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AMBERG THEATRE—8—Poor Jonathan.
AMERICAN ART GALLERIES—9 a. m. to 10 p. m.—Russian Art Exhibition.
BIJOU THEATRE—8:15—The Nominee.
BROADWAY THEATRE—8—Cleopatra.
CASINO—8:15—Poor Jonathan.
COLUMBUS THEATRE—8—Uncle Joe; or, Fritz in a Madhouse.
DALY'S THEATRE—8—A Game of Cards, Wig and Gown and The Rough Diamond.
EDEN MUSEE—Otero and Wax Tableaux.
GARDEN THEATRE—8:15—Betrothed.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE—8—Seven Ages.
HARLEM OPERA HOUSE—8—The Dead Heart.
HARRIGAN'S THEATRE—8—Reilly and the 400.
HERRMANN'S THEATRE—8.15—All the Comforts of Home.
KOSTER & BIAL'S—2 and 8—Carmencita.
LENOX LYCEUM—8—Concert.
LYCEUM THEATRE—8:15—Old Heads and Young Hearts.
MADISON SQUARE GARDEN—2 and 8—Barnum & Bailey's Circus.
MADISON SQUARE THEATRE—8:30—Alabama.
NATIONAL ACADEMY OF DESIGN—9 a. m. to 10 p. m.—Art Exhibition.
NEW PARK THEATRE—8:15—A Straight Tip.
NEW POLO GROUNDS—3:30—Baseball.
NIBLO'S—8—The Dazzler.
PROCTOR'S 23D-ST. THEATRE—8:15—Mr. Wilkinson's Widows.
PALMER'S THEATRE—8—The Weaker Sex.
STANDARD THEATRE—8:15—U and I.
STAR THEATRE—8—The Power of the Press.
TONY PASTOR'S THEATRE—8—Vaudeville.
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New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY

MONDAY, APRIL 13, 1891.

TWELVE PAGES.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

Foreign.—A lively fight took place at Macroon between the Irish factions at a political meeting. ═══ Emperor William made a speech about the navy's place in the next war. ═══ Chinese tobacco has been introduced in London.

Domestic.—A fire in Chicago caused a loss of $1,000,000. ═══ Senator Saxton replies to criticisms of his proposed amendments to the Ballot Reform law. ═══ Secretary Proctor has returned to Washington. ═══ There were no new developments in the Italian affair. ═══ Real estate in New-Jersey is attracting the attention of investors. ═══ The West Virginia Central Railway is to build an outlet from the coal fields to tidewater. ═══ Dr. Eben Tourjee, of the New-England Conservatory of Music, is dead.

City and Suburban.—A ruffian was almost lynched in Eleventh-ave. by a crowd whom he had incensed by his brutality. ═══ The Rev. Dr. E. Winchester Donald disparaged the protest against the action of the Rev. Drs. Newton and Rainsford. ═══ There were not enough hearses in Brooklyn for the many funerals there. ═══ Ministers in Hudson County denounced the Guttenberg racetrack.

The Weather.—Forecast for to-day: Fair with slight thermal changes. Temperature yesterday: Highest, 57 degrees; lowest, 47; average, 51 1-8.

Governor Abbett has nearly completed his consideration of the bills left in his hands on the adjournment of the New-Jersey Legislature, although the statutory period allowed for the Governor's examination of such measures will not expire for several days yet. He is to give a hearing this week on the Racetrack bill, as it is called—a bill which transfers the trial of indictments from the Circuit to the Common Pleas Courts. Our Trenton correspondent points out that the assumption that the bill is in the interest of the racetracks is based on the erroneous supposition that the Common Pleas Judges would not do their duty.

A dispatch from Baltimore gives some interesting facts regarding the workings of the high-license system in that city, which has now been in operation about a year. In general, the effect of the law has been good, and its enforcement has been so strict that violations are extremely rare. The city's net revenue from liquor licenses for the year was $385,042. The question of high-license has less interest for New-Yorkers now than it would have were it not for the circumstance that a High-License law is utterly out of the question in this State with a Democratic Assembly and a Democratic Governor of the Hill type. The results in Baltimore, however, fully vindicate the position of the men who have in previous years strongly urged high license upon our lawmakers at Albany.

