Simon, of this city, will be celebrated on Thursday next at the home of the bride, No. 214 West Seventieth-st.

On the same day Miss Alice Maude Wing, daughter of the late Charles Tudor Wing, will be married to Dr. Mathias Nicoll, jr., at the home of her mother, at No. 1,700 Broadway. It will be a small wedding, as only the relatives and a few intimate friends will be present at the ceremony, which, however, will be followed by a reception. Miss Wing's only attendant will be her sister, Miss Lilian Wing. Edward H. Floyd-Jones, a cousin of the bridegroom, will be best man. There will be no ushers. Dr. Nicoll and his bride, after their honeymoon trip, will take possession of their new home, in West Forty-eighth-st.

The marriage of Miss Rebecca Whitlock Brush, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clinton E. Brush, of Montrose, N. J., to George Benjamin Toye will occur on Thursday next in the First Presbyterian Church, South Orange.

Invitations have just been issued by Mr. and Mrs. William Effingham Townsend for the marriage of their daughter, Miss Gertrude Tredwell Townsend, to F. Leopold Schmidt, jr., on Wednesday, December 20, at East Williston, Long Island.

The marriage of Miss Olive Hooper Lunt, sister of Mrs. N. Goldsmith, of No. 334 West Eighty-ninth-st., to Nathaniel Goodwin Manson, of Boston, will take place on Wednesday, December 20.

The engagement is announced of Miss Sadie Carr, daughter of the late William R. Carr, to William Booth, jr., of New-London, Conn.

On Thursday afternoon next, from 3 till 7 o'clock, a musical and dramatic tea will be held at the home of Mrs. George W. Dilks, No. 34 West Ninth-st., for the benefit of a naval veterans' home. Admiral Dewey, Rear Admiral Sampson, Rear Admiral Schley and Rear Admiral Farquhar, of the United States Navy, and Rear Admiral Osbon, of the veterans, will act as patrons to the affair, as the idea of a permanent veterans' home has long been a cherished hope of these naval heroes. Many notable members of the dramatic and musical stage will devote their talent to the afternoon's entertainment. Mrs. Dilks will be assisted in receiving by her daughter, Mrs. Andrew J. Robinson, and twenty naval cadets from the port of New-York. Tickets at $3 each may be had by application to Mrs. Dilks at her home. The naval veterans' home will afford quarters for officers and sailors alike, and will be located probably in the vicinity of Old London Street, in this city.

Mrs. Frederic J. De Peyster, of No. 7 East Forty-second-st., gave a tea yesterday afternoon to introduce her daughter, Miss Ella Morris De Peyster. The debutante, who wore a pretty gown of white silk and chiffon, was assisted in receiving by her mother and a number of girl friends, including Miss Augusta Shippen West, of Philadelphia; Miss Helen Kountze, Miss Louise Gallatin, Miss Harris, Miss Lucy Kearney and the Misses De Peyster. The reception was followed by an informal dinner for the members of the receiving party.

Miss Enid Badgley Alden was introduced to society yesterday at a tea given for that purpose by her mother, Mrs. Robert Fulton Weir, at her home, No. 33 West Thirty-third-st. Receiving with the debutante were Miss Esther Kennedy, the Misses Tomlinson and Mrs. Edward La Montagne, jr., who is a daughter of Dr. Weir. A small dinner party followed the reception.

General and Mrs. Wager Swayne gave a reception yesterday afternoon at the Hotel Renaissance to introduce their daughter, Miss Eleanor Swayne, who is a niece of Mrs. Edwin Parsons. The debutante, who was in a pretty gown of white, was assisted in receiving by Miss Edna Goadby Loew, Miss Virginia Swayne, Miss Fansy Roosevelt, Miss Helen Bulkley, Miss Lena Fanshawe, Miss Julia Edwards and Miss Emily Carrington Trowbridge.

Mrs. Alfred P. Dix gave a reception yesterday at her home, No. 822 Madison-ave., in honor of the debut of her daughter, Miss Mildred Carruth Dix, who was assisted in receiving by Miss Isabelle Curtis, Miss Violet Stewart, Miss Helen Dominick, Miss Cecil Boardman, Miss Polly Sloan, Miss Muriel Gould, Miss Anna Jenner, Miss Ruth Emmons and Miss Emily Pratt, of Boston.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Weeks, of No. 232 West Seventy-fifth-st., gave a reception yesterday afternoon to present their daughter, Miss Lucile Weeks, who, wearing a gown of white crêpe de chine over white silk, received with her mother, Mrs. Weeks; her sister-in-law, Mrs. Edward A. Weeks, and several young friends, including Miss Nellie Burgess, Miss Harriet McAllister, Miss Isabelle Geer, Miss Ruth Robinson and Miss Edith Weeks.

