Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—8—Arabian Nights.
BIJOU OPERA HOUSE—8:15—The Corsair.
CASINO—8—Madelon.
DALY'S THEATRE—8—Railroad of Love.
DOCKSTADER'S—8:30—Minstrels.
EDEN MUSEE—Erdelyi Naczi—Aleeh—Paintings.
FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE—8—The Regina.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE—8—Rip van Winkle.
HARRIGAN'S PARK THEATRE—8—Pete.
LYCEUM THEATRE—8:15—The Wife.
MADISON AVE. AND 59TH-ST.—Day and Evening—Merrimac and Monitor Cyclorama.
MADISON SQUARE THEATRE—8:30—Elaine.
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE.—8.15—Josef Hoffman.
NIBLO'S GARDEN—8—She.
STAR THEATRE—8—The Merchant of Venice.
STANDARD THEATRE—8—Dorothy.
THALIA—8—Junkerman and Boetel.
UNION SQUARE THEATRE—8—The Henrietta.
WALLACK'S—8:15—Forget-Me-not.
YANDELL GALLERY, 5th-ave. and 19th-st.—10 to 10—Paintings, etc.
14TH-ST. THEATRE—8—The Old Homestead.
16 EAST 14TH-ST—day and evening—The Five Senses.
23D-ST. TABERNACLE.—Christ on Calvary.

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DUMINY & Co.
CHAMPAGNE,
CUVEE, 1884.
For sale at leading Restaurants, Hotels and Grocers.
NEW-YORK, Dec. 1, 1887.
ANTHONY OECHS, 51 Warren-st., Sole Agent for U. S.

Ladies interested in art needlework should not fail to visit the competitive exhibition given by the liberality of the Canfield Rubber Co. at Yandell's lower hall, 19th st. and 5th-ave. $1,000 is to be distributed as prizes, and much interest centres in the result.

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New-York Daily Tribune
FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1887.

TEN PAGES.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—James G. Blaine, in an interview at Paris yesterday, made a powerful argument against President Cleveland's recommendations respecting free trade and the surplus; Mr. Blaine thinks the tax on tobacco should be repealed at once; that on whiskey should be retained and the surplus used to fortify our defenceless seacoast. ==== Russia is massing troops on the frontier to prepare against an Austro-German invasion. ==== O'Leary, charged with the murder of Constable Whelehan, has been acquitted. ==== M. Goblet has consented to form a Cabinet under President Carnot; M. Fallieres declined the task on account of ill health.

CONGRESS.—The Senate was in session; a resolution was adopted calling on the Commissioner of Agriculture for information regarding sorghum-sugar patents.

DOMESTIC.—The annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury was made public. ==== The Evangelical Alliance in Washington discussed the needs and perils of the Church. ==== The conference of the League and Association baseball men began in Cincinnati. ==== Militia was ordered to be in readiness to quell a riot in Fairport, Ohio. ==== Protectionists commented severely on the President's message. ==== Proprietors of bucket-shops were arrested in Philadelphia. ==== A passenger train was thrown from the track at Willsborough, N. Y., and two baggage cars and the smoking car were burned.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.—A woman who gave a French name arrested for swindling women with a fraudulent banking scheme. ==== Successful trial trip of the New-York Central's vestibule train. ==== Latimer E. Jones locked up in the Tombs. ==== The old indictment against Kissane dismissed. ==== The telephone investigation continued. ==== Trouble between Mr. Moss and Mr. Boucicault. ==== Transatlantic steamship companies agreed on a steerage rate. ==== A Democratic "heeler," who passed the Civil Service examination for fireman with great credit, discovered to be wholly illiterate. ==== James Carson Brevoort died. ==== Asbury Hawkins, the Islip matricide, sentenced to be hanged. ==== Stocks were dull and depressed in the early dealings, partially recovered and closed strong.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Cloudy and growing cooler, possibly with light rain. Temperature yesterday: Highest, 48°; lowest, 34°; average, 42°.

Rumor has it that the President would like to see Congressman William L. Scott, of Pennsylvania, appointed chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means. Mr. Scott is the gentleman who went to the Allentown Convention with a good deal of splutter about his intention to carry it for revenue reform and against Mr. Randall. Within a short time after his arrival he had disappeared down Mr. Randall's alimentary canal, and entire harmony supervened, with Mr. Scott reposing peacefully in the neighborhood of Mr. Randall's diaphragm. This was not an impressive performance, and is not calculated to further Mr. Scott's chances. Besides, it is the Speaker of the House who appoints the Committees.

