Amusements.

ACADEMY OF DESIGN—Day and Evening Art Exhibition.
ACADEMY OF MUSIC—8—The Old Homestead.
AMBERG'S THEATRE—8—O, Mother-in-Law.
AMERICAN INSTITUTE—Day and Evening—Fair.
BIJOU THEATRE—8—Zig Zag.
BROADWAY THEATRE—8—Little Lord Fauntleroy.
CASINO—8—Nadjy
DALY'S THEATRE—8:15—The International Match.
DOCKSTADER'S—8—Kallar.
EDEN MUSEE—Wax Tableaux.—Orchid Show.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE—8—Paul Kauvar.
HARRIGAN'S PARK THEATRE—8—Pete.
LYCEUM THEATRE—8:15—Sweet Lavender.
MADISON SQUARE THEATRE—8:30—Capt. Swift.
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE—8—Aida.
NIBLO'S—8—Water Queen.
PALMER'S THEATRE—8—"Ruy Blas.
STAR THEATRE—8—Said Pasha.
STANDARD THEATRE—8—Miss Esmeralda.
THE GRAND MUSEUM—10 a. m. to 10 p. m.
5TH-AVENUE THEATRE—8—Lady Clancary.
14TH STREET THEATRE—2 and 8—Le Voyage En Suisse.
4TH-AVE. AND 19TH-ST.—Gettysburg.

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Business Notices.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1889.

TEN PAGES.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

Foreign.—German newspapers, commenting on Samoan affairs, freely admit the indiscretion of the German Consul. ==== Socialists meeting in various parts of France were dispersed by the police. ==== Further testimony to impeach Pigott's story is expected from Dublin. ==== An Irish priest was arrested for advising tenants not to pay their rents.

Domestic.—General Harrison listened to a farewell discourse from his pastor in Indianapolis. ==== Thirty persons were more or less hurt by an accident to a train at Kearing Branch, N. Y. ==== Many State Senators and Assemblymen are anxious to take a recess during inauguration week. ==== "The King of Moonshiners," an Arkansas desperado, was captured by a sheriff's posse after a lively encounter. ==== The Foreign Relations Committee of the House has prepared a report recommending the passage of the Edmunds Panama resolution. ==== A building in Bristol, Conn., was wrecked by an explosion of powder.

City and Suburban.—Views of City Superintendent Jasper and others as to what the recent changes in school methods will accomplish. ==== A number of American artists talk of setting up a rival exhibit of their work at Paris, being dissatisfied with the choice made for the great French exhibition. ==== The cold weather was not mitigated appreciably, and many skaters covered the ice in Central Park. ==== At a mass meeting for the Parnell Defence Fund in Paulist Hall, over $500 was contributed.

The Weather.—Indications for to-day: Warmer and cloudy, possibly with light snow or rain. Temperature yesterday: Highest, 22 degrees; lowest, 3; average, 14 1-2.

It is gratifying to note that the majority of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs is about to present a vigorous report in favor of Senator Edmunds's resolution on foreign Government interference in Panama Canal affairs. The adoption of this resolution is one of the things that the House should not fail to do this week. It simply reaffirms a peculiarly American doctrine, the restatement of which at this time is emphatically called for.

One of the immediate effects of the revelation of the astounding weakness of the case of "The Times" before the Parnell Commission is the marked increase in the number and volume of the contributions on this side of the water for the Parnell defence fund. This was significantly shown at the meeting of a branch of the Irish National League, held at the Paulist Fathers' Church last night. The utter collapse of what may be termed the prosecution now seems to be admitted everywhere outside of "The Times" office, and the plight in which that hitherto influential journal finds itself is indeed pitiable.

An interesting talk with General Powell Clayton on the cowardly assassination of his brother is furnished to-day in THE TRIBUNE'S Washington correspondence. General Clayton addresses himself in part to the false and misleading statements of Senator Berry in his recent speech, and makes it clear that the Senator was either misinformed or else wilfully misrepresented the facts. There has been a show of activity on the part of the State authorities to hunt down the assassin, but the indications are that he will go unpunished. Mr. Breckinridge still claims that he was elected, but if he takes his seat with the stain of blood upon it he will forfeit the respect of every unprejudiced and fair-minded man.

