Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—8:15—Nature.
BIJOU THEATRE—8:15—The Wrong Mr. Wright.
BROADWAY THEATRE—8:15—Half a King.
CASINO—8—The Belle of New-York.
DALY'S—8:15—The Circus Girl.
EDEN MUSEE—Wax Works, Grand Concerts and Cinematograph.
EMPIRE THEATRE—8:15—The Little Minister.
FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE—8:30—A Southern Romance.
GARDEN THEATRE—8:15—A Bachelor's Romance.
GARRICK THEATRE—8:15—A Stranger in New-York.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE—8—Minstrels.
HARLEM OPERA HOUSE—8:15—The Mayflower.
HARLEM MUSIC HALL—8—Vaudeville.
HOYT'S THEATRE—8:30—A Bachelor's Honeymoon.
HERALD SQUARE THEATRE—8:15—The French Maid.
KNICKERBOCKER THEATRE—8:15—In Town.
KOSTER & BIALS—7:30—Vaudeville.
LYCEUM THEATRE—8:15—Change Alley.
MADISON SQUARE GARDEN—10:30 a. m. to 10:30 p. m.—American Institute Fair.
MANHATTAN—8:15—What Happened to Jones.
OLYMPIA MUSIC HALL—8—The Cat and the Cherub.
PASTOR'S—12:30 to 11 p. m.—Continuous Performances.
PLEASURE PALACE—1:30—7:30—Vaudeville.
STAR THEATRE—8—The Fair in Midgettown.
WALLACK'S THEATRE—8:15—A Coat of Many Colors.
WEBER & FIELDS'S MUSIC HALL—8—Burlesque—The Good Hand.
14TH STREET THEATRE—8:15—The Sign of the Cross.

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Roll Top Desks and Office Furniture.
Great Variety of Style and Price.
T. G. SELLEW,
No. 111 Fulton-st.

New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1897.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—General Woodford, the United States Minister, paid a visit of courtesy to General Azcarraga, the Spanish Premier, at Madrid. ═══ President Barrios of Guatemala has placed a price of $100,000 on the heads of Morales, the revolutionary leader, and Fuentes, his aid. ═══ The British forces razed the villages and towers of rebel tribesmen on the Afghan frontier. ═══ An official statement issued from the palace in Havana accuses the Cuban insurgents of atrocious cruelties at the taking of Victoria de las Tunas. ═══ It was announced at the Foreign Office in London that England was willing to take part in the sealing conference, and was endeavoring to secure the consent of Canada. ═══ Six Anarchists were arrested in Madrid and a number of bombs seized.

DOMESTIC.—Treasury officials predict that, according to the present showing, Government receipts will equal or exceed the expenditures by January 1. ═══ John Boecker, an Iowa farmer, murdered his wife and five children, fatally wounded another child, then inflicted a fatal wound on himself. ═══ Two deaths from yellow fever occurred in New-Orleans and one in Mobile. ═══ Boston defeated Baltimore in the third game of the baseball pennant series by a score of 19 to 10. ═══ The American cricket players defeated the English team in the international match in Philadelphia. ═══ Speaker O'Grady was renominated in the IId Assembly District, Rochester. ═══ Eugene V. Debs, speaking to the Labor Conference, which assembled in Chicago, said that strikes did not pay. ═══ Judge J. S. Williams, of Kansas, issued a perpetual injunction to restrain Webb McNall, the State Insurance Superintendent, from interfering with a New-York life insurance company. ═══ It was reported that Congressman Quigg favors the pardon of John Y. McKane. ═══ George M. Robeson, Secretary of the Navy under President Grant, died at Trenton.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.—The United Democracy in convention at Lenox Lyceum nominated a ticket headed by Henry George for Mayor. ═══ Tammany leaders had a conference at the Hoffman House, and it was said that overtures made to the German-American Reform Union had been unsuccessful. ═══ Plans for the Republican City Convention to meet to-day in Carnegie Hall were completed; General Tracy arrived in town. ═══ It was announced at the hearing of the contest over the estate of Joseph Richardson that a third will, made by Mr. Richardson and benefiting all his relatives, had been discovered. ═══ Many persons visited the Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse at her Hoboken pier. ═══ The first women's evening high school in this city was opened in School No. 50, in East Twentieth-st. ═══ The Jewish New Year's Day was celebrated. ═══ Four more wrecks, caused by last week's tropical storm in the South Atlantic, were reported at this port; the crews of three of the vessels are supposed to have perished. ═══ Winners at Gravesend: Trillette, Buckwa, Kitefoot, Bromo, Demagogue, Fillo. ═══ The New York baseball team was defeated by the Washington nine at the Polo Grounds. ═══ Stocks were strong and dull.

