Amusements

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—8:15—Sporting Life.
AMERICAN THEATRE—8:15—Chimes of Normandy.
BIJOU THEATRE—8:15—Kate Kip, Buyer.
BROADWAY THEATRE—8:15—The Jolly Musketeer.
CASINO—8—A Dangerous Maid.
DALY'S THEATRE—8:10—Merchant of Venice.
EDEN MUSEE—Wax Works, Grand Concert and Cinematograph.
EMPIRE THEATRE—8:20—The Liars.
FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE—8:10—A Runaway Girl.
FOURTEENTH STREET THEATRE—8—The Village Postmaster.
GARDEN THEATRE—7:45—Cyrano de Bergerac.
GARRICK THEATRE—8:15—Catherine.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE—8—In Old Kentucky.
HARLEM OPERA HOUSE—8:20—The Old Homestead.
HERALD SQUARE THEATRE—8:15—Hotel Topsy Turvy.
IRVING PLACE THEATRE—8—Im Weissen Rossl.
KEITH'S—9:30 to 11 p. m.—Continuous Performance.
KNICKERBOCKER THEATRE—8:15—Worth a Million.
KOSTER & BIALS—8—Vaudeville.
LYCEUM THEATRE—2—8—Trelawny of the Wells.
MADISON SQUARE THEATRE—8:30—On and Off.
MURRAY HILL THEATRE—2—8:15—The Silver King.
NATIONAL ACADEMY OF DESIGN—Exhibition of Oil Paintings.
PASTOR'S—12 to 11 p. m.—Vaudeville.
SAM T. JACK'S THEATRE—2—8—Vaudeville.
WALLACK'S THEATRE—8:15—Ingomar.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1898.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—The impression is growing in Paris that the Spanish Commissioners will sign the peace treaty. ==== A dispatch from Manila, received in Madrid, says American reinforcements numbering four thousand men have been landed at Manila. ==== An umbrella-maker of Oldenburg, Germany, has been sentenced to three years in prison for saying he had been chosen by lot to assassinate Emperor William. ==== Italy has sent an ultimatum to the Sultan of Morocco on the ill-treatment of Italian protégés. ==== Orders have been given to British firms to build six new steamers for the American Line. ==== The steamer Southern Cross, with the Borchgrevinck Antarctic Expedition on board, was spoken in the South Pacific on November 21, all well, by a steamer which arrived at Hobart Town, Tasmania. ==== Theodore Sedgwick Fay, formerly American Minister to Switzerland, and an author, died in Berlin. ==== Thanksgiving Day banquets were held by the American colonies in London, Berlin, Paris and other foreign cities. ==== Details of the evacuation of Pinar del Rio, Cuba, are all arranged; ten thousand Spanish troops will sail on transports by December 5 for Spain. ==== The Emperor and Empress of Germany passed through Munich on their journey to Berlin.

DOMESTIC.—The annual reports of the Secretary of the Interior, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, the Director of the Mint and the First Assistant Postmaster-General were made public. ==== The steamers Tampa and Arthur Orr were driven ashore and wrecked in the blizzard on Lake Superior. ==== The report of ex-Judge Edwin Countryman on the testimony taken by the Canal Investigating Commission is expected soon. ==== Turkey dinners were served to the volunteer soldiers in Southern camps, and drills were suspended. ==== The University of Pennsylvania defeated Cornell at football, 12 to 6, on Franklin Field.

CITY.—Thousands of dinners were enjoyed by inmates of prisons, hospitals, orphan asylums and by homeless men and women. ==== The Thanksgiving Day sermons dealt principally with the question of National expansion in relation to the Philippines. ==== The 1st Volunteer Engineers arrived from Porto Rico on the transport Minnewaska. ==== The first local snowstorm of the season raged in the afternoon and evening. ==== Many awards were made at the Dog Show. ==== The cross-country championships of the Amateur Athletic Union were run at Morris Park; A. L. Wright, of the New-York Athletic Club, was the winner, with J. Bray, of the same organization, second. ==== The Orange Athletic Club football team defeated that of the Riverside Athletic Club at the Madison Square Garden; score, 7 to 0. ==== The New-York team defeated the Bridgeport team at polo on roller skates at the Grand Central Palace.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Clear and colder. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 40 degrees; lowest, 33; average, 36.

THE GOVERNMENT OF HAWAII.

The forecast now made of the report of the Hawaiian Commission differs little from that made many weeks ago. There is no occasion for the Commissioners to propose any startling novelty or "new departure," and they apparently do not mean to do so. The problems of government in Hawaii are not new. They are precisely the same that have been met and solved again and again in the history of the Republic. The islands are no more alien, in population, customs or otherwise, and are no more remote from the centre of government than other lands which we have hitherto acquired. Accordingly, the same familiar principles are to be applied to the government and administration of them which were sanctioned by the Constitution and have been in actual use and practice ever since the Republic was established.