That was an impressive scene in the First Presbyterian Church at Indianapolis yesterday when the Rev. Dr. Haines bade farewell to the most distinguished of his parishioners, who will to-day set out upon his journey to Washington to be inaugurated as President of the United States. Dr. Haines's tribute to General Harrison as a citizen and a Christian was touching and eloquent. "We have learned," said he, directly addressing the President-elect, "to believe in you, in your personal integrity, and your tested, established Christian character." The country at large has much of the same feeling toward General Harrison, and without doubt this feeling will increase with increased knowledge of the new President.

The attention of the Legislature has already been so much distracted from its regular work, especially in the Assembly, that any further serious interruption is to be gravely deprecated. Our Albany correspondent reports that the Republican Senators propose to take a vacation during Inauguration week, and that the Assembly may decide to do likewise. The desire of Republicans to be in Washington next week is perfectly natural and praiseworthy; but our legislators ought first to consider their duty as officials of this State. The public business ought not to suffer through their desire to witness the transfer of the Government back to Republican hands. Besides, there will be so many thousands of Republicans in Washington during the Inauguration exercises that the members of the New-York Legislature will not be seriously missed.

THE SILENT PARTNER.

The closing hours of Congress illustrate Mr. Depew's speech before the Downtown Business Men's Republican Club on Saturday afternoon. Said the orator: "Business men are learning that in every firm there is one silent partner, the Government, but the power of that silent partner to impede or wreck the business is immense. They are learning that they are neglecting their most vital business interests unless they see to it that the silent partner in all their firms so behaves as to help and not to injure them." To call a talkative Democratic House a silent partner in anything was perhaps a strong figure of speech. But it is worth while to consider what a vast power for good or evil—used principally for evil—this Congress has had over all the business of the country.

By neglecting practical business legislation, for which merchants and bankers, farmers and manufacturers have earnestly prayed for years, Congress has literally taken many millions from the assets of business firms throughout the country. By getting up tariff agitation in the interests of foreign importers, the House has literally taken many millions more from the assets of business firms, from the profits of capitalists and the earnings of American workingmen. Now, as the session draws near its close, this same House is wasting public time and money, and defeating legislation necessary to the public welfare, in a desperate struggle by a minority to prevent a reduction of revenue upon which everybody is agreed, unless that minority can get other changes against which the people have decided at the late election.

Walking away from the meeting at which Mr. Depew spoke, a prominent business man said: "The one thing which strikes me most forcibly is that the Democratic party has proved its absolute incapacity to carry on the business of the Government." Not many men quite realize how true that is. To look no further back than last December, it was taken for granted by business men before the session began that there would be some attention paid to practical needs which had long been neglected. The foreign trade of the Nation had been choked by failure to provide adequate foreign mail facilities. It was supposed that something would of course be done. Business organizations in every part of the country had prayed for a National bankrupt law. Shippers and farmers, and Interstate Commissioners themselves, had shown that amendments of the Interstate Act were necessary, at least to prevent damaging competition by foreign transporters. A judicial decision regarding duties on ribbons demanded immediate legislation to remove question as to the meaning of the law. Another as to worsted and woollen goods threatened the very existence of one of the great industries, unless the plain intent of the law could be promptly made its express requirement. Especially a revenue vastly exceeding the needs of Government was threatening financial peril, and Democratic business men reckoned with the utmost confidence that the House, having failed to carry the people for its plan, would at last consent to vote for something which could be passed in the Senate.

These are only samples. It would take more than one column merely to enumerate the long-neglected and urgent business interests which required legislation. Democrats treated with contempt the suggestion that a Democratic House would still fail to do anything. For past neglect there was the excuse of absorbing political excitement, but the people having decided, Democrats in the House would certainly attend to the necessary business of the country before laying down the power. Yet nothing has been done, and the end of the session is at hand. By the Democratic majority nothing has been done, for even the admission of four new States was accomplished only by the Republicans with a small minority of Democrats. Absolutely not one thing has been done by the Democratic majority to meet the just expectations of business men. Even necessary appropriation bills for carrying on the Government are now endangered, because that majority refuses to reduce the revenue unless it can at the same time cripple industries by cutting off protection. The Government in Democratic hands is simply a peril to all business. The silent partner at present is drunk, and capable only of smashing things.

THE HANGING OF WOMEN.

