THE ACADEMY OF DESIGN.

FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION.

There were no catalogues for yesterday's "private" view, which was really a public one, at the Academy of Design, but a sure means of identifying the paintings was to follow the trails of the numerous varnish pots until they ended in an artist and a picture. When the walls are hung from the floor almost to the ceiling, as has been the case in the south gallery, nothing but a ladder can settle the authorship of "skied" pictures, and the absence of catalogues for this and for other reasons was, in the perennial Mr. Tilden's language, not to be "condoned." Those who had hoped great things of the time-honored "chamber of horrors" felt a gloom like that which envelopes a Southern community after a murder, when they found that not a single picture had been hung in the library. But there was much to raise their spirits when they ascended into the corridor. For example, Mr. V. Tojetti had depicted "the grand old gardener" and his wife in a state of mind because in the absence of Mr. Washington there was no one to explain the cutting down of a tree. Miss Sarah Dobsonhadportrayed at length the horror of a female soothsayer and her young companion at discovering unfavorable omens in the entrails of a fowl. To irreverent observers the expression of the rooster and the *haruspica* recalled the ancient legend of the monkey and the parrot. Over the door at the head of the stairs, and balancing Miss Dobson's heroic work which hangs above the door leading into the south gallery, is a still larger painting by Miss Emma Chadwick. This is presumably called "The Fisherman's Return" and shows the worthy mariner met by his spouse as his boat touches the beach and tossing his child in his arms with such hearty good will that the upper half of his head seems curiously thrown into the background. The remainder of the huge canvas upon which this domestic scene is delineated is occupied by a vivid stretch of water. These are first impressions, and their character is changed on entering the south gallery. For at its east end hangs the portrait of one than whom American art has had no more generous friend—Mr. Julius Hallgarten. It is natural that this portrait should receive a place of honor. We are sure that these hangings of crape represent sincerest mourning, and we think the painting of this portrait must have been to Mr. Huntington a labor of love. He shows us a man still young, the crisp black beard unsilvered with age, the pleasant cultured face almost benignant in its expression, arousing renewed sorrow that Mr. Hallgarten could not have witnessed in life the first award of his prizes. Turning to look along the gallery we find several successful efforts to follow the regular system of making "centres" and hanging pictures of harmonious tones about them, and we find elsewhere that system has been thrown aside and the walls used simply with reference to their storage capacity. There is an abundance of large pictures, several being of colossal dimensions and we can readily conceive that the gentlemen who have fulfilled the thankless duties of the Hanging Committee have had an unusually arduous task. Looking at some of the paintings which have been "skied" or "floored," and at others which appear upon the line, there are many temptations to severe criticism. But let us remember that this is an Academy exhibition, and the pictures of Academicians and Associates naturally have the preference. Over 1,800 paintings were sent in, and a little over 700 have been hung, against 746 last year, 838 in 1882 and about 750 for the two years previous. No doubt the painters of the 1,100 rejected think all manner of hard things of the Hanging Committee. But if a committee of the rejected made up an exhibition from the 1,100 their judgment would be bitterly aspersed by those who were not of the elect. And as there is no gallery in the city where all the 1,100 can be hung, it will apparently be necessary for everybody to keep the peace.

The pictures in this exhibition call for no extended notice. Mr. F. D. Millet sends a portrait of a young lady in creamy white robes, No. 210, painted much in one key and characterized by the harmony usual in Mr. Millet's coloring. Mr. Eastman Johnson contributes a substantial and dignified portrait of Secretary Folger, which hangs in the north gallery, in proximity to a portrait of Robert C. Winthrop, by Mr. Huntington. Mr. B. C. Porter exhibits a portrait of a lady in the east gallery, and in the west Mr. E. H. Blashfield appears as a portrait painter; but we fancy one of his characteristic subjects would have been more warmly received than this. Opposite is a portrait, No. 461, which possesses a certain reminiscent interest. Mr. T. W. Wood, sends a portrait of Joseph Torrey, which will be seen at the west end of the south gallery, and Mr. George H. Story contributes a portrait of Thomas C. Acton. Dr. McCosh, as portrayed by Mr. Eastman Johnson, may safely be left to Princeton alumni for criticism. In the corridor is a large, full length painting by Mr. J. W. Alexander. Whether this is a portrait of a gentleman in masquerade costume, a historical study, or an idealized subject, the absence of a catalogue leaves us no means of knowing. It is painted with peculiarly startling emphasis, and the treatment of the lights gives the figure a fairly spectral appearance. We respect Mr. Alexander's vigor, but we wish he might not inflict it upon us with so much violence. The list of ideal subjects is, as usual, a limited one, and makes little demand upon us at present. There is an "Aurora" by Mr. Maynard who has risen above the floor of the west gallery in her upward flight—not an ungraceful figure of the type with which Mr. Maynard has made us familiar, but in these days of dynamite suggestive of an accelerating explosion. In the same gallery is an idealized head by Mr. Huntington, an Italian subject, of which, as of his portraits, it need only be said that the manner is characteristic. As for Mr. E. H. May, the painter of the damsel in distress pursued by the trapper, opposite in the south gallery, we cannot hope to do justice to his work in an opening article.