The islands are to be organized into a Territory. That is the fundamental feature of the scheme. There will be a Governor and a Legislature chosen by the people of the islands. The powers and functions of these officers will be substantially the same as those of like officers in hitherto existing Territories, and the suffrage laws will be similar to those of the various members of this Union. It is also proposed that there shall be a Delegate in Congress, of the propriety or desirability of which there is room for doubt. But, with or without such Delegate, there will be no more "barbarian participation in the National Government than there now is in the case of Arizona and New-Mexico. There will be no more "taxation without representation" than thirty and more of our States have suffered. There will be no more disfranchisement of the people than there is in Massachusetts and South Carolina.

The fact is conspicuously emphasized, however, that it is as a Territory and not as a State that Hawaii is to be organized. That is to be clearly understood, and it is to be assumed that it is to be regarded as a permanent principle. It is on that ground that the propriety of having an Hawaiian Delegate in Congress may be questioned. The people of this Nation did not desire the annexation of Hawaii as a State. They do not now desire it. The time when they will desire it, or consent to it, if it shall ever come, is yet too remote for other than purely academic speculation. Nor is there in this arrangement any unjust discrimination or any deviation from the long-established policy of the Nation. We have hitherto held land for more than fourscore years before admitting it to Statehood. We are now holding Territories which we have held for half a century without admitting them to Statehood. From fifty to eighty years hence it may be time to begin to think of Statehood for Hawaii.

It is to be observed with satisfaction that the Commission will probably report in favor of the abolition of the coolie contract-labor system. That will do away with the reproach of semi-slavery and the bugaboo of "cheap labor," and will make the Hawaiian industrial system substantially uniform with that of the United States. It will not, the Commission believes, interfere with the industrial development of the islands. It is entirely reasonable to expect that American and European settlers will be able to engage in manual labor there. Why not? They have done so with great success in hotter climates. There is much nonsense talked and written about the impossibility of white colonization of the tropics. Plenty of tropical countries have been colonized by white Europeans, and are to-day. As for Hawaii, while it lies chiefly within the tropics, it has a temperate climate. The temperature of Honolulu averages a little higher than that of New-Orleans, but is far more equable; and the summer heat in the former city is not as great nor as oppressive as in the latter.

The Commission appears, then, to be, in the main, simply applying the principles of the Constitution and of practical common-sense to the solution of the "Hawaiian problem," and we doubt not that the results will be entirely satisfactory. A year ago the welkin was rent with wild talk about war with Japan and war with Great Britain as an inevitable sequence of annexation. How ridiculous it all seems now! So ridiculous will seem, one of these days, all the lurid prophecies of trouble that have been made, and Hawaii will be confirmed in its place among our territorial possessions without the slightest hitch or jar to our republican institutions.

GENERAL ROE AND THE GUARD.

The announcement that Major-General Roe is to be made and held responsible for the reorganization and rehabilitation of the National Guard of New-York must gratify all who take an intelligent interest in the military establishment. The Governor will, of course, retain the title and authority of Commander-in-Chief, and no doubt will not only exercise his influence but assert his supremacy if the necessity arises; but the understanding is that General Roe will be in practical command, with abundant opportunity to demonstrate the qualifications which he is credited with possessing in a high degree. Nor is there any sufficient reason to fear that he will prove inadequate to a task of which he certainly realizes the magnitude and importance. He has had careful training and long experience, he is diligent and conscientious, and if there is any foundation for the criticism that there is a slight excess of caution and method in his disposition, association with Colonel Roosevelt may be expected to correct that tendency.

Of one thing General Roe and all who are called to co-operate with him may rest assured, namely, that the people of New-York will heartily welcome and support a pretty radical transformation of the National Guard. The fact is well recognized that it has heretofore manifested too low a conception of the obligations which at all times rest upon it. This has been due in large measure to an exceedingly faulty organization, but in large measure also to the serious deficiencies of individuals who have been intrusted with large responsibilities. In spite of the generally high spirit which the sudden demands of the war developed, the military operations of the last summer have made the inevitable consequences of former neglect and misdirection conspicuous. If the lesson has been thoroughly learned, large compensation for recent disappointments will be found in the establishment and maintenance of vastly better conditions. To such a process the new code, though perhaps in need of particular amendments, is believed to be in general well adapted, and the military authorities anticipate little difficulty in securing such modifications as will make it wholly applicable to the purposes it was honestly designed to promote.

