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CASINO—8—Ermine.
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DOCKSTADER'S—8—Minstrels.
EDEN MUSEE—Waxworks.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE—8—Hoodman Blind.
HARRIGAN'S PARK THEATRE—8—The O'Reagans.
LYCEUM THEATRE—8—Met by Chance.
MADISON SQUARE GARDEN—8—Wild West.
MADISON SQUARE THEATRE—8—Jim, the Penman.
NIBLO'S GARDEN—8—Black Crook.
STANDARD THEATRE—8—Rosina Vokes.
STAR THEATRE—8—Indiana
THALIA.—Die Meininger.
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New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1887.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—Mr. Chamberlain's idea of a Home Rule measure. ═ Effect of the rumors of war. ═ Austria's gigantic preparations. ═ Panicky feeling in the stock market. ═ Riot in a Ghent theatre. ═ Disastrous floods in Queensland. ═ Change of venue in the Plan of Campaign cases. ═ A plot to surprise Sophia. ═ Death of Sir Joseph Whitworth. ═ Zankoff's proposals declined.

CONGRESS.—Both branches in session. ═ Senate: The Edmunds-Frye Fisheries bill passed. ═ House: The President called on for further fisheries correspondence; the River and Harbor bill discussed.

DOMESTIC.—Floods and damage caused by ice-dams in various parts of the country. ═ Boiler explosion in Pittsburg by which two men lose their lives and several persons are injured. ═ A gift of $250,000 from Hiram Sibley, of Rochester, to Cornell University. ═ Ten bills submitted to the Legislature by the Railroad Commissioners. ═ Resolutions to investigate the coal-handlers' strike introduced into the Legislatures of New-York and New-Jersey. ═ Ex-Governor Bate nominated by the Democrats in Tennessee for Senator. ═ Janitor Titus sentenced.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.—Father Donnelly refuses to let the St. Stephen's parishioners meet in the church. ═ Knights of Labor take an active hand in the coal strike. ═ Death of General Charles P. Stone. ═ The second Cotillon ball. ═ Twelve jurors obtained in the O'Neil trial. ═ A dinner given to Michael Davitt. ═ Anniversary of the Young Men's Christian Association. ═ To oppose the Tilden Trust bill at Albany. ═ A decision against the Subway Commission. ═ About 2,500 people on strike in Higgins's carpet factory. ═ Gold value of the legal-tender silver dollar (412½ grains)—47c. per ounce—78.14 cents. ═ Stocks active, with a heavy depression, closing weak.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Fair, with slowly rising temperature. Temperature yesterday: Highest, 54°; lowest, 32°; average, 43⅜°.

Mr. Chamberlain's present amiable disposition toward a reunion with the Gladstone Liberals is revealed in a letter to an American friend which we print this morning. The Radical leader says that Mr. Gladstone wants National Home Rule, while he wants Provincial Home Rule. This variation in names will make no difference to the Irish people if they can only get Practical Home Rule,

The attempts at violence in several places yesterday, and the constant interference with carts at the ferries in Jersey City and New-York, indicate that the men who are engaged in the coal strike are losing their temper—probably because the city is supplied with fuel despite their efforts. The unwillingness of the authorities in Jersey City to keep the strikers in order is the most discouraging feature of the situation. So long as Mayor Cleveland thinks he can help his political schemes by indifference to his duties, this state of things is likely to continue.

The Brooklyn Aldermen may not be moved by the petition sent to them yesterday urging the granting of permission to the Long Island Elevated Railroad Company to put up a structure in Atlantic-ave.; but they certainly ought to be. The delay in this matter is scandalous. The company's application was made months ago, and there is no reason to doubt, that, if the requisite permission had been given, the road would now be well under way. For no apparent reason the Railroad Committee has allowed the matter to slumber more than half a year. Not only will the proposed elevated road supply an urgent want, but it will put an end to the present steam surface road, which has caused much loss of life. It should be built at once.

It is curious to see Prince Bismarck posing as a statesman determined to stand firmly upon the Constitution of his country. Yet that is what he did yesterday in a speech in the Lower House of the Prussian Diet. It was a compromise of the Emperor's Constitutional rights, he said, to allow the Imperial Reichstag to have anything at all to say about the army. Instead of fixing the "peace effective" army for seven years, the Government might have insisted upon having it settled permanently and precisely as the Emperor wished. The entire address was apparently devoted to attacking the Reichstag. As reported by cable, it contains nothing that goes either to increase or lessen the chances of war.

