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BIJOU OPERA HOUSE—"The Spectre Knight."
BOOTH'S THEATRE—"The Lady of Lyons."
DALY'S THEATRE—"The Brook."
FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE—"A Gentleman from Nevada."
HAVERLY'S THEATRE—Novelties.
MADISON SQUARE THEATRE—"Hazel Kirke."
NEW-YORK AQUARIUM—2 and 8: General Tom Thumb and Troupe.
NIBLO'S GARDEN—"Kerry Gow."
PARK THEATRE—"Joshua Whitcomb."
SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS' OPERA HOUSE—Minnie Palmer's Boarding School.
STANDARD THEATRE—"Hobbies."
UNION SQUARE THEATRE—"My Partner."
WALLACK'S THEATRE—"A Child of the State."

CHICKERING HALL—Joseffy Concert.
NATIONAL ACADEMY OF DESIGN—Annual Exhibition.

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# New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

FRIDAY, MAY 14, 1880.

## *THE NEWS THIS MORNING.*

FOREIGN. — Eighty undergraduates of Oxford University have been rusticated. ═══ British Emigration is increasing greatly. ═══ Twelve thousand operatives are on strike in Blackburn.

DOMESTIC.—The Vermont Greenback Convention yesterday appointed delegates and adopted a platform. ═══ The State Senate proposes May 21 for final adjournment. ═══ Burglars blew open the safe in the Pottstown, Penn., Post Office. ═══ In Philadelphia, the Whittaker will has been declared a forgery. ═══ The Hon. S. B. Conover has been nominated for Governor by the Florida Republican Convention.

CONGRESS.—In the Senate Mr. Hampton and Mr. Carpenter opposed the Kellogg resolutions. ═══ In the House the Pension Deficiency bill was recommitted; the Legislative Appropriation bill was considered; Mr. Springer replied to Mr. Orth's explanation on the Venezuelan claims matter. The Committee on Ways and Means has adopted a resolution for adjournment on the 31st inst.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.—Collector Merritt spoke before the Sherman Club yesterday in support of Secretary Sherman. ═══ The anti-third-term delegates from this city made arrangements for their work at Chicago. ═══ The Warren Court of Inquiry was continued. ═══ The dog show closed. ═══ The body of Max A. Platt was found. ═══ More May anniversaries were celebrated. ═══ Commencement exercises were held in the Law Department of the University of the City of New-York and in the General Theological Seminary. ═══ Gold value of the legal-tender silver dollar (412½ grains), 88.07 cents. Stocks opened at a slight advance, but soon declined and closed weak.

THE WEATHER.—TRIBUNE local observations indicate cool and generally clear weather. Thermometer yesterday: Highest, 59°; lowest, 49°; average, 53⅛°.

*Persons leaving town for the season, and Summer travellers, can have* THE DAILY TRIBUNE *mailed to them, postpaid, for $1 20 per month, the address being changed as often as desired.*

Fifty Greenbackers met in a so-called State Convention in Vermont yesterday, elected ten delegates to their National Convention, and adopted nine resolutions.

There is one Democrat, at least, in the Senate, who is honorable enough to keep the agreement between the two parties by which Butler and Kellogg were admitted. His name is Wade Hampton.

It is now learned that Senator Hill's remark that "the pelican bird when it folds its wings "in the branches of the palmetto, must be over-"come by exhalations as poisonous as those of "the upas tree," was an allusion to the Kellogg case. The circumstantial evidence tending to prove this is said to be very strong.

The State Senate has adopted Judge Robertson's resolution providing for an adjournment of the Legislature one week from to-day. The Ways and Means Committee at Washington has adopted a resolution for an adjournment of Congress on the 31st inst. Both sessions have been long, and the members and the public alike will be glad to see the end.

It is a curious commentary on our American civilization that we all breathe freer when a hanging has passed off without some shocking bungling. Four murderers were executed yesterday without being tortured. This is all there was of it, and this, under our system of amateur hangmen, is, in all seriousness, a thing to be noted and to be grateful for.

Ex-Governor Howard, of Rhode Island, bears testimony, in the talk reported elsewhere, to the ebb of the Grant tide, and makes a strong declaration in behalf of Mr. Blaine. At the same time Governor Howard believes that there exists in the party a peculiarly tolerant disposition as between candidates, with a strong desire that the most available man shall be chosen, regardless of personal considerations.

The State Board of Charities has made a report upon the Randall's Island House of Refuge, which is strongly condemnatory of the management. The important portions of the report will be found in our Albany correspondence. A recommendation is made that the charter of the Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents, which has the institution in charge, should be so amended as greatly to restrict its jurisdiction.

