Amusements To-Night.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—2—Symphony Society.
BIJOU OPERA HOUSE—8—"La Vie."
CASINO—8—"The Merry War."
CHICKERING HALL—8—Concert.
DALY'S THEATRE—8—"Red Letter Nights."
GRAND OPERA HOUSE—8—"Pique."
MADISON SQUARE GARDEN—2 and 8—Barnum's Circus.
MADISON SQUARE THEATRE—8:30—"Alpine Roses."
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE—8—"Lucia di Lammermoor."
NEW PARK THEATRE—8—"Her Sacrifice."
NEW-YORK COMEDY THEATRE—8—"Peck's Bad Boy."
NIBLO'S GARDEN—8—"Fritz in Ireland."
STAR THEATRE—8—"Much Ado About Nothing."
STEINWAY HALL—8—Concert.
THALIA THEATRE—8—"Die Hagestolzen."
THEATRE COMIQUE—8—"Cordelia's Aspirations."
3D AVENUE THEATRE—8—"For Congress."
UNION SQUARE THEATRE—8—"Separation."
WALLACK'S THEATRE—8—"Lady Clare."
5TH AVENUE THEATRE—8—"Confusion."
14TH STREET THEATRE—8—"Richelieu."

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Business Notices.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

NEW-YORK, FRIDAY, APRIL 4.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—General Graham discredits the report that Osman Digma is mustering a fresh force. Mr. Gladstone says General Gordon believes himself to be perfectly safe. ═ The French Minister at Pekin will go to Hué. ═ The body of the Duke of Albany has arrived in England. ═ A Dublin constable was severely injured by three unknown men. ═ Russian officials have been arrested as Nihilists.

CONGRESS.—In the Senate yesterday bills were introduced to amend the patent laws; authorizing a commission to examine and report upon new designs for steamships; to provide for the establishment of a silk culture bureau. The Blair Educational bill was debated further. ═ The House passed a joint resolution authorizing the Secretary of War to loan flags and bunting in aid of the Richmond fair to secure a home for disabled Confederate soldiers. The Indian Appropriation bill was further debated. A resolution was passed authorizing an investigation into the Oregon massacre of 1847.

DOMESTIC.—The anonymous circular calling for another caucus of Democratic Congressmen on the Morrison bill, created a stir yesterday in Washington. ═ George Bliss continued his testimony relative to Star Route prosecutions, and further testimony about the causes of the Danville riot was taken. ═ The bill taxing corporations was passed by the New-Jersey Senate yesterday, and sent to the Assembly, which refused to concur in Senate amendments. ═ The State Senate had a debate over the delay in reporting the oleomargarine bill; the Senate passed the Prison Labor Commission bill; the Governor has signed the Pilot bill. ═ A steamer was burned on the Chattahoochee River, in Alabama, and several lives were lost. ═ The Republican City Convention at Cleveland denounced the present city government and the Morrison bill. ═ It was agreed at a meeting of cotton mill owners in Augusta to form a Southern Manufacturers' Association. ═ A victim of the Cincinnati riot, Private Israel Getz, of the Governor's Guard, was buried with military honors. The city still remained quiet. ═ A loan exhibition by Baltimore artists was opened yesterday. ═ A large fleet of coasting vessels was driven into Provincetown by the storm; one vessel was wrecked.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.—There were some lively passages yesterday in the Hoyt will case between Mr. Conkling and the witness Van Santvoord. ═ In the Aqueduct Commission Mayor Edson made an important statement regarding plans for the aqueduct and dam. ═ The New-York East Conference discussed the question of extending the pastoral term. ═ The velocity of the wind was generally twenty-six miles an hour, but at one time it rose to sixty-seven miles. ═ The Produce Exchange memorialized Congress against the silver dollar. ═ The trial of the gagging case in the Sloane building was begun. ═ James F. Wenman & Co., cotton brokers, failed. ═ Mr. Shippen won the racquet championship. ═ A boy died in Brooklyn from hydrophobia. ═ Gold value of the legal tender silver dollar (412½ grains), 84.41 cents. ═ Stocks opened dull and weak, afterward were more active, and advanced and closed quiet at the best prices of the day.

THE WEATHER.—TRIBUNE local observations indicate fair or clear and warmer weather. Temperature yesterday: Highest, 41°; lowest, 33°; average, 37⅝°.

Professor Draper is no prophet of evil and cannot be induced to forecast the weather. All he can be persuaded to do is to give statistics showing the depravity this climate has exhibited in the past. Now the weather thus far in 1884 has been about as bad as has ever been known, and judging from the last few days it means to keep it up on this line all summer. For this reason a glance at Professor Draper's statistics, published elsewhere in this paper, reveals no pleasant prospect for April, for in that month, in 1875, snow to the depth of 14½ inches fell in this city.

