It has too much the appearance of paying a debt. Mr. Parsons was the first and foremost supporter of Mr. Waller's nomination and election. As *The Hartford Post* remarks: "Mr. Parsons virtually says to the Governor, 'I have made you Governor, give me $10,000 of the State's money,' and Waller draws the check."

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

SALVINI AS KING LEAR.

The renowned Italian tragedian appeared in the Brooklyn Academy of Music last night in the character of *King Lear*, and his performance was greeted with acclamation by a numerous and sympathetic audience. It was a remarkable manifestation of physical resources and of professional skill, and as such it could not fail to arouse the response of popular admiration. The lofty stature, the ample and resonant voice, the copious animal excitement, the fluent elocution and the vigorous, picturesque and often melodramatic movements, gestures and poses of Signor Salvini unite to animate and embellish a personality such as naturally absorbs attention and diffuses excitement. In whatever he presents himself this actor must necessarily make a distinct and profound impression. He is a remarkable man. It does not follow, however, that his dramatic efforts are invariably either truthful or admirable. Every man, no matter what his pursuit may happen to be, works with certain specific and positive limitations—spiritual, mental and physical. No actor can be equal to every kind of character. Signor Salvini, when he acted *Hamlet*, was unspiritual, and even wooden, giving no effect to the haunted tone of that character or to its weird surroundings. Again, when he acted *Macbeth* he was unimaginative, obscure, burly and common, and therefore manifestly inadequate to the task. The only Shakespearian part that he has excelled in is *Othello*, and even here his ideal displays neither the magnanimity nor the sublime tenderness that are enwrapt in Shakespeare's conception. The chief attributes of the Moor that he interprets are physical, and the loftiest heights that he reaches are terror and distracted grief; but he works with a pictorial method and a magnetic vigor that enthral and dazzle the feelings even while they do not always command the judgment.

His performance of *King Lear* gave new evidence of his peculiar limitations. During the first two acts he made the King a merely restless, choleric and disagreeable old man, deficient in dignity, destitute of grandeur and especially destitute of inherent personal fascination—of suggestiveness of ever having been a really great man. *Lear* is a ruin—but he has been a Titan; the delight of all hearts no less than the monarch of all minds. The actor who does not invest him with this inherent, interior and overwhelming personal fascination does not attain to his altitude. The cruel incidents that occur in the tragedy do not of themselves signify, and the pity is only that they should occur to him. There is the spring of all the pathos. In Salvini's *Lear* there were beautiful moments and magnificent bits of action. "I gave you all," and "I'm cold myself," might be mentioned as exquisite points. He missed altogether, however, the more subtle significance of the reminiscent reference to *Cordelia*—as in "No more of that—I have noted it well"—and he gave no intimation, at the start, of the impending madness. In fact he introduced no element of lunacy at all till he reached the lines about "red-hot spits" in *Edgar's* first mad scene. This, however, he touched with wonderful power and beauty. The mad scenes are his best efforts in the character—as was the case when he acted *King Saul*.

Much of his mechanism in *Lear* will no doubt undergo great changes. He puts the King behind a table, now, in the first scene—which has the effect of the Lyceum lecture; and it pleases him to speak the storm speech away back at the sixth entrance with his body almost wholly concealed behind painted crags. A wiser treatment of detail may of course be anticipated; perhaps also a higher ideal. As the work now stands, with all its moments of power and of tenderness it is not royal, it is not lovable, it is not great. It may be a good Italian Lear but is not the *Lear* of Shakespeare. Salvini was particularly out of the character in the curse scene and in the frantic parting from the two daughters, because here the quality of the man behind the action seemed especially common. The action, though, was theatrical and had its due effect. Most of the actors who surrounded this *Lear* last night would have driven anybody mad; they well-nigh did as much for the audience. It is a sacrilege to give such a play with such persons. The *Fool*, in particular, was baleful. This is the cast:

Edgar	Lewis Morrison
Edmund	Archie Fowler
Earl of Kent	J. H. Fitzpatrick
Earl of Glo'ster	James Taylor
Fool	W. J. Shea
King of France	Edwin Cleary
Duke of Burgundy	James McBride
Duke of Cornwall	Newton Russell
Duke of Albany	L. S. Overall
Oswald	H. C. Albaugh
Curan	George Griffiths
Knight	Julius Mann
Physician	Henry Brickel
Old Man	E. C. Bristow
Herald	George Gaultz
Goneril	Marie Prescott
Regan	Virginia Buchanan
Cordelia	Adele Belgrade
Lear	Salvini

MR JOSEFFY'S CONCERT.

Mr. Joseffy's third concert last evening was a notable occasion, both on account of the programme and the performances; notable also even on account of the audience, though that was scarcely larger than upon other evenings of the same series.