THE WEATHER.—Forecast for to-day: Fair and cooler. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 68 degrees; lowest, 53; average, 61.

The Semi-Weekly Tribune of to-day, in wrappers, 3 cents a copy.

Travellers can have any edition of The Tribune sent them at the rates on opposite page. The address changed as often as desired.

VICTORY BETTER THAN COMPROMISE.

The Republican organization is planning to nominate General Tracy without any notion that as a straight party candidate he can be elected, but with the idea that his name will be effective to force Seth Low out of the field and open the way to union of the anti-Tammany forces on General Tracy himself, or some compromise candidate like Mr. Bliss. Suppose for a moment, what does not seem at all probable, that this scheme will work. Suppose that the Citizens Union could be prevailed upon to withdraw Mr. Low and leave this organization candidate, in sole possession of the field. What would be the result on Election Day? In all probability a victory for Tammany Hall. Tammany would have just about as good a chance to win against a straight Republican, or even a compromise Republican ticket, with Mr. Low out of the race, as against a straight Republican and Mr. Low together. Organization leaders may not find this prospect pleasant. They may rail at the unreasonableness of independent voters, but their business is to face the prejudices and even follies of voters as they exist, and so use their leadership as to win results.

Of the 127,000 voters who have expressed a desire for the election of Mr. Low perhaps half are Democrats and Mugwumps. At any rate, the support of a large number of Democrats and Mugwumps is necessary for the success of any anti-Tammany ticket. Seth Low can secure that support. If he can also secure the votes influenced by the Republican organization he is reasonably sure of an election. The question which the man who seeks to force him out must consider is what chance of election the substitute candidate will have. And when he considers that fairly, he cannot avoid the conclusion that a large number of these Democrats and Mugwumps cannot be induced to help him elect any other person than Seth Low. They are people who have long been critics of the Republican party, and do not hesitate to say that they have little choice between Mr. Croker and Mr. Platt, and if driven into a corner, with no chance to avoid either, they would prefer to vote for their own party rather than for the Republicans. So any other anti-Tammany candidate than Mr. Low has the prospect of seeing this body of voters whose support is necessary for election staying at home or scattering its strength on different Democratic tickets that may chance to be in the field. This may be most reprehensible perversity on the part of these voters, but it has to be reckoned with for all that. It will not be cured by railing at them. It can only be cured by giving them such a ticket that they will put aside their party and personal prejudices and join with electors of Republican proclivities.

So even if Seth Low were to withdraw, it is hardly possible that his full strength could be transferred to anybody else. The Republican leaders have interpreted their own disinclination to Mr. Low to mean that they could not carry their followers to him, though they have taken good care to suppress where possible all evidence of Low feeling among the enrolled Republicans. But if it is difficult for them with their strong party discipline to secure enthusiastic work from their people, how much more difficult must it be to turn an undisciplined mass of voters to a candidate whom they are likely to view with distrust and with annoyance at having their own choice forced from the field. All this assumes that a compromise could be reached. It evidently would be an empty and profitless arrangement. It is the alternative to the acceptance of the one man who can be elected. There is yet time to snatch victory by the only union that can gather all the elements for an effective vote. Union on Mr. Low will be real union. Any other arrangement would run the risk of dissipating the anti-Tammany forces and ending in defeat.

THE JUDICIAL CANDIDATES.

Whatever the result of the city conventions in the Greater New-York this week, the bench seems certain to profit by the elections and appointments of this autumn. This will apply in some degree to the Court of Appeals as well as to the Supreme Court. It is true that the retirement of Chief Judge Andrews of the Court of Appeals must, in any event, be felt as a serious loss. But the nominations to his place are both good. Judge Parker, despite his action in voting for Bryan last year, must be regarded as an excellent judge from the record he has made in the Supreme Court. But the Republicans have done even better in the selection of Judge Wallace, who now ranks as one of the best jurists on the Federal bench. As Judge Wallace is almost certain of election, Judge Andrews may well feel satisfaction in the reflection that his place is to be so well filled.

But good citizens have cause for feelings of even greater satisfaction in the prospect regarding the Supreme Court. There is every reason to believe that the bar received the announcement of Governor Black's appointment of William N. Cohen to the Supreme Court in the place of the late Judge Sedgwick with more universal approval than has been accorded to any other judicial appointment in recent years. His fitness is unquestioned, and he has great personal popularity. The probabilities also point to a satisfactory outcome of the approaching local judicial conventions. The action of the Republicans promises to be wiser than it was last year, when they disregarded the just claims of Presiding Justice Brown to renomination in the Second Department. Judge Bartlett thoroughly deserves the renomination which he seems likely to receive from both parties in that district.