A woman poisoner lies under sentence of death in Philadelphia. She was convicted of murdering her daughter, age nine years, and her husband and an infant son had previously been removed in the same way. These crimes were committed for the sake of insurance amounting to a few hundred dollars. Supposing the woman to be sane, a more deliberate, treacherous and cruel criminal was never brought to justice, and the plea of insanity in this case was not accepted by the jury. Strong efforts are, however, being made to save her life, and a petition signed by a number of Philadelphia women, praying for a commutation of the sentence, has been presented to the Board of Pardons. This petition alleges that "the imposition of the death penalty upon a woman is abhorrent and repulsive to humanity, and particularly shocking to the women of Philadelphia." Why particularly shocking to the women of Philadelphia is apparently not stated, and the phrase is curious, for on general principles it might be supposed that the hanging of a woman would be equally shocking to the women of Pennsylvania at large, and, in fact, to American and all women, without distinction.

Unquestionably the hanging of a woman is shocking, and not only to women but to men; so much so, that in several States where the death penalty has been abolished, a leading motive in the change has been the impossibility of getting verdicts of murder in the first degree when the defendant was a woman. Public opinion grows steadily in the direction of clemency in this country. To-day it is not only a question of saving women from the gallows, but of abolishing the gallows. New-York, in substituting electricity for hemp, has taken a step forward, and there is no reason to believe that the position reached is a finality. But it is felt by those who have given serious thought to the question that whatever change in the penal laws may be expedient, the law as it exists ought to be lived up to so long as it remains on the statute-book. If it is behind the spirit of the age this course will hasten its amendment, whereas attempts to avoid its provisions by making frequent exceptions to it only weaken the general respect for all law, and indirectly encourage its violation.

In the case of such a criminal as Mrs. Whiteling it must be apparent that commutation of her death sentence could only be justified by the adoption of positive guarantees against her liberation. For such a woman is as dangerous as a man-eating tiger, and to let her loose upon the community at any time would be unpardonable. Experience has shown that sentences of life imprisonment seldom mean what they profess to be. Convicts who have friends and influence rarely die in prison in these days, and there can be no doubt that many a murderer has gone to the gallows whose life might have been spared had the jury felt any assurance that a verdict of murder in the second degree would have involved more than five, or at the most, ten years' confinement. Women ought not to be hanged; neither ought men to be, perhaps; but murder must be so punished that the effect of the penalty shall be deterrent; and when the homicidal impulse is so masterful and the moral sense so feeble as in the case of this woman poisoner, there is no safe recourse but in a seclusion fixed beyond the modifying power of any official action. Even the cobra respects the lives of its mate and its young, but this woman, who has ruthlessly and for a few dollars destroyed those nearest and dearest to her—what possible protection would the community have against her murderous greed, were she once more free?

THE OUTRAGE AT WESLEYAN.

That rather sedate collegiate institution, Wesleyan University, has suddenly sprung into prominence as the scene of the grossest outrage that college students have probably ever been guilty of in this country. For years it has been the custom of the freshmen at Middletown to celebrate Washington's Birthday by the firing of a cannon, provided that the sophomores did not succeed in stealing the gun or spiking it. This year the usual celebration was abandoned in deference to the wishes of the faculty, but a half-dozen freshmen resolved to atone for the absence of the cannon by making use of dynamite bombs. It is fair to assume that they did not realize what the effects would be. At any rate, one of the bombs was exploded in North College and another in Observatory Hall, doing a vast amount of damage, while a third went off in the hand of the young man who was about to fling it into one of the halls, inflicting extremely severe injuries upon him.

The faculty at once set about making an investigation, and they have been greatly assisted therein by the confession of some of the implicated students. It appears that one of them induced some one to send the bombs to him from this city, and that they were distributed to several members of the freshman class and were to be exploded simultaneously. The programme was carried out only in part, or else probably considerably more damage would have been done. It is now said that the students engaged in this outrageous affair will be "subjected to severe college discipline," but that "it is hardly probable that the State authorities will take the matter up." Such a disposition of the matter will not be satisfactory.

The case calls for the application of the law in all its severity. The circumstances would necessarily be taken into account by a judge in passing sentence, and no long term of imprisonment would seem to be called for. But a lesson of the sternest and sharpest character is needed to prevent a repetition of outrages of this sort by college students, who are too apt to consider themselves superior to all law. The Wesleyan faculty should not be too tender-hearted. The fact that some of the young men have confessed their criminal folly and that one of them is suffering severely for his share in the miserable business is not enough. The law ought to take its course. Indeed, if the college authorities fail to do their duty in the matter, it is incumbent on the District-Attorney of Middlesex County to take the initiative himself. This case transcends all ordinary breaches of college discipline. The good name of Wesleyan will suffer seriously in the eyes of its friends and the world if this affair is condoned. These freshmen have been guilty of a criminal act of the most dastardly sort, and they ought to take the consequences.