So many things were asked for that the programme was changed almost at the last moment, being distinctly entitled a "Request Programme." The songs of Mr. Joseffy, which were to have been sung by Mr. Toedt, and the pianoforte composition by Mr. Korbay, were put over to the next concert, in March, the arrangement for which includes only novelties and works which Mr. Joseffy has never played in public.

The public taste, and Mr. Joseffy's working, jointly produced a bill of great interest. The purely orchestral numbers were the Wagner overture to "The Flying Dutchman," the interesting ballet-music from "The Demon," of Rubinstein, and the ball-scene from Berlioz's "Romeo and Juliet" symphony. Mr. Joseffy played with orchestra the very full and stately "Hungarian Fantasia," of Liszt; Henselt's lovely concerto in F minor; and Litolff's scherzo, previously announced. The piano solos were Schumann's "Des Abends"; Mr. Joseffy's own "Aquarelle"; his arrangement of an overture, aria, and bourrée of Bach; Chopin's étude, op. 25, No. 7; the Spinning Song of Mendelssohn, known to all pianoforte players; and some Strauss-Taussig waltzes. Mr. Joseffy's performance throughout was extraordinary even for him, and entirely justified opinions expressed earlier in the season of his capacity for steady growth, and of the actual development in him of greater and greater qualities of discernment, feeling, and power of poetic expression. Last evening there was apparent from the first a very striking breadth of conception and large utterance, while the manner of easy expression, always so wonderful with this artist, seemed to increase in marvellousness through the whole evening.

THEATRICAL INCIDENTS.

Lester Wallack has been received with enthusiastic favor at Haverly's Theatre, Brooklyn, where he is acting this week, in "Rosedale."

Charles Wyndham will appear in Brooklyn on the 12th inst., and in Boston on the 19th.

Mme. Geistinger and Mme. Gallmeyer are in the West, and both are drawing large audiences of Germans. The former is at Chicago. The latter appears next week in Detroit and Buffalo.

GENERAL LEE AT THE CASINO.

General Fitzhugh Lee, of Virginia, and his staff, and Colonel David E. Austen, of the 13th (Brooklyn) Regiment, and his staff, were the guests last night of John McCaull and Rudolph Aronson at the Casino, where "The Queen's Lace Handkerchief" was performed. The lower proscenium boxes, which were occupied by the visitors, were tastefully decorated with military emblems and floral tributes. Among the party were Colonel Charles J. Anderson, General Horatio C. King, Lieutenant J. Frederick Ackerman, Major William H. H. Tyson, Colonel Rodney C. Ward, Major M. B. Farr, Surgeon James J. Terhune and R. W. Hunter.

SUICIDE AFTER AN ATTEMPTED MURDER.

Henry M. Rohrscheib, a German fifty-five years old, after firing two shots at Mary A. Jackliff, his paramour, in a rear room of No. 1,535 Second-ave., about 7 o'clock last evening, committed suicide by shooting himself in the head. Last night his body lay in the room in which he died in charge of an officer and the woman who was the cause of the rash act. Little was known of the man by his neighbors, but the circumstances of the tragedy were as follows: Six months ago Rohrscheib opened a bar-room at that place. He lived with the woman, who is fifty-three years old, as her husband. Their quarrels were frequent and noisy. He was nearly always under the combined influence of whiskey and morphine. Three days ago, in a drunken quarrel, he gave her a severe whipping. She went to Justice Murray, in the Harlem Police Court, and obtained a warrant for his arrest. The Justice gave the summons to the man's appearance to the woman to serve. In company with Lena Durckman, the Jackliff woman went to the bar-room last night. Rohrscheib was in a back room. The two women went in there.

"Jake Turtle, the barkeeper, heard a violent quarrel and then two pistol shots, when the women ran out of the room screaming. There was another pistol shot, almost immediately afterward. Turtle rushed into the rear room and found the old German lying bleeding on the floor. In a moment of rage he had pulled a pistol and fired at his mistress, and, thinking that he had killed her, then shot himself. The ball had entered the right temple. He died almost immediately.

FIVE STATE LEGISLATURES.

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS AT TRENTON.

THE CONTROLLERSHIP—STATE PRINTING BY CONTRACT—ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY.

[FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

TRENTON, N. J., Feb. 8.—The Assembly to-day adopted another concurrent resolution for a joint meeting to elect a State Controller. The time fixed is Wednesday, February 14. The resolution was brought to the Senate, where it lies on the table. The Republicans will take no action upon it unless some Democratic Senator calls it up, when there may be some debate. It is an open secret that the Democratic nominee, Mr. Connelly, is objectionable to several of the members of his own party in the Legislature and the "moral support" they render the Republicans in their attitude is considerable. More effective still in maintaining Republican opposition to Mr. Connelly is the method adopted by some of his friends in the foolish hope of influencing Senators. More than one Republican Senator has been approached with intimations that he could gain some personal advantage by advocating a joint meeting. This sort of argument may not have the sanction of the nominee, and it is even possible that it is done without his knowledge and against his wishes, but it comes from his supporters and has in at least one case changed passive indifference to earnest antagonism.

