BOOM THE CHRISTMAS FUND.

Grand Fair and Benefits in Its Aid To-Day.

Chance to Get a $1,000 Piano for a Dollar.

"Evening World" Readers Giving Nobly for the Poor Children's Christmas.

The fair in aid of THE EVENING WORLD'S Christmas-Tree Fund is in full swing to-day at the Metropolitan Opera-House concert room. Every one interested in the effort to make happy the great holiday for the city's thousands of destitute children should attend this fair. Among the chief attractions is a $1,000 cabinet piano, presented by Hardman & Peck. It will be contested for at $1 a ticket. There are many other valuable articles to be disposed of, and the young ladies in charge of the fair, under Miss Lou Bronson's direction, are confident of a successful issue. The concert programme is very interesting.

At Worth's Museum to-day benefit performances in aid of the Fund are being given. All the receipts are to be donated. There are many unusual attractions, and a specially prepared programme is presented.

Manager John B. Doris devotes the receipts of his two Museums, the Eighth avenue and Harlem establishments, between 10 A. M. and 6 P. M. to-morrow, to the Fund. The list of attractions for sight-seers is extensive and novel, and to swell the receipts Manager Doris offers to the person purchasing the largest number of tickets at either house a free family pass good until Jan. 1, 1890.

Friday there will be two benefits at two theatres for this object. One will be at the Union Square under the patronage of a number of well-known society women, and the other at Jacobs' Third Avenue Theatre. Messrs. Edwards and Jerome H. Eddy and Mme. Fernandez, who are arranging this matinee for the little folks, report that a large number of the many professional people who are resting in town this week have signified their willingness to devote one afternoon of their holiday to making a "Merry Christmas" for the children of the neglected poor.

"Aunt Louisa" Eldridge, who never can refuse when asked to do a charitable deed, has consented to preside over a flower sale in the lobby, but she says:

"Do ask the florists if they won't be good enough to send in flowers for the benefit of these poor young ones without being personally invited to do so. I have my hands already so full that I really have not time to call and beg."

Here is a list of the places where the Christmas parties will be held:

Turn Hall, One Hundred and Twenty-fourth street and Third avenue.

Maennerchor Hall, Fifty-sixth street and Third avenue.

Nilsson Hall, East Fifteenth street.

Apollo Hall, Clinton street.

Salvation Army Hall, Seventh avenue near Thirty-fifth street.

Palace Rink, Clermont avenue, Brooklyn.

Cooper's Hall, Newark avenue and Washington Place, Jersey City.

Too warm thanks cannot be expressed to the ladies who will have charge of the trees and the distribution of the gifts. Mrs. John Allen and a bevy of pretty girls will have charge at the Harlem party; Mrs. Harriet Hubbard Ayer at Nilsson Hall; Mrs. Fernandez, at Maennerchor Hall; Mrs. Benson and Mrs. George H. Hough, at Jersey City. The others will be announced. Each is to be assisted by numerous volunteers, enthusiastic in the cause.

Donations of goods and toys are liberally bestowed by merchants and others. Two big boxes from Mr. Strauss of R. H. Macy & Co. were received yesterday, and a great many others, which will all be duly acknowledged as soon as space permits.

Notify THE EVENING WORLD when you have ready a donation of toys, books, clothing, &c., and an EVENING WORLD wagon will call for it at your address. Those designed for the Harlem tree should be sent to Mrs. John Allen, Hotel Hamilton, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street and Eighth avenue.

A package of picture-books sent "In His Name" was received yesterday.

Donations to THE EVENING WORLD Christmas-Tree Fund are reported as follows:

