Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—8—"Lohengrin."
BIJOU OPERA HOUSE—8—"Adonis."
COMEDY THEATRE—8—"Kellar."
CASINO—8—"Gypsy Baron".
DALY'S THEATRE—8—"The Country Girl."
LYCEUM THEATRE—8—"One of Our Girls."
EDEN MUSEE—Waxworks.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE—8—Salsbury's Troubadours
HARRIGAN'S PARK THEATRE—8—"The Leather Patch."
MADISON SQUARE THEATRE—8:30—"Saints and Sinners."
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE—8—"Lohengrin."
NIBLO'S GARDEN—8—"The White Slave."
NEW WINDSOR THEATRE—8—"Young Mrs. Winthrop."
PEOPLE'S THEATRE—8—"Frederick Warde.
STANDARD THEATRE—8—"Mikado."
STAR THEATRE—8—"Francesca da Rimini."
THEATRE COMIQUE—8—"The Sea of Ice."
THALIA THEATRE—8—"Mikado."
WALLACK'S—8—"Valerie."
UNION SQUARE THEATRE—8—"Jack in the Box."
3D AVENUE THEATRE—8—"Bunch of Keys."
5TH AVENUE THEATRE—8—"Richelieu."
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New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1886.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—Mr. Gladstone announced in Parliament that a bill relating to Ireland would be offered in March. ═ The Government severely criticised by the Conservatives. ═ The Cretan Christians protesting against interference with Greece. ═ Forgeries in Montreal.

DOMESTIC.—Report of the Harlem Bridge Commissioners presented to the State Legislature. ═ Bill to give soldiers and sailors preference in civil appointments passed by the Legislature. ═ New-Jersey railroad tax law declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court. ═ Intimidating coke workers in Pennsylvania. ═ Driving out more Chinese in California. ═ Death of John B. Gough. ═ A leaky ship in a tornado off Hatteras. ═ General Sherman talking on slavery, the press, and Grant.

CONGRESS.—Report of the Judiciary Committee of the Senate in regard to suspensions from office and the Senate's right to information; debate on the Education bill. ═ The House passed the Fitz John Porter bill.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.—Broadway and Seventh Avenue Railroad stock sold. ═ Striking street-car men successful. ═ Testimony against Park Policeman McInerney. ═ John Rickaby dead. ═ Railroad rates from Missouri River points advanced. ═ Annual report of the Emigration Commission. ═ A boy seriously hurt by a playmate. ═ Gold value of the legal-tender silver dollar (412½ grains), 78.54 cents. ═ Stocks unsettled and lower, closing active and weak.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Fair, with nearly stationary temperature. Temperature yesterday: Highest, 47°; lowest, 27°; average, 37½°.

Counsel for the defence in the case of the two Park policemen charged with robbing a man named Schwarzler are trying hard to prove that Schwarzler was intoxicated. Granting that point (which is not proved) are we to infer that it is less criminal to rob a man when he is drunk than when he is sober?

The county officers of Chicago, like their official brethren in this city, are making a desperate effort to prevent easy access to the public real estate records. It is to be hoped that everywhere such efforts will fail. Sound public policy in a republic demands that the obstacles in the way of the easy transfer of real property should be reduced to a minimum, so that small landed proprietors may increase as much as possible. The expense of title-searching at present is tremendous and should be reduced. To this end the multiplication of private title-abstract companies serves, and should be encouraged.

Emigration statistics for this port for 1885 show a falling off in arrivals compared with 1884. In that year 354,702 aliens landed here, and in 1885, 291,066. If the proportion of decrease has been the same at other ports, the total for the present twelvemonth will be considerably below that of last year, which was 518,592. Not since 1879 has the immigration been so small. The cause is not easily found, but doubtless the hard times in the United States had much to do with it. Be that as it may, the falling off will not cause great public concern, for the prevailing opinion nowadays is that "Uncle Sam is *not* rich enough to give them all a farm."

The discipline which the surface street railways are now undergoing was extended yesterday to the Eight and the Ninth Avenue lines. In making up the new schedule of time and wages the companies tried to be very shrewd and by increasing the number of "trippers" (extra men who are paid by the trip) to keep their expenses down to old limits. The result was that many of these "trippers" were only able to make half a dollar or so a day. The new agreement declares that "trippers" shall be paid $1 50 no matter how few trips they make. This decision is directly in the interests of the public. More cars will be run for its convenience now that the companies have to pay the men whether the cars are sent out or not.