The people of New-York have been extremely liberal in their treatment of the National Guard, and, having long taken pride in believing that it was thoroughly efficient and faithful, they were correspondingly displeased by accumulating evidences that it had fallen into a state of demoralization. Whatever some vain or trifling individuals who have been hoisted into places of authority may think, the people do not look upon the military establishment as a luxury to be supplied for the pleasure of its members, but as a reasonable and necessary provision for the general tranquillity in time of peace and the general defence in time of war. Conceived in any other way and maintained on any other basis it has no warrant to exist at all. Its reason for being is the service of the State. Of course, the fact has always been not merely conceded but proclaimed, but the practice has too generally borne little resemblance to the proclamation. It will be the duty, and, if he is the man he is believed to be, the privilege and distinction of General Roe to introduce a new order of things and make the National Guard of New-York a model for the citizen soldiers of every other State.

THE SAN FRANCISCO FIRE.

The most obvious lesson of the Baldwin Hotel fire is the folly and wickedness of sham building. This great six-story structure was made to resemble an edifice of the most substantial and permanent character, but was in reality a mass of wood and gilding. Its size and magnificence gave its owner and the rest of San Francisco much pride. It was pointed to as an example of the greatness of the city, particularly in the days when it was new, and when few towns had anything that equalled it in appearance. But it was all a sham, and as a result it is now in ruins with the charred bodies of some of its own guests among its timbers. Not that the sham was of the nature of a deception as to the fireproof qualities of the hotel. It made no pretence to being fireproof or even slow burning. It was frankly recognized by everybody as a firetrap. It was a big house of cards, and its patrons accepted it as a house of cards, and preferred a vast and imposing card pile to a more modest structure of less dangerous materials.

This sort of honest sham building is particularly common in new cities, and hotel men are among the worst offenders. The instant a man attempts to build a hotel in a place where the great expense of fireproof construction is not warranted his temptation is to put up a great building of many stories to create a metropolitan impression, and the result is almost invariably a firetrap. He thinks that if he should frankly adapt his plans to his materials he would rob his house of half his glory. Even the builder of a country hotel who has all the land he can possibly need prefers to erect three and four story piles of pine boards to getting the same amount of room out of a two-story building with larger ground space. A low building would be safer and more appropriate, but it would not be sufficiently indicative of city improvements. In San Francisco another reason led to much imitation of stone in wood. When the Baldwin and many of the great private houses were built, in the seventies, high brick buildings were not considered safe because of earthquakes. Consequently persons with ambitions in the direction of monumental structures adopted wood as their building material. Since that time the invention of steel construction, which gives a structure a frame as of a bridge able to stand shaking, has led to the erection of great blocks in San Francisco of a thoroughly safe and substantial character. The mistake of the earlier builders was their unwillingness to follow the Spanish custom and adapt their houses to the natural conditions and climate. Great low buildings would have been more comfortable for house or hotel than wooden skyscrapers, but ambition for imitation Parisian palaces carried the day. Baldwin's was one of these, and it has paid the penalty for its shamming.

One defence of high buildings that are not fireproof sometimes made is that land in towns is too valuable to be wasted on low structures. But this is hardly a good defence, for if natural conditions such as earthquakes do not warrant a really substantial building of materials corresponding to appearance, then the true value of the land cannot be such as to call for the size of building put on it. A value created by sham buildings is fictitious, and an owner has no right to complain when the law compels him to make the materials of his building suitable to its size.

DEVERY'S CONFESSION.

Captain Chapman, who is far famed as a police reformer, has been sent to the Eldridge-st. station by Chief Devery and the Police Commissioners for the purpose of making war on the illegally and indecently conducted cafés and the disorderly persons of the precinct. The Commissioners and the Chief, it is announced, are determined to purify that neighborhood, and the police court yesterday morning showed that they had made a proper selection of the new broom, for it swept a collection before the Magistrate such as had not been gathered in the Eldridge-st. precinct for a long while before.

This purification of Eldridge-st. is excellent in its way. At the same time it is somewhat puzzling. Purification implies something to be purified. A police crusade implies vice that the police can stamp out. If Chapman is to clean out the precinct, then the precinct must need cleaning out. If Chapman could in one night, the first of his incumbency, pick up a score of disorderly persons in the streets, there must have been a score of disorderly persons whom other police officers had neglected to deal with. It is all very well for Chapman to clean up the East Side, but in view of his cleaning what becomes of Mr. Devery's solemn assertions that the East Side was clean, and the Police Board's solemn pretence of believing that Devery told them the truth when he said the town was not wide open? When Frank Moss and Franklin Mathews told about the condition of the East Side last month Devery denied the truth of their statements. Now by his acts he confesses that they were right. He declared that the city was as pure as could be, and that whatever vice existed was in spite of great police diligence. Now he sends a new man with orders to enforce the law, and in one night that man so enforces it as to show that it was not enforced before at all.