The drawing of a jury to try O'Neil, one of the bribed Aldermen of 1884, attracts comparatively little attention. Public opinion seems to be that the trial will be conducted efficiently by the prosecution, and that conviction will be the result, as a matter of course. The proceedings of yesterday justify this conclusion. The District-Attorney declined the polite offer of the defence to take as jurors the first twelve men who offered, and made his selections as carefully as in the McQuade case. O'Neil's lawyers appear inclined to accept any reasonably fair juror, and the trial should not occupy many days, possibly not more than six.

THE HIGH LICENSE BILL.

The High License bill introduced to the Assembly at Albany by Mr. Ernest H. Crosby is a practical, and in the main, well-considered measure. It provides for six classes of licenses, ranging between $1,000 for the ordinary saloon and $10 for drug-stores. The general principle of imposing the heaviest tax upon the most mischievous machinery for the sale of liquors is adhered to, the license for selling malt beverages being but half the amount of the liquor license. But at this point there is, we think, room for some modification. The argument upon which such measures as this are justified is, that since it is not practicable to enforce prohibitory laws in great cities the one wise and statesmanlike course is to regulate and restrain the traffic, and do whatever is feasible toward diverting the public taste from the more harmful to the least harmful drinks. Whatever tends to lessen the consumption of spirits is beneficent. Now experience shows that the more beer is consumed the less whiskey is used, and the change from alcoholic to malt beverages is in the direct interest of temperance.

But if high license as a practical policy rests on the impossibility of enforcing more drastic measures, it is evident that high license itself requires to be applied as a regulative and not as a prohibitory law; for otherwise it will encounter the evasion and defiance which have always been the fate of prohibitive statutes in large cities. If this reasoning is sound, it follows that the license upon the sale of malt liquors should be proportionately low, and Mr. Crosby's bill, we think, errs in putting the rate too high. Of course, the question is not at all of what the friends of temperance would like if they could have their way. The mere desire to have the whole community not only temperate but abstinent never yet solved the problem. It may be cheerfully granted that it would be much better for everybody if the love of drink could be eradicated altogether. But it cannot be. It is an appetite which we all know can only be overcome by degrees, and by patient educational processes. The State can help on the reform by imposing a heavy tax upon the most dangerous class of saloons. (A high tax bill, in fact, would in our judgment be preferable to a high license bill.) By so doing it can restrict the number of whiskey-shops, and wipe out the worst kind of groggeries completely. And this kind of action has an immediate and salutary effect upon the whole question, since it diminishes temptation for those least able to withstand it.

The tax upon the retail sale of spirits can perhaps hardly be made too high. The case is one in which the community is justified in discriminating against a particular interest. It is justified by the fact that the business in question is against public policy, immoral and destructive in its consequences, and only to be tolerated pending the evolution of a more enlightened public opinion. Short of prohibition the tax on the retailing of spirits can hardly be put too high, and considering the alarming increase of the saloons in this city of late, and in most great cities, the point is the more urgent. Mr. Crosby's bill, with the changes here suggested, promises well. It can no doubt be enforced if the executive officers do their duty. If they cannot be trusted, no statute will be of any avail. Public opinion in New-York, however, approves the principle of high license, and the Legislature should understand that such a measure as Mr. Crosby has introduced is very seriously demanded. The temperance sentiment of New-York must not be flouted, and cannot be defied. High license, moreover, is indorsed by many thousands who do not go the length of prohibition, and it is a measure required as well for the material protection as for the moral elevation of the community.

NAVAL COMPARISONS.

A naval officer on duty in the Mediterranean has exploded a small torpedo under the English-American Navy. Commander McGregor, of the United States ship Alliance, has reported under date of January 1 the arrival of the British fleet at Malta, and unusual courtesies shown to him and his officers by the Admiral (the Duke of Edinburgh) and the Governor. "Her Majesty's ship Scout," he writes, "one of the new type recently built, arrived in port on December 31. The commanding officer said that she was placed at seventeen knots and had made it in smooth water, but that he called her a sixteen-knot ship. In making this speed the ship vibrates so much that even old sailors are made sick." This is an interesting bit of naval intelligence, for which the country is greatly indebted to the news-counter of the Bureau of Navigation. Secretary Whitney, despairing of the ability of American designers to plan a fast cruiser, sent to England for some of the newest and most approved ideas. How distressed he will be when he learns that seventeen knots nominal speed means sixteen knots actual sea speed, and that this reduced rate is accompanied by unerring signs of structural weakness! The vibrations of the machinery are so violent as to make old sailors seasick even in fine weather. Not landlubbers, sent to sea as naval experts in search of a storm, but weather-beaten, stomach-proof British tars on a smooth sea! What will the partisan examiners, who condemned the Dolphin on account of the jingling of glasses in the cabin, have to say when confronted with such glaring evidence of structural weakness? Imagine the three Jonahs, who took passage with Captain Meade on his celebrated cruise, embarking for a voyage on the Scout!

