairs of fowls, \$10.
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