Senator Applegate's bill providing that the Controller shall contract for the State printing and stationery furnished the departments and Legislature was before the Senate this morning, and the debate indicated that it will probably secure a liberal majority in final passage. It was amended to give the Controller the assistance of a practical printer in preparing specifications and passing upon the work after it is done; to limit bidding to citizens of New-Jersey, and to require heads of departments to make estimates of their needs and forward the same to the Controller. It is thought that if the Republican Senate passes the bill the Democratic Assembly cannot without political danger refuse to concur.

A bill has passed the Assembly relieving firemen from taxation to the extent of $5, and also providing that when the tax upon the firemen does not amount to $5 he shall have a certificate for the balance, which could be negotiable. A mode of settlement has not been suggested in the Assembly as yet. The bill was passed by those personal appeals from its advocates which members find it difficult to resist and which are a bane of legislation at Trenton. Bills were introduced in the Assembly to provide for the appointment of Boards of Education by Mayors of cities, and to repeal the Crimes act so far as it enables convicted persons to remain at large pending an appeal. The bill declaring the solicitation of political contributions from State officers a misdemeanor misdemeanor was reported adversely and indefinitely postponed. The contest of Hood against Winfield, for the latter's seat in the Assembly, was referred back to the Elections Committee, which had yesterday reported "no cause of action."

Assemblyman Clarke, of Hudson, introduced a bill, a supplement to the Harbor Masters' act, to provide that no vessel shall be anchored within 300 yards of the end of a pier extending from the shore of New-Jersey into the waters of New-York Harbor or the North River, or Hudson River, between a point in Jersey City due west from Erie Island and Castle Point, in Hoboken. The Harbor Master of Hudson County is required to enforce the act.

Both Houses have adjourned until Monday night.

GOVERNOR BATE ON THE STATE DEBT.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Feb. 8.—The message of Governor Bate was read before the Legislature this afternoon. The greater portion of it refers to the settlement of the State debt. The Governor says that the payment of interest on bonds funded and renewed sixty and six-eight, together with the interest on bonds, has left the treasury comparatively empty. He maintains that none of the five funding acts grew out of the expression of the popular will, nor were they accepted in by the people after their passage. The people, seeing the constant and systematic efforts to foist upon them laws touching the State debt, and witnessing the schemes and practices of corrupt speculators and lobbyists who were praying upon the crippled credit of Tennessee, took the matter in their hands and for the first time expressed their will through the ballot-box last November in condemnation of settlement to the creditors which every disinterested critical thinking man must regard as just to all concerned. The Governor reviews at length the history of the creation of the debts, and says that $14,000,000 of bonds were issued to railroads immediately after the war when a majority of the citizens were disfranchised, and it is a part of the published history in connection with the issuance of these bonds that purchasers were put upon their guard. Previous investigations show that many bonds were issued wrongfully. The devastation of war, usurpation and misrule of State Governments, the inability of the State Government to collect revenue, the doubtful authority of the State Government to issue certain of these bonds have been recognized and acted on by Congress and by other southern States. He urges as liberal and equitable reasons for an abatement of the amount of the debt; and the Governor asserts if any Southern State has settled this class of indebtedness upon more liberal terms than those proposed by Tennessee. He therefore suggests the tender of a settlement of the State debt proper upon the less the war interest, at the same interest as that of the original bond; also, of those bonds to educational and charitable institutions and the trust funds, the consideration of Mississippi, and the trust funds of Alabama. He suggests that the remainder of "Hughes's debt" be settled at 50 cents on a dollar, principal and interest, and to bear interest at 3 per cent.

THE YELLOWSTONE PARK DISCUSSION.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

ST. PAUL, Minn., Feb. 8.—In the Senate today Mr. Wilson offered a concurrent resolution, reciting the attempt of a party of capitalists to secure control of the Yellowstone National Park, requesting that the Senators and Representatives of Minnesota in Congress use their influence to secure the park for the public good; also thanking General Sheridan and Senator Vest for their timely efforts to prevent the securing of the park by the company for a cattle ranch and for the purposes of exorting money from the general public. The resolution is a copy of one passed by the Legislature of Illinois. Some inquiry was made as to the certainty of the charges made, which Senator Wilson stated was a matter of general report. Senator Gilfillan moved to refer the resolution to the Committee on Federal Relations. He held that the Senate would show insensible haste in adopting a resolution upon insufficient knowledge. The motion was lost by 26 to 2, and Senator Gilfillan gave notice of debate. Objection was made by some Senator to the words "cattle ranch," and Senator Wilson erased them. Senator Gilfillan urged that the scandal was originally started by the Union Pacific Railroad Company against the Northern Pacific Company.

