THE COMING RACING SEASON.

The approaching racing season of 1868 bids fair to be the most brilliant of its kind ever witnessed in the United States. From all parts we hear of the most liberal programme being published, and every inducement offered to encourage the breeders and owners of racing stock. A few years ago running racing was a thing almost unknown here, but it has crept in little by little, and the thoroughbred horse improved in endurance and swiftness by a judicious cross with some imported blood. Other jockey clubs are springing into existence, and the newly-formed Dexter-park Jockey Club of Chicago, of which Mr. William F. Tucker is President, has issued a programme giving 5 days racing in the early part of July and a liberal amount of purses. On the last day the Jockey Club prize of $2,000, four miles, will be run for. It is also very probable that we will have two new meetings this Summer, one at Narragansett-Park, Providence, and the other at Long Branch, which will make up for the loss of the Hoboken meetings at Secaucus. They were such a failure last year that it is not likely they will be continued, and the other attempt that was made by the Centennials, N. J., to establish a race-meeting at Trenton proved such a decided failure that it will, it is to be hoped, not be indulged in again at the expense of the owners of horses. The first meeting within easy distance that will take place this year will be that of the Passaic County Agricultural Society, which commences on the first Tuesday in June. The principal race during the meeting is the Jersey Derby, which is run on the first day. This is a race for 3-year olds, and one of the highest stakes in the country. There are 51 nominations for this race, emanating chiefly from the late Mr. R. A. Alexander, Mr. Sanford, Mr. Morris, and Col. McDaniel. The race will probably fall to either Mr. Sandford's or Mr. Morris's entry. But we will give an analysis of the performance of everything entered some time previous to the race, and at present we will only notice the main points. In this race Mr. Alexander had seventeen nominations, which naturally all became void at his death, but the Paterson Association have come to the determination of allowing the entries of Mr. Alexander that were sold with their engagements previous to his death to run for this race, and any other coming under the same head. It is high time there was a General Convention of members from the different Jockey Clubs to frame and revise a general set of rules to be used universally throughout the country, preventing all arguments and disputes of such a class in future. The Spring meeting of the American Jockey Club, held at Jerome Park, is the next after, Paterson following close at its heels. Racing will commence on Tuesday, the 9th, with the Fordham stakes. This race is a handicap sweepstakes of $50 each, p. p., for all ages, and $10 only if declared; $500 added by the Club, one mile and a quarter; the second to receive 25 per cent of the stakes; the third to save his stakes; closed with 32 entries, declarations to be made on or before the 1st of March. This handicap is very well put together, and ought to produce a good field of at least twelve starters. The following are the weights imposed by the Handicapper:

J. S. Watson's b. h. Delaware, 6 yrs., 114 lbs.; J. S. Watson's b. h. Captain Moore, aged, 114 lbs.; E. V. Snedikers bg. Jack Armstrong, 6 yrs., 114 lbs.; T. G. Moore's gr. h. Stonewall Jackson, 5 yrs., 110 lbs.; T. G. Moore's b. h. Gen. McLaughs, 5 years, 110 lbs.; J. Eckerson's ch. c. Metaire, 4 years, 110 lbs.; J. H. Dowling's b. g. Exile (imp.), 6 yrs., 110 lbs.; the Anniswood Stable names ch. c. Dickens, 4 yrs., 110 lbs.; R. B. Forbes, jr.'s br. h. Climax, aged, 110 lbs.; E. V. Snedliker's ch. h. Parasite, 6 yrs., 109 lbs.; D. McDaniel's br. c., Clement, 4 yrs, 105 lbs.; H. B. Todd's b. h. Harry Booth, 5 years, 105 lbs.; B. F. Hutchinson's b. m. Ruth, 5 years, 104 lbs.; R. B. Forbes, jr.'s, ch. m. by Balloonist, 5 years, 102 lbs.; J. H. Dowling's ch. m. Rachastress, 5 yrs. 102 lbs.; W. Constable's gr. c. Raquette, 4 yrs., 100 lbs.; A. H. Hopper's ch. c. Egotist, 4 yrs., 100 lbs.; J. Eckerson's b. f. Sleety, 4 yrs., 100 lbs.; D. McDaniel's b. h. Ripley, 3 yrs. 100 lbs.; J. H. Dowling's bl. c. Gerald, 4 yrs., 100 lbs.; G. Colleen's ch. c. Dumple, 4 yrs., 100 lbs.; J. Eckerson's b. f. Sleety, 4 yrs., 100 lbs.; L. W. Jerome's ch. f. Clara Clarita, 4 yrs., 95 lbs.; L. W. Jerome's ch. c. Gen. Yorke, 4 yrs., 98 lbs.; R. W. Cameron's b. c. Hampton Court, 4 yrs., 95 lbs.; R. W. Cameron's b. f. Stolen Kisses, 4 yrs., 95 lbs.; R. Belmont's b. f. Maid of Honor, 4 yrs., 92 lbs.; D. McDaniels gr. c. Urbana, 4 yrs., 95 lbs.; D. McDaniel's b. f. Twinkle, 4 yrs., 95 lbs.; the Anniswood Stable names b. c. Magnet, 3 yrs., 87 lbs.; D. McDaniel's ch. f. by Brother to F. Allen, 3 yrs., 87 lbs.; M. H. Sanford's bl. f. Lute, 3 yrs., 87 lbs.; M. H. Sanford's b. f. La Henderson, 3 yrs., 87 lbs.

