Amusements.

ABBEY'S THEATRE—11—Lecture—8:15—Mme. Sans-Gene.
ACADEMY OF MUSIC—8:15—Rory of the Hill.
AMERICAN ART GALLERIES—9 a. m. to 6 p. m.—Exhibition.
AMERICAN THEATRE—8—The Greater Shenandoah.
ATLANTIC GARDEN, 50 to 54 Bowery—Evening—Concert and Vaudeville.
BIJOU THEATRE—8:15—Madeleine.
BROADWAY THEATRE—8—2Ima. Sans-Gene.
CASINO—8:15—Vaudeville.
COLUMBUS THEATRE—8:15—The Flams.
DALY'S THEATRE—8:15—The Two Gentlemen of Verona.
EDEN MUSEE—8—Vaudeville.
EMPIRE THEATRE—8:15—The Masqueraders.
FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE—8:10—His Wife's Father.
GARDEN THEATRE—8:15—Little Christopher.
HARLEM OPERA HOUSE—8:15—Grand Visier.
HERALD SQUARE THEATRE—8:15—Rob Roy.
HOYT'S THEATRE—8:30—The Foundling.
IRVING PLACE THEATRE—8:15—Ohne Geleut.
KOSTER & BIAL'S—8:30—Vaudeville.
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE—8—Tannhauser.
LYCEUM THEATRE—8:30—The Case of Rebellious Susan.
PALMER'S THEATRE—8—The Fatal Card.
PASTOR'S—2—8—Vaudeville.
PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY—2—Concert.
PROCTOR'S—10 a. m. to 10:30 p. m.—Vaudeville.
STANDARD THEATRE—8:30—Too Much Johnson.
STAR THEATRE—8:15—The Old Homestead.
333 4TH-AVE.—9 a. m. to 4:30 p. m.—The Tiffany Chapel.

Index to Advertisements.

	Page.	Col.		Page.	Col.
Amusements	11	5-6	Instruction	8	5
Announcements	12	5	Lectures & Meetings	11	5
Bankers and Brokers	11	4	Marriages and Deaths	7	6
Bank Reports	11	4	Miscellaneous	12	5-6
Board and Rooms	9	2	Ocean Steamers	10	6
Business Notices	6	1	Pianos	11	5
Dividend Notices	11	4	Proposals	8	5
Dressmaking	9	3	Public Notice	11	5
Domestic Situations Wanted	9	6-8	Real Estate	10	4-5
European Advts	5	6	Railroads	8	5-6
Financial	11	3-4	Sales by Auction	11	5
Financial Elections	11	5	School Agencies	8	5
For Sale	9	3	Special Notices	7	6
Help Wanted	9	3	Steamboats	11	5
Horses and Carriages	9	1	Winter Resorts	11	5
Hotels	8	5	Work Wanted	9	4-6

Business Notices.

TRIBUNE TERMS TO MAIL SUBSCRIBERS.

	1 year.	6 mos.	3 mos.	1 mo.	Single copy.
Daily, 7 days a week	$10 00	$5 00	$2 50	$1 00	.....
Daily, without Sunday	8 00	4 00	2 00	90	3 cts.
Sunday Tribune	2 00	1 00	50	...	5 cts.
Weekly Tribune	1 00	...	...	...	3 cts.
Semi-Weekly Tribune	2 00	...	...	...	3 cts.
Tribune Monthly	2 00	...	...	...	25 cts.

Postage prepaid by The Tribune except as hereinafter stated.

CITY POSTAGE.—The law requires that a 1-cent postage stamp be affixed to every copy of the Daily, Sunday or Semi-Weekly Tribune mailed for local delivery in New-York City. This postage must be paid by subscriber. Readers are better served by buying their Tribune from a newsdealer.

FOREIGN POSTAGE.—To all foreign countries (except Canada and Mexico), 4 cents a copy on The Sunday Tribune; 2 cents a copy on Daily, Semi-Weekly and Weekly. This postage must be paid by subscriber.

REMITTANCES.—Remit by Postal Order, Express Order, Check, Draft, or Registered Letter. Cash or Postal Note, if sent in an unregistered letter, will be at the owner's risk.

OFFICES OF THE TRIBUNE.—Main office of The Tribune, 154 Nassau-st., New-York. Main uptown office, 1,242 Broadway. Address all correspondence simply "The Tribune," New-York.

At the HARLEM OFFICES, 180 East One-hundred-and-twenty-fifth-st.; 243 West One-hundred-and-twenty-fifth-st., and 320 West One-hundred-and-forty-fifth-st., up to 8 p. m., at regular office rates.

European Branch, for advertisements only, 75, Fleet Street, E. C., London, England.

BROOKLYN OFFICES.

397 Fulton-st., 1,152 Myrtle-ave., 63 Court-st., 505 De-Kalb-ave., 1,260 Bedford-ave.

New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 1895.