Previously acknowledged	$1,357.37
Mrs. T. B. Bone, jr.	.40
Two boys, who would not tell their names	4.00
Mattie White	3.00
Aug. W. K.	1.00
C. B.	.50
C. A. W.	.10
F. A. B.	.20
A. H.	.30
From J. Wolff's employees, 35 Beekman st.—	
Wm. Kilner, T. C. and Fred Fletcher	1.75
Ralph Ulysses Yeaton (4½ years old)	1.50
J. H. Bourne	.50
Cash	5.00
Flossie, Carmine, Ada and Laura	1.00
Queens and Little Stella	1.00
G. W. P., Chief N. Y. and N. J. S. I. Club	2.00
Anna De Rancher	.40
Hermione	.20
"Nonentity"	1.00
A. Meyer	.25
Nannie, Jane Laying, Charlotte and Hamilton	4.00
X. Y. Z.	2.00
Jerome and Chester	1.00
Julia Wood	1.00
Ena May Moore (seven years old)	.10
H. M. B.	.25
Annie and Freddie H.	.50
"Doctor"	2.00
S. A. E. Poucher	.24
A Friend	.50
May	.05
A. S.	3.00
Artie and Walter Bowers	1.00
Gracie D. E.	1.00
R. A. Cole	1.00
Mrs. E. F. and Master H. M. F.	1.00
Susie Walsh	.10
Aunt Louisa	2.00
Eddie and Ralph Rabans	1.00
Rose and Eddie J.	1.00
Charles	1.00
Sallie and Chester Weber	.50
Claude and Lena	.50
Young ladies of the Counter's School	12.25
Tommie Grant (4 years old)	1.00
A Neo-Admirer of THE WORLD'S policies	1.00
Little Bertram M. Gidney	.50
Ruby Erskine Ward	5.00
Collected by Arthur S. (aged 11) and Randolph C. Wilson (aged 7)	1.39
Cash	1.75
Collected by little Albertha Bode (4 years)	
Albertha Bode	.25
Papa	.25
Mamma	.50
Peter and Matt Johnson	.10
Louisa School	.10
Annie School	.10
Lizzie School	.10
Mrs. Rose	.10
C. F. Carsten	1.00
I. Kahn	.10
Peter Johnson	.10
Mary, Willie, Minnie	.25
Mrs. Hulbert	.50
Lane School	.10
School	.25
M. Keeling	.25
Mrs. Hanerstein	.10
M. Wehr	.25
F. Hotterman	.25
Fred Heather	.10
Mrs. Sheehy	.10
J. Weinheimer	.10
A. Finkelstein	.10
S. Eberle	.10
A. G. Rising	.10
Laura Lang	.10
G. A. Jaeth	.10
W. Gressblas	.10
Wm. Hercstein	.10
G. Kober	.10
Schantz	.10
Dersinger	.10
Tommie	.25
Conductor Conway, of the "Lake Shore Limited Train" between New York and Buffalo—	
"Ed Fox," conductor	.50
"Geo. Hill," Wagner sleeper	.50
"Jack," "dining-car conductor"	.50
H. E. Horn, barber	.25
Baggageman	.25
W. L., trainman	.25
C. Van Veenten, trainman	.25
R. Johnson, chef dining-car	.25
Geo. Williams, second dining-car	.25
Arthur Williams, waiter dining-car	.25
Thomas P. Williams, waiter dining-car	.25
C. B. Simpson, waiter dining car	.25
Ed Henry	.25
W. H. Cain	.25
Arthur Tompinson, bedbreaker	.25
J. Myer, bedbreaker	.10
Geo. H. Johnson, porter car Nicaragua	.25
Phillip Ryan, porter car Illinois	.25
Thos. Scott, porter car Magnolia	.25
Harry Marshall, flagman of Train 6	.25
Mrs. H. C. P.	.10
Mrs. A. M. M.	.10
Edna Placer	.25
W. T. Lethbridge	.25
John S. Brandt	.25
F. J. R.	.50
Miss E. N. S.	.10
George Burgermeister	.10
G. Burgermeister	.25
E. C. J.	.10
J. J.	.50
Nellie Jacobson	.10
Daisy Jacobson	.10
H. J.	.25
F. W. J.	.25
I. P. R.	.15
Edgo Ostrom	.15
M. C. A.	.10
J. M. C.	.25
F. V. F.	.25
H. A. W.	.25
F. J. M.	.10
From employees of THE WORLD press-room—	
J. Smith	.25
R. Smart	.50
J. Johnson	.25
W. Rusted	.25
G. Maloney	.25
James Higgins	.10
F. Stacy	.50
J. Langstaff	.25
T. Williams	.25
G. Casey	.50
J. Rice	.50
A. Hagues	.50
H. Mulholland	.25
T. W. Lynch	.25
F. Weiler	.50
F. Fagan	.50
J. Kelly	.25
H. B. Rayenhouse	.50
H. Hutchinson	.50
J. Kingsley	.25
Harry Brown	.25
G. McLaughlin	.25
H. Loring	.25
F. T. Kirman	.50
P. Kenney	.25
Wm. Eddy	.50
John Shields	.50
