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THE WORLD DAILY AND SUNDAY OFFERS

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LAST EDITION.

ANOTHER NAPOLEON?

What Became of the \$4,000,000 Raised by Backer?

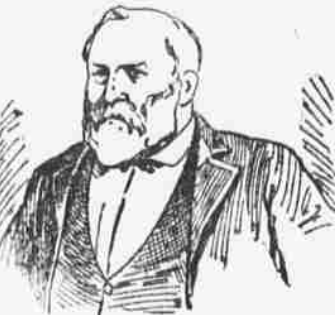
The Broker's Methods Similar to Those of Ferdinand Ward.

Customers' Collateral Used for His Own Purposes.

Judge Harden's Case Thought to Be Only One of Many.

What has become of the \$4,000,000 which Abraham Backer, the Broadway note broker, who failed two weeks ago, claims to have lost in his business?

This is the question that is agitating the business community just at present, and no explanation has yet been forthcoming, either from Mr. Backer or his representatives.



Except among a certain class of business men with whom he had dealings, Mr. Backer was almost entirely unknown, and when the announcement that he had failed for \$4,000,000 was made people began to ask, 'Who is Backer?'

It was said in reply by his representatives that he was one of the largest dealers in commercial paper in town, and that he handled every year an average of \$15,000,000 of the best paper in the trade.

As it has been reported that Mr. Backer suffered any losses from the failure of business men for whom he negotiated and sold notes, which might have forced him to make an assignment, the fact of his failure under the circumstances is one of the most remarkable features of the case.

According to the statements made at the time of his failure, Backer was crippled by the condition of the money market, which, it was said, made it very difficult to float the quantity of commercial paper which he generally handled, and also to the decline in value of certain Southern railroad bonds, of which he was a holder.

With regard to the money market, it may be said that rates have been easy for a long time, and so far as the details of the failure have come to light it does not appear that Mr. Backer had any difficulty in discounting the paper of his clients at many of the city banks, even without the deposit of collateral security.

The facts which have developed in connection with the arrest of Mr. Backer, which were first announced in yesterday's EVENING WORLD on the complaint of Judge William D. Harden, of the South, throw new light on the case and bring out some startling features.

USED HIS CUSTOMER'S COLLATERAL. Among the queries called out by the failure was one as to whether Mr. Backer had not been practicing some irregularities in his dealings with his customers, and why a large quantity of collateral securities pledged to him with the notes which he sold for his clients had mysteriously disappeared.

It was also said that although the paper had been discounted by Backer, the proceeds had never found their way to the makers of the notes. His sudden failure had thrown everything into confusion, and anxious creditors were unable to discover what had become of their money or their securities.

The suit brought by Judge Harden, however, gives some insight into Backer's methods of doing business, and from the statement made in court yesterday by Mr. Intermyer, the judge's lawyer, it would appear that there are many other creditors of the bankrupt note-broker in the same boat with Judge Harden.

Judge Harden alleges in his affidavit that on March 14, 1890, he delivered to Backer a \$10,000, 285 Broadway, a note for \$10,000. At the same time he delivered to Backer securities to the value of more than \$10,000, consisting of debenture bonds of the Central Railroad and Banking Company, of Georgia, valued at \$7,000, and certificates of the Savannah Gaslight Company, valued at \$2,500.

CITY NEWS TERSELY TOLD.

To-Day's Record of Minor Happenings About Town.

Chronicles Briefly Drawn from Notebook and Docket.

2,352 Immigrants To-Day. The arrivals of immigrants at the Barge Office to-day reached 2,352.

Fire in a Dyeing Establishment. The dyeing establishment of William Fatt, at 775 Second street, was slightly damaged by fire this morning.

Two Postmasters Meet. Postmaster Van Cott called on Postmaster Collins, of Brooklyn, to-day and inspected the new Brooklyn Post-Office building.