TWELVE PAGES.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

Foreign.—The Ailsa defeated the Britannia in a race at Cannes. ═══ It is reported that Spain will request the recall of Consul-General Williams, at Havana. ═══ A steamer bearing provisions from Boston and Halifax arrived at St. John's, N. F. ═══ The Behring Sea sealers' claims were discussed in the House of Commons. ═══ The Duc de Noailles is dead.

Domestic.—The Police Justices bill will be reported favorably to-day in the Assembly at Albany; the Tobin Dressed Stone bill was advanced to third reading in the Assembly; Thomas C. Platt has caused to be "hung up" the Committee of Seventy's Board of Education bill. ═══ Governor Werts, of New-Jersey, vetoed the Voorhees Elective Judiciary bill. ═══ The sons of Frederick Douglass denied the report that they would contest the will of their father. ═══ Argument on the constitutionality of the income tax was begun before the United States Supreme Court.

City and Suburban.—The inbound North German Lloyd steamer Havel ran hard and fast aground in Gedney's Channel; efforts to float her at high tide proved unsuccessful. ═══ Grave charges of misappropriation of funds were made against the Rev. W. A. Newbold, the deposed secretary of the American Church Missionary Society. ═══ Mayor Strong appointed James R. Sheffield Fire Commissioner in the place of Anthony Eickhoff. ═══ The Chamber of Commerce formulated plans to help promote reform currency legislation by the next Congress. ═══ Sugar stocks led the market, and prices closed higher.

The Weather.—Forecast for to-day: Light rains, probably clearing during the day; slightly warmer; winds shifting to southwest. Temperature yesterday: lowest, 35 degrees; highest, 45; average, 39¾.

Mayor Strong has done well not to delay the removal of Fire Commissioner Anthony Eickhoff, whose place was filled yesterday by the appointment of ex-Assemblyman James R. Sheffield. Eickhoff is a man with a much less unsavory record than Scannell, but his unfitness for the office is shown by his willingness to serve on a board of which Scannell was a member, and by his joining with the latter to prevent the uncovering of crookedness when an honest attempt in that direction was made by their associate, who thereupon summarily resigned his place. Commissioner Sheffield is a young man who has shown marked aptitude for public affairs. In the Legislature of 1894 he made an excellent record, and displayed hearty sympathy with reform movements. Precisely that spirit is needed in the Fire Department now.

The Assembly, we regret to say, failed yesterday to improve another opportunity to set itself right on the dressed-stone business. The question of the absolute repeal of the law of 1894 was again brought before it by an amendment offered by Mr. Wilds to the present Tobin bill, which permits paving-stones to be cut outside of the State, and it was voted down—27 to 85. For the first time during the session Speaker Fish descended to the floor and took part in a debate, but he got on the wrong side (just as he voted wrong on the Free Pass bill), and said the best thing to do was simply to amend last year's law by passing the Tobin bill. The cities chiefly affected by the Dressed Stone law are New-York and Brooklyn, but the Assembly shows no disposition to heed the strong demand which has gone up from them for the entire repeal of this enactment.

There is a little disagreement between Mayor Strong and the two gentlemen who came down from Albany to confer with him on Wednesday evening, but the point of difference is not a vital one. Mr. Saxton and Mr. Fish understood the Mayor to say that if the power were given him he would appoint ex-Secretary Tracy and ex-Secretary Fairchild as police-reorganization commissioners. Mr. Strong says he merely mentioned these names to indicate the type of men he would appoint if he could induce them to serve. We believe the Mayor knows what he said, and that Messrs. Saxton and Fish did not understand him rightly. The mention of General Tracy and Mr. Fairchild shows, however, that Mr. Strong means to intrust this important duty to men in whom the community has full confidence; and, further, the Legislature will make no mistake in giving him the appointing power.

Evidence has come to light at Albany of a purpose to hang up the Educational bill affecting this city which was prepared under the direction of the Committee of Seventy. This bill was introduced by Assemblyman Pavey, but in the Committee on Education yesterday afternoon the only votes in favor of reporting the measure were given by Mr. Pavey, Mr. Percy and Mr. Sanger. Four rural Republicans and Tobin, of Tammany Hall, voted in the negative. The explanation of this action is that Mr. Pavey was zealous in securing the signatures of New-York Assemblymen who pledged themselves to stand by Mayor Strong, and that he is to be punished by having his bill kept back or amended out of its original shape. The passage of this measure was one of the things demanded by the people at the recent mass-meetings. They insist on reforms in our school system and are determined to have them, Thomas C. Platt to the contrary notwithstanding.

A FEW WORDS TO THE MAYOR.

Mr. Mayor! Kindly step out of the turmoil of your private office to the comparative seclusion of the City Hall steps. The Tribune desires a word or two with you in private.