Mr. F. D. Millet has one of his classical subjects in the east gallery, a maiden in white, crowned with a chaplet, and holding out a white flower in a manner approaching the statuesque. For the rest of the picture there is a background of marble wall and columns, and the stone pavement is partly covered with tiger skins. Charmingly delicate in color, we repeat again, but we must confess that it is only a superficial pleasure which Mr. Millet gives us. We should like to see less absorption in color and more human interest in Mr. Millet's work. Historical painting, which has become almost a forgotten art among us, is inadequately represented by two marines—battle scenes—by Mr. J. O. Davidson. In this category we might class the "Cromwell and Milton" of Mr. David Neal, a faithful and laborious artist, better known, we dare say, in Munich than in New-York, who exhibits here for the first time, we believe, for many years. This picture, which is numbered 441, and hangs in the west gallery, we shall recur to later. Like Mr. Rosenthal's "Constance de Beverley," it exemplifies a school with which the Parisian sympathies of many of our exhibition goers have little in common. Those who prefer what may be termed intellectual art, will find it worth while to study Mr. Neal's work.

In the landscapes the exhibition more than holds its own. We need not complain of lack of ambitious effort when we find work on such a scale as the late August sunset by Mr. Bruce Crane in the northwest gallery, the Jersey scene, No. 347, by Mr. Bolton Jones, and the large landscape, with oaks in the foreground, No. 312, by Mr. C. H. Miller. And we must take account of the foreign teachings which show in such paintings as the ornately framed and cleverly painted "October," by Mr. H. W. Pearce, the landscape by Mr. C. H. Davis in the south gallery, with its prevalence of French grays, and the examples of Mr. Donoho and Mr. Beggs, all of which present an embarrassing richness of gray tones. Something of the same influences may be detected in various studies by Messrs. Grayson and Platt, both of whom we would have been glad to see at a more favorable distance. It is unfortunate that Mr. Wyant is so weakly represented as in No. 262.

Messrs. Murphy, George H. Smith and Tryon send good landscape work, and we find Mr. Minor well to the fore in the number of his pictures, one of which, at the east end of the south gallery, impresses us more forcibly than his large landscape. Messrs. Robbins, Whittredge, Bristol and Cropsey are to be counted upon, as usual. Mr. Nicoll sends a large and careful shore view, No. 63.

Of the marines we can only say that there are examples by Messrs. Quartley, De Haas, Edward and Thomas Moran and W. T. Richards. Mr. Harry Chase, we are glad to see, has chosen a home subject, and painted a scene off the Battery. Mr. Winslow Homer sends a dramatic painting which depicts the saving of life from a wreck—a man clasping a fainting woman in his arms suspended just above the seething waves, from a rope stretched from the lost vessel to the shore. We think Mr. Homer has painted nothing bolder and more individual than this, and his faults are those of a self-assertive and perhaps a headstrong personality. We recall few flower pieces,—one by Mr. Weir, in the corridor, and another, No. 221, in the south gallery. This brings to mind an excellent painting of a young mother watching her infant, No. 135, by Mr. Weir, which we had overlooked.

Although we count the landscapes as presenting fuller and more varied elements of interest than the portraits and marines, it is not surprising to find that the interest of the landscapes is overshadowed at present by the figure pieces. Of these we can only mention those which, after the necessarily limited opportunities of yesterday, we think will best reward attention. They are the work of Messrs. Moeller, Woolf, Ulrich, Weldon, Juengling and Miller. It is only within a year, we believe, that Mr. Moeller has begun to exhibit publicly, and he has already given us some surprises. But he has done nothing so admirable, we may even say wonderful, as the painting of the figure in his little picture at the west end of the south gallery. He shows a man, evidently a scholar, well on in years, thin and gray, seated easily beside a table in a pleasantly furnished room. This is a subject which might readily be treated with the coldest literalism. But Mr. Moeller has achieved two distinguished successes. He makes us feel the character of his subject. This is much, for in the half-pathetic, half-quizzical, weary, refined face of the subject the artist has caught some subtle shades of character which might well have been overlooked. In his technique Mr. Moeller shows so masterly a skill that we can hardly believe him still comparatively a beginner. Things painting in miniature, but it is characterized by breadth and strength. The delicacy and precision of the brush work on the head, the firmness of the modelling, lightness and freedom of the touch, even in the details of wrinkles and hairs, leave little to be desired. There is a sense of substance within the clothing, and the colors of background and accessories are well harmonized, but these merits and the possible defect of imperfect rendering of textures seem to us less important than the success of a detail painter in entirely subordinating details to the expression of his leading idea, here the personality of his subject.