Senator Eaton has promulgated the theory of State Rights in a new and magnificent manner. He hurls back with scorn the suggestion that the Senate should be governed by judicial methods, and declares that it is "an assembly "of ambassadors from sovereign States, gov-"erned by no such petty rules." So Mr. Eaton is an "ambassador," is he? This will make people stare up in Connecticut.

The holding of four Republican State Conventions during the current week has made it possible to enlarge the estimates of the vote at Chicago given on Saturday last. A revised statement, made elsewhere, shows Mr. Blaine to be within exactly 100 votes of a nomination, while General Grant is 153 votes away, and there are only 108 delegates still to be elected. Should General Grant obtain all of these, he would still be nearly fifty votes short. But he cannot obtain all of the forty-two votes of Illinois except by measures which would ruin his candidacy, and it seems to be well understood that the ten votes of Minnesota will be for Mr. Blaine, to say nothing of his strong chances in Nebraska and Colorado. The new estimate strengthens the probability of General Grant's defeat. He will be much short of a majority when the Convention meets, and men who have been elected to oppose a third term are not likely to desert their colors.

It is gratifying to find that the Democrats of the Senate are not solidly arrayed in defence of the iniquitous project to steal Mr. Kellogg's seat. Senator Hampton's declaration of his intention to vote against this most unjustifiable deed will do more to bring him the esteem of all men whose esteem is worth having than any other act of his career. His speech is marked with no more than the customary regret of the party man who finds himself compelled to separate himself from his political associates, and it contains the substance of law and justice in this matter. The Democratic Senators have shown no disposition to be convinced by the arguments of Republicans. Perhaps they will give greater attention when one of their own number asks them, "If the case is to be reheard now, what is "to prevent its being reheard again and again?" Under the theory of the present majority, it might be reopened, and every case might be reopened, with every change of political control, and the Senate be permanently Mexicanized. The righteousness of Mr. Kellogg's title is not, as General Hampton showed, now an issue at all. That question has once been decided, and the decision, whether right or wrong, must be respected. To quote his own words, "the con-"sequences of leaving titles to seats forever "open to question are more disastrous than to "leave an occasional case wrongly settled." It is to be hoped that the Democratic majority may yet be able to take this patriotic view of the case.

### *CONGRESS AND APPROPRIATIONS.*

What did Congress do yesterday? It did what it has done every day for a week, every day for a month, every day for nearly six months. It blocked the wheels of Government. It put out the lights and stopped the water in the public buildings. It caused the United States Courts to close, dismissed jurors because there was no money to pay them, and released dangerous counterfeiters on low bail. It told officials, who have waited for ten months in vain for their well-earned pay, that they must wait still longer. It warned other officials, who have been paying for necessary expenses of the United States Government out of their own pockets, that they might continue to do so, if they pleased, but that Congress was not ready to pay them a cent of the money already advanced, or to provide for their payment if they should advance any more.

In other words, Congress did nothing. It has done nothing for weeks and months, though there was most urgent need of doing something, if the wheels of the Government are to run at all. It listened to malignant partisan speech in one house, and authorized another costly and useless investigation in the other. There was no hot political debate, at either end of the Capitol, to excuse the outrageous neglect of pressing public necessities. For months the heads of departments have been representing that the appropriations were exhausted for this or that purpose, and that the public service would presently be arrested if Congress failed to make such provision as existing laws require. Congress has listened with indifference, done nothing with great pains, treated the laws with contempt, and suffered the public business to go to the dogs. The most necessary functions of the Government—its confinement, trial and punishment of criminals, its adjudication of claimants under its laws, its occupation of public buildings and transportation of fast mails, and arrest of law-breakers—have been continued thus far in many cases only by the patient or pitiful generosity of private individuals, in spite of the incompetence or disloyalty of Congress.

Either incompetence or disloyalty it certainly is that prevents the appropriation of money required by existing laws, and necessary for the continuance of public service. The willing people pay liberally all that is needful for every branch of the service. The existing laws provide fully for every branch, and make it the duty of members of Congress to vote in due season the money required for the execution of the laws. Congress refuses to do its duty, or to obey the laws, and in nearly every case has no excuse or pretext whatever. It is the common observation of experienced persons at Washington that there never has been gathered a more wretchedly and pitiably incompetent body of men than this Democratic Congress. It is incompetent to change the laws with proper understanding of existing provisions; incompetent to frame an appropriation bill with due regard for the existing laws which it wishes to carry out; incompetent to discuss any public measure intelligently or profitably; incompetent to reach a vote, within any given time, even when it is anxious to do so; and for six months members have sat, talked nonsense or billingsgate, or debated politics in the tone adapted to a country barroom, kept the few sensible men busy in preventing mischievous or rascally legislation, and done nothing. It is a question whether a body so incapable may not claim exemption from censure on the ground of utter irresponsibility. But in some instances even the utmost charity cannot plead this excuse.