This disclosure of the actual speed and instability of the Scout is timely. Secretary Whitney, in his last annual report, goes out of his way to make a series of unfair and misleading comparisons between the first four vessels constructed for the new Navy and a series of English ships built about the same time. This is done with a view to discrediting the work of American designers. The Dolphin is contrasted with the Alacrity and the Surprise, and the Atlanta with the Esmeralda, Giovanni Bausan and Mersey, and the inferiority of the American ships is assumed to be mathematically demonstrated. Marine engineers, who have read these paragraphs in the Secretary's report, have pronounced the method of comparison to be unfair and unscrupulous, and the conclusions reached as wholly without warrant in fact. The Surprise is admitted by English naval authorities to be a failure, and instead of being used as an Admiralty yacht has been converted into a gunboat and sent to a foreign station. The Alacrity has not answered the requirements of speed for which it was designed. The other vessels named have possibly shown great speed over a measured mile after repeated trial trips; but structural weakness is suspected, and the actual speed is much lower than the Secretary has assumed it to be. It is certainly a curious spectacle to find English vessels, which are condemned at home "as a fleet of modern failures"—this is the language of one of the most influential engineering journals—paraded in an American naval report as the finest models of marine warfare.

EDGERTON'S CONFESSION.

An astonishing interview was printed yesterday morning between Civil Service Commissioner Edgerton and the Washington correspondent of our neighbor, "The World." A local newspaper in the capital city had printed an article charging that monetary considerations had affected some of the recommendations for office made by the Commissioners. When this was shown Mr. Edgerton, he pronounced it a "damnable lie," and said that the man who wrote it "is either a liar or a fool, and should be shot down in the street."

He did not care to become a murderer himself, perhaps because of the annoying legal formalities likely to ensue in such an event, with which, later on in the interview, he professed himself familiar, and which, at his advanced age, he prefers to avoid. But he thought that Oberly, whom he nicknamed "Bishop," was quite equal to the task. He looked for a "high old time" when the Bishop saw the accusing article, and expected to be edified with some choice profanity. Oberly, he said, "is nothing if not profane," and "has but little regard for the Bible when he lets loose his oaths."

The interview proceeds with this notable confession:

"I honestly believe," continued Mr. Edgerton, growing somewhat more emphatic, "that if Oberly can find the man who wrote or inspired the article he will shoot him down like a dog, as he deserves to be. I am not much of a fighter myself, though I have been indicted five or six times for shooting, and if I was a little younger I would not be afraid to take a hand at it again."

For the sake of all that is decent we hope our friend, "The World," has been imposed upon, and that Mr Edgerton is able to deny the use of such language as this. But the interview looks authentic. If Edgerton has said what he is quoted as saying, he gives the public a choice exhibition of the men in whose hands Mr. Cleveland has intrusted the control of the Civil Service. That both Oberly and Edgerton were entirely unworthy such a conspicuously high trust every one must long ago have seen. At best, the one is a machine politician of the worst type and the other an inexperienced fossil of the Bourbon epoch. But we scarcely supposed that they were a couple of profane and murderous "toughs," and scarcely expected our first information of that kind to come in the shape of a blatant confession. We invite Mr. Edgerton to furnish us a denial of the criminal talk quoted as coming from him, and hope that Mr. Oberly will rush to his own defence against his colleague's accusations. The President should lose no time finding out for what crimes his chosen confidant confesses himself to have been so often indicted, and pending all these explanations, the people will be comforted by watching the progress of "reform" in the Civil Service, under the fostering care of these extraordinary Commissioners.

THE BALDWIN MURDER CASE.

In November, 1885, William Baldwin, of Kansas, was found guilty of the murder of his sister Mary. The prosecution had only circumstantial evidence to proceed upon. The deceased was found dead in her bed, with a pillow on her face, and a bottle which had contained chloroform beside her. A panel had been cut out of the kitchen-door, apparently with a knife. It was sought to show that the prisoner had been endeavoring to get some money from his sister. Their mother had written to Mary the day before the death of the latter, advising her to let William have $500 to help pay off a mortgage on his house. Little other evidence than this was produced for the people. The defendant, however, was not examined, and probably this fact went against him. It was said that he had been wild. Letters were introduced indicating that he had worried his mother and sister considerably with solicitations of pecuniary help. In one of them the deceased girl said she supposed he would not stop until he had got all the mother's and most of her fortune. But the absence of a sufficient motive for so unnatural a crime was not overcome.