The Republican minority members of the Assembly's Excise Committee are preparing a report against the new Hill Liquor bill and in denunciation of the conduct of the majority members in reporting the bill without having it read and without giving hearings to interested persons. If the precedent established by the Assembly in refusing to listen to petitions is followed, the Democrats under the lead of Sheehan and McClelland will prevent this report from being read. But the public will, nevertheless, receive full information as to the "true inwardness" of this bad bill. A circular has been issued in behalf of the Excise-Reform Association and the City Reform Club, pointing out its most obnoxious features. The circular is published in another column, and is supplemented by an interview with Assemblyman Hildreth, who pronounces the bill worse than the Hill-Schaaff measure, for which it was substituted.

Senator Saxton's devotion to the cause of ballot reform needs no vindication. When, early in the session, he proposed certain amendments to the law of last year, it was generally felt that he was aiming merely to remedy certain defects which the practical test of the law in November had developed, and that their adoption would improve and strengthen the law. After an interval long enough for a full discussion of the amendments, they were adopted by the Senate. They are now before the Assembly, and it is believed that they will also be approved there. At this late day certain devotees of what they term independence in politics have discovered that the amendments are not to their liking, particularly those relating to the nomination of independent candidates. Senator Saxton makes an effective reply to his critics and an adequate defence of the amendments in a statement which will be found in our Albany correspondence.

SOME LOCAL BILLS AT ALBANY.

New-York's prosperity and reputation are often brazenly assailed in the State Legislature, and at this session the number of members of the Assembly who are bent on getting rich, without regard to the honesty of the means by which they acquire wealth, is deplorably large. A rascally disposition to do the city all the harm possible, rather than to help it onward in the way of progress, is grievously prevalent in the State capital. Words of warning will probably fall upon deaf ears in the Democratic majority in the lower house. Still it is an obvious duty to appeal to our legislators to listen to the voice of their consciences and to bring forth fruits meet for repentance. Not many days of this session are left. Every Senator and Assemblyman who wishes to go back to his constituents without hanging his head and without a sense of guilt in his soul should devote himself during these remaining days to efface some of the blots upon the record of the session and to score some good marks while yet there is time. Here and now it is not proposed to consider largely and thoroughly the whole subject of local interests at Albany. But there are three bills whose fate is not yet decided, concerning which a few words ought to be said today.

One of these bills is that for the cable railroad in the metropolis. Although extensive modifications have been made in the originally excessive and outrageous demands of the projectors of the cable system, the bill as it now stands is by no means free from glaring faults. The one thing which ought to influence our legislators and the Governor in this cable affair is the absence of any public demand for the system. A few heavy speculators will profit largely if our streets are given over to this cable tarantula, but that the plan, if carried into effect, will work widespread damage to property interests, cause serious and lasting discomfort to tens of thousands of residents and be the source of mischiefs innumerable is clear enough to all who have studied the elements of the problem. The citizens of New-York have not asked for this cable system. Why then should the burden be laid upon them? Both the Broadway and the Third-ave. railroads in a few years will be running cable-cars through some of our most crowded thoroughfares. We ought to await the results of these formidable experiments before we give over any more of the streets to cable lines. Let us see how the citizens are satisfied with cable-cars in Broadway and in Third-ave. before any further encroachments in that line upon public security and comfort are permitted.

Another scheme of grasping avarice and greed should be stepped on before the session closes. The bill which aims to prevent an increase of fares on the lines of the Union Ferry Company is sound and praiseworthy. This company has had years of splendid prosperity. Its profits have been great and there is no excuse for any advance in the fares. A number of Wall Street operators thought they saw an opportunity by buying the control of the stock at lofty figures to work for themselves a mine of dazzling treasures. After getting the lines in their hands they expected to be able to persuade the Sinking Fund Commission that they ought to be allowed to increase the fares. Why should the City of New-York consent to swell the already excessive profits of those lines? Why should the people of the two cities who use the ferries be taxed in order that the eager speculators who have bought the ferries shall increase their bank accounts beyond all reason from this source of revenue? Not one substantial argument, not a suggestion of any worth or value, in favor of raising the ferry fares has been heard in any quarter.