Senator Hoar has not told us what reasons animated those citizens who have petitioned him to get the Presidency abolished, but we suppose the main cause must be disgust with the present Administration. The telephone scandals; their sharp contrast with the lofty sentiment of Mr. Cleveland's assertion that "public office is a public trust"; Mr. Vilas's attack on American steamship lines; the Dolphin business, and other things too numerous to mention, are indeed painful to all honest citizens. Still, they do not justify the abolition of the office of the Chief Executive. Let us grin and bear them! It will all be made right in 1888 when a Republican is elected to the Presidency.

Governor Abbett's scheme to pay the running expenses of the State of New-Jersey out of taxes gathered from the railroads and canals has been declared unconstitutional. The Supreme Court of that State holds that the act directly violates the clause in the Constitution which declares that property must be taxed under a general law and a uniform rule. Of course property may be divided into classes, and such a tax as this might have been imposed upon all corporate property; but railroad and canal companies cannot be separated from other corporations and then taxed. That would be special legislation—always abhorrent to constitutional governments. New-Jersey will, therefore, have the pleasure of paying back to these companies almost a million dollars taken from the railroads within two years, and the finances of the Commonwealth are thus thrown into great confusion. The legislators will have to fall to work in earnest now to extricate their constituencies from their unpleasant condition. It is impossible to forecast their performances, but probably many of them will favor a tax on all corporation property, on the lines indicated in the present decision as legal.

SECRET SLANDERS TO BE REBUKED.

The Senate Republican caucus has decided rightly in regard to the refusal of information by President Cleveland. The President has placed himself in a position utterly inconsistent with his professed desire for Civil Service reform, and for conducting the service on business principles. He has pretended to select men, not to reward them for partisan services, but on account of fitness. His stubborn refusal to give any information regarding the removal of a great number of efficient and worthy officers who have been removed can have no other reason than a desire to conceal from the public the fact that such removals were made contrary to his professions and pledges, in disregard of public interests, and for no better end than to reward partisan workers.

The well-known and disgraceful truth is that the President has allowed secret slanders against worthy Republican officials to serve as pretexts for their removal or suspension, and now does not dare to place those slanders in the daylight, where they can be confronted by the men wronged, because their falsity and foulness would be proved and would disgrace his influential supporters and advisers. The Republicans of the Senate properly decide that the men who have been put into place by such dishonorable devices shall not be confirmed until the President will consent to do simple justice to the faithful officials who have been removed or suspended, by clearing away the imputation dishonestly made against them. The people will sustain the Senate in this course. Sooner or later the President will discover that he was right in one of his earliest declarations, namely, that the Government ought to be conducted behind glass doors. If he had so conducted it in the matter of removals and appointments, he would not now be distrusted as he is by good citizens of both parties.

The majority report of the Judiciary Committee of the Senate will be found substantially in full on the third page of THE TRIBUNE. Therein are set forth the reasons which have moved the Republican Senators to assume their present attitude, and they are unanswerably just.

THE HARLEM RIVER BRIDGE REPORT.

The report of the Harlem River Bridge Commission, sent to the Assembly in compliance with Mr. Hamilton's resolution, and printed elsewhere in this morning's issue, is by no means a candid paper. But though it fails to make clear several points upon which the Assembly demanded light, it will serve to show the taxpayers of New-York that THE TRIBUNE, by its resolute exposure of this job in spite of the extraordinary things said and done by the Commissioners to conceal their performances, has saved the city from being bound by a monstrous contract. The denial of the Commissioners that such a contract had ever been signed made in this public and responsible way, may be taken as sufficient evidence that the city is not now threatened by it at all events. Yet David James King told a TRIBUNE reporter in the presence of Vernon H. Brown that the contract had been "signed, sealed and delivered," and this statement was repeated the next morning by Mr. Clark, of the Union Bridge Company. Their motive for such misrepresentation is not altogether clear.

It is conceded, however, that such a contract was drawn up and signed by the Bridge Company, and that the real reason why it was not ultimately carried out was because of a doubt as to whether an artificial stone would be legal under the act. It is not denied that the Commissioners were practically committed to this $2,680,000 plan until that question arose, and such indeed is known to be the fact. Why, then, did they not candidly answer the Assembly's questions, and give their reasons for proceedings wholly irregular and unusual? Why, knowing all along that the pressure of public condemnation as expressed through THE TRIBUNE was the force which stayed the job, did they not make a square and frank defence? The reason is apparent. They were caught in the act of doing an unwholesome and extravagant piece of business amounting to a betrayal of the interests committed to their charge, and having now got out of it by a legal quibble, they have carefully evaded all questions which seek to discover their real purposes and their fitness, in view of such purposes, to continue the work so badly begun. Additional light is thrown upon that subject by their acknowledgment that they never consulted any counsel whatever until THE TRIBUNE reviewed their proposed contract and showed that by its provisions every safeguard for economy was abandoned. They had presumably left all those things to the Union Bridge Company's counsel.

