

Mr. Jerome, Mr. Perkins was met by an officer at his lawyer's office, and informally detained there until his counsel had procured writs of habeas corpus and certiorari of Justice Greenbaum, of the Supreme Court. He was then brought before Justice Greenbaum, who paroled him in the custody of his counsel pending argument and decision. The proceeding is not altogether unusual in cases of persons of repute when the question of crime is in doubt on points of law. The matter will now be carried to the Court of Appeals, without subjecting Mr. Perkins to the indignity of indictment and a jury trial, and the decision will depend, not upon the evidence which a grand jury might unearth, but upon the validity of the complaint which Mr. Jerome has made.

On the subject of unlawful campaign contributions, Senator Tillman called the attention of the Senate on the 27th to the fact that he has a resolution pending before the elections committee providing for the investigation of campaign contributions by national banks. He read section 5209 of the Revised Statutes relating to embezzlement and misappropriation of funds by bank officials and said:

If it can be shown that national banks in 1896, and probably since then, have been guilty of disobeying this section and of contributing funds of the banks to campaign committees, it seems to me there is a clear case of malfeasance in office, which ought to be investigated and the men guilty of this disobedience of law called to account.

Mr. Tillman said he had proof he would present to the Senate at the proper time that national banks in one city contributed \$17,000 to the Republican campaign fund in 1896, and he understood that the national banks of Chicago contributed \$70,000. The total of such contributions from all cities that year, he declared, amounted to between \$1,000,000 and \$1,500,000.

Fighting in the Philippines.

Another war of native extermination by American troops in the Philippines (p. 839) was reported by Manila dispatches on the 26th, which were to the effect that—

Gov. Curry of the island of Samar, after hiding thirty-six hours, escaped from hostile natives after the recent attack of the latter and proposes to begin a campaign for the extermination of the Pulajanes. The loyal Filipinos in the island of Samar are eager to assist in the campaign. Gen. Buchanan, commanding the department of Viscayas, has left for Catbogan, the capital of the island of Samar, to lend the aid of the Federal government to the Insular authorities if desirable. Small detachments of Federal troops are now assisting the constabulary in the pursuit of the fugitive Pulajanes. Two companies of Federal infantry will reinforce the constabulary. Gov. Curry in his report to the government on the recent engagement with Pulajanes at Magtaon says: "Had a hard fight, in which Capt. Jones of the constabulary lost half of his command, gaining a magnificent victory in the face of overwhelming odds. The Pulajanes, under a flag of truce, and while promising to surrender, immediately opened fire, charging the constabulary. The leader of the Pulajanes ordered his men to first wipe out the constabulary and then to capture myself and the other Americans. I have requested a company of Federal troops immediately, and later on, when joined by this additional force, will prepare to wage a war of extermination against the fugitives, which is the only alternative. The constabulary did splendidly, though their inferior firearms, which were minus bayonets, placed them at a disadvantage. With the assistance of the Federal troops we will be able to exterminate the fugitives, who are now in the mountains and will destroy the crops. The natives of Samar, with the exception of the Pulajanes, are in sympathy with us and are assisting us. Every town is endeavoring to assist us in the extermination of the fugitives."

NEWS NOTES

—Johnstown, Pa., which suffered so severely from a flood in 1889, was swept by fire on the 27th.

—The bill in the Iowa legislature for reducing railroad fares to two cents a mile was defeated in the lower House on the 28th by 57 to 40.

—The "Ligue pour la Representation Proportionnelle," of France, has a bill before the French chamber of deputies, which is supported by both parties, and is said to have every prospect of success. It provides for the use of proportional representation in parliamentary elections.

—The English Proportional Representation Society, which has been revived under the presidency of Lord Avebury and the secretaryship of Mr. Humphreys, is promoting a bill in Parliament for giving municipalities the

option of using proportional representation in their elections.

—In the British House of Commons, the trades disputes bill for the protection of trades unions against judicial oppression was introduced by the Ministry on the 28th. It provides that no act of a trades union shall be held to be unlawful if such act would not be unlawful when done by an individual.

—At the executive council of the National Civic Federation at New York on the 6th, the following officers were elected: President, August Belmont; first vice president, Samuel Gompers; second vice president, Oscar S. Straus; treasurer, Isaac Seligman; chairman conciliation department, Seth Low; chairman welfare department, Charles A. Moore; chairman executive council, Ralph M. Easley; secretary executive council, Samuel B. Donnelly. With the exception of Mr. Seligman, who takes the place of Cornelius N. Bliss, and Charles A. Moore, who replaces H. H. Vreeland, all the officers were re-elected.

—According to the Yonkers (N. Y.) Observer of March 24, Mr. J. B. Shelley, living in the Lake flats on Riverdale avenue in Yonkers, for which he paid \$12 a month, was in the habit of paying about \$1.50 a month for his gas. The Westchester Lighting company for some reason changed his meter, and presented for the following month a bill of \$15. In two weeks more they made the bill \$24. On Mr. Shelley's inability to pay the sums which they sought to collect from him, they cut off his meter, thus causing the loss of the tenant to whom he had let one of his rooms, and materially lessening his rent and injuring his health. Through the instrumentality of his lawyer, John Brooks Leavitt, of New York city, the matter was taken to the Supreme Court of the State, and a jury on the 19th, rendered a verdict for \$2,260 for Mr. Shelley.

PRESS OPINIONS

THE CHICAGO ELECTION.

Chicago Examiner (Dem.), Mar. 29.—Do not imagine, citizens of Chicago, that the franchise plotters have abandoned the hope of another 20-year grant. They do not propose to consult your wishes. They hope to nullify your two Mueller law ordinances in the new Council. You may vote, but they will bribe. . . . The franchise plotters hope to stave off municipal ownership for another year. If they block Mayor Dunne's policy for 12 months they will then put in office the kind of mayor they want. They have already picked out their "settlement" mayor. A franchise worth a couple of hundred millions is worth fighting for, and the traction crowd numbers a good many trained fighters. They have their backs to the wall now. But what about next year, if you fail now to give Mayor Dunne a fighting majority in the new Council? Delay is now the slogan of the traction campaign. It is an issue between the people's aldermen and traction aldermen. You must ratify the two Mueller law ordinances by the "Little Ballot" and send municipal ownership aldermen to the Coun-