What excuse has Devery for saying that the law was enforced? He cannot plead ignorance. He took upon himself the responsibility of denouncing Mr. Mathews as a slanderer of the police. He vouched for the East Side not being open and pretended to have certain knowledge. Now he shows that he spoke falsely when he said it was not open, by beginning to close up. Chapman's night's work in Eldridge-st. is Devery's confession. It shows the existence of a condition which Devery said did not exist. It shows a possibility of suppressing crimes which Devery said could not be suppressed. Every arrest which Chapman makes accuses Devery of falsehood.

THE SOUTH AND NEGRO SUFFRAGE.

The Southern view of negro suffrage is strongly emphasized in certain comments recently made by leading Southern men on the political disorders which culminated early this month in the overthrow of the legally established city government of Wilmington, N. C. As was perhaps to be expected, the suppression by mob violence of a municipal administration, based on the will of a declared majority, meets no serious censure either as an invasion of the rights of the dispossessed officials or as an affront to public order. Opinion in the South seems to be unanimous in sustaining the resort to force by which black rule, so-called, was overthrown in Wilmington, and there is no Southern statesman bold enough, apparently, to admit that in a similar contingency his respect for the fundamental law of the Republic—that the will of the majority shall control in government—would be proof against the current sentiment which demands exclusive white supremacy in politics at the sacrifice of any and all the written guarantees of statutes and Constitution.

Carried to their logical conclusion, agitations like that which upset the local government of Wilmington aim at the complete exclusion of the negro from all share in the activities of political life. North Carolina is not a negro State. Its white population far outnumbers its black population, and its white voters cast from three-fifths to two-thirds of the suffrage in every election, State or Presidential. Actual negro domination in State affairs is plainly impossible. The real animus of the Wilmington motive is, therefore, to be found in a desire to crush that union of a considerable fraction of the white voters with the blacks which has carried a certain number of negroes into posts of minor emolument and authority. If the North Carolina outbreak, and the manner in which it has been received, mean anything, they mean that opinion in the South has reached that point at which it contemplates the elimination of the negro as a voter and office-holder as one of the fixed necessities of further political and social progress. The determination of the South to rid itself of negro suffrage and all that it involves is, indeed, written large in every direction. In States like South Carolina and Mississippi negro voters have been disfranchised under legal forms. In States like Virginia, Alabama and Louisiana the right of the blacks to suffrage is nullified by partisan control of the machinery of elections. Now, in North Carolina, violence is appealed to to undo the results of two or three years of a fair ballot and an honest count, and when Southern opinion is consulted as to the possible remedies for existing election frauds and disorders the only solutions offered are absolute non-interference with present conditions, or a wholesale deportation of the Southern blacks "as a duty to the race and for the sake of humanity."

That the people of the South are sincere in their view that the suppression of negro suffrage, in whole or in part, is the one requisite of political safety need not be doubted. There are even negro leaders of distinction and eminence, like Professor Booker T. Washington, who seem to admit that the negro race's sole hope of progress lies in an abandonment of politics and a concentration of all its energies on the work of industrial education and advancement. To earn his title to the suffrage the negro should, in this view, establish, first, his worth as an artisan and a citizen; and his place once won in the world of industry, his resumption of political activities might be accomplished without friction or prejudice. Till then, however, in Southern eyes, the negro is to be judged a political zero; in the words of no less distinguished a Southerner than Senator Morgan, he cannot at present "be admitted to the family circle "of the white race or to domination in govern-"ment, whatever voting strength he may pos-"sess in any locality."

One curious test has yet to be applied to the sincerity of the average Southerner's belief that the suppression of negro suffrage is one of the crying needs of the present day. According to the second section of the XIVth Amendment to the Constitution, when a State denies, except for crime, to any of its male inhabitants, twenty-one years of age and citizens of the United States, the right to vote at any general election, the basis of that State's representation in the lower branch of Congress shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of citizens disfranchised bears to the whole number of male citizens. When will some Southern statesman have the candor and courage to introduce and advocate in Congress legislation diminishing representation in the House from those States in which the exercise of suffrage by negro voters has been reduced to the merest legal fiction? If the exclusion of the black man from all political privileges is the one imperative demand of Southern civilization, would it not be worth the sacrifice of that share of the South's power in the popular branch of Congress which is now based admittedly on suppressed votes? Were Southern Representatives and Senators to unite in support of a measure so logically deducible from their own views and purposes, the public at large might put a more implicit faith in their programme of restricted negro suffrage "for the sake of humanity and as a duty to the negro race."

COMPANY AND EMPLOYES.