Commissioner Thompson has fallen upon evil days. The Senate Committee on Cities is steadily bringing out testimony showing the shameful looseness of administration and disregard of law in his department. His pet contractor is in prison at Albany because he will not tell the true story of his connection with the contracts and orders given out in the Department of Public Works. To add to his trials, one of our judges has given him a stinging rebuke from the bench. Recorder Smyth yesterday, in the Court of General Sessions, referring to the condition of the building, said that the attention of the Commissioner of Public Works had been called to the matter, but he supposed Mr. Thompson had so much to do in getting out $999 orders that he had no time to attend to it. This shot comes from a member of the party of which Mr. Thompson is an ornament and it went straight to the mark.

Itinerancy is still a lively subject of discussion among the Methodists, as the proceedings in the New-York East Conference yesterday show. Younger ministers, especially those well placed in city churches are naturally in favor of an extension of the pastoral term from three years to five at least. The more conservative members of the Conference, however, think a change would take away one of the chief elements of strength in the denomination, and are heartily opposed to any departure from the present rule. So far as arguments go each side seems to be well equipped and neither gets the advantage of the other. To an outsider, however, the drift of events appears to indicate that sooner or later itinerancy must go.

The protests of the Dutch against the Congo treaty between England and Portugal are not to be confined to the traders and the Rotterdam newspapers. The matter was discussed yesterday in the States General in Holland and the Government announced that it was conferring with the other Powers in regard to the treaty. It will be interesting to see if the United States is included in the conference. Some time ago we should have been considered as having no part in the matter, but in the President's last message there was a reference to the Congo which might convince the Dutch that it was worth while to approach us.

The only good which seems likely to flow from the passage of the Trade Dollar bill is that it has again aroused the country to a realization of the danger arising from the coinage of needless silver dollars. From every quarter protests are heard. Yesterday the Produce Exchange of this city adopted resolutions declaring that serious commercial disturbance threatened the United States as long as the coinage law of 1878 was in force; that the people were not prepared to receive into circulation a large amount of silver dollars of uncertain value. The Produce and Stock Exchanges of this city certainly are better fitted to give an opinion on such a subject than the owners of silver mines; and yet they seem to have much less influence with certain members of Congress. The attitude of the present House of Representatives is as amazing as it is dangerous.

We regret to note that the Assembly Investigating Committee is shocking the sensibilities of the Police Commissioners. Mr. French is indignant that the committee should turn to well-known violators of the laws for evidence against the Police Department. Mr. French should console himself with the thought that the more bitterly virtue and innocence are assailed the nobler is their triumph. He should welcome the opportunity to show that the administration of the Police Department is above censure or even criticism, and that the immunity which so many notorious and flagrant transgressors have enjoyed for years is a credit rather than a disgrace to the Police Board. It may be a little difficult to do this, but the harder the fight the more glorious the victory. Mr. French should welcome assailants from every quarter and bid them all defiance. Let him reflect how secure and stately a position he will occupy in the hearts of his fellow-citizens when he has proved conclusively that he and his associates are without fear and without reproach.

THE NATIONAL WALK-AROUND.

Congress met on December 3. It has now been in session four months, and has not been idle. By no means; behold! the printed record of its proceedings already covers 2,600 broad pages. In all this Niagara of words, which threatens, like Niagara, to go on forever, has there been one single speech that the world will care to remember—one that has helped to make anybody wiser or better? Have we been reminded at any time, even for an instant, of the old days when statesmen and orators met in high debate? It has been a Niagara of slops. If one or two speeches have risen above the level of dreary inanity, were they not by members of the minority—who must be pardoned for trying to exert some influence by their arguments, since they can accomplish nothing by votes?

Or have the proceedings at any time reminded one of the later and perhaps better days, when stalwart and practical men, without much debate, carried on the Government of the Nation during the greatest civil war the world has seen, in brief and busy sessions of hard work? Has there been any of the spirit or the faculty that used to meet tremendous emergencies with swift and strong action? If so, in what has it been shown? This Congress has passed one bill that the country has noticed—a bill to put into the army in time of peace a soldier who was turned out of it in time of war. Has it done anything else? For four weary months the ceaseless Niagara of slops has floated scarcely a chip of real business.

"Getting ready"? Why were unready men sent, then? "Investigating"? What one thing have they found out that was not known before to every intelligent man in the country? It cannot even be said that the time has been spent in instructive political debate. The members have been principally occupied in trying to make a President, it is true, but they have not found it convenient to give the people any reasons for putting either party in, or either party out. It has been a torrent of talk as meaningless and pointless as the chatter of monkeys in a forest of the tropics.

