Amusements To-Night.

BIJOU OPERA HOUSE—8—Blue Beard.
CASINO—8—"Falka."
DALY'S THEATRE—8—"A Night in Venice."
EDEN MUSEE—Waxworks.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE—8—Siberia.
HORTICULTURAL HALL—8—Geranium Show.
MADISON SQUARE THEATRE—8:30—"May Blossom."
MADISON SQUARE GARDEN—Dog Show.
NEW-YORK COMEDY THEATRE—8—Random Shot.
NIBLO'S GARDEN—8—"Pygmalion and Galatea."
POLO GROUNDS—Baseball.
STAR THEATRE—8—Bleak House.
TWALIA THEATRE—8—Die Geier Wally.
THEATRE COMIQUE—2 and 8—"Dan's Tribulations."
TONY PASTOR'S THEATRE—2 and 8—Minstrels.
WALLACK'S THEATRE—8—"She Stoops to Conquer."
3D AVENUE THEATRE—8—"The Shaughraun."
5TH AVENUE THEATRE—8—"Skipped by the Light of the Moon."
14TH STREET THEATRE—8—Irish Aristocracy.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

NEW-YORK, TUESDAY, MAY 6.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—General Gordon has sent a dispatch to the British Minister in Egypt explaining the situation in the Soudan. ═══ Irish Invincibles were on trial yesterday in Sligo. ═══ A large number of Nihilists have been arrested in Russia. ═══ Trouble has arisen between France and Morocco. ═══ Lord Randolph Churchill and other Conservatives intend to form a new party.

CONGRESS.—In the Senate yesterday the Agricultural Appropriation bill was reported with amendments. Bills were introduced to prevent the acquisition of real estate by aliens, and to restrict alien ownership of public lands. The debate on the Shipping bill was continued. ═══ The House decided the Virginia contested election case of O'Ferrall against Paulin favor of O'Ferrall, who was sworn as a member.

DOMESTIC.—Several decisions of importance were rendered yesterday by the United State Supreme Court. ═══ S. L. Hardy, the prisoner who escaped from the jail in Nottoway Court House, Va., was captured. ═══ A Salvation Army wedding occurred in Poughkeepsie. ═══ The trial of Frederick Cephas for the murder of Celia Bush was begun in Cambridge, Md. ═══ Most of the forest fires were extinguished by rains. ═══ One man was badly hurt by striking rioters in Buffalo. ═══ The Boston organ was sold.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.—Judge Wallace decided yesterday that Commissioner Duncan had no right to divide the entire receipts of his office among his sons as salaries. ═══ There was a great crowd at the reception in the new Produce Exchange building. ═══ Henry I. Hart & Co. failed with liabilities of $200,000. ═══ The New-York and Brooklyn baseball nines defeated the Detroit and Washington teams respectively. ═══ Elbridge T. Gerry and Inspector Murray testified before the Roosevelt Committee. ═══ Final preparations for the dog show were made. ═══ William H. Fogg's will was admitted to probate. ═══ The Hinsdale divorce suit was postponed until Monday. ═══ A memorial has been sent to Congress making complaint against the Appraiser of the Port. ═══ Gold value of the legal-tender silver dollar (412½ grains), 84.86 cents. ═══ Stocks opened generally weak and declined, but later advanced and closed excited.

THE WEATHER—TRIBUNE local observations indicate cloudy or partly cloudy weather, with slight changes in temperature and occasional light rain. Temperature yesterday: Highest, 71°; lowest, 54°; average, 60¾°.

Persons leaving town for the season, and summer travellers, can have THE DAILY TRIBUNE *mailed to them, postpaid, for 75 cents per month, the address being changed as often as desired.* THE DAILY TRIBUNE *will be sent to any address in Europe for $1 35 per month, which includes the ocean postage.*

Secretary Teller has written a sensible letter in regard to the proper functions of Indian schools. He holds that it is of the first importance to teach the Indians how to care for themselves intelligently. Instruction is of little use unless it carries with it the ability to supply the physical wants. But the Indian schools were established to carry out the ideas expressed in the Secretary's letter. It is to be hoped that they have not been diverted to other uses, as the Secretary would seem to imply.

The scheme for a railway along the backbone of the continent, to connect this country and the Argentine Republic, has been received in Congress. A bill to provide for the appointment of a commission to investigate the subject is to be reported by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. There is no harm in getting the fullest information on such a startling subject. But while we have Ministers and Consuls in all the countries concerned, there appears to be little need of a commission for such a purpose.