The Assembly committee of which Mr. Hitt, of Albany, is chairman has been basely and disgracefully recreant to its duty in failing to report the Saxton bill to close the poolrooms. This bill has been in the hands of Mr. Hitt's committee for weeks. It is an excellent measure, designed to promote public morality, decency and order. No one can defend, excuse or apologize for the city poolrooms. They are gangrenous ulcers, which ought to be eradicated without delay. But there is every reason to believe that certain unscrupulous members of Tammany Hall have made a bargain with the keepers of the poolrooms to protect their nefarious business both here and at Albany. Then, too, it is reported among well-informed politicians that a corruption fund has been raised to prevent the passage of the Saxton bill by the Assembly. This Saxton bill aims to carry out the clear intent of the Ives Pool Act and to prevent betting on races except at the racetracks on racedays. No racing association in this State is permitted to race for more than thirty days. Restricting betting to the tracks on racing days brings this form of gambling down to comparatively innocuous dimensions. But the poolrooms are open six days in the week throughout the year, and are doing more to degrade and demoralize the young men of this town than any other agency. They have no excuse for existence, nor has Mr. Hitt's committee at Albany any excuse for delaying a favorable report on the Saxton bill, which was passed by the Senate by an overwhelming majority. If this bill is not reported promptly, no one can possibly remain under any delusion as to the nature of the motives which influence the chairman of the committee in delaying the report. He will be a marked man in political and private life hereafter if he does not promptly report this bill.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH CANADA.

However the international affairs of Canada are conducted, whether directly or through England, it is obviously necessary that the United States must be involved in them. There are now no less than four distinct and highly important issues between the Union and the Dominion. The most embarrassing is the Behring Sea dispute. The Atlantic fisheries, however, furnish a large and growing opportunity for trouble. The boundary line between British Columbia and Alaska must soon become a menace to peace, as trade relations are already a menace to business. Apparently, the Government of Sir John Macdonald desires to treat with us directly upon only one of these points. It wishes to induce the President to admit a lot of Canadian products into this country free of duty, and, that concession obtained, it then wishes us to be harassed by England as much as possible with regard to the other issues.

In effect, the Tory Government of Canada says to Mr. Blaine: "Let us get together independently of England and frame a commercial treaty. We want your market. We want your 63,000,000 of prosperous people to become our customers. But, as to Behring Sea, we are doing well enough under present conditions. You and Lord Salisbury are arguing the thing out in a highly interesting way, and while he holds off your revenue-cutters by his wordy batteries, we are slaughtering the seal. By the time you and he come to an understanding we shall have killed all the seal, and so that question will settle itself quite comfortably. And as to the Atlantic fisheries, let a similar course be pursued. So long as that controversy is kept open, your fishermen are paying us $70,000 a year for the privilege of being safe from seizure when they enter our ports for bait, shelter or food. This arrangement suits us well enough. Of course, we are ready to talk about these matters, but we can't be in a hurry to adjust such profitable controversies."

This is not what Sir Charles Tupper has been saying to Mr. Blaine, doubtless, but it is what the Tory press and the Tory orators said to the Canadian electors during the late campaign. It is by these declarations and not by the soft language of diplomacy that their schemes must be figured out. But the American Nation is not likely to fall in with the Tory plan. If Dominion Commissioners are to come here to treat with us they should be persons with power to act conclusively, and that fact should appear in proper credentials. We don't wish to be told after the treaty has been finally arranged, as we were in the case of Newfoundland, that the Canadian representatives were mere unofficial persons sent to talk but not to act. And they should be empowered to deal with every existing issue—Behring Sea, codfishery, boundary and all—and an agreement upon any one issue should be made absolutely dependent upon agreement in all.

The trouble is that there are too many Foreign Offices at work upon Canadian affairs. We are willing to deal with London or with Ottawa, with Lord Salisbury or Sir John Macdonald—it makes not an iota of difference which. But we are tired of having Ottawa hide away in Downing Street. We are tired of having Lord Salisbury throw off responsibility upon Sir John Macdonald and then of having Sir John throw it back again. Some day or another we shall get too tired to be amiable.

THE VINDICATION OF GLEASON.

Courtroom scenes are common in modern dramas. Sometimes they are amusing and sometimes stupid, but whether they succeed or fail in their purpose they are generally accepted as burlesques, bearing only just enough resemblance to actual proceedings under the law to suggest the reality without deceiving anybody. But no playwright has ever depicted a trial by judge or jury more grotesque than that which was conducted in Long Island City on Friday by Justice Manley. The case was that of John Reilly, cardriver, against Patrick Gleason, Mayor. The charge was assault, and the defence was a general denial. The side issues were alleged drunkenness on the part of the plaintiff and Hunter's Point politics. The result was acquittal.

It is only a few months since Mayor Gleason was convicted of assault and lodged in jail for a brief period. His executive acts while he was under lock and key were valid, and the city suffered no inconvenience from his incarceration. On the contrary, it was a distinct advantage to the community to have the belligerent magistrate under physical restraint, and if his terms of imprisonment and of office had only been coterminous there would have been cause for general rejoicing. His victim on that occasion was properly commended for the courage and persistence with which he sought reparation, and the judge and jury were praised for their independence. It was even thought possible that the notorious chieftain, who is a terror by day and by night to the community of which he is the official head, might learn a useful lesson of prudence from the discovery that justice was not absolutely crippled and helpless in his bailiwick, and altogether the episode was welcome and refreshing.