This is an American Congress—a Democratic Congress, let us hasten to observe. For the Senate, though nominally Republican by a bare majority, has been compelled to wait by the inaction of the House, and the few measures it has passed are sleeping unnoticed in the committees or on the calendar of that congregation of incapables. If a man wanted convincing proof of the absolute inability of the people to govern themselves, might he not take the 2,600 pages of Congressional proceedings? The very word, "proceedings," makes one laugh. For four months Congress has been proceeding nowhither. There has been nothing half so tiresome since the last walking-match.

RUSHING BAD MEASURES.

The advantage which a vicious bill will sometimes obtain over a good measure has been freshly illustrated at Albany this week. On Monday night Senator Murphy introduced a bill to provide for the payment of the counsel fees and other expenses incurred by a city officer in defending his official conduct before a court, investigating committee or other body that may have legal authority to inquire into the same. The officer is to be reimbursed, providing he is not removed from office as the result of this inquiry into his official conduct.

The measure is a peculiarly bad one. It would require the city to pay large sums for counsel fees and "expenses" of indicted officials who may perhaps escape because of a jury's disagreement or on some legal flaw or technicality wholly disconnected with the question of guilt or innocence. Other large sums would have to be paid to city officials who employ counsel to impede an investigation into their official conduct. That would be the result of about every such investigation, the Legislature having no direct power to remove a city official.

There is no good reason why a commissioner should require counsel before an investigating committee. Such a body is not a court conducting a trial, but merely a committee gathering information for the purposes of legislation. If a city official does his duty there is not the slightest danger of his being indicted, and he will be in no need of counsel to defend himself. And if he does not do his duty he ought to bear whatever expense he may choose to incur in attempting, in the language of the bill, "to justify" his official conduct. If there should chance to be a case where an exemption ought to be made, it should stand on its own merits. The vicious effect of such legislation as is proposed by this bill was recently demonstrated when the Board of Estimate was called upon to pay several thousand dollars to a speculative Tammany lawyer who, on his own motion and responsibility, began a legal proceeding in 1881 to determine a dispute about the Surrogate's term.

But this vicious bill has already been favorably reported to the Senate and is now ready to be rushed through. In a similar manner that body passed Mr. Cullen's ridiculous Street-cleaning bill, and other bad measures, such as that introduced by Mr. Plunkitt, to create a new civil district court, and Senator Campbell's bill to provide for the payment of the claims of janitors who were illegally appointed nearly ten years ago. But Senator Gilbert's Civil Service bill, introduced early in the session, has not yet been brought before the Senate. Mr. McCarthy's bill to abolish unbalanced bids in city contracts, Senator Gibbs's measure to improve the Sinking Fund, and other good bills have long been awaiting consideration. The Senators cannot afford to neglect such important legislation or good-naturedly to allow Democratic Senators of the Murphy and Campbell kind to push through their vicious bills.

ENGLAND AND THE SOUDAN.

The news from the Soudan is confused and contradictory, and needs to be closely scrutinized. The British campaign is at an end. One regiment has been left at Suakim as a temporary garrison to be replaced either by Indian or Egyptian troops. The remainder of the force has returned to lower Egypt. Lord Hartington's recent declaration in regard to British control of the thousand miles of Soudan seaboard means practically little more than this: Suakim is to be permanently occupied. The withdrawal of the army has been followed by anarchy and civil war. Osman has taken the field against tribes that were friendly to the invaders. If successful he may be emboldened to threaten Suakim with the remnant of his brave force. So long as he is in arms the revolt in that quarter cannot be said to have been suppressed.

The prospect of opening the road from Suakim to Berber is not encouraging. The chiefs who may be approached by the British agent will greedily accept the bribes offered to them, but no dependence can be placed on any guarantee which they may give. A more serious attempt of a diplomatic nature is the mission of Admiral Hewett to Massowah. King John is reported to have offered to relieve Kassala with a force of 8,000, or even 10,000 men, provided each soldier shall be paid at the rate of two English shillings a day and two ports shall be ceded to him. Admiral Hewett is now in Massowah for the purpose of proposing an alliance of some sort between Great Britain and Abyssinia whereby the insurgents in the Soudan may be reduced to submission. The value of such an alliance is problematical. Mr. Rassam, whose rescue from prison at Magdala was the object of the British expedition to the mountains of the Blue Nile, declares with strong emphasis that the Abyssinian kingdom merely exists in name, that King John's word is law only in a restricted territory, and that the tribes on the border lands of the Soudan are absolutely independent. He understands Abyssinia better than any other Englishman does, and he says that no help is to be expected from that quarter. Sir Samuel Baker has recommended diplomatic intrigues and the establishment of a new frontier along the Atbara River, and the cession of Massowah and Zoulla. Mr. Rassam ridicules these proposals. General Gordon when he left London warned Englishmen not to place any reliance upon the King of Abyssinia, at least outside his own mountains. There is every reason to believe, therefore, that the negotiations upon which Admiral Hewett has entered will be unproductive and disappointing.

