Amusements.

BIJOU OPERA HOUSE—8—The Mascott.
CASINO—8—Erminie.
DALY'S THEATRE—8—The Taming of the Shrew.
DOCKSTADER'S—8—Minstrels.
EDEN MUSEE—Waxworks.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE—8—Janauschek.
HARRIGAN'S PARK THEATRE—8—McNooney's Visit.
LYCEUM THEATRE—8—Masks and Faces.
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—Humming Bird.
THALIA.—Der Vagabund.
THEATRE COMIQUE—8—The Main Line.
UNION SQUARE THEATRE—8—Peg Woffington.
WALLACK'S—8—Harbor Lights.
5TH-AVENUE THEATRE—8—Marble Heart.
14TH-ST. THEATRE—8—Denman Thompson.
23D-ST. TABERNACLE, near 6th-ave.—Christ Before Pilate.
7TH-AVE. AND 55TH-ST.—9 a. m. and 11 p. m.—The New Cyclorama of the Battles of Vicksburg.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1887.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—Mr. Goschen elected to Parliament. ═ Rumors of dissensions among members of the British Cabinet. ═ The Mexican Consul-generalship. ═ A new Congo company. ═ A report that General Boulanger is preparing for a movement of troops to the frontier. ═ Bombs for policemen. ═ The Catholics supporting Prince Bismarck.

CONGRESS.—Both branches in session. ═ Senate: Eulogies pronounced on Senator Logan. ═ House: Mr. Reed rouses the Democratic majority; caustic debate over bill to abolish fees; eulogies pronounced on Congressman Price.

DOMESTIC.—Part of Chicago submerged by a flood; Western railroads damaged by washouts; Towns in Central and Western New-York where people move only in boats. ═ Continuing the investigation of the accident at the Woodstock bridge. ═ Another fruitless ballot for Senator in West Virginia. ═ Hearing by the Excise Committee on the High License bill. ═ Governor Hill, Squire and Tammany Hall. ═ Bill appropriating $400,000 for the Museum of Natural History passed by the Assembly. ═ Democrats balloting in New-Jersey.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.—New-York trade not affected by the strikes or by smallpox. ═ The strikers growing weaker. ═ Settlement of the Pacific Mail-Panama Railroad disagreement. ═ Close of the agricultural convention. ═ Daniel Drake Smith dead. ═ Herr Niemann sailed for Germany. ═ Money given to Dr. McGlynn. ═ Annual meeting of the Larchmont Yacht Club. ═ Appeal in the De Meli divorce case argued. ═ Gold value of the legal-tender silver dollar (412½ grains)—46¾d. per ounce—77.78 cents. ═ Stocks moderately active at advancing prices, closing strong.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Slightly warmer and fair, growing cloudy, possibly with rain. Temperature yesterday: Highest, 41°; lowest, 34°; average, 38⅜°.

According to the Governor of Virginia, the farmers of that State are in a bad way. They have less money, he says, than at any time since the surrender at Appomattox Court House. This is rather striking testimony against the Democratic State and National Administrations. No wonder there are signs of a political upheaval in the Old Dominion.

The strikers are evidently growing weaker in this city, so far as their ability to delay business is concerned, and they are not apparently making much progress toward securing the submission of their demands to arbitration. This would have been the proper and sensible way to settle the matter in the beginning, but it looks as though it might be too late now to hope for the success of such an effort.

The Republicans of Pennsylvania are wise in redeeming their promise to submit to a vote of the people a proposed prohibitory amendment to the State Constitution. The lower house of the Legislature passed the joint resolution yesterday by a vote of 130 to 66. It now goes to the Governor, who has already declared in favor of it. If a majority of the people of Pennsylvania now want prohibition they can have it. But if the Third Party Prohibitionists had succeeded in electing a Democratic Governor at the last election, as they tried to do, the submission of such an amendment would have been indefinitely postponed.

If there is any failure in Congress to provide for the National defence the responsibility will rest entirely on the Democratic majority in the House. The Senate bills were referred yesterday to a committee, but before this was done the House was fully warned that this would place it in the power of Randall, Holman and the other members of that committee to prevent action on the bills. The Democrats insisted on making the reference, which probably means the defeat of the bills, as this committee has been the means of preventing such legislation heretofore. It is a pity, but while the Democrats control the House there seems no help for it.