THE PROHIBITORY AMENDMENT IN MAINE

AUGUSTA, Me., Feb. 8.—In the House to-day, the constitutional prohibitory amendment was taken up, the question being on adopting the amendment striking the word "cider" from the first section. This was defeated by 56 to 80. The vote on passing the resolution to be engrossed was 104 yeas to 37 nays. This is more than two-thirds, while only a majority was necessary to pass it to be engrossed. Friends of the measure regard this as a test vote and the passage of the resolution as assured.

THE TAX ON COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS.

DOVER, Del., Feb. 8.—The House to-day indefinitely postponed the bill to abolish the $25 tax on non-resident commercial drummers.

THE COMMITTEE OF FIFTY.

The Citizens' Committee of Fifty held a meeting in Municipal Hall last night to hear a report of a sub-committee in regard to forming a permanent organization. Jos. H. Choate acted as chairman. Among the other members present were J. C. Carter, Simon Sterne, Francis C. Barlow, Charles W. Dayton, Francis M. Scott, Charles F. Plummer, F. W. Whitridge, L. G. Garrettson and Charles P. Miller. The plan of the subcommittee provided for a central body to be known as the Citizens' Committee, with organizations in the Assembly districts. It was discussed at length, and a subcommittee was appointed to carry it out. A Committee on Legislation was appointed, to look after legislation at Albany affecting this city.

WHAT THE UNION LEAGUE CLUB FAVORS.

The Union League Club held its regular monthly meeting last evening. William M. Evarts, presided. After the election of several new members the following resolution was passed:

Resolved, That this Club earnestly appeals to the present Congress to secure before its adjournment, in accordance with the recommendation of the President and the Secretary of the Treasury: First, a readjustment of the tariff, retaining the principle of adequate protection to home industry. Second, the repeal of all war taxes save those on whiskey and tobacco; and third, the suspension of the coinage of silver dollars.

INCIDENTS IN SOCIETY.

The Knickerbocker Sewing Class met last evening at the house of Mrs. Bradley Martin.

Mrs. Jacob Hess gave a musical reception at her home No. 25 East Seventy-third-st.

Mrs. R. A. Livingston gave a reception yesterday at her house in Harlem.

The Meteor Boat Club, of [illegible], held a reception last evening.

THE PRACTICE OF ETCHING.

SECOND LECTURE BY F. SEYMOUR HADEN.

A LARGE AUDIENCE AT CHICKERING HALL—THE SPEAKER'S PROCESS OF ETCHING DESCRIBED.

F. Seymour Haden delivered his second and last lecture on etching last night at Chickering Hall. It related entirely to the practice of the art and partook, to a great extent, of the character of practical instruction. The screen was used in the manner of Monday night, to furnish illustrations from the masterpieces of dry-point engraving and etching, and the walls of the stage besides were hung with charts giving chemical formulas of the action of mordants on metal plates and for the preparation of etching fluids. On a small table to Mr. Haden's left stood a glass bell jar, under which he showed the action of nitrous acid upon copper in the course of his lecture. He poured the acid upon the copper contained in a glass tumbler, and in a few seconds the bell was filled with the red fumes of nitrous acid gas. To his right a larger table contained a number of articles belonging to the etchers' and engravers' furniture, such as burins, etching needles, dabbers, plates and the like, all of which were exhibited, with the manner of their use, to the audience in the course of the lecture.

The audience was in size and character equal to that of Monday night—a fine gathering of earnest, cultivated, art-loving people. After the lecture a hundred or more of them gathered near the stage and examined the pictures and instruments used by Mr. Haden to illustrate his discourse, while three or four accepted an invitation extended and copied the chemical formulas contained on the charts.

"Before commencing the lecture this evening," said Mr. Haden, after the welcoming spot use had ceased, "allow me to make a rectification of an error in one of the newspaper reports of my first lecture, which stated that while I showed on the screen three inches of engraved work I showed a different quantity of etched work. That is quite a mistake. Of one slide I could not get the counterpart of the three inches, for the reason that the old etchers seldom attempted the sky. I have since, however, had a slide made, and will show it to you this evening.

"The old masters had three methods of engraving on metal plates, which were: First, dry point; second, engraving proper with the burin; and third, removing a corresponding portion of the metal by a process of corrosion called etching. Of these three methods, the first was exclusively employed by the early masters, the chief workers in it being Botticelli, Filippo Lippi, Andrea Mantegna, Jacopo di Barbari, Francia, Marc Antonio and Rembrandt. The process was finally thrown aside because so few impressions could be taken from the plates. The workers with the dry point were in the habit of removing the rough ridge of copper ploughed on in cutting the line, the burr, as it is called, by means of a scraper. Rembrandt demonstrated that emphasis and richness of color could be given the lines by leaving the burr on the plate. Rembrandt became so strong in the use of the dry point that he did not need the etching process at all.