Having saved the Commissioners from an act which would have added greatly to their burden of discredit, we feel warranted in giving them a little advice which may be of value in their further work. Let them abandon their secret and mysterious ways, and open their doors and their books to all citizens who seek information. Let them give up the service of the Harlem River estates and devote their efforts to the best interests of those who will have to pay for their work and who are already groaning under a load of taxation caused by just such jobbery as that which, with our assistance, they have finally escaped. Let them abandon all these schemes involving $2,000,000, or more, and, if this superfluous and unnecessary bridge must be built, let them adopt a plan that will not cost over $1,200,000. Let them ask the Legislature to define their powers and place a proper limit to their responsibilities. Let them make competition open, and, above all, let them consult a good, discreet, practical lawyer before they commit themselves to any more arrangements with shrewd contractors.

FOR BIMETALLISM ALWAYS.

Here is the old falsehood again: THE TRIBUNE is "for gold monometallism." Perhaps it deludes some who do not read THE TRIBUNE at all, or do not read with the spirit and the understanding also. The truth can be stated in very few words.

THE TRIBUNE has never favored monometallism of either sort. It does not believe or say, and has never believed or said, that it would be better to use gold separately, or silver separately. It opposes, as it has always opposed, an attempt to drive gold out of use, or to drive silver out of use, and thus has always been in favor of bimetallism. Hence it opposes measures which, like the present coinage act, tend to drive gold out of the country by forcing into general use a silver coin actually worth far less than its nominal value. The ratio between metals in coinage should be governed by the indisputable facts; and if 412 1-2 grains of silver are in fact worth only eighty cents, no good can be done by stamping that coin one dollar.

Broadly, nothing can be gained by continuing to coin a currency that pretends to be worth what it is not worth, or by trying to settle the silver question without the assent of any other civilized nation on a ratio of coinage between the two metals. That course only tends to drive gold out of the country, and hence is not bimetallism, but naked silver monometallism.

JOHN B. GOUGH.

John B. Gough, the famous temperance advocate, is dead. The career to which he devoted himself has not hitherto been regarded by the world as equal in importance to many others which certainly yield less practical benefits to the race. Yet the difficulties of perception in this case are comparatively slight. For whereas the minister of religion must appeal to the eye of faith for recognition of the perils which he seeks to save men from, the preacher against the drink evil deals only with temporal concerns, and points his exhortations and warnings with pregnant examples drawn from everyday affairs. And when it is considered that drink is so intimate an element of modern civilization as to be inseparable from any sound view of domestic life, or politics, or business, or society, or police, or charity, or pœnology; when, too, it is seen that all its influence is sinister, brutalizing, corrupting, paralyzing and poisonous; it is surprising that the men who, possessing such power of exposition as Gough had, give themselves to the warfare against this great evil, are not conceded much higher positions in the general estimation.

Whoever seriously studies any of the problems of the time is speedily confronted by the drink evil. It swallows up the savings of operatives. It furnishes the foundation for a political corruption which threatens disaster to the State. It counteracts the labors of the churches. It baffles philanthropy. It reinforces socialism and the commune. It keeps the lowest classes brutal and dangerous, and those next in order Philistine and material. In a thousand subtle ways, by direction and indirection, purposely and as of instinct, it acts and re-acts against the progress of humanity, everywhere increasing the friction, everywhere making heavier the burden of the reformer, everywhere rendering more unresponsive the masses whose regeneration is being attempted. Against this great and powerful evil John B. Gough stood all a long lifetime in battle array. His voice—and there were few more eloquent—was heard pleading for sobriety during five and forty years, almost wherever the English tongue is spoken. The experience of the man was a strange one. There can be no surprise that he thought his work the greatest possible, when we remember the scenes he was familiar with, the kind of facts it was his business to gather. Wherever he looked he found the drink evil branding its victims, besotting them, degrading them, turning them into swine or tigers alternately. He saw homes ruined, innocent women and children sacrificed by the thousand, promising careers blasted, honor exchanged for shame. Some of these things we all see even without searching, but how many of us act upon our knowledge?