The battles with the Arabs on the coast have not effected the deliverance of Khartoum. The intrigues with the tribes between Suakim and Berber and the negotiations with the wily Abyssinian monarch promise to be equally abortive. The dangers and difficulties, meanwhile, have multiplied at Khartoum. General Gordon has been defeated by a horde of rebels and openly defied by the Mahdi, whom he had proclaimed Sultan of Kordofan. Kassala, Sennaar and the garrisons in the Bahr-Ghazelle he is powerless to relieve, and his own position since his defeat has been most unenviable. Apparently he is looking toward Cairo, or rather London, for rescue. Any expedition that is sent to Khartoum must go, as he went, across the Nubian desert from Korosco, and thence by way of Berber and the river. Such a march involves military difficulties that are apparently insurmountable. The heat would be as intolerable in the Korosco desert as on the route from the coast to Berber. From April till the middle of November the thermometer averages from ninety to ninety-five degrees in the shade throughout the Eastern Soudan. It is a most unhealthy season and European soldiers would be exposed to the ravages of typhoid fever and dysentery. Weeks would be required, moreover, for the organization of a baggage train and the transportation of an army by water from Abou Hammed to Khartoum. These considerations render it very improbable that the British authorities at Cairo will advise the Home Government to attempt a rescue by way of the Nile Valley.

General Gordon will be left to his own resources. This is the natural inference from the facts of the situation as they are outlined in the dispatches. Necessity seems to dictate this course. No English Minister will venture to advocate sending an army into a pestilential district in the hottest season of the year to reconquer the Soudan. General Gordon's fate, humanly speaking, is in his own hands. His genius may save him. His good fortune may not desert him. The Mahdi may be set aside in Kordofan, where divisions are said to have broken out in his council and a powerful tribe is in revolt against him. The rebels now surrounding Khartoum may be inclined to make peace with the heroic Englishman who has once won their affections and confidence and given them the best government they have ever known. Nothing is impossible in the changeful East. But the chances when coolly counted are heavily against General Gordon and in favor of new disasters. The Home Government cannot send reinforcements to him and will not allow Zobehr, the Sultan of the slave-traders, to take his place. It leaves him at the post of danger and dares not strengthen his hands by proclaiming the permanent occupation of Khartoum. So long as the Soudanese are convinced that the country is to be given up, their loyalty to General Gordon must remain a species of treacherous time-serving. If they had reason to suppose that Khartoum was to be retained, and that he was to govern it permanently, they would give him stronger support.

DEMOCRACY AND THE RIOT.

The riot at Cincinnati casts a strong and lurid light upon Democratic government. It was in that city that "the new Democracy" had its headquarters. The alliance of Democracy and the whiskey interest ruled the town, made the government what it was, selected local officials, and polled a heavy majority to make the attorney of the liquor-dealers Governor of the State. His first important duty in that capacity has been to quell a riot which long-continued and infamous prostitution of justice has caused.

The local officials were bad men, it is said. Possibly they were. How could the selection of good men be expected, when the stench of corruption surrounded every convention of the prevailing party? Since "the new Democracy" began to control things, pocket-books have had more weight than principles in primary meetings, local and State conventions, local and State elections, and in the choice of a Senator by the Legislature. Can such a tree bear wholesome fruit?

"NULLA VESTIGIA RETRORSUM."

This was what Robert Toombs, once a Democratic leader, telegraphed the other day to William R. Morrison, now a Democratic leader in a Democratic Congress. "*Nulla vestigia retrorsum*": no step backward. What wonderful fitness of things is there here! With what admirable judgment was the vehicle of this sepulchral utterance chosen! The age in which Robert Toombs lived and moved and exercised an influence seems so long gone, so far back in the mists of the past, that the dead tongue he chose to speak in seems somehow little more dead than he. Both are so obsolete! And William R. Morrison, startled by the ghostly interruption, might very well have drawn from the same source to express his own emotions, muttering "*suum cuique*" as he recognized the appositeness of the language to the man.