The prospect of a successful termination of the labors of the Fisheries Commission has become very faint. No agreement has been reached, and it is not likely that anything will come of the international conference. There is still some talk of the possibility of the revision of the Treaty of 1818, but it is not probable that Mr. Chamberlain will take much interest in so imbecile a proceeding as that. He has hoped to be able to negotiate a new treaty out of hand without reference to existing engagements. Nothing short of this result will compensate him for the trouble he has taken. With the vanishing prospects of the treaty, the rank of his American colleagues steadily declines. Originally they were appointed as Commissioners; then they were known as negotiators; now they are spoken of as advisory counsel; and in the end they may be dismissed as messenger-boys of the State Department. So passes away the glory of diplomacy.

A movement of troops on the frontier between Russia and Austria is exciting apprehension in the capitals of Europe. It is explained in St. Petersburg as a defensive precaution taken in consequence of the discovery that Germany and Austria were under pledges to act in concert in the event of any act of aggression on the part of their military rival. The flurry of excitement is not likely to last long. Russia is not ready to defy Austria when her statesmen are convinced that if they will only have patience a treaty of partition can yet be negotiated between Vienna and St. Petersburg. The only recent menace of war that has seemed significant to us is General Gourko's toast to the officers of the Lithuanian Guard in Poland. "I am certain," he said, "that I shall soon again lead you into the field as I did ten years ago. A very short term of life must have been allotted to me if I do not survive for this event." General Gourko is Governor-General of Poland and a great military personage in Russia—probably the next commander-in-chief in a campaign. He is not a man who uses idle words.

Not long ago glowing stories were published of magnificent discoveries of enormous masses of tin ore near Harney's Peak, in Dakota, and it was predicted that in a short time all the tin used in America would be supplied within her own borders, and that this country could furnish the supply of the world. The Rothschilds, who made immense additions to their colossal fortunes through their control of some of the richest tin mines known, did not seem greatly alarmed by these sanguine prophecies. Our readers will regret to learn, from the information given in another column, that the lofty hopes which were cherished when the Dakota discoveries were first made public have been dashed to the ground. It seems that the Dakota ore would be worth working if the price of tin were maintained at its present inflated and speculative figures, but the cost of extracting the small percentage of the metal from the refractory ore and shipping it is so great that no profit is left at the average prices in the markets of the world. It is much to be regretted that Americans should be dependent on other countries for their supply of this important metal, but there seems to be no help for it at present.

The interview with Mr. Blaine which we print in our special Paris dispatch this morning on the first page will attract universal attention. The weakness and unsoundness of Mr. Cleveland's arguments in favor of free trade are vigorously exposed, and the dangers to which the President's policy would subject the country vividly pointed out. Nor does Mr. Blaine shrink from giving his own views as to the disposition of the surplus. He attacks the difficult problem with characteristic boldness, and offers suggestions which are full of originality and practical statesmanship.

THE TREASURY REPORT.

That part of Secretary Fairchild's annual report which relates to the tariff, unfortunately, is the part to which public attention will be almost exclusively directed. But in treating other topics the report is more able, more sound, and may prove more practically useful, than in its somewhat shallow and essentially partisan discussion of the tariff question. It is a clear review of the operations of the Department in many branches, presents a body of valuable information, and offers numerous suggestions which merit Congressional attention. The earnest advocacy of administrative reform in the customs service should not be lightly passed. Especially in regard to the currency, the doctrines of the Secretary are as sound, and most of his recommendations as meritorious, as some of his practices have been vicious.

The Secretary seems to miss the most direct path to the protection of the people against depreciation of either kind of currency. There is no sound reason why the Treasury should not be empowered and required always to give, wherever it is practicable, any kind of money that the people want in exchange for any other kind that they hold. Prejudice against such a measure, on the ground that it would virtually provide redemption of silver coins in gold, would not exist if people comprehended that the silver coins and notes now pass current only as representatives of gold for which, in certain limited uses only, they are exchangeable. The review of foreign commerce contains nothing new, and the recommendation that free ships will recover for the country part of the carrying trade is only in line with the Secretary's treatment of the tariff question. One other proposal will strike the country with surprise, namely, that the large surplus now held by the Treasury should be permitted to remain permanently in banks when it has been or may be deposited. Certain it is that the Republican party will not sanction so remarkable a centralization of power, nor is the country likely to look with favor upon a proposition to get back into the dangerous condition which preceded the panic of 1837.