Another large reception yesterday was that given by Mrs. Philip S. Taggart, at her home, No. 350 Madison-ave., to introduce her daughter, Miss Taggart. The hostess's oldest daughter, Mrs. Wendell C. Phillips, assisted in receiving.

Mrs. Walter S. Gurnee, jr., of No. 8 East Thirty-third-st., also gave a tea to introduce her young daughter, and Mrs. Frank Carter Grugan, who has been living in Philadelphia, gave a similar entertainment at her home, No. 10 East Fifty-third-st., in honor of her debutante daughter, Miss Emily Dutilh Grugan.

The annual junior ball of Columbia University, which is announced to be held at Sherry's on Tuesday, December 19, promises to be unusually successful.

The wedding of Miss Mary Woodbridge Tiffany, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis C. Tiffany, of No. 27 East Seventy-second-st., to Dr. Graham Lusk, a son of the late Dr. William T. Lusk, will take place in the Madison Square Presbyterian Church, Madison-ave. and Twenty-fourth-st., on Wednesday, December 20.

Mrs. Alexander T. Van Nest, of No. 31 West Thirty-seventh-st., gave a dinner party on Tuesday evening last. Her guests were Miss Marguerite Chapin, Miss Hoppin, Miss Hitchcock, Miss De Coppet, Miss Waring, Miss Josephine Roe, D. Phœnix Ingraham, Philip Benkard, Mr. Riker, Mr. Slade, Mr. Cammann, Mr. Percy and Mr. Barney. Mrs. Van Nest will entertain at dinner again on Thursday night of this week. Mr. and Mrs. Elbridge T. Gerry gave one of the largest dinner parties of the week on Wednesday evening, at their home, Fifth-ave. and Sixty-first-st. Their guests numbered forty.

The first of the series of De Coverley dances was given last night at Sherry's, the young people being received by Mrs. James H. Benedict and Mrs. Edward L. Keyes. Only one figure was danced in the cotillon, which was begun and completed before supper. The patronesses of this series of dances this winter are Mrs. John Clarkson Jay, Mrs. J. Pierpont Morgan, Mrs. Sackett Barclay, Mrs. James Higginson, Mrs. Frederic Goodridge, Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish Morris, Mrs. Walter C. Taylor, Mrs. Leopold Francke, Mrs. James B. King and Mrs. Robert Dun Graham. At Delmonico's last night the dancing class organized some years ago by Mrs. Philip J. Sands, which has been known as the Saturday Evening Dancing Class, and formerly held its meetings at Mendelssohn Hall, in West Fifty-fifth-st., had its initial meeting for the present season.

The marriage of Miss Gertrude May Dick, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Edouard Dick, of St. Nicholas-ave. and One-hundred-and-fourteenth-st., to Albert Ball Davies was solemnized yesterday afternoon at the Hotel Empire, Broadway and Sixty-third-st. The bride, who was attired in a gown of white peau de soie trimmed with lace and a lace veil, was given away by her father. There were neither bridesmaids, maid of honor, best man nor ushers. After the ceremony, which was performed by the Rev. Dr. Charles Eaton, pastor of the Church of the Divine Paternity, there was a reception.

The wedding of Miss Mabel Robertson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard S. Robertson, to Milton Ruggles was celebrated on Tuesday last in the chantry of Grace Church, Broadway and Tenth-st. Only the immediate relatives of the couple were present at the ceremony, which was performed by the Rev. William Whiting Davis, rector of Christ Church, East Orange, N. J.

The first of the series of dances for the younger set, known as the Fortnightly Dances, took place on Tuesday night last in the Astor Gallery of the Waldorf-Astoria, the northeastern wing of the house, one entrance being reserved exclusively for it. There were about seventy couples in the cotillion, which was led by Emory Hawes, dancing with Miss Edith Van Courtlandt Jay, the daughter of Mrs. John Jay. The favors consisted of golden and silver spangles, satin ribbons, artificial fruits, miniatures, and flowerpots with artificial flowers. The patronesses—Mrs. Charles E. Sands, Mrs. Henry Lewis Morris, Mrs. S. Jacquelin Smith, Mrs. Charles R. Huntington, Mrs. Henry P. Loomis, Mrs. A. A. Low, Mrs. John C. Jay, Mrs. Edward R. Biddle, Mrs. Lewis Livingston Delafield, Mrs. Alexander D. Shaw and Mrs. Frederic Goodridge—were mostly present. Supper was served at 1 o'clock at small tables. Among the guests from out of town were Mr. and Mrs. Leopold Francke and Francis R. Stevens, of Lawrence, Long Island; Count von Hacke, the Second Secretary of the German Embassy at Washington; Lieutenant Van Sinderen Lindsley, of Washington, and the Vice-Consul for Sweden.

Mr. Bagby's ninety-eighth musical morning will take place at the Waldorf-Astoria to-morrow at 11:45 o'clock. Mme. Schumann-Heink and the Kollanbora String Quartet will be the musical attractions.