While the Legislature has been dallying with the question of limiting the height of new buildings, the Aldermen have suddenly awakened to the importance of the subject, and yesterday passed an ordinance in regard to it. They propose to limit the height of new buildings to sixty feet in streets less than sixty feet in width, and to seventy feet in streets of greater width. It is doubtful whether the Aldermen have any such power, even providing the Mayor approves the proposed ordinance. In wide streets, or facing squares, when a building is made strictly fire-proof there does not seem to be any call for a limitation of its height.

At last the practice of Shipping Commissioner Duncan, in dividing each year among his sons the entire receipts of his office, has been brought to an end. In prescribing regulations for the future administration of the office, Judge Wallace severely censures Mr. Duncan and cites him to show cause why he should not be removed from office. It is surprising that such objectionable proceedings have been allowed to continue for so many years, although attention has been frequently called to them in the newspapers. Judge Wallace expresses the opinion that "his predecessors were undoubtedly misled by a plausible presentation of the facts on the part of the Commissioner." It is only another evidence of the difficulty in reforming a thoroughly rooted abuse in a public office. The same kind of plausibility that continued Commissioner Duncan in office has served to shield such a faithless city official as Commissioner Thompson, although the abuses in his department have been far worse than those in the Shipping Office.

The way in which a worthy act can be counterbalanced by a bad one, was well illustrated last night in the State Senate. After approving the proposed constitutional amendment restricting the indebtedness of cities and limiting the tax rate, the Senate passed "Tim" Campbell's ridiculous bill, authorizing the Police Commissioners to appoint 500 additional patrolmen. If this bill becomes law it will add over $600,000 to the city's burdens. Already the Legislature has added nearly a million dollars to the city's expense account, by increasing the pay of policemen and appropriating twenty-five per cent of the excise moneys for the benefit of the Police Pension Fund. The Fire Department bill to the same purpose will probably pass. It is time to halt in such work. The folly of the Campbell bill is self evident, as the Board of Estimate now has the power to authorize the appointment of additional patrolmen. Does the Legislature know more about the city's needs in that respect than its authorized representatives in the Board of Estimate. In one year the Police Board appointed a much larger number of patrolmen than were authorized by the Board of Estimate. If that action was legal there is certainly no need of further legislation.

There is a prospect that the Senate will vote to-day on Senator Frye's Shipping bill. It differs in several important particulars from the House bill, which was loaded down with an absurd amendment admitting free of duty vessels of over 4,000 tons burden, although retaining the tariff rates on the raw materials used in the construction of ships. About ninety per cent of the cost of a vessel is represented in the labor expended on it. Hence, free ships would mean the speedy extinction of American yards, as labor could not be procured here at the low rates paid in Europe. This same difficulty is met in securing seamen. Americans declining to work for the wages paid to foreigners. American vessels constructed in Europe and manned by foreign seamen would not form the kind of a merchant marine that the country wants. Of the many wise provisions in the Senate bill, one of the most important is that which allows increased pay for carrying the foreign mails in American bottoms. Last year $13,000 was paid to our own ships for that service. Even Canada paid $200,000 to her vessels, while France expended in the same way, $6,477,000. In fifty years England has paid out $250,000,000 on mail contracts to her ships—thus extending to them ample protection. Under the Senate bill $1,500,000 might be paid on mail contracts in one year. But the Democrats no doubt will prefer to expend many times that sum in constructing costly buildings in country villages and in alleged improvements on unknown rivers.

A DUTY TO BE MET.

The Republicans of the House have to-day another opportunity to decide whether Democratic threats shall continue to paralyze industry. There can be no dispute about the evil effects of the present agitation. Mills and furnaces and mines all over the country have suffered ever since the effort to disturb the tariff began. What the effects of the tariff of 1883 might have been, had there been no such disturbing influence, it is impossible to say, but the reductions made last year did certainly increase the pressure upon some industries very greatly. Time, and undisturbed experience of the workings of that tariff, were needed to determine whether the reductions made were at some points too great. But the added embarrassment of grave uncertainty as to the maintenance of even the present duties has proved too great a burden for many industries. There has not been a time for several years when the depression has been more general, or the proportion of idle establishments larger, than at this time. If the discussion and uncertainty are to continue, the prostration of industries must go on, probably through the summer, for at this season the manufacturers need to know what they can count upon for the fall trade. It rests with the House, therefore, to decide by its vote to-day whether the depression has gone far enough and lasted long enough.

