a lecturing tour which is to extend to New-Zealand and America.

A DINNER TO FRENCH MEN OF LETTERS.

Mr. Walter Besant, as chairman of the incorporated Society of Authors, has issued a circular to the members stating that it is proposed to hold a dinner on July 3, to which the president of the Societe des Gens de Lettres and other Frenchmen and French women of letters will be invited. EDMUND YATES.

MRS. EMMA C. FOLSOM MARRIED.

THE MOTHER OF MRS. GROVER CLEVELAND QUIETLY WEDDED TO A BUFFALO MERCHANT.

Jackson, Mich., May 20.—The people of this city were considerably excited this afternoon when it became generally known that Mrs. Emma C. Folsom, the mother of Mrs. Grover Cleveland, was to marry Henry E. Perrine, a merchant of Buffalo, N. Y., and that Mrs. Cleveland would be present at the ceremony. Mrs. Cleveland arrived on the fast express at 4:50, and was immediately driven to the home of her aunt, Mrs. John W. Cadman, on Francis-st., where the ceremony was to take place. Extraordinary precautions had been taken to keep the affair quiet, and reporters were unable to procure more than the simplest details. Mrs. Folsom arrived here on May 8, in order to be with her relatives and to escape the publicity which might attach in the East to an affair of such interest. So cleverly had the matter been planned and managed that very few were aware that the marriage was to take place until the last moment. Mr. Perrine came here on Wednesday, and remained quietly at the Hibbard House.

The wedding was performed at 9 o'clock this evening by the Rev. R. B. Balcom, of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. The bride was dressed in her travelling costume. The guests present, besides Mrs. Cleveland and the family of Mr. Cadman, were Mr. and Mrs. Barry Ritch, the latter a daughter of the bridegroom, and their two sons, from Buffalo, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. Elisha Filon, of Detroit, Mr. Harman and Mrs. Frank Welch, of Jackson, both near relatives of Mrs. Folsom.

Mr. and Mrs. Perrine left here on the night train for Chicago and the West, for a trip before returning to Buffalo to live. Mrs. Cleveland will remain here for a few days, the guest of Mrs. Cadman, before going back to New-York. The city is pleased over the visit of Mrs. Cleveland, who has many acquaintances here who watched her career as the wife of the President with pride and gratification. The bridegroom is about fifteen years older than the bride, who is a well-preserved woman of forty-five.

Buffalo, N. Y., May 20 (Special).—Henry E. Perrine and his first wife were intimate friends of Mrs. Folsom for many years. Mrs. Perrine died five or six years ago. Her husband, although neither wealthy nor prominent, is well known in Buffalo. For several years he has been secretary of the Buffalo City Cemetery Association on a modest salary. He is one of the pillars of the North Presbyterian Church, and has three grown-up children. He is sixty years old. It is said the first Mrs. Perrine was a distant relative of Mrs. Folsom. Mr. Perrine and his bride will be "at home" at No. 39 North Pearl-st. after this week.

AMATEURS AT THE LYCEUM THEATRE.

The Lyceum Theatre was crowded last night by an audience anxious to see amateurs play "Sweethearts" and "The Day After the Wedding" and to add to the funds of the Burnham Industrial Farm, for which the performance was given. Mrs. Daniel Paine Griswold, formerly Miss Annie Robe, played the chief part in each piece and had the assistance of Evert Jansen Wendell, Arthur Brazier, Edward Fales Coward, John Frederick Cook, Frederick Edgar Camp, Miss Margaret Palmer Meyer and Miss Mary Weed Kinney. The performance was given under the auspices of a number of well-known ladies, who secured a fashionable audience. About $1,000 will probably be realized. Mr. Frohman gave the use of the theatre.

MISS DAVENPORT MARRIED.

Miss Fanny Davenport and Melbourne McDowell were married on Sunday afternoon, by Dr. Charles H. Eaton, of the Church of the Divine Paternity, at his house, No. 17 East Forty-sixth-st. It was about 4 o'clock when Miss Davenport and Mr. McDowell arrived in New-York by the Pennsylvania Railroad their season having closed at Harrisburg on Saturday night. They got into a carriage, and were driven direct to Dr. Eaton's house. Mrs. Eaton, one man and a little girl, a niece of Miss Davenport's, were the only witnesses of the ceremony. Mr. and Mrs. McDowell, are staying at the St. Cloud Hotel, but will soon go to the bride's farm at Canton, Penn. It is their present intention to stay there a few weeks, and then go to San Francisco, where they will pass the greater part of the summer. Miss Davenport's next season will be begun in Kansas City, and her route for the entire season has been booked for some time.

MRS. LANGTRY WILL PLAY HERE AGAIN.