Mayor Gleason's latest experience as defendant in a criminal trial has resulted more to his personal satisfaction, but it is with the incidents rather than the result of the legal performance of Friday that we are concerned just now. It was a farce from beginning to end, but instead of being a quiet farce, as it might have been, it was a roaring farce, for Gleason possesses great lung power, and he neglected no chance to employ it. The plaintiff's brother and his lawyer are not deficient in explosive energy, and they contributed their full share to the universal uproar. Each of them called somebody else a liar with great decision and emphasis, to the delight of half the spectators, and neither paid the least attention to the mild request of the Mayor's lawyer that they would respect the Court. We are left in doubt of the Court's desire to be respected, but assume that Justice Manley perceived the hopelessness of the situation. While the case was in progress the honors, as well as His Honor, seemed to be easy, but the verdict was a notable triumph for the Gleasonites, while the antis dispersed in a gloomy and dejected state. As the Mayor took occasion to remark, for the benefit of all present, he has been elected four times to his exalted office, and Friday's vindication puts him in fine running shape for a fifth term. So far as we can see, he is likely to remain Mayor of Long Island City until the consolidation act goes through, and then he will be eligible for election on the Tammany ticket to the best thing going.

SORELY-STRICKEN AFRICA.

So accustomed have we become during the last few months to associate the name of Africa with tales of bloodshed, massacre, famine and every conceivable kind of horror that the announcement of an impending plague of locusts in the northern portion of the Dark Continent will give rise to little astonishment and even less sympathy. And yet the calamity with which Algeria, Morocco, Tunis and Tripoli are threatened is of no ordinary nature. For the devastation of the countries traversed by these insects is even worse and more complete than could be accomplished by a conquering army, or, in fact, by any human agency. They transform the districts over which they pass from fertile fields and luxuriant pastures into howling deserts. Even the towns and villages are depopulated by the advance of these all-ravaging invaders, which the Arabs describe as "the scourge of Allah." For so complete is their work of destruction that they leave nothing except starvation both for man and beast in their track.

The Bedouins, who brought the most recent confirmation of the imminence of the peril, declare that they rode for a distance of more than sixty miles through swarms of locusts so dense as to obscure the light of day. Official reports of the French authorities in Algeria describe one of the swarms near Heraoula as almost ten miles in length and nearly a thousand feet in height, and as totally concealing the range of hills in the vicinity. Another swarm of equal size is reported to have reached the Moorish city of Marakesh, whose fugitive inhabitants assert that neither they nor their fathers have ever witnessed such desolation as is being caused by these insects.

Twelve years have elapsed since the north of Africa was last visited by a scourge of this nature, and in view of the fact that the swarms reported at Heraoula and at Marakesh are stated to constitute the mere advance guards of the winged army of invaders, there seems much ground for fear that the impending visitation will be one of the most appalling ever witnessed in the sorely-stricken and unhappy Land of Ham.

THE FREEST TRADE EVER KNOWN.

A thrill of surprise went through the great audience at THE TRIBUNE Jubilee when Mr. McKinley stated in that deliberate manner which assured his hearers that he made no statement carelessly or without full belief of its truth, "The new tariff gives us wider and freer trade than was ever enjoyed under any other tariff law." Probably nine-tenths of his hearers were astonished. Some wondered if the statement could be strictly true. Yet it is the fact that at this very hour a greater proportion of the importations into the United States from other countries is free of duty than under any previous tariff since the Government was established.

Washington, Jefferson and the founders of the Republic imposed duties on nearly all imports. The first tariff which they enacted, that of 1789, after imposing specific duties on many articles, and on others moderate ad valorem duties, added a 5 per cent duty on all other articles imported. The only exemptions in the original tariff appear to have been of skins, hides and furs undressed, dye woods and drugs for dyeing, raw cotton and wool, brass, iron or steel wire, unmanufactured pewter and tin, pig brass, copper sheathing and crude saltpetre. Raw cotton was also made dutiable in 1791. It was not until the tariff of 1791 that tools and furniture of immigrants were made free, or philosophical apparatus, or plaster of Paris, or old brass, or gold and silver bullion. Nor were unmanufactured woods, sulphur, copper in pigs, or brimstone made free until 1792, nor rags, bristles, or unmanufactured clay until 1797. As late as 1821 the free imports were but one-twenty-seventh part of the entire imports in value, nor were they at any time as much as one-tenth in value under any tariff until the compromise tariff of 1833.

