TOPICS IN CALIFORNIA.

LARGE HOLIDAY TRADE—ANOTHER MURDERER ACQUITTED BY SYMPATHY—TO SHORTEN SOUTHERN PACIFIC.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

San Francisco, Dec. 23.—This week has seen the largest holiday trade for years. All the stores have been crowded, and the weather, which was excessively rainy last week, has been clear and cold, with a sharp north wind. The prospects for all crops are excellent, and the assurance of a good year has released a large amount of money that has been lying idle, and it is now going into city and country real estate and into new enterprises and manufacturing. The Spanish and Philippine wars have done much to add to the prosperity of San Francisco, as the Commissary Department alone since May, 1898, has spent $7,000,000 in this city. Since the war broke out the purchasing Commissary Department here has become one of the largest Army supply depots in the country. It is estimated that Colonel Baldwin, the local head of the Commissary Department, is now feeding 66,000 men, of whom 61,000 are in the Philippines.

Though no Santa Claus transport was sent to Manila this year, every vessel which has sailed recently has carried a number of Christmas presents for the soldier boys who are chasing Aguinaldo.

A San Francisco jury this week acquitted Joseph P. Frenna of the murder of James F. Turner, a land agent. Frenna is a barber who made considerable money by speculation. He loaned ready money to Turner for several years, exacting usurious interest, but Turner finally swindled him in a land deal by means of forged documents. Frenna tried vainly to make Turner disgorge, and finally shot him down. There were no witnesses to the shooting, which Frenna asserted was done in self-defence, but this theory was weak, as Turner was shot in the back and was unarmed. At the trial Frenna pleaded temporary insanity, due to worry and rage over his losses. His case was made stronger by the excessively bad business record of Turner, but the evidence did not show insanity or any real cause for shooting except revenge, yet the jury promptly brought in a verdict of not guilty. As in the Rosser case, this is generally looked upon as a defeat of justice and an encouragement to men to take the law into their own hands.

The death of Robert Duncan Milne, who was run down by a cable car, removed a well known local character. Milne was a Scotchman, a graduate of Edinburgh and Oxford, and he contributed short stories and editorials to the weekly press for years. He had a genius for the construction of intricate plots, and many of his short stories resemble those of the Englishman Wells in their ingenious application of some principle of science. Milne was recognized as one of the best Latin scholars on the coast, but he threw away all the advantages by excessive drinking. Though he was a man of unusual mental capacity, Milne's brain was small and weighed only forty ounces and two scruples, but the convolutions were remarkably deep and well defined.

Lafayette Brooks, the well known Oakland pioneer, died this week. He had been prominent for forty years in the cattle business.

Frederick Warde finished this week a successful two weeks' engagement at the Columbia Theatre, playing a round of legitimate roles. Next week "The Christian" will be seen at this house. The sale of seats for three recitals by De Pachmann next week is large.

L. R. Stockwell, the comedian, filed a petition in bankruptcy this week, giving liabilities of $10,535 and assets a little household furniture, which is exempt. The heaviest creditors are Frank Sanger and Hoyt & McKee for royalties.

The Southern Pacific company will soon begin work on a cut off on the Ogden line, which will shorten the route by seventy-five miles and lessen the running time between Ogden and San Francisco by several hours. The chief saving will be made by a long trestle across the upper end of the Great Salt Lake. This trestle will be over water from 3 to 45 feet deep, and will cost several million dollars, but it will save a long detour and will avoid heavy mountain grades on Promontory, Kelton, Ombry and Terrace hills. This would have been the original route when the road was built, but the rivalry between the Central and Union Pacific was so keen to reach Ogden that all other considerations were sacrificed to speed of construction.

The shipbuilding yards of San Francisco and Puget Sound are so crowded with work that many owners have been forced to send orders for vessels to England. No local yard will take a contract to build a vessel before next September. From the number of vessels on the ways in coast yards and those known to be building on the Clyde and in the East, San Francisco's shipping fleet should be increased within six months by at least two dozen large new vessels.

The rush to Cape Nome next spring promises to be as heavy as was the first stampede to the Klondike. Though much of the good ground is taken up, beach claims offer great inducements to poor miners, and it is probable that paying claims will be found all along the beach to Cape York. Despite the losses suffered in Klondike transportation, many vessels are being chartered and several new companies have been started. One of the first vessels to sail from here is the Johns Kimball, a new steamer, which carries 500 passengers and 1,500 tons of freight.