As to some pressing needs of the public service, Congress has betrayed a comprehension of the need by its action. It has passed bills to cover "immediate deficiencies," for example. Some of these deficiencies were created by the ignorance or incompetence of Congress at its last session; some by its inability to calculate what sums existing laws would make necessary; some by spiteful and reckless partisanship. But the need was confessed by the passage of the Immediate Deficiency bill, and would have been met but for one difficulty. A set of revolutionists and repudiators had openly and often threatened to stop the wheels of government unless they were permitted to change the election laws to their liking. The majority in Congress suffered these nullifiers to fasten upon the Immediate Deficiency bill provisions which they well knew that the President could not approve. Was it the deliberate intention to stop the public business, to turn off the lights, close the courts, and release the criminals? The President sent back the bill, objecting to the general legislation fastened upon it, and Congress might then, in a single day, have passed the same provisions in two separate bills, one appropriating the money required by existing laws for the needs of government, and the other making changes in existing laws. But Congress refuses to this day. It might have done the same thing at any time within nearly six months, but has constantly refused. It will not try to amend the laws. But it refuses to vote money unless the laws are nullified. This is not incompetence. It is traitorous defiance of the obligations which the laws impose.

Thus it is not possible to say whether an infamously treasonable spirit or a pitiable and phenomenal incapacity has caused the arrest of public service in many cases. Congress has been guilty of both. The net result is an attempt to starve the Government. Perhaps there are in Congress hypocritical and whining sneaks who mean to starve out the Government, but have not the pluck to say so, just as some jailers of Southern prisons during the war pretended that they could not get food for starving prisoners. Or perhaps there are well-meaning and upright men in both houses who want to obey and enforce the laws, but have not the capacity. The public will judge. But the Government is being starved, as closed courts and released criminals bear witness, and the work is done by a Democratic Congress.

### *THE UTICA PLATFORM.*

Our attention has been directed to the fact that all the papers of this city, and presumably of the State and country also, have been misled with respect to the language of the platform adopted by the Utica Convention, upon which we commented yesterday. The text of the resolutions, as they appear in a circular sent out by the State Committee, differs from that to be found in all the morning papers of this city the day after the Convention in many respects, and some of them are highly important. The mistakes made were unquestionably the work of the telegraphers, as the newspaper versions all agree. While there were verbal inaccuracies in each plank of the platform, those of most importance were contained in the resolution of instruction. This, in the correct form, declares: "That the "Republicans of New-York believe the selec-"tion of Ulysses S. Grant as the Presidential "candidate of urgent importance, and the dele-"gates this day appointed are called upon and "instructed to use their most earnest and "united efforts to secure his nomination."

The Convention then *did* pass an explicit and emphatic resolution of instruction, which sought to include all the delegates appointed at Utica. So far as this has any authority, the fact should be frankly admitted. No one who has followed THE TRIBUNE'S course on this matter needs to be told that, in our opinion, the District delegates are no more bound by these instructions than by the laws of Arkansas. When the State Convention undertook to instruct the delegates of the Congressional Districts, it undertook something which it had no right to do, and which it had been explicitly told beforehand would not be recognized.

### *A NATIONAL RETURNING BOARD.*

It is a striking illustration of the desperate feeling prevailing in the Democratic party that a scheme so bad as the caucus plan for counting the electoral votes can be favorably reported. But for the bold conspiracy in Maine and the various seat-stealing operations in Washington we should deem it impossible for so dangerous and revolutionary a measure to be carried. It is in flagrant opposition to the spirit of the Constitution, it is contrary to the only political doctrine the Democratic party has left, and it is sure to result in fraud and wholesale injustice.