It rests with the Republicans of the House. There is no doubt, we believe, that enough Democrats will vote against the pending bill to make, with all the Republicans, a clear majority of the House. If this be so, Republican members will be responsible if the assault upon a Republican tariff, which has had no fair chance as yet to show what its effects are, shall be continued any longer. It rests with them to say whether they prefer Republican to Democratic principles.

The Democratic party has not been united on this question, it is true. That has been a strong reason for the past success of the Republican party—because it did know what it wanted, and was faithful to its pledges. But there can be no doubt as to the intentions of a large majority of the Democratic members. The votes in caucus and the House have given fresh proof of their purpose. If the Democratic party were left to itself, there would be a vote of about three to one., not only for the Morrison bill, but for a far more offensive and dangerous measure. If the small number of Democrats who oppose tariff changes find that they are powerless, through division among Republicans, it is to be expected that their resistance to the overwhelming preponderance of Democratic opinion will not be sturdy or lasting. The tendency will be to sweep them into the current, so that the party may appear more united in a Presidential contest.

Republican members have no right, at this juncture, to sacrifice public interests to any narrow calculations of party advantage. It might be exceedingly helpful to the Republican party, it is true, to have the industries and the trade of the country utterly prostrated by disaster during a Presidential campaign. But Republicans know that they have no right, and they have many times shown that they have no disposition, to make public disaster a stepping-stone to party success. The people, moreover, are clear-headed and shrewd. They will see what the Democrats are trying to do, as well if they are defeated without delay as if the bill should be further debated or passed by the House. The people will see, too, that some Republicans are not faithful to duty, if they allow this dangerous war upon American industries to continue.

WHERE WE STAND.

It would be well for the country if Congress could turn its attention, for a short time, to the state of the National finances. Theories of taxation are proper in their place. But there is needed at present some application of practical common sense to monetary affairs.

In April the decrease in the debt less cash on hand was $5,232,075 29. There was paid $2,101,160 of the bonded debt, and the interest thereon was reduced $2,648,159, and the balance was due to changes in cash on hand and certificates outstanding.

But, as to the cash on hand, the comparison of daily balances shows that the Treasury held May 1 only $197,955,457 in gold, against $210,974,068 April 1, a loss of $13,018,611. To balance this, it has a gain of $1,722,575 in silver, the amount held having risen to $164,640,731, and a decrease in the amount of paper outstanding of various kinds. The change in amount of legal tenders and legal tender certificates not held by the Treasury was small—a decrease of only $159,785. The decrease in silver certificates outstanding was $175,060, and it is to be observed that the channels of circulation still refuse to hold any larger amount of this kind of currency. The great change has been in gold certificates, of which $11,338,090 have been redeemed by the payment of the gold. Thus the Treasury has expended $11,672,935 in redeeming its paper of various sorts, and $4,750,549 in paying other public debt and interest thereon, and as a consequence of the month's operations it holds $13,018,611 less gold and $1,722,575 more silver.

The revenue for the month was very large; otherwise the loss of gold would have been much greater. The receipts from customs were $15,213,358, against about $13,000,000 last year, when imports were delayed to take advantage of the lower duties soon to go into effect. The internal revenue was $10,108,388 last month, against about $9,600,000 in April, 1883, when payments on tobacco were generally held back until after the new law went into force. But the fact that especially needs Congressional attention is that the large revenue has barely sufficed to make the moderate payments on public debt and interest for the past month, and has not prevented a depletion of the gold reserve owned by the Treasury. Nominally the "available cash balance" has increased $1,734,000, but $1,897,635 more silver is included as owned by the Treasury, in excess of silver certificates outstanding, and $159,785 more of legal tenders on hand. The daily balances show that the amount of gold held, in excess of certificates outstanding, had decreased during the month $1,680,521.

Congress must surely comprehend that such a change, at the very season when the reserves in the Treasury and the banks ought to increase largely, does not promise well for the future. The call for $10,000,000 of the 3 per cents will now take from the Treasury another large sum, and Secretary Folger will find it difficult to protect his reserve. But Congress will see, if it considers the matter at all, that we must inevitably enter upon a new fiscal year and a period of uncertainty in the fall with reserves considerably reduced, and that the revenue as it stands leaves but little margin for possible emergencies, after providing for the sinking fund and the accumulation of useless silver.

OFFICE-HOLDERS AS DELEGATES.

A dispatch from Louisville to *The Philadelphia Press* states that the notice given by the Civil Service Reform Association that charges will be preferred against Federal office-holders who serve as political delegates to the National Republican Convention, "will fall heavily upon the Kentucky delegation." The dispatch makes mention of the following Kentuckians holding Federal offices who have been elected to the Chicago Convention: Walter Evans, internal revenue commissioner, George U. Thomas, United States district attorney, A. J. Auxier, United States marshal, E. C. Farley, collector second Kentucky district.