Under that tariff the free goods were at first a quarter of the whole, and gradually rose in proportion until in 1840 and 1841, they were nearly half of the aggregate. But under this tariff as a whole, the proportion of free imports was only 42 per cent, and it is now, as will be shown, more than 48 per cent. The tariff of 1842 reduced the proportion of free imports to about a fifth, and under the low revenue tariff enacted by the Democrats in 1846 the proportion never rose as high as a quarter of the entire imports. Since protective tariffs were imposed in 1861, the proportion of free goods has ranged from a quarter, and in some earlier years much less, up to about one-third in the later years.

During the five months ending with February, the latest month of which there are complete returns, the new tariff has been in force excepting in the first six days of October. The following shows the value of free and dutiable goods imported each month, and the dutiable imports of sugar included:

	Free Imports.	Dutiable Imports.	Dutiable Sugar.
October	$25,273,109	$47,252,168	$5,042,380
November	29,557,426	34,638,990	4,695,765
December	23,654,550	37,139,696	4,837,047
January	27,525,951	34,760,752	3,397,859
February	27,461,389	38,496,593	5,682,111
Total	$133,472,425	$192,328,199	$23,655,162

It will be seen that if sugars had been free of duty in these five months as they are now, and yet not more largely imported than they were when subject to duty, the total of dutiable imports would have been only $168,673,037, and the total of free imports would have been $157,127,587, or 48.2 per cent of the whole. Beginning with April, in all probability the imports of sugar will be largely increased by the removal of duties, so that the proportion of free imports is likely to be nearly if not quite 50 per cent of the whole. Never before has the proportion been as great excepting in the single year 1841, and if the free goods during this month rise above 49 1-2 per cent of the whole, as they probably will, the proportion will be larger than it was even in the year 1841. Mr. McKinley was absolutely correct in saying that trade was more free than it had ever been under any other tariff, and yet the imports during the current fiscal year are already larger by nearly $40,000,000 than in the same months of any previous year in the history of the country, and larger in proportion to population than they ever were under any other kind of tariff.

MONEY AND BUSINESS.

The enthusiastic bulls in Wall Street remark contemptuously that people nowadays care nothing about gold exports, and are not watching iron production as a barometer of business. The question is whether they might not more wisely watch both. The gold exports last week were $4,050,000, and the known shipments of banks to other points in excess of receipts were $765,000. Including $400,000 new silver notes issued, the Treasury added to the circulation during the week $3,600,000 more than it took in, which is less than the amount exported. A declining supply of currency at this season would not tend to help a speculation based mainly on expected abundance of money. It is a long time since exports of gold in April have been half as large in the entire month as they have been in the past eleven days, and they have never been as large in the month except in April, 1884, when the outgo was followed by the panic in May. The circumstances to warrant apprehension are not now visible, but it is never well to ignore phenomena which have been forerunners of disturbance.

All last year the enormous consumption of pig iron was hailed as evidence of general prosperity. The greatest production attained in the early months was about March 1, 180,999 tons weekly, and April 1, about 178,474 tons, but after the usual shrinkage in the summer the highest production ever attained at any time, 183,846 tons weekly, was reached December 1. In December the output declined 16,000 tons, in January 21,500, in February 11,500 and in March 21,300, so that the weekly output April 1 was only 113,200; estimating the decrease in charcoal output at about 500 tons, and the fact that the lowest prices ever recorded for such iron at Detroit have now been reached indicates that the decline may have been greater. The anthracite and coke output was but 102,898 tons, against 123,636 March 1. A shrinkage of 38.4 per cent in output of iron since December 1 does not mean that consumption has decreased as much, for unsold stocks at the few furnaces reporting stocks were reduced in March from 478,388 tons to 315,522, but there must have been, nevertheless, a heavy decrease in consumption or prices would have advanced.

A few other facts point the same way. Though the demand for wool was large in the first three months of the year, so that the average of 104 grades was 24.6 cents April 1, against 24.5 January 1 and 24.2 a year ago, there has been a sharp fall in the price this month. Cotton has also fallen below 9 cents for spot middling uplands, and April is quoted at 8.67 cents. Hides are also weaker, and the boot and shoe business unusually dull because distribution has not come up to expectations. Copper has been sold in large quantities at 13.62 cents for Lake, and it is said at 13.50 cents to some extent. Anthracite coal is irregular, buyers believing that the interstate decision in the Coxe case will insure lower prices. These facts point to a slackening of business in important industries, and while exchanges through clearing houses outside New-York continue to slightly exceed those of corresponding weeks last year, the average prices of commodities are nearly 15 per cent higher, so that there has been a large decrease in quantities represented by the payments through banks.

