

BOGUS CHECKS OUT

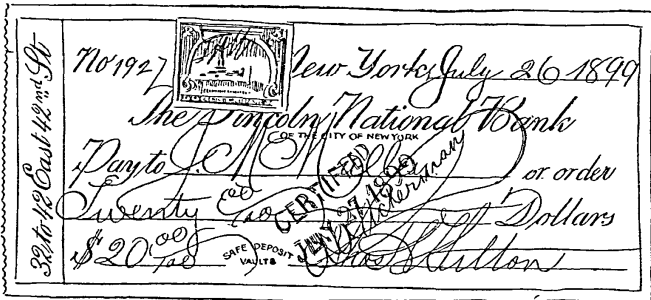
Detectives at Work in Camden.
Where the Worthless Pa-
per Was Passed

ON NEW YORK BANK

Forged Indorsement of Cashier's Cer-
tification—Justice of the Peace
Finley Let a Prisoner Go

Detectives are hot on the trail of a gang of bogus check swindlers who have been operating in Camden during the past fortnight. So far three forged checks have come to light, and it is likely that more are out. So dangerous is the paper that has been floated by the swindlers that the American Bankers' Association has put Pinkerton detectives at work on the case. Detective Crozier was in Camden yesterday trying to find two men who are believed to be principals in the scheme to float the bogus checks.

The checks themselves bear every evidence of being genuine, and they are more dangerous from the fact that they are marked "certified" across their face



FAC-SIMILE OF CHECK PASSED ON LIVERYMAN ALCOTT

with a forged stamp. The checks are drawn on the Lincoln National Bank, of New York City, and are of the style used by that bank. Those that have turned up so far are for small amounts, the highest being \$30 and the lowest \$15.

Last week a young man about 22 years old, of genteel appearance, who claimed to be an agent for a biscuit firm, hired a carriage on several occasions from Liveryman C. M. Alcott, of Carman street and Haddon avenue. He tendered a check for \$20 in payment of his bill of \$12, and received \$8 in change. The check was drawn by Thomas H. Milton, made payable to J. M. Mullen or order, and apparently had a genuine certification across its face by the bank cashier. The check was deposited by Liveryman Alcott, and was returned in a few days, protested and marked "fraudulent."

A similar check for \$15, made payable to J. M. Mullen and signed "W. H. Downes," was passed on Saloonkeeper James Flood, of Second and Benson streets, a few days later, by Charles Gilbert. It was returned to Flood as being worthless, and he caused the arrest of Gilbert, but the latter promised to make the check good, and at Flood's request he was released on his own recognizance by Justice of the Peace Finley.

When Assistant Prosecutor Carson heard of the case yesterday he reprimanded Justice Finley for the release of Gilbert and ordered a new warrant to be issued for his arrest. County Detectives Smith and Cherry were looking for Gilbert yesterday.

A check for \$30 was passed on Maurice Hartz, a bottler, of Locust and Kaighn avenue, by Gilbert, it is alleged.

The detectives suspected that the checks were manufactured in Camden and they were hunting for the "certified" stamp yesterday, but were unable to find it.