One of the legal spokesmen for the Metropolitan Traction Company has recently explained in considerable detail the system which the company has adopted for the training of its employes and the treatment of complaints brought against them. He explains how motormen and conductors are taken on probation, drilled to perform their duties, kept under constant observation and made the subjects of a careful and explicit record. In pursuance of this system the company has made large progress in the creation of a permanent service, 3,200 of the 7,700 men employed as conductors, motormen and gripmen having been with it for more than three years, whereas 96 per cent of them formerly held their places for less than a year. Assurance is furthermore given that every complaint is treated as a serious matter and investigated with scrupulous care.

We have no reason to doubt the truth of these statements, which, so far as they relate to the investigation of complaints, correspond to what we have observed and heard. At the same time we are not prepared to admit that the just causes for complaint are diminishing. On the contrary, it seems to us that the sufferings of passengers on the lines of the Metropolitan Traction Company are more and more the subject of public and private comment. It is one of the commonest things to hear a person say that he, or more probably she, never gets into a streetcar except under actual necessity, preferring to walk even a long distance rather than encounter the annoyances and dangers its use involves. It must be acknowledged that this is not certainly and altogether the fault of the company or its servants. The increased speed of the cars, the growth of population and the exigent temper of the people have brought about conditions from which it would be impossible wholly to escape without going back to a period upon which the present is no doubt generally considered a great improvement. It may be impossible to avoid overcrowding in a city shaped like New-York and inhabited by people who would generally resent and endeavor to thwart a regulation requiring them to wait when they wanted to be moving. There may also be a disposition to ask too much in some ways of street railroad employes whose manners have not been assiduously cultivated from childhood and a large part of whose work is necessarily done under exceedingly trying conditions. But there is one constant and we think growing abuse which could be and ought to be corrected. It has lately been strikingly exemplified in the case of M. Tissot, and our opinion is that the company has power to reduce it to far smaller dimensions if not virtually to abolish it.

We refer to the fact that it is the general practice of conductors and motormen to avoid bringing their cars to a full stop when a man signifies his intention to get on. For a woman they naturally do stop, if they pay any attention to her signals. So much they have to concede to her sex—its physical inequality, its raiment and its traditional prerogative. But our observation and all the information we receive lead us to believe that in nine cases out of ten a man, in order to get aboard a car of the Metropolitan Traction Company, must get aboard while it is in motion, though an occasional chance to accept the alternative of chasing it for half a block is offered. A striking illustration of the truth of this accusation is found in the statement now constantly made that the present excavations along lines on which the motive power is being changed are a real convenience, since they practically compel a full stop at crossings. Are the company's employes chiefly to blame for this outrage? We doubt it. There is reason to believe that the penalty of not keeping up to their schedule is the principal reason for their conduct. It is impossible to suppose that the company is helpless to change what has indisputably become a feature of its service.

The Spanish Government has been respectfully informed that next Monday means next Monday and not manana.

The shade of Christopher Columbus, in the Elysian Fields, must smile with amusement to see his countrymen of to-day carrying his brother's dust to and fro upon the earth under the pious fiction that it is his, while his own rests undisturbed by the side of the rusting fetters he once wore.

Two car-tracks are enough for any street, and are all that should be tolerated.

The latest fictum of the "Christian Scientists" is that if a man comes under their ministrations after being under the care of a physician, and then dies, it is not their fault, but the physician's. If there were no physician, the blame would probably be thrown back upon the nurse who cared for him in infancy.

If the Joint High Commission shall indeed settle the Behring Sea dispute it will make this a memorable year.

The returns in the XXXIId Congress District show that Congressman Mahany, though beaten, made an excellent run, and is exceedingly strong in his district. Van Wyck carried it by 6,714 plurality, while Mr. Mahany lost it by only 637 votes, thus running 6,077 ahead of his ticket. In 1896 the Democratic candidate for Governor carried the district by 2,308, while Mr. Mahany carried it by 3,858, running ahead of Governor Black 6,166 votes. There is no dishonor in defeat after two such runs as that.

PERSONAL.

The youngest chaplain in the Navy is said to be the Rev. Frederick C. Brown, twenty-five years old, now on the Iowa, which is on her way to Manila. He will be the only chaplain in the fleet, since there is none on the Oregon. He was appointed to the service last April, being at that time pastor of the Unitarian church of Middleboro, Mass.

Mr. Turgeon, the Provincial Commissioner of Colonization in Canada, intends soon to visit the New-England States, to deliver addresses on the advantages and resources of the province of Quebec, in the principal French-Canadian centres, with a view to the repatriation of his fellow-countrymen there.