It was proved that the defendant had nothing to hope financially from his sister's death, since in that event all her fortune would revert to her mother. This had been fully explained to William Baldwin by the Probate Judge at the time the father's estate was administered upon. The theory of the defence was that the crime had been committed by a burglar, though there were no other evidences of burglary in the house. The jury rejected that hypothesis, and convicted the defendant, and the Supreme Court of Kansas, on an appeal, confirmed the sentence the other day. The Court in their opinion, however, say: "It must be admitted that the evidence of the defendant's guilt is not entirely conclusive, but it is of such a nature that honest and intelligent men might differ in opinions as to its sufficiency to justify a verdict of guilty." "The Albany Law Journal," commenting on this, says: "In view of the facts, this conclusion seems incredible. . . . The learned Court say the evidence is 'not entirely conclusive.' We believe that nine lawyers out of every ten in the United States would rather say that it does not even cast the shadow of a suspicion on the defendant." That is, perhaps, putting the case too strongly, because it is evident that a good many lawyers have held the evidence to be damaging. But certainly its conclusiveness is so much open to doubt that the affirmation of the conviction by the Supreme Court is a surprise.

Another attempt is to be made to secure a rehearing, and though the same court has to pass upon the motion which so recently affirmed the sentence, hope is entertained that on the admission of the Judges themselves the object sought may be conceded. Certainly if the Court does not regard the evidence as conclusive—and it has said as much—it ought not to refuse a rehearing which, if the defendant is guilty, is not at all likely to purge him. Whereas, if he is not guilty, the refusal of a rehearing will entail a very ugly responsibility. Circumstantial evidence at the best is full of traps and pitfalls. It is liable even when it seems most complete to suggest totally wrong conclusions, and where it is not complete it may be more misleading than no evidence at all would be. In the Baldwin case there appears to be quite enough uncertainty to justify, nay, to demand, a retrial, and the Kansas Supreme Court has more to gain by manifesting liberality of spirit, even though some sacrifice of personal pride be involved, than by inflexibly persisting in a position which even upon the showing of the Court itself is anything but secure.

SOUTHERN IRON.

"The Atlanta Constitution" proclaims with much flourish of trumpets, but with evident sincerity, "the deportation of iron-making from Pennsylvania to the South." In the same enthusiastic spirit, and with the same sincerity, other writers fifteen years ago proclaimed the deportation of iron-making from Pennsylvania to Missouri. However, Missouri made less iron in 1886 than in 1872. In the business of iron manufacture, experience and skill are quite as needful as enthusiasm.

According to "The Constitution," "Iron can be made cheaper in Birmingham than in Pennsylvania by at least $5 per ton." What the iron that can be so made will be worth in the market, or for practical use, cannot yet be determined; years of experience will be needed to settle that question. English capital built a great furnace in Virginia a few years ago, and put an experienced English furnace manager in charge of it, and manned it with trained English workmen, and declared that iron as good as was made in Pennsylvania would be made there in vast quantity at a cost of less than $10 per ton. Within a year the furnace found some difficulty; the iron was not found to be worth as much in the market as No. 1 Anthracite, and it cost more than $10 per ton, and the enterprise has not yet deported iron-making from Pennsylvania to Virginia. A large capital and unlimited outlay for ore and fuel and plant do not necessarily make cheap iron.

These things are said not to discourage the enterprising men of Alabama, but to justify a word of warning that they should not expect too much, nor put up quite out of sight the prices of coal lands, iron lands, corner lots, furnace and mill stocks, with a faith that cheap iron will result all the same. If there were not excited speculation in Alabama properties, elaborate and rhetorical articles would not be written to convince the world that the Alabama furnaces were going to make iron for $9 per ton; the simpler way would be to make the iron and sell it. Somebody wants to sell stocks or lands at good figures, where there is extensive advertisement of such opportunities to make money. But people who buy iron-making property at a high capitalization will find that it is not so easy to make $10 iron that is worth $20 anywhere in this country as they may think, and that it is less easy with a costly plant and costly materials than with plants and materials at hard-pan valuations. There is room in this country for all the iron that anybody can make, and New-York will especially rejoice if the success of Southern enterprises lessens the dependence of New-York manufactures upon Pennsylvania furnaces; but it is hardly time yet to talk about deporting iron-making from the Keystone State, and observations of that kind do not tend to hasten the making of cheap and good iron at the South.