This shrinkage in business is generally ascribed to the shortness of crops last year, which has lessened the ability of multitudes to purchase or consume. But it is to be noticed that the South, which had extraordinarily large crops in 1890, seems to have been decreasing consumption as well as the West, for it is in Southern purchases of boots and shoes and some other products that unsatisfactory distribution was first observed. It may be that the natural reaction from a period of most extravagant speculation in real estate and expansion in building of all kinds is felt in that section more than elsewhere. But meanwhile the average price of stocks has advanced $1 per share during the week, the spring boom in stocks is in progress, earnings on 140 railroads in March were 4.2 per cent larger than last year, and for the first week of April gains are thus far reported. Cutting of rates is charged, and quarrels are in progress which the Western Traffic Association is expected to settle at a meeting Tuesday, but prices of stocks are now $3 per share higher than they were January 2. East-bound freight shipments for the week ending April 4 were 5,734 tons larger than for the same week last year, the first gain reported for many months. This is in part because the movement of provisions for export continues very heavy, and the exports for the week exceeded 28,300,000 pounds, against 21,700,000 for the same week last year.

It is not strange that cotton is lower, in spite of heavy exports, which have been 180,240 bales this month, against 84,865 the same days last year, for the quantity which has come into sight is 112,456 bales, against 56,613 a year ago, and within a day or two the record of bales in sight will exceed 8,000,000. Wheat has risen three-quarters of a cent the last week, and now sells at $1 16 1-2, in spite of receipts every week exceeding those of the same week last year. Western receipts in fourteen weeks have been 23,164,375 bushels, against 17,405,676 last year, while receipts of other grain have been only 50,133,752 bushels, against 87,077,524 last year. Corn has not changed, and oats are slightly lower, pork and lard remaining the same. Raw sugar has been advanced an eighth by the enormous demand, but refined is unchanged. Cotton and provisions going out largely, exports exceed last year's a little, but imports for two weeks at New-York have fallen 10 per cent below last year.

The disturbed condition of labor is an unfavorable sign. Numerous strikes of men in building trades have been generally successful, and Washington printers succeeded; but employers triumphed in the morocco lockout at Lynn, which has kept 1,500 men idle since August. Besides numerous strikes of painters, bricklayers, brickmakers, and of switchmen at the West, a great contest in the building trades is expected May 1, and the bituminous coalminers in six States, numbering 75,000, have resolved to strike for eight hours at the same time. The coke strike has not yet terminated, though the operators have partially resumed work.

The interest felt in labor and social questions by Americans is likely to be stimulated by the talks which Mrs. Annie Besant, the bright woman from London, is to give in this country. Mrs. Besant is well known as a frank, eloquent and outspoken advocate in behalf of the people of all nations. She will lecture to-night at Scottish Rite Hall, Madison-ave. and Twenty-ninth-st., on "London; Its Wealth and Its Poverty." On April 15 she will speak in the same hall about "Dangers Menacing Society," and on April 17 about "Labor Movements in the Old World."

The case of Fisher is sure to be appealed, but in the meantime the effect of the conviction should be the arrest and prosecution of every poolroom-keeper in New-York. The Wynn decision is in a measure set aside by this verdict, and if the law is properly enforced many of the dens will be closed. The prosecution of the seven men in the trial just ended was exceedingly weak, but on the first ballot the jury stood 10 to 2 for the conviction of all. This is a good sign. Beyond doubt a jury can be empanelled that will give these offenders their deserts. All that is needed is a proper vigor in the District-Attorney's office, a determination to see the law carried out. The Tammany influence behind the poolrooms is exceedingly strong, but there is a way of correcting it.

A Virginia criminal was convicted and sentenced within two days of the commission of the crime, and unless some unforeseen delay occurs he will be hanged in a month. It may be noted by way of contrast that the criminal courts of this city have just succeeded in convicting a violator of the excise laws who was indicted in 1888.

The truly good "Deacon" Richardson, of Brooklyn, is evidently preparing to make a desperate attempt to secure permission to use the trolley system on the various street railroads which he controls in our sister city. The "Deacon" is a wily man, and has had a large experience in dealing with Legislatures and Boards of Aldermen. What he doesn't know about accomplishing objects which require shrewd manipulation is probably not worth knowing. So the people of Brooklyn may as well make up their minds that if the president of the Atlantic Avenue Company can secure his permit by hook or by crook, he will do it. In fact, the probability is strong that, unless a most earnest resistance is made, this system will soon be in extensive use in that city. The time to stop it is now, before the first wire is strung. Public opinion ought to express itself sharply and at once to ward off the threatened calamity.