In one essential quality we think Mr M. A. Woolf's "How it Happened," No. 57, is the most successful of the figure compositions. The artist has told his story directly and simply. There is the gesticulating woman telling "how it happened," there is the boy with bandaged hand beside her to show what "it" is, and there is the audience of sympathetic neighbors who help to enlist our interest as outside spectators. In his treatment of facial expression Mr. Woolf seems to us to have acquitted himself well. We might think at first that he had repeated himself a little, but after all these expressions are as individual as one could look for in his characters. Technically, the artist has worked with unexpected freedom, but we fancy his technique will be improved in the course of time. That his coloring is not especially happy may be partly explained by the limitations of his subject. It is worth while to compare with this the example of unsuccessful story telling by Mr. Weldon in the south gallery. The story is, we believe, that a young widow goes to pawn her wedding dress. Naturally we are prepared to feel for her the deepest sympathy and interest. Mr. Weldon puts the dress before us as the most conspicuous object, which is well enough, and then distracts our attention from the figure of the widow by Oriental rugs on the counter, and piles of rich stuffs which quite stare the black robed figure out of countenance. Aside from this we cannot see in the pose of the figure and the glimpse of the face any adequate expression of the emotion which might be expected at such a terrible moment. On the contrary the widow seems quite unconcerned and the old merchant, whose face and figure are full of character, manifests by far the livelier interest in the proceedings. Mr. Juengling says the little he has to say in a much more direct fashion, for the office chair and the "ticker" are quite sufficient explanation of the character and time of the room invaded by the cleverly rendered old pedler.

Mr. Ulrich in his scene in Castle Garden has put his least successful figure in the immediate foreground, which may explain in part the disappointment which this picture can but cause. First we find a young woman of the peasant class nursing her baby. It is hard to see how any play of lights can explain the hot and "mussy" coloring of her face or the chalky effects on the face of that remarkable infant. Next her an old Prussian smokes his long pipe phlegmatically casting an appreciative glance in her direction. This is an expressive well-rendered figure and these qualities belong to the young fellow in the round hat just behind the woman, and to the old man in line with the smoker. But next the latter is a young fellow whose face again shows lurid coloring curiously mingled with shadow. No ocean voyage would impart such hot and angry color as Mr. Ulrich depicts here, and even if he found it, he might have sacrificed some literalism to his picture. The young man with spectacles on the left and the bottle and tinware on the floor are extremely well done. We are anxious to recognize all the merits of a painter who has done extremely meritorious work, but we find other lapses beside the coloring. In portions of this picture, notably in the face and figure of the young woman and child, the delicate precision which we have noted in his smaller works is lacking and in its place we see a marked coarseness. The reason for this we fancy is that Mr. Ulrich has not yet adjusted himself to the demands of subjects treated upon a larger scale than is his custom. Much excellent painting there is in this picture, but we leave it with a feeling of disappointment. And another disappointment meets us in the absence of Mr. Kappes, whom we had counted upon for a valuable contribution to the figure studies.

MUSIC.

THE ARION SOCIETY.

More than ordinary interest centred in the concert of the Männergesangverein Arion at Steinway Hall last night from the fact that it introduced a new musical director to the New-York public. It was through the efforts of the Arion that Dr. Damrosch was brought to this country, and it will be a reason for congratulation if the new conductor takes an equal part with his predecessor in the cultivation of the musical art. The success of his first concert, and the welcome which he received at the hands of the public, ought to stimulate him to put forth his best endeavors.

The new leader is Frank van der Stucken, a typical strong-bodied, light-haired young German. He has been in this city about two months, and his energy and skill as a leader were attested by his success last night. He was, we believe, born in Texas, but removed to Germany at an extremely early age. His musical education is of the best, and he has held the position of assistant Kapellmeister in several theatres in small German cities. He composed several pieces, and has succeeded in getting his name in a publisher's catalogue though he is still a young man. He is undemonstrative in manner while conducting, but firm in his beat, and perfectly composed.

The programme which the society presented was an interesting one, nearly all of the compositions being novelties, two of them having Herr van der Stucken as author. These were a setting for male chorus of one of the songs in Goethe's Wilhelm Meister, and some incidental music to Shakespeare's "Tempest." The former was a matter of little moment, the latter an ambitious and somewhat daring essay. The numbers performed did not afford an opportunity to judge of the poetical depth of Herr van der Stucken's gift, for there was no overture in which in these latter days we expect a summing up of the contents of a drama, and three of the five pieces were dances. The first was the incantation in Act III, Scene 3, followed by a dance of gnomes; the second was melodramatic music introducing the marriage in Act IV, Scene 1; the third fourth and fifth were a dance of reapers, a dance of nymphs and the pursuit of *Caliban*, in the same scene. The music, while ingenious, and containing evidences of skill of a high order, is lacking in lightness and grace, and does not escape the charge of being strongly suggestive at times of other compositions.