We apprehend that the Civil Service Reform Association, if it is in earnest in this matter—and there is every reason to suppose that it is—will find its hands full. For Kentucky is by no means the only one of the Southern States that will be represented in the National Convention by Federal office-holders. THE TRIBUNE has already called attention to the fact that the Georgia delegation overflows with this variety of delegates. No less than seventeen members of the delegation, including collectors of customs and of internal revenue, deputy collectors, postmasters, route agents, and gangers, are in the employ of the United States. The Louisiana delegation possesses the same characteristic. It contains a sub-treasurer, a postmaster, a specimen of both kinds of collector, a surveyor of the port, a deputy surveyor, and an appraiser. The same assertion holds good of the two Carolinas. There are a collector of customs and of internal revenue upon North Carolina's delegation, and a collector and a postmaster upon South Carolina's. And so with like result we might go through the list of Southern States. One of the four delegates-at-large from Georgia is an internal revenue collector, while a surveyor of customs figures on both the Tennessee and Virginia delegations.

The state of things thus brought to light is well calculated to cast a gloom over Mr. Arthur's ardent supporters. His leading organs in this State, *The Buffalo Commercial Advertiser* and *The Albany Express*, were filled with keen anguish at the appearance of Collector Robinson at the Utica Convention. They convicted him of gross impropriety of conduct, because he presumed to take part in the deliberations of that body. It can well be imagined, therefore, in case these two newspapers are logical and consistent, how overwhelming will be their distress at the thought that scores of Federal office-holders are to take part in the National Convention. It remains to be seen, however, whether the fact that these Southern Federal office-holders are, as a rule, solid for Arthur, will temper their sorrow to any appreciable extent.

DR. BARTOL ON "MIND CURES."

Boston has for some time been given over to belief in the newest fashion in pseudo-therapeutics, called the "mind cure." This belief has now apparently affected the Rev. Dr. Bartol, who on Sunday preached his second sermon on the subject, taking the ground, so far as can be judged from the published reports of what he said, that the new cure is in some sort a healthy reaction against the materialism into which the profession of medicine has fallen. This is a tolerant and almost approving view of what appears to be the outcome of ignorance, misconception, and a by no means healthy credulity. That there is room for similar popular aberrations regarding therapeutic agencies is accounted for by the fact—which is the one grain of truth in all such delusions—that the body is amenable to mental influences. There is an extensive order of morbid physical conditions which are closely associated with mental states. Of these are many of the more obscure nervous complaints. There are also bodily affections which originate in mental conditions, which are, in fact, the product of emotions. That these disorders should yield in many instances to correctives of the same nature as the agencies which caused them is intelligible. All nervous diseases are more or less amenable to mental influence, and the presence of faith in such cases has repeatedly led to cures ostensibly produced by the most various and dissimilar agents. Thus in turn cures have been effected by mesmerism, by metallic tractors, by the laying on of hands, by prayer, by supposed holy water, by touching relics, tombs of saints and martyrs, etc., by so-called magnetic healing, by the Chinese medicines, which represent the medical science of the Middle Ages. All these curative methods have by turns been vouched for as producing definite remedial effects, and the testimony advanced in support of such claims is in the aggregate so weighty that to reject it is practically to deny all authority to human evidence.

But there is no necessity for rejecting it, and, in fact, it cannot be rejected by scientific men, because it simply confirms the best conclusions of psychologic science. The truth is that the influence of the mind upon the body is known and admitted and taken into account by every competent physician, and every competent physician is aware that this influence is frequently a far more potent therapeutic agent than can be found in the pharmacopœia. Thus it appears that the "mind cure" is nothing new, as regards all that is true in it. Faith in any curative method will work wonders, as Sir Benjamin Brodie demonstrated when he took advantage of a paralytic patient's illusion that a thermometer placed in his mouth to test his temperature was a powerful machine of some kind. This man declared that he felt better after holding the thermometer in his mouth a few minutes, and the wise physician did not undeceive him, but continued the treatment, and the patient was cured by his ignorant faith.

