

A RAILROAD SWINDLED

Passes Over the Southern Pacific's Line
Counterfeited.

THE FRAUD AN EXTENSIVE ONE

Clarence Barnett Arrested in This
City and Eugene Barnett and
Joseph Wenar in
New-Orleans.

An extensive scheme of fraud upon the Southern Pacific Railroad Company was made public yesterday by the arrest in this city by United States Marshals of Clarence Barnett, a commercial traveler.

Eugene Barnett and Joseph Wenar were also arrested in New-Orleans. They are members of the firm of Barnett & Wenar, which deals in railroad tickets at 734 Canal Street, New-Orleans, and it is said that other arrests will be made.

They are charged with dealing in counterfeit conductors' checks and passes.

The railroad company discovered some time ago that it was being defrauded by passengers using tickets twice. A passenger wishing to swindle the company would get off a train before reaching the station named on his ticket. He would sell his ticket to a broker, and when the holes punched by the conductor were filled up with pulp, the ticket was sold again. This scheme was spoiled by the issue of conductors' checks by the company, the conductor taking up the tickets and giving checks printed on pink paper in their place to passengers.

To meet and overcome this arrangement it is said that Barnett & Wenar arranged with Clarence Barnett, a brother of Eugene Barnett, for the printing of 10,000 counterfeit checks in this city. The printing was done, it is said, by Schlessinger & Brother of 104 Centre Street. Only one of these counterfeit checks was used, however, as it was found that the color of the paper faded when exposed to the light.

Then what are known as "advertisers' passes" were counterfeited. Clarence Barnett, it is said, mailed three of these passes each day to his brother's firm in New-Orleans, and also to William Barnett, another brother, a ticket broker in San Antonio, Texas. These passes were sold to commercial travelers.

After a long search, Detective A. L. Drummond found Clarence Barnett in the office of the Mineral Water Company of 256 Broadway. He travels for the company. When arrested he was held by United States Commissioner Alexander in \$5,000 bail for examination next Tuesday. In default of bail he was taken to Ludlow Street Jail. He has a wife and two children living at Bensonhurst, L. I.

The arrests were made upon the discoveries of Inspector Fagan of the railroad company, who was detailed upon the case. He says he worked with the men, and that they offered him \$25,000 as his share of the funds.

Frank W. Smith, General Passenger Clerk of the New-York, Ontario and Western Railroad, caused the arrest yesterday of Joseph Blank, of 1,081 Lexington Avenue, on the statement of August Weill that Blank sold to him on Aug. 16 two railroad tickets. He was held in the Tombs Police Court in \$100 bail for examination.

Blank is manager of the bottling establishment of the David Meyer Brewing Company at 1,285 Second Avenue.

According to Weill, Blank sold him a New-York, Ontario and Western ticket to Liberty, N. Y., and another from Hurleyville to New-York for \$3.

In court, Mr. Smith swore that the value of the tickets was \$4.79, and that Blank was neither connected with the road nor with any railroad agency.

When arrested, Blank had eight tickets to Hurleyville. Blank said the tickets were given to him by a conductor employed by the road.

Officials of the company claim that it has been victimized for the past four months.

HAS THEOSOPHY WON W. W. ASTOR?

Mr. Hargrove Says Many Theosophists
Hope He Has Become a Convert—
Looking to America.

That W. W. Astor has become a convert to Theosophy was suggested by E. T. Hargrove, the Theosophist, who arrived yesterday on the St. Louis.

Mr. Hargrove said a recent article, which appeared in The Pall Mall Gazette over the signature of Mr. Astor, had led many Theosophists to hope that he had become a convert to their belief.

In England, Mr. Hargrove said, W. Q. Judge was considered as the real follower of Mme. Blavatsky.

"In Europe," he added, "we look hopefully to America. According to our philosophy, the new race—the so-called sixth race—will spring up here. Germs are already developing, especially in the West."

Mr. Hargrove comes here to lecture.

Mrs. La Perruque Nearly Murdered.

Mrs. Emily La Perruque of 225 West Thirty-fourth Street, wife of the chef of the Café Savarin, was seriously wounded yesterday by Annie Biehler at her home. She was taken to the Roosevelt Hospital. Her assailant escaped.

Annie Biehler formed a jealous attachment for the wounded woman in Alsace several years ago, and she strongly opposed Mrs. La Perruque's marriage, which took place in Chicago. She had been the young woman's nurse in Alsace, and for years she had domineered over her victim.

Mr. La Perruque tired of Annie's presence in his home, and told her she must go away. While Mrs. La Perruque was dressing yesterday morning Annie attacked her with a razor, and cut her throat, face, and fingers so badly that she nearly bled to death.

Mrs. Gertrude Lyon Dies Suddenly.

Mrs. Gertrude Lyon of London, England, who had been traveling in this country with her husband, died suddenly at the Murray Hill Hotel about 2 o'clock yesterday morning.

Mrs. Lyon had been suffering from Bright's disease, and about midnight her illness assumed a serious phase. Dr. Walter D. Sewell of 320 Lexington Avenue was hurriedly called, but he was unable to save his patient's life. He said death was due to acute Bright's disease.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyon registered at the hotel last Monday.