To attempt to pick the winner so soon, before the acceptances are published, would require an amount of assurance that we really do not possess, but we may mention a few words on the subject. The two first, Delaware and Captain Moore, are at present offered for sale, and we should like to see into whose hands they fall before we pronounce judgment on their respective merits. The next one we come to that strikes our fancy is Metairie, whose chance with 110 lb, as the distance suits him, ought to be very good. J. H. Dowling's stable will probably furnish the winner, but who the chosen one of the flock will be we are not yet prepared to say. We do not think Exile (late Pepper's Ghost), by Fright out of Hypocrite, stands much show with his impost. Enchantress is pretty well in, and so is Hampton Court, and one whom we had nearly forgotten, Raquette, claims a little attention, as he is very fast for a mile, and a 100 lb ought not to stop him. We will give a further sketch of this and other races as the time approaches. The second race is "The Belmont Stakes" for three-year olds, for which there are 28 nominations. Out of this lot Mr. Sanford has 11, and Mr. Morris 3, making exactly half of the whole number running, and including Hotspur (own brother to Asteroid), Northumberland (own brother to Norfolk), and Relentless, the full sister of Ruthless. One of this lot ought to be well up, but on the morning of the race we will give our final selections. The third race is "The Hopeful Stakes" for two-year olds, five furlongs, $50 entrance, with $500 added. There are 22 entries for this, and all belong to the dark division. Mr. R. W. Cameron has Invernglass, Invercauld, and Glengary, three imported youngsters, sired by Old Calabar, St. Albans, and Thormanby. Better blood cannot be sired, and we sincerely hope that this gentleman may meet with the success his enterprise deserves. Glengary by Thormanby, dam Caroline by Rifleman, is the joint property of Messrs. Cameron and Jerome, and one of the finest looking two-year olds we have ever set our eyes upon, combining big bone and muscle with good shoulders, and looks a racer all over. Mr. Morris has four entries, all by Eclipse, of whom we will probably hear something before the season is over. Mr. Sanford's two, by Lexington, are very promising looking, but it is impossible to give any definite opinion of their respective merits at so early a period. The last race on the first day is mile heats for a purse of $800, which will close the day previous. The second day commences with a dash of a mile and five furlongs for $700, which is followed by the Westchester cup, value $2,000, 2½ miles for all ages. There are 23 entries for this race, and to the disgust of many who had entered their horses, it was found that Kentucky, having been purchased by Messrs. Constable, Priddy, and Battegate, had put in an appearance, much to the consternation of all the other owners and trainers who had some pet animal entered. The fourth share in the animal was kept by Mr. Jerome, and we learn that owing to his advice, Kentucky has been withdrawn, both from this race and the Feather stake, which will leave the other entries a better chance. Among the others, the Anniswood stable has two entered, both reputed flyers, Extra and Dickens. Mr. Sanford's Virgil is well known to all the racing world in this State. De Courcey, Delaware, Metairie, and Lancaster are all performers of name. This race will probably form one of the most exciting contests that have ever been witnessed at Jerome Park. T. S. Moore has there entered Fanny Cheatham, Beacon and Privateer, but as he takes them down to Mobile the probability is that he will not get back in time for this meeting. The day's sport will conclude with a selling race for all ages and a mile heat race for a premium of $800. The third day opens with the Ladies' Stake, a sweepstakes for 3 year old fillies, entrance $100 h. ft., $1,000 added by the Club; one mile and five furlongs; the owner of the second filly to receive $300 out of the stakes. Closed with 20 nominations out of which the folloping have appeared in public: Col. McDaniels's Sarah by Planet, dam Adelgisa by imported Glencoe; T. Morris's Relentless (full sister to Ruthless), and Fanny Ludlow by imported Eclipse out of Mollie Jackson; Mr. Sanford's La Polka by Lexington, dam Dance; and Mr. Watson's Bonnie Braes by imported Balrownie, dam Pasta by Revenue. On paper this event up to this present looks a good thing for Mr. Morris's nomination. Mr. Alexander had two entered, but they were both disqualified by his death. The day's running is concluded with a selling race, premium $700, and a two mile heat race for $1,000 premium; both of these races close on the previous day. The fourth, and last day of the meeting, will be one of the best day's sport ever witnessed in this country. The racing will commence with the Jockey Club Handicap for all ages, two miles, $100 entrance, half forfeit, $20 if declared, $1,000 added by the Club; acceptances to be made on or before the 1st of March. There are 29 entries to this race, out of which probably 16 will accept. The following are the weights imposed by the handicapper:

