Amusements.

ACADEMY OF DESIGN—Day and Evening—Exhibition of American Water Color Society.
ACADEMY OF MUSIC—2—8:15—Straight from the Heart.
BIJOU—2—8:15—Courted Into Court.
BROADWAY THEATRE—8:15—Shamus O'Brien.
CASINO—8:15—An American Beauty.
COLUMBUS THEATRE—2—8:15—In Old Kentucky.
DALY'S THEATRE—2—Much Ado About Nothing—8:15—The Magistrate.
EMPIRE THEATRE—2—8:20—Under the Red Robe.
EDEN MUSEE—Day and Evening—Waxworks.
FIFTH AVENUE—8:15—Dr. Claudius.
GARDEN THEATRE—8:20—Heartsease.
GARRICK THEATRE—8:15—Secret Service.
GRAND CENTRAL PALACE—2 to 11—Cycle Show.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE—2—8—Hogan's Alley.
HARLEM OPERA HOUSE—8:15—A Fool of Fortune.
HERALD SQUARE THEATRE—2—8:15—The Girl from Paris.
HOYT'S THEATRE—8:30—A Contented Woman.
IRVING PLACE THEATRE—8—Bohemians.
KNICKERBOCKER THEATRE—8:15—A Hair of Spectacles.
KOSTER & BIAL'S—8—Vaudeville.
LYCEUM THEATRE—8:10—The First Gentleman of Europe.
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE—8—Martha.
MURRAY HILL THEATRE—2—8—Trilby.
OLYMPIA MUSIC HALL—8:15—Vaudeville.
PASTOR'S—12:30 to 11 p. m.—Vaudeville.
STAR THEATRE—8—Cuba's Vow.
WALLACK'S—8:15—Romeo and Juliet.
14TH STREET THEATRE—2—8:15—Sweet Inniscarra.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1897.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—It is reported that the Greek flag has been raised at Retimo, Crete, and that more Greek warships will be sent to Cretan waters. ═══ Emperor William at a banquet urged an increase of the strength of the German Army and Navy. ═══ Serious rioting took place in Hamburg as an outcome of the bad feeling caused by the recent strike. ═══ Excitement again prevails at Constantinople, and there are fears of another massacre.

CONGRESS.—Both branches in session. ═══ **Senate:** Most of the day was spent in discussing the arbitration treaty with England behind closed doors. ═══ House: Two pension bills were passed over the President's veto; a second conference report on the Immigration bill was adopted.

DOMESTIC.—Preparations were begun by Admiral Bunce's fleet for the mimic blockade of Charleston Harbor. ═══ There was a report in Albany that the Greater New-York charter might be laid over for a year. ═══ Many delegates to the National Assembly of the League of American Wheelmen arrived in Albany, and an active canvass for the presidency was in progress. ═══ The cruiser Brooklyn was placed in drydock at the League Island Navy Yard; her injuries were found to be more serious than has been reported.

CITY.—J. Q. A. Herring, of Baltimore, a leading official of the Adams Express Company, died suddenly in front of the Holland House. ═══ The fourth part of the Mayor's message was sent to the Aldermen. ═══ About 20,000 people visited the Cycle Show in the Grand Central Palace, and phenomenal business was reported by the exhibitors. ═══ Much additional information is given about the much-talked-of Bradley Martin ball, which will take place to-night at the Waldorf. ═══ Stocks were dull and irregular.

THE WEATHER.—Forecast for to-day: Fair, followed by cloudy weather. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 40 degrees; lowest, 35; average, 37⅞.

Continued demand for copies of the Greater New-York number of The Tribune has compelled this office to print a fourth edition. Copies can be supplied upon Monday next. Price 10 cents, if sold over the counter; 15 cents by mail.

STREETS AND TRUCKS.

In the fourth instalment of his annual message, sent to the Board of Aldermen yesterday, Mayor Strong justly commends the work of the Department of Street Cleaning, saying no more in its praise than common observation daily demonstrates to be true. To one feature of that work, the removal of trucks from the streets, the Mayor makes this special reference: "No more marked or beneficial change in the appearance of the streets of New-York was ever brought about than by the removal of "these trucks." The statement is not too emphatic. The change which the Mayor so describes has amounted to a complete transformation in the appearance and condition of many quarters of the city. The period of obstruction, defacement and defilement is not so remote but that a vivid recollection of what used to be survives, though it is hard to understand how such an abuse could have been tolerated so long. Doubtless it was a part of Tammany's queer system of courting favor which was expected to yield a large return in votes, but the general patience under such oppression was remarkable. And what an uproar Colonel Waring's proclamation of war against the trucks did raise! Anybody not familiar with the local civilization of the time might have thought that the most sacred and indispensable rights of the citizen had been invaded by a ruthless despot. We believe that some ardent patriots positively declared that the Palladium of our Liberties was in danger, and that if Freedom had any breath left then was her time to shriek.