It is sad to see a public journal that ordinarily is sensible and fair-minded—referring now to "The Albany Times"—calling for the removal of public servants because they are of the Republican faith. If President Cleveland felt it to be his duty to suppress newspapers as well as Federal office-holders who are found guilty of pernicious political activity "The Times" might well tremble.

It is always pleasant to contemplate a newspaper which having unwittingly fallen into an error has the courageous manliness to correct it. "The St. Louis Post-Dispatch" is that sort of a contemporary. Some days ago it did the First Ward of St. Louis a cruel injustice by asserting that there were 154 forgeries in its registration. Having discovered that the statement was not correct it determined to recall the obvious slur upon the ethical brightness of the First Ward. Hence we find "The Post-Dispatch" publishing this frank retraction: "We were mistaken in saying that there were 154 forgeries in the registration in the First Ward. Out of 154 names put on the books only 151 were forgeries." It is understood that the First Ward of St. Louis breathes easier.

The last person to attempt the audacious feat of bearding the lion in his den is a Hudson burglar. The burglar found himself needing a suit of clothes the other day, and watching his opportunity stole what he needed from police headquarters. If that burglar ever should be turned into a rat for his sins he would doubtless undertake the contract to bell the cat.

It is proposed to return to the former method of electing Aldermen in Brooklyn. When the change was made, four years ago, whereby Aldermen were chosen both by districts and at large, it was expected that a better class of men would be chosen and that the general tone of the Common Council would be raised. This expectation has not been fulfilled. The Democrats now elect an overwhelming majority of the Board, and jobbery has been as prevalent as under the old system. A return to the election of Aldermen by wards would be wise. The bill to that effect introduced by Senator Griswold has been prepared by the Brooklyn Republican League and is said to have been approved by the Republican associations of all the wards. As at present, no salaries are to be paid to Aldermen. This bill may not improve the quality of the Brooklyn Common Council; but it can hardly lower it.

"I have no millions in my hand," sighs a bard who contributes to "The Rochester Union." This gives color to the rumor which has been in circulation for some time that the Rochester newspaper does not pay anything for poetry.

Ex-Mayor Grace complains of the inefficiency of the four-headed Police Board, illustrating it by stating the case of a notorious character who was appointed patrolman. The ex-Mayor ought to tell how this notorious individual passed the examination made by Mayor Grace's Civil Service Commissioners, one of whose requirements was that a person must be of good character to be admitted to an examination. And while he is about it let him tell whether it is any worse to appoint a notorious character as patrolman than to give him an important and responsible office such as Warden of the Tombs.

"It is useless and worse than useless to play post-mortem hands." It was a peculiarly level-headed philosopher who originally made the remark. We recall it at this time for the benefit of our brethren who are still discussing the canvass for the Senatorship.

Francis A. Walker, of Boston (Mugwump), is quoted as remarking: "With such a man as Mr. Manning at the head of the Treasury Department, whose ability and sound judgment are so prominent, the Independent Republicans do not regret voting for Mr. Cleveland." Is Mr. Walker aware that the member of the President's Cabinet whom he singles out as being particularly satisfactory to "Independent" Republicans is known to the politicians of New-York as a Democratic boss of the old school, who always ran with the machine and who never took any stock in reform?

Is it possible that the railroad companies in the interest of higher prices would just as lief the strike of the coal people would go on as not? Are the strikers blindly playing the game for the railroads, as they have so many times before played the employers' game, when they thought they were playing their own?

Complaint is already made by the Board of Health that it cannot be held to account if a smallpox epidemic should prevail, because the Board of Estimate cut down the money necessary to manage the department. This is not a good excuse. If the appropriation is exhausted in a legitimate manner before the year is out, the Board of Estimate will undoubtedly come to the relief by a transfer. If the Board of Health is competent to deal with the question it need not fail for lack of means.

PERSONAL.

A current topic in Paris has been the possible expulsion of Mr. Blowitz from France. His absurd Russo-German alliance story gave the French Government great offence.

President and Mrs. Diaz of Mexico have promised to be for a time the guests of Mme Patti-Nicolini when they go to Europe a couple of years hence.