There is nothing unusual in the Third Party Prohibitionists and liquor dealers working together in opposing a practical temperance measure as they did yesterday in Albany. But this opposition ought not to have any effect on the Legislature. The spectacle of the liquor dealers opposing the high license bill, on the ground that it will increase drunkenness, is too absurd for consideration. But it is not more absurd than the argument of the Third Party men that there should be no license—either free rum or prohibition. The high license bill is a practical step toward greater restraint on the traffic and its results, and it will also increase taxation where it ought to be increased. The Legislature will make a great mistake in defeating it.

Any proceedings that will throw more light on the Quaker Bridge Dam project will be welcomed by the public. Hence the talk of a resort to the courts to prevent the Aqueduct Commissioners from going ahead with the work may result in good. If the dam does not turn out to be a stupendous mistake, New-York taxpayers may consider themselves lucky. It is not claimed that it is needed now in order to increase the storage of Croton water; and nobody knows how many millions it will cost. The system of storage in separate reservoirs would serve all the city's needs as well, and be safer, less costly and healthier. There ought to be no reckless experiment in this matter, and at least the public should know every detail of the plans and specifications before a step is taken that will commit the city irrevocably to the project.

PUSH HIGH LICENSE.

No stone should be left unturned in urging forward the Crosby High-License bill at Albany. The measure is not one which is to be regarded as representing only the temperance sentiment. It is emphatically a bill in the common interests of civilization and good government. Every taxpayer is directly concerned in resisting that pernicious and apparently unlimited multiplication of the saloons which leads to increase of crime and indigence, and disorder and discontent; which not only fosters Socialist and Anarchist ideas, but swells the number of the lawless, insane, sick and destitute who every year demand greater accommodation and expenditure in maintaining prisons, penitentiaries, asylums, hospitals and charitable refuges. Those who refuse to believe in Prohibition must concede the futuity of a State policy which imposes no practical or effective restrictions upon an agency responsible for two-thirds of the worst and most costly evils which the community suffers; which can only thrive at the expense of the whole people; the prosperity of which is measured by the mischief it does to its direct supporters, and the weight of the burden it lays upon every property-owner in the commonwealth.

At this moment the liquor interest, alarmed at the popular approval which the High-License bill is eliciting, is marshalling its forces for a determined attack upon the measure. Every political influence the saloons possess will be brought to bear upon the Legislature. Efforts will be made to create the impression that the evidences of public feeling in favor of the bill are not trustworthy. The most dangerous and demoralizing agency in American politics is beginning to realize that its Armageddon is at hand, and it can be relied on to fight to the uttermost. It would be folly to assert that the contest before the people is one to be viewed lightly. The saloon has been permitted in the past to intrench itself strongly, and public apathy has given it a great advantage. Nevertheless, High License must be insisted upon, and all who believe that it has become necessary to curtail the influence of the saloon in politics and society are under the strongest obligations to contribute all they can to the success of the pending bill. The first practical step to be taken is to convince the Legislature that it is really the people of New-York generally who demand this law, and that they are so convinced of its necessity that they will not overlook or pardon a deliberate betrayal of their interests. Demonstration of this will do more than anything else to secure the passage of the bill, but the Legislature must not be allowed to pretend by-and-by that it really did not know the bill was demanded by the people.

A better opportunity was never afforded for the Prohibitionists to prove the saneness of their position. High License, as every one knows, is possible here; but Prohibition is not possible. Year after year these agitators have seen the liquor interest triumph and the saloon influence extend because they would not take what was attainable, but insisted on wasting their forces upon that which was wholly out of reach. Now at last a public opinion has developed which calls loudly for the restriction of the saloon. Now at last general support can be had for a direct and feasible temperance measure. If those who call themselves distinctively temperance advocates hold aloof from this struggle they may as well abandon all hope of persuading the American people that they are sincere or practical, and they will appeal in vain for help henceforth. But it is to business men, merchants, law-loving and law-abiding citizens generally, that the present appeal is made. Let such reflect how much the saloon has to answer for in the labor troubles which have so recently threatened trade and manufacture with paralysis. Let them realize how much of the high tax-rate this agency creates and maintains. Let them consider the hopelessness of all effort to establish or preserve a high civilization and a steady rate of progress while the saloon poisons society at the fountain head and sows vice and turbulence broadcast. The High-License bill must be sustained by public meetings and demonstrations, by public indorsements and attestations. What the liquor interest is doing against the measure must be met and overcome by equal energy on a higher plane.

ITALY IN THE SOUDAN.