The most marked feature of the local stock market for the last six months is the decline in Hawaiian Sugar stock. The shrinkage in some stocks has been as great as 60 per cent, and the leading stock has declined 30 per cent from the highest quotation last summer. Then Hawaiian Commercial reached $128 50 a share; now it is selling around $90. Quotations of other stocks last summer and now are as follows: Onomea, $41, $27; Paauhau, $42 50, $26; Hana, $22, $8 25; Makawell, $49 50, $42 50; Kilauea, $32, $21. This decline is due largely to overspeculation and the prospect that the Cuban sugar crop next year will reduce the price so materially that dividends cannot be paid. The Boer war has also played a part in the decline, for English investors are unloading stocks instead of buying American securities.

PLEASANT WEATHER AT NEWPORT.

HONEYSUCKLES AND DANDELIONS STILL IN BLOOM—NOTES OF SOCIAL INTEREST.

Newport, R. I., Dec. 23 (Special).—Still the remarkably warm weather continues, tending to prolong the season out of doors, if not socially. During the present week, in spite of frosty nights, honeysuckles and dandelions, and doubtless other plants, have been in bloom, and Newport is yet to have her first taste of real winter.

The establishment in Narragansett Bay, in the immediate vicinity of Newport, of a naval coaling station, which is to result from the investigations of a board of officers which has been at work for some time, will be of great advantage to the city in many ways. It will make the harbor more than ever a naval rendezvous, and the city a naval centre socially, adding much to its attractiveness during the summer season and bringing here a very desirable class of visitors in increasing numbers.

This week the deed was filed from Alexander and George Coles, devisees of the estate of Mrs. Elizabeth U. Coles, to William P. Sheffield, trustee, of the Coles villa in Bellevue-ave., the price indicated being $40,000. This is the property left by Mrs. Coles to the city for a college and concerning which action was recently taken, authorizing a change in the bequest, to create instead a professorship of natural sciences in connection with the existing industrial school, now a part of the public school system.

Mrs. Walden Pell, whose death occurred in Paris this week, was for several years after the death of her husband a resident of this city, going from here to Paris to reside. She was connected by birth with several prominent families, notably the Redwoods, Ellerys and Champlains, being a descendant of Abraham Redwood, the founder of the Redwood Library. At the time of her death she still owned the cottage on Greenough Place in which she formerly resided.

Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton Fish Webster, who have been spending the season with Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Webster, have returned to New-York for the winter.

Mrs. C. L. Best and Miss Best have gone to New-York for a visit of several weeks, after which they will return to their cottage, in Bellevue-ave.

Mrs. W. S. Wells, who has been in town to examine the improvements to her Bellevue-ave. cottage, has returned to New-York.

Among others who have been here for short stays are Mr. and Mrs. George W. Vanderbilt, Reginald Vanderbilt, Mrs. Royal Phelps Carroll, Mrs. George L. Rives, Egerton L. Winthrop, Mrs. William F. Burden, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sedgwick and Max Agassiz.

Colonel W. F. Randolph, U. S. A., and family have been guests of Mrs. Samuel Powel, and Walter Andrews of his brother, Paul A. Andrews.

The Very Rev. Charles W. Stubbs, Dean of Ely Cathedral, England, is a guest during the holidays of Judge and Mrs. Darius Baker.

Daniel B. Fearing was this week elected Worshipful Master of St. John's Lodge of Masons, succeeding in that position another summer resident, Oliver H. P. Belmont.

CROWDS AT LAKEWOOD.

ELABORATE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ENTERTAINMENT OF CHRISTMAS GUESTS.

HOTELS AND COTTAGES LAVISHLY DECORATED WITH EVERGREEN AND HOLLY—THE GOULD HOUSE PARTY—PRIVATE DINNERS AND DANCES.

Lakewood, N. J., Dec. 23 (Special).—The holidays are here, and Lakewood is gayly decked, in hotel, cottage, store and public and private places, everywhere, with the scarlet berried holly and the evergreen of the season. The hotels are crowded, and there is probably no winter home in the place that is not entertaining relatives and friends and participating largely in the varied list of attractions which all factors of the resort have conspired to arrange.

The house party of Mr. and Mrs. George J. Gould has, of course, been the chiefly notable event of the week. Georgian Court has been the hospitable centre for more than a hundred guests, mostly from out of town, who have been entertained in a style of princely lavishness. The magnificent mansion has been viewed and admired, and the casino, which will now permit Mr. Gould, his family and friends to enjoy all manner of athletic sport in all sorts and conditions of weather, has passed the inspection of the large company, who have looked in vain for points upon which Mr. Gould's scheme could be improved. There has been much talk and illustration touching the Goulds' private "theatre" and its magnificence, when, as a matter of fact, such a property as a permanent theatre was never contemplated. It is a belief justified by good sense that for Mrs. Gould the days of "Edith Kingdon" and her theatrical experiences are over, and that she is abundantly content in her position as the happy wife and mother, with the friends she gathers in her beautiful home. For this week's occasion the arrangement of a temporary theatre in one wing of their splendid carriage house was accomplished, and has fulfilled its purpose admirably.