Mr. Fairchild takes even less pains than the President to sugar-coat the free-trade pill, as one may infer from the quotation of two sentences which embody his only definite proposals: "Add to the free list as many articles as possible. Reduce duties upon every dutiable article to the lowest point possible." Not many politicians in this country have ever ventured to propose such sweeping changes, and the practical force of the two sentences is not modified by the added phrase: "In ascertaining these possibilities the present situation of labor and business must always be kept in mind." For Mr. Fairchild proceeds to reason that capital and labor are not entitled to any continuance of protection on the ground that the long-maintained policy of the Government has given either any claim upon the public, and urges that no one can suppose that the labor in protected industries should be therefore defended in the enjoyment of wages higher than the general level of wages, or capital in the enjoyment of profits above the average. The mistaken beliefs and the bitter prejudices of the Free Trader are in these phrases, and are meant to limit and govern any application of the naked free-trade theory. The protected manufacturer has been robbing the public, Mr. Fairchild evidently feels, and the protected laborer has been robbing also. Throughout he assumes, as the President does, that products of protected industries are enhanced in cost by the full amount of the duty, and that duties which successfully develop production in this country do not and cannot return to the people lasting benefits in the permanent cheapness of products. Every Protectionist, and every Free Trader who is in any sense a competent student of the subject, knows that this assumption is a long-abandoned relic of the economic dark ages.

How duties are to be cut down "as far as possible" without hurting anybody, the Secretary does not attempt to explain. He thinks that great reductions could be made, but at present refrains from enlightening Congress as to them. One is tempted to suspect that he is scarcely more competent to deal with the question practically than the President has shown himself; scarcely more competent, indeed, than Democratic majorities in the House have shown themselves. To the prejudices and the false theories of the Free Trader he and they bring no chilling and crippling acquaintance with facts. Nor does the official statement of revenue and expenditure sustain the President's views, any more than the official account of currency in circulation supports his idea that withdrawal of money from use has caused distress. Secretary Fairchild makes it clear that the revenues ought to be reduced. But his argument against reduction of internal taxes is lamentably weak, and looks to the maintenance of those taxes forever, as wiser and more economical than any duties on imports; he entirely fails to meet the suggestion that many millions can be taken from the revenue by cutting off sugar duties; in short, he wishes to have the public take it for granted that revenue cannot be reduced without abandoning protective duties. It will be the duty of Republicans in Congress to prevent that misapprehension effectually.

JOY IN ENGLAND.

The President's message is hailed in England as the consummate flower of American statesmanship. This is natural. A proposal for scaling down the tariff schedules and opening a market for English manufacturers in a Nation of 60,000,000 consumers is a species of statesmanship that will readily be appreciated in London. The President's fame is secure in England. The enemies of American industry recognize in him a powerful ally and a faithful friend. From the English point of view he is an ideal foreign statesman; and why? Because his policy of hostility to the economic system under which American industries have been built up and multiplied tends to promote the manufacturing and commercial interests of England.

The English eulogies are accompanied by a bit of canting by-play that is very amusing. Several of the London journals profess to be alarmed by the prospect of American competition on the basis of free trade. Lord Overstone is cited as having predicted that the first great blow to the commerce of Great Britain would be struck whenever free trade should be adopted by the United States. Other English statesmen, among them Mr. Bright and Mr. Chamberlain, are quoted as foreshadowing the prostration of British manufactures by the competition of a free-trade America. Some of these journals affect belief in these gloomy forecasts and with a mianchoiy air accept America's gain under free trade as England's inevitable loss.

This has been the average English manufacturer's argument for many years, and New-York importers have reproduced it with an affectation of candor. "We do not want you Yankees to adopt free trade," they have said in effect; "we dread American competition under free trade because you are certain to beat us in the long run and to deprive us of our own markets. It is for our interest to have the tariff remain as it is, for American free trade will be the death-blow to English manufacturing." This is the way in which these foreign manufacturers and their American agents have discussed this subject for years. But no sensible American has taken them at their word. How was it possible to believe them when they said that American free-trade would prove ruinous to England, when they were doing everything in their power to break down the tariff and get possession of the American market? Why have the Cobden tracts been scattered broadcast in the United States, if the British manufacturers who paid for printing and circulating them stood in mortal dread of American competition under free trade? If these foreign interests had seriously anticipated disastrous results from such competition, there would not have been such persistent activity on their part in levelling the tariff.

The English people have never been blind to their own interests in their commercial intercourse with the world. If they are delighted with the prospect of free trade with America opened by the President's message, they are not to be credited with a spirit of self-sacrifice and abasement which they have never yet displayed in their commercial dealings. They are not, we may be sure, rejoicing over their own prospective disasters. They are quietly rubbing their hands and counting their own profits over the coming destruction of American industries.