H. Keeny	.50
D. Vaughn	.25
H. Schmidt	.25
N. F. Magren	.25
L. Decker	.25
F. Cole	.10
Geo. W. Ries	.25
Geo. E. Wilson	.50
Jas. Lee	.50
Geo. Lowe	.25
M. H. Dunn	1.00
F. J. Butler	1.00
From employees at 185 South street—	
Storage	.10
Ed	.10
John	.10
R. K.	.10
D. B.	.10
Whitestone	.10
W. D. L.	.10
C. B.	.10
M. C.	.10
H. C. D.	.10
Wickes	.10
A Visiting Lady	.10
Joy Soap	.10
Cash	.10
G. D.	.10
Al	.10
Edw. Acker	.10
George Naples	.10
Salt	.10
J. G. Vandewater	.10
Cash	.10
L. L. T.	.10
S. D.	.10
Collected by David Melkonian from employees of Gay Bros. & Co.—	
M. Woodbury	.25
L. Mallon	.25
Anna	.10
J. S.	.05
M. Keah	.05
M. Muller	.05
A Friend	.20
A Friend	.50
I. C. Forgie	.25
Wm. Worts	.25
C. Mitchell	.10
Wm. Davidson	.10
H. Petty	.10
I. Stimus	.10
Julius Schmidt	.25
W. Stack	.10
Mamie	.05
H. C. K.	.25
L. Conway	.25
G. Spencer	.10
J. Gardner	.10
P. Whitelaw	.25
Cash	.10
Cash	.10
Cash	.10
Cash	.10
Frank Smith	.15
M. Ryan	.10
Cash	.15
Cash	.10
Cash	.25
K. Campbell	.10
Lillie Imbach	.10
Cash	.05
Cash	.05
Cash	.10
Cash	.10
J. Newman	.05
T. Barrett	.10
J. McQuade	.10
Sam Irons	.10
John Stiles	.10
John Burchill	.10
Cash	.25
Cash	.25
W. F. Jackson	.10
A. Sayers	.10
H. Healey	.10
Mrs. Youngs	.10
Happy	.10
J. Kelley	.10
A. Friend	.25
C. A. McClellan	.20
L. J. Francis	.10
Empire	.20
Charity	.10
Love	.10
Cash	.20
Cash	.10
Cash	.25
H. Clagg	.15
L. Dick	.10
M. Weir	.10
A. Campion	.05
Mrs. McGinty	.10
Mrs. E. B. Mercer	.25
J. Springsteen	.10
M. Emery	.10
May Fleming	.10
Miss Cooley	.10
Mrs Bliss	.10
Miss Guinea	.10
Cash	.10
Cash	.10
Henry Feiser	.25
May	.10
Joy	.10
Cash	.25
Prosperity	.10
Louis Hansen	.10
Tom	.05
Emil	.10
Carnation	.10
Cash	1.00
W. S. Murray	.50
William H. Young, jr.	1.00
Collected by Roger Dolan, from performers and attaches of the London Theatre	
Edwin A. Hull	1.00
Robert Recker	.50
Dan Baker	.50
Dick Jones	.50
Jim Manning	.50
Joe Davis	.50
Roger Dolan	.50
Ed Kelley	.50
J. M. Curdy	.50
J. B. Mackin	.50
Don Regan	.50
Billy Kelley	.50
Jas. Murvey	.25
P. F. Sullan	.25
Geo. W. Hager	.50
Frank H. Tyner	.50
Geo. W. Gallagher	.50
J. S. Simmons	.25
Walter Manning	.25
Jas. Nugent	.50
Theo. Bloom	.50
A. M. Rumell	.25
Wm. Kramer	.25
A. Wagner	.25
John Keough	.25
Fred Rein	.25
Ed L. Donaldson	.50
A. Benson	.50
Jas. Jordan	.25
Ed Peters	.25
Belle Dolan	.50
Ida Bertha	.25
Abe Aldine	.25
Emma Bell	.50
Mrs. J. Quinn	.50
Mrs. J. Dolan	.50
From employees Union News Company, collected by M. M. Wood—	
Charles Hagin	.25
William H. Engel	.25
John Rene	.10
J. S. Hale	.25
R. W. Appleby	.25
J. J. Walsh	.25
William F. Wild	.25
M. M. Wood	.25
D. G. Melville	.15
I. M. Wood	.10
Kittie Lennon	.10
Millie Hautler	.10
Lizzie Kane	.10
Annie O'Connell	.10
Katie Merrick	.10
J. H. Wood	.10
Robert Hiscox	.10
William M. Robinson	.10
Thomas F. Kennedy	.10
Edwin L. Witsee	.10
John Watts	.10
John Meaxin	.10
Oscar Van Pelt	.10
Robert Morsh	.10
G. A. H.	.10
Dave Kern	.10
John Fitzpatrick	.10
Collected by Bertha Krieg, 142 Essex street—	
Bertha Krieg	.25
Bessie Krieg	.05
Henry Krieg	.05
Julia Krieg	.05
Freddie Krieg	.05
Nannette Krieg	.05
Clara Gunther	.05
Frank Gunther	.05
Carrie Radimersky	.10
Johnny Radimersky	.05
Lizzie Frey	.05
A. Munroe	.05
G. Munroe	.05
S. Zimerman	.05
A. Hoagmeyer	.05
From employees of the Parker House—	
C. S. Weaver	.25
Edward A. Douglass	.25
H. W.	.25
Lotta	.25