But does the living leader know what this political ghost means when from Stygian shades he wires him in the mother tongue of the Cæsars the injunction to take no backward step? It seems plain enough that he has reference to the tariff question. No one living or dead has communicated with Mr. Morrison on any other subject for many months. Does he mean that Mr. Morrison is to take no step backward on that question as it now stands? Then of course he will leave the tariff as it is, and not even venture on the backward step of a "horizontal reduction." Or does he mean that Morrison having invented a tariff measure which has no possible chance of becoming a law, and can serve no other earthly purpose than to distract and divide the Democratic party and insure its defeat in November, is to take no backward step from that position but insist on its being made a party issue? That would be very much like the Robert Toombs who survives in the memories of some of the older members of the present generation. We incline to the opinion that this, notwithstanding the obscurity of the language and the ambiguity of the phrase, is what he did actually mean. For this was always his fashion: to lead his party into some utterly untenable position, and then conjure them in all languages, living, dead and profane, to stand fast, not yield an inch, take no step backward, die in the last ditch. Because of such counsels, and their being followed, the Democratic party has been where it has for twenty-five years, and he himself is where he is now, mumbling Latin to a generation that has forgotten him.

Take no step backward! Why, that is the cry set up years ago by the slaveholding oligarchy that controlled the Democratic party and so long governed the country. Entrenching themselves in the doctrine of State Rights they met the efforts made by Southern men to get rid of slavery by gradual emancipation with the determined purpose not to yield an inch. The slave power—of whose domineering spirit and bullying disposition Robert Toombs was for a dozen years prior to 1860 a conspicuous representative—not only took no step backward, but became aggressive and each year set its foot with dogged persistence a little further to the front. At length it laid its hand on Kansas. By the violence of Border Ruffianism, the frauds of Federal officials and the connivance of the Buchanan Administration it held Kansas by the throat, and for the moment was in possession. Then above the gale of Southern passion and Northern protest the voice of Robert Toombs rang in the same old Roman "*Nulla vestigia retrorsum.*" "No step backward" was the order given the Border Ruffian invaders. But they fell back all the same, and Kansas was saved. "No step backward!" cried the slave-driver as he cracked his whip over the Democratic party when some of its leaders, alarmed by the symptoms of a revolt at the North, hesitated and would have temporized. "No step backward!" howled Toombs and Wigfall and the whole mad gang who had threatened secession in the event of Republican success in 1860. Whip and clamor did their work. The Democratic party tumbled to defeat and disgrace at the North, to rebellion and ruin at the South.

For twenty-five years now this party has habitually set itself against every movement that has been made in the direction of material prosperity and enlightened progress. At every new point of departure, whether the suppression of rebellion, prosecution of the war, emancipation, enfranchisement, reconstruction, currency, finance or what not, this party has planted its hoofs at an angle and sworn by all the saints from General Jackson down that it would never take a backward step. And so it hasn't. But the country all the same has marched on and right over it. The Confederacy of which Robert Toombs was one of the inventors and founders and shining lights never took a backward step. But it died in its tracks nevertheless. The Democratic party never steps backward. But the country moves it aside and marches on. It will be well for Mr. Morrison to consider with some care this ghostly message in a dead language from a dead leader out of a dead past. It suggests a great deal. "No step backward!" Well, why not? With the intelligence, habits, instincts and tendencies of the mule, why not his motto?

LATEST OF THE CATTLE SCARE.

The outcome of the cattle scare in Western States, notably Kansas, confirms the justice of THE TRIBUNE'S stand, taken early and decided, against the drift of credulous public sentiment manufactured by the champions of contagion. We remembered the costly "hog-cholera" agitation of half a dozen years ago. We recalled the pleuro-pneumonia business when veterinarians went about preaching impending disaster from diseases which persistently refused to rage. We declared, what has been true from the beginning, that the reflections upon the general health of American live stock were started and fostered by self-interest. The arts of the agitators culminated last November in the convention at Chicago, and since then the air has been heavy with affirmation and demand, which finally materialized in the proposed "Bureau of Animal Industry," to be equipped with a quarter of a million dollars, to begin with, and authority to traverse the rural districts in pursuit of imaginary maladies.

While the bill was pending in the Senate came the outbreak of news of "foot-and-mouth disease in Kansas." Immediately a Treasury Cattle Commissioner announced from Chicago that the germs of the infection were brought over in the clothing of two Scotchmen, and another Commissioner reported to the Treasury Department that he had "no doubt that it was foot-and-mouth disease," and that it was "unnecessary for him to go to Kansas to ascertain that fact." He exhibited the same convenient confidence on a previous occasion when he declared: "I do not know where pleuro-pneumonia exists in Maryland, but I am as confident that it does exist there as I am of my own existence." So, in this case, everything has been taken for granted, the wish having seemingly been father to the thought. The Kansas Legislature was convened in special session; and $50,000 was hastily appropriated by Congress; all because of credence in unwarranted current rumor due to the excited state of public feeling.