But Colonel Waring paid no further attention to the clamor than to write one or more exceedingly pungent letters to the persons who were making it, in which he appropriately characterized the impudent assumption that the convenience and the pockets of the few who enjoyed free storage in the streets were better entitled to defence than the comfort and welfare of all the rest, and faithfully promised to carry on the crusade without fear or favor. Seeing that he meant what he said and was able to accomplish what he had undertaken, his adversaries were reduced to the painful necessity of making the best of it, and before long the more sensible ones among them came to realize that the necessity was not so very painful, after all, while the multitude rejoiced that they had lived to see the day. Truly it is a notable reform, and nobody in the full possession of his faculties can imagine that the people will amiably consent to the restoration of preposterous conditions.

We have amplified the Mayor's brief remarks on this subject for the reason that the new charter seems to threaten the city with the old bondage of the trucks. If the original draft has not been radically amended in this particular, it authorizes the Commissioner of Street Cleaning to grant permits for the storage of trucks in the streets at night and on Sundays and legal holidays, with the consent of the owners or lessees of opposite buildings. There are some other qualifications, including a requirement that the pavement under and around every truck so privileged shall be kept clean; but how little this may amount to experience amply teaches. So long as Colonel Waring remains at the head of the Street Cleaning Department such a concession can do little or no harm, but to say that is to suggest the possibilities of the provision. It may be that the charter has been amended in this detail, as it has been in others, without the knowledge even of public officials who attentively watched the process of reconstruction, so far as they were permitted to do so. We have not heard of any such alteration, and without apology for possible ignorance where knowledge is virtually unobtainable, we urge the necessity of fully and explicitly protecting the people against a return of evils which they are rejoiced to be rid of. If in this particular the original draft of the charter remains unchanged an amendment is indispensable, and such an amendment as will effectually prevent any step backward by a complacent Commissioner.

GOVERNMENT AND THE RAILROADS.

The Populist determination to force Government control and operation of railroads, through the complications arising from the Pacific Railroad situation, received a new illustration the other day when Congressman Hubbard, of the House Committee on Pacific Railroads, gave as a reason why Congress should interfere in the foreclosure proceedings already begun that parties representing certain Western roads were ready to offer $10,000,000 more for the Government's interest than the upset bid of the New-York syndicate. It will be remembered that the syndicate's offer was, in round numbers, $45,000,000. Mr. Hubbard's statement that other parties were ready to bid $55,000,000, though received with incredulity in railroad circles and by persons familiar with the property, served as a stay of proceedings on the part of the committee until the representatives of the railroads in interest could be heard from. On Monday, accordingly, President Stuyvesant Fish of the Illinois Central and Vice-President Frank S. Bond of the St. Paul appeared before the committee. Neither of them had ever heard of any such offer being considered by the corporations they represented or by any others, and Mr. Fish, though he thought Government ownership might be in some respects beneficial to connecting lines, frankly said that as a purely business proposition the Government, if it wanted to get its money back, should accept the first good offer for its interest in the property. Mr. Hubbard then explained that he had not intended to convey the impression that a definite offer would be made; but other members of the committee who had been misled by his statement expressed the opinion that his action had not been straightforward.

Whatever may have been Mr. Hubbard's motive, the performance was quite in line with the policy which has been pursued from the beginning of the agitation of this question by the advocates of Government control. The staving off of any settlement with the Pacific roads until by force of circumstances the Government will be compelled to take possession of the property to save itself from loss of the entire debt, has always been the policy of the advocates of Government control. It is now the avowed policy of the Populist party, in whose platform the operation of railroads by the Government is as much a cardinal doctrine as Free Silver or Free Trade. Mr. Hubbard is classed as a Republican, but in this matter he has been playing into the hands of the Populists, who are bending all their energies to the defeat of any plan for settling this long-mooted question and closing out the wholly unsatisfactory and unprofitable relations between the Government and the subsidized roads. The House Committee on Pacific Railroads has under consideration a bill appointing a commission to consist of three Cabinet officers, who are fully empowered to arrange terms of settlement, but without interfering with negotiations now in progress under the foreclosure proceedings. It does not seem probable that this or any other bill upon the subject can be passed in the three weeks that remain of the session. The proceedings in foreclosure will consequently be pursued until a decree is entered and a sale made of the Government's interest.

This promises an equitable and final settlement which should be satisfactory to all parties. That it will not be satisfactory to the Populist advocates of Government control is evident, of course, as it will by so much reduce their political capital and diminish their stock in trade. But it will go far toward establishing in permanence for all time the present wholesome constitutional limitations upon Governmental functions.

PROPOSED DUTIES.