QUARANTINE AFTER SUNSET.

Within his special sphere we are seldom able to agree with Mr. Henry George, but outside that sphere he often writes to excellent effect, and almost always with great force and felicity of language. To the last number of "The Standard" he contributes over his own signature an appeal from the custom which brings to a halt at Quarantine and keeps there over night every incoming vessel which arrives after sundown. We think his point is well taken, and are glad to give his argument our share of the support which he asks from the New-York press.

It certainly is a curious and exasperating regulation which thus defeats the tremendous energies of men and machinery ceaselessly applied for days or weeks to the purpose of shortening the voyage from foreign ports. There may have been at some time in the past a reasonable basis for the rule, but at the present day it seems to belong in the same category of vexatious and unnecessary restraints as the law which halts an express train carrying hundreds of passengers while a clam-scow drifts between the arms of a drawbridge. The latter anomaly is a relic of old times and conditions, and so, in our opinion, is the former, if indeed it is a relic of anything more important than a whim. In the case of vessels arriving from infected or suspected ports extra time and facilities ought to be secured for a thorough examination. But, as Mr. George says, the transatlantic liners are now subjected to nothing more than a momentary and formal inspection unless some reason for greater care is imagined or confessed; and though a considerable discretion must be allowed to the Quarantine authorities, there is no excuse outside of law or custom for refusing to perform after sunset the brief ceremony which is considered sufficient after sunrise.

It is rather surprising that so few protests have been made against this annoyance, since it is generally to the interest both of the steamship companies and of the saloon passengers that the ship should reach her dock as soon as possible. Aside from the natural wish to oblige their patrons, the owners of the steamship are interested in saving the cost of from one to three elaborate meals in addition to the value of even a few hours in port between voyages; and the passengers themselves are of course animated by a common anxiety to get ashore, while many of them are the subjects of special desires and solicitudes. It might perhaps be said that daylight is essential to a proper sanitary and customs inspection, but the existence of the electric light is, in our opinion, a sufficient answer to that objection; and the suggestion of additional expense, even if it were allowed, would not be worth considering in view of the fact that the whole civilized world, and above all the United States, proceeds on the principle that time is money.

There is another point, to which Mr. George does not allude. When it becomes apparent to those in charge of a steamship approaching this port that without extra exertion she will arrive after sunset the temptation to make a race against time is strong, and such a race within narrow converging lines is specially dangerous except in the clearest weather. Whatever may be said in favor of maintaining full speed under all circumstances upon the open sea, every steamer ought invariably to be kept well in hand when she is nearing port; while in thick weather a neglect of that precaution is nothing less than a reckless invitation to disaster.

SCIPIO AS A COMFORTER.

Since the returns of last November's election came in, our friends the enemy have not been feeling well. They have spent most of their time in lodges of sorrow and hard swearing, endeavoring unsuccessfully to pierce the thick gloom that surrounds their party's prospects. But at length one of Democracy's leading organs cheers up a little. "The Albany Argus" has heard from Scipio and feels inclined to brace up. "The town of Scipio," remarks "The Argus" at the head of its editorial columns, "which gave Harrison 111 plurality in less than 500 votes, was carried this week by the Democrats." And in order that this straw may impinge against the minds of its readers with the force of a steam pile-driver, this Democratic Mark Tapley observes that "since the days of Marcy and Wright there has been a saying, 'when Scipio is redeemed, then comes the Democratic deluge.'"

Of course there has been no such saying. "The Argus" is confounding Scipio, a modest hamlet up in Cayuga County, with Publius Cornelius Scipio, an able Roman general, who departed this life a good while before Marcy and Wright came on the stage. Hannibal was accustomed to exclaim: "When Scipio is whipped then real estate will boom in Carthage"—which, it will be observed, is radically different from "The Argus's" quotation, which it neglected to verify. This P. C. Scipio was a person of large significance. He has passed into history as the most capable of the Roman soldiers before Caesar. But Scipio, Cayuga County, (population in 1880, 2,093) is no such determining quantity. The vote of Scipio is of interest to the citizens of Scipio, but Democratic deluges are neither brought about nor prevented by it. It is doubtful if Mr. Cleveland, in surrendering his office next week, will endeavor publicly to solace himself with Scipio.