MUSIC.

THE SECOND PHILHARMONIC CONCERT.

The solo performer at the second concert for this season of the Philharmonic Society was Mark Hambourg, who played Liszt's concerto in E flat. Mr. Hambourg has played no less than six times in New-York within the last month, and the discussion of his gifts and the use which he makes of them have been ample. Novelty being absent from the solo performer, the listeners were persuaded to look for the chief interest in the concert where it ought always to be looked for—in the music played. This was all familiar except the central number in the scheme, Mr. Frank Van der Stucken's symphonic prologue to Heine's tragedy "William Ratcliff." Mr. Van der Stucken was long prominently identified with the higher musical activities of New-York, and when the Philharmonic Society did him the courtesy of placing his composition upon its list it emphasized the kindly act by also inviting him to come from his home in Cincinnati to conduct the rehearsals and performances of it. It was an eminently proper and gracious proceeding, which added to the interest of the meetings on Friday afternoon and last night. He was warmly received by both audience and orchestra.

Mr. Van der Stucken's music was not lightly composed; neither is it to be played or heard in a careless spirit. It came into existence as long ago as 1879, when its composer was only twenty-one years old, but it is serious music to the backbone. It has since been reorchestrated, which fact may be said to account for much of the latter day modernity in its color; but the well knit and ingenious structure of the piece and the consistency and fluency of its thematic development speak loudly for the sincerity of aim and soundness of training which the young American carried away from his academic experiences in Antwerp.

The composition is conceived and executed on ultra romantic lines, and its subject is at once inviting and repelling. The story of Heine's tragedy, as all those who read it in this journal last Sunday know, is as sinister and shocking as the burden of the old Scottish ballads from which, indeed, it may or might have been derived; but it is of the kind that lends itself readily to musical delineation, especially delineation of the modern type. Idyllic love, wild passion, disappointment, longing, resentment, despair, murderous rage—these are the mental and emotional factors which are veritably the food of music. Give to a composer who knows his Wagner the assurance that he will be listened to intelligently and he could ask nothing better than such a story to tell by means of typical phrases or symbols and their development. One difficulty in the present case which, it may be said, Mr. Van der Stucken prepared for himself, grew out of the fact that the story of the tragedy can only be understood in the light of the story of a tragedy which preceded it. The catastrophe which grows out of the love of Edward Ratcliff and Fair Betty is repeated in the case of their children. The opportunity which this circumstance offers to the composer, who belongs to the Order of the Latter Day, is alike in subtlety and interest to that which was utilized by Thackeray, as by nobody else since the world was blessed by letters, in his "Henry Esmond" and "The Virginians"; but a novelist, even a Thackeray, can count on a recognition of his purposes where a musical composer can only hope or despair. Mr. Van der Stucken made a daring effort. The passions of his young lovers and their direful outcome were associated with those of their parents by relationship of themes, but was this relationship recognized and understood by the audience, or were there two climaxes in one story? We cannot speak for the people who heard the work last night on this point; we can only say that the warmth and fluency of the music, the pregnancy and plasticity of the themes, the vividness of delineation and the gorgeousness of color gave keen delight to the most experienced and discriminating audience that New-York boasts and the United States possesses.

Was it chance or premeditated design that put on the programme another piece informed with the spirit of Scotland, though manifested through medium and methods about as far remote from Van der Stucken's as could well be imagined? At all events, the juxtaposition of Mendelssohn's "Scotch" symphony was fortunate in affording a certain continuity of idea for those who chose to yield to the influence of such things, and afforded a pointed contrast in mood and general effect. Unfortunately Mendelssohn's symphony did not receive so satisfactory treatment as did Mr. Van der Stucken's prologue. The playing was sometimes rough and unfinished, though Mr. Paur saw to it that the performance went with abundant spirit and energy. His reading of the "Freischütz" overture, too, with which the concert began, was imbued with rich imagination and romantic feeling, though here, too, the orchestra did not in all respects reproduce the composer's and the conductor's intentions. Mr. Hambourg was recalled after his stormy performance of Liszt's concerto and added a solo piece by Leschetizky.

SCHWEIGHOFER MAY COME ON TIME.

Mr. Conried, the manager of the Irving Place Theatre, received yesterday two cable messages which give hope that Felix Schweighofer will yet sail in time to make his first appearance, as formerly agreed, on Christmas Day. The first message sent by Mr. Conried's Berlin representative says: "Schweighofer's state of health greatly improved. To-day physicians' consultation in Dresden. Hope to sail on Tuesday next, December 12." A second message from Dresden says also that Schweighofer's health is much better, and that great hopes are entertained that the actor will start in time for this country. The preparations for the appearance of the star are continued. The subscription lists for the engagement were closed yesterday, and to-morrow the sale of seats for single performances will begin at the Irving Place Theatre.