The retention of many of the duties of the present tariff by the Republican committee in framing a new bill to be proposed is at once proof of their sincere endeavor to place the duties as low as they can with safety, and proof of the remarkable progress made under the Act of 1890 in developing home industries and cheapening their products. Doubtless it may seem at first to some that the refusal to propose as high duties as were carried by the McKinley law is in a measure censure of that law, but the facts warrant no such idea. In 1890 the country produced 9,202,703 tons of pig-iron, with $18 40 the average price of Anthracite No. 1 at Philadelphia, and $18 85 the average price of Bessemer pig at Pittsburg. The manufacture has been so greatly developed that in 1895, in spite of a reduction in average price to $13 10 at Philadelphia and $12 70 at Pittsburg, the quantity produced was 240,000 tons greater than in 1890. Steel billets averaged $23 63 at Pittsburg in 1892, and were sold last year in great quantities at less than $15, or not $5 over the cost of the Bessemer pig from which they were made, and even at such prices the production was maintained on a larger scale than before. One important cause is the enormous additional supply of ore from the Mesaba region, making possible a cheaper production of iron, but the manufacture has also been greatly improved, and its products cheapened in nearly all branches.

Thus it is that the duties which were held necessary to bring about this vigorous development in 1890 are no longer deemed necessary, even by the manufacturers or the most earnest advocates of Protection. Still greater relative progress has been made in some branches of the industry, and particularly in tinplates, of which the entire consumption in the country can now be supplied by American works, and practically the whole consumption except that for export in the form of cans and cases is so supplied. The duties needed to draw capital swiftly into that branch of work are no longer needed, and the committee has just decided upon a duty of 1.5 cents, which is but .3 of a cent above that fixed by the present act. The cost of tinplates has been so reduced that Bessemer I.C. 14x20, weighing 108 pounds per box, are quoted by "The Iron Age" at $3 35, whereas Welsh plates of the same weight and kind sold in September, 1890, before the McKinley Act went into force, at $5 17 per box.

The question as to steel rails involves geographical considerations. The cost of moving the product from the seaboard to the interior is large, and it is in the West where new rails are most required in building new railroads. But with Western production in mind, the committee has decided to propose retention of the present duty, though at first it contemplated a duty of only $4 per ton, which would be less than the duty on pig or in billets. The price of rails is virtually controlled by a combination of makers, and it is a question whether cheapness will not be more speedily and surely secured by encouraging new competitors to enter that field than by cutting down the duties below those on other forms of iron and steel. The retention of the present duties on nails, wire and cut, which are lower than those of the McKinley Act, will probably in no way affect the industry, since great home competition has already broken down the combination by which prices were for a time advanced.

The decision to retain nearly all the duties of the present cotton schedule, although many were as much as 40 per cent lower than those of the McKinley Act, appears to be satisfactory to the manufacturers, but on some finer grades of goods the committee proposes somewhat advanced rates. The imports have been mainly of the fine and more costly grades, and, while the manufacture needs no higher rates on the cheaper, it seeks better defence where the present duties permit most active competition. There is manifest good sense in declining to advance duties where no such reason for advance appears. On the whole, the work thus far done by the committee appears to be reasonable and eminently conservative, and such as the defenders of the protective policy can heartily approve.

BROOKLYN BRIDGE AFFAIRS.

It gives us pleasure to commend the appointment of Mr. William Berri as a trustee of the Brooklyn Bridge, which has been made by Mayor Wurster, and likewise his election as president of the Board—an office that has usually been conceded to Brooklyn because that city bore two-thirds of the cost of building the Bridge. While there may be a certain sense of incongruity in selecting a new member to preside over a body that contains one or two men who have been connected with the Bridge for years, there are peculiar reasons why this was desirable in the present instance, and it is not to be doubted that Mr. Berri will prove an efficient executive. What is needed in the Bridge office is a man who will run the structure as a business enterprise, and make it of the largest possible use to the thousands of people who are daily dependent on it. That has not been done in the past. The affairs of the Bridge have fallen into a rut. A man of vigor and energy is required to take them out; a man of far-sightedness, too.

Mr. Berri possesses these qualities. He has been a successful man of business throughout his mature life, and in recent years has been, in addition, a successful newspaper proprietor. Whatever he takes hold of "goes," in the parlance of the street. It is understood that he is willing to devote all his time, if necessary, to the duties of Bridge president, and that his aim will be to develop the railroad facilities to the fullest extent. It is in this line that any intelligent policy must be directed. No one can doubt that the Bridge is a magnificent product of engineering skill; but in point of railroad management it has been anything but a success. It has taken nearly ten years to carry out a plan for doubling the number of trains run—a fact which carries the most serious indictment against the policy hitherto pursued. New ideas, new methods, new blood are needed.

