#### FRENCH ART ROBBERIES.

The Truth About Antoine Thomas and His Exploits - Church Treasures Left Unguarded by the Separation Law-M. Combes and ilis Private Inventories-Excited Antiquaries

[Special Correspondence of The Evening Post,1

Panis. October 15 .- On one side there has been exaggeration, on the other there are revelations will to be made, in the case " Antein Thomas and his pactners rob-I really an treasures of French churches. The particular picturesque enough in themechies have not lost by transmission through the news agencies. There is no one black band, operating over thousands of Dales of country, with its members mysin an analy driving up in automobiles at mid-... to break into venerable church buildthe and carry off, with sure antiquarian how letge, only treasures gluuinely ansometimes actually leaving modern copies in the place that their thefts may but he noticed. This is not more likely then the other fact which is an unfailing caligin to the French public-that all these Hall from sures, genuine and stolen, are destime for Mr. Plerpont Morgan.

The real revelation is the endless amount o antique art works still existing in he he churches, some of which remain who to they were placed centuries ago, in the days of good King Dagobert or St. Louis, by great artists who were only humthe provincial artisans leaving no name te hand them. The metal-wrought casket or to beguary of Ambazac, which ted to the discovery of the Thomas gang, is but one ex-supple from a thousand. It has also led to the declaration of any number of similar The alert was given when it first became

cyldent that the Combes Government would surveyd in its project of the separation of Church and State, which quite as evidently involved the State's taking possession of all Church property. Prime Minister Combes had already been shrewd enough to the private inventor es in virtue of one " Napoleon's forgotten decrees. These incontouries must not be contounded with those which after the vote of separation, take rise to riotous demonstrations in many parishes. They were made in 1905 by spesaif commissioners in each of the eightytour departments of France. Local archiveris and historians, with expert collectors, made as complete catalogues as they were able of all objects in churches and sacristhe presenting any interest of art or archarology. These art objects were very loosely passed over in the later political inventories, which alone serve for the presout legal status of former church prop-

Copies of these first and competent inventuries were deposited in the archives of each department prefecture. They were supposed to be unknown to the general public; but it is now clear that antiquaries by trade-those who search desperately through every corner of Europe to find something genuine to sell to private collectors knowing the difference between genuine and modern antiques-have somehow made acquaintance with many of these and inventories. If the antiquaries and their emissaries continue, these inventories may serve some future student of provincial archives to make up the list of French church treasures, from Pepin the Short's reliquary to the needlework of modern sisterboods as they existed at the moment of separation. But the treasures themselves will have crossed the English Channel, if not the Atlantic Ocean.

This is partly a consequence of the law In the present legal status of the churches there is no one responsible for these art treasures; and they have no guard. The the communes. The parish priests have only the right to occupy them for such religious worship as was exercised before the State took possession; but they have no property right, not even to replace a pane of glass. The "fabriques" or vestries, recognized by the state before separation as trustees of the entire Church property. whether pre-revolutionary or constituted by private contributions, have been dissolved. The State has taken over all the property of every kind; but it has made no one responsible for its care. The Mayors of the communes have, of course, a local interest to prevent the loss of property, which often they would be glad enough to sell for the benefit of their public institutions. But they, too, have no authority or duty in the matter, whether to keep or sell; and they can, at most, only report to the far-away prefect when they notice anything missing.

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The parish priests, who have free access to the buildings, are accused by the radical press of receiving money for the substitution of copies for genuine antique treasures; but this is improbable. They already live in terror of the law, which has taken from them even their houses; and there would be no surety for money which they might thus amass for parish expenses under the new system. It is also unlikely that they would consider themselves justifled in selling even what the State, as they say, has robbed from the Church. Among the papers of Antoine Thomas were found letter heads printed with the names of numbers of parish priests, who, in France, next to never use such refinements. Doubtless they were for his own use in glossing over the sales of his robberies to antiquaries, who do not care to look too severely into the legitimate provenence of art treasures from French churches, It is true that, before the final State inventories, some fabriques and parish priests may have sold entiques, replacing them in the church by cheap modern imitations, and turned over the profit to the parish funds; but these very funds have now been taken