COMMENT ON CURRENT TOPICS.

MR. ROBERTS AND THE CONSTITUTION.

From The Wilkesbarre Record.

There are always to be found men in the Congress of the United States who plead the Constitution more readily to protect than to prevent wrong. The Roberts case presents a very good illustration. There are a few members of the House who for some reason or other rushed to the defence of the Utah polygamist Representative-elect. They insisted that "under the Constitution" the House has no right to refuse to admit any man who presents credentials in the usual form prescribed by law. If the arguments of these Representatives are sound, then the most notorious criminal in the land must be sworn in if he presents a certificate of election from the Governor of a State, no matter by what means secured or whatever crimes might have been committed to obtain such credentials.

ARMOR PLATE SENSE.

From The Pittsburg Dispatch.

Admiral O'Neill's recommendations on the armor plate matter signalize a return to rational discussion. The Chief of the Ordnance Bureau presents the whole question frankly and convincingly, from the demand for Krupp process armor to the statement of fact that none of the European government plants is in operation. A proposition to equip the new ships with 16-inch smooth bore guns would find no audience anywhere. The proposition to use anything but the best armor plate differs from the other only in degree, not in kind.

GROWTH OF A WHITE OPPOSITION PARTY.

From The New-Orleans Picayune.

If this be true of the last election, which "The Picayune" does not concede, as has been claimed, what is going to happen, now that the negro vote has been reduced to a minimum? "The Picayune" does not for a moment believe that there is any majority of the white voters opposed to the Democracy, but it is convinced that there is a strong tendency toward the formation of a white opposition to the Democracy in the State, and, unless the State government at the next term shall be put in the hands of a vigorous and able administration, there will be much to fear. The danger is too serious to be pooh-poohed.

THE PACIFIC CABLE.

From The Philadelphia Press.

Recent changes in our territorial map demand that some immediate action be taken upon this subject of a Pacific cable. From a purely economical point of view the necessity for such a cable is strikingly apparent. Although the rate per word for Government messages to the Far East has been reduced somewhat within the last five years, yet the amount of money expended by the Government for official messages, which reach their destination only by making almost a circuit of the world, is something enormous. The construction of an all-American cable would not only direct this outlay into American channels, but would effectually protect the Government by having its official business transacted entirely through friendly channels. If no other consideration would urge the construction of an American Pacific cable within the next two years, the expansion of our trade and the development of our Pacific and Oriental commerce must imperatively compel the step in a very short time.

SOCIALISM IN MASSACHUSETTS.

From The Buffalo Express.

It would be interesting to know all the reasons that have operated to bring about this unusual support for Socialism in the manufacturing towns of Massachusetts. It is worth noting as a fact, which may be a mere coincidence, that both Haverhill and Brockton are engaged principally in shoe making. That industry has had its full share of labor troubles. Possibly those troubles and the growth of Socialism could be connected as cause and effect.

DEWEY MADE "DUKE OF MANILA."

INVITED TO NEW-ORLEANS CARNIVAL AND EXPECTS TO ATTEND.

New-Orleans, Dec. 9 (Special).—"Rex," the well known carnival organization of New-Orleans, which gives the day parade in course of the festivities, which is considered the grand popular feature of the gayeties, has conferred on Admiral Dewey the title of "Duke of Manila," and has invited him to visit New-Orleans next Mardi Gras. Mrs. Dewey thereby becomes "Duchess of Manila." The Admiral's answer came to hand to-day, being to the effect that he would visit New-Orleans, if it were possible for him to make his arrangements, expressing his keen desire to visit the Crescent City.

AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION.

ITS ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD AT BOSTON THIS MONTH.

Boston, Dec. 9.—Plans for the fifteenth annual meeting of the American Historical Association, which will be held in this city and in Cambridge December 27, 28 and 29, are practically completed. James Ford Rhodes, president of the association, will preside. Several social features will form a part of the proceedings, including a luncheon by Charles Francis Adams, president of the Massachusetts Historical Society, a reception by President and Mrs. Rhodes at the Algonquin Club and a dinner closing the meetings Friday evening, December 29.

Mayor Quincy will welcome the delegates, and among the speakers will be the Hon. Bartlett Tripp, Commissioner of the United States to Samoa; Professor Williams, of Yale College; Professor E. C. Smythe, of Andover, Mass.; the Rev. Dr. W. G. Andrews, of Guilford, Conn.; the Rev. Dr. H. S. Burrage, of Portland, Me.; Professor James H. Robinson, of Columbia University; Miss Ruth Putnam, of New-York; Professor Charles M. Andrews, of Bryn Mawr College; James Breck Perkins, of Rochester, N. Y.; the Hon. David J. Hill, Assistant Secretary of State, and Professor E. G. Bourne, of Yale. At the dinner of Friday evening Professor H. Morse Stevens, of Cornell University, will be the toastmaster.