The same kind of cures occur continually, and the Boston "mind cure" is neither more nor less than an irrational and extravagant extension of this well-known principle of association and reflex influence between mind and body. The Boston fanatics pretend that mental influence will cure all diseases. This is where they part company with Science. They have erected a transcendental edifice upon a basis of fact. For a time the delusion will no doubt be supported apparently by evidence. That is to say, people who really do not stand in need of any medicine will occasionally be cured by believing that they are benefited by a suppositious mental current directed upon them from without or from within, as they may choose to think. But when people are seriously ill, and when organic lesion and morbid action are present, medical science, whether or not it be materialistic, will have to be invoked, or the Boston bills of mortality will be unduly increased, and that too among the most restless intelligences of the Athens of America.

PORK AND TRICHINOSIS.

Professor Virchow says that only a few cases of trichinosis from eating American pork have occurred in Germany, and they are confined to Bremen. *The North German Gazette*, however, renews its attacks on American pork, and argues that, as trichinæ cannot be detected without an inspection so elaborate as to be impracticable, prohibition is the only means of protection. Professor Virchow points out the necessity of extreme care in the rearing of hogs, and this caution may well be heeded. For while there is no doubt that the German semi-official press has greatly exaggerated the extent of the evil, it is clear that some diseased pork has been exported. The presence of trichinæ in pork is primarily attributable to carelessness on the part of those who raise hogs. The presumption is that it arises from foul feeding and neglect of sanitary precautions. That it can be prevented is shown in the absence of trichinæ from the greater part of the pork packed in this country, and packers are doubtless on the watch to exclude all hog products which are not up to the standard.

But there is a precaution which, if always taken, would leave the Germans without any ground for complaint. The evidence shows that the extension of trichinosis from the hog to the human being is almost always facilitated by the peculiarly German habit of eating hog products without cooking them. Smoking pork will not destroy the vitality of trichinæ, but cooking will, and if all pork were thoroughly cooked before being eaten there would be few or no cases of trichinosis. If, therefore, the German press would devote a little of its superfluous energy to combating the habit of eating this kind of food raw, it would do its own people a real service by ridding them of a bad habit, and it would at the same time remove the sole sound objection to the free importation of a cheap and nutritious class of food products, deprived of which the German masses must find it harder than ever to make both ends meet.

THE NEW OLD-TESTAMENT.

The revised translation of the Old Testament, which will shortly be published, may not take the place of the authorized version in popular estimation; but it may be fairly expected to clear up many infelicities and obscurities in that version which puzzle the ordinary reader.

The "unicorn" which never existed outside the English Bible will at last be killed, and the "wild ox" substituted in its place. The "Book of Tasher" will be changed to the "Book of the Upright." Sunday-school children will be no longer troubled by the doubtful ethics of the Israelites in "borrowing" jewelry from the Egyptians and then running away with it. The revised translation will rightly state that they asked for gifts, not loans. Joseph's many-colored "coat" will be a "tunic." The celebrated passage in the Book of Job, "Yet in my flesh shall I see God," will be changed to "Yet out of my flesh," etc. "Judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plummet," will read: "I will make judgment for a line, and righteousness for a plumb line." In Psalm viii. the passage "Thou hast made him a little lower than the angels," will be: "Thou hast made him a little lower than God." In Psalm xxxvii. the passage "Fret not thyself in any wise to do evil," will be changed to "Fret not thyself; it tendeth to evil." And in Psalm lxviii. the passage "The Lord gave the word; great was the company of those that published it," will be made to read "The Lord giveth the word, and the women that bring glad tidings are a great host."

These are fair samples of many of the changes which will be made. The aim of the translators has been to reproduce the meaning of the original as closely and accurately as possible. It is pleasant to know that this object will be attained without affecting any of the great dogmatic statements contained in the authorized version. The revision will simply clarify the present venerable translation.

One of the most sagacious business acts we have lately noted is that of Jansen, McClurg & Co., of Chicago. This enterprising firm of publishers understand the advantage of furnishing an article precisely where and when the demand for it is the greatest. Acting on that sound business principle, their bright monthly journal of current literature, *The Dial*, has just printed a comprehensive article on Obermann. There was never a better stroke. *The Dial* knows its market.

A number of Scottish gentlemen have purchased some land in the so-called Mojave Desert in Southern California, most of which has hitherto been deemed irreclaimably sterile. They have sunk an artesian well on their purchase, which now has an overflow of 140,000 gallons daily. They are so encouraged by this success that they intend to found a colony, and doubtless other artesian wells will soon be sunk in this stretch of desert. It is within the bounds of possibility that the great water problem will thus be solved in the case of many sterile tracts of lands on this continent. The rapid development of systems of irrigation in recent years, in the far West, has certainly been marked.