The announcement that Mrs. Langtry will on the afternoon of May 28 cause some of her scenery and properties to be sold on the stage of the Grand Opera House has let many people to think that she does not intend to play in this country after the present season. This idea is, however, incorrect. Mrs. Langtry will play in England next year, but return here for the season of 1890-'91. Nearly all the time for that season has already been filled, and in all probability she will begin with a brief engagement at Palmer's. Manager Palmer said yesterday that although no documents had been signed he considered that the matter was settled, and that he should hold the time for Mrs. Langtry.

MR. PALMER DENIES A REPORT.

A. M. Palmer yesterday emphatically denied a report published in a morning paper that he intended to abandon the auxiliary company which Mr. Boucicault has been training during the season just closing. Mr. Palmer is satisfied with the results attained, and the supplemental school carried on by Mr. Boucicault gives the veteran dramatist a large income.

NEW REPUBLICAN CLUB MEMBERS.

Fifteen new members were added to the rolls of the Republican Club last night and thirty more were proposed for membership. Those admitted were John Abendroth, David Close, Marshall T. Davidson, Eugene N. Howell, Charles P. Keese, Frederick Kopper, Charles H. Phelps, Lewis M. Silver, Benjamin A. Sheldon, John Noble Stearns, Edgar W. Youmans. Non-resident membership, Leonard Ames, jr., Jonathan Bonnell, William H. Carpenter, Myron B. Wright.

Professor John Ordronaux delivered an address on "The Parental Authority of the American State." John D. Smith offered a resolution, which was unanimously adopted, urging the importance of electing a Republican Mayor in place of Mr. Grant. Another resolution, amending the by-laws in relation to the admission of members, offered by Mr. Hayden, was also passed. A portrait of ex-President Bartlett was presented to the club.

GIRARD'S BIRTHDAY REMEMBERED.

Philadelphia, May 20 (Special).—The 139th anniversary of Stephen Girard's birth was celebrated at Girard College to-day. After the meeting of the alumni an address was delivered by the Adjutant-General of Pennsylvania, D. H. Hastings. The following officers were chosen: President, John M. Strong; vice-president, William Turner; secretary, Albert Robson; treasurer and steward, H. McDowell.

Persons in search of board or rooms should examine the short advertisements on the fourth and fifth pages of The Tribune to-day.

RESTRAINING THE PRODUCTION OF A SCENE.

Augustin Daly began a suit yesterday in the United States Circuit Court against George P. Webster, William A. Brady and Henry C. Miner, to restrain the production of "After Dark" at Miner's People's Theatre this week. Mr. Daly says that he is the composer of "Under the Gaslight," which contains a scene known as the "railroad scene." He says that a scene similar to that in his play is contained in "After Dark." Judge Lacombe granted a temporary injunction restraining the production of the play with the railroad scene in it.

The injunction had been served on H. C. Miner or on Webster and Brady at a late hour last evening. Mr. Miner reached the theatre a little before 10 o'clock, and first heard of an injunction having been granted, from a Tribune reporter. He at once caused a searching inquiry to be made as to whether any of his employes had been served with legal papers, with the result of finding that none had been received.

A GOOD DAY FOR THE MEMORIAL ARCH FUND.

Treasurer William R. Stewart, of the Washington Memorial Arch Committee, acknowledges the receipt of the following subscriptions yesterday: H. B. Claflin & Co., $1,000; William Evans, Carpenter & Pettingill, H. C. Jessel, Howell & Demerest, Guy Peek, Poultney Bigelow and Nicholas Christy, $5 each; Charles de Rham, Miss de Rham, $100 each; T. H. Van Aming, Nicholas Murray Butler, Thomas R. Price, H. T. Peek, I. S. Newbery and Charles M. Kay, $10 each; Cash, $2.50; J. W. A., C. A. Cragen, J. H. Stoddard, Hjalmar H. Bojesen, jr., Algernon H. Bojesen, Bayard H. Bojesen, M. D. Conroy, A. B. Storey, Charles Henry Phelps, John C. Van Dyke, Cash, F. H. Scripture, Cash, and Louis G. Giles, $1 each; Hjalmer H. Bojesen, $25; W. Hamilton Gibson and William L. Keese, $3 each; Thomas W. Knox, William S. Walsh, W. C. C. and Daniel G. Thompson, $2 each; McCabe Brothers, $25; Brenson Murray, $20; thirty-five employes of H. B. Claflin & Co., $35; sixteen employes of W. L. Strong & Co., $121.50; eighteen employes of J. T. Low & Co., $7.74. Amount received yesterday, $1,562 75; previously acknowledged, $28,123 76; grand total, $29,686 51.

THE DUCHESS AT COURT.

From The London Truth.

The Duchess of Marlborough made her long-talked-of appearance at Court in a magnificent black dress. She is in mourning for her father, Commodore Price. The train of her gown was embroidered in the finest and slenderest lines of gold, silver, and cut jet in a very graceful eighteenth-century design. Plumes of black feathers caught the folds here and there, diamond clasps glittering among the feathers. The bodice and train were in palm-leaf brocade of supero texture, edged all around with black feather trimming. Up one side of the train a second line of feathers stood erect. Her very tall figure looked stately enough in this sombre dress, which proved what a skilful milliner can do with the restricted tints of mourning. The bodice was a blaze of diamonds, and the Duchess wore splendid jewels on her neck and in her ears and hair. She carried a bouquet of orchids sent up from Blenheim, which Mrs. Green had mounted with exquisite variegated foliage.