James R. Richardson, who died recently on one of his plantations in Mississippi, was not only the largest individual grower of cotton in the world, but also the owner of one of the best-appointed plantations in the country. There is in operation on one of his places in Mississippi a complete railroad, devoted exclusively to the service of the plantation. He employed several thousand hands upon his various places, which are located in Mississippi, Arkansas and Louisiana.

Lieutenant-Colonel F. W. Kitchener, a brother of the Sirdar, who has been appointed Governor of Khartoum, served in the Afghan war of 1878-'80 as transport officer to the Cabul field force, and was present in the advance on Cabul under General Roberts. He also served with the Dongola expedition, under Sir Herbert Kitchener, in 1896, as director of transport, including the engagement at Firket and the operations at Hafir.

Mrs. Sarah Terry, of Philadelphia, has just celebrated her 108th birthday by joining the Daughters of the Revolution. "Not very many years ago," she says, "when I was a good, large girl, there was an Indian camp where the City Hall now is. On Sunday my father used to hitch up the horses and we would drive out there and talk to them; but the Indians are gone now, and the town has grown. Never will I forget when my father joined the Army under Washington, and how he fought against the redcoats. And then came peace with England and the freedom of the colonies. How happy the people were. Every wagon, every cart and every carriage which drove into town had a big sign on it, and every sign said 'Peace, peace, peace.' They were happy days. The city was illuminated and the people cheered, and the pretty girls let the young men kiss them on their return from the war."

"My dear sir," writes Conan Doyle to an English friend, "pray present my compliments to the Ormeau Golf Club and wish them from me a very happy evening. I am myself an intermittent golfer, getting very violent attacks at regular intervals. It usually takes me about two months to convince myself that I shall never be any good, and then I give it up until a fresh burst of energy sets me trying once more. I played in Egypt until they told me that excavators had to pay a special tax. I inaugurated a private course in Vermont also, and the Yankee farmers asked us what we were boring for. If ever the Ormeau Club should wish any part of their links returfed, I could undertake in a few games to clear away any sod now existing."

Chicago, Nov. 24.—Professor James Taft Hatfield, of the Northwestern University, has just been honored with an appointment on a committee of one hundred, which is to arrange for the celebration in Strasburg of the 150th anniversary of the birth of Goethe. In connection with this celebration there will be the dedication of a Goethe monument, representing the poet as a boy. The president of the committee is the Grand-duke of Saxe-Weimar, a descendant of the most intimate friend of both Goethe and Schiller. Three Americans have been honored with membership on the committee, in token of their scholarship in the German language and literature. These are Professor Hatfield, Professor Kuno Francke, of Harvard University, and Professor Horatio S. White, of Cornell.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

R. M. Quigley, a contractor, of St. Louis, is thus quoted by "The New-Orleans Picayune":

"Labor is the scarcest thing in America to-day. You may not have thought of it, but such is the case. There has never been a time since 1887 when workmen were so hard to get. I do not mean skilled labor, either. I mean men who can do ordinary labor, such as is required by contractors. I have just sent to the papers an advertisement for two hundred men to go to Tutweiler, Miss., next Monday. We are shipping fifty men out of Chicago for Georgiana, Ala., because they could not be had in the South. These men are to do work on the Alabama and Florida road.

"Every contractor in the country is complaining about the inability to get laborers. They are not to be had in any section. Many are already employed. I have been up and down the Mississippi River a good deal in the last few weeks, and I know that five thousand men could right now be placed to work on the river levee construction between here and Memphis."

Mrs. Brown (who has borrowed butter from her neighbor)—Do you know, Jane, I half believe this is the same butter we paid the Greenes with day before yesterday.

Jane—It does taste mighty like it. Terrible stuff!

Mrs. Brown—To think that the Greenes would pass such butter as that on a neighbor! I'm sure it's the same.—(Boston Transcript.

The Pennsylvania recruits at Camp Otis have beaten the Honolulu football team twice, and a Honolulu paper says: "The Oahu or Punahou eleven, the only college team of the islands, will face the visitors on Friday; and Punahou will battle its best for Hawaii, while Pennsylvania will spare no labor in the effort to carry away the championship of the new possession."

The blind devotion with which an old servant did his duty was illustrated on one occasion when his master had a dinner party. During the dinner Henry was very nervous and made two or three blunders.

His master showed his annoyance and cast angry glances at his servant, but the poor man could not settle quietly to his work.

At last, when the dessert had been placed quietly on the table, he stole timidly behind his master's chair and said:

"Please, sir, can you spare me now? My house has been on fire for the last hour and a half."—(Answers.

At last Speaker Reed has been overruled. At a recent annual meeting of the Daughters of the Confederacy at Hot Springs, Ark., a lively dispute arose as to whether the minutes of the previous meeting should be read before business could proceed or not. One daughter ventured to quote Speaker Reed on the subject, but she was promptly overruled and the reading dispensed with, on the motion of another daughter, who asserted vehemently that "'Tom' Reed didn't know what he was talking about."