A. S. W. and L. W.	1.00
Collected by Mamie Miner (5 years)—	
Harry Rogers	.05
F. Schulze	.05
F. A. Smith	.10
John English	.05
M. Sullivan	.05
J. Mayovern	.05
M. Sullivan	.05
Peter Simon	.10
Thomas Henry	.05
George Leager	.05
Eugene Baxter	.10
J. Rogers	.05
C. H. Hooker	.10
J. Crawford	.05
Collected by Victor J. Dougherty and his sister, eight and ten years—	
Rudolph Reisenach	.10
Rose White	.10
Hugh Dotson	.10
Eliza Tyrrell	.10
Bessie Baldwin	.10
J. Clancy	.10
Frank Ullrich	.10
Hattie Westervelt	.25
George H. Bell	.10
Mrs. Andrew D. Bogert	.50
Mrs. Christie	.10
Cassie Sweeney	.25
The Dougherty Children	2.00
Spencer Westervelt	.10
Collected by telegraph operator at the Murray Hill Hotel—	
Ellen Anderson (Denver, Col.)	1.00
J. R. Bartlett	10.00
Little Friends	5.00
Cash	5.00
Laura McCammon	1.00
Ellen Anderson	1.00
Cash	.50
House	.25
Cash	.50
Cash	.50
Cash	.25
Cash	.25
Cash	.25
M. Burk	.25
Cash	.50
W. Laylin	1.00
Cash	1.00
J. H. Stephens	1.00
W. Trafford	.50
M. & H. Y.	1.00
F. A. H.	1.00
Cash	.50
Cash	1.00
Judson	1.00
Cash	1.00
J. M. Sands	1.00
John McGinty	1.00
Thayer	.50
Page	1.00
Geo. W. Archer	1.00
F. J. Collins	1.00
R. H. Porter	1.00
F. M. Sanger	1.00
T. H. McGraw	1.00
Cash	.50
Cash	.50
Mr. Col	1.00
Cash	.50
Cash	.25
Cash	1.00
Cash	1.00
Cash	.25
A. R. A. Hewitt	1.00
Eugene Walker	1.00
Celia S. Carter	1.00
Cash	.25
Cash	.25
Cash	.25
Cash	.25
Cash	.50
Cash	.25
Cash	1.00
Cash	1.00
Cash	1.00
P. O'Conor	.50
D. H. Burrell	.50
Cash	1.00
Cash	1.00
Cash	.25
Cash	.50
M. F.	1.00
Mr. Russell	1.00
Cash	.25
Cash	1.00
Cash	1.00
Cash	1.00
A Baby	.50
Cash	1.00
Cash	1.00
Cash	1.00
M. M.	1.00
Cash	1.00
Cash	.25
Cash	.25
Cash	.25
Wm. Tottrup	.25
Sackus Hansen	.25
H. Celberblin	.25
Casper Jeffery	.10
Henry M. Walsh	.25
W. J. Whiting	.25
J. F. Sullivan	.25
Wm. Lange	.25
Collected by L. Knickmann, 723 Tenth avenue—	
L. B. Knickmann	1.00
D. J. Lechane	.25
H. W. Smith	.10
H. Stalb	.25
Wm. Goerings	.25
F. Klensa	.25
George J. Goering	.25
Gus. Tiedemann	.25
George S. Tompkins	.25
R. D. Tompkins	.25
R. Lashach	.25
M. Keely	.25
H. Stand	.25
D. H. Cook	.10
Henry J. Goering	.25
Georg Matern	.25
J. H. Barkage	1.00
M. Kinckmann	.24
Wm. Barkiage	.50
D. Kinkmann	1.00
J. C. Smith	.10
Peter Funk	.25
H. Bixman	.25
F. Plunkett	.25
H. Beckmann	.25
John Wahlers	.25
Orne	.25
John Hamburg	.25
E. Schmidt	.25
Henry Tattnauer	.25
William E. Utter	.25
Chas. Tenzen	.25
J. Goering	.10
H. Otten	1.10
Nathaniel Buckley	.15
Collected by Dale Ferguson—	
L. Brandt	.25
W. B. Dugun	.25
H. E. S.	.10
H. P. Herts	.10
King's Daughters, Church of Redeemer	1.00
Molly May	.10
E. S.	.10
A. Cole	.10
H. F. Boelsen	.25
H. M. Berg	.10
J. H. N.	.10
R. Brien	.10
Ellen Kilpatrick	.25
Mary Kilpatrick	.25
Mary McGowan	.25
Katie Cox	.25
Mary Prior	.25
John Manning	.25
Mrs. F.	.25
Samuel Phelps	.10
Elliott Phelps	.10
Cash	.25
Dale Ferguson	1.00
Collected at W. U. and A. D. T. Office, Thirty-fourth street and Eighth avenue.	
Stevey	.10
Cook	.10
Sykesie	.10
Cash	.15
Giacomo Santaggelo	.10
F. Domonie	.15
Mike McGrube	.10
Amanda	.10
Mr. Hay	.10
Mary	.10
Bessie	.10
Collected by Grammar School 83, Morris M. Seide, 1734 Lexington avenue (age 12).	
Amelia Simon	.05
A. Friend	.10
A. Friend	.10
A. Schmidt	.10
B. R.	.10
Charity	.25
D. J.	.10
Eddie Cone	.10
E. G.	.10
K. E.	.10
M. M. Seide	.25
T. Wohmann	.25
H. D.	.10
Samuel Simon	.05
Miss Paton	.25