Without intending to express absolute and unreserved approval of everything you have done and said since you took office, and with the understanding that what is said now is not to be taken as committing it to blind and unquestioning support of your administration in future, The Tribune wishes to tell you in all frankness that, in its judgment, the overwhelming majority of the voters of this city, including thousands who did not vote for you, believe you are doing uncommonly well. You have not satisfied everybody in everything. You did not expect to, and nobody supposed you would. If you have made mistakes, you have done only what everybody does who does anything or is anybody, and what you said at the outset you were liable to do. The people who elected you had no illusions about you. They never for a moment supposed you had wings. Nor did those who voted against you think you had horns and hoofs. They took you for a plain business man, of homely common-sense, who said what he meant and meant what he said; firm without obstinacy, conciliatory and courteous without weakness, who kept faith without wriggling, met all sorts of honest folks on the level and wore no frills. You have not disappointed them. On the whole, they like you and your way of doing things.

The Tribune congratulates you. That was an uncommonly good compound word with which you answered the suggestion before election that you should call on a self-constituted Republican Boss and make terms with him, "Seemdamfust." Not exactly the word which a clergyman would recommend in repelling temptation or exorcising the evil one, but a good one. Quite unambiguous, and every letter of it coming from the mouth of an earnest man weighing at least a pound. You did well, Mr. Mayor, in saying it before election. A practical politician would have said something quite different before election and said that after the election was over and it had ceased to be risky. It was a whole platform in itself; the shortest and most direct, pointed and comprehensive ever built. It required courage to say it, but it has required greater courage, and a steadfastness of purpose and determined will much more admirable than the quality of courage to live up to it. This you have done under greater pressure than was ever brought to bear upon any public officer similarly situated. You have been flattered and abused, coaxed and threatened, approached by all possible methods of direction and indirection, and under it all maintained an even temper and equal mind without being swerved a hair's breadth from the path of duty which you had marked out for yourself.

Mr. Mayor, keep it up. Outside the whirl and buzz of your daily surroundings, the solicitations of self-seekers, the grumbling of the disappointed and the confused counsels of volunteer advisers, the vast majority of the city's voters are watching you and taking comfort in you. Your answer to all approaches from Albany looking to the arrangement of terms and conditions upon which such legislation as you desire should be enacted was straight, businesslike, honest. When you said you would not put yourself in the attitude of asking favors in the line of legislation because the Legislature knew better than you could tell them what legislation the people who elected you desired for the purpose of effecting municipal reform; that the responsibility belonged to the Legislature and not to you, and that it was your sole function to enforce such laws as in its wisdom it should pass, you cut to the marrow of the whole matter. No Mayor within the memory of the present generation has done so much to dignify the office, as well as to define its functions and clear limitations, as you have by this simple, clean-cut proposition. You are absolutely right, Mr. Mayor. The 154,000 voters who put you where you are did not elect the Governor or the Legislature to discharge your duties or divide responsibility with you. They have a right to expect from the Governor and the Legislature sympathy and support for your administration, and the enactment of such laws as will aid you in carrying the expressed wishes of the people into effect. They do expect this to be done—done, too, in the fulfilment of distinct pledges, and not in pursuance of any trade, bargain or dicker.

Keep on, Mr. Mayor. The people are with you.

JAPAN, CHINA AND RUSSIA.

The capture of New-Chwang by the Japanese excites no surprise. It has long been expected as inevitable. The Chinese themselves have so regarded it. Two weeks ago, when news of the fall of Wei-Hai-Wei reached them, the Chinese in Manchuria became utterly disheartened. They not only abandoned all attempts at aggression; they gave up preparations for defence as well. Drilling was stopped. Recruiting was changed into deserting. The Viceroy Liu began a precipitate retreat toward the Great Wall, thinking if he could get behind it he would be safe. Indeed, at Peking and throughout the Empire the feeling was much the same, that further resistance was useless, unless indeed the Great Wall proved a secure barrier against the invaders, which all but the most hidebound Mandarins were inclined to doubt. It was this feeling that finally prompted the Peking Government to send Li Hung Chang to Japan with actual authority to conclude terms of peace.

The Japanese, it will be perceived, are not making a hurried dash at Peking. They are marching deliberately and resistlessly forward, fully conquering the country as they go. At least that is what they are doing in the Manchurian provinces, where the principal campaign is in progress. This fact makes it seem probable that they have in mind a prolonged if not a permanent occupation of the country. There is no reason to suppose they had such an intention at the beginning of the war. In fact, they specifically declared they had not. But the fatuous stubbornness and double-dealing of China have prolonged the war inordinately, and given to the Japanese the best of reasons for increasing their claims so as to include the cession of some mainland territory. Nor does there seem to be any valid argument against their doing so. It is the rule of war. Germany did it, at the end of her war with France in 1871. France did it a year or two ago in her attack upon Siam. England has done it a hundred times. Russia makes it her invariable practice, going to war again and again simply for the sake of getting territorial indemnity. Why should not Japan do the same? Or, at any rate, what business has any of these land-grabbing Powers to object to her doing so?