Several of the Edmunds papers in New-England have been guilty of the marked unfairness of suppressing Mr. Phelps's rejoinder, while giving a prominent place to Mr. Edmunds's letter. A candid explanation of their motives in suppressing Mr. Phelps's lucid and frank reply to Mr. Edmunds is next in order.

Chicago furnishes some statistics which the advocates of the High License bill in our own Legislature may find useful. Under the Illinois High License law the number of licenses granted in Chicago has been reduced from 3,682 to 3,132. It is thought the reduction would have been greater but for the provision in the law which permits licenses to be taken out for a part of a year. Of the 2,496 licenses to sell whiskey taken out, at the rate of $500 a year, only 162 are for a full year, the rest being for three months. What is true of the whiskey licenses is true of those for beer—the larger part of them are for a fourth of a year. A beer license costs $150 a year. It is evident that if the law was amended so as to provide that no license should be issued for less than a year a sweeping reform would be effected. But as it is, over 500 rum-shops have been closed by the law.

Mr. Kasson is getting roughly handled by Western papers for his conduct as chairman of the Iowa Republican State Convention. That body, on a test vote, stood eight to one in favor of Mr. Blaine, but allowed Mr. Kasson, an anti-Blaine man, to occupy the chair. Here is what *The Iowa Register*, printed in Mr. Kasson's own city of Des Moines, says of his course:

> Mr. Kasson's speech and his prejudiced rulings in a seat given him by the generous courtesy of a nearly unanimous Blaine convention did him no credit. . . . He did no harm to Blaine, but his course has practically put an end to the custom peculiar to Iowa Republicans of making a minority man, from sense of good feeling and party grace, chairman of a convention to whose majority he is opposed. Mr. Kasson got a taste of the sense of the convention, which felt his courtesy hardly well treated when he submitted his extraordinary ruling in the case of the Floyd County delegation, and got it *unanimously overruled*. Even the anti-Blaine men united in striking down *so unfair and indefensible a ruling*.

Mr. Henry Watterson continues to write his celebrated "star-eyed-goddess-of-reform" articles for *The Louisville Courier-Journal*. This fair divinity, it seems, is leading in the van of the great Democratic army, over which floats a flag bearing the motto, "Honesty, Economy, Equality, and A Tariff for Revenue Only." Moreover we are told that Henry's own State, Kentucky, "stands a stone wall in the centre of the Democratic line of battle." A stone wall is good in a political campaign—almost as good as a fence,—but we fear the "star-eyed goddess" who is bossing the army will experience difficulty in persuading the "stone wall" to march forward with celerity. Nevertheless, Henry, we wish you luck. The Democrats need daily doses of reform, especially the star-eyed goddess variety. Let your shout be heard in the land.

PERSONAL.

Governor Robinson, of Massachusetts, declined to be a candidate for an Overseership of Harvard.

The Marquis Tseng, the Chinese Ambassador to Paris, traces his ancestry to Tseng-tsii, one of the favorite disciples of Confucius.

Mr. and Mrs. George Bancroft will go to Newport early in June. Mrs. Bancroft's health, which has been poor all winter, is now improving.

Ex-Judge William A. Beach, who has been ill at his country house near Tarrytown, was pronounced much better by his physician yesterday.

A. S. Bushnell, of Springfield, Ohio, who is the competitor of General J. Warren Keifer for Congressional honors from that district, is at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. He will sail on Wednesday for a European tour, in company with his fellow townsmen W. H. Bice and Thomas F. McGrew.

J. B. Montgomery, of Oregon, who built the Willamette Valley Railway as a feeder for the Northern Pacific, and who has been spending the winter at the Fifth Avenue Hotel with his wife, who is a relative of Mr. Eno, the owner of that structure, will start for home to-day. He is an enthusiastic advocate of Mr. Blaine's nomination for President, and intends to return with the Pacific Coast delegates to the Chicago Convention.

Herr Wilhelm Gericke, who succeeds Mr. Henschel as conductor of the Boston Symphony Society, is about five feet seven inches tall, rather heavily built and dark complexioned. He is a native of Styria, a bachelor, and an old friend of Frau Materna. A few years ago he acquired much celebrity as a violinist, but is now devoted to the organ. As to his "school" of music, he is an eclectic. He will come to America about the first of September and will visit friends in this city for a week before going to Boston. He will get in Boston a salary of $7,500 a year, for five years, and expects to save $5,500 annually. Being informed that clothing is expensive at the "Hub," he will bring with him from Vienna a large stock—perhaps enough to last during the greater part of his engagement.

TALKS ABOUT TOWN.