But chief cause for congratulation is found in the determination of the Republican leaders on this side of the East River to renominate Presiding Justice Van Brunt of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court. In such case Tammany would scarcely venture to refuse to take the same action, and he would be re-elected, as he should be, without opposition. A similar case has not arisen in many years where there was the same obligation upon all parties to continue in office a judge of the same degree of usefulness as Judge Van Brunt, and whose place it would be so difficult to fill. Ex-Judge Allison is said to have been determined upon as the other judicial nominee of the Republicans. It is an excellent choice. If, as is reported probable, Tammany should nominate ex-Police Justice Feitner against him, there ought to be no difficulty in electing Judge Allison by a large majority. The appearance of Judge Feitner as a candidate is the only unfortunate aspect of the judicial situation. It seems almost incredible that Tammany should in the present emergency nominate so weak a candidate. But if the result shall be the election of Judge Allison, one good turn may be credited to Tammany.

IGNORING THE TARIFF.

Thinking people do not fail to observe a remarkable unanimity and earnestness of desire among Democrats on one point. Divided on other topics, the leading men of that party all want to drop discussion of the tariff. Whatever else they may wish to discuss or avoid, the tariff question they ignore as carefully and anxiously as if it were of all explosives the most potent and dangerous. Mr. Bryan talks much, but takes care not to talk about Protection. Democrats of Eastern States and cities, whether professing to be absorbed in local issues or to be frantic about silver coinage, or to lie awake nights about the tyranny of government by injunction, unanimously let the tariff question alone. Here and there a few Free-Trade fanatics, who have not enough practical sense to be charged even by the Democratic party with any responsibility of management or leadership, are still trying to make points against the new tariff. But the men who do the practical work of leadership for the party, and for each of its wings and factions, show by their conduct that they are particularly anxious to have that question forgotten.

In view of events which are being recorded week by week this is not surprising. The most rapid and gratifying improvement in the state of business and industries that this country has ever seen within a time so short is not a fact to which attention can be called without reminding voters of that other fearful change which came after the inauguration in 1893. When Mr. Cleveland was inaugurated business lost more than a quarter of its volume from March to September, though in the previous year transactions in the two months had been practically of the same magnitude. But from a daily average of $142,844,000 paid through the principal clearing houses last March the payments have advanced to a daily average of $211,324,000 in September thus far, an increase of nearly one-half. It is not of the slightest use, as practical Democratic leaders know, to spend time in trying to account for such a contrast. It makes itself felt by everybody in the country, from the poorest wage-earner to the greatest capitalist, and creates a conviction which nothing can remove.

This difference of $68,500,000 in daily payments through principal clearing houses, not much less than $1 a day for every inhabitant of the country represents to a large extent money expended in providing for the future wants of consumers. Probably the actual distribution of goods to consumers has not yet increased in so great a proportion. But the fact shows that the shrewd business men in all parts of the country have found before their eyes a change in the state of industry and the condition of the people which convinces them that demands for consumption must increase much more than they have as yet. Consequently the replenishment of stocks, both retail and wholesale, has been in rapid progress for more than a month, and it will take some months more to complete that process, restoring dealers' stocks to the quantities usually carried and needed in years of prosperity. At the same time retail trade has also greatly increased in all parts of the country, and so greatly that demands for immediate delivery in most branches of business grow more urgent every day.

The main factor in this change is the larger employment of labor at better wages. The twenty million wage-earners do a great proportion of the buying, and when part of them cease to be employed and others have their wages reduced their expenditures necessarily diminish, and the volume of business is reduced a quarter, or even more. The change this year has been a steady and great increase in the number of men employed, which began even before the inauguration, but has grown more rapidly since, and still more rapidly during the last two months, since the new Tariff bill was enacted. With it there has been a considerable change in the rate of wages paid, in some branches embracing more than one hundred thousand hands as much as 20 per cent. It does not need any labored argument to prove that this change is mainly the result of return to the American policy of Protection, nor can any man fail to see that it accounts in large degree for the great increase in purchases, which has swelled the volume of transactions about one-half since last March.

TO-DAY'S ELECTION IN NEW-JERSEY.

New-Jersey is voting to-day on the question of adopting three amendments to the State Constitution. These amendments are, in brief, as follows:

Prohibiting the legalization of racetrack gambling, pool-selling, etc.

Enjoining the Governor from appointing during the legislative recess persons who had previously been nominated but not confirmed by the Senate.

Permitting women to vote at district-school meetings.