Apparently none of them are inclined to object except Russia, the champion land-grabber of them all, so far as Asia is concerned. Russia speaks out bluntly, saying she will not tolerate the smallest seizure of Chinese soil by Japan, and that Japan, if she attempts such seizure, will have to reckon with Russia as an armed antagonist. It is, of course, natural for Russia to take such an attitude, as the champion of China, since Russia and China are so closely associated with each other, in race and in political systems. But it is not for China's sake that she does so. It is simply that she wants to grab Corea and Mongolia herself. What account Japan will take of Russia's threats and bullyings remains to be seen. If she defies them and pursues her own course, she may have a war with Russia on her hands; and in such a war she might fare badly. But she would have the moral sympathy of the world, and perhaps the physical aid of some rival of the Czar.

THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT ON TRIAL.

The lesson of Buddensiek appears to have been forgotten. A reminder in the form of some further sentences to State Prison is needed to enforce upon contractors and builders the necessity of obeying the laws and not sacrificing the lives of people to their carelessness and unscrupulous greed. The preliminary investigation of the collapse of the Orchard-st. tenement-houses on Friday last reveals a gross disregard of life and law which should be severely punished, and which at present does not appear to be confined to any one person. The sand which was used in the mortar is reported to have been dug from the cellar, and to have been mixed with loam, so that it was little better than mud. The walls were built in freezing weather, and when the icy mortar melted the building fell of its own accord. Old beams from demolished buildings were put into the structure, and the whole affair was so flimsy that an observer warned the workmen that it was not safe and that the building laws were being violated. Two hours later the structure collapsed, burying five men in the ruins—victims not of an accident, but of the deliberate criminal actions of their fellow-men.

For this slaughter the contractor appears directly responsible. But he is by no means alone to blame. The owner of the building is also apparently at fault, and the person who drew the plans and specifications according to which the work was done should be called on to explain his share in the work. Finally, the Building Department should be held to a strict accountability for allowing the erection of such a death trap, or for a fault which is quite as great, failing to prevent the work being done in an improper manner. One building inspector is already under arrest, but responsibility does not end with him. It was the business of Superintendent Brady to know that he had fit subordinates and to keep himself assured that they were enforcing the law. That is what he holds his office for, and it is no excuse for him to say that he has to depend on his inspectors. A good executive officer has subordinates on whom he can rely. His discipline and his energy create a force which does its work well and honestly. Even inferior men become efficient under proper leadership. A poor office staff argues a poor head.

"Don't blame the entire department for the acts of one man," is the plea of the Assistant Superintendent, but in throwing the fault on to Ormsby, the suspended inspector, he accuses the management of his department, which should be so conducted that there could be no such neglect of duty. If the Orchard-st. building had not happened to fall no attention would have been called to the inspector's shortcomings, and there is no reason to suppose that he would not have gone on allowing unsafe buildings to be erected by the score. Nor is it likely that he alone is careless or dishonest. A system which has a place for one such inspector in all probability has places for many more. And aside from the inspection the Building Department appears to have been at fault. The plans of the Orchard-st. houses were approved by the department, and competent observers have declared that, however faulty the construction and materials may have been, the plans were more faulty still.

The Coroner's Jury begins its investigation into the deaths of the five men to-day. Here is an opportunity for the Coroner elected on the Reform ticket to show his ability and make a thorough search. This is a case which should be made to give a warning to builders. It also gives opportunity for a thorough understanding of the character of the Building Department under Tammany management. Superintendent Brady may have the best of intentions, but if he, like other city officials, has fallen into the habit of allowing wrongdoing to go on unchecked under him, he should be replaced by somebody who will be more exacting. His assistant asks: "What interest would he have in employing incompetent men?" But this argument from motive will have little weight in the face of plain failure to do the work expected of him. The department's duty is to see that buildings are properly planned and constructed. If it fails to do this, it is worse than useless. The only test of Mr. Brady's fitness is what he accomplishes. Falling buildings do not bespeak an efficient department.

THE TRANS-SIBERIAN RAILWAY.

From St. Petersburg to Vladivostock, the principal Russian port on the Pacific, the distance is about 4,000 miles, covering eleven degrees of longitude, and it is this immense and hitherto undeveloped territory which the Trans-Siberian Railway, now in process of construction, is to span. Five hundred miles of the western section and one hundred of the eastern are already completed, and the work, though much delayed by the condition of Russian finances, is steadily proceeding. It is expected that it will be completed and fully opened to commerce in 1905. The present Czar, then Czarowitz, was its first president, and during his Eastern travels signalized the beginning of the work by the erection of a memorial tablet at Vladivostock on June 1, 1891.