These few words may seem to have been written in a light and frivolous spirit. But the levity is merely on the surface. The spectacle of the State organ of the Democracy striving to put some life into its party at this sad hour of Democratic surrender, by pointing to the vote of Scipio, cannot fail to touch all hearts. It would be awfully funny if it were not so awfully pathetic.

MONEY AND BUSINESS.

In Wall Street the peculiar condition of the Interstate agreement has had more influence during the past week than anything else. Outside of Wall Street the controlling fact has been that business, while especially active in speculative lines, has been less confident or satisfactory in legitimate directions than has been expected. For a long time unseasonable weather was accepted as an explanation of comparative inactivity. But the advent of winter weather has not brought the expected increase in transactions, and still less a sufficient increase to compensate for so long a delay. In woollen and cotton goods and in iron and steel products, the prevailing prices are such as to check production and make trade in many lines, unremunerative, and there has been of late some reduction in wages; the dulness in structural iron and in nails does not indicate exceptional activity in the building trades, and, while the quantity of anthracite coal taken out of sight in January was 2,467,371 tons, against 2,291,501 in the same month last year, the absence of the great disturbances and strikes which prompted dealers last year to secure stocks without delay more than explains the increase. Yet in some important branches a definite increase in movement is visible.

Large sales of steel rails do not indicate large deliveries, and the actual shipments in January were only 64,000 tons. Yet it is an encouraging fact that contracts taken in January this year amount to 494,441 tons, against 394,897 last year. The truth is that at $31 50 a year ago there was much more disposition to wait for lower prices than there has been this year at $27 or less. The pork-packing business has been active for about a month past, exceeding that of last year by nearly 40 per cent, but this is only partial compensation for a greater decrease early in the winter, so that the aggregate since November 1 is still only 4,695,000 hogs, against 5,365,000 last year, a loss of 12 per cent. The movement of grain has been larger in the aggregate than a year ago. In two weeks of February exports from Atlantic ports were only 132,025 bushels wheat, against 1,076,034 last year, and of flour only 264,462 barrels, against 414,421 last year, but the exports of corn were 3,691,501 bushels, against 917,605. The receipts at interior points have been about 5,000,000 bushels larger of all kinds of grain than last year, a great increase in corn overcoming a decrease in wheat, and in shipments from interior points the increase has been about as large.

The cotton movement also continues large, but by way of compensating for the small movement earlier, for the aggregate thus far is not quite up to last year's in receipts or exports. The receipts at ports for three weeks of February have been 358,367 bales against 252,744, and the exports 339,715, against 282,022 last year, spinners having also taken since February 1 about 81,000 bales more than last year. In oil the production of wells in January exceeded last year's by 35 per cent, and the shipments by 6 per cent. The increasing output of copper helps to make prices weaker, and in tin and lead the week has seen some decline. The general tendency of prices of commodities has been downward during the week, so that the average is now fully 4 per cent below that of January 1. While the exchanges at Clearing Houses outside New-York last week were 10.4 per cent above last year's, fully two thirds of that increase was at Boston, Philadelphia and Chicago, cities where stock and grain speculation accounts for the gain, and at thirteen of the cities transactions fell below last year's.

Railroad earnings for the second week of February on fifty-two roads show a gain of 12.3 per cent, and for the first week on seventy-three roads a gain of 7.9 per cent, but the severe storms of last year seriously interrupted traffic. "The Financial Chronicle" publishes also returns of net earnings for 1888 on no fewer than 127 railroads, amounting to $235,145,666, which show a loss of 9 per cent in spite of an increase of nearly 2 per cent in gross earnings. The anxiety of security-holders to obtain some agreement among railroads which will bind somebody is sufficiently explained by these figures, but the men who built roads that are not needed are plainly responsible for the fact that some companies feel that they cannot live if debarred from competing at will for traffic. The progress this week might be considerable, if there were ground for confidence that all agreements would be strictly observed, and would last. But as yet hope lacks the support of experience.