Taken Sick in the Bath. Widow Teresa Palk, eighty-five years old, of 318 East Twenty-fourth street, was taken suddenly sick while in the public bath at 10-30 this morning and was sent to Bellevue Hospital.

Caught in the Act. James McCauley, of 10 Marton street, was this morning caught by Detective Lake inserting his fingers into the change pocket of a man on Fulton street, and at the Tombs was held for trial.

Held for Speak-This-Verly. Charles Ashman, of 120 Park place, was held at the Tombs this morning charged with stealing two cotton wrappers and one apron yesterday from the Blokkman family's apartments at 210 William street.

Tried to Rescue a Prisoner. Anthony May, of 1494 Second avenue, was sent to the island to-day for assaulting Police- man Cooney with a slung shot and trying to rescue Charles Myers, who had been arrested for assaulting his mother.

Hysterical on an L Station. A woman about twenty years old, with dark hair and eyes, and wearing a blue dress and black sailor hat, was taken with a hysterical fit in the elevated station at Third avenue and Ninth street at 4:40 o'clock this morning. She was sent to Bellevue Hospital.

Broke a Chair Over His Head. Morris Sulks, of 187 Eldridge street, who got into a quarrel with Jacob Faber, in the latter's coffee and cake saloon, at 195 Heister street, and broke a chair over his head last evening, was held in Essex Market Court this morning.

Two Abandoned Infants. A male infant about two weeks old was found in the area of 107 East Fifty-third street early this morning. A female child one month old was found in the hall of 401 East Thirtieth street. Both are at Police Headquarters.

Fell from the Fifth Story. John Carson, of 522 West Fifty-second street, a carpenter working on the new building at 248 West Fifty-first street, fell from the fifth story to the cellar to-day, breaking his right arm and cutting his head. He was taken to Roosevelt Hospital.

Swallowed the Toothache Remedy. Sequine Ludwig, of 153 Bloomfield street, Hoboken, who was taken to the station-house last night, supposed to be suffering from poison, recovered sufficiently to go home this morning. He had swallowed a toothache remedy intended for external application.

Manager Helm Surprised that He Was Lost. Christopher Helm, manager of the Stout & Talmage at Keyport, N. J., who was reported missing, returned to his home to-day. He was recuperating in the Orange Mountain and had to notify his friends, who feared he had been murdered because he had a large sum of money on his person.

Helwig Held for Assault. William A. Helwig, of 544 1/2 Thirtieth street, Brooklyn, was held in Jefferson Market Court to-day charged with assaulting John Higgins, who is attempting to escape from being held down a grain bin, fracturing his hip.

Annie Left Home in a Huff. The police of Brooklyn were asked this morning to look out for Annie Burns, twelve years old, whose parents live at 818 Pacific street. The girl left home in a huff on Wednesday night, and has not been seen since. She was dressed in a dark plaid dress.

Fireworks at the Beach. The "Fall of Paris" with its fine military display and tableaux, is drawing large audiences to Manhattan Beach. The engagement of Achille Pithon, the French gymnast, has proven a great success.

Supplied a Thrifty Crew with Water. The captain of the steamer Germania of the White Star Line, which arrived this morning from Liverpool, reports that on Aug. 11 he sighted the schooner Barbara Hark, of Newfoundland, flying signals of distress. She was out of water, and was given a supply from the Germania.

DROPPED DEAD IN A HOTEL. Edward McDermott, believed to have committed suicide with poison. Edward McDermott, a lodger at the South Fifth Avenue Hotel, 520 South Fifth avenue, died suddenly shortly after 9 o'clock this morning while standing at the entrance of that hotel.

A Wealthy Chicagoan's Suicide. CHICAGO, Aug. 14.—James Wallace, at one time chief ticket agent of the Northwestern Railroad in this city, committed suicide last evening at his home by hanging himself by a strap from a portiere pole. He had been a member of a prominent club, and was possessed of considerable wealth. It is said he had made his deposit.

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SEARCHING FOR THE LEPEERS.