The original plan contemplated a continuous line of rail, 4,200 miles long, with branches making its entire length within a fraction of 5,000 miles. This has been repeatedly modified, and the work as now proceeding is designed to take in a series of waterways by lake and river, which will considerably diminish the length of rail laid and the consequent expense of the enterprise. The Amoor, marking throughout the greater part of its length the boundary line between China and Siberia, is one of the waterways thus to be utilized. The route through Southern Siberia has been chosen to avoid not only the dense forests of the North, which cover almost the entire territory, but the hostility of the semi-civilized and barbarous tribes inhabiting them. It is to skirt the southern shore of Lake Baikal, at the headwaters of the Yenisei, a body of water nearly 400 miles long and 100 wide in its widest part, and situated in a region of much fertility, which will some time doubtless become a populous and prosperous province. Irkutsk, its capital, takes rank with the important commercial cities of the Empire. Among its other sources of wealth, petroleum in abundance is found in its vicinity, and it is likely to become an important point in the production and distribution of that commodity. In the southwestern part of Siberia is a region of the black earth, as large as France, of inexhaustible fertility and with a favorable climate, where, besides wheat and other grains, tobacco and cotton can be grown. This territory is also to be intersected by the road, thus opening the door to immigration thither and connecting it with a market for its productions which it has hitherto entirely lacked. On a fertile space of such magnitude with its kindly climate an immense population could be comfortably maintained, and Government aid is given to immigrants thither from the famine districts of Russia, where the population exceeds the means of subsistence—14,000,000 rubles having been thus appropriated in 1893.

The road is one of the greatest and most useful enterprises ever attempted by any nation, and will bring into relation with the world's commerce a territory larger than Europe and of practically unlimited capacities of occupancy and production. If Russia under her new ruler steers clear of European complications and wars, expending her substance rather upon this majestic intercontinental highway, it will be the better for her, and crown her Czar with a circlet of renown more radiant than that of many victories.

GOLD EXPORTS AND FOREIGN TRADE

The extent of one change effected by the operations of the bond syndicate will best be appreciated by the following comparison, showing exports from New-York of gold and of silver separately from January 1 to February 2, inclusive, practically the month of January, and from February 3 to March 2, inclusive, practically the month of February:

	Gold.	Silver.
January	$26,223,936	$2,877,881
February	302,704	2,292,703

The outgo of gold has been completely arrested for the time, and when one considers what another loss of $26,500,000 in a month would have meant, there is certainly cause for thankfulness and encouragement. While this does not alter the fact that the same results might have been attained far more cheaply, there is no reason for ignoring their value. But the specie movement is not the only one that needs watching, and the exports and imports of merchandise under the new tariff, and especially the new duties which went into effect January 1, are important. The figures for New-York have been:

	Total imports. 1895.	1894.	Total exports. 1895.	1894.
January	*$30,435,330	$38,929,145	*$29,681,392	$30,133,810
February	*29,199,058	32,707,177	†32,393,936	35,375,140

*Four weeks. †Five weeks.

The imports average per week a little larger in January than in February this year, owing to hasty entries under the new duties, and averaged a little smaller last year. The export figures represent four weeks for January this year against five weeks for February, and for both years a little less for February; but these differences are not important. It is much more instructive that imports of drygoods in five weeks of January were $17,660,312, against $8,976,930—an increase of $8,683,382; and in four weeks of February $14,065,477 this year, against $8,355,097 an increase of $5,710,380—which explains a great part of the total increase in imports. Evidently the movement of goods under the new tariff since January 1 has been large enough to affect materially the industries of the country and the balance of trade. These figures are for New-York alone, but imports at all ports in January were $15,616,962 larger than last year, and while the official figures for February are not yet out, the increase was probably more than $10,000,000. On the other hand, the exports at all points in January decreased $4,577,141, relatively much more than at New-York, and a further decrease of large amount is expected for February.

The figures indicate that in February there was not much excess of exports, against $16,450,237 last year, while in January the exports were $13,800,000 larger than imports, against $34,000,000 last year. In the two months, instead of an excess of exports over imports amounting to $50,000,000 last year, we probably have not far from $15,000,000 this year. Such changes continued mean an inevitable and large excess of imports in March and every succeeding month until September or October. For this excess of imports, and also for the interest due abroad, undervaluations and balance of freight money, either specie must go, or securities must be placed abroad in excess of securities sent here by foreigners. The extent of this balance due abroad may be judged from past experience. In the twelve years from February 1, 1879, to February 1, 1891, the total excess of merchandise and specie exports over imports amounted to $1,185,081,086—an average of $98,750,000 yearly. But since February 1, 1891, when the effects of Populist victories and Legislatures at the West and Democratic victories throughout the country began to be felt in withdrawals of foreign capital, the excess of merchandise and specie exports over imports, in four years ending with January, 1895, has been $780,022,911—an average of $195,000,000 yearly.