Some gold has gone abroad during the past week, the specie exports having been $1,357,408, but the Treasury has covered this by paying $1,599,707 for bonds. Its receipts and disbursements for the week have just balanced, but about $800,000 has been taken from the bank circulation. Merchandise imports at New-York for three weeks past show a gain of 2 per cent, while the large shipments of cotton and corn swell the increase in exports from New-York to 17 per cent. There is little fear as to monetary prospects, since foreigners are buying stocks again, but the average of prices for stocks fell 38 cents per share last week, notwithstanding recovery in some securities. The other impediment to financial comfort, the speculation which suppresses wheat exports, still continues, and at the close on Thursday the price was about $1 06 3-8 at Chicago, against 75 cents last year; 98 7-8 cents at New-York, against 88 3-8 last year, and $1 09 3-4 at Liverpool for American wheat; with British wheat averaging cheaper in British markets than American wheat at New-York.

The apple crop was a good one last fall, but during the winter it has turned out a miserable failure. The weather has been extremely bad for preserving the fruit, and growers and dealers who held on to their stock in the hope of an advance of prices have been heavy losers. One case is reported of a man in Maine to whom an offer of $1,000 for 700 barrels was made in the fall, but he preferred to wait, and recently thought himself lucky to get $300 for the 300 barrels that remained on his hands. Just why the apple crop should have gone to the dogs so soon after the defeat of the Democratic party is one of the things that the student of curious coincidences may find it hard to explain.

Every now and then, when justice has overtaken a conspicuous scoundrel and given him a resounding blow, the community is led to expect that the warning will be heeded; but the crop of knaves in public and private life doesn't seem to diminish very rapidly.

Those who are engaged in the crusade having for its object the exclusion of high bonnets from theatre and opera house will be interested in learning of the progress which the reform is making in Albany. The invitation to some private theatricals given in that city under the direction of the Woman's Diocesan League requests ladies to "come without bonnets, or to leave them in the cloak-room." Of course, those accepting the invitation regarded this request, and hence those in the back seats were not debarred from seeing what was occurring on the stage. The Woman's Diocesan League at the capital is evidently controlled by those who think well of the golden rule.

President Cleveland is keeping up his reputation as a vetoer of pension bills. It is reasonable to expect that his last official act will be a veto of a bill giving a pension to some disabled soldier.

The suggestion of the Connecticut Pharmaceutical Society, that a school of pharmacy ought to be established in connection with the Yale Medical School, is a good one. There is no doubt that altogether too large a proportion of those who are intrusted with the delicate and responsible duty of putting up prescriptions are dangerously deficient in knowledge of the art they practise. This fact is frequently suggested by fatal mistakes, and would be overwhelmingly proved within twenty-four hours if all drugs were poisons.

Since a paragraph was printed in these columns on the need of a dictionary containing all the principal words used in the arts and sciences and speaking of the number of words which electricity alone has added to the language, we have been informed that a firm in this city is now engaged in preparing an electrical dictionary, and that the work is well advanced. The book may meet a long-felt want; but what is still more necessary is a general technical dictionary—not one relating to electricity alone.

If Lieutenant Baert had been a wide-awake New-York newspaper man, he surely would not have come back to Europe without knowing what those latest dispatches from Stanley contain.

"Deacon" Richardson has sent a check for $500 to the police pension fund in Brooklyn as a mark of his esteem for the work of the police during the recent strike, and Commissioner Bell has accepted the amount with thanks. The idea was borrowed from this city, where the proffered contributions are still in abeyance. It is a bad business all around, and will probably return to vex us for a good while to come.

PERSONAL.

Senator Chandler will make the Decoration Day address this year at Nashua, N. H.

"The Freeman's Journal," of Dublin, has raised $175,000 for the Parnell Defence Fund.

Mr. Wolcott, Colorado's Senator-elect, is visiting Boston.

M. Zola has faith in General Boulanger's ultimate success in French politics.

Albany finds a topic for much chat in the Lieutenant-Governor's $3,000 dog and its silver collar.

A rather mixed household is that of the Ameer of Afghanistan. He has five legal wives. Number One is a grandniece of his grandfather. Number Two is notable chiefly for her weight—three or four hundred pounds. Number Three used to be handmaid to Number Two, and is the mother of the designated heir to the throne. Number Four is a daughter of the Dost. She is queen of the harem, and rules her husband in all domestic affairs. Number Five's biography is yet unwritten.

A strong bond of friendship has been formed between Mrs. Cleveland and Miss Mildred Lee, daughter of the famous Rebel general.