"While the early Italian masters depended on the dry point, the early Germans, Albrecht Dürer and Martin Schöngauer, brought the use of the burin to perfection. But they never invented what Dürer always made careful drawings first, which they afterward reproduced on the plates, line for line. Even in the hands of the greatest geniuses, the burin is not favorable to invention."

At this point Mr. Haden interrupted his lecture, which, unlike his first, he read largely from manuscript, to speak of an engraving by an American artist which has been sent to him. It was a wood-cut engraved from nature. It was, he said, precisely what he wanted to see done, if not in England, at least somewhere. The room was darkened and a series of illustrating examples were projected upon the screen. The first, to supply the lack of Monday night, was a portion of the sky of Rembrandt's "Three Trees." This master, Mr. Haden said, had attempted to etch the sky only once, with the result shown. It was easy to see the intention of the artist, which was to delineate a mass of rolling cumulus clouds.

Other illustrations were the head of a hart, by himself, to show Dürer point with the burr left unsharpened; a pair of scrolls by Martin Schongauer, "introduced to point the contrast between the Dürer derived from all the grandeur through his acquaintance with Schön; an engraving by Dürer, which Mr. Haden said, was impossible to praise too highly and to stop which he used to set up all night when he was young; one of the portraits left unfinished by Vandyke and "spoiled" by the engravers; and Rembrandt's "Dr. Faustus," in which the effect of the original etching was heightened by the use of the dry point as first employed by him. Finally Mr. Haden showed two conical dockets with their outlines reflected in clear water, and which, he said, to the amusement of the audience, were two friends of his who had got in somehow and were obstinate about going away.

The word etching, Mr. Haden continued, is derived from the German adjective word "etzen"—to eat. The process could be considered under two heads: the theory which included its chemistry, and the executive part. The theory lay in the same behavior of the nitrous acid, he referred to the experiment already mentioned. He called attention to the charts bearing the chemical formulas. One of them were those of the two mordants, as follows:

FOR COPPER.

(a.)	Nitrous acid	33⅓ parts
	Water	66⅔ parts
		100 parts
(b.)	Hydrochloric acid	20 parts
	Chlorate of potash	3 parts
	Water	77 parts
		100 parts

Dissolve the chlorate of potash in thirty-three parts of boiling water; mix the hydrochloric acid with the remaining thirty-eight parts of cold water; add the two solutions together.

FOR ZINC.

(a.)	Nitrous acid	25 parts
	Water	75 parts
		100 parts
(b.)	Hydrochloric acid	10 parts
	Chlorate of potash	2 parts
	Water	88 parts
		100 parts

Make the solution as for copper.

The design, the chart to of potash and hydrochloric mordant. Mr. Haden added, he preferred to the nitric acid, because it was less violent in its action. He also preferred copper to zinc, because primary ink clean to it so as to give the pictures a fine, rich tone. He then gave the details of the old method of preparing the plate for the mordant; of covering the polished side of the plate with a "ground" of a composition of wax, which resisted the action of the bath, blacking it with smoke, drawing the picture with the needle, "stopping out" unsatisfactory lines, building up a wax wall around the edge and pouring on the mordant. This he called the "interrupted method," inasmuch as the different planes of the picture had to be secured by pouring off the mordant at intervals, and "stopping out" the lines which had been sufficiently bitten by the acid to give the desired width of line. The "stopping out" was done by applying the varnish to the lines with a camel's hair brush. The order of "stopping out" was first the extreme distance, then the middle distance, and last the foreground. The process was so trying that he gave it up years ago and invented the second process, which he called the "continuous method." This consisted in using the less viscous mordant, proceeding both sides of the plate with the varnish and making the drawing, while the plate lay in the bath. Nitrous acid would, by its effervescence, bite the plate and permit successful drawing. He illustrated his process, which he said he suspected was known to Rembrandt, by etching in imagination the scene at West Point, looking down the Hudson from Roe's Hotel. The foreground of trees would be drawn in first, deliberately putting in only the great organic lines, and then the dark rocks to the middle on both sides of the rim. After a time would come the rim and inclosing line in the distance, each in the order of their place, and afterward the shadows would be painted in with the needle, and finally the atmospheric effect. He advised great deliberation in this manner of etching. The last drawing could not meet the first lines, for by that time they were bitten into the metal and the whole effect was to show a great variety of gradations.

When it was desired to draw an animal in action, requiring great care, the plate might be taken from the bath and afterward put back. This was the alternate process. The lecturer pointed out that the point of the needle would be kept sharp by the drop of the mordant, which would run down it every time that it was lifted out of the fluid.