J. S. Watson's ch. h., Onward, 6 yrs., 118 lbs.; the Anniswood Stable names ch. h., Exiles, 5 yrs., 114 lbs.; J. H. Watson's b. h., Delaware, 6 yrs., 112 lbs.; J. S. Watson's b. h., Capt. Moore, aged, 112 lbs.; T. G. Moore's b. h., Brenton, aged, 112 lbs.; J. H. Dowling's b. g., Exile (Imp.), 6 yrs., 110 lbs.; the Anniswood Stable names ch. c., Dickens, 4 yrs., 108 lbs.; R. B. Forbes, jr.'s br. h., Climax, aged, 108 lbs.; J. W. Peacock's ch. c., Jas. A. Connolly, 4 yrs., 106 lbs.; T. G. Moore's b. h., Privateer, 5 yrs., 103 lbs.; J. Eckerson's br. h., Zigzag, aged, 104 lbs.; B. F. Hutchinson's b. m., Ruth 5 yrs., 104 lbs.; J. M. Brown's ch. h., Tycoon, aged, 104 lbs.; R. McDaniel's b. c., Morrissey, 4 years, 102 lbs.; D. McDaniel's br. c. Clement, 4 yrs., 102 lbs.; J. H. Dowling's b. g., Reckless, 5 yrs., 100 lbs.; R. B. Forbes, jr.'s ch. m., by Balrownie, 5 yrs., 100 lbs.; J. Eckerson's b. f., Sleety, 4 yrs., 100 lbs.; D. McDaniel's b. h., Ripley, 6 yrs., 100 lbs.; J. H. Dowling's bl. c., Gerald, 4 yrs., 98 lbs.; W. Constable's gr. c., Raquette 4 yrs., 96 lbs.; A. A. Hopper's ch. c. Egotist, 4 yrs., 96 lbs.; Leonard W. Jerome's ch. c., Gen. Yorke, 4 yrs., 95 lbs.; R. W. Cameron's b. c., Hampton Court, 4 yrs., 92 lbs.; A. Belmont's b. f. Maid of Honor, 4 yrs., 91 lbs.; Leonard W. Jerome's ch. f., Clara Clarita, 4 yrs., 87 lbs.; M. H. Sanford's bl. f., Lute, 3 yrs., 85 lbs.; M. H. Sanford's b. f., La Henderson, 3 yrs., 85 lbs.; Mr. Carter's b. f., Stepping Stone, 3 yrs., 83 lbs.

Out of this lot, the best, in our opinion, are Tycoon, Delaware, Extra, and the pick of Dowling's stable. The weight imposed on Onward is a little too much for the gallant chestnut to carry for two miles and hold his own. Raquette is well in, but I do not believe he can stay the distance, and, as many changes may occur before June, we will say no more about it at present. The second race is a sweepstakes for 3 year olds, two miles, $50 entrance, p. p., $500 added by the Club, the winner of the Derby or Belmont to carry 7 lb extra. This race has 23 entries, the best of whom are Relentless, Sarah B., Hotspur, Boaster, Bayonet, and Virginia Washington. The third race is a sweepstakes for 2 year olds, half a mile, $50, p. p., $1,000 added by the Club, winner of the 2 year old stake on the first day to carry 7 lb extra. This race closed with 24 nominations, among whom are R. W. Cameron's imported Invernglass, Glenvela, and Glengary. Glenevis is a very well bred colt, by Oulston, dam by the famous Voltigeur. Mr. Sandford's two, the Nun and Salute, are by Lexington. Mr. Morris has four by Eclipse, and there are other representatives of the Oakland, Planet, Daniel Boone, Breckinridge, imp. Australian, and imp. Mickey Free families. The fourth and last race is the feather stakes, for all ages, to carry 100 pounds, four miles, $50 entrance, p. p., the Club to add $1,000. This has closed with fourteen entries, among whom is the dreaded Kentucky, but as he has been withdrawn, the race will be left a pretty open thing. The weight to be carried is 100 pounds, and the following horses are entered: Blackbird, Red Dick, Julius, Extra, Tycoon, Alderbaran, Local, Fleetwing, Delaware, Onward, H. Bohannon's b. h., 5 years old, Beacon, and Privateer; but of this lot we are in favor of Onward, Extra, Tycoon, and Local. There are also two additional races to be run in the Spring meeting. The first is a race for fillies foaled in 1866, 3 furlongs, and has three entries: Mr. Cameron's b. f. Invercauld, by St. Albans, out of Eleanor; L. W. Jerome's b. f. Rapture, by Lapidist, dam Parachute, and F. Morris's b. f., by Eclipse, out of a Slasher mare, grandam Barbarity. The second race is for colts and fillies foaled in 1866, over a 5 furlong course. There are 5 entries for this, namely: the Anniswood stable, b. c. Canny Bairn, by Balrownie, dam Fanny Fern, by Glencoe, and ch. c. Vespucius by Planet, dam Columbia by Glencoe, L. W. Jerome's b. f. Rapture, by imp. Lapidist, dam Parachute, R. W. Cameron's and L. W. Jerome's b. c. Glengary, by Thormanby, dam Caroline by Rifleman, and F. Morris's b. f. Eclipse, out of a Slasher mare out of Barbarity. It will be seen by the following programme that a treat is in store for the lovers of racing, and too great praise cannot be given to the originators and projectors of this charming meeting. The Spring meeting of the Lafelede Association, which takes place at St. Louis, commencing on the 18th of May and continuing six days, will be probably very successful, as great inducements are held out to owners of horses to patronize that meeting. They advertise two races for 3 year old colts and fillies, and one for 3 year old fillies only, which are to close on the 1st of April. The Buckeye Club, of Cincinnati, Ohio, have five races open, to close on the 1st of April, one for 3 year olds, mile heats; and another, 2 mile heats; one 4 year old, mile heats; and another, 2 mile heats; and a dash of 3 miles for all ages. The programme of the Saratoga Association has been issued on the most liberal scale, giving away the aggregate amount of $11,300 in purses and stakes. The meeting is to commence on Wednesday, August 5, and continue six days. The following races close on the 1st of April: The Saratoga Cup of $1,000, added to a sweepstakes of $50 each, p. p., 2½ miles, for all ages; Sweepstakes for all ages, to carry 100 lbs., 2½ miles, $600 added; the Sequel Stakes, $50 entrance, p. p., two miles for three-year-olds, $750 added, winner of the Derby, Belmont stakes, or Travers stakes, 5 lb extra, but penalties not to accumulate. During the meeting there are two hurdle races, one on the second day, and another on the sixth. It is pleasant to see that all clubs are not so frightened about these events, as such another accident as happened in Jerome Park will probably not occur again for a long time. The Nashville Blood Horse Association has opened a stake at their Fall meeting, styled The Young America Stake. For two-year-olds, dash of a mile, $25 entrance; association to add $500; 20 or more to make a race. They have already got 12 nominations, and the stake will be probably soon filled, and make a very good race. We shall miss this season the old favorite Lodestone, whose death was a great loss to Mr. Sanford. It appears, also, that the well-known racers Onward, Delaware, and Captain Moore, together with two fillies by Balrownie out of Pasta by Revenue, one by Balrownie out of L'Anglaise, and one by Vandal out of Gleamin by Glencoe, are advertised by Mr. Watson for sale. We hope they will fall into the hands of as straightforward an owner.