ANNIVERSARY OF PARIS TREATY.

DINNER AND RECEPTION IN HONOR OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitelaw Reid gave a dinner and reception last evening at their home, No. 451 Madison-ave., on the anniversary of the signature of the Treaty of Paris, the guests being invited to meet Judge and Mrs. Day, Senator and Mrs. Davis, Senator and Mrs. Frye and Judge and Mrs. Gray. Those at the dinner were Judge and Mrs. Day, Mr. and Mrs. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Frye, Mr. and Mrs. Gray, General and Mrs. Merritt, Senator Chauncey M. Depew, ex-Governor and Mrs. Morton, General and Mrs. F. V. Greene, Dr. and Mrs. Schurman, the Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Patton, John Bigelow, Rear Admiral and Mrs. Bradford, Congressman and Mrs. Robert R. Hitt, Colonel and Mrs. Astor, Mr. and Mrs. W. Bayard Cutting, Mr. and Mrs. John Munroe, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Moore, the Duc de Loubat, Mrs. Bishop, Mr. and Mrs. Hammond, Miss Kneeland, Miss Crocker, Miss Johnson, Mr. Cadwalader, D. O. Mills, Mrs. William Earl Dodge and Ogden Mills.

Some of the guests at the reception were Mr. and Mrs. James W. Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. William E. Dodge, Miss Dodge, John E. Parsons, Bishop and Mrs. Doane, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Stewart, Mr. and Mrs. John Sloane, Mr. and Mrs. James A. Burden, Frederick Sturges, Mr. and Mrs. Abner McKinley, Major General Nelson A. Miles, Governor Theodore Roosevelt, the Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. I. Townsend Burden, Miss Burden, Miss Bigelow, Mr. and Mrs. Egerton L. Winthrop, jr., Dr. Andrew J. McCosh, Mr. and Mrs. Buchanan Winthrop, Frederick Allen, General and Mrs. Thomas H. Barber, Mr. and Mrs. Edmund L. Baylies, Dr. and Mrs. John S. Billings, Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland H. Dodge, General and Mrs. Lloyd S. Bryce, President and Mrs. Seth Low, Abram S. Hewitt, Edward Cooper, Stephen H. Olin, Mr. and Mrs. Charles T. Barney, Mr. and Mrs. St. Clair McKelway, Archbishop Corrigan, J. Roosevelt Roosevelt, Mr. and Mrs. J. Pierpont Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. William Watts Sherman, Mr. and Mrs. Bacon, Miss Frelinghuysen, Mr. and Mrs. J. Archibald Murray, Mr. and Mrs. William Rhinelander Stewart, Loyall Farragut, ex-Judge and Mrs. Howland, Commodore S. Nicholson Kane, General and Mrs. Gillespie, Mr. and Mrs. R. Fulton Cutting, Thomas F. Cushing, the Misses Gerry, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence H. Mackay, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob W. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Whitney Warren and John W. Keller.

There was music during the dinner and at the reception by Tippaldi's Band. The singers at the reception were Mme. Gadski, Miss McDougall and Mr. Bispham.

OBITUARY.

COMMANDER CHARLES P. HOWELL.

Commander Charles P. Howell, who was chief engineer of the United States battleship Maine when that vessel was blown up in the harbor of Havana, died on Thursday from apoplexy at his home, No. 126 East Thirty-fourth-st., in this city. He was fifty years old, and was born in Goshen, N. Y. In June, 1868, he was graduated from the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, and he was appointed an assistant engineer in the Navy in 1870. In 1876 he was promoted to be passed assistant, and was made a chief engineer in 1893. He served on the Tuscarora, the Tallapoosa, the Mayflower, the Alaska, the Ranger, the Baltimore and the Alert, and joined the Maine in December, 1895. When the Maine was blown up Howell was sitting at the wardroom table with Lieutenant F. W. Jenkins, who perished in the wreck. Howell was then transferred to the Newark, was made a commander this year, and at the time of his death was on duty at the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

The funeral will take place at his home at 10:30 o'clock this morning. Chaplain Halway, of the receiving ship Vermont, will conduct the service. The pallbearers will be Lieutenant Commanders G. B. Harber, W. B. Bailey, John Hubbard, L. C. Heilner, J. P. S. Lawrence, E. R. Freeman and F. H. Sherman and Lieutenant R. F. Hall. Two companies of marines from the Navy Yard, with six body bearers from the receiving ship, together with the pallbearers and most of the officers attached to the Navy Yard departments and to the ships there at present, will be brought across the river on the tug Nina this morning at 10 o'clock, to attend the funeral. The body will be sent to Goshen for burial.

DR. STUART B. CARLISLE.