The concert was opened with an overture composed by Raff for Genast's "Bernhard von Weimar," a drama dealing with the "Thirty Years' War. In it a pompous use of Luther's chorale melody "Ein'feste Burg" is made. Mr. Jacob Graff and Mr. Franz Remmertz were the solo singers of the concert.

MR. AND MRS. HENSCHEL'S RECITALS.

Mr. and Mrs. Georg Henschel gave the first of two song recitals at Chickering Hall last night. We have heretofore described these entertainments by the artist couple and expressed our high appreciation of their artistic excellence. The recital of last night did not differ from its predecessors, and was exceedingly praiseworthy for the exposition it gave of artistic singing. It was listened to by a fine audience.

METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE.

There was a second substituion at the Opera House last night, "Carmen" being given instead of "Lucia di Lammermoor," which latter opera had been substituted for "Romeo and Juliet." The cause of this second change was the indisposition of Mme. Sembrich. The cast in "Carmen" was the same as at its former representation this season, and Signor Campanini being in good voice, the performance was spirited and excellent.

This afternoon "Mignon" will be given with Mme. Nilsson in the title role.

CAPTURING TWO SIMPLE BURGLARS.

HOW DR. W. L. RANNEY HELD THE AREAWAY—A HOUSEKEEPER WHO WAS NOT FRIGHTENED.

Dr. Walter L. Ranney and his housekeeper were the only inmates of the brownstone, English basement house No. 14 West Thirty-second-st. on Thursday night, the three servants having been allowed to stay out for the night; an uncommon occurrence. The housekeeper's bedroom is on the first floor. About half-past 3 yesterday morning she heard a noise as if some one were knocking on the door leading from the basement to the first floor. She called out to know who it was and received answer that it was the Doctor. Not at all deceived by the reply she aroused Doctor Ranney, who was sleeping up-stairs, and he, after a quiet examination, was convinced that there were burglars in the house. He turned on the district messenger alarm, and to his disgust, was sent a hatless man without a weapon of any kind. Meanwhile the burglars had time to come out of the basement, by the areaway and had been driven back by the Doctor, who stood guard on the sidewalk and threatened to shoot them. He had no pistol but pointed his finger sternly at the men.

Policeman Smith of the West Thirtieth-st. station, finally arrived and a descent was made into the basement, which was so dark that the party stumbled over the bundles left on the floor. When the gas was lit a man was discovered sitting on the servant's bed. He vowed that he was alone and didn't know, he said, how he came to be there. When the officer pulled a companion from under the bed, the man on the bed expressed the greatest astonishment. They had gained access to the house by way of the coal hole, breaking the glass in the door. They had no tools of any kind, but they found a lamp which they lit, and a hatchet with which they were trying to open the first floor door, when the housekeeper was aroused.

The prisoners gave the names of Frederick Lee, of No. 39 Varick-st., and Charles Martin, of No. 37 Bowery. Lee is an old offender, just out of the penitentiary. At the Jefferson Market Police Court Dr. Ranney preferred a charge of burglary against them, and Justice Patterson held them in $1,500 bail each.

OBITUARY.

WILLIAM P. SEELEY.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

BREWSTERS, N. Y., April 4.—William P. Seeley, president of the Pahquioque National Bank, Danbury, Conn., died this morning. He was attacked with anglina pectoris at the breakfast table, and expired immediately upon being taken to his room. Many years ago he was proprietor of the National Hotel, in Cortlandt-st., New-York, the Franklin Hotel, Chambers-st., New-York, and the Clarendon Hotel, Buffalo. He was born on October 19, 1815.

OBITUARY NOTES.

Francis H. Dawes died at his house, No. 269 Mulberry-st., Newark, at midnight on Thursday, of a congestive chill. Mr. Dawes was formerly City Auditor of Newark. He first served as secretary to Mayor Peddie and was elected Auditor in 1867, which position he held until 1877, when he was succeeded by Frederick A. Palmer, who afterward proved a defaulter and was sent to State Prison. Of late Mr. Dawes has filled positions in various financial institutions, and was employed by Newark and Harrison to examine the records of public officials. He was an active Republican, about sixty years old, and he leaves a wife and five children.

CINCINNATI, April 4.—William Proctor, senior member of the firm of Proctor & Gamble, soap and candle manufacturers, died this morning at his home, at Garfield-place and Eighth-st., this city, in his eighty-third year.

BERLIN, April 4.—The death of Gustav Richter, the painter, is announced.

WASHINGTON, April 4.—The War Department is informed that paymaster J. A. Brodhead died at Boston yesterday, from a sudden attack of pneumonia. Paymaster Brodhead recently became insane on account of troubles arising from the theft of Government money in his charge, and had just reached home at Boston from his station at Tucson, Ariz.

THE POLITICAL FIELD.

MR. PAYNE NOT A CANDIDATE.

DR. MUNFORD REAFFIRMS THE TRUTH OF HIS STATEMENT.