Giles—I suppose you get paid for writing those magazine jokes?

Smiles—Sure. You didn't imagine I wrote them for fun, did you?

Giles—Oh, no; any one could tell that by reading them.—(Chicago News.

The Rev. William Wye Smith, of St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada, has rendered the Gospel of St. Matthew in "braid Scots." He has followed Scott and Burns, especially the latter, who, in the opinion of Mr. Smith, has made the Ayrshire the classical dialect of Lowland Scotch. The following passages from the Sermon on the Mount will give an idea of the book:

"Whan ye wad do a gude wark, lat yere left haun no jalouse what yere richt haun is thrang wi'."

"Rhyme-na things ower and ower, incontinent, like the heathen-folk; for they trow that gin they speak enouch, they sal be heard."

"But ye, whan ye fast, snod yere heid, and freshen yere face, that ye be-na seen by men to be fastin'."

"And anent cleedin, why soud ye hae sic cark and care? Look weel at the lilies o' the lea, how they growe; they toil-na, nor spin; yet say I, that Solomon, in a' his glorie, wasna buskit braw like ane o' thae."

It is published by Imrie, Graham & Co., of Toronto, Canada.

I heard a queer expression the other day. I was speaking to a lady of the fine old town of Wrentham, and she exclaimed:

"Oh, yes. I know that town—it's one that has those perfectly delicious old graveyards!"—(Boston Transcript.

France has had possession of Tunis eighteen years, and under its management the country has reached a stage of civilization and order which it had not before known since the Roman dominion, and, perhaps, not then. It was bankrupt when the French occupancy began; it is now solvent, and its yearly receipts regulate its yearly expenditures. In 1880 it had not a furlong of decently made road; now fairly good ones connect all its principal towns, and the work is improved and extended year by year; a prosperous railway system has been introduced; the harbor channels have been deepened to admit the largest ships to the wharves of the city; forty lighthouses, small and large, have been built; wells have been sunk all over the country, a steady supply of water being one of its most urgent needs; domestic industries of all kinds have been encouraged and promoted, and the safety of life and property is almost as well assured there as in Aquitaine or Brittany. France may point with pride to this prosperous and orderly North African possession as an illustration of her capability in the way of colonial management, which she is so anxious to try on a larger scale.

"You haven't changed much since I saw you last."

"You mistake. When I saw you last I was a Populist, an anti-expansionist and a free silverite. I am now a gold-standard expansionist."

"It's on me. What'll you drink?"

"I've quit drinking, too."—(Chicago Tribune.

Among Canon Gore's stock of stories, which have the English cathedrals for a background, is one of two country girls who, evidently enjoying a holiday from fresh domestic service in the city, were observed by an attendant pacing fearfully the aisles of St Paul's. Under the magnificent dome one of them paused to gaze in wonder about her. Curious to see in what words her manifest impression would find utterance, the attendant stole nearer. It seemed that her limited vocabulary was inadequate. Not so her companion. "Ain't it just grand!" cried she. The spellbound one remained silent for a moment longer. Then, as if breaking the chains of some strange enchantment, she turned upon her friend. "Yes," she said, slowly and timidly, "but, oh, dear! Sarah, wouldn't it take just forever to sweep this place out!"

Mr. J.—What would you suggest, doctor, for insomnia?

Dr. Pillsbury—I would suggest that you attempt to sit up with a sick man and give him his medicine every hour for a few nights.—(Harper's Weekly.

SUPPRESSION OF ANARCHISM.

OBJECTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS IN ROME.

CONCERTED ACTION BY THE POWERS FOR PROTECTING SOCIETY AGAINST A GRAVE PERIL PLANNED.

To The Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Anarchism is to such an extent a peril to civilized and well-ordered society in every part of the world that the International Congress convoked by the Italian Government, and which meets at Rome to-day for the purpose of discussing collective means for dealing with this danger, must necessarily excite both interest and sympathy. The congress will be all the more important as it is the first of these concerted movements against the declared foes of our social system in which Great Britain has consented to take part. That the Anarchist movement has made enormous progress since its origin just thirty years ago, when it was founded by the Russian baron and ex-convict Bakounine at Geneva, is a universally admitted fact, and it is likewise manifest that existing conditions of police are lamentably inadequate either to arrest the growth of this all-destroying cult or to protect society against its outrages. It is imperative, therefore, that some new means should be devised efficaciously to repress Anarchism.

The programme for the congress drafted by the Italian Government and accepted by all the foreign Powers taking part in the conference comprises five principal points:

First—To define a "criminal Anarchist."