A DIFFERENCE IN METHODS.

The sad fate of M. Grevy will be regarded in this country as a strong argument for the American system of choosing sons-in-law. In France the parents not only enjoy, both by law and custom, a veto power in marriage affairs, but are also in the habit of taking the initiative. They originate the son-in-law, so to speak; select him, approve him, veto less desirable candidates, and conduct the pair up to the door of married life. It is not to be denied that the system has some advantages, nor that foreigners have probably derived an exaggerated idea of the extent to which mercenary considerations prevail in such alliances. But it will be seen at a glance that it throws a vast responsibility upon the parents. If the match goes wrong, they alone are to blame. The father's curse, which has been turned to such good account on the stage with perverse daughters who insist upon choosing their own husbands, is out of place in France, unless the father curses himself, when the son-in-law turns out a poor investment. M. Grevy has been undone by his son-in-law, whom he doubtless elected, after the French method, even if he didn't nominate him in the first place. It is easy to believe that his participation in the selection may have had an influence in leading him to go further in the effort to shield M. Wilson than he should have done, and may also have served to identify him more closely with the former in the public mind than would otherwise have been the case.

The method is very different here, as everybody knows. The American girl chooses her own husband. The American girl is, in fact, an absolute despot in this field, and reserves the veto power and all other powers to herself. She is glad to please her parents, when she can, of course, but that is a secondary consideration. The first thought is to please herself, and, under the circumstances, we don't know that anybody concerned is quite so well entitled to be consulted. Usually she selects her husband, and then lets her parents into the secret. As a rule, she invites them to the wedding; but sometimes, when they happen to exaggerate the extent of their authority, she leaves a note on her dressing-table, saying that she has selected him, and has started on the journey of life through the bedroom window, or she returns from an afternoon walk and calmly announces that the ceremony has been performed, and that there will be no cards. This system has its advantages and its disadvantages. It takes a heavy load of responsibility off the shoulders of the parents. No one would think, in this country, of holding a man responsible for the acts of a son-in-law whom he wasn't even allowed to vote for, so to speak. Our system further makes sure that the person most interested is entirely satisfied. The drawback is that young heads are not always so steady as old, and the American girl sometimes makes mistakes which the American father and mother might have prevented, if they had had an opportunity.

But the chances are that there would be a far greater number of foolish and unhappy marriages if the parents chose the husbands than there are now. The American girl is not brought up to the innocence of a doll, as the French girl is, which too often means ignorance and helplessness. She learns to know life, and is none the less pure because she is clear-eyed and self-reliant. The choice of a partner is the most important event of her life, and there are a great many reasons why she should have her own way about it. One of them is, that she'll have it anyhow.

LAWYERS MUST BE CITIZENS.

That the Chinamen of this city are to remain without representation from their own race among the members of the bar seems to be beyond question. The General Term of the Supreme Court has refused to admit Hong Yen Chang to the bar because he is not naturalized. The act of Congress of 1882 declares "that hereafter no State court or court of the United States shall admit Chinese to citizenship, and all laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed." It is true that before the passage of that act the State courts held, in direct contradiction to the rulings of the United States courts, that Chinamen could legally be naturalized. And following the decision of Judge Robinson in 1878, the Court of Common Pleas has since admitted several of that race to citizenship. But the language of the statute of 1882 leaves this no longer a mooted question.

Hong Yen Chang cannot, therefore, while that statute remains unrepealed, become an American citizen. This may sometimes, as for instance in the case of the clever young Mongolian whose application is in question, work what seems a hardship; but it nevertheless is the law. And there are many of the best legal minds that agree with the opinion of the majority of our General Term, that no person should be admitted to the rights and privileges of a member of the bar who is not and never can be an American citizen; and this, too, even though the Legislature should authorize the court to waive the alienage.

It is a great encomium upon the wisdom of Republican statesmanship that the first Democratic President since the war should make the text of his greatest State paper how to reduce a surplus.

It is all well enough to talk of making new city streets, but how about keeping clean the ones we already have?

Mr. Cleveland remains the first choice of the English manufacturers and Canadian traders. They like him because he is so un-American, you know; and also for the enemies he has made in antagonizing industry.

Poor Mr. Bayard gets a bad snub. The diplomacy of the year is not worth mentioning in the Message.