Nothing can be clearer than that the Federal Constitution requires the President to be elected by the States. The Legislatures are to appoint electors in any manner they see fit; the electors are to meet in their respective States and transmit the result of their balloting to the President of the United States Senate. The laws enacted from time to time to carry out these provisions of the Constitution establish the methods by which each State is to determine through its own returning officers what electors have been chosen, and the proper authorities of the State are to give to the electors formal certificates of title, which must accompany the statement of their ballots transmitted to the President of the Senate. Nowhere is it so much as hinted that the choice of electors may be, or can be, determined, save in their respective States and by the lawful State authorities. The votes which they are to cast are regarded as the votes of the States, not of the people; and the States must select their own agents in their own way. This is so plainly in accordance with the Democratic theory of State Rights that it is not easy to see how any Democrat can bring himself to question it. During the arguments before the Electoral Commission the managers of Mr. Tilden's case urged this very doctrine as a plea for rejecting the Hayes votes from Florida. In the objections to the Republican electors Senators Jones, Cooper and McDonald, and Representatives D. D. Field, Tucker, Jenks and Springer, took the extreme ground that even if the certificates originally issued to the Republicans by Governor Stearns "ever had any validity," they had been "annulled and declared void" by the subsequent action of Governor Drew, and also by a resolution of the Florida Legislature and a judgment of the Supreme Court of the State. It would be impossible to make a broader assertion of the final and plenary authority of the State in passing upon the title of its electors than by assuming, as the Democratic managers did in this case, that after a *valid* certificate had been issued to one set of electors the State could annul it and issue another certificate to a different set, and that its judgment in this extraordinary and arbitrary course must be conclusive upon Congress in counting the votes.

But by the proposed joint resolution the two houses of Congress are to resolve themselves every four years into a National Returning Board to revise the figures of the State Canvassers. The names of all the electors are to be submitted for approval, before the votes are counted, and if the two houses agree in rejecting any vote it shall not be counted. As the two houses are now controlled by the same party, the effect of this resolution would be to give the Democracy at Washington absolute control over the choice of the next President; and whenever the Democrats find themselves on the point of losing their majority they can modify the joint resolution to suit the new exigency. Under the famous 22d joint rule it was possible for one house to prevent the counting of a vote, and the rule was dropped because that was considered dangerous. But in former years there was a general respect for the right of the States to vote for whom they pleased, and most of the tricks and outrages by which the Democrats now try to vitiate presidential elections had not been invented. It is an unpleasant truth to contemplate, but the probability of fraudulent objections to an electoral vote is tenfold greater now than it was ten years ago, and the chance that the present Congress would decide such objections upon other than purely partisan considerations is almost infinitely small.

If we would realize what the caucus resolution means we must call to mind the character of the objections which the Democrats raised to some of the electoral votes in 1877. They attempted to throw out the vote of Mr. Humphreys in Florida because he had been United States shipping commissioner. It was proved that he resigned that office a month before the November election; his resignation was immediately accepted by the Judge of the United States Circuit Court, and another person was assigned to the duties of the vacant place. Nevertheless the Democratic counsel before the Electoral Commission insisted that the vote ought to be excluded, because the acceptance of Mr. Humphreys's resignation by Judge Woods appeared to be "the act of an individual, and "not the act of the Court!" If this absurd pretext had been admitted, Mr. Tilden would have been made President. Trivial objections to the eligibility of Republican electors in Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania, Vermont, and Wisconsin, or to the regularity of certain appointments to fill vacancies, were warmly debated in the Senate and the House; and everybody remembers what happened in Oregon, when a sham electoral college was set up with money furnished by Colonel Pelton, for the purpose of defeating the admitted wishes of the people of the State. The whole Democratic party fought tooth and nail for that piece of chicanery; and if the joint resolution now proposed had then been in force, with a Democratic majority in both houses, Cronin and "Gobble," with the aid of Pelton's $5,000, would have chosen the President of the United States.

No reasonable being doubts that the same tactics will be pursued again. The preparations are plainly visible. It would not surprise us much to hear even of the appointment of a Democratic electoral college in Maine by Governor Garcelon's bogus Legislature resuscitated for the occasion. If the Republicans should carry any Southern State it is certain that competing colleges would be organized and double sets of returns transmitted to Washington. The people cannot be too careful in watching the development of the plot. The Democratic party is determined to steal the Presidency if it cannot win it; and it has nearly made up its mind that it cannot win.