NOTES OF THE STAGE.

The opening play of next season at Proctor's Twenty-third Street Theatre will be "The Great Metropolis" by Jessop and Teal, which Klaw and Erlanger will manage. The models of the scenes indicate that this will be a remarkably sumptuous production. George H. Jessop, one of the authors, was recently entertained at dinner by the faculty of Trinity College, Dublin, in which university he was educated.

The first annual meeting of the Players' Club was held last night in the club-house in Gramercy Park. Financial statements of an extremely satisfactory nature were presented.

George F. Rowe, the actor and playwright, writes from London that he will soon return to this country accompanied by his wife, who as Miss Arthur was seen here in one of his plays about four years ago.

An exceedingly strong company has been secured for the new play, "The Burglar," suggested by "Editha's Burglar," and written by the same author, which will be produced in Boston next month. Those engaged are Maurice Barrymore, John T. Sullivan, Sidney Drew, Gus. Thomas (the author), J. H. Shewell, Emma V. Sheridan, Minnie Dupree, Louise Homan and Gertie Homan.

Miss Amy Lee, who was several seasons the juvenile woman in Edward Harrigan's company, was recently married in this city to Frank William Owers, of Leadville. Miss Lee is a daughter of the old time professionals Rose and Harry Watkins, and a niece, on her mother's side, of Mrs. John Hoey.

"Pat" Rooney in "Pat's Wardrobe" occupies the stage of Niblo's this week.

"The Wife" with the original cast and scenery from the Lyceum is the attraction this week at the Park Theatre, Brooklyn.

At the Amphion Academy, Williamsburg, Denman Thompson and George Ryer's play "The Two Sisters" will be given all this week. This is the third engagement of the play this season, and the repetition speaks well for the manager's confidence in its drawing powers. The season at the Amphion will close on Saturday night.

At the Lee Avenue Academy Miss Jarbeau appeared last night in the musical comedy "Starlight," which will be repeated at each performance during the week.

Some enemy of Manager Gustave Amberg, who with his newly married wife sailed last week for Europe, is industriously circulating a number of unfounded charges, evidently inspired by malice, against his financial and moral reputation. The two most specific accusations, that $60 was owing to the leader of the orchestra and that a comedian named Abromoritz had been induced to come here by false representations, were last night branded as lies by Mr. Drooks, who is engaged in the business office of Amberg's Theatre. Mr. Drooks said: "No comedian of that name has played at the theatre this season. All the hints and insinuations made by this person are as false as these two pretended particulars."

Business chances and bargains of various sorts are mentioned in the many columns of short advertisements on the fourth and fifth pages of The Tribune this morning.

THE SUNDAY MILK-SHAKE IN PITTSBURG.

Pittsburg, May 20 (Special).—The Law and Order Society's crusade against the Sunday sale of milk-shakes and other non-intoxicants in the summer of 1888 is about to be renewed. Captain Alexander Wishart enters all suits for the society, and the most prominent and frequent defendant last year was John A. Martin. Yesterday Martin disposed of 135 gallons of milk left over from Saturday. Two-thirds was given away and the rest sold. Mr. Martin's customers yesterday deposited a ballot for or against the prohibition amendment in boxes provided by Martin, who says that the vote was 4 to 1 against the amendment.

FIVE CENTS EACH FOR GOPHER SCALPS.

Fort Dodge, Iowa, May 20.—The striped and pocket gophers that abound throughout the West threaten to become a formidable pest to farmers in portions of Iowa. In a number of counties a bounty of five cents each has been placed on gopher scalps. In Boone County thus far this spring, over 18,000 scalps have been presented and paid for by County Auditor Everhall, a number larger than is usually drawn during the entire year.

SHOOTING THE FATHER OF HIS SWEETHEART.

Columbus, Ind., May 20.—William Newcomb was fatally shot yesterday, by Jesse Davis, a young man who persisted in paying visits to Newcomb's daughter against the wish of the father. Davis offered no resistance when arrested.

WORK OF THE BAPTIST PUBLICATION SOCIETY.

Boston, May 20.—The American Baptist Publication Society held the first business session of its sixty-fifth annual meeting to-day. The report of the Board of Managers showed total receipts for the year ending March 26 of $626,360. Horatio Gates Jones, president of the trustees of the George Nugent Home for Baptists at Germantown, Philadelphia, announced that the Home had a foundation of about $400,000 and was ready to receive all Baptist ministers and their wives over sixty years of age.

MURDER AND SUICIDE DUE TO JEALOUSY.