WASHINGTON, April 4.—In an interview in *The Post* to-day Dr. Munford, of *The Kansas City Times* said the statement purporting to come from him regarding Senator-elect Payne, of Ohio, not being a candidate for President was authentic. "I am well acquainted with Colonel Payne, son of the Senator-elect," he said "having been thrown with him in a voyage to Liverpool last summer. We then talked a good deal of politics and he told me of a good many things that have since come to pass in Ohio. After his father's election, I wrote him a congratulatory letter in which I hinted at the possible availability of his father as a Presidential candidate. In course of time he replied thanking me personally and also for what *The Times* had said in defence of his father against illadvised and unjust attacks. In that letter he stated that his father would not be a candidate for President, but as he did not say he would not accept the nomination if tendered him, I, like everybody else, was of the opinion he would and that his friends and family would be very glad to have him nominated. I met Colonel Payne in New-York last Friday and had a long and confidential talk with him on the subject. To my surprise and disappointment Colonel Payne then not only reiterated what he had written me but assured me in the most positive manner that not only was his father not a candidate, but that he would not accept the nomination if he knew he could receive it without effort, and was assured of election afterward."

INDEPENDENT REPUBLICAN DOINGS.

WORK IN NEW-YORK AND MISSOURI—THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ASKED TO "PUT UP."

The secretary of the Independent Republican Conference Committee was nearly stricken dumb yesterday by the proposals made to him by a colored gentleman. The visitor gave his name as J. A. Emerson, and represented himself as a journalist. He told Mr. Allerton that he was one of the prime movers in arranging a convention of colored persons soon to be held at Pittsburg, at which it was proposed to demand recognition from the two great parties in the way of offices for members of their race. If they did not get recognition from Republicans they would go over to the Democrats, he said. Then he intimated that if the Independent Republican Conference would "put up" the convention might easily be run in the Independent Republican interest.

H. W. Frost, treasurer of the Attica Mills, Attica, N. Y., wrote to the committee, inclosing a circular, calling on Independents to attend the local caucuses for the selection of delegates. In the circular is this sentence: "The primaries will determine the character of the National Convention. Elect good delegates and we may hope for a Presidential nomination that will assure party harmony and the election of the party's candidate. Injudicious selections are likely to produce disruption and defeat. Remember the State elections and Cleveland's majority in 1882. The Independents are as earnest now as then, and may vote another protest of the same character unless reform is guaranteed." Mr. Frost says: "I have this morning mailed these circulars to 229 Republicans; have also talked with a number of Independents, and find a general sentiment in favor of active measures. I cannot forecast the result of our endeavors, but am hopeful of victory. The machine men are working hard and have the advantage of long experience and wider connections. But young and warm blood may tell in the end."

Henry Hitchcock, the St. Louis attorney, wrote to the committee concerning the primaries as follows: "I regret to say that in consequence of the apparent apathy of the anti-Filley Republicans, the Filley party succeeded, so far as this city is concerned, in electing delegates from a majority of the wards to the State Convention to be held at Sedalia on the 9th of April; and also, I believe, to the Congressional District conventions. The only consolation in the matter was that Mr. Filley himself was beaten in his own ward. As to the state at large, returns have not yet come in fully enough to show the result; but I understand that while Filley delegates were elected from here and there, the large majority of the State Convention from the country districts will be anti-Filley. I confess that I had anticipated a better result in this city and that it was not attained simply shows that the characteristic apathy of 'the better element' here as elsewhere, is our greatest difficulty."

SHERIFF DAVIDSON DECLINES OFFICE.

The Irving Hall Executive Committee met last evening for the purpose of effecting a permanent organization for the year. The nominating committee reported the following ticket: A. V. Davidson, chairman; John Callahan, vice-chairman; John K. Perley and Joseph G. McDonough, secretaries; Nicholas Haughton, treasurer; John J. Twomey, sergeant-at-arms. Sheriff Davidson declined to allow his name to be used. Strong appeals were made to him by John Callahan, Anthony Hartman and John N. Lewis to reconsider his determination. He said, however, that he was accused of a crime of which he was innocent, but until he was declared so by a jury he would not accept any position. Elliott Sandford was then nominated instead and the ticket was unanimously chosen.

TAMMANY PREPARING FOR CHICAGO.

The Tammany committee on organization met last evening and considered the question of attending the Democratic State and National Conventions. The districts were called from the 1st to the XXIVth. Every leader spoke in favor of going to Chicago, by special train, with music, flags, and the requisite refreshments. Each gave the probable number of men of his association who would go. It was estimated that they would number in all 500. There was some question whether it was worth while to attend the State Convention in a body, but it was finally deemed desirable to go there also in a special train. William H. Moloney, Thomas F. Grady, John F. Carroll, James J. Martin and John J. Gorman were appointed a committee to arrange for the trips.

A SPLIT AT PITTSBURG.