The experts appointed to consider the feasibility of running the Brooklyn elevated and surface cars across the Bridge have made a unanimous report in favor of doing this, and it remains for the trustees, under their new head, to carry this plan into practical effect. The railroad companies stand ready to do their part, and the Bridge authorities are not likely to be backward in enabling the structure under their care "to afford its maximum of utility, both as "a factor in furnishing the most agreeable and "convenient means of transit over the river, and "as a source of income." Of course there are numerous important problems to be solved. But as three eminent engineers have decided that there is no adequate reason why both surface and elevated cars should not be permitted to use the Bridge, a way of solving them will be worked out.

A large opportunity confronts Mr. Berri. The task before him will be hard. He will have to overcome intrenched conservatism and defy tradition. He will carry into the Bridge office the keen and alert mind of the trained business man. To accomplish what is expected of him will tax all his energies. We do not believe the expectations aroused by his appointment will fail of fulfilment.

THE CRETAN TROUBLES.

The outbreak in Crete is unquestionably serious, but it is one which will be regarded with little patience by the world. It seems to have been entirely uncalled for. Since last year's settlement there have been no grievances to complain of, or none justifying a resort to arms. The Turkish Government conceded to the Cretans practically all they demanded, and set to work in good faith to execute the reforms. Unfortunately it was rather slow in reorganizing the gendarmery. In fact, all it has so far done in that direction has been to determine—or to accept the decision of the Ambassadors of the Powers—that the commander of the new corps should be either a Belgian or a Hollander, and that for a nucleus of the corps one hundred men should be recruited in each of the three states of Bulgaria, Bosnia and Montenegro.

With the old gendarmery discredited and the new not yet formed, there was a splendid opportunity for the turbulent Cretan Christians to resume harrying the Cretan Mahometans, and they have apparently improved it with characteristic zeal. Emissaries from Greece have also been busy fomenting disturbances and organizing a movement for immediate annexation of the island to Greece. The sending of Greek ships of war to Canea followed as a matter of course, ostensibly to protect Greek subjects, but with an ulterior purpose pretty well betrayed by their neglect promptly to give the customary salute to the Turkish flag. Of course, Turkey will send more ships thither, and so will the Great Powers, and so all the elements of a minor European war are provided and placed in perilous proximity.

Greece would, of course, be no match for Turkey in a war. On land she would be overwhelmed by an army five times the size of her own, and not inferior to it, to say the least, in valor and endurance. At sea, also, Turkey would probably prove the stronger, her fleet being much larger than that of Greece, though older and less efficient, ship for ship. The case would be vastly complicated, however, by a general revolt in Macedonia, which has been in preparation for some time and which would certainly come as soon as war over Crete began. In it both Servia and Bulgaria would take a hand, and Austria-Hungary would be forced to do the same unless she was willing to abandon her long-cherished designs upon Salonica, which is not to be conceived.

The chances are, therefore, with such possibilities of widespread trouble following hostilities between Greece and Turkey, that the Great Powers will intervene to keep the peace. They did so with a strong hand a few years ago, when Greece became overbelligerent, and they have really more cause for doing so now than they had then. It is impossible, of course, not to sympathize with Greek desires to annex Crete, which properly belongs to Greece, and to reclaim all the provinces in which the Greek race predominates. But such desires are not to be gratified at the cost of a general European war. Patience is a quality the Greeks have need to cultivate, and which they might cultivate in this particular instance with good grace, since their Cretan compatriots are not suffering oppression, but are very much better off than they have been for many years.

Dr. Cantlie, lately of Hong Kong, and one of the foremost authorities on the bubonic fever or plague, declares that in no other disease are such immediate results obtained from careful and prompt medical treatment and watchful nursing. In Hong Kong, in 1894, eleven British residents were stricken with the plague and nine of them recovered. It was only among the uncleanly, ill-fed and physically weak natives, who would not have a doctor until the disease was well advanced, and even then would not take the needed medicines, that the mortality was great. That is the generally recognized fact, and it does away with all fear of widespread ravages of the plague in civilized lands.

With the Spanish Ministry in danger of a crisis, it is not reassuring to learn that the Carlists are now better organized and more powerful than ever before in the history of their struggle.

People doubtless do, now and then, commit assaults and murder while suffering from epilepsy, but it will not be well to overdo that business. We all remember Kipling's tale of "The Post that Fitted." At the hour of going to press it was still true that—

. . . in pious patience, vengeful Mrs. Boffkin sits
Waiting for the Sleary babies to develop Sleary's fits.