M. Antoine Carteret, who died recently at Geneva, at the age of seventy-six, was the principal colleague of the late M. James Fazy in the Culturkampf entered upon in that canton in imitation of Germany. The attempt to create a Swiss Old Catholic Church was an entire failure, and many of the Radicals renounced the Culturkampf, but at the elections a few months ago, the sections again coalesced and carried their candidates. M. Carteret was also a member of the National Council at Berne.

According to the "Reichanzeiger," of Berlin, the late Crown Prince Rudolf was "the dearly loved friend" of the present German Emperor. A few months ago these dear friends were in converse with each other. Rudolf talked of literature and science. William yawned, and then said, insolently, "Oh, I don't understand any of that. Such dry stuff is unworthy of a prince." "There is," replied Rudolf, "only one thing unworthy of a prince, and that is, to aspire to the throne while his father is yet alive."

Washington people are earnestly taking hold of the scheme for a monumental statue of W. W. Corcoran.

It is really funny that Prince Edmond de Polignac should now rush vigorously to the fore with a profession of faith in Republicanism of the Boulangist brand. He must now be close to sixty, and has never before betrayed the faintest interest in politics, or indeed anything but Wagner's music and old-school conversation. He is one of the few remaining classical wits, and can utter innumerable brilliant epigrams and resistlessly funny jokes with a face as imperturbable as a graven image. It may be added that he is as great as a connoisseur in dining as he is in conversation, but that he has a terribly weak digestion. This one day led to his uttering this maxim at a party where they were playing the game of definitions: "Paradise is eating. Hell is digestion."

Miss Rhoda Broughton lives in a little old house on a little old street at Oxford, with a walled garden filled with roses. She keeps a number of pet dogs, chiefly of the "pug" breed.

WE BROUGHT IN KANSAS AND NEBRASKA, TOO.

From The Chicago News.

The Republican party is keeping up its record in the matter of enlarging the union of States. In 1864 it compelled Democracy to admit a new South, and in 1889 it compels Democracy to admit a new Northwest.

A TRIFLE PREMATURE.

From The Atlanta Constitution.

Oscar Wilde has written an article on the decay of lying. Oscar has evidently not been keeping up with the Parnell trial.

HE BRAYS ARTISTICALLY THOUGH.

From The Washington Critic.

An ass was what General Rosser made of himself in his speech at Baltimore last night when he declared that "a Southern gentleman can whip a Puritanical Yankee any time."

A STUDY IN LAKE CITY CIVILIZATION.

From The Minneapolis Tribune.

Count Herbert Bismarck cynically says: "The only advantage of better society is that its morality is worse." We never knew before that Herbert mingled in Chicago society.

REDUCE THE SURPLUS!

From The Philadelphia Times (Dem.)

It matters little whether Mr. Mills or Mr. Randall shall be victor or vanquished in the House, but it is of vital importance to the whole people that the Treasury surplus be reduced. It is now obvious that no tariff revision is possible this session, and Mr. Randall is entirely right in discarding Mr. Mills's abstractions and striking for the repeal of the tobacco tax. It's not much considering the large surplus, but it's something, and little is better than nothing. Reduce the surplus.

THROWING OFF HER DISGUISE.

From The Chicago Tribune.

The Dakota picnic season ended suddenly when the Enabling act passed Congress.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

A gentleman was arrested in this town a day or two ago for assault. His defence was that he had merely defended himself from an assailant who had threatened to kick a lung out of him. "As I aint got but one lung," he further explained, "I pps and hits him in the rib." On this showing the rib-hitter very properly was discharged. Every person of spirit will defend his lungs from those whose unamiable purpose it is to kick them out of their accustomed place—a performance which is understood to be attended with inconvenience to the owner of the lungs. But when a man is so poorly off in lungs as to have only one, then it becomes not only his right, but the duty nearest him to break as many ribs as may be necessary in protecting it from those that would kick it out.

At the recent Lincoln banquet there were two surprises. Foraker said he wouldn't speak and did speak. Terrapin was advertised as one of the delicacies of the menu and it wasn't there. Chairman Chester regrets the latter failure to stick to the programme, as many of the boys had gone there in dress suits and with an idea that terrapin was something good to drink.—Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch.

An examination in the Public Schools:

Professor to pupil: "In which of his battles was Gustavus Adolphus killed?"