San Francisco, May 20.—Donald McDonald, a sergeant in the United States Army, stationed at Presidio, this morning shot and killed Ethel Anderson and then shot himself, dying instantly. Jealousy was the cause of the crimes.

THE OUTLOOK FOR WHEAT IN OHIO.

Dayton, Ohio, May 20.—Reports from growers in all of the ten counties of Miami Valley show that wheat straw will be short, but the wheat yield in the district will be nearly 8,000,000 bushels, or an average of not quite eighteen bushels to the acre.

EMBEZZLING MONEY OF A MESSENGER COMPANY.

Boston, May 20.—William B. Derby, cashier of the Mutual District Messenger Company, of this city, is under arrest on the charge of embezzling $15,000 by overcharges on the services required by the Western Union Telegraph Company. He has been in the employ of the Mutual District Messenger Company for years, and has always had the confidence of his employers. He is about thirty-five years of age and married.

MEETING OF FRIENDS OF THE INDIAN.

The New-York Indian Association held its last meeting for the season yesterday afternoon at the home of its president, Mrs. I. Irving, No. 21 West Thirty-second-st. There was a fair attendance and the association considered plans for the summer's work that were submitted by a committee. The association desires to raise some money with which to build a chapel and school-house for some Indians in Southern California. The next meeting will be held the last week of October or in the first week of November.

FUNDS FOR QUARANTINE EXPENSES.

The Special Quarantine Commission met at the Mayor's office yesterday, and authorized the treasurer to draw $15,000 from the Controller, to be applied upon the improvements being made on Hoffman's Island. The sum of $2,500 additional for the care and maintenance fund was also appropriated. Health Officer Smith presented a claim for $1,439 09, which he had paid out to his deputies and others, and asked to be reimbursed under the provisions of chapter 77 of the laws of 1888. At Mayor Grant's suggestion the matter was referred to the Attorney-General, with a request that he would inform the Commission from what fund the sum advanced should be paid.

POLICEMAN HEALY TO BE TRIED AGAIN.

The trial of Policeman Healy, of the Mulberry-st. squad, on the charge of arresting Mrs. Joseph Finn in Elizabeth-st. on a recent Sunday evening without cause, was conducted at Headquarters yesterday. Several persons testified that Mrs. Finn was a respectable woman and not given to drunkenness, but her witnesses made a poor showing against the apparently overwhelming testimony that she had been drunk in the streets several times. Healy will be tried soon again on another charge, made by Mrs. Finn's friends, that he was in a liquor store in uniform on the night of the arrest.

NEW SCHOOLS TO BE OPENED.

The new Primary School No. 9, at Ninety-ninth-st. and First-ave., is to be opened on Thursday for the primary pupils of that part of the city. The new school will accommodate about 1,000 pupils. Miss Mary E. Duncan has been appointed principal of the new school. On June 1 the new Grammar School No. 85, at Alexander-ave. and One-hundred-and-thirty-eighth-st., will be ready for pupils. There will be forty-eight class-rooms and accommodations for nearly 3,000 pupils. Jonathan D. Hyatt, formerly of the One-hundred-and-forty-fifth-st. school, will be the principal of the Grammar, and Miss Sarah A. Cooper, of the Fordham School, will be principal of the Primary Department.

MORE APPOINTMENTS FOR TAMMANY MEN.

The Excise Commissioners have appointed James F. Bishop secretary and chief clerk of the Board in place of George H. Gale, removed. The salary is $3,000 per year. Mr. Bishop now lives in the same district with Mr. Gilroy, the XXIIId, but was for many years a Tammany co-laborer with Chamberlain Croker in the XVIIIth District. Sheriff Flack yesterday appointed Bernard Galligan a deputy sheriff. He is a Tammany man of the XXth Assembly District, and held the same place under Sheriff Alexander B. Davidson from 1883 to 1886.

RETIRED ON HALF PAY.

A NEW CHIEF FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

CHARLES OSCAR SHAY YIELDS HIS PLACE TO HUGH BONNER, ASSISTANT CHIEF, ON ACCOUNT OF DISABILITY.

Charles Oscar Shay, Chief of the New-York Fire Department, was retired at his own request yesterday, on account of disability, and was placed upon the pension rolls of the department at the rate of $2,350 a year, or half the amount of his active pay. His successor will be Assistant Chief Hugh Bonner. The office of Assistant Chief was abolished and two places called Deputy Chiefs were instituted. Second Assistant Chief John McCabe and Frank H. Reilly, Chief of the 11th Battalion, were made Deputies. Foreman Peter H. Short was appointed to succeed Chief of Battalion Reilly, and Assistant Foremen Thomas Reilly and Lawrence Murphy were promoted to be foremen.