According to the old rhyme, it is the "cold, wet "May" which "fills the barns with grain and hay," and so far May this year has been anything but cold and wet. The sudden burst of foliage during the past ten days would seem to indicate that the trees have no complaint to file against the weather, but in many respects it has been a trying time for tender vegetation. The arid winds have licked up every particle of moisture from recently worked soils, and the thread-like roots of seeds just germinating—roots which have not had time to take hold of the firm damp earth below the surface—are already shrivelling. The transplanted stock of florists and market gardeners has suffered little, for these people have learned by bitter experience the need of compacting the soil as a prophylactic against these early droughts. But amateurs who shrink from what looks like the cruelty of treading heroically on their tender plants and seeds, are mourning over the devastation of their gardens. A drouth in May is most untimely. If the young clover is to be saved from perishing outright, and the product of the pastures is to keep in advance of the eager cropping of the cattle, and the meadow bottoms are to thicken for an average burden of nourishing grass, and the Winter grain is to blossom and fill for an abundant harvest, the clouds must make up their minds to drop some fatness hereabout without delay. The storms which have lately gathered in the northwest have shown an unpleasant tendency to drive out to the Atlantic on the line of the St. Lawrence.

The cipher telegrams produced by Mr. Hill in his speech against Senator Kellogg do not seem to be startling productions; at least they are very mild by comparison with certain more famous dispatches of which the people have a lively recollection. But whatever they may be, there is nothing to show as yet that Mr. Hill has discovered their meaning. The readings which he offers as translations are apparently only guesses. In a simple substitution cipher of this character there is no way of arriving at the signification of the arbitrary words except by the comparison of a considerable number of specimens. The few telegrams produced by Mr. Hil do not afford material for testing the accuracy of his conjectures, and it would probably be easy to guess at another rendering entirely different from his in sense, and quite as likely to be correct. The Gramercy Park ciphers were so abundant that there was no difficulty in putting the interpretation to the severest tests, and the intricacy of the system upon which they were constructed proved in the end the greatest help in translating them. The plan once understood, the interpretation could be worked out with the certainty of a mathematical demonstration.

Is he a strong man who can't hold his party together in his own State?

If Tilden takes an account of his political stock at the close of the week, he will find himself short of an issue. Instead of the barrel and the third term to assist him in running again, he has the barrel alone.

The void in the large space usually allotted to Vice-Presidential candidates begins to be filled. Texas came forward some time ago with Governor Davis, and his friends have been showering the North with circulars in his favor for a month past. Florida revives Thomas Settle, and Michigan presents Senator Ferry. There has been a good deal of talk about a colored Republican boom in favor of Senator Bruce, but the failure of the Mississippi Convention to present him has rather taken the wind out of that. Several newspapers have proposed the renomination of Mr. Wheeler, but the drawback in his case is the impropriety of having him called upon, as presiding officer of the Senate, to decide upon the question of his own reelection.

There is only one issue which threatens to split the Republican party. Would it not be wise to let the party save itself by splitting that issue?

General Grant's most zealous supporters admit that he had only a minority of the delegates to the Cook County Convention, and that he had, therefore, no right to more than a minority of the delegates from it to the Springfield Convention; yet in the same breath they claim that the full delegation from Cook County, which the bolting minority elected, will be admitted at Springfield, and the control of the latter convention thus secured for Grant. If this is done, Grant will appear at the National Convention supported by only three Northern States—Illinois, New-York, and Pennsylvania—in all of which he is favored by only a minority of the Republican party. This has been shown to be the case in Pennsylvania and Illinois, and there is little doubt of its being the case in New-York, for even by holding the Convention in February, and using the most skilful managment, the Grant Republicans were able to carry their equivocal expression for Grant at Utica by a majority of only thirty-seven votes in a convention of 397. New-York to-day is undoubtedly an anti-Grant State. He must enter the Chicago Convention, therefore, if he enters it at all, as a minority candidate.

A private telegram was received in Washington, the night after the Chicago bolt, from a "prominent Grant manager in Illinois," saying: "Don't be alarmed. We are all right, and the fight for Grant has just begun." Of course he meant spontaneous "fight."

The Hon. Fred Hassaurek, the German editor and politician of Cincinnati, says Grant could not carry Ohio against any Democratic candidate except Tilden. He estimates that at least 20 per cent of the German vote, and nearly as much of the American vote of the State, would be cast against a third term. Blaine could unquestionably carry the State, he thinks. Judging from the lists of names which are daily sent to *The Cincinnati Commercial*, of Republican voters who declare they will not vote for Grant, Mr. Hassaurek's estimate seems a reasonable one. It may be "indiscreet" to recognize this fact, but the fact exists.

Tilden's second choices are all on the anxious seat, but the old gentleman delays to calm them with a whisper of hope.

The third term journals are greatly disturbed that any Republican should be so "indiscreet" as to admit that Grant might not be elected if nominated. Is it any more indiscreet to recognize the existence of that danger before the nomination than it is to shut your eyes to it till after the nomination? It won't do much good to recognize it then.

