

REAR-ADMIRAL LUCE'S EXCURSION.

THE VIXEN'S IMPORTANT ERRAND-CARRYING FOUR MEN WHO HOLD FIFTEEN OFFICES. Rear-Admiral S. B. Luce, commandant of the North Atlantic Squadron, yesterday started from the Brooklyn Navy Yard on his flag-ship, the Vixen for the Norfolk Navy Yard. The Vixen is a small steamship, with no cabin, ward-room, nor state-rooms for the accommodation of officers and crew, but the voyage will be made in easy stages on the "inshore" route. The ship has been fitted with a spar and sails as an auxiliary in case of derangement to her machinery. Her battery consists of enough sporting rifles to go round, with plenty of ammunition, the principal object of the trip being to visit the Norfolk Navy Yard and other waters along the coast.

A SMALL ARMY OF LECTURERS.

IS THERE A POLITICAL JOB IN THE PLAN TO ENTERTAIN WORKINGMEN IN THE SCHOOLS. The Board of Education will hold its first meeting to-day in the new school year. A meeting of the committee on evening schools was held yesterday to prepare a report on the lectures that are to be delivered to workingmen in the schools this winter. The law provides that three free evening lectures be delivered in each ward of the city every week from October to March, and it was stated that the committee will report in favor of making the compensation for each lecture \$10.

THREE NEW DANCES INTRODUCED.

"THE BERLIN," AN ORIGINAL STEP, IS ADOPTED BY THE CONVENTION. The Dancing Masters' Convention, which opened proceedings at the Grand Union Hotel on Tuesday, resumed its sittings yesterday at H. Fletcher Rivers's Vienna Academy, No. 722 Lexington-ave. The business of the morning was purely formal and completed the nomination of two candidates, George Wallace and Samuel Murray, for membership of the society. The afternoon session was taken up with the introduction of certain new dances by various members of the society. It was noticeable how the actions of the professors betrayed their occupation. Even when not engaged in the business of the meeting, and while reclining on their seats, they fell into various attitudes commonly adopted by persons who are "in the act" of dancing.

A WEDDING.

Little Falls, N. Y., Sept. 11 (Special).—The wedding of Miss Martha T. Sheard, daughter of ex-Speaker Tim Sheard, and Edwin I. Stinson, of this village took place here to-day. The Rev. Charles Sheard, a cousin of the bride, assisted by the Rev. S. C. Hall, performed the ceremony. The bride was given away by her father. She was attended by her maids of honor, Miss Sarah Wheeler and Miss Louise Allen. The best man was D. J. Williams, of Little Falls, and the ushers were L. J. Jones, D. E. Knott, and Harry Houghton, of Little Falls, and Frank G. Moyer, of New York.

ANOTHER MOUNTED SWORD CONTEST.

Captain James C. Daly and Duncan C. Ross will have a sword contest at Sea Beach next Saturday afternoon. There has been considerable ill-feeling between the two men since their encounter last week and sporting men are looking for a decidedly lively fight. They have provided themselves with well-trimmed cavalry horses and will fight according to the recognized code of the English service, in which no ground is to be given to the opponent. General Charles Gould, of Albany, has been invited to act as referee.

HOMEPATHY IN SESSION.

Syracuse, N. Y., Sept. 11.—The twenty-seventh annual meeting of the Homeopathic Medical Society of New York State opened here this morning. Dr. William T. Helmuth, of New York, presided. Mayor W. D. Kirkwood presided over the opening of the city and Dr. A. B. Kline in behalf of the Onondaga County Medical Society. After the president's address reports were read in relation to the progress of the Homeopathic Movement. About sixty physicians from various parts of the State are present.

A NEW-YORK SLOUGH OF DESPOND.

The sloop "The Argonaut" on the sidewalk wharf to be in front of the site of French's Hotel is daily becoming worse. When the hotel was torn down to make way for the new "World" building, the pavement was removed. It is by no means clear that there was any absolute necessity for it, and it is highly improbable that the Commissioner of Public Works would have consented to it unconditionally. Only a few shaly planks are provided for the accommodation of the hundreds of thousands of people who make this the most crowded of New-York's thoroughfares at certain hours of the day. The recent rains have rendered the walk simply impassable, and many pedestrians, especially women, are obliged to take a "slough of despond" to their sorrow. Complaints are loud and bitter at this plain outrage on a suffering public.