The blunder which gave Brooklyn an extra registration day this year allowed 10,000 citizens to register who would not otherwise have done so. This is ample proof that there ought to be four days for registration in that city instead of three. This is a subject that the Legislature ought to give early attention to; and another point in connection with it is that there is no adequate reason for closing the places for registration between 10 a. m. and 3 p. m. They should be kept open all day, as is the case in this city.

The President and the Free-Trade party are now as unanimous as Jonah and the whale were when one was inside the other.

The seal on Judge Turpie's credentials is the seal of fraud.

Abraham Lincoln never thought that one of his successors would offer to place a man on the Supreme Bench who had publicly referred to him as "the buffoon who now disgraces the seat once occupied by Washington and Jefferson."

Attorney-General Garland recommends "a reorganization of the Department of Justice in accordance with the increased amount and important character of its business." Mr. Garland is clearly right in suggesting a reorganization. The reorganization that is needed, however, should begin with the head of the Department.

The discharge of H. H. Smith, Journal Clerk of the House of Representatives, in order to make room for an Indiana politician who is out of a job, is a flagrant illustration of the workings of the spoils system. It will probably afford Speaker Carlisle room for abundant reflection upon the inevitable results of such appointments before his term is over. Mr. Smith is one of the few persons connected with the House who understands its rules. Mr. Reed understands them, and probably Mr. Randall, and it may be that Mr. Carlisle does, though we are not sure. But Mr. Smith has been of great service to the House for many years, through his ability to aid the Speaker, and it may easily be that when Mr. Carlisle gets into a tight place he will regret that he did not interfere to defeat the hungry man from Indiana.

Happy Mugwump! He was a free trader through and through when he voted for Grover Cleveland, and the President has fulfilled his expectations by running full a-tilt against the tariff.

The information is furnished that the Bank of England doors "are now so nicely balanced that a clerk by pressing a knob under his desk can close the outer doors instantly and they cannot be opened again except by special process." The White House ought to be provided with that make of doors. If it were and Mr. Cleveland worked the knob under his desk industriously he might manage to keep the horde of Democratic office-seekers in check.

Homer A. Nelson tells an interviewer that "the Democratic party believes in Civil Service reform." It does, it does. Just as and as much as the wolf believes that he is not fond of the flesh of young lambs.

The suggestion of "The St. Louis Republican" that David B. Hill "will make a splendid Vice-Presidential candidate with Carlisle in 1892" offends "The Troy Press." It wants "The Republican" to understand that Hill is not going to play second fiddle to Carlisle nor any other Democrat. "The Press" doesn't say so, but we suspect that it would condone a ticket reading Hill and Carlisle. Still, it is understood that Carlisle is not much of a second-fiddle player himself.

It is a situation, says Mr. Cleveland, not a theory, which confronts us. Good. So it is. Then in dealing with it, let's confine ourselves to the situation and have done with theories and theorists. About the situation all agree. It is expressed in figures. The country's receipts are $55,567,849 54 a year more than its expenditures, and the surplus is growing. Of its receipts $217,286,893 14 comes from customs duties on foreign goods, and $118,823,591 22 is drawn by direct taxation right out of the people's pockets. Now there is the situation, and how does common sense suggest dealing with it? Obviously the taxes to cut off are the taxes that are most oppressive. No one who dislikes to pay customs duties is compelled to do so. He can buy domestic goods always cheaper and usually better. But it isn't possible to escape the payment of direct taxes. If the Democrats are dealing with the situation, they will accept the Republican plan just as they have accepted its plans heretofore after long periods of opposition, and reduce the revenues in the common sense way. They need not be bashful about adopting their opponent's policy. They have been doing that sort of thing for a quarter of a century. They are administering the affairs of the country to-day upon Republican politics, which they bitterly opposed. Their President is now commanding them to reduce a surplus which has been produced by the operation of laws which they prophesied would result in bankruptcy. Let them stop theorizing and deal with the situation.

Twenty-two trains on the New-York Central Railroad are now heated with steam from the engine, and other cars are being fitted with the proper machinery. This company evidently means to be ready to comply with the law abolishing the car stove when it goes into effect next May. What one company can do all can do.

This much may be said for free trade. When it becomes our national poli y, nobody need worry about any surplus.

Charles Dickens does not agree with his father in regard to Niagara. The father spoke of the place as restful. "I don't see what he could have been thinging about," comments the son, "to me it is a place of abject terror." The son evidently made the acquaintance of a peculiarly aggravating hackman.

One Representative suggests that Mr. Cleveland might as well have suppressed his message altogether. Oh, no! It is altogether too good a Republican campaign document for that.