The last subdivision of the lecture was devoted to printing. The artist should be his own printer, he said, at least to the extent of being able to print his own proof, and he should have a press in his house. The printer who worked off the edition should be a man of fine organization, with a palm as delicate as a woman's. He should not be a steel-plate printer. The drying should be over poles, so that the ink might dry without being pressed flat, and poor proofs should be destroyed. The process of wiping out the ink from the lighter portions, called "retroussage," was practised in America, he condemned as utterly abominable. There is, he said, only one artist's proof, which was exactly analogous to the revised proof sent by the printer to the author.

THE FIRE RECORD.

JUMPING FROM A THIRD-STORY WINDOW.

The three-story frame buildings, Nos. 353, 355 and 357 seventh-ave., were on fire at 3 a. m. yesterday, and the families who lived in the upper stories had much difficulty in escaping from their rooms. The flames broke out in No. 355 from a defective flue, and spread quickly. Smoke filled the buildings before the inmates were aroused. All were rescued without injury except John Ruger, an excitable German, forty-seven years old. He jumped from a window on the top floor of No. 355 and was severely hurt. The fire was extinguished quickly. The buildings were owned by John and Martin Beaman, and were damaged $2,000. F. Billman, a butcher at No. 353, lost about $1,000 by the flames; Charles Sutzar, milk dealer at No. 355, about $800; and L. Boehler, hardware dealer at No. 357, about $1,500. Furniture owned by several families in the upper stories was damaged slightly.

ESCAPING IN HER NIGHT DRESS.

A two-story brick stable at Mott-ave. and One-hundred-and-fifty-third-st., owned by H. L. Morris and occupied by James Farrell, took fire at 1 a. m. yesterday and was damaged to the extent of $500. Two horses, a buggy, a sleigh, several sets of harness, and other property belonging to Mr. Farrell, valued at $2,000, were burned. Mr. Farrell and his family lived in rooms over the stable. Mrs. Farrell, who was asleep when the fire started, escaped in her night dress.

FIRES IN VARIOUS PLACES.

QUINCY, Ill., Feb. 8.—The book and music store of W. D. Woodruff was burned this morning. The loss on the building was $5,000, on the stock, $15,000. The insurance is $15,000. S. E. Segers & Sons' grocery store and S. H. Smith's pictures and photographic goods shop, adjoining, were damaged to the extent of $5,000 and $10,000 respectively. Both losses are fully covered by insurance.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 8.—The fire-clay, brick and pottery works of Dixon & Young, in the extreme northern part of this city, were burned last night. Loss from $50,000 to $60,000; insured for $30,000.

GENERAL SHERMAN'S BIRTHDAY.

BANQUET IN HIS HONOR IN WASHINGTON—THE STIRRING TIMES THROUGH WHICH HE HAS PASSED.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—A banquet was given at the Portland to-night in honor of the sixty-third birthday of William Tecumseh Sherman, General of the Army. The guests were Chief Justice Waite, General P. H. Sheridan, Speaker J. Warren Keifer, Senator Joseph R. Hawley, Marshal Clayton McMichael, Mr. Stilson Hutchins, General Van Vliet, U. S. A., Chief Justice Carter, of the District Supreme Court, Senator John Sherman, Senator John A. Logan, Justice McArthur, Senator William B. Allison, H. J. Ramsdell, Henry Watterson, Justice Stanley Matthews, and Justice Miller.

In reply to the toast to his health General Sherman made a speech of some length from written notes. He began by saying:

"According to our family Bible I was born February 8, 1820, consequently I am in my sixty-fourth year of life, and if I survive another year will pass from the active command of the Army of the United States to a life of comparative ease and retirement. The law for the compulsory retirement of all Army officers at the age of sixty-four was, in my judgment, wise and proper. I did not ask for or wish an exception in my own case, and I declare that I then as now approved the measure and asked my friends not to interpose any objections by reason of its effect on me. I think I am duly grateful that I have passed through sixty-three years of varied life with mind and body sound enough to promise a reasonable remainder, and am thankful to Congress that suitable and liberal provision has been made for me and those dependent on me to enable us to live out our appointed days in comparative ease."

General Sherman then reviewed briefly the progress of the world in the arts of civilization during the past half century, referred to the stirring events which had taken place in this country within that period, and especially to the wars in which the people of the United States had been engaged, and said that even now, after a very short lapse of time, it could be seen that these wars had accomplished valuable results which could not have been reached in any other way. As an illustration of this he cited the Mexican war, which extended our system of Government from the Atlantic to the Pacific, converting lands which had remained for centuries in the possession of wild beasts and wild savages into prosperous States and Territories in the short period of thirty-seven years. After pointing out the fact that the acquisition of California was also one of the results of this war, General Sherman reviewed briefly the rise and development of that State and the opening of railroad communication with it across the plains.