The anti-gambling amendment is the one around which most of the interest centres. If carried at to-day's election it precludes, for a decade at least, the possibility of a reopening of the racetracks in New-Jersey, as the Constitution cannot be changed oftener than once in five years, and amendments must pass two successive Legislatures before being submitted to the people. There is no doubt whatever of New-Jersey's attitude toward the gamblers, and it is safe to assert that three-fourths of the people are friendly to the amendment now before them. It is not so certain, however, that even 50 per cent of them will take the trouble to vote to-day, and therein lies the danger and uncertainty. There is no organized movement behind the amendments; there is a compact body working against them systematically and intelligently, and they have the co-operation of experienced politicians and other selfishly interested individuals and organizations. The Republican State Committee has urged all good citizens to vote solidly for the amendments, but the Democratic leaders, although committed to the anti-gambling amendment by their State Convention of 1895, are either on the fence or are openly among the opposition.

At the last general election in New-Jersey the total vote cast was 371,000. There has been no election on Constitutional amendments in New-Jersey since 1890, and at that time only 60,000 votes were cast. If the vote to-day is proportionately light all the amendments are likely to be defeated, but if the total vote approximates 200,000 it is probable that the amendments will be passed by substantial majorities.

INDUSTRIAL CHANGES IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Some instructive and suggestive facts concerning work and wages in the greatest industrial nation in the world are given in the fourth annual report of the Labor Department of the British Board of Trade. The report deals with the work of about 8,500,000 individuals during the year 1896, and pays especial attention to the rise and fall of wages and lengthening and shortening of hours of labor.

The general tendency of wages was upward. No less than 382,825 persons had their wages increased, while 167,357 had theirs decreased. There were temporary changes, up or down, in the wages of 58,072 more. The net result of all changes was an average rise of 21 cents a week all around among those affected. Of course, the rate of increase varied. In the building trades it was 50 cents a week; in the metal, engineering and shipbuilding trades, 27 cents, and among State and municipal employes, 30 cents. This rise of wages just about balanced the fall in 1895, and brought them back to where they were in 1894. But there was a heavy fall in 1894, and only a slight rise in 1893, so that on the whole wages were lower in 1896 than they were in 1892.

Turning to hours of labor, it is observed that they were changed much more in 1896 than in any preceding year. The changes affected no less than 108,271 individuals. Owing to readjustment of rules in the London building trades—in which there was the greatest rise of wages—more had their hours lengthened than shortened. But the lengthening was slight and the shortening considerable, so that the net result was a reduction of hours amounting in the aggregate to 78,583 a week, or about three-quarters of an hour a week each, on the average, among those affected.

On the whole, then, the report indicates little change in the condition of individual workingmen. There were changes in only about 607,000 cases out of 8,500,000. Such changes as there were, however, were in the direction of higher wages and shorter hours of labor—just the results so-called labor reformers profess to have in view. What is still more clearly indicated is that wages are subject to the general laws of trade. They rise and fall in accordance with the fluctuations of trade. When business is good they rise; when it is bad they fall. From that law there appears to be no escape. If there is, the industrialists of Great Britain have not yet discovered the means of effecting it.

PENNSYLVANIA'S NEW CAPITOL.

The litigation now in progress in Pennsylvania to restrain the recently created State Capitol Commission from advertising for or accepting fresh designs in lieu of those rejected by it at its stormy sitting of September 9 marks a new and interesting phase of the current struggle to raise American standards of public architecture by freeing public building enterprises from the tainted and hampering influences of politics. It was, perhaps, to be expected that a commission like that erected in Pennsylvania, governed by purely political interests and traditions, should show no serious hesitation to set aside an award made under conditions which, if they could impose no binding force in law, had at least the sanctions of equity of the common impulse to fair and honorable dealing. But that professional and public opinion should not, as in many previous instances, have contented itself with an ineffectual protest against the Commission's failure to comply with its own preannounced programme, and, instead, should have begun a battle in the courts to compel an adherence to the original terms of the contemplated competition, is as significant as it is surprising. For the popular response which has greeted the challenge thrown by the competing architects at the feet of the Capitol Commission has disclosed a genuine interest in the attempted divorce of architecture and politics, which argues most hopefully for the elevation and purification of our present public-building standards.

The tangle which has led to the application for an injunction at Harrisburg is from several points of view a knotty one. In the act passed by the Legislature creating the Capitol Commission five State officials of high rank were named for service on it. They were Governor Hastings, Auditor General Mylin, State Treasurer Haywood, State Senator McCarrell, the president pro tempore of the Senate, and Speaker Boyer, of the lower branch of the Legislature. In accordance with the terms of the Commission act, they employed the services of a committee of expert architects to pass upon the designs for a new Capitol building offered in a free-for-all competition. The committee of experts in its report rejected all but eight of the plans submitted, and recommended the Commission to select from the eight which passed muster the final plan for the Capitol. Complaint was made, however, by one of the competitors whose design had been thrown out of certain irregularities on the part of the expert examiners, and by a vote of 4 to 1 the Commission decided to reject the report of the experts and to invite a new competition on terms of its own.