THE "WHY?" LEADER AT THE TOMBS COURT.

"Why?" Brun, Drexler's successor as leader of the "Why" gang, was a prisoner at the Tombs Court yesterday. On September 8 Brun entered the establishment of Herman Brown, 100 Nassau-st., and demanded \$150. It was given to him. Later he came back and demanded \$200. This time it was refused, whereupon Brun drew a revolver and struck Brun on the head with it. Then he knocked him down with a second blow and shot at Brun as he lay prostrate. He was held for a few days.

A PENNSYLVANIA MAN KILLED IN BROOKLYN.

A man supposed to be John Grogan, of Norristown, Pa., was killed in an accident on the Atlantic and Brooklyn aves. Brooklyn, at about 9 o'clock last evening, and killed almost instantly. He was of middle age and well dressed, and carried a valise. His body was carried a distance of half a block, and was horribly mangled. His face was only a slight whiff, some dollars and cents, and a card with the name and address, John Grogan, No. 1213 Ford-st., Norristown, Pa. The engineer and conductor of the train were arrested.

MONEY PAID FOREIGN MAIL CARRIERS.

From the Marine Journal. Some idea of the amount of money we are paying to foreign lines may be gathered from the annual report of the Superintendent of Foreign Mails just published. The compensation for the service rendered by the 412 cents per pound of printed matter was as follows: Adams, \$2,000,000; American, \$1,000,000; British, \$1,200,000; Canadian, \$1,000,000; German, \$1,000,000; Italian, \$1,000,000; Japanese, \$1,000,000; Mexican, \$1,000,000; New Zealand, \$1,000,000; Norway, \$1,000,000; Sweden, \$1,000,000; Switzerland, \$1,000,000; United States, \$1,000,000; West India, \$1,000,000; White Star, \$1,000,000; and other lines, \$1,000,000.

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POPULAR OBSERVATIONS.

THE WAR ON AMERICAN SHIP-BUILDERS.

WHY NOT GET DESIGNS FROM HOME?—A LETTER FROM WILLIAM H. WEBB. To the Editor of the Tribune. Sir: Reference in your issue of this morning to the several reports made by the Secretary of the Navy to Congress, by which it appears that the Navy Department has paid to a foreign shipbuilding company \$15,000 for a design for a new battleship, \$200,000 for the working drawings of the same vessel, and \$200,000 for the working drawings of the same vessel, induces me once more to call the attention of my countrymen to the humiliating and unsafe condition in which we find ourselves in consequence of the decadence of our former ocean marine. It is well known that we have only a few ships, and the action of the Secretary is practically a proof that no shipbuilders with sufficient experience or ability to design such vessels as are wanted at the present day for our Navy. In this opinion I do not concur, but for the course now adopted by Congress is to have designers or builders for either naval or merchant vessels.

WHY TRIED TO MURDER MR. BENNETT?

THE POLICE STILL IN THE DARK—THE VICTIM TALKS BUT CANNOT EXPLAIN. Contrary to expectation, Daniel H. Bennett, the Wall-st. broker, who was mysteriously assaulted in his home, No. 130-1-2 Forest-st., Jersey City Heights, recovered consciousness yesterday morning, and was able to make an intelligible statement of what he knew about the attempt to murder him. The police, however, are still in the dark, and the victim is unable to give any clue as to the motive of the crime. Bennett was then awake and murmured, "I feel better but my head feels sore. I know every one." A few minutes later he said, "Perhaps I struck my head against the headboard; it feels sore." At 6:30 o'clock he was able to get up and sit on the edge of the bed. He said that he was in his room at 11:30 o'clock on Saturday night, and that he was alone. He was then asleep, and he was awakened by a noise. He got up and saw a man standing by his bed. He was then struck on the head with a heavy object, and he fell back on the bed. He was then conscious, and he saw the man again. He was then struck again, and he fell back on the bed. He was then conscious, and he saw the man again.

PLANS OF ACTORS AND MANAGERS.

Colonel McCull's opera season at Wallack's has only three more weeks. "Coccolino" will finish the season and then give a "Boccaccio" at the Coliseum. Reports from the managers of companies travelling through the West and South, and even in New-England, say that business has fallen off almost to a minimum in account of the late season. It is thought that over 80 per cent of these managers will lose money until after the election.

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