The Laurel-in-the-Pines, which roomed eighty-five of Mr. Gould's visitors, and at which place the entire party first gathered at a special dinner on Thursday evening, handled the affair admirably. The dinner was at 7 o'clock, a special menu and charming decorations being provided, and the entire party, including Mr. and Mrs. Gould and family, filled 109 places at table. Theatricals at the improvised playhouse, a cotillon and a grand banquet at the Gould mansion, the latter item being in charge of Delmonico, were included in that evening's programme, and the benefit matinee on Friday and a general participation in sports at the casino and afield concluded the week of pleasure.

The great hotels are charming in their Christmas trimmings. At the Laurel House, the Lakewood and the Laurel-in-the-Pines professional decorators have worked with wreaths and stars of holly, quantities of mistletoe and ropes of evergreen, effects both ingenious and beautiful.

The holiday programme at the Laurel-in-the-Pines will include nothing formal until the date of its annual New Year's ball, which is always a very brilliant function. There will be the usual concerts and informal dancing each evening until Monday evening, January 1. The house grows more and more attractive under the continued rearrangements which are unobtrusively carried forward, and the grand parlor has been almost transformed within a few days by beautiful mural decorations and the carrying out of new ideas.

The Lakewood Hotel is to be the scene of a wide range of entertaining diversions. The grand corridor, 850 feet in length, and the lobby, ballroom and parlors are decorated for the week. The first item on the week's programme is a Christmas musical on Monday morning, to be followed by several tallyho parties, which will drive out to do the town and visit the neighboring clubs. Monday evening will come an old fashioned Christmas dance in the ballroom, to which cottagers and hotel guests are welcomed by general invitation. Friday evening the Columbia University students are to give the "Gay Mr. Vane," and on Saturday evening will come the grand New Year's ball, as announced.

The Laurel House began its holiday programme on Thursday, when a children's entertainment was given in the music room by Mr. Mohr, a charcoal sketch expert, ventriloquist and marionette specialist. On Christmas Eve a sacred concert of special arrangement, including the service of the house orchestra and vocalists in solo and quartet, will be given, and the Wednesday morning concert programme will be more than ordinarily elaborate in its arrangement. Concerts and informal dancing will be the standing order on each evening not otherwise filled, and the annual ball, always looked forward to by cottagers and hotel guests alike, will be on Saturday evening. Sunday evening another concert will be the attraction, and numberless dinner parties, a birthday party and other private conspiracies for pleasure are developing.

The Country Club will hold its next dinner dance at the clubhouse on Saturday evening, and the house will have its customary decorations for the season.

The reception given by Mrs. William G. Schauffler on Thursday afternoon was largely attended and enjoyed by all. The rooms were charmingly decorated, and Mrs. E. P. Harris and Mrs. A. F. Stearns assisted her in receiving. Miss Ferris poured tea, and Miss Sophia Downer served chocolate. Miss Schauffler, Miss McClellan and Miss Isabel Ferris otherwise assisting in the entertainment of visitors.

The engagement of Miss E. Louise Sparks, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Sparks, of this place, to the Rev. S. Alston Wragg, M. A., B. D., of Jacksonville, Fla., is announced.

Among those at the Laurel-in-the-Pines are C. M. Bartley, James Wilkes, W. S. Eldridge, James M. Constable, Mr. and Mrs. B. S. Whittemore, Jansen Lee Feirney, Miss Prince, Walter Hale, Miss Dwight, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Robertson, B. H. Arnold, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bailey Sexton, Everett P. Wheeler, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Martin, Miss H. S. Dickey and maid, Francis Clough; Miss Park, Napier Lothair, jr., Mr. and Mrs. W. Helmsmith, J. Henry Smith, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Bailou, Dr. L. M. Yale, Benjamin Nicoll, Nathan H. Lord, all of New-York; Mr. and Mrs. Ralph L. Cutler, Miss Alma L. Cutler, Miss Clara Packard, G. W. Eggers and Dr. Oswald Joerg, of Brooklyn.