People who are looking for offices other than those of high grade under the coming Administration are confronted with a gloomy outlook. An article recently printed in The Tribune showed that there is practically no patronage at the disposal of the Collector, the Surveyor, the Naval Officer and the Postmaster in this city. The Collector can appoint a cashier, and the Postmaster a cashier and an assistant postmaster; but beyond that, nothing. These officials do not even have power to select their own private secretaries. It is high time for Mr. "Abe" Gruber and the other progressive Civil Service reformers to turn their attention to the way the Federal laws and regulations on this subject are enforced. Is there not too much "starch" at Washington, as well as at Albany?

PERSONAL.

A Paris paper says there is no truth in the recent report that M. Tissot, the artist, has entered a monastery.

Alexander Gilchrist, who has just died at his home in Philadelphia, was the doorkeeper of the Union League, of that city, for twenty-five years. "During his career as doorkeeper," says "The Philadelphia Press," "Mr. Gilchrist had made the acquaintance of more Presidents, Governors and men of prominence than any other person in Philadelphia, and men whose names are known throughout the civilized world greeted the League's doorkeeper as an old friend. The late General Phil Sheridan regarded Mr. Gilchrist as a personal friend, and the late James G. Blaine never visited Philadelphia without conversing with Mr. Gilchrist. Ex-President Benjamin Harrison loved to talk of war times with him. John A. Logan rehearsed the scenes of war with him, and Li Hung Chang regarded him in an impressive manner. There were but few people of prominence who have visited Philadelphia that were not familiar with 'Alec' Gilchrist."

The ex-Empress Eugénie has arrived at Nice and taken up her residence at her Villa Cyrnos at Cap Martin. The Empress Elizabeth of Austria is also spending the winter months at the same resort.

Bishop Thomas Underwood Dudley (Episcopal) of Kentucky celebrated the twenty-third anniversary of his consecration last week. He was born in Richmond, Va., September 26, 1837; was graduated as M. A. from the University of Virginia in July, 1858; served as an officer in the army of the Confederate States; was graduated from the Theological Seminary of Virginia in 1867; was ordained deacon by Bishop Johns in that year, and priest by Bishop Whittle the following year. He is recognized as one of the ablest men in the church and is much loved and admired not only in his diocese, but throughout the United States.

"The Philadelphia Inquirer" observes: "Frank Thomson's rise from an ordinary position in a machine shop at Altoona to the presidency of the Pennsylvania Railroad illustrates in the happiest manner the possibilities of the American youth. We should like such men as William Jennings Bryan, Henry George, Jacob S. Coxey and the other pessimists to contemplate that career in all seriousness."

London, Feb. 9.—Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, who is confined to his bed with an attack of gout, is somewhat better to-day.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

C. F. Rockwell, of Honesdale, Penn., writes to say that three of his aunts, now living, are children of a soldier of the Revolution. They are Mrs. Phebe Gainford, ninety-one years old, of Ellenville, N. Y.; Mrs. Catharine Bowden, eighty-four, of Stroudsburg, Penn., and Mrs. Lucinda Valentine, eighty-one, also of Stroudsburg. Their father was Jabez Rockwell, a native of Connecticut, who served through the Revolutionary War in a Connecticut regiment.

An Old-School Gentleman.—"Colonel Barfleigh is an old beat, but somehow I enjoy listening to the old fellow talk."

"So do I. His sentences are as florid as his nose and as polished as his clothes."—(Indianapolis Journal.

John C. Sutton, of Denver, spent all his money, $30,000, a few years ago in building a church in Denver, on condition that he should be allowed to live in the tower and be employed as the sexton of the church.

Sixty-five years ago Hiram Lukens entered "The Intelligencer" office, at Doylestown, to learn printing, and he is there yet, setting type as fast as anybody around the place. His record of continuous service with one establishment is probably unequalled in the business. Several times the management has changed, but he has never left his case. Three sets of floor boards have worn away under his feet in that long time, and 130 pairs of thick soled boots have been put on the retired list. For over 19,500 working days his eyes have been trained on the type, but still his vision is unimpaired, and he handles the smallest size with ease. It is quite fair to estimate that he has set and distributed an average of 8,000 ems of type a day, or a total in sixty-five years of 156,000,000 ems. This is equal to 28,888 columns of common type.—(Philadelphia Record.

"The London Telegraph" tells a curious story about a young curate of evangelical views, who recently committed the indiscretion of smoking in the street. A woman, one of his parishioners, who saw him, was so shocked that she immediately renounced her belief in the Thirty-nine Articles.

Boundless Affection.—He—Sometimes I wonder if you really love me.

She—As if I hadn't proved it! Haven't I called you "Dumpsy darling"?

"Well?"

"And that is a name which, until I met you, I had held sacred to dear little Fido."—(Cincinnati Enquirer.

Representative Bellamy S. Sutton has introduced a bill in the Indiana Legislature compelling the hotel-keepers of that State to print their bills of fare in English. "I object," he said, in a speech supporting his bill, "to having the only name down on a hotel bill for goose livers to be patty day for grassay."