Now it turns out, quite naturally, that in Kansas, as well as in Illinois, Missouri and Iowa, there has not been a single case of the alleged imported plague, but that the trouble was due to local causes incident to the Western system of keeping cattle unsheltered, and sometimes in filthy yards and within reach of unwholesome food. So this scare is exposed as others have been before it, and added evidence is afforded of the importance of using common business sense in considering questions of animal welfare. Has not the country suffered enough at the hands of the sensationalists, or will Congress determine to give the hundreds of thousands of dollars asked for by those who must continue to make the diseased meat they feed on in order to present any show for the money?

Those persons to whom the mention of Mr. Blaine's name has the stimulating effect that a red flag has for a dissatisfied bull are having a hard time of it. In daily sheets and in weekly sheets, with heavy artillery and with pop-guns, they blaze away at him continually, as if there really were danger that the American people, but for these words of warning, might go crazy about a man who has no army of officials and no organization at his back, who is simply a capable public servant who has voluntarily retired from official life, and who does not even consent to have his friends consider him a candidate for any office. If people do actually prefer such a man, is there not some reason? Many a politician by uncommon assiduity has contrived to secure public favor. But when it comes to a man who has retired from service, without his effort, are we to conclude that the people have lost their senses?

Mr. Tilden may not be feeling very well, but even those that take the gloomiest view of his health must admit that he is feeling better than his party.

The latest story about the Cœur d'Alene mines is that there are none, except in the imagination of a few thousand deluded men. *The Salt Lake Chronicle* says that the owners of mining claims in the Cœur d'Alene district have been buying up large quantities of quartz containing free gold, with which they plentifully "salt" their claims. It asserts that these men have agents buying such free-gold specimens in Portland and San Francisco, and it quotes the statement of a gentleman of the latter city, who says that he sold sixteen ounces of free-gold quartz to the agent of a Cœur d'Alene mine owner, for which he was paid at the rate of $30 an ounce. Whether this story is true, or only the invention of a jealous rival, it is impossible to say at present. But it is evident that thus far the Cœur d'Alene mines have "panned out" best in the newspapers. The public can afford to wait until the "boom" assumes a more tangible form.

Mr. Morrison is going to address the Iroquois Club of Chicago on tariff reform. Better think twice, Mr. M., before you decide to do so. Carter Harrison was the last man to talk tariff reform to the Iroquois, and "the scene that ensued" was just awful. Barring the big fire it was the hottest occasion ever seen in Chicago.

"Democrat" writes to *The Boston Post* protesting against the nomination of Mr. Tilden. "I am surprised," he says, "at the preferences expressed for Tilden by many of your correspondents. He should have been nominated in 1880 if at all." "Democrat" apparently forgets that in 1880 his party friends had not found out how tremendously angry they were about the "fraud" of 1876. It has taken them eight years to get all ready to dilate with the proper emotion; and as it is, some of them think that instead of dilating with the emotion, they had better can it and put it on ice until 1888 or 1892.

Tom Hood must have foreseen what would happen when Matthew Arnold went to Boston and lectured on Emerson, for he exclaims:

"What pen could ever paint
The hubbub when the Hubs were thus confronted?"

The World argues that the fact that some of its readers are also served with THE TRIBUNE is "a good thing" for itself. Why it is "a good thing" our contemporary explains as follows:

It gives the readers of *The World* a gratuitous supply of paper, which can be used for fastening over the tops of pickle-jars, cleaning windows, starting fires, padding stair-carpets, *et cetera*.

Really *The World* is too hard upon itself. It may be good to top pickle-jars, to clean windows, and to pad stair-carpets, but we doh't believe it is good to start fires. It takes a dry newspaper to start a fire, and whatever *The World's* sins of omission or commission, it is not dry.

General Butler was asked a day or two since what he thought of Civil Service reform. His reply was, "I have'nt thought very much about it, but it seems to be a great hurrah over a very small matter." A man who talks in that style must certainly be in training for some Democratic nomination. The General is precisely the sort of Civil Service reformer that the Democracy likes to elevate to office.

Mr. George O. Jones, as chairman of the State Committee, has summoned the Greenback party of New-York to meet in convention at Albany, April 29. If Mr. Jones is wise, he will proceed to cut up the party into baseball, croquet or cricket clubs without loss of time. In comparison with the Greenback party, the fifth wheel of a coach is to be regarded as an absolute necessity, a regular *sine qua non*.