ONE DAY'S CALLERS.

An Invitation to a Christmas Workers' Reception Next Saturday.

Dear Little Friends:

You remember how furiously it stormed Saturday? Well, I had an "at home," and a perfect round of callers, each bearing an offering for the poor children's Christmas tree.

First came Robbie Heggie, all the way from One Hundred and Twenty-third street, with a box full of money labelled "Robbie's pennies for the Poor Children's Christmas Tree." He was dressed in a small cape coat, containing about fifteen pockets, and his little dimpled hands were as daintily gloved as a young patriarch's.

ROBERT HEGGIE.

He had a face the design for which nature might have copied from one of Raphael's angel choirs; but, *entre nous*, he is a regular boy's boy, for he declined to accept a doll I offered that had a dislocated hip. He told me he was eight years of age; that he had never gone to school and that he could write, "but not with ink."

His offering consisted of $2.42, every penny of which he had collected himself. He expressed sincere sympathy for the little children of the poor and promised to buy every one a sled with red runners and bells "when he was a man."

The soft black hair that grew in loose rings about his face; the large brown eyes, brimful of merriment and fun; the dimple that played at hide and seek in his pretty, fair face, the delicate coral lips shutting over pearls, and his sturdy little figure captivated the artist and he was carried off bodily to be sketched.

After him came "1 39," a little aristocra with the manners of a small prince and the bearing of a little soldier. He wore a shaggy top coat with a cadet cap and kid gloves, and asked as a favor to be allowed to contribute $10. The offering was in dimes and filled a pretty yellow satin sachet that his grandmamma had made.

"One hundred and thirty-nine" took $8 from his own allowance and a couple of young friends contributed the rest.

To give you an idea of his modesty, this is what the embryonic member of the "Four Hundred" said:

"I don't mind telling you my name and address, but the information is not for publication. I want to do something for the little children and I want to help along the success of THE EVENING WORLD'S Christmas trees."