Chief Shay was born in Charlton-st., in the Eighth Ward of this city, on October 22, 1834. His education was begun in Grammar School No. 3 and he was graduated from Mount Washington Collegiate Institute in 1851. Mr. Shay began life as a carpenter and draughtsman, subsequently becoming foreman of a refrigerator factory, where he invented a ventilating apparatus still in use in modern refrigerators. After eight years of service in the Volunteer Fire Department, in the course of which he became foreman of Hook and Ladder Company No. 14, in Charles-st., serving in that capacity from 1861, he joined the paid Fire Department on its organization in 1865. He was made foreman of Hook and Ladder Company No. 3 and held that post until June, 1869, when he was promoted to the office of district engineer.

In May, 1873, Mr. Shay was advanced to the office of assistant chief. Eleven years later, on May 4, 1884, he became Chief of the Department, and discharged the duties of this highly important place until yesterday. Chief Shay has eight children, two of whom are officers of the Department; Charles H., foreman of Engine Company No. 14, and Frank, engineer of Engine Company No. 20.

Hugh Bonner, who succeeds Chief Shay, was also a foreman in the Volunteer Department, and entered the paid service in 1865, when it was organized, at the age of twenty-seven. He became a chief of battalion in May, 1873, second assistant chief in January, 1883, and assistant chief in May, 1884, when Mr. Shay was promoted.

Deputy-Chief John McCabe entered the service as a fireman in May, 1875. He was promoted to be assistant foreman in 1880, foreman in 1883 and chief of battalion in 1886.

MR. SHEARMAN RESIGNS HIS OFFICE.

William Pitt Shearman, whom Controller Myers appointed Supervisor of the Finance Department on April 1, has resigned his position after a tenure of about six weeks. Mayor Grant considered the appointment irregular and without warrant of law, and declined to approve Mr. Shearman's pay-roll. The ex-supervisor said yesterday that he had no desire to provoke a controversy and therefore concluded to settle the matter by resigning. Mayor Grant remarked that he entertained no personal antipathy to Mr. Shearman, but he thought him hardly the proper man to prescribe new rules and methods for keeping the Finance Department's books and accounts, in view of the fact that twice as Commissioner of Accounts he had pronounced that Department in perfect condition. The recent investigation had shown what value attached to Mr. Shearman's certificate. The salary which he was to have drawn was $5,000 per year.

HEBREW MINISTERS IN CONFERENCE.

The tenth semi-annual conference of the Jewish Ministers' Association of America was held yesterday and many topics of special interest were discussed. In the afternoon a meeting was held in the hall of the Young Men's Hebrew Association, at Fifty-eighth-st. and Lexington-ave. Prayer was offered by the Rev. H. T. Jacobs and then the president, the Rev. Dr. G. Gottheil, presented his annual report, in which he touched upon the participation of the Hebrew community in the Centennial celebration as a testimony of their indebtedness to the broad and tolerant spirit of the Constitution. Dr. Kohut read a paper showing how various legendary incidents in the life of Zoroaster were borrowed from the Jewish scriptures, and an entertaining discussion followed.

In the evening there was a public conference at the Synagogue Shaaray Tefila, in West Forty-fourth-st., at which Rabbi F. de Sola Mendes presided. Frederick Brandeis played the organ prelude, and the choir sang a hymn composed by Mr. Brandeis for the occasion. The Rev. Leon Harrison, of Temple Israel, Brooklyn, read the Scriptures and prayed, and Miss Guinsburg sang the solo, "Lord, whom my heart holds dear." An address on the subject of "Free Synagogues" was delivered by the Rev. Dr. W. Wilner, of Newark, and an address on "Personal Service" by the Rev. Dr. G. Gottheil. The association will continue its conference this morning and afternoon and dispose of all unfinished business.

Cooks, coachmen, dressmakers and house-servants of all kinds offer their services in the short advertisements on the fourth and fifth pages of The Tribune to-day.

ALLEN THORNDIKE RICE'S BOYHOOD.

MR. GEORGE TICKNOR CURTIS REFUTES SOME OF "THE NEW-YORK TIMES'S" SCANDALOUS STORIES.

From The New-York Sun.

It is a great pity that the propensity to work up sensational stories of family histories should have led to such an unfounded rigmarole as that in "The New-York Times," of to-day, concerning the late Mr. Thorndike Rice and his parents. His story is one that cannot be revived without giving pain to living persons, however truthfully it may be told; and when it is told unfaithfully, we cannot restrain a righteous indignation. I knew Mr. Thorndike Rice's father and mother before they were married. I was their neighbor in Boston when their child was born. I knew the families on both sides, and knew at the time the circumstances attending Mrs. Rice's departure from Boston with her child, then an infant. I shall say but little concerning Mrs. Rice; but as the account in "The Times" represents her husband as a sort of a brute, and represents her as forced to leave him, I shall take it upon me to contradict so much of the story as relates to one of the most amiable, worthy, and innocent young men I ever knew.