Governor Hastings, after vigorously protesting against such a violation of faith with the architects who had entered the original trial, withdrew from the sitting of September 9, and the day after severed his official connection with the Commission. His course was apparently approved by public sentiment, and protests began to be heard from all quarters against the arbitrary and unreasoning policy of the four remaining Commissioners. The two chief architectural societies in Philadelphia promptly adopted resolutions declaring that in their judgment architects who should enter the second competition would be adjudged guilty of unprofessional conduct; while two former competitors from other parts of the State entered the courts to compel the Commission to withdraw its second invitation for Capitol designs. One of these appeals is to be heard within a week at Harrisburg, and public opinion in the State is looking forward with lively interest to a judicial construction of the Commission's powers, duties and responsibilities.

It has been freely contended in many representative Pennsylvania newspapers that the Commission's motives in setting aside the findings of the committee of experts were largely personal and political, and that the reopening of the competition was not intended to contribute very materially to the cause of public morals or of public art. But whether such charges can be sustained is quite beside the question. For, however justifiable in law and propriety the action of the Commission may be admitted to be, it has been accepted by public opinion as an unmistakable relapse from those creditable administrative standards which have begun to gain a foothold in American public architecture. It is gratifying to know that what seems a departure from these standards has met with so spirited a popular resistance, and it is to be hoped that the protest now making itself so vigorously felt in Pennsylvania will ultimately prove effective in freeing the construction of the new Capitol building from the taint of jobbery and politics which has clung to so many similar undertakings in that and other States.

Republican conventions used to select candidates. Now they are expected to ratify "slates."

After passing a constitutional amendment abolishing gambling within her borders, New-Jersey should turn her attention to suppressing the vandals who are gradually reducing to paving material the noble stretches of the Palisades.

If Theodore B. Willis and Walter B. Atterbury think that they can ride into the Register's and Sheriff's offices of Kings County on the car of a straight Republican municipal ticket over the political corpse of Seth Low, they are in danger of discovering that a nomination is but a vain thing with which to gather the plums of official fees.

In announcing that on his next trip to the North in 1898 he would reach the Pole or perish, Lieutenant Peary no doubt meant that he would do his best, but it was not necessary for him to shut the gate against his return in case of failure. All precedents in that line of adventure import that he will not reach the Pole. Most of them are likewise in favor of the theory that he will come back safely and immediately begin to organize another expedition.

The announcement comes from North Carolina that the authorities of that State are negotiating with a syndicate of Northern speculators for the leasing at a fixed rental of the services of the convicts now confined in the State Penitentiary or employed on the five penal farms which North Carolina owns. It is to be hoped that the negotiations will fail to reach a successful end. Even Georgia, where the leased convict system has prevailed for many years, is now preparing to escape its multiplied scandals and horrors by absolutely abandoning it. North Carolina is too progressive and intelligent a State to allow its civilization to be shamed by a resort to this discredited penal policy.

Cornell begins its thirtieth year under the happiest auspices, with a larger number of students than ever before and a record of athletic victories in the season just closed to match its intellectual and academic triumphs. It could not aspire to brighter trophies nor wear them in a more becoming manner.

The determination of John Chinaman to get into the country is in no way abated by statutory or police restrictions, and he now streams, or rather trickles, over the Mexican border, as he did till recently, and perhaps still does, over that of the Dominion. Eternal vigilance, the price of liberty, is also the price of fencing out the superfluous pigtail, whose intrusive capabilities match those of the housefly or the August mosquito. So far his army of invasion from either side is not overwhelming, but its advance is extremely persistent, showing an attachment to our style of government which is complimentary to us, but which we would willingly forego. Until we are ready to admit John Chinaman by way of the front door we must not pretend to approve his crawling in through our exposed frontier cat holes.

Belgium requires that Americans residing there shall be enrolled in the Civic Guard and do military duty in case of emergency. Some of our compatriots domiciled there are opposed to this regulation, and have called a meeting to protest against it. There is nothing particularly onerous in the service. Enrolment in it is rather considered a guarantee of longevity and a protection against physical injuries. Still, the complaint of our expatriated brethren will no doubt be heard and heeded.

PERSONAL.

Bishop Paret (Episcopal), of Baltimore, who was seventy-one years of age last week, is a native of this city and a graduate of Hobart College.

Dr. Marpilero, an eminent Italian scientist, who has for a number of years been making experiments and observations relating to children's ideas of life and death, has published his experiences. He found that in answering questions about life the poorer children almost invariably took a brighter view than the children of the rich.