I crossed hands with this manly, handsome, brown-eyed boy, and the last words he said were, "Good luck."

Phoebe Samuels, a sweet-faced girl of eleven, with a shock of dark curls that danced about the edge of a scarlet Tam o' Shanter, came from Brooklyn with a little gold barrel full of love coins from the girls of school No. 50.

"Every girl sent her love and good wishes," she said, which pleased me greatly and which I return with interest.

Eli and David Schieff, two apple-faced boys of seven and thirteen respectively, came with their father to see how affairs were progressing. Eli struggled with a ten-pound

A SHOE FULL OF COINS.

box of candy, the very sight of which made my mouth water. David's gift consisted of two boxes, each a foot square, containing leather-bound blocks with which a forest, a menagerie, a city or the English language can be built. Without trying very hard I captivated Eli's heart and he entertained me with a piece learned for the close of the school term.

Gracie Lockwood, a midget of seven summers, walked into the office with a red plush boot, as thick as a cucumber and twice as long, suspended from her arm by a loop of orange ribbon. Miss Gracie, whose neck and shoulders were veiled with a dozen or more light brown curls, allowed the editor to put his arm about her neck during the entire visit, and showed every evidence of enjoying the sheltering coat-sleeve.

She explained that she hurt her nose the time she fell down her aunt's front steps, bumped her chin coming out of school before the ranks, and knocked her forehead against a gate post trying to reach the latch; "but," she added, with an expression of unmistakable triumph, "I collected every nickel myself, and I guess there are about one hundred and fifty, that's $6.50."

The little girl's arithmetic was allowed to pass unchallenged, and she left the office beaming with delight. Her mamma doesn't know a thing about the wonderful nickel-lined plush book. "She'll awful 'sprized when she reads it in the paper."

Three small boys, who will not allow me to mention even their nick-names, called with Christmas favors in the shape of a doll's trunk, a long tubed whistle and a woollen mitten filled respectively with pennies, nickels and dimes, aggregating about $10. This trio of large-hearted lads was particularly anxious that the children should have something good to eat besides candy and fruit. When told of the difficulty of dining 20,000 hungry children the young men became very thoughtful, and by way of argument offered to "raise $20 before the 20th if THE EVENING WORLD only would give the poor little things something to eat."

A messenger boy brought the following letter:

DEAR NELL NELSON: Last Summer I tried to collect some money from my little friends for your "Baby Fund." One very hot day I started out with book and pencil, but had only collected six cents when an iron bench fell on my foot and crushed my toe. I was taken home and confined to my crib for six weeks before I could walk out. I inclose the six cents then collected with this.

With the help of two of my playmates I had a little entertainment in our house. We had tableaux such as "Rip Van Winkle" in different scenes, "The Dying Child" and many others. You ought to have seen our angels. I wanted to invite you, as you are so kind to little children, but mamma said you would not come; would you?

I am eleven years old. We all send our love to you, and last night we earl God bless dear "Nell Nelson and THE EVENING WORLD."

Your loving but unknown little friend,

INEZ.

An hour later my diminutive but unknown friend came in covered with snow and so smothered in wraps and furs that I could scarcely distinguish her from a daughter of Mr. S. Claus. After a deal of untying, unbuttoning and unhooking, a tiny blue-eyed child with almond brown hair and a pretty little face was revealed.

"This shoe," she said, displaying a baby's buttoned boot of gilded kid, "I wore when I was two years old. Mamma didn't want to let me give it away, but I coaxed and she consented. If it hadn't been for the children I'm sure she wouldn't though."

The little shoe with its load of silver and copper tied about with a band and rosette of pale blue ribbons was laid on the desk, and the small girl continued:

"Last Summer I tried to help along the Sick Babies' Fund. I bought a little pencil and note book and went to see Dr. McDonald. I only had six cents and I counted it about a hundred times before the doctor could see me. While I was playing in his yard a rustic bench fell on my foot and crushed my toes, and I didn't know anything more for two weeks. The doctor carried me home, and my book and pencil and my six pennies too, and I had to stay in my little crib for more than six weeks. As soon as I was well, mamma gave me her parlors for an afternoon, and we had charades and theatricals for all my little friends who paid to come in."