Pupil, after reflection: "I think it was in his last battle."

British medical statistics show that gout is rare in whiskey drinking countries and common in beer drinking sections. It is not a fair test. The entire whiskey drinker loses his mind and dies of jimjams before he has a chance to enjoy the gout.—(New-Orleans Picayune.

A little six-year-old girl, who was deeply interested in sacred history and geography at the same time, was asked:

"What is the meaning of God?"

She replied:

"God is a pure spirit surrounded by water on all sides."

"What do you feed your white rabbit, Tommy?" inquired Mr. Bildus, who had called to talk politics with Tommy's father.

"The stubs of papa's cigars," was the reply.

"Why, doesn't tobacco make the rabbit sick?"

"Who said anything about tobacco? I guess you never smoked one of papa's cigars."

Just then Tommy's father appeared. "Have a cigar, Bildus," he said, cordially. "I never keep any but the best and you can depend on these."

"Thank you," said Bildus, feebly, "but I promised my doctor this morning to stop smoking. I'm threatened with paralysis, you know."—(Chicago News.

"The Boston Transcript" tells his story about a small colored boy of a religious turn of mind. He wanted a jack-knife very much, and was overheard one night praying for one very earnestly. His master went to town next day, and on his return in the evening there was a jack-knife laid on the boy's window. The boy discovered the knife promptly enough in the morning, examined it eagerly, and exclaimed softly, with an air of condemnation of his own stupidity, "Why didn't I pay for a two-bladed one?"

Captain Lemon has charge of the sale of tickets for the Inaugural Ball. That affair could not get along without a little Lemon aid, it seems.—(Pittsburg Chronicle.

"The Andover Review" puts the question of ministerial salaries in this way: "The salaries of ministers in the large parishes equal, where they do not exceed, the salaries of Justices of the Supreme Courts of the States and of the United States. The salaries of ministers in that very large field of secondary parishes equal, if they do not exceed, the salaries of professors in the larger colleges. The salary of the average country minister (we do not refer now to the home missionary of the East or West) equals the income of the average country doctor."

New-Yorker (to friend)—Did you read about that young lady being robbed in broad daylight on Sixth-ave.

Friend—Yes, I read about it.

"Singular, wasn't it?"

"What was there singular about it? Such things happen every week."

"But didn't you read that she had $5 in her pocketbook, and that she had just returned from shopping? That a woman should quit shopping while she had $5 is the most astonishing thing I have ever known.—(Texas Siftings.

The temperature is getting to be pretty torrid in Portland and Augusta, Me. The propriety of removing the State Capital from the latter to the former town is being discussed, and the air is black with the allegations that are being hurled back and forth.

Waste of Time.—Philadelphia Fox Hunter—How long does it take to get to Chicago? I've a great notion to go to the Chicago meet.

Ordinary Citizen—What's the use? The Chicago meat comes to us.—(Philadelphia Record.

"Memory hoops" are the latest fad in Kansas City. A memory hoop is about ten inches in diameter and will hold from thirty to forty bows or knots. And the thing for the male friends of a young lady to do is to give her a handsome piece of colored silk, which she ties on the hoop. The girl who covers the most hoops in this way is considered the reigning belle.

Speeches to be Lived Down.—The Miss Browns—Oh, so glad to see you, Mary! But we've such dreadful colds we can't kiss you, dear. We can only shake hands!

Fair Visitor—Oh, dear, how sad! I hope you haven't got a cold, Mr. Brown!—(London Punch.

MUSIC.

COMMENT AND GOSSIP FOR THE CURIOUS.

The history of last season is repeating itself in one respect at the Metropolitan Opera House. The open and masked enemies of the institution having delivered their harmless little fusillade against the institution (it takes but little to draw out all the ammunition in their magazines) and the directors having wisely recommended a continuation of the present policy, the public are now testifying to their satisfaction by patronizing the representations very generously. Recent audiences have all been numerous and Saturday's representation of "Die Walkure" took place in the presence of a crowded house. The performance was not all that one's fancy could have painted. Walhalla's connubial pair, Wotan and Fricka, were doleful in the extreme, and though Herr Kalisch sang much of the first act pleasingly his voice and physical, as well as histrionic stature were sadly inadequate in the second act. Wagner himself practically confesses somewhere in his later writings that in 1876 he made a mistake in laying so much stress on the physical attributes of the singers whom he selected to impersonate