The fall of the Italian Ministry is the natural outcome of the Soudan massacre. The Chamber never tolerates a failure in foreign affairs. Since Count Cavour's fortunate intervention in the Crimea it has been an accepted tradition of the Italian people that they must never lose an opportunity of exerting active influence in European affairs. Whenever a Minister of Foreign Affairs is unfortunate in negotiations or suffers the prestige of the Kingdom to wane abroad, his usefulness is gone. The Cabinet resigns and after a little delay is reorganized with a new Minister of Foreign Affairs. This conventional procedure was followed two years ago when by the abandonment of Lord Wolseley's expedition the Italian force sent out to co-operate with the English was left in the air without a base of operations or an objective point. Resignations were then in order because the Kingdom had been made a laughing-stock. Resignations are required at present because there has been a disastrous failure in the intrigues with Abyssinia.

The reinforcements sent from Naples will enable the Italian commander at Massowah to push a column for a short distance into the interior. There a halt will have to be made unless the Abyssinians return and challenge attack, which is an improbable contingency. The roads to Kassala are among the worst in the Eastern Soudan, and the march of Europeans to the relief of that garrison is clearly impracticable. The Italian commander evidently hoped to induce the Abyssinian border tribes to do his campaigning for him, but with their usual treachery they have turned against the small force sent out by him. It will be a hazardous enterprise to pursue these tribes and to punish them for their treachery. Either this object must be undertaken, or else an ignoble retreat to the seaboard must be sounded.

THE REPORT OF THE PRISON COMMISSION.

The Prison Commission which was appointed last winter has submitted its report. The commission was charged with the duty of investigating a number of phases of the prison problem, but was created mainly with a view of facilitating the settlement of the long-pending question of a substitute for the convict contract labor system.

The commission reports in favor of the State account system. It is a system which has not commended itself to the Superintendent of Prisons. His preferences in their order are first, the contract system, second, the piece-price system, third, the State account system. He argues that from the point of view of financial results, discipline, and the physical condition of the prisoners, the contract system is greatly to be preferred to either of the others. Excluding that system he favors the piece-price on the ground that the risk under it would be less than under the State account system while the income would be greater. In his report rendered last year he estimated that the adoption of the State account system would make necessary an outlay of $2,750,000 for machinery, stock, skilled instructors and related expenses.

The Legislature will have these facts in mind when it comes to consider the bill embodying the recommendation of the commission. Whatever may be the defects of the State account system it is infinitely better than nothing, and just now the prisons are seriously suffering from the want of a settled policy in regard to the employment of labor. The expenses of the Auburn prison last year exceeded the earnings by $80,491 and this large deficiency was due entirely to the Superintendent's inability under the existing state of things to keep the prisoners employed.

EFFORTS TO INJURE NEW-YORK TRADE.

Some of the Chicago and Boston newspapers need a few words of brotherly counsel. They are zealous in their efforts to exalt the reputation and increase the prosperity of their respective cities. Local pride is not a bad thing, and newspapers that use only honorable means to further the progress of the communities in which they are published are heartily to be commended. But it is all wrong to tell untruths about New-York in order to injure its wholesale trade, and this is just what some of the journals in other cities have been doing. The wildest and most fantastic inventions have been published, with sensational headlines and every device to enforce attention, concerning the condition of affairs in the metropolis. New-York has been represented as almost shut off from the outside world by the strike of the freight-handlers, and merchants have been warned not to send orders to this great wholesale centre, as they could not be filled. The number of small-pox cases has been vastly exaggerated, and buyers have been told that they were in danger of infection if they should come here.

Chicago and Boston are lively and energetic competitors of New-York in various departments of business. But they will gain nothing in the long run by untruths and unfair dealing. Their papers will only discredit themselves and injure the cause they try to serve by misrepresentations. The truth is that the strike is broken completely. At every pier and every freight depot work is going on actively and successfully and New-York merchants are prepared to fill all orders promptly. There is no scare here about smallpox and no reason for any. The number of cases is decreasing and the disease has appeared in only a small part of the town. It is not spreading and it is thoroughly under control. Buyers from every State in the Union will still find this the best of markets and the most attractive, interesting, comfortable and satisfying of the great American cities.

IS IT ANOTHER SURRENDER?

A well-informed Washington correspondent raises an important question in regard to American rights in Behring Sea. The Administration is reported to have ordered the release of the British schooners which were captured last summer by the revenue officials. The ground on which this action is based is said to be the illegality of seizures made outside the three-mile limit. No official confirmation of these rumors has been obtained, but there are strong reasons for suspecting that the Administration has compromised American rights secured by the Alaska purchase. The prominence given by our correspondent to this matter should have the effect of calling out a resolution of inquiry from Congress and detailed explanations from the Department of State and the Attorney-General's office.