FASHIONS, HOUSE-FURNISHING, AND DECORATIONS.

The severity of the month has retarded the importation of styles, which are looked for, however, week by week, and certainly fall due on the 1st of March. Prices of both cottons and silks are higher than in January, and goods of Lonsdale finish are no longer to be had for 12½c. a yard by the piece, nor are gros-grain silks 25 per cent cheaper; but the result on the whole is more satisfactory than any frantic and permanent reduction of rates. The few novelties in dress to be noticed may be dismissed with brief mention. The striped chameleon silks, in delicate lines on grounds of soft variable tint, are French in effect when made up with Watteau body, i. e., lower on the bosom than the shoulders, with narrow lace tucker, and skirt short on the side with antique plaits, but plain over the front and back, a plain silk petticoat falling below, with large bow, rosette, or bouquet placed beneath the raised plaits of the overdress, as finish to the costume. Ten and fourteen-inch flounces are fashionable on all varieties of dress. Large satin cables and plaits are used for trimming, and there is a very pretty black and gold gimp which has the effect of elaborate soutache braiding. Sprays of embroidery are sold which, with a few stitches, are applied to silk, imitating the most laborious handwork. The satin braids are from one to three dollars a yard; the soutache gimp from fifty cents to a dollar and seventy-five cents; the sprays in black twist are about two dollars each. A new fabric for evening dress is called Malines lace, a thin black tulle, dotted with flakes of pigment, that give the effect of being powdered with gold or silver.

Sprays of real point lace, both Alençon and *de gaze*, can be had to apply on silks, or Brussels net, either for scarfs or dresses, but of course are costly.

White China *crape*, embroidered and fringed with silk is the latest material for opera-cloaks and ball wraps. Rep silk, edged with white galoon, embroidered with gold is another elegant choice.

The *surpan dye* sleeve is a novelty, formed of two close bands round the fore and upper arm, united by a puff of lace or muslin over the elbow, with a deep frill at the wrist. The velvet fichu, covering the waist, withlong sash ends behind, is the latest form of out-door wrap, and it is said is the forerunner of the graceful scarf which will be the fashionable wear during the next year.