That was the First Edition of the President's message. The Second will be issued later. Probably the public business will be brought up to date in a Third. This is hardly the way to help Congress to go promptly to work. But then Mr. Cleveland is accustomed to do as he pleases, and to be applauded in certain quarters for whatever he does. If he should refuse to send any message to Congress at all, there would be some to hail it as a sign of Roman firmness and unparalleled statesmanship.

PERSONAL.

Sir Augustus Paget might have succeeded Lord Lyons as British Ambassador at Paris but for the fact that Lady Paget is a German and therefore would have been unwelcome in France.

The trustees of the Unitarian Church of Our Father, Buffalo, have unanimously called to the pulpit the Rev. H. B. Carpenter of Boston.

Dr. Sir Morell Mackenzie made his way from London to San Remo without being stopped by one of the many reporters who lay in wait for him at the railroad stations. The reporters had been studying Mr. Pellegrini's cartoon of him in "Vanity Fair," and expected to recognize him through his resemblance to it. The results speak significantly of the faithfulness of the portrait.

All the Territorial Governors of Wisconsin are dead. Nelson Dewey, the first State Governor, is still living, as are also ex-Governors Farwell, Salomon, Lewis, Fairchild, Taylor and Lathington.

The Prince of Naples, who has just come of age, has received the Order of the Golden Fleece from the Emperor of Austria, and the Black Eagle from the German Emperor. It is suggested that, in view of the close friendship between Italy and England, he ought to be invested with the Garter.

Among rich members of the new Burlaw Club of Philadelphia are Senator Quay, Representative Randall, Mr. W. M. Singerly and Mr. W. R. Leeds.

The late John Algernon Clarke, the eminent English agriculturist, was the inventor of "Psycho," the puzzling automaton whist player.

George Fordham, the jockey, left a personal estate valued at more than $100,000.

It is now recalled that M. Demunot, in his remarkable book, "La France Juive," intimated that M. Daniel Wilson had improperly bestowed a Legion of Honor decoration.

The venerable Judge Alphonso Taft, ex-Attorney-General, has not retired from law practice. He is an active participant in the Fidelity Bank case of Cincinnati, acting as an adviser without appearing publicly.

General Thomas, who rented the country residence of the late Henry Ward Beecher at Peekskill, recently vacated this delightful home-stead finding Hudson River country life unsuited to his taste. This man-sion and the broad acres about it have not been sold as was once reported.

According to its family statutes, no member of the House of Hohenzollern is to undergo an operation dangerous to life, save on the battlefield or under like urgent circumstances, without the formal consent of the King of Prussia for the time being and his Ministry of State. This is the reason of the State Council which was held at Berlin to consider the case of the Crown Prince, at which the Prince Regent of Brunswick and the Grand Duke of Baden were present, Count Stolberg-Wernigerode, Minister of the House, held presiding. The Emperor William and Prince Bismarck have, of course, requested the Crown Prince to act as he pleases.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

This is too bad. After the President's phrase "ghoulish glee" has been accepted as a Democratic classic, a correspondent appears in that Democratic paper "The Albany Times," and says that there is no such word in the English language as "ghoulish."

American Bravery.—Bismarck. If those Americans vont settle dot fisheries dispute will you fight 'em?

Distinguished Englishman—No, we won't.

"Eh?"

"It would be madness to fight such a nation as that."

"Is dot so?"

"My stars, yes. Why sir, those Americans ride at the rate of forty or fifty miles an hour along side red-hot stoves. They're born dare-devils."—(Omaha World.

You can look at twenty seven red-headed men in the present Congress—unless some of them happen to be in the cloak-room hustling for a cup of tea.

It is getting to be the fashion now in the upper circles of Chicago society to name children before they are born. Engraved cards are sent to friends the instant the new baby makes its advent into the world, and to guard against any mistake in prognostication two sets of cards are printed, one bearing a masculine and the other a feminine name.—(Boston Journal.

There is a Spinsters' Insurance Company in Schleswig, which gives shelter, board and pin money to the single lady members of well-to-do families. At the birth of a girl the father enters the girl's name in the books of the company, and pays a certain sum every year. If, when his daughter reaches her twenty-fourth year, she is still unmarried, she is entitled to a certain income and to a couple of furnished rooms in a house belonging to the company. The house is a handsome one, with a fine garden attached to it. If the father dies before his daughter attains her twenty-fourth year, the girl enjoys the same privileges. In case she dies or marries all her rights are forfeited, and the money paid in reverts to the company. These chances enable the company to make the provision named, while parents have the satisfaction of knowing the future of their daughters to be secured in case of the death of their natural providers.