There are many interesting questions of treaty and maritime law involved in this case, which it would be premature to discuss in the absence of official information. What our correspondent states in regard to the convention with Russia and the action of Congress cannot be controverted. The Behring Sea was clearly defined and absolute jurisdiction over the eastern half of it was ceded to the United States. Senator Sumner's speeches and the debates of Congress as well as Secretary Seward's official correspondence can be cited as sustaining this view of the case. If the Administration has surrendered these treaty rights for the sake of convenience in conducting negotiations respecting the North Atlantic fisheries, it has assumed a serious responsibility. Light is wanted on this important transaction.

In the main fisheries negotiations with Great Britain Secretary Bayard continues to show signs of conciliation when incisive vigor and inflexible purpose are required. Mr. Phelps in his recent letter to Lord Salisbury refers to a suggestion made last September by authority from the State Department in relation to an "ad interim construction" of the terms of the Treaty of 1818. Lord Iddesleigh dismissed the proposal with contempt, and the wonder is that it was ever seriously advanced by the American Minister. The fact that negotiations for so hollow a truce should have been opened by the State Department discloses a fatal facility for compromise.

THE CITY MILK TRAFFIC.

The price of milk has again been forced down by the Exchange as it was in January. This does not imply that the milk used by families in the city costs them any less, but that the combined dealers who control the prices on both sides of them have increased the toll they take by holding back a little greater percentage from the meagre pay allowed to producers. Half a cent a quart may seem a small matter, but it amounts to a considerable sum in the total sales of a month, especially in a business whose slender profits have been cut into time after time until they are whittled clean away. It means some $80,000 less to farmers every month and $80,000 more to the men who handle the milk in the city. The price paid by dealers through the entire year of 1886 was more than half a cent below the price paid four years ago. In other words the annual income of farmers who send milk by rail to the cities that cluster about this harbor was eaten into to the extent of at least $1,000,000, or the price of 20,000 cows at $50 per head.

The difference between the price now paid to dairymen and the price exacted from consumers is outrageously large. Leaving out of account cream, condensed milk and the milk from city and suburban stables delivered directly by wagon, the cities pay about $15,000,000 a year for the milk which farmers sell for $5,000,000. This $10,000,000 represents enormous waste and expense in handling or enormous profits somewhere. It would purchase 2,000 farms of 100 acres each at $50 per acre, and this land well tilled and properly stocked would produce three-fourths at least of the milk now brought to the city by the railroads. The three cents per quart now paid to farmers in midwinter is certainly no adequate return for the capital and labor invested in this business. Of course it is argued that the laws of supply and demand will regulate this matter. But the alleged law is given no opportunity to work except in one direction. Milk sold in open competition on the platform last year brought more than Exchange prices in spite of the fact that creamery men in league with city dealers send large quantities to the platform when any scarcity is threatened, so that an artificial supply is always available to meet any extraordinary demand.

The iniquities of the traffic are glaring, but it is not easy to prescribe a remedy. The dealers are all within call of each other, a compact, thoroughly organized body of men with city-sharpened wits. The farmers are widely separated, inexpert in business wiles and unaccustomed to concerted action. Some union for self-defence among producers is a necessity nevertheless, and it will be to the interest of the consumer as well to have this industry, so essential to the city's health and comfort, conducted with some reason and system. The time ought not to be far distant when farmers are fairly paid and encouraged to improve the quality of their product—when milk shall be graded and its composition guaranteed and its price regulated by its richness in butter fats and other solids.

Assemblyman Langley affirms that Brooklyn is proud of Hugh McLaughlin. Proud? We should say so. Whenever her sister cities inquire of her, "Where, O Brooklyn, are thy jewels?" she telephones for Hugh, clasps him to her breast and exclaims: "This is my chief jewel." The scene always moves the observers to tears.

Political grand larceny seems to be the only hope of the Democracy.

Cleary will probably be more easily convicted than any of his fellow Aldermanic footpads. We doubt if any circumstantial testimony was so valuable to the prosecution in the McQuade and O'Neil cases as the evidence offered in defence of Cleary. He made a contemptible picture of stupidity and grossness on the witness stand. Illiterate even for an Alderman, he cringed and writhed under the lashing examination of Mr. Nicoll, who crowded him from corner to corner. Any judge of human nature could have seen guilt written all over his face. The evidence against Cleary is precisely that which made a convict of McQuade and O'Neil, who were both infinitely superior in mind to him. The fact that such a man as Cleary could by any possibility get into the Board of Aldermen shows how fearfully low that body of corruptionists had sunk.