Evidently the normal balance payable abroad each year on account of interest on debt, undervaluations and freight money, is fairly represented by the average for twelve years before the large withdrawals of foreign capital began early in 1891, namely, $98,750,000 yearly. At that rate the excess of exports during the last four years would have been $395,000,000, and has been $780,000,000, indicating a withdrawal of $385,000,000 of foreign capital in four years. The vital question, upon which the future prosperity of the country greatly depends, is whether that withdrawal will stop or continue. But if the new tariff is to give us, instead of an excess of exports, a heavy excess of merchandise imports, it will be all the more difficult in any event to avoid a heavy loss of gold, which no borrowing whatever can meet. With every encouragement for the present, it therefore remains true, as Republicans have maintained, that ultimate prosperity depends upon the National policy as to Free-Trade and Populistic notions.

A REDUCED DEMAND.

The price of Australian wool has averaged a little lower at London the last year than in any previous year of which we have record. This is not because, but in spite of, the removal of duties by the United States, although the prospect of a new and greater market here may have impelled Australian growers to increase their production when, after the trying experience of some years, they might otherwise have reduced it.

The depression in this as in some other farm products is not exclusively due to excessive production, nor yet to the situation created here by the tariff. There is more wool in the world than is wanted, as there is more wheat and more cotton, but in part because the consumption of products in this country has been checked. It is well to remember that the United States alone, by a consumption ranging in different articles from an eighth to a third of the entire consumption of the world, have an exceptional power to affect prices by a relatively small increase or decrease in its enormous demand. If this country stops a third of its consumption of pig-iron, which is about what it has done for some time, more than a tenth of the consumption in the whole world is stopped, and there is apt to be a glut in many markets. So when about a third of the woollen manufacture ceased for the year, while no corresponding increase occurred in importations of goods from other countries, the shrinkage in the world's consumption of wool was sufficient to crowd Australian to the lowest average ever known, although the production of all colonial wool had been scarcely greater the last year than in 1892.

British journals comment upon this shrinkage of the American demand as if it were something entirely independent of the tariff policy which they so zealously favor. Americans have been compelled to learn by most unwelcome experience that depression of prices to meet foreign competition cuts off production and closes many works here; that it forces other works to reduce wages largely; that the denial of employment and the reduction of wages cut down greatly the purchasing power of the people, and that this decrease in purchasing power makes inevitable a decrease in the consumption of the products of other industries. Some suffer more than others, but not one thing can be mentioned which does not suffer seriously when the purchasing power of the greatest consuming Nation on earth is materially diminished.

That the same cause affects the demand for cotton goods, and consequently for cottons, is obvious, although statisticians have not found satisfactory evidence thus far that the consumption of wheat has been in like manner affected. In truth, they have gone on assuming, without any investigation, that the quantity of wheat consumed per capita in this and other countries has been just the same, in good years and bad. It is probable that this is a mistake. But the figures of production are so untrustworthy that it is not possible to substitute definite estimates for vague conjectures as to the decrease in quantity taken for food. It seems intrinsically probable that, when multitudes are out of employment and cutting down expenses as far as possible, while other multitudes are facing the lowest wages they have known for many years, there should be some decrease in consumption of flour, as in the consumption of woollens and cottons and iron. Part of the depression in prices here, and part of the consequent depression which is so disastrous to British farmers, result from the prostration of industries which the adoption of a British tariff policy has caused in this country.

Congress was a constant menace to business. That menace has vanished and business ought to revive.

The company which proposes to put a bridge over the Hudson River near Sixty-ninth-st. has adopted an impressive plan. Next will come the stupendous task of raising the necessary capital—a task apparently, in these times, of well-nigh insuperable difficulty.

The buildings strike in this city is foolish and ill-advised. It interferes seriously with the revival of building operations on a great scale and with the restoration of prosperity in the metropolis. The men who are responsible for it are committing a grievous crime against the community. The trolley men in Brooklyn were compelled to work an excessive number of hours, were ill-paid and were badly treated in many ways. The strikers in this city are not compelled to work an unreasonable number of hours, and they receive generous wages. It is deplorable that these men should listen to the advice of wild and reckless leaders who are doing all they can to ruin both the men and their employers in order to satisfy their own selfish objects.

Every heart should grow lighter and every hope should brighten, now that Congress is out of the way.

The anthracite coal combination finds bankrupt Reading a cumbrous and awkward associate to deal with. Prices of coal must inevitably take a big slump at an early day. Welcome news for all consumers.

The New-York, New-Haven and Hartford Railroad has the unlimited effrontery to ask the Connecticut Legislature to refuse charters to electric railroads which may seek to compete with the Consolidated system. Meekness, humility and regard for the public welfare were always conspicuously lacking in the management of the New-York, New-Haven and Hartford Railroad.