The latest arrivals at the Lakewood Hotel include Judge and Mrs. David Leventritt and family, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred de Cordova, Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Whitney, W. H. Langley and family, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Field, Mrs. A. S. Wheatcroft, Mr. and Mrs. H. K. Burrds, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Manning, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gleason, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. W. Gleason, Commissioner J. S. Coleman, Mrs. C. E. Rector, H. Z. French, Miss Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Berg, Frasson Mallory, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Braidick, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Freiber, Tracy Down, Miss Meredith, A. S. Sidney, Robert Lockwood, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Phipps, W. D. Zehner, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Lamon, John Jerome Kelly, C. D. Wadsworth, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Lang, Miss Coralie Lang, Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Rothschild, Mrs. Borden Harriman, Miss Agnes Bach, Robert Erdman, Mr. and Mrs. E. Rosenbaum, J. W. Moss, Howard P. Sweetzer, E. Randolph, Mrs. R. Black, Miss Ida Black, Mrs. Charles I. Wadsworth, D. M. Arnistead, Mrs. R. C. Black, W. Earle Baldwin and Miss Ward, all of New-York; also, W. H. Langley and family, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Clearman, W. H. Gleason, Mr. and Mrs. Doremus, Mr. and Mrs. C. Curtis, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Miller, J. Frederick Ackerman, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Stenson, Mr. and Mrs. W. Wallace and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gleason, of Brooklyn.

The following appear among Laurel House registrations: Mrs. J. S. Bennet, with maid and servant; Mr. and Mrs. William H. Hall, Dr. W. B. Noyes, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Lee, Mrs. Frederick G. Bourne and Miss Bourne, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence R. Conger, H. H. Porter, William H. Male, Miss Emily Kinevale, Mr. and Mrs. Robert McA. Lloyd, William J. McCreery, Hugh R. Potts, of New-York, and Willis D. Wood, of Brooklyn.

A few of the guests at the Palmer House are F. C. Wickham, William A. Dunning, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Berg, W. H. Kenzel and family, C. D. Findlay and Charles S. Adler, of New-York.

The Lexington's visitors include P. B. Tarleton, Mrs. Blauvelt and son, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Baker and son and B. F. Pierce, of New-York. Also, Charles Helles and C. H. Brumlee, of Brooklyn.

MORRISTOWN NEWS.

Mrs. Oliver Adams will give a children's dance this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederic Bell, of Madison, are at No. 52 West Fifty-seventh-st., New-York, for the winter.

Miss Margaret Lanier Winslow gave a large musical last Tuesday, at which Mrs. Lawson sang.

General and Mrs. Henry Harrison Walker and Miss Louise Walker are at the Burlington, New-York, for the winter.

The Misses Whitney, of Glimpsewood Manor, have gone to Colorado to join their parents, who are spending the winter there.

Mr. and Mrs. Grinnell Willis and family are spending the holidays at their South-st. house.

The second of the assemblies will take place next Friday evening.

Kinsley Twining is spending the holidays with his parents in Morristown.

Mr. and Mrs. H. McK. Twombly and family will spend the holidays at Biltmore.

Mrs. J. Morgan Slade and the Misses Slade will give a reception and dance next Tuesday.

A dance was given at the Morristown School last Wednesday evening. The school was decorated with Christmas greens.

Cortland Nicoll and Leland Garretson are spending their vacations in Morristown.

Sterling Bell has returned from New-Haven.

William Unruh, for many years connected with the Lackawanna Railroad as chief engineer, has gone to California for the winter.

Mrs. Herman Behr, of Elm-st., has issued invitations for a large dance on Tuesday of next week.

INVALIDS AT ATLANTIC CITY.

HUNDREDS ON THE BOARDWALK SEEKING HEALTH AND RECREATION.

Atlantic City, N. J., Dec. 23 (Special).—The boardwalk of Atlantic City presents a most pleasing aspect these days. The great crowds of midsummer are absent, it is true, but their place is taken by an astonishingly large number of winter visitors, health and pleasure seekers, who find the present season one of the most delightful in the whole year for a sojourn by the sea. The very absence of the August throngs gives a feeling of rest that is most agreeable, while the invigorating ocean air produces a bloom on the cheek and a sparkle in the eye that are pleasant to behold and pleasanter still to wear.

The number of invalids here at present is remarkable. A stroll along the boardwalk on a fine afternoon shows hundreds of persons whose faces plainly show the ravages of ill health. But the careful observer notices an improvement in nearly every case after a few days here. The weather has been so mild that, with the exception of a very few days, it has been possible for the most delicate of invalids to promenade on the esplanade or to be trundled along in one of the innumerable rolling chairs which are such a fad here. And the balmy sea air soon does its work. Health and strength, in the majority of cases, soon return, and it is not long before the invalid is walking along with a springy step that denotes well advanced convalescence. This is not a fanciful figure, but an everyday occurrence.