Often objects of worth have been simply stolen without any black band or unscrupulous antiquary. A tourist relates that, wandering through the ancient church of Montreuil-sur-Mer, quite alone in the building, he opened a cupboard and examined its contents at his leigure. He was struck by a delitelous piece of brass work-the crosler of a child-abbens. Abbey and abbeasen disappeared ages ago from Montrewill, but relics of them still remain in what is now a parieb church. To see what would bappen, he carried about with him the crosier until his visit was ended and then put it back in its place, without its absence being poticed. An antiquary might not have

the feverish activity of collectors, may lead to the government removing the mere taluable art objects from the churches altogether and placing them in provinced museums. Many of these treasures were Exchange position by President Thomas not in use in the churches, even at the time of the Revolution. Rock-crystal chalices tenth or thirteenth-century reliquation without relies, preciously brocaded vestments of abandoned fashlon, are no longused in public worship; and the Church has already been deprived of all property right

Meanwhile, it would be unwise in American collectors to suppose that all the arobjects offered them as coming from French churches are genuine. The antiquary's trade in recent times has become a fearful and wonderful branch of commerce. The American lady on her travels, who buys for an armchair hanging some gold-embroldered wilk chasuble, such as she has seen on she entered Roman Catholic churches, may be ge'ting something specially made and aged for such as she. Of course, it may have formed part of the chapel furniture of some alsterhood which the law has dispersed, and whose property the State is liquidating. It is only the great collectors. willing to pay fortunes, who will acquire the real treasures; and they-even Mr. Pierpont Morgan-will do well to scrutinize, not only the genuineness, but also the legitimate ownership of the art objects offered them. Thomas seems to have been caught by asking only tens of thousands of france for objects worth hundreds of thousands, or millions.

#### INTERCITY GOLF TOURNEY.

Match for the Lealey Cup Begun To day in Brookline.

BROOKLINE Mass. October 25 .- The thir ercity competition for the Lesley cun beciphia, and Massachusetts Golf Associas began to-day on the links of the Counlast named associations. The morning even oon an old-fashioned foursome competition. The winner to-day will play the New the final matches to-morrow. The order the play by the two teams this ference was as follows:

rr, H. B. McFarland, J. P. Edward, W. G. Pfeil, A. W. Tillinghast, P. H. Castner, H. Clements. E. A. Service, and J. S. At-

Massachusetts-J, G. Anderson, A. G. ockwood, W. C. Chick, P. W. Whittemore Kimball, H. H. Wilder, T. Briggs, H. R. ohnstone, J. G. Thorp, and M. Stanton.

CAPT. SWIFT ASSIGNED TO DUTY. Will Succeed Admiral Snow as Com-

mandant of Boston Navy Yard. WASHINGTON, October 25 .- Capt. William Swift will be assigned to duty as commandant of the Boston Navy Yard, to succeed Rear-Admiral Snow, who will be retired on . November 18 next.

by order of President Roosevelt after having been under suspension for six months of a nine-months' sentence, for allowing the battleship Connecticut to ruw on a rock

#### PROTECTION OF NEVADA BANKS. George Windeld and Senator Nixon

Devoting Buttee Fortunes to It. GOLDFIELD, Nev., October 25 .- George Winfield yesterday authorized the statement that he and Senator Nixon were using their entire finances for the protection of the banks in which they are interested. The banks are at Reno, Tonopah, Goldfield

The Goldfield Consolidated was forced to lay off a large number of miners yesterday by reason of the refusal of the sampling

#### JAUL R. HOLLAND CONVICTED.

Ex-Cashier of Pittsburgh Bank Found Guilty of Embessiement.

PITTSBURGH, October 25 .- Paul R. Holland, ex-cashler of the Turtle Creek National Bank, was convicted to-day in four counts of embezzlement and four for ab straction of money. The jury added a recommendation for mercy. An application for a new trial is expected.