The Republican party is solid in everything except the third term, and after the Chicago Convention it will be sitting solid and heavy upon that.

In the list of delegates to the Chicago Convention published by THE TRIBUNE last Saturday, George Lear was printed as a representative of the VIIth Pennsylvania District. Mr. Lear's name was reported to the State Convention by the committee appointed to make up the delegation, but after a statement by Mr. Fackenthal, chairman of the Bucks County delegation, that the district had already held a Convention and chosen Caleb N. Taylor, the Convention gave Taylor the place that belonged to him. Lear was selected as a Grant man, while Taylor was instructed against the third term by the County Convention.

A rumor comes from Connecticut that English has a barrel with a million dollars in it which he is willing to devote to Reform. That ought to start a boom.

### *PERSONAL.*

Mr. Tennyson has been nominated to the Lord Rectorship of Glasgow University.

Mrs. Hayes will witness, May 27, the laying of the corner-stone of the new Wesleyan Dormitory, Middletown, Conn. President Porter, of Yale, is to give the address.

Mr. Henry Clay, grandson of the statesman, and now Prosecuting Attorney of Louisville, has joined Lieutenant Howgate's Arctic Expedition. Mr. Clay is an accomplished man, twenty-nine years old.

Mrs. Eleanor Sherman-Thackara is a wise young lady. She declared that her trousseau and her wedding gifts were her own private property, and she wouldn't allow them to be paraded in the newspapers.

Letters just received in this city mention that Mme. Gerster-Gardini was at Bologna on the 25th of April. The condition of her health is highly satisfactory; and there is a beautiful little girl.

M. Jean Baptiste Léon Say, the new French Ambassador to England, is now fifty-five years old. He is married to the daughter of M. Bertin, principal proprietor of the *Débats*, of which journal M. Say has been an editor.

Mrs. Langtry appeared as "*Effie Deans*" in a London tableau entertainment the other evening. She is described as looking very lovely in her simple blue serge petticoat and jacket of flowered print, her face downcast, her fair hair flowing.

Secretary and Mrs. Sherman, Senator Conkling and Senator Jones are mentioned as going to the circus lately in Washington. Herein lies one charm of a Republican Government. How curiously would read the statement that Moltke or Gladstone or Beaconsfield had attended the circus.

Judge William P. Daingerfield, of the Superior Court of California, fell dead from the bench in his court-room last week, an instant after making a jesting remark to the clerk. Judge Daingerfield was of Virginian birth, and had lived in California since 1850.

President Hayes is reported by *The Baltimore Bulletin* as saying that he intends to go to the Pacific Coast this Summer. He added that no President during his term of office had visited that coast and he was anxious to see such a fine country and meet the people of that section, whom he looked upon as among the most thriving and best of the Americans.

"Mrs. Blaine," the Washington correspondent of *The Syracuse Journal* says, "is fair-haired, tall, rather stout, with dignified carriage, and a manner earnest and practical. Sincerely conscientious, Mrs. Blaine seems to belong to a race of New-England women not always to be met with even among the rugged hills, and rarely seen elsewhere. A beautiful home-life is the result of her wise management. Already her sons are in business, and popular in society; and Miss Alice, the eldest daughter, a beautiful girl of eighteen, stands beside the mother like a younger sister. Though Miss Mary is home from school, she is understood to be not as yet in society. Miss Dodge, better known as Gail Hamilton, is, for half of the year, a member of this lovely family. The moving throngs of visitors at the Executive Mansion would be amply and generously entertained if the coming contest should seat Senator Blaine in the chair of state. Mrs. Blaine ever sympathizes most deeply with her brilliant husband, in his political exploits and ambitions, yet would gladly persuade him to retire to private life."

LONDON, May 13.—The Marquis of Ripon, the new Viceroy, and his staff left here to-day for India by the way of Brindisi.....Prince Leopold will sail from Liverpool to-day in the steamer Sardinian for Montreal.....Thomas Hughes will visit the United States this Summer.....The Emperor of Russia will not pay his usual visit to Ems, but will go to some other German watering place during the Summer.....The Right Hon. Robert Lowe and the Right Hon. E. K. Knatchbull-Hugessen, who were returned to the House of Commons for London University and Sandwich, respectively, have taken leave of their constituencies, preparatory to entering the peerage.

### *THE DRAMA.*

MISCELLANEOUS THEATRICAL AFFAIRS.

The receipts at Booth's Theatre last week exceeded $15,000.