"In these mighty enterprises," he said, "the soldier went hand in hand with the civilian, and quoting from a report of General Sheridan, 'as the railroads were extended the successive lines of isolated frontier posts, the settlements, sprang into existence; as country no longer requiring military protection, the Army vacated its temporary shelters and marched on into remote regions beyond them to repeat and continue its pioneer work. In rear of the advancing line of troops the primitive dugouts and cabins of the frontiersmen were steadily replaced by the tasteful houses, thrifty farms, neat villages and busy towns of a people who knew how best to employ the vast resources of the great West.'

"Thus has our little Army been constantly engaged in a war almost in results as any of the greater one, with no hope of fame or reward, scarcely with a chance of recognition."

Referring to the late Civil War, General Sherman said: "I need not speak to you of the Civil War. Its history is written, and all who now live remember its details. I will venture to say, however, in this connection, that friend and foe alike now share its glories and trials. No part of the Union has exhausted a larger measure of profit than the section over which was waged the struggle. I believe that almost one-tenth of the soldiers of the South have since been members of our present glorious Union, at peace with all the world, than citizens of a number of outer years with slavery the corner-stone and at constant war with their neighbors. I have not the least desire, nor could I wish, to boast of my share in that war, but I do feel a sense of pride and satisfaction that we, as a people, met the issues of that day like brave men and carried our ship through safely to the haven where it rides now at anchor, behind sandbars and breakers of war, in a sea of peace and good-will to men, and that I may say in the manner with which I have been entrusted with a share of the honor and safety. Another will take up the task which we have left off, and our Army will move on in its glorious career to the ultimate destiny which no man may foresee.

"The occasion is not suitable for much toasting even this much, but, though my military career is in its ninth lustre, I cannot keep pleasant to my countrymen at every opportunity to express an idea, is many times quoted since in the military profession, because it seems to me it is a good thing to be able to foretell when soldiers may be in demand again."

Speeches were also made by Chief Justice Waite, Justice Miller, General Sherman, Senator Hawley, Senator Logan and Mr. Watterson.

JAMES WATSON WEBB'S BIRTHDAY.

General James Watson Webb spent his eighty-first birthday yesterday quietly at his home, No. 14 West Forty-eighth-st. A few persons called upon him during the day, including his old friend, Consul-General Adamson. In the evening he was surrounded by his children. Seven of his sons live with him. Besides these he has two married sons, General Alexander S. Webb and Dr. W. Seward Webb, and one unmarried son, Robert Webb, who is the chief of his children. Ex-Governor E. D. Morgan sent General Webb a note of congratulation and a bottle of wine with which to drink his health. To a TRIBUNE reporter who called on him General Webb said that he was feeling perfectly well and better than on his last birthday. "My only infirmity is the gout," said he, "and that I have had over fifty years. It is the prince of diseases, for it has saved me from other maladies."

Referring to newspapers and his long connection with journalism, General Webb said: "There has been a great advance made in the collection of news since I took charge of *The Courier and Enquirer* in 1827. I established *The Advertiser, Mercantile and Gazette*, the other three newspapers, going on extra boats to the collection of news from incoming vessels. When they built a pilot-boat I put my own boat, the Eclipse, beat them to the bottom. I then was able to get the news first, if the Courier and Enquirer, and cruised about the outer bay; by getting the news in advance compelled them to buy it of me. Then I spent $6,000 a month on a horse express to Washington. The news of Monday, that previously was not published in this city until Thursday, I published on Wednesday. Then the telegraph and railroad came along and knocked my express all to pieces. I was for thirty-four years at the head of that newspaper. THE TRIBUNE is now my standby," he added, picking up a copy at his side. General Webb also takes no good heed to abstemious habits. He eats only two meals a day and drinks only once a day; and until within the last ten years took no wine or spirits. For some years he has taken wine with his dinner. His doctors now tell him he must take more stimulants.

A WEDDING YESTERDAY.

William S. Thorn, jr., son of the president of the Second Avenue Railroad Company, and Miss Josie Dingee, daughter of P. N. Dingee, were married at 7 o'clock last evening, in the Washington Avenue Baptist Church, Brooklyn, by the Rev. Emory J. Haynes, the pastor of the church. Albert Thorn of was the best man, and the groomsman was John Symonds. The ushers were Frederick Sysell, Arthur Symonds, Charles V. B. Howe and Theodore Weston. The bride's dress was of white Ottoman silk, with a front of brocade Ottoman. The corsage was cut square and sleeveless, and was garnished with orange blossoms and lilies-of-the-valley. She wore a tulle veil, with orange blossoms, and carried a bouquet of white roses and lilies. A reception was held at the house of the bride's father, No. 165 Clinton-ave., from 8 to 12 o'clock. The decorations of the house included a bell of white roses, a canopy of smilax, a cornucopia, a horseshoe and a bank of flowers bearing the number "25" in red carnations in honor of the silver wedding of the bride's parents, which occurred last evening. Among those present were: Dr. and Mrs. L. M. Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Bedford, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Thorn, Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Street, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Richardson, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pratt, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Cox, Miss Cox, Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, Miss Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Blackford, Miss Von Stenhorst, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Dingee, Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Dingee, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Richardson, the Misses Murphy, Miss Blackford, Miss Lottie Sanxay, Miss Ida Whitney, Miss Fanny Pollard, Miss Mattie Dennis, Miss Pauline Elliott, the Misses Brinsley, H. H. Salmon, Albert Whitney, Charles Pratt, jr., F. H. Bedford, Robert Osborn, Mr. Reimer, Miss Gill, Arthur Cox, William Clark, George Jonnson and Mr. and Mrs. Emory J. Haynes.