John B. Gough acted. He went before the people, and with the horror of his recollections full upon him he translated his emotion into an eloquence that stirred the hearts of his hearers deeply. We need not be grudging in our estimate of the good which such an advocate has done. We have sober evidence to the effect that thousands of men were saved from drunkards' graves by his speeches. We know, too, that there was in his argument nothing perfunctory, and indeed the man must be of little account who, with such a brief in his hands, failed of sincerity and earnestness. Gough assuredly did not. His soul was in his work, and all who heard him felt this. He had been a drinker, and he wrestled with drink in the same spirit that John Bunyan wrestled with the sins which had so long held him in thrall. The cause of temperance owes much to John B. Gough, and the world is beginning to realize that its obligations to the cause of temperance are not insignificant. To his efforts perhaps as much as to any cause this change of view is due. As yet a beginning only has been made. Education proceeds slowly when the eradication of clinging habits, however mischievous, is concerned. But however far reform may be carried in the future, and however dark, relatively speaking, the present condition of the drink question may appear when a higher plane is reached, the record and the memory of John B. Gough will remain conspicuous and honorable in the history of this movement.

VIRGINIA AND THE TARIFF.

When Speaker Carlisle framed his Committee on Ways and Means without a single member from Virginia or West Virginia, he did great injustice. Virginia has as deep an interest in the maintenance of the tariff which defends American industries as any other State. Depending upon agriculture almost exclusively, under the old Bourbon régime, Virginia was like a splendidly formed athlete with one hand tied behind him. The State has a wealth of minerals and of other natural resources for manufacturing which very few States in the Union can equal. But, though one of the old States, lying close to the Atlantic coast, it has never fairly developed those resources. Under the protective system that development has grandly begun within the past few years, and the inpouring of capital and enterprise from other parts of this country and from Europe has contributed greatly to its new prosperity. The farmers in many counties know well how much more valuable manufacturing establishments and mines have made their farms, and the laboring people of every sort have reason to bless the protective tariff for the increased wages they have realized.

This sort of thing is not approved or comprehended by the Bourbon Democracy, and is hated because it threatens the political power of the old leaders. The new men, whether they come from the North or from England, know that it is not the interest of Virginia to favor the old policy, under which the State neglected its mineral resources and its rare manufacturing opportunities, and hence feel that the Bourbon politicians are their enemies. In return we shall see the Bourbon members of Congress voting for any tariff bill that will strike down the new industries of Virginia, prevent the development of its resources, destroy the value of property in which millions of capital have been invested, reduce wages and the demand for labor to the old level, and render farms worth no more than they used to be. The marvel is that Virginia still blindly elects such men and upholds so ruinous a policy.

What ought the Attorney-General to do with his telephone stock? Why, return it to the giver, of course. Let it be offered as a sacrifice on the altar of the Muses at Parthenon Heights.

Commodore Belknap's angry reply to a simple and harmless question addressed to him as Superintendent of the Observatory by President Barnard, of Columbia College, who was seeking information to be transmitted to the National Academy of Sciences, is a speaking commentary on the naval officer appointed by Secretary Whitney to advise him about the Dolphin. The Commodore appears to be a testy individual, always thinking it his duty to take a severe view of things. If he knows no more about naval observatories than about iron ships, he did not enlighten President Barnard's mind to any appreciable extent. The conclusion of his letter has about it a really fine flavor. "If the so-called scientific men of the country think," he says, "that the time has come to apply to Congress for money to build a National Observatory, the Navy will not stand in their way; only it will take no responsibility for it." Commodore Belknap needs to be informed that it is not his business to say what the Navy will or will not do in a given case. He needs to be advised that he does not compose the Navy, and at the same time, it might not be amiss incidentally to hint that until he learns the difference between a crank pin and a journal and until he discovers a better ground upon which to condemn the work of eminent engineers and shipbuilders than by pointing out that glasses rattled on a shelf while the vessel was plunging through the sea at full speed, it is just as well that he is no larger part of the Navy than the superintendent of an observatory.

There are two alternatives left to the Pan-Electric coon. He has been treed—there is no mistake about that. Now, will he come down, or must he be smoked out?

It appears that Bland is one of the dogs who have had their day.

As we have said heretofore, if it was improper for Mr. Garland while he was a Senator to be a stockholder in a telephone company, then it is equally improper for any merchant, manufacturer or any other man holding any business interest whatsoever to become a member of Congress. But as it would be plainly absurd to maintain the second proposition, is it not equally absurd to maintain the first?—[Richmond State.

Don't forget that the stock was a gift made in exchange for the Senator's influence; that important legislation affecting patents was before Congress; and that the machinery of the Attorney-General's Department, and also of the Department of the Interior, was placed at the disposal of the ring of telephone speculators with whom he was intimately associated in business.

Some of the tricks employed to capture rogues are hardly more respectable than the crimes for which they are wanted.