The testimonial benefit to Mr. John T. Raymond, which was some time ago projected, will be given at Booth's Theatre on June 3. Mr. Raymond goes to England in June, to fulfil an engagement at the Gaiety Theatre in London; and his friends purpose, in this testimonial benefit, to give him a farewell greeting, and to express their regard for him in a practical, substantial form. Among the artists who will participate in this performance are Mary Anderson, John McCullough, Mr. Florence, Mr. Sothern, and Mr. Nat. Goodwin.

Every seat for last Saturday's matinée at Booth's Theatre was sold before the doors were open. Miss Neilson acted in "Twelfth Night."

Mr. J. S. Vail continues his energetic and judicious efforts in the management of the rostrum. He has engaged Mrs. Scott Siddons, and that distinguished and charming platform actress will give three performances, under his management, at Chickering Hall, on May 21 and 22. Mr. Vail will also present Mrs. Siddons at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, on May 24.

Mr. Grau's French Opera Company is, this week, in Boston, and it is to sail for France, in the steamer St. Laurent, on the 26th of May. Mr. Grau, however, has determined to bring his company back to New-York after the Boston engagement has ended, and to give a final series of farewell representations at the Academy of Music. They will begin on May 17 and will be limited to eight nights and one matinée. "Pomme D' Api" will be produced, for the first time here, and revivals will be made of "La Vie Parisienne" and "Les Chevalliers De Prince-Nez." Mr. Grau's season has lasted nearly fourteen months, and during that time his company has given, in different cities of the United States, nearly 500 performances.

Mr. H. A. M'Glenen, the esteemed agent of the Boston Theatre, will receive a testimonal benefit at that house on May 15. Mary Anderson, T. W. Keene, and other favorite artists, will take part in a performance of the comedy of "Love." Mr. M'Glenen is one of the most popular persons connected with theatrical life in Boston, and the performances annually given for him attract unusual attention in that city.

Mr. Hart Conway, late of Daly's Theatre, was a passenger for Europe on board the Spain, last Saturday. Mr. Conway is in delicate health, and he has gone home for a period of rest and recreation. He leaves a pleasant memory here, and many friends.

Miss Ada Cavendish has arrived in London, after her absence of twenty months in this country, during which time she acted in all the principal cities of the United States and Canada—from New-York to Portland, Oregon, and from Montreal to San Francisco. Her career was attended by some annoying vicissitudes, but also by many brilliant successes. She has established here an enduring popularity, and her return next season will be gladly welcomed. Miss Cavendish is expected to arrive here toward the end of August. In the meantime she will make a trip to Paris, and possibly, go into Switzerland.

It will be good news to the friends of Mr. Locke Richardson that his health, which earlier in the season was very delicate, has greatly improved. Mr. Richardson is at Windsor, in Canada. He will resume his dramatic entertainments early next season. They are among the best of the kind with which this public is acquainted, and Mr. Richardson, by his exceptional abilities, his devotion to art, and his manliness and simplicity of character, has gained many faithful and admiring friends, who remember him in his absence, and who will greet his return with gladness and with sincere gratification.

Mr. Polk will appear at the Chestnut Street Theatre, on May 17, in Mr. Jessop's drama of "A Gentleman from Nevada," and subsequently, he will act at Haverly's Theatre, in Brooklyn. The piece has been somewhat pruned and considerably sharpened in outline and effect, and its representation now passes off smoothly and wins a generous show of public favor.

Mr. Burbank's Polytechnic entertainment has been seen in New-York and Brooklyn, and will be shown in other cities. It is well worthy of attention. The reproduction of the Boydell Shakespeare paintings is accomplished exceedingly well, and it gives instruction and pleasure. Mr. Burbank's incidental readings of passages that the pictures illustrate might, however, be judiciously condensed. It is in character and humor, and in prose rather than poetry, that Mr. Burbank's felicity as a reader is best displayed. A commendable accompaniment to his exhibition is a performance on the zither.

Mr. J. A. Herne has brought a suit in the courts of Michigan to protect the play called "Hearts of Oak," the principal part of which was taken bodily from a published English play called "The Mariner's Compass." This seems a peculiarly audacious proceeding. The same persons who thus made free with "The Mariner's Compass," some time since, if we remember correctly, "arranged" a piece entitled "The Millionaire's Daughter," which was a deliberate encroachment upon the property of Mr. Bronson Howard in the well known "Banker's Daughter," so long current at the Union Square Theatre.