PERSONAL.

Mrs. Potter Palmer has declined the $5,000 salary recently voted to her by the board of lady managers of the World's Fair. She is working for glory and patriotism.

It has been said of Marat that the most respectable thing he ever did was to indulge in a bath; an operation in which he was engaged when killed by Charlotte Corday. A new book discussing his career has just been issued, and its author attributes the Revolutionist's habit of taking a bath to an eruption of the skin from which he was suffering. All of which leads a London journal to inquire: "Was tubbing really so unusual an exercise in the France of the latter end of the eighteenth century?"

The son of Baron Fava, who is a naturalized citizen and a resident of Washington, was recently referred to by a newspaper in that city as a "retiring young fellow" who still wore a gold band engraved with his title and riveted around his arm while he was a baby. Thereupon the young architect and engineer advertised as follows: Not on exhibition, but the "retiring young fellow" mentioned in last Sunday's "Post" as wearing a gold band around his arm can be seen at rooms 50, 51 and 52 Corcoran Building. Architecture, civil engineering, surveying and plats. Our professional clients admitted free of charge.

Dr. Nicholas Senn, of Milwaukee, will succeed Dr. Parkes as professor of surgery in the Rush Medical College, Chicago. In doing so he will cease to be chief of the medical staff of the Milwaukee Hospital, but he hopes to remain Surgeon-General of the Wisconsin Militia long enough to complete his work of organizing national associations of military surgeons. Dr. Senn has originated many valuable methods in operations, particularly in the field of abdominal surgery. His work in this direction has made his name known to the profession all over the world, and when Prince von Esmark, one of the most distinguished surgeons in Europe, came to this country a few years ago he visited Milwaukee for the purpose of personally investigating Dr. Senn's method of treating intestinal wounds.

A successor to Dr. Windthorst in the leadership of the Centre party in Germany has not yet been chosen; and several names are earnestly discussed with this end in view. The favorite of the Catholic press, however, seems to be Dr. Felix Porsch, the Breslau lawyer, who is only in his thirty-eighth year, and has been for nine years a member of the Reichstag. Says "The Pall Mall Gazette": "At one of the great Ultramontanist Congresses, that of Munster, if we recollect rightly, Dr. Windthorst spoke of Dr. Porsch as a man upon whom the hopes of the Centre in the future conflicts largely depended."

MR. BENNETT'S COURTESY AND ENTERPRISE.

Robert Bonner in Sunday's New-York Herald.

As an old publisher, I cannot refrain from thanking "The Herald" for its admirable report of The Tribune celebration. It is certainly something unique in journalism for a newspaper to devote over two pages to chronicling the achievements of a contemporary. The exhibition of such a generous, liberal and broad-minded spirit makes us think better of our kind.

(It was a very handsome thing for "The Herald" to do, and The Tribune heartily appreciates it.)

MUSIC.

COMMENT AND CRITICISM.

Mr. Thomas took leave of the public in his capacity as conductor of the Philharmonic Society at the society's 253d concert last Saturday night. It was a leave-taking well calculated to impress upon the observer the admiring regard which the eminent leader has won from the music-lovers of New-York, as well as the reason for that regard. The programme had but one new feature, but the concert did not need even that to be full of interest. It was just what we have always maintained a Philharmonic concert ought to be—an entertainment designed by the merit of the performance to strengthen and steady the taste for works of unquestioned value, to stimulate appreciation of high ideals and encourage devotion to purity in art. The list consisted of four compositions, Mendelssohn's overture "Fingal's Cave," Schumann's pianoforte concerto in A minor (played with much clearness, beauty of tone and usefulness, if with only a modicum of passion, by Miss Aus der Ohe), Tschaikowsky's "Overture-Fantasie," entitled "Hamlet," and Beethoven's "Heroic" symphony. The band appeared to the most striking advantage in the Russian composer's glowing though puzzling work, but the elegance and truly classic dignity of the reading and execution challenged the same measure of admiration for the familiar symphony. The audience manifested a purpose to make a demonstration in honor of Mr. Thomas from the outset, and at the close he was called back with hand-clappings, shouts and wavings of handkerchiefs four times to bow his acknowledgments. During the demonstration the band remained on the stage, and on the first recall Mr. Arnold, leader of the violins, handed Mr. Thomas a wreath as a mark of the society's regard. Other wreaths and floral pieces were handed up from the audience. Next Saturday night there will doubtless be another ovation for Mr. Thomas in Brooklyn, when he will lay down the baton of the Philharmonic Society of that city. On the 22d he will be the guest of honor at a banquet projected by Mr. Steinway. Mr. Schurz, Mr. Curtis and other well-known citizens and then he will transfer his activities to Chicago, where not only the task of organizing a new orchestra, but the work of ordering the music for the World's Fair, will devolve upon him.