But more interesting than these minor details of the toilet, will be found some account of the styles at present adopted for the interior decoration of houses. Americans are acquiring more critical taste in this matter, and though a few years since an article of pure design and thorough finish found few to appreciate, and fewer to purchase it at the price such things command in Europe, the better class of people now know Greek from Renaissance styles, and demand the aid of well-trained artists conversant with strict models in the work of decorating their homes. Shams, we hope, have had their day. People appreciate the worth of real bronze, and rich marble, and solid woods; are discriminating as to inlaid work, mosaics, and classic designs. People of wealth take satisfaction in surrendering their pianos to the hands of exact and enthusiastic designers, whose business is not a mere trade, copying forever a narrow range of models, but a rich and discursive art. Taste is slowly growing classic in decoration, which presents itself on a level near that of architecture. The treasures of many countries are its own; bronze and gold and ivory, tapestries and lace, many-veined Italian marbles, and costly woods, tuya and orange wood, amarante and cedar. Borderings are traced from old friezes, emblems stolen from every nation, and choice lines of antique art made use of to add grace to new designs. It is hardly understood what a combination of talent and craft are called into work for the furniture of our homes. A single house will keep half a dozen artists busy over designs for the interior of rooms, which must be copied several times for working plans, with exactness only less than that an engineer bestows upon his drafts of machinery. These models are carved out by the skill of over 50 different trades, 30 of which will be used in making a single piece of furniture. The carver in wood is one workman, the gilder, the burnisher, bronze caster and bronze applier, the porcelain manufacturer and setter, are all separate hands, and the intricacies of trades are more than those who follow it pretend to number.

But three broad styles are now followed, the leading and most exclusive of which is the modernized Egyptian, which presents the contrast of dark solidity and enlivenment of brilliant color. The Grecian order is better known, with its dead gold traceries of classic architecture on walnut, and silverwood inlaid with ebony. Still popular is the lively and luxurious taste of Louis Seize, with its garlands and medallions of flowers on subdued tints, its gilded flowers set with porcelain, and its deep, cushioned ease. To take these in order, the Egyptian style of interior will be described first.

The ceilings have great hight, or the massive forms of furniture appear oppressive; the walls are tinted unearthly turquoise, pale clay and sand tints, with lightly frescoed borders, interlacings of lotus, perhaps, with swans and ibis in the corners, or friezes in mere tracery of dead tints, lithe forms wearing the serpent head-dress, bending the bow, or flying in desert chase. This order of decoration admits the richest materials for its forms of few lines, and the costliest ebony and rosewood belong especially to its designs. Doors, windows, and mantels are framed alike in either of these dark materials, relieved with inlayings of the purplish red amaranthe, a tree of the Moluccas, or of Inya, a new African wood decorators are trying to introduce, which resembles a dotted or curled mahogany of light color. The moldings are enriched with winged crests and sphynxes of gold or bronze. By the way, the oxydized bronze is an addition to the list; the tinge resembles that of dim, smooth steel, and suits Egyptian work better than verd antique, which properly belongs to Grecian or Composite decoration. The odd strong reds, orange, and smoky tints brought in fashion the last season, applied in heavy plain satin, harmonize with the other fittings of this style, for curtains and furniture. Floors of inlaid wood or tiles suit these rooms better than carpets, but as people will not be persuaded out of their Brussels and Axminster, let the tints be dark, the figures small lines, and knots of gold outlining medallions. The light should be good in rooms furnished in such deep rich colors. Appropriate decorations in Egyptian style are to be found in depots of ornamental ware; mantel sets of clock vases, thermometer and paper weights in ebony or bronze, are seen with winged crests, and sphynx heads; vases of red or black ware, jasper, and black or yellow marble of pure classic form, clepsydras for measuring time, and marble fountains for the center-table, which send jets of perfumed water a few feet in hight. The price of a set of Egyptian mantel ornaments in ebony would be about one hundred and twenty-five dollars; in verd antique and gilded bronze, two hundred and twenty-five.

The Greek mode of decoration is more familiar and better adapted to unambitious style, as well as longer known than this modernized Egyptian. It is less sought for on that account by those whose wealth gives the privilege of being exclusive in taste, and holds the second place with designers just now. In the materials appropriate to its use, it allows a wider range than the costlier and heavier style, and the effect is a correct but still a lighter grace. The wood most frequently chosen by modern dealers to carry out designs of this order, is the black-walnut of our own forests, which sustains the dead gilt borderings which designers love to trace on every surface with such quiet blending. Gilded mahogany or rosewood is not so chaste as the brown woods. Also, for Greek work, the French walnut is admired, which has more eccentric grain than the American; silver wood, which is only maple stained a light gray, like unpainted pine that has been exposed a long time to the weather, and inlayings of tulip, holly, and ebony, which last, dealers say, is maple or pear wood, stained. Curled maple is held in much higher favor in Europe than it is here, and French decorators do not hesitate to use it in some fine designs. The onyx marble, looking like discolored Parian, and that pale stone which looks as if stained in the light of an Athens sunset, as some one says, belong to Greek decorative work, and all the lighter brozes, ivory, and satin-faced stones of precious color. Chairs, lounges, tables, and couches, are of graceful and simple pattern. The plain or brocaded satins in the soft bright hues of cerise, turquoise, lilac, melon color, and light green, appear most appropriate coverings for this style. The frames are not heavy, and a tracery of dead gold is usually sunk in their faces, though designers themselves, of trained tastes, prefer a heavier model without gold leaf. The pieces of furniture in this style have novel and pleasing contrivances. A desk of French walnut inlaid with amaranth in rich patterns has an upright swell front which opens, revolving on either side, disclosing drawers and pigeon-holes in order most convenient. That recess at the head of the desk is most innocently floored with light polished wood, not a groove nor dent being visible. But touching a hidden spring the lid slides back, showing secret drawers which might remain hidden for centuries without their presence being guessed. Ladies' writing desks are fitted up with mirror backs and spring drawers—significant! but what woman would not steal a glance at herself, as she wrote, to see the hightening of her beauty which enthusiasm or the use of intellect gives, and what woman out of a dozen but has use for the secret drawer and the spring.