Senator William B. Allison, of Iowa, will be the principal speaker at the great Republican meeting to be held in Cleveland on October 16.

Rear-Admiral Kelly, Commander-in-Chief of the National Association of Naval Veterans, made an official visit to the Farragut Association of Philadelphia on Saturday, and delivered an address.

E. Ruggles-Brice, Director of Convict Prisons, of Great Britain, is shortly to visit this country to study American penal establishments. He succeeded Sir Edmund F. Du Cane, and in the control of the prisons represents the Home Office.

Vice-President E. W. Blatchford of the American Board of Foreign Missions announces that he will decline a re-election as vice-president at the approaching meeting of the Board in New-Haven, October 12 to 15, his intention having been communicated to the Prudential Committee some months ago. His reasons are similar to those of the Rev. Dr. Richard S. Storrs, of Brooklyn, in declining the presidency. He states that he has retained the vice-presidency at the urgent request of Dr. Storrs. He wishes to give the Board freedom in the distribution of the two offices between the East and the West, and a preliminary opportunity to canvass names for both offices. Mr. Blatchford resided in Chicago.

The Vienna "Neue Freie Presse" tells this curious story: "In accordance with the police regulations it was necessary for every official of the Statistical Congress, recently held in Moscow, to fill up a form giving particulars of himself and family. The president was the Czar, and to him two of the forms were sent. They were returned filled up as follows: 'Name, Nicolas Romanoff; ordinary occupation, Emperor of all the Russias and Sovereign of the Russian territories; secondary occupation (if any), landowner and agriculturist.' The second form, also in the handwriting of the Czar, was as follows: 'Name, Maria Feodorovitch; ordinary occupation, Empress of all the Russias and Sovereign of Russian territories; secondary occupation (if any), president of all societies and associations for female progress in Russia.'"

WOODFORD SEES AZCARRAGA.

THE AMERICAN MINISTER CALLS ON THE SPANISH PREMIER.

A VISIT OF COURTESY—CONCILIATORY SENTIMENTS ACCREDITED TO GENERAL WOODFORD.

Madrid, Sept. 27.—The United States Minister, General Stewart L. Woodford, paid a visit of courtesy this morning to the Spanish Premier, General Azcarraga.

General Woodford told the Premier that he had not visited him yesterday because it was Sunday. He expressed his firm intention to work unceasingly to promote good relations between the United States and Spain.

General Azcarraga uttered similar sentiments in reply. Before going away, General Woodford said he had been greatly touched by the sympathetic welcome given him by the Queen Regent. Then, accompanied by his secretary, he paid a formal visit to the Marquis de Amposta, Under-Secretary of State.

Several of the newspapers of this city allege that General Woodford has said, in interviews with their representatives, that the negotiations between the United States and Spain on the subject of Cuba have not begun, and that he (General Woodford) has only had a preliminary chat with the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs. The General is quoted as having added that he found the Duke of Tetuan to be a most amiable and able man, and that no ultimatum to Spain was delivered, as that country would not put up with it, and because the intention of the United States was only to offer its good offices in the most friendly terms.

Secretary Sherman, still according to the interviews in the Spanish newspapers, desires a prompt solution of the Cuban question by November at the latest, as he fears the "Jingoes" will make themselves heard on the reassembling of Congress.

Finally, it is alleged that General Woodford has said that in the event of complete accord being established between Spain and the United States the latter will take measures to suppress filibustering.

Havana, Sept. 27.—The Madrid correspondent of "La Lucha" cables his paper that he has had an interview with the United States Minister as to the Cuban situation, and that General Woodford described his mission in Spain as "wholly friendly" and for the purpose of offering "the good offices of the United States to re-establish a lasting peace in Cuba."

SPANISH SHIPS FOR CUBAN WATERS.

WARLIKE NEWS FROM MADRID THAT COMES, AS USUAL, BY WAY OF BERLIN.

Berlin, Sept. 27.—A dispatch to the "Frankfurter Zeitung" from Madrid asserts that a powerful Spanish squadron will immediately proceed to Cuba on the pretext of attending the installation of the new floating dock at Havana, but really as an answer to the dispatch of the American flotilla to Florida waters.

WOODFORD'S INSTRUCTIONS WITHHELD.

THE PRESIDENT DECIDES NOT TO MAKE THEM PUBLIC AT PRESENT.

Washington, Sept. 27.—The Administration has had under consideration for some time the propriety of making public the text of the letter presented to the Duke of Tetuan, the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, by Minister Woodford, in which this Government's views on the Cuban situation were outlined. It was purposed to do this because of the incorrect and sensational reports which have been circulated concerning Minister Woodford's representations to the Spanish authorities. It has been deemed advisable by the President, however, to withhold the letter from the public for the present. It is supposed that Mr. McKinley may have been induced to make this decision by the wishes of the Spanish Government.