THE RICHMOND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

W. Hancock Clark, secretary of the ex-Confederate Home Committee.—Now that the Grand Army have had their entertainment we shall do more to enlist the sympathy of merchants in our fair, to be held at Richmond, Va., beginning May 14. It will be held in the arsenal building, and will be an interesting industrial exhibition. Merchants sending machinery or other goods will have an excellent chance to advertise them, as they will be placarded, and people from all over the South will attend in large numbers. The Old Dominion Steamship Company or the Southern Express Company will transport articles free of charge to the exhibition. Contributions of all kinds are solicited.

THE MADISON SQUARE GARDEN SCHEME.

John G. Heckscher, broker, and lover of fine horseflesh.—Nothing will be done regarding the proposed purchase of Mr. Vanderbilt's Madison Square property by the members of the National Horse Show Association until next autumn. We found that people were too poor now for us to make a success of the project. There was no money making scheme about it; we wanted to put up a handsome building for hippodrome and other exhibition purposes which would be an ornament and a credit to the city. Of course, the investment would probably have paid a handsome interest on the bonds issued. But it would have cost $2,000,000 at least to carry out our plans, and after consultation we decided that everybody was so poor that the undertaking had better be deferred. Of course, we have no long refusal of the property, but certainly if the wealthy gentlemen associated in our project could not carry it out, it is pretty certain that no one else will do so. Next year business may be better and people feel more inclined to go into the enterprise.

POLITICS AND THE TARIFF IN MICHIGAN.

Senator Palmer, of Michigan.—We are much divided in Michigan on the Presidency, which I regard as a healthful sign. Edmunds, Blaine, Arthur, General Sherman and Logan have support about in the order named. Second choice is wholly for Lincoln. The delegation will not be instructed, and the State will give 25,000 to 30,000 for the nominee. It is so comical, the suggestion that the Democrats have any preference, that I never hear it but to smile. They want "anybody to beat Grant," as the phrase goes. They don't hope to carry Michigan. We lost the State two years ago by some imaginary grievances, which will not obtain in this canvass. They have no one but Randall and Tilden. Randall has split his party wide open and Tilden will not have it. The tariff will be one of the big campaign questions. I think Ceptah and Danville will have something to do with the canvass. The Morrison bill, by putting lumber and salt on the free list, would be very disastrous to us. We had a taste of Canadian lumber trade during the reciprocity treaty from 1854 to 1864. The impression left by that experience would be very bad in business under a free lumber provision. The passage of the bill would depress prices for four or five years, to be followed by higher prices than if the duty was not taken off, because our people could afford to cut only the best qualities of pine, leaving from 1,000,000,000 to 1,500,000,000 feet which is now produced and marketed to rot on the ground. The low grade of lumber, which now hardly returns dollar for dollar put into its manufacture, would have to come into competition with Canadian lumber, which is of a low grade as a rule. The result would be that it would be left in the woods and destroyed. Such an amount detracted from the lumber production of Michigan, and an equal amount in Wisconsin, would inevitably in a few years bring up the prices to a much higher point than now ruling. I am a lumberman myself and know what the effect would be. We produce now annually 4,000,000,000 feet—a larger production than that of any other State except Wisconsin, which about equals Michigan. In salt we produce 3,000,000 barrels annually. Our iron mining interests, greater in value than those of any other State, would also be affected disastrously, as would the copper mining.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

THE SEASON OF MUSICAL FESTIVALS.

The country has never known so many musical festivals in a single year as will be given within the next two months. One was in progress in Baltimore last week; another will open in Philadelphia to-day; the sixth May festival at Cincinnati will begin on the 20th inst. and last five days; after it will come the Chicago and Buffalo festivals, which, like that at Cincinnati, will be under the musical direction of Theodore Thomas. In all of these festivals except that at Philadelphia the Wagnerian singers from the Imperial Opera at Vienna will take part.

The smaller festivals, like those at Philadelphia and also at Cleveland, which are in the hands of local musicians, will present programmes of a miscellaneous character, similar to those which are given at the Worcester, Mass., festivals. Thus at Philadelphia the choral performances will be varied with pianoforte solos by Mme. Helen Hopekirk and Rafael Joseffy, and violin solos by Ovide Musin. The principal singers who will participate are Mmes. Gerster, Fursch-Madi and Trebelli, Charles R. Adams and Max Heinrich. The musical direction of the concerts, which will be eight in number, will be divided between W. W. Gilchrist and Charles M. Schmitz.