His Specialty.—"Has your son any especial talent?" asked one man.

"Yes," replied the other; "I think he's an inventor."

"Has he invented many things?"

"Yes; most of them reasons why I should give him money."—(Washington Star.

According to a Kentucky paper, when the telephone was first introduced in that State an old farmer who did not exactly understand the working of the invention bought a new pair of boots for his son, who lived down in Texas. He hung the footwear across the wire at sundown one evening. During the night some one took the boots and placed a pair of old ones across the wire. Next morning the old gentleman went out and, to his delight, he saw the old boots. He hastened into the house, exclaiming to his wife: "Say, Sal, this here tellerphone is the best thing yet. John got his boots last night, and I'm blasted ef he didn't send the old uns home!"

Aunt Maria (at the theatre)—Why do all those men rush out in breathless haste the moment the curtain falls?

Uncle Henry—Just wait till they come in again, and you'll understand it.

When they returned there was not a breathless one among them.—(Boston Transcript.

Many journals in Pennsylvania are in favor of making Philadelphia the capital of the State, instead of Harrisburg. The fire department of Harrisburg, they say, is inadequate for the protection of costly State buildings, the city is bleak and cold in winter, and its railroad facilities are not good.

Mrs. Baldwon—That husband of mine is the most careless man. I expect he'll lose his head some of these days.

Mrs. Bunn—I see he's lost the next thing to it—his hair.—(Yonkers Statesman.

An official enrolment of the Christian Endeavor Societies shows the whole number of members to be 2,836,746. There are now over 47,000 societies; 231,000 of the young people connected with these organizations united with the different churches during the last year. Since 1889 they have received a grand total of 1,048,225 members.

A Limited Monarchy.—Mr. Bluff (host at a little dinner of male friends)—Yes, gentlemen, I hold that every man should be master of his own house. There is no other way. Well, as you are all through, gentlemen, suppose we adjourn to the library for a smoke."

Waggish Guest—Why not smoke here in this grand old dining-hall?

"Um! Mrs. Bluff won't let us."—(New-York Weekly.

READY FOR THE BALL.

FINAL ARRANGEMENTS DECIDED ON BY MRS. BRADLEY MARTIN.

RULES TO BE FOLLOWED IN ENTERING THE WALDORF—COSTUME DINNERS TO BE GIVEN THIS EVENING.

The final preparations for the costume ball planned by Mrs. Bradley Martin, which will take place at the Waldorf to-night, were really begun yesterday morning, when the florist who has been engaged to do the decorating began to unload a small forest of growing plants at the extreme west entrance to the hotel. By orders of Mrs. Martin, the decorations in the new ballroom, as well as in the other rooms, are to be made with closed doors. She has decided to exclude the public from the rooms which she has engaged for her entertainment, and has undertaken even to exclude the guests of the hotel from so much as getting a glimpse of the splendors which are to be prepared for her guests.

Mrs. Martin has also determined on a scheme, which she is keeping secret, to prevent the appearance of uninvited persons in any part of the hotel which she has engaged for the night. It was her intention, at first, to issue cards to persons who had accepted her invitations, but as more than eight hundred acceptances were received by her the idea was abandoned. It is a well-known fact that many, who, several weeks ago, sent their acceptances, have since changed their minds and will not attend the ball, because they did not like their appearances in the costumes chosen.

TO AVOID CONFUSION.

The details of the way in which the guests will enter the hotel have already been told in The Tribune. One of the principal precautions taken by Mrs. Martin is an arrangement to avoid confusion in approaching and leaving the hotel to-night. It has been decided that carriages drive from Fifth-ave. to Mr. Boldt's house, and it should be remembered that the line of carriages must approach from the west side of the avenue to the entrance. A wide awning will be constructed in front of the hotel, so as to allow two or three carriages to unload at once. The guests on leaving their carriages will approach the dressing-rooms in the Astor suite on the second floor over carpeted halls and stairways. It has been arranged that no carriage will be allowed to pass through Thirty-third-st. to the eastward.

Mrs. Martin will receive her guests in the small ballroom on a slightly raised dais, which will be canopied with rich tapestries and garlanded with flowers. Mrs. Martin's gown, which was sent to her home last night, is of the Mary Stuart period, the materials being of black velvet and red brocade, the front of the corsage covered with jewels.

THE OPENING QUADRILLE.

The opening quadrille of the ball will be that arranged by Mrs. Astor and called the quadrille d'honneur. The dancers in it will be Mrs. Morton, Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish, Mrs. J. Lee Tailer, Mrs S. Whitney Warren, Mrs. M. Orme Wilson, Miss Lina Morton, Miss Gerry, John Jacob Astor, James J. Van Alen, Center Hitchcock, Craig Wadsworth, Robert B. Van Cortlandt, Harry Lehr, of Baltimore; Lispenard Stewart and Frederic T. Martin.