The Tribune is opposed to the pensioning of public school teachers. It does not look on them as standing in the same relation to the community as policemen and firemen. It believes in paying teachers fair wages, so that they can put by something for their old age. But it sees no objection to teachers voluntarily taxing themselves in order to provide a pension fund for the superannuated if they choose to do so. A pension scheme of this kind for the teachers of Brooklyn is now under consideration. It is proposed that the Board of Education should be the trustee of the pension fund. As this is a strictly private matter, it would seem wiser for the teachers themselves to manage the entire business. Again, the plan is that all present members of the teaching force shall elect whether or not they will contribute to the pension fund and be entitled to share in its benefits, but no such option is to be allowed to those who become teachers hereafter. This seems unfair and unjust. The scheme as it stands is by no means free from objections, and the Board of Education is doing right in taking plenty of time to consider it.

The countries of Europe continue to pile up debt at an appalling rate. What is to keep the Continent out of the abyss of bankruptcy and repudiation in the twentieth century?

Many business men are dispirited because the figures of railroad earnings for February of this year do not compare favorably with those of previous Februaries. But the calamity croakers should bear in mind that February, 1895, was stuffed with snowstorms and deluged by cold waves. There is every reason to expect that the railway earnings in March, April and May will make much better showings.

The bill to stop sparring exhibitions ought to become a law. These exhibitions are invariably coarse and brutal, and only persons of crude habits and rough tastes take pleasure in them.

Pilgrimage still exists in Mexico, as the late fatal railway accident revealed. It is the only transatlantic country in which it has taken root. Some of its shrines have a background of considerable antiquity, as it is measured by New-World standards, going back almost four centuries to the days of Isabella and beyond those of Elizabeth. That is time enough for a multitude of sacred associations to gather round a place of worship and to draw pious pilgrims' footsteps to it from near and far year after year. The loss of life happening to those engaged in a duty so religious will be a shock to the faithful there, as the loss in the Red Sea of a shipload of pilgrims on their way to Mecca was a few years ago to the followers of the Prophet. Details of the casualty import, while they do not assert, that the engineer, and perhaps other train officers, had taken more pulque than was set down as their share on the schedules, and in such cases the pious purposes of the passengers cannot always protect them from disaster. As the temple of Mecca was shrouded in mourning for the lost devotees who were journeying to it, this Mexican shrine should also for a season be hung with weeds of memory and penetrated with voices of lamentation. Hardly anybody knew that such places existed on this side of the ocean, showing that the social and religious concerns of the Mexicans, as well as their history and traditions, are less known to us than they ought to be.

Two years ago the Democrats came in with loudest proclamatory twanging of tin horns and beating of drums, but they go out without any accompanying music or inclination for it. Such a drove of legislative asses never before went into retirement in one lot; and if they could be rounded up in some territorial corral and fed on the thistles of their own political principles it might improve their condition and clarify their perceptions; but nothing is certain where that sort of animal is concerned.

In every country of the globe the farmer is raising a wail of distress. Farm products are too cheap.

PERSONAL.

In speaking of the movement to have the State of Connecticut purchase the Putnam "Wolf Den," in the town of Pomfret, "The Hartford Post" remarks: "No great outlay would be needed to care for the property in the future, for it is essentially a park already, and a few conveniences for visitors is all that will ever be needed. Other parts of the State have long ago been favored at many times the cost of buying and improving grand "Old Put's" "Wolf Den." The legislative bill which provides for immediate action in this matter is a commendable one in every respect. It ought to pass by a unanimous vote. In all probability it will."

James Tyson, the richest man in Australia, began as a farm laborer, at $12 50 a month.

Joseph H. Klemmer, who has just been appointed Harbor Master of Philadelphia, is forty-two years of age and a native of that city.

According to "Kate Field's Washington," Frederick Douglass was always ready to enjoy a good-natured joke at the expense of his own race. He often laughed over a witticism of Mrs. Fred. Grant's at his expense when they met at the Chicago Convention of 1888. "The convention had been in session several days, and there had been some balloting the day before," he said, relating the story to a friend. "I was sitting with Mrs. Grant and her party watching the balloting. To my surprise one vote was cast for me for President of the United States. It had no sooner been announced by the tellers than Mrs. Grant turned to me and with the most charming smile imaginable said: 'You must be the dark horse of this convention, Mr. Douglass.'" At a meeting of the Free Religionists in Boston some years ago he was among the speakers. Referring to the rule of the assembly which limited the time of speeches, he said he never made a short speech that he was satisfied with, and never a long one that anybody else was satisfied with. "I came here," said he, "not to speak, but to listen, to learn, not to teach; in fact," he added, "I came here merely to give color to the occasion."