Typhoid fever, though a desperate malady, leaves the system clean and the blood pure. It is a good, strong attack of typhoid fever that the Administration's Star-Eyed Goddess of Reform requires.

Riot and bloodshed are the inevitable result in these days of political bondage.

Mr. Garland has been played upon by a ridiculous old scamp and an honorable life stained and a promising future clouded by an indiscretion which is unaccountable.—[Waterbury American.

Dr. Rogers was the leader of the Pan-Electric orchestra, and all played together, keeping excellent time. He engaged the speculative statesmen to fiddle under him, and paid for their services liberally in telephone stock. But he never played upon them—only with them.

Next to free trade, free ships is the British policy for America.

The Aqueduct Commissioners, against the opinion of their Chief Engineer and in spite of the protest of the Mayor and Controller, have voted to line the new aqueduct with brick. Brass would have been more appropriate.

PERSONAL.

Concerning Celia Thaxter's poem, "A Tryst," which Lieutenant Greely says his men were so fond of reading during their Arctic exile, a writer in *The Philadelphia Press* relates that in the summer of 1884, Greely, who was seeking rest and health at Portsmouth, N. H., went over to the Isles of Shoals one day to visit Mrs. Thaxter. As he reached the porch of her house the poet came forward and extended her hand. Greely took it, dropped on one knee, and kissed it. "I have come," he said in his husky, trembling voice, "on a pilgrimage to thank the poet for the lines that have lightened many a weary day and night for a handful of men who never expected to see their home and friends again." Here he had to pause, and, raised by the kind, motherly woman, sank into an armchair. Among those who witnessed the scene, it is needless to say, there was not a dry eye. After he had rested a little and had told of the many times he had read aloud the poem "in the desolation of the North," he asked her how she could have written it, and if she had ever seen an Iceberg. "No," she replied, "but I have ever lived by the sea, in summer and winter, and I suppose imagination has done the rest." "Wonderful!" was all that the pilgrim could reply.

Mme. Gerster suffers from persistent insomnia, which has so worn out her system that two or three years will be needed to effect restoration.

Representative Herbert, of Alabama, says *The Boston Traveller*, has assumed to be the spokesman of the Democratic side. Mr. Herbert is a typical Southerner, both in manner and personal appearance. He is a good-sized man, slightly inclined to stoutness. His hair is brown, and worn rather long. A brown mustache and chin whiskers, with the sides of his face always kept smoothly shaven, completes the description. Mr. Herbert is a man who always manages to make himself heard. He has a fashion of artistic in his place in the back part of the hall of the House of Representatives, and, with a quick upward movement of his right arm, as though he was making a old at an auction sale, uttering a terrific yell which gains the Speaker's ear, even if it fail to catch his eye. Mr. Herbert has spoken many times lately, and upon about every question that has been before the House. He is one of the trio of members, of which Mr. Hammond and Mr. Blount, of Georgia, are the other two, who are doing their best to run things according to the Southern idea.

Sergeant Long, one of the survivors of the Greely Expedition, is now stationed at the Signal Service Office in the Equitable Building.

Charles Stewart Parnell may well make and unmake Ministries. He is a lineal descendant, in the fifteenth generation, of Richard Nevill, Earl of Warwick, famed in history as "the King-maker." It may also be observed that Mr. Parnell, Earl Spencer and the Marquis of Hartington are blood cousins, Parnell and Spencer being descendants in the seventh and Hartington in the eighth generation of John Mordaunt, Viscount Avalon.

Francis Turner Palgrave will deliver his introductory lecture as Oxford professor of poetry on Thursday of next week.

The Prince and Princess of Wales after attending Miss Gladstone's wedding went to the wedding breakfast; but there was no breakfast.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

Why are printers the most merciful of men? Because they never kill things until they are dead.

Twenty or thirty years ago Canadian farmers used black walnut timber for fence rails. Such of these rails as are now in existence are eagerly sought by lumber dealers, as their long seasoning has made them valuable for the manufacture of small articles of furniture.

Speaking of life insurance, we should say a barber must be a poor risk, as he may be called upon to dye any day in the week. At the same time a man who lives in a cheap boarding-house would be a bad fire risk, as he is reduced to hashes every morning.—[Boston Commercial Bulletin.

The elaborate detail of English marriage notices is sometimes almost amusing, especially where little mosaics of family history are inserted in parenthesis. The pet names of the bride, such as "Cissy," "Pet" and "Baby," are also inserted after her name, so that her identity may be perfectly clear to her friends.

Mr. Le Jones—Well, Miss Coldcash, I supposed you received a good many valentines!

Miss Coldcash (sweetly)—Oh, yes, and there was one particularly dainty and artistic. I am sure it came from you.