The choral forces number 540 voices and the orchestral 100 performers. The principal choral works to be performed are Whittier's "Centennial Hymn," composed by J. K. Paine, (which will open the festival), Bach's Cantata, "God's Time is the Best Time," Hiller's "A Song of Victory," Mendelssohn's "Elijah" (which will also be the chief number in the Buffalo scheme), Verdi's Requiem and Gade's "The Crusaders."

The scheme in Cincinnati is of a much more dignified and imposing character as was to have been expected from so well-established an institution as the biennial festivals which have been held regularly since 1873. There the management of the concerts is in the hands of an association which maintains a choir of 700 voices and works continually for the advancement of the regularly recurring festivals. It is from these festivals that the impulse went out which has brought forth so many festivals this year. The only instrumental music played at these festivals is symphonic, and this is always interpreted by an orchestra of 150 instruments or more. The principal singers engaged this year are Mme. Nilsson, Mme. Materna, Miss Emma Juch, Mrs. Hauffdegen, Miss Winant, Herr Winkelmann, Mr. Toedt, Mr. Victor Lindau, Mr. Remmertz, Mr. Heinrich, Herr Scaria and Mr. Herman J. Gerold. The large works to be given in the seven concerts which make up the festival are Gounod's "Redemption," Beethoven's C minor and D minor Symphonies, Handel's "Israel in Egypt," Brahms's "German Requiem," and fragments from Wagner's "Flying Dutchman," "Tannhauser," "Lohengrin," "Tristan und Isolde," "Die Walküre," "Siegfried," "Götterdämmerung" and "Parsifal."

SOME MISCELLANEOUS CONCERTS.

The close of the operatic and symphonic seasons has left the musical coast clear to the charitable complimentary and advertising concerts of professional and amateur musicians. For two weeks they have abounded and any number of half-fledged singers have fluttered and warbled for excited but happy moments in our concert rooms. Three concerts which belong in this category were given yesterday. One was an entertainment of high character; it took place in the evening at Steinway Hall, and its purpose was to present one of the most talented and popular of our younger vocalists to the public prior to her departure to Europe, and also to provide her with some of the money which her undertaking will cost. The singer was Miss Hattie Louise Simms, a native of Denver, who came to New-York to study about four years ago. Since then she has been a pupil of Mr. William Courtney, has won a high position as a church singer, and has been heard with pleasure in a number of concerts. She will sail for Europe on Saturday with the aim of completing her studies, if possible, under the direction of Mme. Marchesi, and beginning her career.

In her concert Miss Simms had the help of Mme. Helen Hopekirk, Mme. Chatterton-Bohrer, Mrs. Carl E. Martin (accompanist) Miss Hattie J. Clapper, William Courtney, H. R. Humphries, Ivan E. Morawski and Dr. Carl E. Martin. The programme was composed of well selected pieces, with the exception of the "Rigoletto" quartet, which is becoming decidedly monotonous in the concerts in which Mr. Courtney and his pupils participate. There was generous applause for all the members, but naturally Miss Simms evoked the warmest demonstrations. Her show piece was a recitative and cavatina by Rossini, "Della Rosa il bel vermiglio." We have had occasion before to commend the good taste exhibited in the singing of Miss Simms, and the merits of her voice. In respect of homogeneity of tone throughout its rather extended range, her voice is exceptional among our young singers. It is of good musical quality, too, and her singing is marked by flexibility of execution, purity of intonation and good style. Her instincts are really artistic.

In the afternoon at Chickering Hall, a pleasant concert was given for the benefit of the Hospital Prison and Library Fund. The concert was under the direction of Signor Albites. Signor Del Puente had volunteered his services, and a worthy company of singers, headed by Mlle. de Lussan took part. Mlle. de Lussan omitted the only solo which she was expected to sing, because of a cold, but sang "La ci darem," from "Don Giovanni," with Signor Del Puente, and the duio duet from "L'Elisir d'Amore," with Signor Albites. The most popular feature of the concert was the singing of a new tenor, Senor Michelena, a recent arrival in the city from the opera houses of South America. He has an extremely affected style of singing, and his mezza voce, of which he makes frequent use, is exceedingly light in quality, but his sentimentalities touched a popular chord, and he was obliged to respond to two recalls.

In the same hall Miss Ella Hersey, a pupil of Signor Agramonte, gave a concert in the evening. The young lady's teacher should have advised her against the step.

CHICAGO, May 5.—The sale of season tickets for the May Musical Festival began here to-day, realizing about $8,000.

"RANDOM SHOT" AT THE COMEDY THEATRE.

The so-called "farcical comedy" of "