Professor John A. Zahm, of Notre Dame University, Ind., who is probably the foremost authority on science in the American Catholic Church, has been honored by the Pope with the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

The Rev. Dr. Moses D. Hoge, of Richmond, Va., who celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his pastorate the other day, once became a blockade runner during the war. He slipped out of Charleston to Nassau in 1864, and went to England to secure Bibles and religious books for the Confederate army, and succeeded in obtaining free gifts of 10,000 Bibles, 50,000 New Testaments and 250,000 pocket editions of portions of the Scriptures, and got them safely through the blockade.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

Some ultra-Protestants of Boston are saying that "Les Huguenots" is a good A. P. A. opera.

"Please, ma'am," said the cook, "I'd like to give you a week's notice."

"Why, Mary, this is a great surprise. Do you hope to better yourself?"

"Well, no, not exactly that," answered Mary, with a blush. "I'm going to get married."—(Christian Register.

The citizens of New-Salem, Mass., having decided not to change its name, "The Springfield Union" suggests that it might possibly be an improvement to spell the name as one word and pronounce it with the accent on the first syllable, "Newsalem." It would then rhyme with Jerusalem, and the change would be a boon to the poets.

J. L. Macadam, the illustrious Scotchman who invented the kind of paving which bears his name, is said to have been a guest at a large dinner given in honor of Sir Walter Scott. Being asked to respond to a toast, Mr. Macadam rose and at the end of his speech proposed the health of "the great Sir Walter Scott, the Colossus of literature!" In an instant Sir Walter was on his feet, and, lifting his glass exclaimed: "Here's to the great Mr. Macadam, the Colossus of roads!"—(Youth's Companion.

A fine piece of wood-carving, about seven feet high, representing a woman crowned with a wreath and supposed to be the figure of the wife of Sir John Franklin, who was lost in the Arctic ice, is displayed in Baltimore. It is said to be the figure-head of the old British bark Lady Franklin, which was lost off Cape Horn a number of years ago. It must have drifted about the ocean for a long time, as it was covered with barnacles when picked up by an Italian bark and brought to port.

Compensation.—He—That's Mrs. Grimshaw, who lectures on bimetallism. I've heard her. How exasperatingly clever she seems to be!

She—Yes—but how consolingly ugly!—(Punch.

Russians evidently believe that while Bishops have a wide influence and carry great weight, there is no good reason why they should carry it on their heads. The announcement has been made that the Metropolitan of Kazan has a mitre of aluminum, as has also the Metropolitan of Kieff. A mitre of aluminum weighs only a little more than a pound, while ordinary mitres are much heavier.

In 1995.—"You'll do just as I tell you," said the husband of the advanced woman.

"What?" shrieked his wife.

"I mean it!" said her husband. "I'd have you understand that I wear the skirts in this family."—(Chicago Record.

A man arose in a Philadelphia prayer-meeting the other night, according to "The Record," and said that after his first wife's death he proposed marriage to a worldly woman. Afterward he thought he had erred in not seeking a Christian woman, and when on his way to the marriage ceremony he lifted his eyes to heaven and said: "God, if you don't want me to marry this woman, strike her with lightning before we reach the church." The lightning didn't appear and the ceremony took place.

No Sign Needed—Pedler—Want any "Please Shut the Door" signs?

Jimson—Don't need 'em.

"Your door hasn't any spring."

"People always shut it when they go out."

"That's queer."

"I'm a tax assessor. They shut it with a slam."—(New York Weekly.

Since 1888 England has acquired the following islands in the Pacific: Gilbert group, thirteen islands; Ellice group, five islands; Union group, three islands; Kingman, Fanning, Washington, Palmyra, Jarvis, Christmas, Starbuck, Malden, Vostok, Flint, Penrhyn, Dudosa, Rule, Coral, Gardner, Johnston, Danger, Suwaroff and Caroline islands. While American missionaries, sailors and commerce have been familiar in the Pacific islands in the last half century, no attempt has been made by the United States Government to annex any of them.

Smythe—I intend Harry for the bar; would you advise his beginning on such old works as Coke and Blackstone? Tompkins—No; I would begin by grounding even him further back. Smythe—Indeed! In what? Tompkins—The Ten Commandments.—(Kate Field's Washington.

A big "soft drink" people's palace for Chicago is to be incorporated. "Our palace," says one of the incorporators, "will not be prudish. The only question on which we split is tobacco. The clerical party said no tobacco, but we compromised on cigars. It will be run as a first-class café, a regular free lunch layout, which the waiters will take to the tables when ladies are to be served. We are in this business to fight the saloons, but we will not truckle to the ultra Prohibition enthusiasts. If a man wants an innocent drink that resembles the old stuff we will satisfy him rather than have him go to the real saloon down the street."

Billy Park has gone into history, so that this anecdote of him, related to the Listener by a friend in Cambridge, may properly be related: "Lunching one day with a friend at Park's, we happened to order a red-head duck. In due time it came on the table, and as it was being carved Billy st