Henry Rice was the son of a Boston merchant of great respectability, but of moderate property. He was about five or six and twenty when he married Miss Thorndike. She was a granddaughter of Israel Thorndike, a very wealthy merchant in Boston. The marriage took place in the spring of 1850, thirty-nine years ago. The newly married couple went to Europe on a wedding tour. I was in London when they arrived there, and met them at dinner at the house of Mr. Russell Sturgis in Portland Place. They travelled for some time on the Continent. It was very well understood at the time that Mr. Rice was very much in love with his wife, and this was apparent to all who saw them together. It was equally well understood that before their marriage Mrs. Rice was not much in love with the young man whom she accepted, but she was perfectly free to choose and she chose to marry him. The child was born after they returned to Boston. Not long afterward, when the child was not more than two, or at most three, years old, Mrs. Rice suddenly left Boston, taking her child with her, and her husband was engaged for several years in fruitless efforts to find her, and to induce her to return to her proper home.

I think I am qualified to speak with some certainty of Mr. Rice's fondness for his wife. Soon after their engagement I dined one day at his father's house, with other young people who were in the same society, and she and her accepted lover were present. It was evident to us all that he was deeply in love with her, and at the same time we all understood that she was not much attached to him. Young people at such times are pretty apt to know a good deal about each other. Miss Thorndike was a handsome girl and very fascinating.

After the lapse of the period required by the law of Massachusetts, Mr. Rice obtained a divorce on account of his wife's desertion of him. He never married again. He died early, and every one in the society in which they both belonged was aware that the loss of his wife and child made him a broken-hearted man. He was entirely blameless in the whole matter. After the divorce Mrs. Rice lived, without any concealment, somewhere in Germany, and eventually she married a German, who had been her son's tutor for some time. He was said to have been a man of much force of character, and to have had more influence over the lady than any one else who had ever been connected with her. She died a very painful death, in consequence of her clothes accidentally taking fire.

There is a long and circumstantial account in "The Times's" narrative about a Mr. Kelley, of Vermont, who is said to have aided Mrs. Rice in concealing herself and her child from the "detectives" who were employed by her husband; and her escape is represented to have been from a cruelty "whose than death." This dark insinuation it would puzzle the writer in "The Times" to explain. I never heard that Henry Rice employed "detectives." Such persons were not known at that time. He did what his duty as a husband and father required of him, endeavor by all proper means to find his wife and child. There may have been a Mr. Kelley, or Mr. Anybody Else, who helped Mrs. Rice to conceal herself and her child, and to get away to Europe, for she must have had some assistance at the time.

"The Times's" article represents the search to have been made when the boy was eight years old. But the fact is, she left Boston and took away her child when he was at most not more than two or three years old. The boy never was in this country again until after he had grown up and had taken a degree at Oxford.

All that part of the story in "The Times" about letters from Mr. Rice's mother acknowledging Mr. Kelley's services, and years afterward sent to Thorndike Rice, who suppressed them, and the nonsense about the danger of poison incurred by Mrs. Rice in her husband's house, is bosh. It will be received with horror and indignation by every living member of both families, for they all know, as do the persons of my age in Boston who are acquainted with the facts, that Henry Rice was a most excellent young man, and that his wife's desertion of him was entirely due to a certain waywardness in her disposition. It was never suspected or intimated that she had been led astray by some one else. The grossest kind of infidelity to her husband was never imputed to her. GEORGE TICKNOR CURTIS.

New-York, May 19, 1889.

SUSPENDED ANIMATION.

THE MYSTERIOUS PHENOMENA OF CATALEPSY.

SOME INSTANCES OF THE DIFFICULTY OF DISTINGUISHING LIFE FROM DEATH.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The proceedings relative to the death of Mr. Bishop, the so-called "mind-reader," are of general interest for several reasons. Catalepsy, of a form of which Mr. Bishop is said to have died, is an affection not understood. Medical science has not hitherto been able to discover its causes or its true nature. Possibly research has been too strictly physiological, but however that may be, it is certain that cataleptic phenomena baffle investigation. In this or analogous conditions—and this is a point of prime importance—it is possible for death to be simulated so closely that all its ordinary indications are apparent, such as cessation of respiration and circulation, loss of heat, even cadaveric rigidity. The test of death most depended upon, namely, the presence or absence of muscular irritability, as determined by electrical or other stimulation, is not absolutely conclusive. This is shown in the fact that whereas, according to the commonly accepted theory, the loss of muscular irritability is succeeded by cadaveric rigidity, which is certain proof of death, cases are on record in which life has been restored or resumed after the appearance of this supposed-to-be infallible test. There is the case of Colonel Townsend. He was able of his own volition to simulate death so closely that all the usual signs of that change were present. Dr. George Cheyne witnessed this operation, and has recorded it in detail. Colonel Townsend remained apparently dead for fully half an hour. On one occasion he performed the experiment in the presence of three medical men, who found that respiration and pulsation gradually ceased until no trace of either could be detected. In fact, the three observers became convinced that the man really was dead, and they were about to leave him, under that belief, when signs of life appeared, and he slowly revived. This may not have been catalepsy, but it was certainly a case of suspended animation.