Dr. Stuart B. Carlisle, of Mount Vernon, who died suddenly in this city on Friday night from heart disease, was well known in Westchester County. He was a member of the Westchester Medical Society and prominent in Masonic circles. Dr. Carlisle was fifty-one years old and was born in New-York. When a young man he was employed with Francis H. Leggett & Co. as a travelling salesman. While thus engaged he began the study of medicine and attended lectures in Bellevue Hospital. About eleven years ago he began practising in Mount Vernon and Pelham. Fifteen years ago Dr. Carlisle was Master of Hiawatha Lodge, F. and A. M., of Mount Vernon. He was also on the medical staff of the Mount Vernon Hospital. A widow, who was a Miss Penfield, sister of Charles E. Penfield, of Mount Vernon, and one daughter survive him.

JUDGE E. K. FOSTER.

New-Haven, Conn., Dec. 9.—Judge E. K. Foster, of Gainesville, Fla., died at the hospital in this city last night. Judge Foster came North for his health about a week ago. On Sunday last his trouble became serious, and he underwent a surgical operation, which caused his death. He was fifty-eight years of age, and was a son of the late Judge E. K. Foster, the head of one of the oldest families in New-Haven. He was graduated in the class of '63 from Yale.

At the time of his death he was division counsel for the Plant System of railroads, president of the Board of Trustees of the Agricultural College at Lake City, Fla., and a trustee of the University of the South, at Suwance, Tenn.

CHARLES SITGREAVES.

Phillipsburg, N. J., Dec. 9.—Charles Sitgreaves, a well known Democratic politician of Warren County, died suddenly at noon to-day. He was fifty-six years old and a veteran of the Civil War. He served as captain of Company B, 1st New-Jersey Regiment.

WYNN REEVES SEWELL.

Pittsburg, Dec. 9 (Special).—Wynn Reeves Sewell, aged forty-four, a retired member of the Allegheny County bar and prominent in social circles, died this morning at his home in Ridge-ave., Allegheny. His death was due to heart failure, superinduced by acute indigestion. He spent most of his time in New-York, and was a member of the Union League Club and the New-York Yacht Club, and president of the Pittsburg Club. He recently returned with his wife from Europe.

CHARLES SILGREAVES.

Phillipsburg, N. J., Dec. 9 (Special).—Charles Silgreaves, a well known Democrat of Warren County, died here to-day from heart disease, fifty-six years old. He was a veteran of the Civil War, and was severely wounded at the second battle of Bull Run, where he was captain of Company B, 1st New-Jersey Volunteers. He had been a representative from Warren County in the Legislature.

CHARLES E. IDE.

Jacksonville, Fla., Dec. 9.—Charles E. Ide, a lawyer of Syracuse, N. Y., died at the Hotel Rathburn at an early hour this morning from Bright's disease, at the age of forty-eight years. He was a 32d degree Mason, and Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of the State of New-York. He had been ill for about a year, and, hoping to receive benefit from a winter in the South, left his home four weeks ago, bringing with him his wife and son. The body was sent North this evening.

A CALL TO DR. PURVES.

FIFTH AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN PASTORATE OFFERED TO HIM.

IMPOSSIBILITY OF SECURING A UNANIMOUS CALL FOR MR. MORGAN LEADS TO THE CHOICE OF THE PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL PROFESSOR.

Princeton, N. J., Dec. 9 (Special).—A committee of eight men from the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New-York, to-day called upon Dr. George T. Purves, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of this place and professor of New Testament exegesis in the Theological Seminary, and, it is said, consulted with him regarding a call that has been extended to Dr. Purves to become pastor of the Fifth Avenue Church. As soon as the seminary authorities learned the situation they held a meeting and appointed a committee to wait upon Dr. Purves and urge him to remain in Princeton, arguing that his field of labor here was of too great importance to leave it.

A mass meeting of the seminary students was also held this afternoon, and resolutions were drawn up expressing to Dr. Purves their personal esteem and respect for him and appreciation of his services both as a professor and as a pastor, and asking him to remain with them.

These resolutions were presented to Dr. Purves to-night by a committee of twelve students. He was considerably moved by them. As yet he has made no decision in the matter. Both the theological seminary and the university will endeavor to keep him in Princeton.

Dr. Purves was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and from Princeton Theological Seminary. Before coming to Princeton to his professorship he was pastor of a church in Pittsburg. He is a popular preacher among the students.

H. Edwards Rowland, chairman of the Pulpit Committee of the Session, was at home last night when a Tribune reporter called at his house to see if the foregoing dispatch was correct, but he refused to see the reporter. A servant took the dispatch to Mr. Rowland, who read it over and sent the following message:

"It is not true that a committee of eight called on Dr. Purves, and as to the mass meeting of students I have no knowledge whatever." Mr. Rowland was careful to say that there was no committee of "eight."

That was all the information obtainable at Mr. Rowland's home.