#### THIRD TERMERS CONFLICT.

Elkins Says West Virginia Will Hear of Roosevelt Only - Gaines Said

[Special Dispatch to The Evening Post.] WASHINGTON, October 25. - Conflicting but important news comes from Kansas statesmen. Gov. Hoch's duly chronieled threat of yesterday to run over Republicans who opposed Roosevelt for a third term "like a herd of Texas steers," is to be set alongside what Senator Long said to-day, when leaving the White House. "Kansas," he said, "will send a delegation to the Republican National Convention next summer instructed to vote for the nomination of William H. Taft. This does not mean that the State is against the President. It means that we are overwhelmingly for him because our action in instructing the delegates for Taft will show we have taken Roosevelt at his word, and will work and vote for the candidate whom we regard as best fitted to be the next ocupant of the White House."

Senator Elkins of West Virginia was another of the forenoon visitors. He made it evident that Mr. Roosevelt had not enlightened him about his present attitude toward the third term propaganda.

"We have taken the President at his word that he will not be a candidate again, down in West Virginia," remarked the Senator, "but there is no use in talking to the voters about any other man so long as the present uncertainty exists about the President's intentions toward a third term. The voters of West Virginia have not lined up for any of the candidates. They are waiting to find out whether the President will accept another nomination."

This is in conflict with a recent assertion made by Representative Gaines of the same State, who said he had not found any demand in his district for Mr. Roosevelt's renomination.

The fishing schooner Cears G. Silgia lost nine of her crew last Monday on Georges Banks. The men were out in dor-les when a squall separated them from the ship. The schooner Francis Mesquits. The present scare, which has disclosed up two men in time to save them. | won the prise." "Chi" she

#### TEN MILLIONS PLEDGED.

[Continued from Page 1.1

Leans made on the Stock Exchange to-day will carry over to pert Monday.

A second important move was the sending of cash amounting to \$4,300,000 to the Trust Company of America through the Sub-

It was reported early this afternoon that Secretary Cortelyou had deposited about 5×,000,000 in New York banks to-day, in addition to deposits which he had previously made. Another large supply of small bills is on the way to New York from Washington.

It was understood, moreover, that negopriests' backs on the rare occasions when tiations were begun by international bankers looking to the importation of gold from London and Paris. It was expected that from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000 would be engaged at those centres for local use.

Prior to the opening of business this morning, an informal conference of several presidents of trust companies was held at the offices of the Union Trust Company for the purpose of strengthening the position of these interests.

There was a rumor to the effect that a conference of bankers was held at J. P. Morgan's office. George W. Perkins, one of the Morgan partners, made three trips across the street to see Secretary Cortelyou at the Sub-Treasury. When Mr. Morgan

"If people will keep their money in the banks, everything will be all right." IMPROVEMENT, SAYS WILLIAMS.

Later this afternoon, Clark Williams, State superintendent of banks, said that the situation showed improvement, and that if depositors were not unreasonable, he looked for a continuance of the improvement. William A. Nash, president of the Corn

Exchange Bank, gave the following opinion: "The situation is clearing up, and conditions are gradually becoming better, Secretary Cortelyou is rendering great assistance. The closing of the smaller banks vesterday showed remarkably good judgment on the part of their directors. They are absolutely solvent, however,"

Secretary Cortelyou at first refused to discuss the situation. Later, he said: "The fact that I make no statement of

the situation means that I think things are all right."

keeping Secretary Cortelyou closely informed of the day's developments. "Things are unquestionably looking better," said Mr. Perkins, after one of his a red picture hat and a green parasol."trips across the street.

The secretary, it was learned, would eral brought to him by those desiring loans from the government. It will be remembered that Secretary Cortelyou offered to lend \$25,000,000 to banking institutions, and a part of this amount is still available.

The Clearing House Committee met as usual to-day and talked over the situation. The balances of the banks were not made public, but it was learned authoritatively that the Mercantile National had a credit balance of \$111,000. This bank reported a similar favorable condition yes-

#### DOES NOT BLAME PRESIDENT.

Senator Elkins Disagrees with Charge that Roosevelt Caused Pinancial

[Special Dispatch to The Evening Post.] WASHINGTON, October 25 .- Senator Elkins, in talking about the financial disturbances in New York city, said to-day "I have heard the charge that President Roosevelt has brought about this condition of affairs. I disagree. The trouble in New York to-day comes from irregularities on the part of men in responsible positions who have been unable to stand the temptation to engage in high finance. Such a house-cleaning was bound to come sooner or later. If these disclosures had come in less prosperous times, panic might have followed in their wake. The country is able to stand the shock, and when it is over we shall be all the stronger for it."