PERSONAL.

Attorney-General Brewster has already secured at Long Branch rooms for himself and family for the summer.

Senator Pendleton and Speaker Carlisle will deliver addresses at the celebration of the anniversary of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, at Charlotte, North Carolina, on May 20.

The bi-centenary of Watteau is to be celebrated this year at Valenciennes by placing upon the summit of a fountain designed for the purpose the bronze statue of the great master which was years ago given to the city by Carpeaux and which has since been reposing in the Museum.

President Asten, of the Tax Department, who went on a cruise to Bermuda and the West Indies with his friend, Samuel R. Platt, in Mr. Platt's fine yacht, the Montauk, returned last evening on the steamship Barracouta. Mr. Asten went away about a month ago on account of impaired health. The yacht had an extremely stormy voyage to Bermuda and was much delayed.

"Dear Irenæus," wrote Mr. A. D. F. Randolph the publisher, to Dr. Prime, Editor of *The New-York Observer*, a few days ago, "When you were a country pastor and I was a boy in a bookstore in Nassau-st., there was on the corner of Canal and Laurens sts. (now South Fifth-ave.) a small building, over the doorway of which was a sign, 'Robert Carter, Bookseller.' I am not sure that our friend began his business on that spot, but I do know that on the first of April, 1884, he will have been for fifty years a bookseller and publisher."

Richard Hengist Horne was buried at Margate, where he died. It had been his desire to be buried near to the dust of Charles and Mary Lamb, at Edmonton—the place of his birth; but it was found to be impracticable to fulfil his wish in this respect. His funeral was attended by James Horne, W. T. Linton, St. Clair Baddeley, Henry Beatley, and Joseph Ellis. His age, as inscribed on his coffin, was eighty-three years.

During Mr. Matthew Arnold's stay in Boston according to *The Courier*, of that city, he was invited, with two or three friends, to visit the home of James Russell Lowell, at Elmwood, Cambridge. The place is always beautiful, and on this occasion was particularly attractive, as Mrs. Ole Bull had adorned the house with flowers in honor of her expected guest. Mr. Arnold was conducted through the various rooms and returned to the library, which is a bright, beautiful room, beside being rich in associations with the distinguished owner. Mr. Arnold made no remark during the survey, but when it was ended said, "How dreary it will be for him when he comes back."

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Secretary Folger was not at the Treasury Department to-day, owing to slight indisposition, and Assistant Secretary French acted as Secretary.

OTTAWA, ONT., April 3.—Sir Leonard Tilley is confined to his room with an attack of diabetes.

SOME SHORT INTERVIEWS.

WHAT VISITORS TO NEW-YORK ARE SAYING.

CAUSTIC COMMENTS ON DEMOCRATIC CONGRESSMEN.

Congressman J. B. Reed, of Maine.—I do not see any prospect of the House passing the tariff bill. Of course the House is kaleidoscopic. A turn may be given to the box at any time, which brings a new vision. But without assuming to be prophetic it can be said in general way that the only thing the Democrats are united upon is the desire to beat the Republicans. When it comes to a question of the way to beat us, they can't agree at all. They can't even agree upon whiskey, and if they can't agree on whiskey you can well imagine they are not likely to agree on anything else. When a question of party policy comes up they never have much more than a bare majority for it and we get the rest. . . . There is no likelihood of any bill of importance passing the House under the rules as now in operation. It was not intended that any such bills should be passed. The rules only need one improvement to make them complete in preventing the transaction of public business. If revenue bills could be kept out, except by unanimous consent, we should then be able to do only what Mr. Randall and his friends consider the sole business of Congress—viz., to audit the public accounts, dispute the appropriation bills, and let the rest of public affairs take care of themselves. . . . Most of the present House members were elected in a cyclone. They are sitting around trying to accommodate themselves to a second cyclone, which they fondly hope may re-elect them. They might as well look for the sun at midnight.

LETTING THINGS ALONE.

Ex-Mayor Screven, of Savannah, Ga.—There is scarcely any talk among our people about Presidential candidates. What little there is does not take personalizing form. We are just letting things alone to see what will come of them. The general feeling in politics is a conservative one, whatever direction you look. We are for the best conservative man.

BLAINE'S STRENGTH IN OREGON.