The American funny man is beginning to get in his work on the "sadi" part of the French President's name.

Early bearing is not confined to the stone fruits. We have recently seen the finest of apples, great in size, perfect in texture, color and flavor, grown at Mr. Bryant's ranch at Goshen, in Tulare County, from trees which he planted three years ago. These apples will bear export, and have no sign of the presence of the codlin moth, or other insect enemy. The pear is equally precocious, and has long life. Therefore, there is no waiting a lifetime for fruit. That happens in climates where a middle-aged man plants a tree and claims credit for doing something to furnish to posterity the fruit he does not expect to eat himself.—(San Francisco Alta.

Ladies' and gentlemen's tailor shops, fashionable liquor dispensaries, art and bric-a-brac warerooms are overrunning the Murray Hill part of Fifth-ave. On the lot adjoining the Stewart mansion nestles a little picture store within twenty feet of where the hundred thousand dollar masterpieces once hung in Mr. Stewart's gallery. The desire for pictures and artistic furniture must be making tremendous strides in this country if the outcrop of salesrooms on select Fifth-ave. is any indication.

"I want to congratulate you, Miss Crochet, upon your splendid success on the lyrical stage. I hear that you are gaining golden opinions from all sorts of people."

"I beg your pardon, Mrs. Smith, but the very flattering praises of which I have been the recipient do not come from all sorts of people; they're all from one sort; the better sort, if you will allow me to say so in your presence."—(Boston Transcript.

A Dakota genius has invented a three-cornered or flying-jib sail which he attaches to an ordinary light wagon in such a way as to catch the wind, sending the vehicle over the streets or the prairies at the rate of ten or twelve miles an hour.

There are indications that the religious press will soon take strong ground against football. "The Independent" says: "We respectfully ask the presidents and other officials connected with our colleges if they have not something to say and do in relation to the brutal and immoral practices above named."

Lady (to clerk)—I want to look at something that would be a suitable Christmas gift for my husband.

Clerk—Yes, madam; something cheap, I s'pose?—(Epoch.

It may be necessary for our policemen to undergo tests for color blindness if the colors of the street lamps are multiplied. On Fifth-ave., for instance, blaze the golden gaslights, the diamond glittering arc-lights, the red lights indicating the fire-alarm boxes and the green lights of the police patrol signal boxes.

The editor of this paper has been as near sheol this week as he hopes and believes he ever will be. The fumes of the sulphurous regions have encompassed him about, but, praise God, the odor has been dispelled, and Richard is somewhat himself again, or words to that effect. The new press was the cause of it all. It revolved so hard that our three-horse engine was taxed to its utmost to work it, and when several hundred papers had been printed the steam-chest blew out and she stopped short. Thereon power had to take the place of steam, and four stout spectlemens were only able to run it at a snail's pace. We managed to get off all the papers that go by the night mails, and next morning put a machinist to work on the engine. In repairing the damage he made a worse one by breaking a bolt off in solid iron, and that had to be gotten out by the slow process of boring. This was finally done, and in screwing the plate of the chest back it snapped in two, and another had to be made. The engine was, after a day's tinkering, gotten to run, but not in time to help in working the edition off, nor before our sweet and sunny temper had undergone a most severe strain.—(Stanford (Ky.) Interior Journal.

MUSIC.

GERMAN OPERA. "DIE JUEDIN."

In all of the representations of old-fashioned operas at the Metropolitan Opera House there is a suggestion of the experiment, reprehended in Holy Writ, of putting new wine into old bottles. The modern dramatic spirit, of the breath of Richard Wagner, is infused into a body which is generally too frail a tenement for it. Sometimes the experiment proves disastrous and sometimes the body expands and becomes transfigured, as in the case of "Fidelio," which never before had the potency developed in it by the new reading. The one great scene in "Le Prophete" was similarly expanded by Herr Niemann, and last night the superb dramatic talent of Herr Niemann and Fraulein Lehmann accomplished a similar transformation with the tragic scenes in Halevy's "Jewess." The book of this ghastly opera is in spite of its conventional treatment many cubits above its music. The spirit that created it cannot quite deny kinship with that born of mediæval intolerance, to which even Shakespeare paid tribute in his "Merchant of Venice," but in the opera book the Jew is a deeply wronged man, and his vengeance, shocking and dreadful as it is, has yet about it some of the sanctity of justice. The character is dramatically a strong one, and in spite of its generally impotent musical investiture, not beneath the ambition of an actor of Herr Niemann's calibre. This can also be said with equal truth of the character of "Recha" and Fraulein Lehmann, with the addition that her abilities as a vocalist are so great that she can cope with the music and give it all the simply sensuous beauty that the score allows.