Costly tables of inlaid wood and precious stones have superseded white marble-topped and pearl-inlaid papier-mache, that not long since were the style. The Florentine mosaic is admirable with its convolvulus and oxalis bells, white shaded with fine pink and purple on a black ground. A table of this is worth about $300. Twenty kinds of Italian marble are used, that being especially rich for decoration; that from California is admired, but most of the native marbles are too hard to work for carving. A fine table of Egyptian design was about four feet across, with curved legs, heavily bronze and gilt, and embossed with sphinx and serpentine devices; the top was inlaid, with rim of white porcelain, outside of which was a bronze border crusted with heads and tracery. The pattern of the center was a picturesque design of agricultural instruments and leaves, admirably done, with the clearness of enamel, and in true tints. Over 20 different woods formed its parts, amaranth, holly, cedar, and satinwood among the rest. Design and workmanship were both superior, and this rare and difficult piece of ornament was entirely done in America, as, indeed, were all the articles described in this paper. It is only lately that such ambitious attempts have been deemed possible in this country; but the most elegant and expensive work in ivory, bronze, ormolu, inlaying, and porcelain is now manufactured and finished by native artisans, and the steel and wood-work, especially, stand the climate better than any imported furniture will do, while the finish of articles made by our best artists is pronounced quite comparable with the finest French specimens. The table spoken of was intended for the Exposition, and was valued at several thousand dollars. The spirited wood carvings, in oak and walnut, are done in New-York, with a beauty and finish not to be distinguished from Swiss work. This is used sometimes for pier furniture, instead of the narrow mirror and marble slab. A notable piece of this description was a pedestal with a large clock, carved from a solid block of walnut, the design an eagle with outspread wings stooping fiercely over an oak branch with leaves, cleanly cut, and highly finished in masterly style. Another was a high Egyptian pedestal with obtuse angles, small at base, supporting a clock that goes for a year with once winding. The richness of some of the plain walnut Greek furniture is not to be surpassed.

For boudoirs and small drawing-rooms ladies admire the refined, gay style of the Pompadour, which admits all of light and splendor that tapestry, gilded chairs, ormolu tables, and porcelain inlaying can give. The Aubusson and Neuilly tapestries are used for all the upholstering; even the carpet matches the curtains, portieres, and chair coverings. The Aubusson is made like the Gobelin tapestry, which is woven only for princes; those who have not seen it may like to know that it looks like very fine wool reps or Empress cloths, but is very heavy, and firmer than any cloth or carpet that is made. The groundwork is always most delicate, but unfading colors, pea-green, pearl, or drab-white, with center of flowers, or some trait-eau device of rustic hats, crooks, pipes flung in the midst of branches of blossoms, or a bird's nest in eglantine; the coverings for a room come in pieces about two yards square, with designs similar, yet no two copies of each other, and small strips are patterned for the arms and tops of sofas. The figures are woven in the fabric, not embroidered, and the threads of color are not allowed to be cut, but looped along on the underside as they are wanted. The curtains and portieres or door hangings come in separate pieces; lambrequins, or short plain hangings at the top of mirrors, have a pattern for small ottomans woven on the same piece, and these are to stand in the recess of the window. The price of the tapestries for one suite, comprising two sofas, two arm chairs, eight drawing-room chairs, and I believe curtains and portieres, and mantle covers, is $2,000. The frames are usually of light material, elegantly but slightly carved from satin wood, silver-wood, or are gilded. The white coverings are most beautiful in gilt frames. Two arm chairs of real Gobelin, which came into the possession of a lady of this city, are of this drab white tapestry, with figures representing astronomy and geography, sitting with books, globe, telescope, and chart, wrought on the seats; the frames are heavily gilded, and their value is about $1,800. Gobelin, like point lace, never loses its worth.

The present choice is to fill drawing rooms with small marquis easy-chairs; sofas and seats of all kinds are made deep and spacious. If satin is used instead of tapestry, the cushions are tufted; side pieces of contrasting color border them—for instance, drab satin with cerise border, Bismarck and blue, light green and drab edgings. Ovals and medallions of porcelain, beautifully painted, are set in the frames of sofas and chairs. Porcelain tables with gilded stands, and jardinieres with floral patterns, are ornaments in the Pompadour taste, and gilded bronze is often seen. Very beautiful tables are made from the Savacelin marble—the same used for the columns of the new Opera-House in Paris; the stone is full of curves of porphyry and sand tint. Pedestals are covered with cerise or azure velvet, with fringed tops, porcelain inlaid sides—very beautiful pieces of furniture.