After considerable fumbling in her muff and cloak pocket, a long list was hauled out bearing the following names:

Estella Rodriguez.	Belle Weil.
Daisy Weil.	Max Weil.
Flora Tilly.	Mollie Nelson.
Susie Young.	Mamie Kahn.
Jessie Kahn.	Annie Hingeslers.
Florence Austen.	Loretta Willey.
Emma Willey.	Flora Moore.
Hagita Buchman.	Mary Carter.
Panchita Rodriguez.	Edgar Romaine.
Montagle Romaine.	Arthur Romaine.
Gath Romaine.	Joe McCarthy.
Nathan Lowenthal.	Teddy Lowenthal.
Gertie Nally.	George Nally.
Mac Nally.	Joe Nally.
Clifford Cox.	Anna Stock.
Jim Scott.	Lawrence Phillips.
Alf McAliker.	Inez L. J. Harmon.

The most touching incident of the day was the visit I received from little Mamie Bastianelli, a girl of twelve, with large black eyes, indescribably sad, because sightless. Her voice was a delight, her face a perfect oval. She had the tints of the olive and rose in her cheeks, and as she talked she caressed the hand of her gentle-faced mother.

"I can't see," she said, "but I feel a great deal, and I was very sorry for the poor children you have written about. Every evening my papa reads THE EVENING WORLD to me, and the other day I had my bank opened and I took out 40 cents to buy a pair of baby stockings and put half of my savings in one of them for the poor children's Christmas tree. I should like to have given all, but I have a papa and mamma and a little brother, and they are so very good to me that I thought I must give them something for Christmas.

"Well, I went among my friends with my little brother and collected all this. See!" opening the top of the ribbed stocking. "Five dollars and sixty cents altogether. I call it my silver stocking.

"Here is the mate. You can put them on the tree for some poor child."

I told little Mamie about the doll's stocking Lorette brought me. She was intensely interested and asked a dozen questions about the orphan child. Would she like to have the tiny bit of hosiery with the darn over the toes?

"Oh, so very much."

And dear small Loretto, I gave it to her. You'll forgive me, I know, when I tell you how pleased she was. She called you many tender, loving names, pressed Flossy's stocking to her pretty face, and, carefully folding it up, put it in one of her coat pockets and went away with her treasure.

I was not able to do any work, but I never had company in my life that I enjoyed so much as the visits of these children with their tokens of love and words of good-will.

May I waive the formalities that hedge in good society and invite you to call on me next Saturday? I can't promise you any refreshments, not even a cracker, and I may not be able to visit with you more than a minute. But, my dears, of this much you may be certain—a sincere welcome—and I'll give you the right hand of fellowship in token of undying affection.

Do come and see me, and let me tell you how very unhappy these waifs of poverty are, and how much good your penny boots, nickel mitten and silver stocking will do.

I am in the office from 9 until noon, and I hope to see you. If you can't come send in your Christmas offering, and if that is not convenient send your address to the office and our Mercury will call on you. But be kind and be quick and do let us hear from you.

NELL NELSON.

MAD AT SNOWBALLS.

Driver Emerich Fractures a Little Boy's Skull with a Stone.

Eight-year-old Robert T. Paine, of 656 Madison street, Brooklyn, is hovering between life and death to-day, without hope of recovery, with a fractured skull caused by a stone thrown by Henry Emerich, twenty-three years old, living at 599 Monroe street, Brooklyn, and the latter is in the Raymond Street Jail.

Emerich was employed in driving the cart of Butcher John Kopke, whose shop is at the corner of Monroe street and Stuyvesant avenue.

Yesterday afternoon he was delivering meat to his customers, and while passing the corner of Reid avenue and Monroe street a crowd of small boys, including Robbie Paine, began snowballing him, hitting him and the horse he was driving several times.

Emerich became so angry that he got off the cart, and picking up a cobble stone threw it with great force into the crowd of boys.

The missile hit the lad Paine on the head, knocking him senseless to the ground.

The other boys scampered, but returned to their wounded and unconscious companion when they saw Emerich remount his cart and drive off.

One of the lads ran post haste to Dr. Corbin's office, at 943 Gates avenue, and the doctor was soon at the little fellow's side and endeavored to revive him.

He had the boy removed to his parents' home at 656 Madison street, where a closer examination of the wound was made.

The skull was found to be fractured so badly that Dr. Corbin could not give the nearly distracted parents any hope of the recovery of the little sufferer.

The police of the Fourteenth Precinct were notified at once of the occurrence, and Sergt. Barr found Emerich at midnight, arrested him and locked him up to await examination.