Crematories may be a good thing in their way, but the public does not care for them on rails.

Canada is said to owe $300,000,000. Perhaps her course in seizing and charging our boats a ransom price of $500 is not a scheme for protection, but for revenue only.

"Mr. Perry Belmont's report to the House of Representatives on the Fisheries," etc., forcibly recalls the story of "Me and Betsey Killed the Bear."

The fact is thoroughly appreciated in Brooklyn that Mayor Whitney has no mind of his own. But the men who manage him ought to infuse some notion of consistency into his feeble brain. On Monday, when asked about the Legislative investigation, he said: "I am in favor of an investigation and I mean to issue a proclamation inviting it. We don't care who makes it and we want it made." On Tuesday the "proclamation" came, with this remark: "I certainly shall not invite Legislative inquiry, because I believe that Brooklyn is able to manage her own internal affairs." The jewel that consists in making things hang together is conspicuously lacking in Mr. Whitney's collection.

Consul-General Porch is a vicarious sacrifice on the altar of Mugwump diplomacy.

Brooklyn politicians and sporting men should be cautioned against indiscriminate abuse of Assemblyman Bacon for telling much wholesome truth about his town. This is not an Albany raid on Brooklyn. It is a Grand Jury investigation, properly supported by the Legislature.

Yes, a little astronomical knowledge is a dangerous thing. Here is a writer in one of the current magazines asserting that Father Taylor, the well-known Boston Bethel preacher, was "the parallax of the solar system of society." The parallax of the solar system of society is a sonorous, alliterative, high-stepping phrase, but what does it mean? With equal propriety Taylor might have been characterized as the binomial theorem of the solar system of society, or as the gulf stream of the solar system of society. To be sure, neither binomial theorems nor gulf streams can be predicated of solar systems, but then neither can parallaxes. A parallax, according to professional astronomers, is "the apparent displacement of a heavenly body arising from a change of the observer's position." Now it would be impossible in the nature of things for an observer to obtain a coign of vantage from which the entire solar system would seem to be the victim of a displacement. Or assuming the coign of vantage and assuming the displacement, where is the photograph of Father Taylor that is liable to be mistaken for a wholesale parallax? Brethren, let us free our minds from obscurity.

When the Interstate Commerce Commissioners are appointed, and before they attempt to enforce the bill, they should make an effort to discover what it means.

Robert Bonner reports that Maud S. drinks about twenty quarts of water a day. It is evident that Maud has no Democratic blood in her veins.

The keepers of two west side resorts, notorious for violations of the excise laws, were arrested again yesterday and, as usual, set at liberty on giving bail. There is a prospect that some of these persons may be punished soon, as Part III of the Court of General Sessions will be opened next month specially to try these cases. Mayor Hewitt is entitled to great credit in bringing about this result. If the District-Attorney does his part this business of setting the excise laws at defiance will soon come to an end.

Only a short time ago Brooklyn was held up as a model for other municipalities to pattern after. Now it is a "horrible example" to be avoided.

In case of war with Canada, Buffalo has two alternatives. She can fight, or go over the falls.

The State Railroad Commission has hardly kept pace with the times in the matter of the safe heating of cars. But it has decided to take up the question, and for that purpose will hold a special meeting next week. The officers of the roads in this State have been invited to submit plans for heating, and it will be interesting to note how far they are ready to go in co-operating in this matter.

Jachne was a "fence." So was Mother Mandelbaum. Judge Turpie should not be willing to flock in such company.

PERSONAL.

Messrs. Spiers and Pond, the last landlords of the Old Cock Tavern at Temple Bar, now demolished, have sent to Lord Tennyson one of the tankards used in that hostelry, with the inscription, "A pint-pot neatly graven," (from "Will Waterproof's Lyrical Monologue.") The Laureate has returned his thanks in an autograph letter, saying that he will preserve the relic as a heirloom in his family.

Senator-elect Reagan is now living with his third wife and intrusts to her supervision his not very profitable Texas farm.

There will be splendid and elaborate festivities at Berlin lasting from March 19 to 26, in honor of the Emperor's ninetieth birthday anniversary. The Prince of Wales will be there, with the King of Saxony, the Regent of Bavaria and Prince William of Wurtemberg, and possibly the Emperor Francis Joseph the Czar of Russia.

Senator Hoar is making a translation of Thucydides, not for publication, probably, but for intellectual discipline.