Mr. Le Jones (delighted)—What makes you think so?

Miss Coldcash—Because I sent it to you last year.—[Chicago Rambler.

An Augusta, Me., dentist is trying to make a set of false teeth for a pony belonging to a lady of that town.

The people of St. Paul are now convinced that the ice-bug is not eating up their ice palace; but they more than suspect that the Signal Service authorities are conspiring to melt it down to the ground.

It appears to be a Polar day in Germany for the Pole.

The Democratic attempt to give each Representative a clerk is in strict accord with the party tradition. More than thirty years ago the Democrats had a campaign song of which this was the chorus:

For offices are plenty;
If not, the more we'el make 'em.
For Uncle Sam is a good milch cow,
The patriot's thirst for slaking.
Don't forget to strip her clean,
'Twill keep the bag from caking.

The London Spectator thinks that the United States would be a good place in which to start an aristocracy of merit. Why, bless you, it was started more than a hundred years ago.

Sarah Bernhardt doled out light drinks at a recent Paris charity occasion. They do say the lemonade hugged Sarah closely for thinness.—[Binghamton Republican.

Alas! for the cruelty of oblivion. "Tim" Campbell is rapidly winning a newspaper immortality in Washington, while "Richelieu" Robinson is forgotten.

He—"Speaking of their marriage, I think they bot made a very good match."

She—"How can you say so? Why she's brimstone personified, and he's a perfect stick."

He—"Brimstone and a perfect stick—precisely the essentials to a good match."—[Binghamton Republican.

It was in an Episcopal theological seminary not a thousand miles from New-York; and the professor had been explaining how the early church assigned different ecclesiastical colors to the different orders in the ministry, but failed to say anything about the color for deacons. This was more than a newly-ordained deacon in the class could stand, and he broke in thus, "Professor, you have not told us what is the proper color for a deacon." Quick as a flash the professor answered, looking at the young man, "Oh I believe the proper color for a deacon is green."

MUSIC—THE DRAMA.

THOMAS POPULAR CONCERT.

Mr. Rafael Joseffy has proved thus far to be the most potent solo attraction offered by Mr. Thomas in his Popular Concerts. His appearance each time has been greeted by a numerous audience, and there was no failure of the charm yesterday afternoon at the sixteenth matinee. The programme was as follows.

Symphony, No. 8, B minor, "unfinished"....Schubert
Pianoforte concerto, A major....Mozart
Mr. Rafael Joseffy.
Variations on a Theme by Haydn....Brahms
Ballet music, "The Vine....Rubinstein
Hungarian Fantasia....Liszt
Mr. Joseffy.

All this is universally admired music—the two Schubert movements, the loveliest symphonic fragments extant pieces of music concerning which one is tempted to feel that to have completed the work of which they were designed to be a part was as impossible for Schubert as it was for Shakespeare to have kept *Mercutio* alive longer (according to a popular tradition), the concerts are exquisite emanations for the most absolutely musical character that ever existed; the variations, a marvellous example of inventive ingenuity applied in a thoroughly artistic manner; the ballet music, three bits of National music (Italian, Hungarian and Spanish) with a descriptive prelude, and finally a brilliant fantasia on Magyar tunes calculated to quicken the most sluggish blood. Everything was capitally played, the only disturbing element coming in with the cadenza introduced by Mr. Joseffy in the concerto. There is a tradition that Mozart once observed to a musical performer: "Wherever I smear that thing, (referring to a bold indicating the place for a cadenza,) you can do what you please." Mr. Joseffy seems to have accepted the story as canonical and as absolving him from all obligations to consider the spirit and style of the work to which he adds his adornments. The material of his cadenza is Mozartean, but his treatment of it is not in the least in keeping with the work. It is disturbing, and hence, not beautiful.

MASTER BANNER'S CONCERT.

An audience of exceptional character gathered in the University Club Theatre last night to attend a concert arranged by a number of admirers of Master Michael Banner for his benefit. Of this young violin player's rare artistic gifts we have frequently spoken in this journal. It is pleasant to observe that, unlike the majority of prodigies, he improves as he grows older. His technical skill is admirable, and he has to back it good musical instincts and excellent taste. Last night he played Vieuxtemps's "Fantasia Appassionata", two small pieces and, with Madame Schiller, two movements of Beethoven's F major sonata. In entertaining his patrons he had the assistance of Madame Schiller, Miss Emily Winant and Mr. Theodore Toedt—all artists of the first rank in their respective departments.

DRAMATIC AFFAIRS.