The prisoner was arraigned this morning before Justice Kenna, and on the statements of Dr. Corbin, who said that the boy was in an extremely critical condition, with little or no chance of recovery, Emerich was committed to jail without bail, to await the result of the lad's injury.

RACE TRACK ODDS.

"The Evening World's" Figures Verified by Morning Paper Reports.

The attention of THE EVENING WORLD has been called to the difference in figures representing the odds given by the bookmakers at the Winter race-tracks published in THE EVENING WORLD Sporting Extra as compared with those printed in the other sporting extras.

Investigation proves that there is a difference, and at times a very big one. Comparison with the reports in the morning papers, however, shows that THE EVENING WORLD is correct, as the following table demonstrates:

The figures used in these tables are those given on horses which ran first or second places, and were therefore regarded with the highest interest in sporting circles.

They were selected at random from the files, with no special regard to day or date.

Incidental comparisons with reports from other morning papers show the Sun gave the same pleasant showing for THE EVENING WORLD.

THE SHIP REPORTER LOST.

Wrecked in the China Sea—Captain and Crew Saved.

[SPECIAL TO THE EVENING WORLD.]

NEWBURYPORT, Mass., Dec. 17.—News is received of the total loss, in the China Sea, of the 1,350 ton ship Reporter, valued at $50,000, and owned by Captain George Spaulding and others, of this place.

Captain Spaulding and his crew were saved.

WILSON'S OLD PLACE.

Again He Leads "The Evening World" National Guard Election.

Col. Ruppert Close Behind Him in Second Place.

Major Kipp and Lieut.-Col. Moran in Third and Fourth.

Capt. Wilson, the unterrified, again comes to the surface in THE EVENING WORLD'S National Guard Election, and once more leads with a total of 61,724. Col. Ruppert is second, with 61,240; Major Kipp third, with 53,236, and Lieut.-Col. Moran fourth, with 47,764.

The sword which the successful candidate will receive is to be a most magnificent affair. In the first place, it is to be made upon an entirely new design, richly ornamented, and of the best material to be obtained.

The blade will be of the finest Damascus steel. The handle and guard will be of brass of special design, burnished and hand-chased, as will also be the mountings upon the scabbard, which will be of steel and nickel-plated. The grip will be either of shark-skin or of embossed metal, silver-plated and burnished, the design depending on the rank of the officer receiving it.

The shape of the blade will also depend upon the rank of the winner; if he is a line officer it will be straight, and if a staff officer it will be a sabre and curved in form.

A medallion mounting of burnished and hand-chased metal on the upper part of the scabbard will be inscribed with the name of the winner, with his rank and regiment.

The sword will be manufactured by B. M. Whitlock, of 99 Fourth avenue, the well-known maker of military equipments, and this announcement of itself guarantees the best of material and workmanship.

If you have not already done so cut out and send the following blank, properly filled, to THE EVENING WORLD:

THE EVENING WORLD POPULAR VOTE ON THE OFFICERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

MY CHOICE IS—

RANK AND POST—

SIGNATURE OF VOTER—

RESIDENCE—

Conditions.

THE EVENING WORLD *will present to the most popular officer of the National Guard of the States of New York and New Jersey a beautiful sword of unique and appropriate design.*

The most popular officer to be determined by the ballots cast by readers of THE EVENING WORLD.

Each reader may vote once only.

Fill in the blank as prescribed and mail it to The Editor.

Gens. Hill and Green, Commanders-in-Chief of the National Guard of their respective States, are excluded from the contest; all others, from lieutenant to general, now in the militia service, are in the race.

There are at present 208 candidates. The vote of the fifty highest stands to date:

Col. Appleton, 7th Reg., N. Y.	3,015
Capt. Abrams, Co. G. 7th Reg., N. Y.	451
Col. Austen, 13th Reg., N. Y.	442
Lieut. Babcock, Gun Detach., 4th Reg., N. J.	5,168
Lieut. Boecher, 1st Battery, N. Y.	2,795
Capt. Bascom, Co. I, 71st Reg., N. Y.	3,309
Lieut. Ball, Co. G, 22d Reg., N. Y.	314
Col. Cavanagh, 69th Reg., N. Y.	360
Lieut. Crouse, Co. F, 13th Reg., N. Y.	15,780
Capt. Clark