Window curtains are very full, and, if of tapestry, have deep variegated fringes and tassels. Mantel covers of satin velvet or tapestry have the edges cut in fancy patterns and fringed. Chimney glasses are about twice as high as formerly, with frames to match the mantel and jambs; a sheet of mirror replaces the grate when fires are not in use. Corners of rooms are filled with three-sided cabinets, serving as pedestals for busts. Branching hat-stands give place to pieces of furniture like high bedsteads, with vestibule glasses as large as mantel mirrors in the back, on each side of which are silver and bronze pegs for hats. Bedsteads are often fitted up in the Renaissance style, with sides covered with plush and handsome coverings; large bronze medallions are set in the lofty headboard. Chamber chairs, and hall seats for country houses are of finest cane-work, with narrow plush borders round back and sides, within the walnut frame. Consoles and dressing bureaus are topped with Brandon, Vt., marble, the purest known, which contrasts beautifully with dark wood. The best mirrors are of Belgian plate-glass, for which there is a single agency in this city. Walnut, rosewood, curled maple, and silverwood are most used for chamber furniture. Chamber windows have no heavy hangings, but a lambrequin or drapery at top, and muslin curtains inside.

Thanks are due Messrs. Pottier & Stymus for the information given above. As suggestions for a simple style of furnishing, Mr. I. E. Waltraven gives the following excellent details:

The French and English fit houses of very good style entirely with chintz, or the new French furniture calico, which is very heavy and does not fade. With this material at 30 cents a yard, drawing-room furniture is covered, curtains hung, and walls lined, unless paper matching the calico is used, which comes on purpose at $2 a roll. The patterns of the material are very lively, reproducing the most beautiful designs of damask in original colors, the pale Pompadour tints, or in deep blue and silver gray, or rose pink. These sofas and chairs will be seen in French country houses, where the floor is covered with a tapestry square and brocatelle, the worth of which would buy the whole upholstery of a tawdry town parlor in Brussels. The look of ease and home likeness which these chintz-trimmed interiors, with their deep sofas, ample window curtains, and portires trimmed round with fluted frills, and looped with the same, their fresh uniform paper, and light carpets, is not to be excelled, and nothing can be more tasteful. The "crimson wool rep," which Mrs. Stowe has popularized in her House and Home Papers, or the pale green, or rich blue either, if the ingrain carpets only suit in color, and ample draperies allowed for mantels, windows, and doors, will convey an impression only second to the rich, terry reps, although the latter is lustrous as ice, almost and comes in superb shades of azure, Bismarck, and rosy crimson. The wool rep is $3, the terry rep $5 a yard. The terry curtains are trimmed all round with a wide brocade ribbon, or a velvet of the same shade, with a rich cord and tassel looped on the lower inside corner of each. About seven yards of fifty-inch terry is used for a pair of curtains. Walnut studded with steel is a new style of cornice, much liked. For white curtains the Swiss lace takes the popular place. These are worked by the people of St. Gall during the Winter months, and are of different qualities from splendid designs, with eagles, roses, and geometric patterns, which cost $100 the pair, to simple, airy draperies at $15 and $25. The Nottingham lace is pretty if decoration for a chamber, if a frill is lined with pink cambric, hung like a cornice round the top of the room, the doors, windows, toilet, and bed cover to match, of lace lined with pink. Cords are not used for cheap curtains, but they are looped with frills. Pink muslin ruffled and fluted trims a room very tastefully at small expense, but it must be used with ample allowance to give the right effect.

Turkish table covers are a novelty, made by cutting out bits of gay cloth, and sewing them together in rich and intricate mosaic, the seams being overcast with embroidery stitch. It takes great work to make one, and they are imported at high prices.

Linens for table use come in chequer patterns instead of the snowdrop figures. One fine cloth and set of napkins was valued at $65; it was of chequer design, we believe, as gleaming and lustrous as white satin—a thing to delight the eyes of all good housewives. For the satisfaction of our readers, we inquired the price of eider-down quilts, with English chintz linings and silk covers; they were $36, and the finest English Witney blankets were about $20. American Witneys are much lower in price.

THE COURTS.

THE ERIE RAILWAY CASE.

In the Supreme Court General Term, Mr. Field, on behalf of Mr. Drew, moved for an order to show cause why the appeal from Judge Barnard's decision on Friday should not be heard. On Friday Judge Barnard refused to dismiss the case for the want of jurisdiction, and set down Wednesday for the hearing of the motions. Meanwhile the suspension of Mr. Drew from his office in the Company was continued. The petitioner's counsel, the Messrs. Rapallo, Fullerton & Vanderpoel, opposed the granting of the order to show cause. They objected that Mr. Drew was not yet in a position to appeal, not having even denied the charges made against him; that if this motion were granted, the fact that the General Term were to have the case before them would be used before Judge Barnard for further delay, and thus Mr. Drew would escape from answering, which was what he was really seeking. On the other hand, Mr. Field claimed that the very question on which the appeal was taken was whether there was anything before the Court to answer; that the delay was short, and could not injure the petitioner, as a suspension was still in force. The Court refused to hear any extended argument, but put the whole matter over to Friday next.