When Robert E. Bonner, a prominent member of the church, was seen and read the dispatch he said:

"I am delighted at this announcement. I was not on the committee, and do not know when it went out to Princeton, but I was informed a few days ago that Dr. Purves was being considered in connection with our vacant pulpit. As a matter of fact, the Pulpit Committee became aware soon after it took favorable action on the name of the Rev. G. Campbell Morgan that there was an absolute impossibility of getting a unanimous call for Mr. Morgan. The committee knew that as soon as a congregational meeting was called this opposition would make itself manifest. It is also a fact that Mr. Morgan would not have come at all if the call had not been unanimous. Had the call been unanimous he would undoubtedly have come to us. To a large element in the church Mr. Morgan represented the Moody school of church methods, and it was felt that this influence should be checked to some extent in the Fifth Avenue Church.

"Dr. Purves was the first man considered for the vacancy last spring. The only thing that made the church hesitate then was the fact that Dr. Purves physically is not the strongest type of preacher. He resigned a pastorate with a salary of $5,000 a year in Pittsburg to go to Princeton in order that his work might be lighter. That was several years ago, and since then he has steadily gained in strength until now I understand he is feeling first rate. He will receive a unanimous call, I am sure, if it is settled beyond doubt that he is willing to come.

"As to his physical endurance, that is a matter that can safely be left to Dr. Purves himself. He is a conscientious man, and if he decides that he is strong enough to assume the duties of a large parish like the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, he will, no doubt, carry out his plans. He is greatly beloved at Princeton. Mrs. McCosh told me when I saw her a short time ago in Princeton that we must not take Dr. Purves away from them out there, because they thought so much of him. I know of several wealthy families which will return to the Fifth Avenue Church just as soon as it is known definitely that Dr. Purves is to be called.

"The society needs some such man as he. The Warszawiak matter was unfortunate, and the society is not in the flourishing condition that it was once. It will require hard work for a number of years to come to get the church in the shape that it ought to be in, but I know of no one better qualified than Dr. Purves to unite our people."

"Does this remove Mr. Morgan from further consideration?" Mr. Bonner was asked.

"I should judge so. As I said before, a unanimous call for Mr. Morgan was impossible. The committee sounded the congregation and convinced itself of this fact."

The sub-committee of the Pulpit Committee last week expected to make some sort of announcement at the service in the Fifth Avenue Church this morning. Mr. Rowland, when seen on Friday, declined to say what the announcement would be. Other members of the committee intimated that the statement would be an important one, and it is likely that it has reference to the dropping of the name of the Rev. Mr. Morgan in view of there being a doubt about a call to him being unanimous.

In view of the fact that the Pulpit Committee has been moving with great deliberation of late, it is likely that Dr. Purves will accept a call to the church if the call is unanimous.

THE WEATHER REPORT.

YESTERDAY'S RECORD AND TO-DAY'S FORECAST.

Washington, Dec. 9.—A trough of low pressure which covered the Central West Friday night has spread eastward through the Mississippi Valley, but persists in the slope region and still extends from the British possessions to the Gulf. It has caused general rain over this territory, and also from the East Gulf States northward to the upper lake region. In addition there were snows in the middle plateau, and rains on the North Pacific Coast, accompanied by lower temperatures. It is also colder in the lower lake region, the Middle Atlantic States and New-England. Rain is indicated Sunday from the Mississippi Valley eastward, except in Eastern New-England, continuing generally Monday in the Upper Ohio Valley, the lower lake region and Atlantic States. With these latter exceptions, fair weather will prevail Monday throughout the country. It will also be fair Sunday west from the Mississippi River. It will be warmer Sunday in New-York and in the interior of New-England, and colder in the Lower Missouri Valley and West Gulf States. It will be colder Monday from the upper lake region southward through the East Gulf States. Fresh to brisk winds, mostly northeasterly, will prevail on the Atlantic Coast. The display of storm signals will be discontinued for the season on Lake Huron after December 11, and on Lakes Erie and Ontario after December 14, 1899. The display of storm signals will be discontinued on Lake Superior with the closing of the locks at Sault Ste. Marie.

FORECAST FOR TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW.

For Maine, New-Hampshire and Rhode Island, fair to-day; warmer in the interior; to-morrow rain; possibly snow in Maine; fresh to brisk north to east winds.

For Vermont, snow or rain this afternoon and to-morrow; warmer to-day; north to east winds.

For Massachusetts, fair in eastern, rain and warmer in western portion to-day; to-morrow rain; fresh to brisk north to east winds.

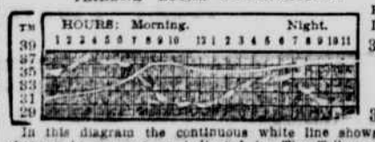
For Connecticut, rain this afternoon and to-morrow; fresh to brisk north to east winds.

For Eastern New-York, showers this afternoon and to-morrow; warmer to-day, except in extreme southern portion; fresh to brisk north to east winds.