Mrs. Edmund L. Baylies's minuet, in which there will be twenty couples, will next occupy the floor. Among the dancers will be Mrs. Henry T. Sloane, Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt, jr., Mrs. Ogden Mills, Mrs. John Jacob Astor, Mrs. James F. D. Lanier, Mrs. Baylies, Miss Alice Blight, Miss Evelyn Burden, Miss Van Rensselaer, Herbert D. Robbins, Edward A. Crowninshield, Winthrop Rutherfurd, Craig Wadsworth, Frederic N. Watriss, James Eustis, Francis C. Bishop and Worthington Whitehouse.

In Mrs. Frederic Bronson's quadrille the dancers will be Miss Bronson, Miss Josephine Brooks, Miss Meiza Wood, Miss Daisy Post, Miss Rogers, Miss Adelaide Spoffard, Miss Babcock, Miss Bessie Davis, William Sloane, Ernest Iselin, Allen Appleton Robbins, F. B. Harrison, G. Beekman Hoppin, Henry Rogers and H. Pelham Robbins.

The cotillion favors will include silver matchboxes, silver tablets and silver pencils.

DINNERS ARRANGED FOR TO-NIGHT.

One of the largest costume dinners this evening will be given by Miss Furniss at her home, in Fifth-ave. Mrs. H. Mortimer Brooks will give a dinner for the young people who are to dance in Mrs. Bronson's quadrille, and after the dinner the final rehearsal of the dance will take place. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Parish, jr., and Mr. and Mrs. Frederic H. Benedict will also give dinner parties, and Mr. and Mrs. William C. Schermerhorn will give a reception and supper for those of their friends who choose to stop in on their way to the Waldorf.

WORK OF THE DECORATORS.

HOW THE ROOMS IN THE HOTEL WILL BE ADORNED—ONE HUNDRED MEN KEPT BUSY.

The decorators engaged by Mrs. Bradley Martin began to swarm in upon the Waldorf yesterday morning. They did not have the field all to themselves then, however, because some of the guests wished to put the finishing touches to their practice for the dances in which they were to participate.

Late last evening, however, the florist, with his men, descended upon the entire western half of the two first floors of the Waldorf, and he will be monarch of all he surveys there until 8 o'clock this evening. The rooms of the first floor that are to be devoted to the purposes of the ball include every room excepting the dining-room that faces in Fifth-ave., and a small part of the hall that runs from the women's entrance to the foot of the elevator shaft. The winter garden and the men's cafe will be curtained off from the lobby of the hotel, while the Turkish smoking-room and the Marie Antoinette room will also be given up to the guests of a night. The small reception room that is to the left of the main entrance in Thirty-third-st. will be used for liquid refreshments.

The small ballroom, now often called the concert-room, has been chosen by Mrs. Bradley Martin as the room in which she will receive her guests as they come from the dressing-rooms on the second floor, and from this room the guests will pass through a corridor into the large ballroom, where at 11 o'clock the dancing will begin. The entire second floor as far east as the state apartments will be used for dressing-rooms, there being about seventy in all, thirty-five for men and thirty-five for women.

A MATTER OF MUCH THOUGHT.

The scheme of floral decoration, upon which so much of the beauty of any social function depends, has been a matter of much thought with Mrs. Bradley Martin, and she hesitated a long time before she gave her orders. J. H. Small is the florist of the occasion, and twenty-five of his men started in on their task yesterday morning. After the early part of last evening the number was trebled until there were nearly one hundred at work. They will all be busy until the last moment that is allowed them for the completion of their task.

The guests, as already announced, will enter the hotel through the private entrance used by Mr. Boldt, the proprietor of the hotel. The staircase up which they will pass to reach the dressing-rooms will be heavily garlanded with Florida smilax, both overhead and at the sides, while about the hall will stand many of the largest and finest drooping palms it is possible to procure. This system of decoration will prevail all through the dressing-rooms and the halls on the second floor. So profuse will be the smilax and the palms that they will completely embower the walls and the ceilings. The same tone will be preserved in the decorations of the hall and the staircase that leads down from the dressing-rooms to the entrance of the small ballroom, where Mrs. Martin will receive her guests. Over the dais upon which Mrs. Martin will stand will droop the heads of a perfect shower of extremely long-stemmed American Beauty roses of the rarest and most exquisite sort the skill of the florist can produce, heavily embedded in thick sprays of the yellow acacia pubescence or mimosa. The same general tone will prevail in the other decorations of the room, which will be hung on all sides with rich heavy tapestries. At the western end of this room is an immense mirror, which will be fairly banked with American Beauty roses, whose dark richness will be set off with golden acacia, as before. The smilax and the palms and potted plants will complete the rest of the floral picture in the reception-room.