OTHER CIVIL COURTS.

The appointment of Mr. Duff as Receiver of the Olympic Theater until his mortgage be satisfied out of its proceeds, has been affirmed by the General Term, but he is required to give larger security—$100,000, with sureties, his former security having been his own bond for $50,000 without sureties.

Petitions in bankruptcy were filed yesterday by Richard Davis, Thomas Hiller, Hiram B. Wetherell, Simon Ganz, John M. Berrian, Cornelius A. Berrian, Edward J. Kilbourne, Benjamin Franklin, and Ebenezer H. Balch, all of this city; Warren J. Wixson, and George M. Mott of Sing Sing, and David W. Pierce of Poughkeepsie.

In the U. S. District Court, the Sherry Wine case is still on. The testimony for the Government is not yet finished. Judge Blatchford made the important ruling yesterday that testimony as to prices of sherry wine paid to agents of claimants in this country was inadmissible as evidence of the market prices at the place of export.

In the suit of Bennett agt. The Plattsburgh and Montreal Railroad Company, the Supreme Court, General, Judge Ingraham delivering its opinion, have decided that the mortgage of the Railroad includes the rolling stock, and that the filing of a chattel mortgage is not necessary to include it. In the opinion the decision would seem to rest on the question of interest of the mortgagers.

In the case of Bowen agt. Chase, which is a claim by the plaintiffs that they, and not Mr. Chase's assignors, are the true heirs of Madame Jumel, and entitled to her estate, the court has affirmed the order of the court below that the examination of the old people in Rhode Island who were cotemporaries of Polly Bowen (Madame Jumel) in her youth, shall be made on written interrogatories and not by oral questions.

In the case of James Belger agt. Wm. B. Dinsmore, etc., the general term of the Supreme Court decided that the clause in the receipts given by the Adams and other Express Companies, limiting their liability for goods delivered to them to $50, was of no avail unless not only brought to the knowledge of, but actually assented to by the party sending goods through them. The court below having decided the other way a new trial was granted.

In the United States District Court, in Admiralty, Judge Blatchford decided the collision suit of Kenny, on behalf of himself and another, agt. The Steamship Alhambra. This is one of six actions brought to recover damages against the Alhambra for colliding with and sinking the schooner Wonder. The collision occurred on the 26th of June, 1865, off Cape Hatteras. Libellants alleged the collision was caused by the Alhambra not taking proper precautions in time to clear the Wonder, as she was bound to do. The owners of the Alhambra claimed that the collision was the result of the Wonder improperly changing her course. The Wonder and cargo were a total loss. The Court now decides that the change of the Wonder's course was made so long before the collision as not to be a fault, and that the Alhambra could have cleared her by porting her helm, or by stopping in time, and orders a decree for libellants, and a reference to ascertain and report the amount of damage.

In the Court of Common Pleas the Stuyvesant divorce case is still pending. It may be remembered that Mrs. Stuyvesant is accused of adultery with her brother-in-law, Thomas Bowran. Mr. Bowran has finished his testimony, in which he denied in the most positive terms the act of adultery. Ex-Judge Stuart testified that after the complaint was served in the case he was present when Mrs. Stuyvesant was dining with her husband at the latter's office, and heard her say: "You know I am innocent; why don't you stop this suit against me?" He replied, in substance, that she must refrain from talking about the suit or leave his office. There are several witnesses yet to examine

The General Term of the Supreme Court, Judge Barnard presiding, rendered the following decisions yesterday: Valentine Fruh agt. Simon Donan et al., judgment affirmed with costs. Opinion by Barnard P.J.—Argued at January Term.—George G. Meacham agt. Robert L. Pell, judgment reversed and case referred back to referee and new trial ordered, costs to abide event; opinion by Ingraham J. Emerson agt. Booth et al., judgment affirmed with costs; opinion by Ingraham J. Geo. Douglass agt. Robert N. Woodsworth et al.—Order reversed, and order made on terms as stated in opinion; Opinion by Ingraham J. Otis N. Cutter agt. Joab Lawrence.—Order modified as stated in opinion. James Belger agt. Mr. Dinsmore, President, &c.—Verdict set aside and new trial ordered, costs to abide event; opinion by Ingraham J. Albert L. Pritchard agt. The Bank of California, James Fish agt. The Same.—Orders affirmed with costs. Archibald M. Allerton et al. agt Wm. C. Martin.—Order reversed with $10 costs; opinion by Sutherland J. Charles P. Leggett agt. The Mut. Life Ins. Co. of N. Y.—Judgment reversed and new trial granted, costs to abide event; opinion by Sutherland J. Chas. Lu