The opera maintains a hold upon the public and is so seldom heard that its revival by Mr. Stanton is commendable. It has been sumptuously mounted, more sumptuously, in fact, than it was three years ago, when it was last given at the Metropolitan, though in their broad lines the scenes remain the same. Herr Niemann's acting and the fervor of his declamation lifted the part of "Eleazer" to an uncommon height, while Fraulein Lehmann's double power as actress and singer, to say nothing of her statuesque appearance, made of "Recha" the most consistent and beautiful impersonation in the piece, though it had a splendid companion character in Herr Fischer's "Cardinal." Herr Alvary is not particularly suited in the character of "Leopold," and Madame Biro de Marion was only moderately successful. The dancing and pageantry were features that won much commendation.

NEW-YORK BANKS' GLEE CLUB CONCERT.

The New-York Banks' Glee Club opened its ninth season last night in Steinway Hall, the usual large and friendly audience being present. The club is composed of about seventy-five active business men who find time and enjoyment in keeping up an organization that reflects credit upon them. But last night the club's singing was rather disappointing; its members may have acted on the old adage that "a poor beginning makes a good ending," for the performance was below the standard set last year. About fifty members of the club took part under the leadership of Mr. H. R. Humphries. The principal failing of the chorus was its inability to present a proper balance; the singing was extremely uneven at times, and there were also some false intonations from the tenors and several bad discords among the bases. But there were some bursts of volume that were most artistic. The programme included for the club's best numbers several songs by Mendelssohn and Arthur Foote's "Farewell of Hiawatha." This last number was given with good results. Mrs. Blanche Stone Barton, Mr. Carl E. Duffi, Mrs. Harriet Webb, Mr. J. Neidzielski and Master Will C. Macfarlane assisted.

MRS. THURBER GAINS A VICTORY.

AN ARCHITECT SENDS PLANS OF AN OPERA HOUSE, WHICH SHE SAYS SHE DID NOT ORDER.

Mrs. Jeannette M. Thurber, wife of F. B. Thurber, and presiding officer of the executive committee and a member of the board of directors of the National Conservatory of Music in Seventeenth-st., as well as projector of the American Opera Company, was the defendant in a suit which was decided in her favor yesterday in the Superior Court, after a trial before Justice O'Gorman and a jury. The plaintiff was Theodore G. Stein, an architect who demanded $3,750 for the plans of a new opera house, which he said he had drawn by order of Mrs. Thurber between August 1, 1885, and January 1, 1886. He said he met her in a train coming from Kingston to New-York in the summer of 1885 and she told him to draw the plans.

Mrs. Thurber, on the witness-stand, vigorously denied that she had given him any such order. She said that he had volunteered to prepare the plans, and that when he sent her a bill she promptly sent it back to him, informing him that she had not ordered the work. The Conservatory of Music, she said, was in a flourishing condition, but the opera company had not been successful. She had told the plaintiff that if the opera house was built the plans would of course be selected after competition and that she would use her influence to have his plans adopted by the Conservatory.

"The object in starting the American Opera Company," she said, "was to put evidence before the American people as to what we could do so that it would be said that if we could accomplish so much without musical culture much more could be done by giving a musical education to artists in the Conservatory of Music."

NOTES AND INCIDENTS OF THE STAGE.

The entire company, numbering seventy, now playing "Dorothy" at the Standard Theatre will be taken on the road by Mr. Duff at the end of its present run, of which only nine more nights remain. A tour covering six months has been arranged.

Daniel Leeson, the actor who was for some time missing, whose wife applied to the police to aid her in searching for him, has, as his friends predicted, turned up all right. He says that after leaving the Roach Company in Providence he was taken ill and compelled to remain there.

A large number of actors and actresses took advantage of the invitation of the managers of "The Arabian Nights" to attend yesterday's matinee.

W. A. Mestayer has a new farcical comedy, "Chuck 44," in which he plays a New-York bank cashier who has fled to Canada. He will produce it in this city soon after the holidays.

Denman Thompson's engagement at the Fourteenth Street Theatre will be prolonged till December 24.

Mme. Modjeska will appear at the Fourteenth Street Theatre in January, following the Haslons.

The McCaull Company "jumps" from here to Chicago and opens in "Bellman." As Mme. Couteily is not needed in that she has made an engagement to give six performances in opera bouffe and comedy at the Thalia.

The cast of Miss Estelle Clayton's play