ANARCHISTS ARRESTED IN MADRID.

A PLOT DISCOVERED AND A NUMBER OF BOMBS SEIZED.

Madrid, Sept. 27.—In consequence of revelations as to an Anarchist plot, the police arrested six Anarchists to-day. A number of bombs have been seized.

KAISER CONGRATULATES BISMARCK.

EXCHANGE OF TELEGRAMS OVER THE LAUNCHING OF THE NEW GERMAN CRUISER.

Berlin, Sept. 27.—The "Hamburger Nachrichten" to-day announced that Emperor William of Germany telegraphed his congratulations to Prince Bismarck upon the occasion of the launching of the new German armored cruiser Fürst Bismarck at Kiel on Saturday last. The dispatch was as follows:

From my heart I congratulate Your Serene Highness upon the launch of the armored cruiser Fürst Bismarck, and I rejoice at knowing that the name of Your Serene Highness is in the closest connection with my fleet for all time. You will be all the more proud of us since this is the first great armored cruiser built in our country. Admiral von Tirpitz, by my orders, will transmit a model of her to Your Highness.

Prince Bismarck replied:

Your Majesty: I most humbly beg your gracious acceptance of my very respectful thanks for the distinction conferred upon me in christening the cruiser, and at the same time my very respectful thanks for Your Majesty's telegram, whereby the honor bestowed by my name in Your Majesty's fleet is greatly enhanced.

According to the Berlin correspondent of "The London Times," Admiral von Tirpitz, Secretary of the Navy, accompanied Countess Wilhelm von Bismarck and the other members of Prince Bismarck's family who were present at Kiel on Saturday at the launch of the Fürst Bismarck, to Friedrichsruhe, where they were the guests of Prince Bismarck at dinner. The former Chancellor is described as having been in excellent health and spirits, and as having conversed with great animation with Admiral von Tirpitz, who sat opposite to him. The Admiral brought with him as a present to his host the model of the Fürst Bismarck referred to in the dispatch from Berlin. This model is twelve feet long, and Prince Bismarck, after inspecting it with interest, assigned it to a place of honor in his study. "The Times's" Berlin correspondent added:

"Great efforts are evidently making to win Prince Bismarck and his family to an interest in behalf of the Navy, since it is also stated that Admiral von Tirpitz visited Count Herbert von Bismarck at Schoenhausen last week."

RAZED THE REBEL VILLAGES.

INSURGENT TRIBES ON THE AFGHAN FRONTIER RECEIVING PUNISHMENT.

Simla, Sept. 27.—General Westmacott attacked the Kudakhel tribes, who had refused to submit. After driving them out of all their positions, he razed their villages and towers, and thus forced them to withdraw. The British, having now sufficiently punished the Upper Mohmands, the expedition will begin the retirement from their country to-morrow.

CROPS SUFFER IN ARGENTINA.

London, Sept. 28.—A dispatch to "The Times" from Buenos Ayres says that during the last week or so the crops have suffered more from drouth and severe frosts than from locusts.

GREECE TO CONSIDER THE TREATY.

Athens, Sept. 27.—The Russian Minister to-day communicated to M. Skouloudis, Minister of Foreign Affairs, the text of the peace treaty, accompanied by a note stating that the Sultan considers that the object of the mediation of the Powers has been attained, and requests the Greek Government to appoint plenipotentiaries to negotiate a definite treaty, the Powers undertaking to offer mediation in case difficulties arise. The Boule will meet on Thursday to consider the treaty.

THOUSANDS OF BLOOMS EXHIBITED.

The flower show in connection with the American Institute Fair in Madison Square Garden was opened yesterday. Thousands of beautiful blooms were on exhibition in the Garden, and made an attractive scene. The majority of the exhibits were dahlias, of which there were said to be over five hundred varieties. The flower show is under the management of Mr. and Mrs. James Withers.

THE DRAMA.

"THE LITTLE MINISTER."

When the task was set before Mr. Barrie of making a play out of his novel, "The Little Minister," he found himself under the necessity of doing it as the Irishman played the fiddle—by main strength. The novel had enough in it that was dramatic in its own way, and it had more than enough that was charming and picturesque and novel and original, but its most important scenes were not easy to place on the stage. To make a play out of the book as it stood would have required a prohibitive number of incidents and impossible scenery. Wagner might have evolved something that would approximately represent the scene of the flood and the tiny, crumbling island in the midst of it, with the two men waiting for life or death, and the little minister speaking to his congregation above the noise of the storm and sustaining them in the supreme moment of his own life, but such a scene was not within the range of the possibilities of a play such as Mr. Barrie could hope to make.