Teang Ding, the Chinese Grocer, Now in Hiding.

The Health Board Intends Sending Them to North Brothers Island.

The Health authorities decided this morning to take summary action in the case of Teang Ding, the Chinese leper, and order his removal to some isolated place whether the Chinaman was willing to go or not, but Teang Ding had evidently made up his mind not to be caught again.

The officers found his house locked and Ding could not be found. It is believed he is in concealment somewhere.

The other leper, Ong Moy Toy, was also released from the Charity Hospital this morning upon the demand of his friends, the officials having no authority to detain him.

Ong Moy Toy was spirited away soon as he arrived on this side of the river. Ong Moy Toy was arrested at noon, however, at 94 Mott street.

Mrs. Sarah Childress Polk was the daughter of Joel and Elizabeth Childress, and was born near Murfreesboro, Tenn., Sept. 1803.

Her father was a farmer in easy circumstances. She was sent to the Moravian Institute at Salem, N. C., where she was educated, and returning home still in her teens married Mr. Polk, who was then a member of the Legislature of Tennessee.

On her return as the wife of the President, having no children, Mrs. Polk devoted herself entirely to her duties as mistress of the White House, and she has a widely recognized and abounded the custom of giving refreshments to the guests.

She was noted for her taste in keeping with the character of these entertainments. In spite of her reforms Mrs. Polk was extremely popular.

Mrs. Polk became a communicant of the Presbyterian Church in 1834, and maintained her connection with that denomination until her death.

She had lived continuously in Nashville in Polk Place from the time of her marriage, except when in Washington during the long absence of her distinguished husband and while mistress of the White House.

There are a dozen degrees less of heat to-day than on Tuesday, but the air is charged with 88 per cent of humidity, and it makes the atmosphere sultry and oppressive, even though there were only 77 degrees of heat at noon.

A humidity of 65 would be about normal for such a temperature, but 88 makes us all enjoy an involuntary Turkish bath, with a southwest breeze of only seven miles.

Brooks had taken the firm's tag off it, and when arrested he tried to swallow it, but the policeman choked it out of his mouth. On his person were found several paper tickets for similar goods.

When Caught Henry Brooks Tried to Swallow Evidence. Henry Brooks, of 214 West Thirtieth street, and Walter Tazewell, of 190 West Thirty-second street, both colored elevator boys in the wholesale house of A. Friedlander & Co., 377 Broadway, were held in the Tombs Court to-day, charged with grand larceny.

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WIDOW OF THE TENTH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

She Passed Away This Morning at the Age of Eighty-eight.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS. NASHVILLE, Tenn., Aug. 14.—Mrs. James K. Polk, widow of the tenth President of the United States, died at 7:30 this morning at her home in this city.

Mrs. Polk was taken seriously ill Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock on returning from a short drive, and owing to her extreme age—eighty-eight years—little hope was entertained of her recovery.

The trouble was general congestion of the system. She passed a quiet day yesterday but suffered periodical attacks of intense pain. Last night she grew weaker and steadily failed until the end came this morning, surrounded by a few loving friends and relatives.

The entire city is giving expressions of profound regret at the passing away of the honored lady who has graced the community with her dignified presence for more than half a century. Bold throughout the city were mournfully tolled, announcing the sad event.

Mrs. Sarah Childress Polk was the daughter of Joel and Elizabeth Childress, and was born near Murfreesboro, Tenn., Sept. 1803.

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ESOP ON CURRENT EVENTS.

XXXIV.

A Famished Fox saw some clusters of ripe grapes hanging from a vine. After trying for some time to get at them and seeing that it was an impossibility he turned away, saying: "I could get them if I really wanted them, but I do not think I will; they are sour and not as ripe as I thought."

There is a prospect that the strike of the Lowell cloakmakers, cutters, tailors and pressers in the shops of Julius Stein & Co., at 607 Broadway, Friedman Brothers, at 523 Canal street, and Benjamin & Co., at 465 Broadway street, may be settled to-day.