J. B. Montgomery, railroad builder, of Portland, Oregon.—There is no chance of Arthur's nomination, but he will be the last man to see it. He will have the largest vote at first in the convention. But his support is not solid; it wont stay above one or two ballots. It will be Fillmore's history over again. They are going to let Arthur down easy, though. He has made a good President. I believe he would make just as good for another term. But he will get an indorsement without the nomination. Logan hasn't strength enough to secure the nomination. Back of the Edmunds movement is Blaine. The Ohio men who are talking Sherman are for Blaine at heart. So they are all over, when they speak out. I believe Blaine will be the nominee. It is true that he has said, and does say, that he is not a candidate for the nomination. But he has said nothing to prevent his friends from nominating him if they see fit. Blaine can carry Oregon by 4,000 votes. He can carry Nevada and California. No man can keep them away from him. He is the only man who can carry Nevada and California for the Republicans, and that means to secure two United States Senators to succeed Jones and Farley, which otherwise the Democrats will possess. He is the strongest man for Ohio. "Wash." McLean told me that he would have carried it by 15,000 more majority than Hayes, if he had been nominated that year. He can carry the tariff States of New-Jersey and Connecticut. There was some doubt thrown on his ability to carry New-York, but it begins to look as if he could carry New-York on the tariff question, too. Why, out in Oregon Democrats say if Blaine is nominated they have no heart for a canvass against him. I find it so all over. It will not do, this year, to nominate any man who will fail of securing the support of the independents—the Republican independents; for they are Republican through and through.

LACK OF BACKBONE.

Colonel "Gabe" Wharton, of Kentucky.—The Democrats had a splendid chance, if Carlisle and Morrison had been possessed of the backbone to stand up and make the fight. As it is, they have just thrown away another opportunity. Any Republican in the lists can be elected now.

THE NEW WYOMING CHIEF JUSTICE.

John C. Perry, the new Chief Justice of Wyoming Territory.—My commission as Chief Justice has been forwarded from Washington. It bears date March 11, and the appointment is for four years. It is very gratifying, of course, to receive so distinguished an honor, almost, I may say, without an effort on my part. My experience of some years as Assistant United States District-Attorney has familiarized me with Federal law and the practice of the United States Courts. I shall find some novelty in the practice and proceedings, under the Territorial laws. There is an adjourned term in April, and it may be necessary for me to preside at that time. I expect to reside at Cheyenne, and I hear the most gratifying accounts of the salubrity of the climate and of the character of the resident population.

AIDING EX-CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS.

John C. Calhoun, of Arkansas.—I have delayed my departure from New-York to assist General Gordon in his movement to secure funds for a home for ex-Confederate soldiers at Richmond. Some such plan as that proposed is necessary. I have men of my old command writing me every few days of the reopening of their wounds and their need of surgical treatment, which they cannot procure. I am glad to see the spirit shown by the Grand Army of the Republic in taking hold of this matter. It is full time that the old differences were all dropped. The fact is, the soldiers on both sides, who were, indeed, the true men of the country, were the first to drop all differences. It is only croakers who keep up any show of feeling.

THE MEASUREMENT OF THE GREAT PYRAMID.

Charles Latimer, of Cleveland, President International Society for Preserving Weights and Measures.—While we acknowledge the wonderful accuracy of many of the Pyramid measures of William Flinders Petrie, we are obliged to note the bad animus of the man in desiring to overthrow all previous theories and to give the impression that the measures of Piazzi Smyth are at fault. He covers up this last very adroitly by giving the measures only on the pavement, whereas in fact he agrees precisely with the theoretical measures we have given, namely, at the base at its lowest socket, 9139.871258 plus inches. Mr. Petrie went to Egypt with the determined intention of making himself a great measurer and the hero also to overthrow all the theories of Pyramid students. In this he has lamentably failed. He helps us by his measures, because he has established ours beyond controversy. He has made some remarkable measures, but he has not finished the matter by any means. In his measurement for the base he did not do what is absolutely necessary yet to be done before this question is settled; that is, uncover all the sides of the Pyramid clear out from the structure so that we shall see it in its original condition. His measures of the base are made by underground tunnels; but he acknowledges the wonderful accuracy with which the stones were chiselled, so that they could not be proven in error even by a jeweller's straight-edge, the cement not more than one-fiftieth of an inch in thickness, and the stone polished within one-hundredth of an inch, and even less. In the whole length of the base there was probably not more than one-hundredth of an inch error in laying it out. It was to be expected that, with his motives, he would be tripped up on some point, and such has proved to be the case.

WANTING A MAINE MAN.

General Francis Fessenden, of Maine.—I am not in politics in the least degree. Eight years ago I was elected Mayor of my native town, Portland, an honor I most highly appreciated, but that was not politics. I imagine his enemies must be greatly surprised at the favorable turn of affairs for Mr. Blaine. I do not know anything of Maine's sentiment or feeling, but my