No one could complain of the necessity which compelled the omission of this incident, but it was a pity to lose the beautiful scene in which the soft old elder with the hard outside crust, Thomas Whamond, tries and utterly fails to tell the little minister's mother that her son is disgraced forever. But Mr. Barrie, in making his play, saw fit to sacrifice this too, and Margaret is not even seen in the course of it. Indeed, he had to change everything so much, after he reached the middle of the drama, that it is hardly worth while to try to connect the two works. One little bit of the book he extracted and made much of. This was the Scotch marriage of Gavin Dishart and Babbie, when she told the soldiers that she was his wife and he did not deny it. In the book this is barely touched upon and then left behind, but in the play it leads to the best two situations. In the book it was Babbie and Babbie alone who noticed and recognized the validity of that Scotch marriage, yet, after she had done so, she gave her consent to another marriage with another man. In the play Babbie does not know that she is really married to Gavin till she is told of it, and then she learns it as the tidings of her salvation and her happiness. Surely, this at least is an improvement on the book.

As a dramatic work "The Little Minister" is superior to the writer's previous effort for the stage, "The Professor's Love Story," but it lacks the more delicate beauties of that pretty grouping of incidents, and it bears somewhat the same relation to the novel which is its own original. It has less of the lives and the thoughts of the people whom it describes, and it shows less plainly that it was made by a workman who loved his work than does the book or the older play. All this is not to say that "The Little Minister" is not a good or an effective play. It has, indeed, a good story, if it is not quite the story of the book; it is clean, bright and wholesome; it is written with the touch of a hand having command of its resources; and it will probably please the successive audiences that view it.

The fact that it pleased the audience that saw it last night at the Empire Theatre has nothing to do with the question, because the audience of last night obviously gathered with the determination to be pleased or to die in the attempt. The task, to be sure, was not a hard one, and therein the audience was fortunate. This rigid determination was on behalf of Miss Maude Adams, who appeared for the first time in New-York as the head of her own company. If Miss Adams had made an historical failure, she might still have gone home last night with the assurance that she had at least enough friends to fill a theatre. As it was, she was able to retire from their sight, when at last they permitted her to do so, with the knowledge that they were her friends, and also that she had pleased them genuinely and legitimately. Miss Adams will be a better Babbie a week hence than she was last night. She was clearly nervous, and the customary effects of nervousness, exaggeration and loss of balance, were now and then to be seen. Her sudden alternations of seriousness and gayety will gain in ease and effect. That Miss Adams knows what should be done in such places no one doubts, and when she is once saved from her friends she will do it. Her prettiest scene was in the last act, where she stood beside her father and played her part in the scene of the disclosure that she was already Gavin's wife. This she did most daintily, and with complete genuineness of feeling.

As is likely to be the case with a writer who is more than a hack workman, and who is above the mere knocking together of a play for the display of a star and for the sacrifice of everybody else, Mr. Barrie has given some of the best bits of his dialogue and his character drawing to some of the minor persons of the story. A most excellent piece of acting was done by William T. Thompson, as Thomas Whamond. His dialect, a commodity wherewith the play is rather over than under stocked, appeared to proceed from within him, and not to be an acquisition from without, as was the case with some of the others who were required to attempt the speech of Thrums. F. Payton Cooper, as another of the elders, was also amusing. Rob Dow was a vigorous and imposing personage in the hands of George Fawcett, and his boy Micah was played most delightfully by Miss Jessie Mackey.

The Gavin Dishart of Robert Edeson was not the little minister of the book, nor was he an adequate little minister for the play. Gavin was a man of reserve. He seldom showed all the force that he had. Mr. Edeson always showed every bit that he had, and he was explosive where he should have been self-contained. Violence is not strength, and it is not a substitute for it. Such a Gavin might conceivably have won Babbie, if no better man came in his way, but he could never have converted Rob Dow.

The full cast of the play is here given:

Gavin Dishart	Robert Edeson
Lord Rintoul	Eugene Jepson
Captain Halliwell	Guy Standing
Lady Babbie, Lord Rintoul's daughter	Maude Adams
Felice, her maid	Margaret Gordon
Twaits, butler	Frederick Spencer
Thomas Whamond, chief elder	William H. Thompson
Rob Dow	George Fawcett
Micah Dow	Jessie Mackey
Snecky Hobart, Andrew Malmaker, Silva Toch, elders	Wallace Jackson, F. Payton Cooper, Norman Campbell
Sergent Davidson	Wilfred Buckland
Joe Cruickshanks, atheist	Thomas Valentine
Nannie Webster	Kate Tea Eyck
Jean, manse servant	Neil Stone Fulton

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