Pailure of the President thus far to make any statement about the New York situation is attributed to the combined influence of Secretaries Root and Cortelyou, who advised the President last spring to turn a deaf ear to the appeals from New

York financiers during the March "scare." The hope is expressed that the President will adhere to his declared purpose of permitting the secretary of the treasury to handle the situation unhampered by the advice or comment of the White House. In banking and Treasury circles to-day the spinion is expressed that the worst is over, and that the uplift, although it will be slow, will be constant. The Treasury Department hears from New York that the bank community there is now in a thoroughly sound position, and that it only remains to allay the panic fears of deposi-

## MONTREAL EXCHANGE PANICKY.

Brokers Let Stocks Go for What They Will Bring.

MONTREAL, October 25.—Ruthless slaugh-Stock Exchange bers to-day, and declines ranging from two to nine points took place. Brokers, who had accounts on which marfor whatever it would bring. Toronto Railway broke nine points to \$314. Nova Scotia Steel 8 to 45, and Montreal Power 5 to 7814. Other etocks were weak, declines ranging from one to three points. Toward the close there was a firmer feel-

#### AN UNFORTUNATE ADMISSION.

At an evening party they were playing game which consisted in everybody in the room making a face, and the one who made the worst face was awarded a prize; they all did their level best, and then s gentleman went up to one of the ladies and said: "Well, madam, I think you have

NEW HAVEN BANKS ALL RIGHT.

Taking Care of Regular Customers and Have Surplus Funds to Spare.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., October 25 .- Interviews with the heads of nearly all the banks and trust companies in this city today have brought out statements in substantial agreement to the effect that their New York loans are comparatively few in number; that their deposits during the pending crisis in New York have been drawn upon very slightly, in view of what might have been expected, and that all the lecal institutions, while some outside loans may have been called, are taking care of their regular customers, and have a considerable surplus of funds to spare. The interviews also agree in the opinion that the New Haven banks are almost unaffected by the situation in New York, and that the trouble is substantially localized to

SERMONETTE ON LAWN CULTURE.

An Emporia business man who went East on a visit a few weeks ago, girded his loins and lifted up his voice, and spake upon this department in this wise: "Nothing impressed me so much while I was East as the beautiful lawns. If a man in some of those effete cities permitted his lawn to become ragged and weedy and generally disreputable, the Ku Klux Klan would call upon him and burn him at the stake. Out in this Western community we are too free and easy in the matter of lawn culture. Nonresidents may strive to make their grass plots comely, and the tenth will spoil the whole effect by letting his front yard run wild, raising dandelions, and all sorts of immoral weeds, which send their seeds forth on every wind that blows. The spread of the dandellon pest is largely due to these careless people. In my mind, it is just as important to make a town beautiful as to make it well behaved, and the law should provide pains and penalties for those who permit their lawns to become a nuisance. If the heedless individuals were arrested and fined a few times, they would blow themselves for stem-winding lawn-mowers, and try to live down the errors of the past. Emporia people should put some sort of fertilizer upon their lawns before the ground freezes up; some use stable refuse, but this always contains a lot of seed weeds, foxtail and other harmful ingredients; the best fertilizer is that manufactured at the packing houses, and some dealers might profit by handling it in the fail, and making known its virtues. If this stuff is spread upon the lawn in the fall, the winter and early spring rains soak its substance into the ground, and the vigor with which the grass grows in the spring will astonish the experimenter. Few people ever realize that a lawn becomes exhausted in the course of time, just as a field becomes semi-sterile if devoted for years to Wall Street believed that Mr. Perkins was one crop. The Eastern people have studied lawn culture, and we of the West should do the same, if we would have our front yards become as beat iful as a damsel with (Emporia Gazetto.