PITTSBURG, April 4.—The XXIId Congressional District Republican Convention, called to choose delegates to the National Convention, resulted to-day in a split and the election of two sets of delegates. The Blaine men refused to go into the convention unless their delegates from the IVth Legislative District, who, they said, had been legally elected, were recognized. This the convention refused to do, and the Blaine faction withdrew to the citizens' headquarters, where they organized and elected Jacob F. Slagle and Joseph D. Weeks delegates to the National Convention. The regulars also organized, after the withdrawal of the Blaine men, and elected C. L. Magee and William Flinn. Both sets of delegates will go to Chicago and demand recognition. Magee and Flinn were not instructed but, it is understood, will support President Arthur.

The Republican convention of the XXIIId Congressional District to-day elected Thomas M. Bayne and E. M. Byers delegates to the National Republican Convention. The delegates are instructed to support Blaine for the Presidency.

A CHAT WITH EX-PRESIDENT HAYES.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

CLEVELAND, April 4.—Ex-President Hayes was in the city to-day, and visited the Cleveland Bench show. In conversation he said: "I came to town this morning and will go away to-night. I am not particularly interested in dog shows, but thought, while I was in the city, I might as well see all there is to be seen.

"Do you think the Republican party will——?"

"No—I can't say as I do," interrupted the ex-President, as a sad, far-away look stole into his offices. "I don't take much interest in politics of late years, and have no opinions to express."

DEMOCRATS RETICENT ON THE TARIFF.

PHILADELPHIA, April 4.—*The Times* recently addressed all the chairmen of the Democratic County Committees of Pennsylvania, asking answers to the following questions: "Who is the favorite of the Democrats of your County for President? Do the Democrats of your County generally favor a tariff with incidental protection, or a tariff for revenue only?" Of the sixty-seven chairmen in the State sixty had replied to-night, fifty of whom unhesitatingly declared Randall to be their choice for President, and the others declaring for Tilden or Randall. Only one county mentions any other candidate—Greene County declaring for Hancock. Most of the replies favor a tariff with incidental protection, though many of them simply express the choice for President without referring to the tariff question.

REPUBLICAN STATE DELEGATES.

UTICA, April 4.—At Cooperstown to-day the Republicans of the 1st District of Otsego County elected Samuel S. Edick, Ogden Beach and H. C. Brockway delegates to the State Convention. The IId District delegates are Walter Brown, Chester Cord and William Talbot. At Herkimer the Republican County Convention elected the following State delegates: Warner Miller, Titus Sheard, Dr. H. A. France, Byron Paine and John M. Budlong.

DELEGATES FROM SCHOHARIE COUNTY.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

COBLESKILL, April 4.—At the Schoharie County Republican Convention to-day twelve delegates to the Congressional District Convention at Cooperstown next Friday and themes to the State Convention, were elected. They are opposed to the Administration.

NOT A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 4.—Senator Miller to-day sent a dispatch from Washington to the Republican State Central Committee absolutely declining the Presidential candidacy.

THE CITY REFORM CLUB.

The City Reform Club last evening resolved to take an active part in the approaching Presidential campaign. Francis M. Scott advocated the passage of a bill by the Assembly providing that the Mayoralty election shall take place in June of the present year, and it was decided to appoint a committee to draft such a bill.

FOR THE STRONGEST MAN.

Ex-State Controller Ira Davenport, who was at the Coleman House yesterday, but started last evening for his home, said to a TRIBUNE reporter: "I am going up to see that I don't get left at the caucuses. I don't know for what I am a candidate, but I don't want to be defeated, of course. Whom am I for for President? Why, the strongest man, you may be sure. I'm going to wait and see who that is before I decide. I hear a good many Republicans say they will not vote for Blaine. I do not hear any say they will not vote for Edmunds."

THROUGH NEW-YORK STATE.

ALLEGED INSURANCE FRAUDS.

CHARGING LARGE TRANSFERS OF LOSSES—A PECULIAR AND COMPLICATED CASE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

BUFFALO, April 4.—A sensation was caused to-day in insurance and business circles by the announcement of the arrest of Lorenzo Dimick, of the late insurance agency firm of Crosby & Dimick. There are three actions pending against Dimick. The first one is by the Insurance Company of the State of Pennsylvania, bail fixed at $10,000; second by the Thames and Mersey Insurance Company, bail $40,000; third by the Union Insurance Company, of Philadelphia, bail $30,000. Mr. Dimick being too sick for removal from his house, an officer was stationed there. The companies allege that Dimick converted $80,000 in premiums from those companies to the Continental of New-York. Rumors have placed the amount involved as high as $100,000. The suits were brought at the instance of A. S. MacDonald, manager in New-York of the Thames and Mersey Company of London, England. He and Treadwell Cleveland, of the New-York law firm of Evarts, Southmayd & Choate, have been in Buffalo several days looking into the matter. The suits were brought and the order of arrest granted on two moving affidavits sworn to by Louis P. Nickerson and Louis J. Neff, both of whom were clerks in Crosby & Dimick's office, and are now employed by Mr. Crosby. Mr. Nickerson, in his affidavit, says: "A number of times, perhaps a score of times, I should say, certificates of insurance have been issued in the name of the Thames and Mersey Company and the premiums were credited to another company. So far as I know, the premiums in such cases were credited to the Continental Insurance Company. In a number of cases, after the notice had been received by Crosby & Dimick of a loss in which a policy had been issued by the Continental Company, a reinsurance was made in one or all of the three other companies of which Crosby & Dimick were agents, the State, of Pennsylvania, the Union, of Philadelphia, and the Thames and Mersey, thus throwing the losses of the Continental on the other companies after the losses had occurred. These reinsurances were generally made by Richard Dimick. He was a clerk who kept the general agency register of the Continental Company, and is a brother of Lorenzo Dimick. The deponent was repeatedly told by Lorenzo Dimick that his brother Richard was at work for him and was directed by him repeatedly not to give information of the affairs of the firm to Thomas C. Crosby."