Second—To decide that Anarchist outrages must be considered as crimes against common law and felonies, and not as political offences.

Third—To concert special measures against the press which incites to Anarchist outrages or which carries on the Anarchist propaganda in its columns.

Fourth—To establish a system of special and summary extradition or expulsion of Anarchists or of persons suspected on reasonable grounds of being engaged in Anarchical plots.

Fifth—To organize a police service commissioned to keep up closer international relations.

The Italian Government, in submitting this programme for the deliberations of the congress, wishes it thoroughly to be understood that it has no intention of restricting bona fide political liberties in any manner, and that all the decisions of the conference will be subject to subsequent ratification by the Governments of the respective Powers taking part in the deliberations.

THE MOST VITAL QUESTION.

The main point to be discussed at the conference is one which is not included in the programme, except indirectly. Yet it is the most vital of all. It is the question whether men and women can be arrested and punished for merely professing Anarchism or belonging to the movement, or whether it is necessary to wait until they have perpetrated some outrage, some actual offence against the laws of the land, before being punished. Until now Anarchism has been regarded, at any rate in this country, in England, in Belgium, in Switzerland, in Scandinavia and in Holland, as in the nature of a political creed. In fact, many people, probably the majority, have confounded it with Socialism, and some of them even with the labor movement. And in the countries just mentioned it has always been regarded as one of the fundamental principles of the national constitution that no one should be punished or even persecuted for his political opinion or for his religious creed.

If the congress can succeed in convincing the Powers in question that Anarchism is not a political creed, but a cult of crime, an association formed with the avowed object of outrage and murder—in short, that there is nothing political about Anarchism, but that it is solely and entirely criminal—then a great step will have been achieved toward the suppression of these foes of our social system. For in the United States, England and Belgium, as well as in the other countries above mentioned, if individuals can be proved to have conspired together to commit a crime, they can be punished for the criminal conspiracy, even if they have not had time or opportunity to put their nefarious designs into execution. Once this is established the authorities will find it far more easy to deal with the problem, for as soon as ever it is unanimously agreed that Anarchism is not a political conspiracy, but a purely criminal one, then Anarchists can be hunted down wherever found and placed under lock and key.

ANARCHISTS AND THUGS.

This was always the opinion of the late Prince Bismarck, who, at the time of the assassination of President Carnot, drew a most interesting parallel between the Anarchists and Indian Thugs. The Thugs, as every one knows, were a religious sect in India, who were taught to believe that the only way to propitiate their sanguinary goddess Vishnu was by killing people in her honor, irrespective of their age, rank or sex. Every new victim was regarded in the light of a pleasing sacrifice to the goddess, and thousands—nay, it is alleged even millions—of people were thus destroyed by the Thugs. The English in India found it impossible to suppress Thuggery by ordinary means. Yet they realized that it was their duty to shield their fellow-creatures under their protection from assassination. Accordingly they adopted precisely the same principle and theory which it is to be hoped and may be expected that the congress will adopt, namely, that the mere fact of belonging to the cult of Thuggery, as to the cult of Anarchy, constitutes a crime, each being an association formed for the specific purpose of murder and crime. Acting on this theory, the English authorities started in by arresting and either hanging or imprisoning for life every native that could be judicially proved to be a Thug, irrespective of the question whether he had committed any definite murder or not. The mere fact that he was a Thug was sufficient to brand him as a criminal and as a foe of society, who, as such, was deserving of punishment, and who, in any case, it was the duty of the State to render harmless. By this means the English authorities succeeded in entirely stamping out Thuggery in India, an empire which it had devastated for hundreds of years.

The extermination of the Thugs began under the Governor-Generalship of Lord William Bentinck in 1831, and was completed under Sir Edward Bradford, long at the head of the Police Department in India, and now Chief of the Metropolitan Police in London. Anarchists are merely white Thugs. Their doctrines are, like those of the Thugs, murder and outrage, and there is no doubt that it has now become the duty of the various Governments in their role of the responsible protectors of the people subject to their control to shield them from this grave peril precisely in the same way as the English did in India.

THE TIME FOR ACTION.

The time has passed for psychological study of the Anarchist breed or for investigating the origin and the causes of the movement. There is a strange want of virile common-sense in the view that the Anarchists are the products of our social conditions, and as such deserving of indulgence and sympathy. If they are the victims of a delusion they, and none but themselves, are responsible for forming and harboring it. The practical men to whom the government of States is committed rightly see in Anarchists merely criminals of a worse and more dangerous type than usual, and will, it may be hoped, during the Congress opening to-day devise some drastic and efficacious measures to control the liberty and the action—that is the most euphonious way of putting it—of people known or proved to be Anarchists.

The question of summary extradition and