But, richly beauteous as the reception-room will doubtless be, the florist will reserve his best skill for the treatment of the large ballroom. Mrs. Martin expressed her decided preference against anything like heaviness or oppressiveness in the decorations of the ballroom, and her wishes will, of course, be carried out. To this end the florist has chosen light tints entirely for this room. At the north side of the room the wall carries five enormous mirrors which run from ceiling to floor. Across the faces of these mirrors will be looped festoons of delicate asparagus vine, the daintiest vine that grows, intertwined with hundreds of mauve orchids, while from the tops of the mirrors will be suspended by mauve satin ribbons straw pockets, after the fashion of those women used to wear in the time of Louis XVI. From these pockets there will tumble a profusion of mauve orchids, streaming carelessly to the floor beneath, like the untied bonnet-strings of a thoughtless child.

FROM VARIOUS POINTS.

The same sort of pockets, with their profusion of mauve orchids, will hang from various points around the walls of the room, under all the brackets and from all the pillars. The musicians' gallery, just opposite the five long mirrors and their mauve decorations, will be ethereal with hundreds of bridesmaid roses, which will be framed in their own foliage. There will not be a few of them. They will cover the entire balcony, which means almost the entire side of the big hall. The orchids and the asparagus vine will be conspicuous everywhere else.

There are to be about 125 tables in the men's cafe and the winter garden, and all these will pass through the florist's hands before this evening. They will be gorgeous with American Beauty roses and white lilacs. The other decorations of the supper rooms will consist exclusively of spring flowers, such as forsythia, tulips, jonquils, lilacs, mignonette and bonganvillia.

There will be thousands of yards of asparagus vine used in the decorations, and 5,000 or 6,000 orchids, to say nothing of the roses, which will be almost without number.

From 8 o'clock to-night the Waldorf will be practically in the possession of Mrs. Martin and her guests. There will be no admittance to the hotel by the usual entrance. The regular guests of the hotel will enter at the women's entrance, and their sole possessions on the ground floor will be a small part of the hall at the foot of the elevator shaft and the dining-room facing in Fifth-ave.

The supper will be served by the management of the Waldorf, and it will be of an exceedingly elaborate nature. The supper itself will be served from midnight until two hours and a half later. It will be modelled after the English style, and there will be plenty of roast suckling pigs and other whole animals; plenty of ale, so that one may have it if he pleases, although the care paid to the choice of the wines and the punches will be none the less great on that account. After the supper hour is ended there will be served an open buffet lunch as long as there is anybody left to eat it, which means until the last guest has left the hotel.

THE FIRST MINUET.

The first minuet is set for 11 o'clock, as it is thought that guests will begin to arrive more than an hour before that time. There will be plenty of police on hand to prevent the possibility of a blockade either of teams or of curious spectators. The carriages of the guests will not return for them. Instead there will be 400 carriages provided by Mrs. Martin to convey her guests to their homes when the ball is over. These carriages will form in line in Fifth-ave., and they will move in order to the door of the hotel. This plan, it is thought, will prevent much of the delay and annoyances that always occur when many people coming from the same place at the same time try to find their own carriages.

The police arrangements were about the only ones that had not been fully perfected last night. The Waldorf is in the district of Acting-Inspector Harley, and the police arrangements are accordingly in his hands. Inspector Harley said yesterday that he would consult with Chief Conlin and Captain Chapman, of the West Thirtieth-st. station, this morning, and that his plans would be perfected in plenty of time. It was learned from another source that there would be no plain-clothes men inside of the hotel, but that there would be eight of them immediately outside the hotel to see that there was no thieving from the guests in the crush outside the entrance.

MR. BISPHAM'S RECITAL.

The third of Mr. Bispham's song recitals at the Carnegie Lyceum took place yesterday afternoon. Mr. Bispham had the help of Miss Lillian Blauvelt, soprano, and the accompanist of all the songs, except three, which were accompanied by their composer, was Mr. Amhurst Webber, solo accompanist at the opera. The three exceptions were compositions by Louis V. Saar, son of the veteran assistant conductor of the opera and now one of the teachers at the National Conservatory of Music. The talent disclosed by the songs seems to be always a gracious one, with a distinct tendency toward ambitious flights through the ether of poetry. He avoids the commonplace, both in melodic idea and harmonization, and a song like his "Abendgang," the first sung by Mr. Bispham, challenges sincere respect from the knowing.

The programme of the concert was both long and varied. Some of its features asked but little attention; some pleased because of the quaintness of their musical treatment and the archness of their poetry (as, for instance, two old English pastoral dialogues), and some belonged to the highest and most interesting order