There is much activity in the theatres of this city. Novelties have been of frequent occurrance throughout the season, and many changes of bill are steadily augmenting the theatrical record. Edwin Booth at the Fifth Avenue Theatre, presented on Tuesday night his brilliant performance of the hateful and terrible character of *Sir Giles Overreach*. The frightful picture of malignant frenzy with which this tragedy concludes is displayed by Mr. Booth with appalling force and with all the splendor of hellish wickedness in a strong intellectual nature. Last night he appeared as *Richelieu*, and this familiar representation was received with enthusiasm by a crowded house. Mr. Booth has acted *Hamlet*, *Iago*, *King Lear*, *Brutus*, *Macbeth*, *Sir Giles* and *Richelieu*, and in winding up his engagement, which will close on the 27th, he will perform *Bertuccio*, *Richard III.* and Shakespeare's *Brutus*. The "Mikado" will be brought back to the Fifth Avenue Theatre on the 1st of March.

Last night Mr. Daly made a revival of Wycherly's comedy of "The Country Girl," with Miss Rehan as *Peggy*, and also he produced a new piece, in one act, called "A Sudden Shower." "The Country Girl" has been seen before now on this stage and Miss Rehan's performance of its sprightly heroine has been much and justly admired. The piece is pleasing by reason of its frolicsome spirit, and it is interesting as a study of the manners of the past. Readers, doubtless, know that it was derived by Wycherly from the far more brilliant Molière, and that the dissolute English author made it, in some respects, peculiarly vile and offensive. Mr. Daly in his adaptation has rejected the evil, and preserved only the characters, the humor and the merry sport. His capital company is seen in this piece under excellent conditions for the display of its many shining qualities. The performance last night was received with many marks of pleased interest. "A Sudden Shower" is a neat and bright piece, acted with agreeable drollery by Mr. Lewis and Mrs. Gilbert. The new comedy of "Nancy & Co," which Mr. Daly has adapted from the German, will be produced next Wednesday, February 24.

Lawrence Barrett, at the Star Theatre, has laid aside "Hermani" and reversed to "Francesca," in which his performance of the deformed soldier and betrayed husband has again inspired a lively public interest. Miss Gale as *Francesca* and Mr. Springer as the *Fool* present novel and impressive features in this revival. Next week, being the last of his present engagement at the Star, Mr. Barrett will appear in "Julius Cæsar," "The King's Pleasure," "The Wonder," "Yorick's Love," "David Garrick" and "Hermani."

The re-entrance here of Mr. Tony Hart, which is set down for Saturday evening at the Comedy Theatre, is an incident that should attract the especial attention of the playgoing public. Mr. Frederick Warde's performances continue at the People's Theatre, where his earnestness and ability has met with practical appreciation. Still another event of interest will be Mr. Palmer's revival of Gilbert's comedy of "Engaged"—to be effected next Tuesday night at the Madison Square Theatre. Five performances of "Saints and Sinners" remain to be given at this house. This fine drama will then be sent to Boston. Extra afternoon performances are to be given at most of the New-York and Brooklyn theatres on Washington's Birthday. Miss Kate Field may be heard next Sunday evening at the Union Square. Mr. Harrigan's new play, "The Leather Patch," has met with immediate and unequivocal success at the Park Theatre. Madame Modjeska gave a charming performance yesterday afternoon at the Star Theatre, appearing as *Rosalind*. The cast of "As You Like It," on this occasion, was of exceptional merit: *Orlando*, Joseph Haworth; *Jaques*, Lewis James; *Adam*, Henry Edwards; *William*, Rowland Buckstone; *Touchstone*, Owen Fawcett; *Audrey*, Effie Germon; *Rosalind*, Modjeska. This performance was given for the benefit of the exiled Poles. Madame Judic will succeed Lawrence Barrett at the Star Theatre on March 1, and Mr. Boucicault will re-enter there on the 15th. Louis Aldrich plays next week in the New Windsor Theatre. Mr. Wallack's production of "Valerie" appears to have pleased a numerous class of playgoers.

MME. MODJESKA'S BENEFIT A SUCCESS.