Mr. Burne Jones stood third in the polling when Mr. Marcus Stone was recently elected to the Royal Academy.

Mr. John G. Whittier finds it impossible to answer all the requests he recieves for his autograph, his opinions on poems and books, etc.

The Comte de Paris is a notably fine skater and has attracted much admiration in England this winter by his skill on the ice.

There is a suspicion of invention about the presentation to Jeff Davis of "a cane cut from the tree which shaded him at the time of his surrender." There is a popular impression to the effect that the old traitor was "shaded" by a bonnet and skirts when he was caught.

The late Mr. Francis Fry, the famous English chocolate merchant, possessed one of the finest collections of Bibles in the world.

Professor Max Muller's health and spirits have been seriously failing ever since the death of his daughter.

Mr. Moody will spend the rest of the winter in Chicago.

Last Sunday occurred the death of Mrs. Sarah E. Monmouth, of Canterbury, N. H, at the age of fifty-nine years. She was, *The Boston Transcript* remarks, the daughter of Dr. Joseph M. Harper, of Canterbury, acting Governor in 1830-31 and a member of Congress from 1831 to 1836. Mrs. Monmouth's brother, the late Rev. C. A. Harper, was lieutenant colonel of Hays's Texan Volunteers in the Mexican war, and afterward justice of the Supreme Court in Arkansas. Her husband, Jacques Eugene Monmouth, was a Southerner, whom she met in Texas. He was killed in the war of the Rebellion, while serving as colonel of a Louisiana regiment. Mrs. Monmouth's father died in 1864, and soon afterward she lost much of her property, and for four years lived the life of a recluse on her Canterbury farm. In 1871 she began the work of decorating what is known as the "Worsted Church" in Canterbury, spending in this employment seven years, holding services on Sundays, at which she read sermons of Beecher, Talmage or Spurgeon. Her home, "Rest Valley," she afterward decorated in the same manner.

Edward Blake, the Canadian Liberal leader, who in all probability will beat Sir John A. Macdonald very badly at the polls next month, is a man of massive face and burly figure. He is considered the best speaker in Canada, and, if Lord Dufferin be considered an authority, a perfect orator. His grandfather was Member of Parliament for the County of Waterford, Ireland, and his father a Church of England clergyman. In a hot debate carried on in the Ontario Legislature some years ago an opponent charged him with being descended from a rebel of '98, at which Mr. Blake smiled sweetly, showing a fine set of teeth. He angered the Tories by refusing Knighthood, an honor the average Canadian politician dreams of every night. Five years ago Mr. Blake introduced a bill empowering the Dominion to make its own commercial treaties, and although defeated it will be heard of again. He is a republican and, while preferring independence to annexation, he would make an excellent American citizen.

"Ouida" is now in London, and is variously described as ugly and handsome, old and middle-aged; a misanthropic recluse and a sociable good comrade.

In his lately published Memoirs, Count Beust tells this story of the brave but bluff and gruff Marshal Pelissier, when the latter was in England. Sitting at dinner with the Queen, the hero of the Malakoff found himself in the immediate vicinity of her Majesty, and also of an open window. Hating draughts, the old warrior turned to the servants with a peremptory "Fermez les fenêtres." The Queen, who always humored him, burst out laughing and repeated the order in English.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

A correspondent writes to *The Boston Transcript* calling attention to the fact that in this country window shades are frequently left up after the lamps are lit. "How very odd" he says, "this would seem to an Englishman! The moment a lamp is lighted in an Englishman's house, in town or country, down goes the curtain. An American has seemingly none of that nice sense of domestic privacy that the Englishman owns. He can sit in the bosom of his family, eat, drink, be merry, dandle his child upon his knee, poke his fire, read his paper, all uncurtained to the outside world."

An official connected with the sanitary department of Paris says that there are fully 2,500,000 rats in that city.

A very efficacious and celebrated Russian patent medicine was recently analyzed. It was found to be nothing but water from the River Neva.

A Lamoille County poet sends us some verses entitled "Give Me Back My Own." We regret to say that we have used the stamp, and that the paper has one of our editorials on the back. In order to avoid such complications in the future, our poet will please send only the stamp.—[Burlington Free Press.

In 1886 the colored people of Georgia owned 802,939 acres of land, and the total valuation of property owned by the colored people was $8,655,298.

There is a young business man in this city who is suffering from the curious epistolary freak of some crank. Every day this month he has received a letter in his morning mail, consisting simply of a card on which are printed these words: "Did You Ever See a Man Who Had a Hare Lip? If so, Serve the Lord; for He Alone Can Save."