For Western Pennsylvania, rain to-day and probably to-morrow; southeasterly winds, becoming fresh to brisk westerly to-morrow.

For Western New-York, rain or snow and warmer to-day; to-morrow rain; fresh easterly winds, becoming westerly to-morrow.

TRIBUNE LOCAL OBSERVATIONS.



In this diagram the continuous white line shows the changes in pressure as indicated by The Tribune self-recording barometer. The dotted line shows the temperature as recorded at Perry's Pharmacy.

Tribune Office, Dec. 10, 1 a. m.—The weather yesterday was fair and cold. The temperature ranged between 29 and 38 degrees, the average (33½ degrees) being 1½ degrees lower than that of Friday and 3½ degrees higher than that of the corresponding day of last year.

The weather to-day will be fair, followed by rain to-night.

THE PASSING THRONG.

A UNIQUE MANNER OF DEATH.

"I heard the following conundrum," said R. A. Fallows yesterday, "which struck me as distinctly clever: 'What character is there in the Bible who possesses no name, who suffered death in different form from any inflicted before or since that time, a portion of whose shroud is in every household, and the cause of whose death has been made famous by a modern author?' Give it up, eh? Well, the answer is, Lot's wife. She possesses no name; no one else met death through being turned into a pillar of salt; salt is in every household, and Edward Bellamy wrote 'Looking Backward,' so there you are."

ENGLISH FEELING TOWARD BOER WAR.

"Matters are very warm in England just now," said J. L. A. Chadwick, of St. Louis, who has just returned from abroad, "and if the Boer war had opponents in that country before it began they are mighty few and far between now, and exceedingly chary of expressing any such opinions. Just before I left, the constituency of Sir Wilfrid Lawson, M. P., passed a resolution asking him to resign because of his attitude toward the Transvaal war, and that's a good sample of the way they feel about it there. One of the daily papers, at the commencement of the trouble, introduced an innovation in the shape of a daily newspaper train running to Edinburgh, an unheard of thing in Great Britain, but the people, hungry for news, took kindly to the idea, and now the same paper has put on another train with Leeds, in Yorkshire, as its destination. The English press is talking on an ominous tone, in so far as France and Russia are concerned, and every move on the part of these countries is watched with extreme concern by the English people."

THINKS THE WINTERS ARE MILDER.

"I do not know that the seasons have changed," said Robert Armstrong, of Augusta, Me., at the Murray Hill Hotel yesterday, "but to my mind winters are of shorter duration, the cold is not so severe and there is less snow than when I was a boy. I can well remember a time when we all wondered whether we would have sleighing on Thanksgiving. Now such a thing is not even dreamed of, and a snow flurry prior to that date is looked on as more or less of a curiosity. Winter in Maine is to my mind the most attractive season—in fact, the only portions of the year in my home that do not suit my fancy are the betwixt and between seasons, the time between winter and spring, when everything is aslush, the streets a dirty mixture of mud and melting snow, the sidewalks in much the same state, and walking or driving disagreeable athletic feats only to be undertaken under stress of necessity. The other time is when summer has waned and the chilled air foretells the coming winter, the roads rutted by wheels are frozen hard as a brick and driving is a series of bumpity bumps calculated to dislocate both spinal column and temper. But walking is then a pleasant thing, for the crisp tinge of the air imparts elasticity to the muscles and the blood comes freely through one's veins. But it is in actual summer or winter that Maine is at its best, and to my mind the latter season holds the palm, for then there is so much to do and one feels so like doing it. Take skating, for instance. I have seen the beautiful Kennebec a frozen sheet of clear ice, on which it was possible to skate eighteen miles above the dam to Waterville and below the town almost to Bath, where the salt water comes in in such quantity as to render a solid freezing of the river an almost unheard of thing. Of course, it is a rare thing to have such a sweep as that, for snow follows generally shortly after the freezing of the river, or else it freezes into anchor ice—that is, where a stiff breeze is blowing and the surface of the water is ruffled when the freeze comes on. Then there is coasting either on bob or single sleds. Take a bob sled on a steep hill upon which water has been thrown and allowed to freeze until the hill is but a sheet of ice, and with, say, a bob that will hold from twelve to eighteen people, you will get up a speed that will make the speed of the Empire State Express seem as that of a cattle train. Then there is sleighing, and there is no better sport when it is good, particularly on the ice, where it is, of course, perfectly level and stretches miles long are obtained. But best of all is the return from sleighing, sledding, snowshoeing, skating or whatever may have been the form of outdoor exercise to within doors, where the cheer is intensified and the wood in the wide, open fireplaces roars and crackles a welcome and gives cheer and warmth to body and soul. For pure comfort give me a storm outside roaring and raging about your doors and making your every window and shutter rattle, and let me but sit within a cosey room in front of a bright wood fire