Mr. Beckett, of Wallack's Theatre, will sail for England on June 3, intending to remain there about a year. Before his departure Mr. Beckett will receive the compliment of a farewell benefit. He is an excellent actor,—humorous and really funny, which is a rare fact nowadays on the stage,—and a great favorite.

Miss Neilson will leave New-York for San Francisco, on the 25th of May.

### *GENERAL NOTES.*

The map-makers have all they can do to keep pace with the settlement of the Far West. A useful map recently published under the title of "Wells's Map of Central and Southwestern Colorado" embraces the Leadville or California, the Gunnison and the San Juan Mining Districts. The scale is sufficiently large to permit the definite location of all the important mining districts, position of mining towns and other settlements, railroads opened and proposed, stage routes and trails, water courses, large and small; in fact, everything that would be sought for or desired by those visiting or interested in that section of the country.

Robert E. Slade, the Spiritualist slate-writer, has been in St. Louis this week practising his light and airy profession. Here is a sample message from spiritland, written illegibly: "My Friends—I am pleased to be able to come and give you proof of a life after death; if you of earth would devote more of your time to its investigation it would be more value to you than your gold; you cannot take your gold into the spirit life, but you can your knowledge. Thing of this, so you will be prepared. I am Samuel Turner." Concerning politics the spooks have nothing to say. A reporter asked: "What are Thurman's chances at Cincinnati?" Before Slade could have known that the question was finished, "Chances of this kind you must look out for yourself" was pencilled in a very pretty hand.

Miss Lizzie Lloyd King, who is supposed to have murdered Mr. Goodrich in Brooklyn, has composed a curious letter in the insane asylum by cutting separate letters from a book furnished by the American Bible Society. These were arranged so as to make a readable letter, and then sewed letter by letter, word by word, sentence by sentence, until two full sheets (both sides) were covered. Even the directions on the envelope were wrought in the same way. She resorted to this method in order to carry out her purpose, inasmuch as the inmates are prohibited from having either pens, ink, paper, knife or scissors. The letter was prepared as a petition, asking that the "Congress of the United States repeal the State law authorizing persons indicted, but not convicted of a crime, sent to an insane asylum," which law she declares *ex post facto*. Governor Cornell has the letter.

A Norwich man has saved a pretty penny by insisting upon his pound, no more no less, as closely as Shylock did. As *The Bulletin* tells the story, he went to a fish-market and told the keeper that he would give him $700 for a seven-pound shad, caught in these waters, supposing that there was no probability that he would ever be called upon to purchase such a fish, because there was not a possibility that such a one would be caught. Imagine his surprise on Monday, when he was informed that the fish was ready for him. He went to the market, wondering how he could get out of the bargain. He put the fish upon the scales and found that it weighed just seven pounds and one ounce. That ounce saved him. His offer was for a seven-pound fish, and he was safe. The fisherman thinks that he would have trimmed off that ounce had he understood the requirements of the contract.

Colonel Gordon, who has extended the influence of Egypt on the Upper Nile and done what he could as Governor-General of the Soudan to break up the slave trade, has written a "Memorandum on the Treaties of San Stephano and Berlin." He advocates the following programme: 1. The complete purchase of Cyprus; 2. The abandonment of the Asia Minor reforms; 3. The union of Bulgaria and Roumelia, with a port; 4. The increase of Greece; 5. Constantinople a State, under European guarantees; 6. Increase of Montenegro and Italy, on that coast; 7. Annexation of Egypt by England, either directly or by having paramount and entire authority; 8. Annexation of Syria by France, ditto, ditto, ditto. (By this means France would be as interested in stopping Russian progress as England is.) 9. Italy to be allowed to extend toward Abyssinia; 10. Reestablishment of the Turkish Constitution, and the establishment of a similar one in Egypt (these Constitutions, if not interfered with, would soon rid Turkey and Egypt of their parasite Pachas). Colonel Gordon meantime looks to the reestablishment of the Constitution of Midhat, and "its maintenance in spite of the Sultan," as the proper means of "preventing the inevitable crash of the Turkish Empire which is impending, imperiling the peace of the world."

### *PUBLIC OPINION.*

The delegation which plumps its vote for Edmunds at first will have no reason to be ashamed of its record, whatever happens afterward.—[Hartford Courant (Rep.)

A survey of the whole field cannot fail to impress the opponents of General Grant with the (to them) unwelcome truth that he will go before the Chicago Convention with a decided majority of the delegates.—[Pittsburg Commercial-Gazette (Rep.)

The unanimous demand of the people, which it was claimed would force the Republican