At a concert the other night a young chap who sat next to me faithfully consulted his programme and criticised every singer in very awkward terms. Having listened to enough of his gaff, I quietly said to him: "You seem to know considerable about music; are you a musician?" "No, not exactly," he replied, "but my sister makes piano covers for Cory Brothers"—[Providence Telegram.

A Brooklyn man says that Brooklyn is growing so rapidly that in a few years it will have more inhabitants than New-York. When this time comes the loyal Brooklynites will rush a bill through the Legislature consolidating the two cities under the name of Brooklyn, thus effectually snuffing the Manhattan Island village out of existence. Brooklyn is a lusty child and it makes every body happy to see it kick.

A man comes out of a tavern and hurries down the street. A moment later two other men rush out and shout "Stop him!" A dozen men repeat the cry, and the man is presently brought to a stand by a policeman. When his pursuers come up, one of them remarks, "There, Fritz, it's no use trying to get away. You will have to take another beer with us." Then, turning to the gaping crowd, "I thank you, gentlemen, for your kind assistance."—[Frankfurter Zeitung.

A bill has been introduced at Albany providing that no fish less than six inches in length shall be caught. The law will be defective if it does not also provide a kindergarten, or something equivalent, for fish less than six inches in length, so that they may be trained up with due respect for this embodiment of the wisdom of our lawgivers. If such fish persist in taking the seductive worm a summary example must be made of them.

The handsome pamphlet on "Knitting and Crochet" which THE TRIBUNE has just issued is full of plain and clear directions for making all manner of pretty things. Fairy-like laces, warm afghans and decorative counterpanes, dainty garments of all kinds, and many other articles of beautiful mystery to the masculine mind may be manufactured with perfect ease—and thread and worsted—by the happy possessor of this book. It is TRIBUNE Extra No. 90 and the price is twenty-five cents.

Law vs. Order.—Indignant Citizen—There was a burglar here last night, and he might have murdered us all if it hadn't been for the dog.

Policeman—The dog is phat I'm lookin' for, sur.

"The dog! What do you want of him!"

"He ain't registered, an' it's me duty to shoot 'im sur."—[Omaha World.

MUSIC.

COMIC OPERETTA AT THE BIJOU.

Mr. Nat C. Goodwin and Messrs. "Miles & Burton's Bijou Opera Comique Company" (probably so named because it does not perform "opera comique") brought forward an English version of "La Mascotte" at the Bijou Opera House last night. This "revival" is a welcome one. Of all the French works in the province of musical comedy which have been written since the death of Offenbach none shows so much ingenuity and beauty as Audran's "Mascotte." In it there is a delightfully harmonious co-operation of the literary and musical factors. Without the music it would be a clever comedy; without the action an exceedingly agreeable musical entertainment.

As it was given last night the comedy element held the foreground. Mr. Goodwin and his associates do not shine in the music of the operetta—not even Miss Lillie Grubb, who was specially engaged to play the titular rôle, and who was treated with great kindness by the audience. She is a comely young woman, of course, and when she does not force it her voice is melodious and of amiable quality; but there is as little mobility and expression in her singing as in her features and her acting. But when the music was so plainly subordinated to the dialogue it is scarcely necessary to discuss it in detail. The performance rested on Mr. Goodwin, and his extremely comical and genuinely amusing impersonation of *Lorenzo* carried it to a merited success. Mr. Goodwin's fertility of resource enabled him to infuse quite as much originality and humor into the character as M. Mezieres used to invest it with. Right admirable also were Mr. Charles B. Bishop as *Rocco* and Miss Leila Farrell as *Fiametta*. The part of *Frideric* was given to a woman, Miss Flora Irwin, which marred its musical effectiveness. Miss Irwin was also a newcomer on the Bijou stage and so was Mr. Stuart Harold, the somewhat stolid *Pippo* of the evening. Pretty costumes, good stage furniture and Mr. Goodwin's humor will doubtless make the revival a success.

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA.

Lovers of orchestral music will be glad to learn that the project of bringing the Boston Symphony Orchestra to New-York for a series of concerts has been revived. This excellent organization, under the direction of Mr Gericke, will give three concerts at Steinway Hall, on February 24, March 2 and March 31. At the first concert Beethoven's fifth symphony and the same composer's violin concerto will be played, the solo performer being Mr. Franz Kneisel, the leader of the band's violins. A Brahm's symphony will be the chief piece of the second concert, at which it is possible that Mr. Carl Baerman will also be heard. An effort will be made to engage Miss Lilli Lehmann for the third concert, at which Schubert's C major symphony will be played.