Dr. W. B. Carpenter says in his "Physiology": "It is quite certain that an apparent cessation of all the vital functions may take place without that entire loss of vitality which would leave the organism in the condition of a dead body, liable to be speedily disintegrated by the operation of chemical and physical agencies." It is also apparently a fact that such "apparent cessation of all the vital functions" may continue for an indefinite period when the right conditions exist. The best known illustration of this is the case of the Fakir of Lahore, who was buried for six weeks, at the instance of Runjeet Singh, as attested by Sir Claude Wade, the British Resident at the Court of Loodhiana, in 1837. In this thoroughly authenticated case—which, however, is but one of a class of similar facts known to Anglo-Indians and travellers—the Fakir was first put into a linen bag, the bag was placed in a wooden box, fastened with a padlock, the wooden box was deposited in a cell in the middle of a square brick vault, every aperture of which but one was bricked up, while the remaining door was built up with mud above the lock, and fastened with the Rajah's seal. As a final precaution, a company of soldiers was detailed to guard the vault day and night, four sentries constantly patrolling its four sides during the whole period. When, at the expiration of six weeks, the vault and the box were successively opened, Sir Claude Wade, who, with Runjeet Singh, had entered the building, and taken their places close to the body, so as to see everything, this is what appeared before them: "The servant then began pouring warm water over the figure; but as my object was to see if any fraudulent practices could be detected, I proposed to Runjeet Singh to tear open the bag and have a perfect view of the body before any means of resuscitation were employed. I accordingly did so; and may here remark that the bag, when first seen by us, appeared mildewed, as if it had been buried some time. The legs and arms of the body were shrivelled and stiff, the face full, the head reclining on the shoulder like that of a corpse. I then called to the medical gentleman who was attending me to come down and inspect the body, which he did, but could discover no pulsation in the heart, the temples, or the arm. There was, however, a heat about the region of the brain, which no other part of the body exhibited.

"The servant then recommended bathing him with hot water, and gradually relaxing his arms and legs from the rigid state in which they were contracted, Runjeet Singh taking his right and I his left leg, to aid by friction in restoring them to their proper action; during which time the servant placed a hot wheaten cake, about an inch thick, on the top of the head—a process which he twice or thrice renewed. He then pulled out of his nostrils and ears the wax and cotton with which they were stopped; and after great exertion opened his mouth by inserting the point of a knife between his teeth, and, while holding his jaws open with his left hand, drew the tongue forward with his right—in the course of which the tongue flew back several times to its curved position upward, in which it had originally been, so as to close the gullet. He then rubbed his eyelids with ghee (or clarified butter) for some seconds, until he succeeded in opening them, when the eyes appeared quite motionless and glazed. After the cake had been applied for the third time to the top of his head, his body was violently convulsed, the nostrils became inflated, respiration ensued, and the limbs began to assume a natural fulness; but the pulsation was still faintly perceptible. The servant then put some of the ghee on his tongue, and made him swallow it. A few minutes afterward the eyeballs became dilated, and recovered their natural color, when the Fakir, recognizing Runjeet Singh sitting close to him, articulated, in a low, sepulchral tone, scarcely audible, "Do you believe me now?" Runjeet Singh replied in the affirmative, and invested the Fakir with a pearl necklace and superb pair of gold bracelets, and pieces of muslin and silk, and shawls forming what is called a khelat, such as is usually conferred by the Princes of India on persons of distinction. From the time of the box being opened, to the recovery of the voice, not more than half an hour could have elapsed; and in another half hour the Fakir talked with myself and those about him freely, though feebly, like a sick person; and we then left him, convinced that there had been no fraud or collusion in the exhibition we had witnessed."

This case, so circumstantially narrated and so strongly authenticated, does not stand alone. Another case is recorded by Lieutenant Bolleau, in which a man had been buried for ten days in a grave lined with masonry and covered with large slates of stone, and strictly guarded; and the subject told Lieutenant Bolleau that he was ready to submit to an interment of a twelve-months' duration, if desired. In all these cases the appearance of the body when disinterred is described as being quite corpse-like, and no pulsation could be detected at the head or at the arteries. It may well be asked, in view of such possibilities of suspended animation, how physicians can be positive that death has occurred in cases of catalepsy or trance by any other indication than that of decomposition. Dr. Carpenter asserts that "a large proportion" of "the signs commonly relied upon by which real is certainly distinguishable from apparent death" are "fallacious," and he concludes that "the most satisfactory proof" of death "is given by the occurrence of putrefaction." "No reliance," he says, "is to be placed upon the apparent cessation of the heart's action and of the respiratory movements, since the reduction of these to so low a condition that they are no longer distinguishable is by no means incompatible with the persistence of vitality. In short, it is by no means so easy to demonstrate the occurrence of death as is commonly supposed, and it follows that in all cases where there is special reason for doubt—as where the patient is known to have been subject to cataleptic seizures—the greatest possible care should be exercised, and, as the surest precaution, the longest time possible should be allowed to elapse before autopsy or interment be permitted.