Word comes of the death of Alfred Newman, founder of the Old English Smithy and maker of some of the finest art ironwork of modern times in England. He was also an eminent Jewish scholar and antiquarian.

The Emperor Francis Joseph himself first broke through the traditional etiquette of the Court of Vienna. Once no lady was deemed presentable who had not a pedigree of at least thirteen noble generations. But one day a nobleman's wife who had been a brilliant actress, but whose grandparents were unknown, was named in a list of guests invited to a court reception. The horrified Chamberlain pointed it out to His Majesty as "doubtless an oversight." "No," said the Emperor, "let it stand. I can create a dozen countesses any day, but such women as that are scarce."

Mrs. Richard Jesse is dead at Margate, England. Her maiden name was Emily Tennyson, and she was engaged to be married to Arthur Henry Hallam, whose death prompted Alfred Tennyson to write "In Memoriam."

M. Aube, the sculptor, is hard at work on his great statue of Gambetta, in the Place du Carousel, Paris. It represents the famous leader pointing with his right hand toward the frontier in an attitude of appeal to France, at his feet being an officer with a broken sword, falling over a cannon.

Mr. Abram Gale, who is living at Oak Park, was one of the earliest settlers of Chicago, and took thither the first piano ever seen in that place.

After the adjournment of Congress, the Rev. W. H. Milburn, Chaplain of the House, will fill the pulpit of the Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church, Chicago, while the pastor, Dr. Alabaster, seeks rest and renewed health.

Mr. Moody spent his fiftieth birthday anniversary in earnest revival work.

Lieutenant-Governor L. R. Masson, of the Province of Quebec, and the Hon. P. Guerneau, Commissioner of Crown Lands of the Province, arrived in this city last evening and will sail to-day for Bermuda.

Mr. Thomas A. Edison, the inventor, who has been suffering from pleurisy, left his home at Llewellyn Park, N. J., last evening for Florida, where he will remain for several months.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC NOTES.

The fourth concert of the Brooklyn Philharmonic Society will take place next Saturday evening, the rehearsal on the preceding afternoon. The programme is as follows:

Entr'acte, B minor, "Rosamunde." ..... Schubert
Song—"Gretchen and Spinnrade." ..... Schubert
Miss Lilli Lehmann.
Symphony, No. 3, Eroica ..... Beethoven
Finale, "Götterdämmerung" ..... Wagner
Brunnhilde, Miss Lilli Lehmann.

Mrs. Anna Bulkley Hills will give a concert in the rooms of the Mendelssohn Glee Club on the evening of February 21. She will be assisted by Miss Ella Earle, Mme. Schiller, Miss Berger, Mr. Toedt, Mr. Remmertz, Michael Banner and Mr. Agramonte.

The second of Mr. John F. Rhodes's violin recitals in Steck Hall will occur on the evening of February 15, when the clever young player will have the excellent help of Mr. Robert Thallon, pianist.

The two hundred and fiftieth performance of "Erminie" will occur at the Casino on February 23. The charm of the sprightly musical comedy and Mr. Wilson's humor seems perennial.

Mr. Clifton W. Tayleure, the well-known dramatic manager and playwright, has become the Editor of *The Long Branch News*. Mr. Tayleure, many years ago, was a zealous, conspicuous and able worker in journalism, and he resumes an occupation with which he is thoroughly conversant. *The News* will be made a bright, sincere, earnest, positive and interesting journal, under the management of this conscientious, active and high-principled editor—if character remains unimpaired by time. Mr. Tayleure was never yet deficient in truth, courage, humanity and decision.

The drama of "Harbor Lights" has now occupied the Adelphi stage in London for more than a year.

Mr. Charles Wyndham will preside at the next anniversary dinner of the Theatrical Fund Society in London.

Mr. P. T. Barnum is urging forward his preparations for a great exhibition which is to be placed before the American public next spring, and which this famous manager intends shall excel any and every show with which he has been associated. It will comprise three circus companies, a hippodrome, a collection of wild beasts, a vast aviary, a herd of elephants, and a vast collection of the marvels of natural history. Mr. W. W. Cole, Mr. J. L. Hutchinson and Mr. J. E. Cooper are associated with Mr. Barnum in this enterprise. A combination has been effected between Mr. Barnum and Mr. Forepaugh, whereby their respective shows will be combined into one, for performances and exhibition in the City of New-York, at the Madison Square Garden; but the two companies are to travel separately after the New-York season is ended. The season here will begin in March.