Mr. Nickerson asserts that he has heard Lorenzo Dimick order Richard to make the reinsurances. Neff, in his affidavit, testifies to substantially the same state of affairs and says that reinsurances were made after losses were known. He says that Dimick told him to tell MacDonald, New-York manager of the Thames and Mersey, that in one $5,000 insurance the delay was due to a clerical error. Crosby now has the general agency of all the companies except the Continental. There was some strife between the two partners as to who should get the Thames and Mersey, and Mr. Crosby together with Mr. MacDonald went to Europe. Ex-Assistant Police Superintendent Dimick went to England in the interest of Lorenzo Dimick, but MacDonald's influence prevailed in favor of Crosby. One of Dimick's friends to-day said: "There is something very curious about the matter and it seems strange to me that a man far gone with consumption should be the wicked partner. Why, he was unable to drag himself to the office half the time and Crosby is a robust man. Although Crosby's home is in Chicago he was here nearly all of last summer, and should have known everything that was going on in the office. The percentage paid by the three complaining companies was 25 per cent, while the Continental only paid 20 per cent. You see Dimick would have lost 5 per cent for all the insurance he took away from the others and gave to the Continental." Crosby states that he knows very little about the matter, but admits that the case is extremely complicated. Henry W. Rose, counsel for the defence, said to him: "I think Mr. Dimick will come out all right. There are some circumstances in the case which are very peculiar. There was no reason why Mr. Dimick should do the things charged against him, for he would have lost 5 per cent on the premiums, and the companies would have discovered it very quickly."

Mr. Dimick was arrested in Buffalo on Thursday on a warrant issued by Justice Donohue, of the Supreme Court, in this city on Monday, and he was held in $80,000.

Mr. Cleveland said last evening, regarding the matter: "I wish to state explicitly that there is no charge against Captain Crosby, who is a man of integrity. Captain Crosby has already brought a suit for the dissolution of the firm, and on Tuesday he was appointed receiver of the firm's assets at the request of the companies moving against Mr. Dimick."

ACCIDENTALLY SHOT BY HER HUSBAND.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

POUGHKEEPSIE, April 4.—Edward House living in the south part of the town of North East, Dutchess County, shot his wife yesterday and killed her. The details could only be obtained from the husband, as there was no other witness. He said that he stood in the door of his house shooting at a mark with a small Remington rifle. The door opens on a long piazza. To the right of it is a window, also leading out on the piazza. Looking through this window he saw his wife standing near the house, ten or fifteen feet away. He raised the rifle and aiming at the target pulled the trigger. At the same instant his wife ran by, bent over and with her head down as if to get it below the muzzle of the rifle. But the ball entered near the top of her forehead, and, passing downward, lodged in the throat. She died in a few hours without having regained consciousness. An investigation was made by Coroner Cole, and a verdict of death by accident was ordered.

SHOOTING HER VISITOR BY ACCIDENT.

BINGHAMTON, April 4.—Miss Celia Nobles, a young lady from Jamestown, N. Y., visiting relatives named Clark at West Colesville, twelve miles from this city, accidentally shot a young gentleman caller, named E. Roach, age twenty-one, through the neck with a revolver. The two had been firing at a target. Roach will probably die. The young lady is nearly frantic. Both of the young people are widely known and are much respected.

THE CHICAGO MARKET STILL FALLING.

RUMORS, GOSSIP AND EXCITEMENT—REPORTS OF FINE CROP PROSPECTS.