LOOKING FOR THE IMPOSSIBLE.

From The Rochester Herald.

The New-York Times begins a paragraph with these words: "If *The Evening Post* were less ignorant." If! *The Times* has not begun to look for the impossible, has it?

ENGLISH AS SHE IS WROTE.

From The Boston Transcript.

The veiled identity of the above poem, which appeared in *The Transcript*, will need no elucidation to Boston readers as being written to Mrs. Louise Chandler Moulton, by the Rev. M. J. Savage.

A UNIQUE COMPLIMENT FOR SENATOR MILLER.

Washington Correspondent of The Albany Argus.

It is due, with all fairness to the others, to say that Senator Miller is the most "yesterday, to-day and forever" man among them all.

GENERAL SHERMAN ON THE GRAND ARMY.

HE SPEAKS OF GRANT AND PAYS A TRIBUTE TO GENERAL STONE.

The Brooklyn Academy of Music was crowded in every part last evening, at the installation of officers of U. S. Grant Post, No. 327, G. A. R. Upon the stage sat General James McLeer and the Second Brigade Staff, with the members of the Post. The speaker of the evening was General W. T. Sherman, who sat in a proscenium box. He was received with repeated rounds of applause and the whole audience rose to greet him. He said in part:

The Grand Army of the Republic is founded on the three cardinal virtues, charity, loyalty and fraternity. Loyalty was burnt in them by war. The name of the hero borne by this post, which shines above me in letters of light, shines over the whole earth, although he is entombed, and is a living thought to us all, our brother yet. I bear another sad message to you. To the list of the dead must be added that of General Charles P. Stone—Pacha Stone—who died to-day at half past one o'clock. One week ago he was alive and well and was preparing to go to New-Orleans to make some money, in which he stood sadly in need. Two days later he was taken sick, and skill could not save him. He was a comrade of Lincoln Post. I knew him thirty years ago. He came out of the Mexican War with honor, and then went to California. When the Civil War broke out he was in Washington, and he was the first soldier sworn into the volunteer army. After some months of service he was imprisoned in Fort Lafayette, and to his dying day he never learned the reason why. A year later he was released and went with Banks up the Red River and served to the end of the war. He then went to Egypt and became chief of staff. On his return to this country he laid the pedestal for the Statue of Liberty. We have 300,000 men in the Grand Army, each with an honorable record. No matter what their rank all are upon perfect equality.

Speeches were also made by Generals S. L. Woodford and Henry W. Slocum.

ANXIETY ABOUT MR. HEWITT'S HEALTH.

HE HAS NO IDEA OF RESIGNING—A STATEMENT FROM EX-MAYOR COOPER.

The continued illness of Mayor Hewitt causes a good deal of anxiety among his friends and persons interested in the city government. This anxiety has been heightened by the well-known fact that for many years Mr. Hewitt has not physically been a strong man. The difficulty he has had in getting sufficient sleep at Washington has been so much talked of in the newspapers as to become well known all over the country. When he was nominated for Mayor, it was common talk that he would not be able to serve out his term. No great surprise was expressed when it was learned that he would not be at his office for several days after the beginning of his term.

Now that over three weeks have elapsed without his being able to come to the City Hall, with a probability that it may be as many weeks more, there is naturally much talk and some anxiety as to his real condition. In order to get the facts in an authoritive way, a TRIBUNE reporter called yesterday on ex-Mayor Cooper, who is Mr. Hewitt's business partner and brother-in-law, and asked him for a statement of Mr. Hewitt's condition.

"I was with him yesterday," said Mr. Cooper, "and I see him nearly every day. There is nothing dangerous about his affliction, and he has not been dangerously ill. It is simply an attack of rheumatism, with neuralgic pains in the legs. He is unable to move about for that reason. How long he will be confined to his house I cannot tell. He may be out in a few days, and he may be confined for ten days or longer. As to the talk about his going to Europe or resigning, that is idle and sensational. He will probably be able to attend to his duties before long. There is not and never has been anything mysterious about his sickness."

President Beekman and Secretary Berry laughed at the statement that Mayor Hewitt contemplated resigning and going to Europe. Mr. Hewitt examines and signs official papers every day. He wrote a note to Mr. Berry yesterday on an office matter. The weather affects him somewhat. The Board of Estimate and Apportionment generally meets the first or second week in January and organizes. The Mayor has he