Major J. B. Pond has contracted with Miss Johnston, of Washington, whose stage name is Mary Decca, to sing in America next season, but whether in concert or opera is not yet decided. Miss Decca is now singing with decided success in London.

At the fourth concert of the Symphony Society at the Metropolitan Opera House on next Saturday afternoon Mr. Damrosch will bring forward an interesting and varied programme. These are the pieces:

Overture, "Oberon" ..... Weber
Air from "Cosi Fan Tutti" ..... Mozart
Frl. Marianne Brandt.
Symphonic Poem, "Des Saenger's Fluch," ..... Hans von Bulow
Air from "Sulamith" ..... L. Damrosch
Frl. Marianne Brandt.
"Ocean" Symphony ..... Rubinstein

Mme. Rhea and Mr. J. B. Polk are among the actors now performing on the Southern circuit.

The pleasant news is made known that Lawrence Barrett will reappear in New-York on May 2, at Niblo's Garden, presenting "Rienzi." This week Mr. Barrett is in Philadelphia.

Mr. Frederick Warde was last week in St. Louis, in *Galba the Gladiator*. Mr. Warde acts in San Francisco on May 2.

Miss Effie Ellsler will shortly appear at the Windsor Theatre in the play of "Woman Against Woman."

Lawrence Barrett is in the enjoyment of great prosperity at Philadelphia, where he presents his fine performance of *Rienzi*. He will appear in New-York on May 2, at Niblo's Garden, and play this part.

Mme. Rhea is acting this week in Florida in "Fairy Fingers" and "The Widow."

On the afternoons of the five Thursdays in March, beginning at 4 o'clock, Mr. George W. Morgan and his daughter, Miss Maud Morgan, will give their annual series of organ and harp recitals in Chickering Hall.

Two entertainments have been projected for the benefit of the Free Home for Incurables and in compliment to Mr. George Riddle. They will take place at Chickering Hall on the evenings of March 2 and 16. In the first entertainment Miss Ada der Ohe and a double quartet from the Mendelssohn Glee Club will co-operate with Mr. Riddle; in the second Byron's "Manfred" will be read by Mr. Riddle and Schumann's incidental music to the poem will be performed by the Damrosch Orchestra and a chorus from the Oratorio Society.

Signor Moderati's pupils will give a concert in Chickering Hall on Saturday evening of this week.

The programme of the first concert of the Boston Symphony Orchestra to be given in Steinway Hall next Monday evening is announced. The solo performer will be Mr. Franz Kneisel, principal of the orchestra, who will play Beethoven's violin concerto. The other numbers are the overture to "Oberon," Handel's "Largo" and Beethoven's C minor symphony.

ONE BRITISH EXAMPLE WORTH HEEDING.

From The Baltimore Herald.

There is a valuable lesson in the course which the British Government has just adopted in regard to subsidizing Atlantic steamships. These subsidies are made contingent on the use of the steamers as armed transports in the event of war. The new fast vessels now being built for the transatlantic mail service are to be constructed in accordance with designs furnished by the Admiralty. If the United States wants to obtain a navy in short order, nothing would be easier than to subsidize swift steamships to be constructed in her own ship-yards on the same conditions. Fast ships, and not ironclads, are the chief requirement in modern naval warfare.

UNCLE SAM'S GENEROSITY.

From The Indianapolis Journal.

It is a fact worth thinking of that the United States Government is now spending more money every year for pensions than any other government is spending for the pay of its troops.

THE LONG AND SHORT OF IT.

From The Brooklyn Eagle.

Why, anybody ought to know that it is the short haul that costs the most. It isn't necessary to convene Congress to tell us that. (It isn't necessary to convene Congress to tell us anything we don't know, for that matter; it never does anything of the kind.) You see, I am sitting in a railway parlor-car down in Maine writing a postal card to a friend in Oregon. Now, if I can get that card to the mail-car, only seven car lengths ahead of me, the Government will carry it 3,000 miles for one cent. That is the long haul. But it costs me a quarter to get the porter to carry it to the postal-car. That's the short haul. Then the porter loses it on its way or forgets all about it. That's the shrinkage. And there you have the whole transportation problem in a nutshell.

GETTING IN PRACTICE.

From The Philadelphia Inquirer.

The new volcano in the Russian oil region has slung from seven to fourteen feet of mud over a square mile of territory. We judge that it must be a Democratic volcano practising for the next campaign.

WHERE THE PROXY WON'T WORK.

From The Memphis Avalanche.