SALE OF PAINTINGS.

The first half of a collection of paintings was sold yesterday afternoon at Barker's Art Gallery, in Liberty-st. Bidding was spiritless and prices were rather low. The best figures were the following:

Artist.	*Name.*	Price.
Inness, V.	Landscape and Sheep	$275
Cot, D.	You Don't Believe Me	275
Maas, E. R.	[illegible]	225
Mueller, August	What Shall I Say?	235
Neumann, A.	Sunset	250
Seifert, Alf.	The Meeting of Old Friends	1,050
Velten, W.	A Military scene during the Thirty Years War	300
Voight, A.	Interior—Sheep	210
Weber, M.	Out for a Walk	200

A DINNER TO SENOR MALO.

The private dinner room at the Grand Central Hotel was occupied last night by a company of fifty capitalists and well-known gentlemen of this city, who gathered at the invitation of Samuel Keefer to meet Don Salvador Malo, a prominent resident of the City of Mexico, at an informal dinner. Among those present were General Grant, Peter Cooper, Senor M. Romero, General Canedo, General G. M. Dodge, Major Frank Bond, J. Henry Work, Stephen D. Hatch, F. E. James, A. M. Gibson, General George D. Ithric, and F. A. Conkling. At the close of the dinner Mr. Keefer proposed the health of Senor Malo, who responded in Spanish. He said that he hoped that the proposed treaty would strengthen the friendship between the sister republics. In conclusion he proposed the health of General Grant "the oldest and warmest friend Mexico had."

General Grant said that readers of history were acquainted with Mexican difficulties. The inhabitants did not have to work hard to secure a living and had not had the incentive to work that Americans had. He described the climate and the productions of the country and said that it was now necessary for Mexico to develop her interests, and call in outside help and capital for the purpose. Neighboring republics should help each other, and Mexico and the United States should be firm friends. Both countries were on a high road to such results. America had railroads into the northern states of Mexico and within the next fifteen months he thought it would be possible to go to Mexico entirely by rail. He proposed to be one of an excursion party for that purpose. He himself and Messrs. Romero, Trescot and General Canedo had drafted a treaty satisfactory to the Mexican commissioners and to the President and Secretary of State and it was now before the Senate. He hoped it would be acted upon promptly and from it he expected mutual benefit to both countries.

Speeches were also made by Mr. Conkling, Peter Cooper and others.

DAMAGE BY THE FLOODS.

DESTRUCTION ALONG THE OHIO RIVER.

THE RIVER RISING AT NEARLY EVERY POINT—MILLS COMPELLED TO STOP WORK.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 8.—The Ohio River is rising along its entire length. It is almost an unprecedented case. At Wheeling it reached thirty-six feet, and still rising. Boats cannot pass under the bridge.

A *Times-Star* dispatch says: "Catlettsburg is flooded. At Portsmouth the river is fifty-five feet, and is still rising. A considerable portion of the city is under water. The Scioto River is also rising above the railroad track. North Portsmouth is under water. The river there continues to rise, being fifty-two feet."

The Anchor Iron and Steel Works, the Newport Iron and Pipe Foundry and the greater part of Swift's Rolling Mill, have been compelled to suspend business.

The Commercial Gazette dispatches report that the Ohio River received two inches at Marietta, but the city is in darkness on account of the gas works being flooded with water within two feet of the flood of 1880. Mrs. Groves was found drowned in her house this evening.

WHEELING, W. Va., Feb. 8.—The river here again reached thirty-seven and one-half feet, about the highest point reached on Tuesday, and only two feet more are expected. It is now rising about two inches per hour. The bridge connecting this city with the Crescent Mills over the Baltimore track parted in the night. Railroad bridges were weighted down with heavy trains, thus keeping them from being swept away. At Bellaire, Ohio, opposite this city, the Baltimore, Zanesville and Columbus Railroad trains cannot reach the city. The sister islands, six miles up the river, are submerged, a family living on one of them barely escaping with their lives by means of a skiff.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 8.—A dispatch from Parkersburg, W. Va., says: There is in this city the highest flood known since 1860. At 9 a. m. the river was forty-four feet above low water. The houses on the Ohio side to Annapolis are inundated, also on the Kanawha side to Court-st. Three hund