#### "VICIOUS" DRIVING

In the country victous driving consists for the most part in the reckless passing of vehicles, particularly where several are met, and in the thoughtless manner in which turns are rounded, crossroads are passed, and town and village streets are traversed. And yet constables confine their attention to arrests for violation of the speed limit over measured distances chosen where the roads are straight and open. It is highly probable that if along the same line-the subordination of the idea of technical infringements-magistrates and judges were at considerable pains to examine the records of those arrested, and the circumstances surrounding the act charged, whether the driver was on an open road, or the violation occurred under

conditions where any one was placed in danger, or in a reckless trial of speed, whether the driver was entitled to drive the car, what his record and habits were and generally made it the practice to expose and bear heavily upon carelesaness, recklessness, and flagrant disregard of the rights of others, it would bring greater respect for the law, and give greater dig-

The present method of executing the law results in arrests for violations of the speed limit, without regard to danger, and is too hard on the careful driver, and too easy on the reckless one. It operates also to prevent a prudent reduction of speed at points of real danger, for the motorist who feels free to recoup himself for loss of time where he may reasonably make use of the efficiency of his machine, will not begrudge the time lost in observing caution .- [From Henry B. Anderson's "Automobile Problems," in the November Cen-

#### SAVING THE PEARL MUSSEL.

Wisconsin has a deep interest in the plan of the government commission to save the pearl mussel in the Mississippi River and its tributaries. The mussel beds are being depleted rapidly. If anything is ever to be done, it must be done at once, and realising this. Congress set aside a fund for thorough investigation of the conditions as they exist.

Some of the most valuable fresh-water pearls have been taken from the Wisconsin rivers. As a result of the pearl fishing, button factories that utilize the shells have been established in this State, as well as along the lower Mississippi in Arkansas. and the White and the Black Rivers, and a lucrative employment has been developed. It is to protect this growing industry by finding a means of replenishing the fast disappearing product, that the government is making its investigations. Artificial propagation will be attempted.

and it is possible that protection by a closed senson will be suggested to Congress. The indiscriminate slaughter of the mussel has caused considerable opposition in Wisconsin, by personal appeal; through the press, and by individual effort. So the State no doubt will give the commission its hearty cooperation and support in this movement, as it has a vital concern in the preservation and protection of the sources of an industry that is an important feature of its commerce.-[Milwaukee Sen-

#### Died.

cut glass, etc. STRONG. - Suddenly, at Short Hills, N. J., Thurs-

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GERMAN MERCANTILE NEEDS.

Richard Guenther, consul-general Frankfort, states that he receives many letters from manufacturers in the United States with reference to the prospect of selling their goods in that section of Ger-

many, which leads him to write: Generally speaking, it can be said that all articles which find a ready market in the United States can be sold here, as well as in other parts of Germany, if proper methods are employed to introduce them and provided that they can compete in quality and price with similar articles of German make, or imported from other countries. It should be borne in mind that the same tastes and buy the same articles of manufacture as the people of the United States; therefore goods which find a market at home will, if proper parties are employed to introduce them in the same manner as is in vogue in the States, find also a market here.

The success which some American houses have attained in this city and all over Germany is not only due to the quality of the goods alone, but also to their systematic methods in conducting business and pushing their articles here. I know of instances here in Frankfort where American goods had gained a good foothold and would have continued to sell well except for the fact that the manufacturers at home did not promptly fill the orders to replen ish the stock of the German merchant here within a reasonable time. This caused the merchant here to give up dealing in the American article.

A case has just been called to my attention by an American gentleman representing a large American business concern in Frankfort. He had sold goods to the amount of several hundred thousand dollars per annum to one large Frankfort wholesale dealer. The goods had given satisfaction and the German merchant ordered large additional quantities as far back as last February. These orders have not yet been filled, and the merchant, having in several instances sold part of the newly ordered goods for delivery in June or July, has now suits for damages. He finally became so disgusted with the tardiness of the American firm that he cancelled all his orders, and it will be probably impossible to induce him again to handle these American goods.

No American manufacturer should try to build up a trade here unless he is ressonably confident that he will be able to supply the demand for his goods on short notice. The manufacturer should not expext to establish business connections with German parties through correspondence alone. He should look the ground ever personally or through a trusted representative. An interview with a prospective agent or a 'merchant expected to handle the goods will be more satisfactory to both parties and lend to a better understanding and more tangible results than

dosens of letters would bring about.
If an American manufacturer is really in earnest about establishing trade with Germany, the expense of a trip to investigate conditions would be a good investment in any event. If the result should show that, owing to peculiar circumstances, no remunnerative business could be done there will be money saved in the end. Many American firms auxious to sell their goods here have shipped them over without first studying the situation carefully and finally had to quit after suffering considerable financial loss.