CHICAGO, April 4.—The grain market went up and down like a boat in a big sea. The range on May wheat was 3 cents a bushel and on May corn 2 cents. There were rumors of failures here and reports of panics abroad. There was a terrific time among buyers and sellers, while there was a little sign of relief at the close. Traders went home to-night anxious and full of doubts and fears. On all sides the conviction is growing that a panic full of all the dire things which accompany panics may not be avoided. Wheat to-day at 81¾ cents for May and 77⅞ cents for cash looked weaker than the same grain did a few months ago. Some gossip was started in the morning before the opening by the announcement of the dissolution of the firm of Robert Lindbloom & Co. The fact is that there arose between the partners a difference as to policy which compelled a dissolution, but with the facts not known and with so sudden a disruption of so prominent a concern it was not surprising that there should be some talk. This incident, however, was only one of a half-dozen which helped to make a very weak opening. The magnificent spring weather and reports of splendid crop progress were not the least of them. May wheat opened excitedly at 84¼ cents, about where it closed last night. It sold almost immediately down to 83¾ cents, going down along with corn and being influence among other things by the raid on provisions. After pork had touched 16.05 for May there was a concerted buying by all the great provision concerns and prices about all the pits reacted sharply. At this time May wheat touched the top figure for the day, 84½ cents, and corn for the same month sold up to 53½. But the spurt was a short one. Prices soon after broke and the lowest figures and the most threatening markets for the day were seen. Messrs. Field, Lindley & Co. received a private cable, which they exhibited, and which said that the grain trade in London was upon the verge of a panic, and that some very heavy people were involved. The private cable had not been verified up to the close of 'Change here, but it had a woful effect. It fairly threw the market into a panic, raised rumors of failure, and very possibly did do damage which may not be repairable.

May wheat toppled and fell from 84½ down to 81½. May corn from 53½ to 51¾. Pork, which had risen out of its little panic of the morning, was thrown down again, and the May option sold down to $16.05, while May lard sold as low as $8.35. Then came reports of embarrassments. Three very prominent houses were mentioned, but there was no truth in any of the rumors. At 10 o'clock things had a little recovered, but corn, wheat and produce were in the slough, and things looked very blue. On the call there was a large trade, two million and a half million bushels of wheat and a million bushels of corn going on the Secretary's books. There was a rally of a full cent in wheat and of nearly a cent in corn. The trading was wild and buyers and sellers did not stand as they do usually on eighths and quarters. May wheat closed at 83¼c. May corn at 52⅝c. The grain market is an enigma. The old hopes are being abandoned. Those who thought wheat cheap last December at $1.08 and who bought for the January figure which never came, believe now that the country has lost its export trade for good and that Western farmers need never expect above 75 cents for No. 2 spring at Chicago. May pork closed to-night at 16.25, May lard at 8.40. The former at one time was down to 16.05, the latter down to 8.32½. The uncertainty as to the situation still continues. The buying, however, in immense quantities by the great packers, by Armour and by traders for Cudahy has strengthened the conservatives in the view that the long carrying this product is amply able to hold the burden and to overwhelm the short sellers. The mess pork is an exact quantity, 186,000 barrels, about 100,000 barrels less than the stock in the first half of last year. It is conceded that John Cudahy and Mr. Plankinton could pay for this product without borrowing. Those who are in the best position to know declare that the present break has been allowed if not engineered for the purpose of getting in a vast line of "shorts."

The report of the failure of Lindblom & Co. caused much excitement on the Produce Exchange yesterday, which was followed by a general decline in grain. Wheat fell off from 1 to 1½ cents a bushel, corn from 1½ to 1 cent a bushel and oats from ½ to ¾ of a cent a bushel. With the decline shippers felt more encouraged, and there was more of a disposition to buy for export at lower prices.

OVER A HUNDRED LIVES LOST

(Continued from First Page.)

line steamer Pommerania, while on her voyage to New-York, was run down and sunk by the Moel Eilian, a sailing vessel, near Dover, England. The night was dark, and the Pommerania sank in about twenty minutes from the time she was struck. In spite of the darkness and confusion five boats were successfully launched, and out of 227 persons on board all were saved except thirty-seven of the passengers and eighteen of the crew. Captain Swenson, who commanded the Pommerania, distinguished himself by his bravery and coolness and was saved.

On September 3, 1878, the excursion steamer Princess Alice, while returning from Gravesend to London, was run down off Bar King, by the Bywell Castle. There were about 800 passengers on board, and about 600 were lost, most of them being women and children.

On May 31, 1878, in clear weather and a calm sea, the German ironclad Grosser Kurfurst was struck off Folkstone, in the English Channel, by the ironclad Konig Wilhelm, a member of the same fleet. She sank almost immediately, nearly 300 lives being lost by the collision.

In 1873 occurred the loss of the French steamship Ville du Havre. She sailed from this port for Havre on November 15. Shortly after leaving port she entered a dense fog which lasted five days. On November 22, with the night clear, she was run into by the English ship Loch Earn and sank in twenty minutes. This disaster cost the loss of 227 lives.

At midnight on January 23, 1873, the emigrant ship Northfleet, with 412 passengers on board, was run down in the English channel by a Spanish vessel, which made no attempt to save any of the passengers. In this disaster 325 persons were drowned.

On April 27, 1863, the Anglo-Saxon, another British mail steamer, was lost in a dense fog on the reef of Cape Race, Newfoundland, only 237 out of 446 persons being