The conditions under which death may be closely simulated are so little understood, and the rationale of suspended animation is so emphatically a sealed book to medical science at present, that hasty action in such cases can never be justifiable. Probably nine out of ten physicians would have pronounced Colonel Townsend and the Fakir of Lahore to be dead; yet they were both very thoroughly alive, as the event proved. Considering how very little is known of either life or death, scientifically speaking, there can hardly be an excess of caution in dealing with cases in which the least room for doubt exists.

New-York, May 20, 1889. MEDICUS.

WASHINGTON IRVING BISHOP BURIED.

THE CORONER WILL HOLD AN INVESTIGATION ON THURSDAY.

The funeral of Washington Irving Bishop was held yesterday afternoon at Grace Church, the Rev. Drs. Huntington and Chalmers officiating. Hymns were sung by the regular choir, and there was a large number of people present. Early in the day the body was photographed at the undertaker's rooms and was then taken to the Hoffman House, where Bishop's widow and mother are still staying. From there the funeral procession started at a little before 2 o'clock. In the first carriage were the widow, who has lately been suffering severely from rheumatic fever, and is scarcely able to walk; her sister, Miss Taber, and Miss Dora Wiley. The elder Mrs. Bishop and her nephew, Brigham Bishop, were in the second carriage. She seemed very weak, and leaned heavily against her nephew, who fanned her continuously throughout the services. The pall-bearers were George Francis Train, Oliver Howard Blood, J. G. Ritchie, C. W. Thomas, A. F. Thomas, Thomas A. Atchison, Walter Hubbell and L. D. Kenney. There were many floral pieces from Miss Linda Gilbert, Mrs. and Miss Martinot, the Elks, Miss Ida Orme and others. Among those present were Colonel T. W. Knox, J. B. Studley, Jules Levy, Miss Sadie Martinot, J. L. Carhart, Mrs. Lydia R. Chase, Miss Helen Milliman, Mrs. M. A. Swett, Mrs. Werner Gaupp, Mrs. J. B. Potter, John L. Vincent, Governor de Cassanova and Dr. Richardson. The burial was in the family plot at Greenwood. The coffin plate gave the date of Bishop's birth as March 4, 1856. Mrs. Bishop, sr., was greatly overcome at the grave.

Coroner Levy has appointed next Thursday at 11 a. m. for the beginning of his inquiry into the facts of Bishop's death and of the autopsy. The Coroner has ordered Dr. Frank Ferguson to surrender to Deputy Coroner Jenkins the portions of Bishop's brain and other organs which he removed for microscopical examination.

CHESS PLAYERS KEENLY EXPECTANT.

THE CRITICAL TIE GAME OF THE INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT.

The all-important tie game in the international chess tournament between Weiss and Mason will be played to-day. If Mason beats Weiss, Tchigorin wins first prize, in which case he will be at once challenged by Gunsberg for the championship. If, however, Weiss beats Mason, then Weiss wins first prize by half a point, and he will then possibly be challenged by Tchigorin. If Mason draws with Weiss, then Weiss and Tchigorin will tie for first prize. In the tie games played yesterday Lipschutz won of Hanham, Blackburne beat Burn, Martinez drew against Mason, and Gossip drew with J. W. Baird. The score now stands as follows:

	Won	Lost.	Ties or Unfinished.
J. W. Baird	6	31	1
D. G. Baird	16	21	1
Bird	17	21	0
Blackburne	27	11	0
Burn	26	12	0
Burille	15	24	0
Delmar	18	20	0
Gossip	13½	24½	0
Gunsberg	28½	9½	0
Hanham	14	24	0
Judd	20	18	0
Lipschutz	25½	12½	0
McLeod	6½	31½	0
Martinez	14½	14½	0
Mason	20½	15½	2
Pollock	17½	20½	0
Showalter	18	20	0
Taubenhaus	17	20	1
Tchigorin	29	9	0
Weiss	28½	8½	1

EXHIBITIONS OF SIMULTANEOUS PLAY.

At the Manhattan Chess Club rooms, No. 31 West Twenty-seventh-st., there will be an exhibition of simultaneous play by I. Gunsberg, on Thursday, at 7:30 p. m., and also simultaneous blindfold play by Mr. Tchigorin, of St. Petersburg, on Saturday at 1 p. m. Mr. Weiss will play simultaneous games in these rooms at a later date.

CONFESSION MADE BY JAMES FAULKNER.

EXPLAINING HOW HE KEPT A DOUBLE SET OF BOOKS—HIS FLIGHT TO EUROPE.

Rochester, N. Y., May 20.—In the Faulkner trial this morning the cross-examination of Mr. Bingham, receiver of the Dansville Bank, was resumed by Mr. Bissell. He testified that the blotter showed a credit with L. B. Faulkner beginning in August, 1885