So many have been the matinee and benefit performances this season that it requires a strong attraction to gather even a respectably large audience together That the Star Theatre was almost filled yesterday afternoon and that the receipts for Polish refugees amounted to $1,614 are proof therefore of the attraction which Mme. Modjeska possesses for the feminine population of New-York, at least. Though Mme. Modjeska was the chief attraction, much interest was lent to the performance by the presence in the cast of many favorite actors. The play was "As You Like It." As each well-known actor or actress stepped on the stage he or she was greeted with a round of warm applause. The wrestling match in the first act between Edwin Cleary, as *Charles*, and Joseph Haworth, as *Orlando*, took the audience by storm. Mme. Modjeska's *Rosalind* is well known and needs no description. Louis James, as *Jaques*, pleased his hearers and won much applause. Miss Mary Shaw made a sweet and feminine *Celia*, and Harry Edwards was repeatedly applauded for his impersonation of *Adam*, while Mr. Haworth was generally credited with success as *Orlando*. Miss Effie Germon was the *Audrey*, Rowland Buckstone the *William*, and Owen Fawcett the *Touchstone*. The songs of Mr. Bullock were well received. Miss Helen Dauvray was to sing some French songs between the acts, but owing to the death of John Rickaby, did not appear.

"SAINTS AND SINNERS" IN BOSTON.

A. M. Palmer yesterday signed a contract with the managers of the Park Theatre, Boston, for the production there on May 3 of "Saints and Sinners" with the Madison Square company and scenery.

PLAYING FOR THE CONFEDERATE HOME.

The idea of giving a dramatic reception to aid the Confederate Home for girls at Charleston, S. C., was heartily approved by an audience of about two hundred last night at the Barnard, No. 239 East Fourteenth-st. The actors were members of The Amateur League under the direction of H. R. Throckmorton. The programme consisted of Charles Dance's comedietta, "The Morning Call," and the one-act dramatic episode, "For her Child's Sake." John Hatfield, Miss Ella G. Greene, Mrs. Belle Cole, Mrs. Dr. Toal, Miss Potter, Miss Miller, Cedric Hope, Worden D. Loutrell took part in the performance.

A BUSY DAY IN SOCIETY.

Mrs. Bowles Colgate, asisted by Miss Shields, gave a large reception and tea yesterday at No. 11 West Fiftieth-st. Over 175 guests called.

Mrs. Charles W. Romeyn held a reception at No. 50 East Sixty-sixth st., and Mrs. William H. Neilson and Miss Neilson received at No. 34 Gramercy Park.

A reception was held from 3 to 6 by Mrs. John H. Watson and Miss Watson at No. 671 Fifth-ave. Mrs. Henry Draper received over one hundred callers at No. 271 Madison-ave.

Mr. and Mrs. George Henry Warren, jr., of 520 Fifth-ave., entertained sixteen guests at dinner in the evening.

Mrs. William H. Schieffelin entertained about seventy-five members of the Thursday Evening Club at her home, No. 242 East Fifteenth-st. in the evening.

One of the most enjoyable social affairs of the winter, out of town, was the ball given at Norwalk last evening by Mrs. George C. Cholwell, Miss Cholwell, Mrs. M. Cholwell Miller and Miss A. L. Cholwell. Only Norwalk people were invited. The house was tastefully decorated, and the orchestra and supper were from New-York. The company was a brilliant one and the ball was pronounced an unqualified success by all who participated.

A COTILLON AT MRS. DRAYTON'S.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Coleman Drayton gave a ball last night at their home, No. 374 Fifth-ave. The invitations were limited to 150. The halls and parlors had been elaborately decorated with flowers and plants and the whole house was lighted and thrown open. The guests did not begin to arrive till after 11 o'clock, and the dancing was not in order till nearly midnight. The first floor was given up to the dancers, and after the supper, which was served at 1 o'clock, the cotillon was led by J. Ridgeway Moore. Fifty couples took part. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. George Henry Warren, Mr. and Mrs. Orme Wilson, Miss Belle Wilson, Edgerton Winthrop, Miss Winthrop, Mr. and Mrs. Buchanan Winthrop, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Borrowe, Miss Borrowe, Mr. and Mrs. A. Ladenburg, Mr. and Mrs. Elliott Roosevelt, Mrs. Heyward Cutting, Miss Cutting, F. Brockholst Cutting, William Cutting, jr., F. J. Oakley Rhinelander, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Clews, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Goelet, Thomas Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Frederic Bronson, Miss Kate Bulkley, Mr. and Mrs. August Belmont, jr., Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Howland, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. D. Lanier, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Cary, Mr. and Mrs. Walker B. Smith and F. A. Beach.

GENERAL BUTLER'S OPINIONS.

INTERESTING TALK ON MANY TOPICS.

GARLAND, SHARP, CLEVELAND, 1888, AND SILVER AMONG THE SUBJECTS DISCUSSED.

General B. F. Butler was sitting contentedly in a capacious parlor at the Fifth Avenue Hotel last night when a TRIBUNE reporter called on him. Every gas burner in the brilliant chandelier was lighted, including the argand drop light. There was a glowing bed of anthracite coals in the open grate. On the big centre table was a copy of the New