At the headquarters of the Consolidated Board of Cloak-Makers and Operators, which ordered the strike, it was said this morning that already two of the firms whose men went out yesterday had made overtures towards effecting a settlement, and it was expected that the third concern would be heard from before the day had passed.

Dion W. Burke, the walking delegate of the United Union, said to an Evening World reporter this morning, that the strike could not last much over to-day, as far as the three manufacturers are concerned. This was the busiest part of the season, as the styles for next winter were being made up.

"The strike," said Delegate Burke, "is the result of low wages. The firm of Friedman Brothers have been paying lower wages than any other firm, and they have consequently been able to find other workers. We have been trying to make terms with the firm for some time, but failed."

As for Stein & Co. this firm has for some time been endeavoring to make its factory non-union. Several of its men were asked to leave the firm, and when they refused to do so were discharged.

Benjamin & Co. have been employing non-union men, and our men have been with them.

Delegate Burke said further, that there was little likelihood that the strike would be extended, as the other manufacturers and the unions were on the best of terms.

A number of the strikers were at the headquarters at 45 Franklin street this morning, several cutters from The Evening World being there. The statement given out yesterday at the office of Friedman Brothers, that the men had been making as high as \$40 a week, was untrue.

They declared that the firm sold their goods at a profit, and that the average rate of wages was far below that claimed by the firm.

Col. Phisterer to Head the New G. A. R. Commander's Staff. (SPECIAL TO THE EVENING WORLD.) ALBANY, Aug. 14.—Acting Assistant Adjutant-General Phisterer has been selected by the commander-in-chief, Palmer, of the G. A. R., as his Adjutant-General.

Col. Phisterer is of German birth and enlisted in 1855 in the Third United States Cavalry. His salary as his new office is \$2,000 a year.

Agent Finn denounced Wilson in court this morning, but Justice Meade told him to reserve his opinions, as the man's record, if he had one, would come out on his examination.

Lawyer Howe retorted by saying that he had been behind the scenes himself in the case, and that some little birds had been whispering some very important information regarding the actions of the Society's agents.

The girl herself had nothing whatever to say, but it was remarked that she did not regard her accused abductor with even a look of scorn, and Lawyer Howe intimated that she had been forced into the case against her will.

Wilson is forty years old, and besides controlling three female baseball lines also claims to have two theatrical companies on the road playing the "Little Countess" and "The Lion."

In Blair to Go to Business? (SPECIAL TO THE EVENING WORLD.) WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—A rumor is in circulation that Henry W. Blair, the unacceptable Minister to China, may succeed Charles Emory Smith as Minister to Russia.

Four Years for Corrigan. Driver Francis Corrigan, of 92 West Broadway, was sentenced to four years in State prison to-day by Judge Cowing on his plea of guilty of stealing \$45 worth of goods from Thurber, Weyland & Co.

Hit for Refusing a Drink. Patrick Hanlon, of 33 James street, was held in Tombs Court to-day charged with hitting bartender James Hughes, of 23 Chatham street, with a beer-glass for refusing to sell him a drink.

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Pitcher Westervelt Declines. HACKENSACK, Aug. 14.—Huyler Westervelt, the star amateur pitcher of the Englewood Field Club, who was offered \$1,000 for the balance of the season by the New York Club managers and \$1,000 to pitch in 2 seasons for the Club, is authority for the statement that he has declined the offer.

No Clue to Hannah Robinson's Murderer. (SPECIAL TO THE EVENING WORLD.) JAMAICA, L. I., Aug. 14.—The detectives who are trying to find a clue to the murderer of Hannah Robinson, whose body was found at the Glendale Aug. 2, have had no encouragement from their work on different occasions.

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UNCLE BOB RUNS SECOND. IT MAY BE SETTLED TO-DAY.

Bermuda Beats Him at Nine Furlongs at Saratoga.