All the American firms who have scored success here with their goods, as far as my knowledge goes, have sent expert representatives and, generally speaking, conducted their business on the same lines as a manufacturer in New York who wants to do business in California or any other State of the Union would pursue.

Many American articles of manufacture would sell well in Frankfort and all over Germany, if properly introduced and hanfor the middle and working classes, machinery of various kinds, lawn mowers. fountain pens which will not leak, typewriters, cash registers, tools, sanitary plumbing goods, locks, hinges, doorknobs.

A large furniture warehouse and sales-

niture for the middle and working classes were kept, would undoubtedly prove a great success, provided the goods are made to suit the German taste. American machine-made furniture can successfully compete with the German or any other make. We have the raw material and the best modern machinery; de manufacture furniture en a much larger scale than is done in any other country, the lumber used is thoroughly seasoned, and the result is that our furniture is the best and cheapest in the world.

Frankfort on the Main, on account of its central location, being one of the most important railroad centres in Germany, a great convention city, visited every year by parts of the Empire, would be an ideal point to place American furniture before the German people, and a good wholesale trade with other parts of Germany could readily, be established. The great success of the large American shoe store here, where only American shoes are kept, shows what can footwear is kept. If started and managed the enterprise is started in the right way.

start such a furniture emporium, it is im-peratively necessary for an expert in that line to come over and investigate the whole business, the styles, the woods preferred, etc. In Germany closets for clothing, for instance, are not parts of the dwellings, but every tenant buys his own wardrobes, which are quite expensive if the quality is considered. Many articles of ordina. 7 furniture used by the German middle and working classes are handmade, the lumber is usually not well seasoned, so that the clumsy looking piece of furniture soon cracks and

Our large furniture manufacturers should look into the trade possibilities in Germany. In order to be successful the enterprise should be on a large scale; it should te connected with shops where the furniture is put up, as it would be advisable to ship it in separate parts, so as to insure low ocean freight rates, which are based upon space, not upon weight. The varnishing or polishing should also be done after the national elequence owing from his pen-errival, as otherwise the goods would be He urged impending purchasers to select the passing moment. has frequently called the attention of furniture manufacturers in the United States to this subject, but although they were favorably impressed with the idea apparently nothing has yet been done. It must be considered, however, that it re-

fort was made by our shoe manufacturers to place their goods upon the German market in a thorough manner, although many American consuls in Germany had for years called attention to the great possibilities by starting American shoe stores in Germany. It is true many sporadic efforts were made to sell American footwear to German dealers, which were more or less success ful: but where a Gorman dealer had worked up a trade in American shoes he was later on compelled to give up handling them, as he could not have his orders to repleasah his stock promptly filled.

Hence the sales of American shoes, in were next to nothing, until some enterprising American a few years ago took hold of the business on a large scale, and, backed by sufficient capital, started stores in the large German cities, where only American be accomplished with American goods if in the right way, the success of American he enterprise is started in the right way.

Of course, before ranking an effort to surpass expectations. While American shoes in Germany are only bought oy the wealthier classes, American furniture would find a market among the masses of the people, as they will soon see that for the same price they would have to pay for German furniture they could buy a similar article of American manufacture which in appearance and durability will be far puperior. It may be of interest to note what articles of American manufacture are di-rectly imported by Frankfort houses. They are as follows; shoes, lumber, lard, raw copper, tools, tool machinery, steel ware, breas, oils, leather, stationery, fountain pens, typewriters, cash resistant goods, intestines, wood for ing.—[Consular Reports.

FRENCH EXCLUSION.

The real estate firm of Solomon & O'finiliven had lots for sale in a new suburban addition. O'Sullivan-youong, enth

"Napoleon not only met opportunity; h

tisement slowly and carefully. "This Napoleon," he said-"what's the use of advertising him with our money?"-[November Lippincott's.

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