Miss Van Zandt and August Spies, the Anarchist, are reported to have been married by proxy. If August thinks that all the world loves a lover well enough, in his case, to hang him by proxy, he will find he is woefully mistaken.

HOW BOSTON SHOWS HER GOOD TASTE.

"Gath" in The Cincinnati Enquirer.

I asked Henry G. Parker, the publisher of *The Boston Weekly Gazette*, which is seventy-five years old and is still a very hale piece of property under his management:

"Which of the New-York papers circulates the most in Boston?"

"I would say THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE. But perhaps I ought not to say that. I will say that it circulates the most at places where I go. Judging merely by my personal observation, I should say that it had the largest circulation here of any New-York newspaper."

ONE OF MR. VEST'S FRIENDS.

From The Detroit Tribune.

It has been suggested that Frank James is entitled to official recognition when the Democratic members of the National Board of Railroad Commissioners are named. Mr. James has had a good deal of practical experience with railroads and he never votes anything but the straight Democratic ticket.

POLITICAL PREFERENCES IN OREGON.

J. B. Montgomery, reported in The Pittsburg Dispatch.

Oh, as to politics, our people are not talking or even thinking much about politics. The Democrats, I believe, are mostly for Mr. Cleveland, and the Republicans of Oregon, and in fact, the whole Pacific coast, are solid for the man from Maine. It will be the same old contest over again in 1888, I have no doubt.

NOTES FROM THE CAPITAL.

WHO WILL BE COMMISSIONERS?

MANNING'S CHANCES FOR CONFIRMATION—SENATOR MORGAN'S SOPORIFIC ELOQUENCE.

[FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The President is still engaged in the task of selecting Interstate Commerce Commissioners. If he has reached a definite choice in any one case such fact has not become known. One point only seems settled, that one of the Commissioners will be from New-York. Where the remaining four are to be taken from or what interests they are to represent continues to be a subject of speculation. Still, the President has the full sympathy, and if he gave the encouragement, even the active support of every Democratic politician in his delicate and difficult task. No end of names has been suggested to him. In some cases the pressure has been quite persistent to appoint a certain man. But so far he has given no indication of yielding. With the laudable purpose of helping him out of the difficulty the Kentucky delegation in Congress held a meeting to-day to select a Commissioner for him, especially as they think that Kentucky is entitled to "representation" on the Commission. Several ballots were taken, but the result showed such a divergence of opinion that the President is likely to be deprived altogether of the counsel of the delegation. Four votes were cast for W. C. Owen, on the last ballot, four for "Corregordo" Williams, and the remainder scattering. Then the delegation adjourned to seek inspiration around the corner. They are to meet again on Friday. In the meantime what will poor Mr. Cleveland do?

The nomination of Judge Manning, of Louisiana, to be Minister to Mexico is still pending in the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, but I hear that there is a strong pressure being brought to bear upon individual members of the committee by outside persons to secure a favorable report. Mr. Manning is a graduate of Yale and as there are several Yale men in the Senate the strong feeling of fellowship for which the alumni of that great institution of learning have always been famous may prove, to some extent, of some benefit to Mr. Manning. Senator Gibson is especially interested in seeing Mr. Manning confirmed. It was he who first suggested his name to Mr. Bayard. To have Mr. Manning rejected would be a serious blow to him, from a personal as well as political point of view. I hear that Mr. Manning's friends urge Senators to confirm him with the promise that he will resign as soon as confirmed. In this ingenious manner it is hoped the scandal raised by the Minister's conduct can best be overlooked and soonest perhaps forgotten.

Senator Morgan is a very diffusive though at times almost an eloquent speaker. He certainly has a wonderful command of the English language. The other day, however, he rolled up sentence after sentence in a manner which drove everybody from the chamber and sent the presiding officer to sleep. Senator Sherman was in the chair, and though ordinarily one of the most wide awake men in the chamber was unable to withstand the onslaught of the Alabama Senator. He dozed and dozed—it must have been for fully ten minutes—until awakened by one of Mr. Morgan's finest flights of eloquence in which he shouted "Mr. President" with more than ordinary emphasis. Mr. Morgan was not in the least offended. He is accustomed to this sort of thing.

I saw one of the new $5 silver certificates the other day in Treasurer Jordan's room. This is the note upon which the Treasury people pride themselves so much, they consider it such a vast improvement upon the old ones, in fact better than anything the Bureau of Engraving and Printing has turned out yet. I must confess that the note is disappointing, especially after all the fuss that has been made about it. The idea of the design on the back of the note, five silver dollars in a row, is a good one, but the execution, I do