Mr. Thomas has for so long a time been the chief factor in the sum of New-York's musical life that it seems strange to contemplate future activities on which he will not put an impress. When an aggressive, forward man was needed to win appreciation for the new tendencies in art, the man was found in him; when the new art had become "terra cognita," and there was need of a restricting and conserving influence, it was again supplied by the conductor of the Philharmonic Society. There is no question that Mr. Thomas deserved better than he has received at the hands of the people of New-York, but the fact that he can now leave the city without checking in the slightest the progress of our artistic institutions is itself a monument to the enduring character of the work which he has done. By going to Chicago he is simply continuing and expanding his mission. The metropolis of the great West needs him as much as New-York needed him twenty-five years ago, and infinitely more than New-York needs him now. If he will maintain the standard in Chicago for which he fought so long and valiantly here, the cause of art will within a year take a long step forward. He will leave behind him more admirers than friends, but it is entirely natural that it should be so. An imperious nature, which stood in the way of warm attachment, a narrow vanity which could not brook a difference of opinion, a conviction that all ought to defer to his view in artistic questions, or keep silent, lest art should suffer, repelled many who might otherwise have been his helpers from considerations of friendship and personal regard as well as of artistic predilection. Nevertheless, all fair-minded lovers of the art to which he has devoted his life will see him depart with regret, and while the car which he did so much to set in motion goes rolling on steadily and more gloriously year after year, they will cherish a higher and ever higher regard for the services which he rendered to the cause of good music.

It seems to be generally conceded by the orchestral musicians of the city that the Philharmonic dignities which Mr. Thomas has put aside because of the change in his field of labor will be offered to Anton Seidl. In this the society will act wisely and well, and invite from the student of musical affairs an expression of congratulations to both public and orchestra. Such a change involves no loss in earnestness and dignity of purpose or devotion to lofty ideals. It may change the spirit of the Philharmonic programmes slightly, but even this is doubtful. Mr. Seidl, at the head of the Philharmonic Society, will appreciate the duty which he owes to its traditions and its manifest mission as conservator of the best in instrumental music. He is too thorough an artist, too well grounded a musician, to wish to try experiments. Of course, he will keep his eyes in the direction of the morning, but in this he will only show his zeal; his eyes will not be dazzled by the meretricious. He is a man of strong convictions, and so is Mr. Thomas; he is wise and patient, and will work wisely, patiently and persistently for good art. His antagonisms will be directed only against the things which mean retrogression. He has cast his lot with the American people, whom he has learned to admire. Since the action of the Metropolitan directors which deprived him of his place at the conductor's desk of the opera, he has refused a flattering offer to take charge of the opera in the chief city of his native land, Buda Pesth. He is full of confidence and hope for the future. The return of Italian opera next season he regards as an episode which is likely to benefit the cause of which he is the foremost representative in America. It is a passing whim. This, at least, is the manner in which we interpret the lines which embellished the broad ribboss on the wreath which last Thursday evening he handed to Mr. Stanton when the latter came forward to acknowledge the plaudits of the multitude at the testimonial entertainment. The lines were partly from Wagner's "Parsifal" and partly original, and freely translated read as follows:

If 'twas a curse
Constrained thee with the good to part,
Be sure it now has vanished.
To truth averse,
Italian taste and Southern art
In turn will soon be banished.

The continued interest in Mr. Thomas's popular concerts at the Lenox Lyceum was demonstrated again last night, when the last concert but one before the conductor's departure for Chicago took place. The solo attractions were Miss Jahn, of the German Opera Company; Signor Campanini and Miss Alvina Friend, all of whom were obliged to supplement their set numbers with others. Miss Friend has played twice before at the Sunday populars. She is a young woman of unquestioned gifts, but notwithstanding the recall of last night, it cannot truthfully be said that her performance of Reinecke's F sharp minor concerto added to her artistic stature in the eyes of the judicious. She played an uninteresting work uninterestingly. The perplexities of a pianoforte player who w