The inauguration of another through train between New-York and this place will probably give added impetus to travel between the two cities. The train will begin its trips on January 8, running by way of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway and the Central Railroad of New-Jersey. The train will be an auxiliary to the regular connections by way of Philadelphia, and will save much valuable time. The experience of the Pennsylvania road in running similar trains shows that the accommodation is appreciated by visitors from the metropolis.

The great success of last week's golf tournament is a source of gratification, both to the members of the Country Club and to the many regular visitors who have become deeply interested in the welfare of the resort. The praise bestowed on the Northfield links by the expert golfers who participated in the tournament was unstinted, and will doubtless have the effect of increasing the fame of these links to a marked degree. The course is naturally a fine one, and it has been wonderfully improved by the painstaking care that has been given it ever since the organization of the club. It looks at present as though the Northfield links are to take a leading place among American golf courses

The leading event of the week socially was the concert of the Madrigal Union, on Wednesday evening, for the benefit of the Atlantic City Hospital. The programme was splendidly rendered, and was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience, which included many prominent guests from the leading hotels. Governor Stone of Pennsylvania, who is a guest at the Brighton, occupied one of the boxes, in company with Mrs. Stone and a party of friends.

Among the residents of New-York to register at the leading hotels recently were the following:

St. Charles—Mr. and Mrs. Herman Plant, James Mann, Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Comstock, S. A. Shinn, Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Haney, P. B. Tracey, M. F. Lynch, Francis J. Finn, Miss Irving, N. W. Tompkins and J. J. Smith.

Shelburne—Thomas Chadwick, John C. Betz, W. S. Goun, Wilson C. Hobson, William M. Detwiler, George C. Stephenson, J. N. Marston and O. A. Weidner.

Haddon Hall—J. G. Patterson, Mr. and Mrs. George W. Lewis, H. Graham, S. Greenwood, C. Greenwood, J. J. Doty, Mrs. E. C. Minck, Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Gilbert, J. H. Allen, Miss S. Gilbert, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Roberts, Mrs. M. A. Eckard, Mrs. C. S. McGuire, Miss Elsie Pierce, Mrs. M. Lewis, Miss Rosa Levi, Emile H. Pohen, A. M. Gilbert, Rudolph Beckner, and Mr. and Mrs. T. Young.

Dennis—S. M. Welsh, Miss C. E. Powell, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. McNeill, Mr. and Mrs. S. O. Nichols, J. J. Gardner, J. R. Gardner, S. Nedesberg, Mrs. H. H. Bradford and son, Addison Huston, Ezra Lukens, Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Sloan, Miss M. D. Sloan, Miss Jennie E. Ernst, E. S. Weeks and Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Newton.

Holmhurst—Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Aikman, G. D. Baker, Mrs. G. Roberts, John C. Sims, Thomas Cooper, M. Redpath, D. H. Burt, Mrs. S. B. Lippincott, W. H. Slack, J. B. Slack and Mr. and Mrs. Howard E. Butts.

Morton—Miss F. A. Douglass, F. E. Madden, Mrs. James C. Rice, Miss Florence W. Rogers, Miss Gertrude T. Ames, George W. Turner, John Turner, E. G. Faust and Edgar Madden.

Kuehnle's—C. M. Dean, E. M. Waller, J. E. Brandon, L. W. Thompson, E. M. Watters, R. S. Allen, C. Johnson, N. Landis, George Bender, W. H. Blackburn, H. W. Liedeborn, John W. Young, C. C. Reeves and J. A. Lippincott.

A YOUNG OFFICER'S DEATH.

LIEUTENANT MAXWELL KEYES, WHO HAD SERVED WITH THE ROUGH RIDERS, KILLED IN LUZON.

Lieutenant Maxwell Keyes, of the 3d Infantry, who was recently killed in an engagement with the insurgents at Ildefonso, Luzon, was one of Roosevelt's Rough Riders, and was made first lieutenant and adjutant of that regiment in May, 1898. He belonged to Company F of the Rough Riders, of which his brother-in-law, Maximilian Luna, was captain. Both young men had distinguished themselves at Las Guasimas and San Juan Hill. Luna was drowned in the Philippines while fording a stream, nine days in advance of the death of his friend Keyes. A recent issue of The Tribune contained his portrait and a short sketch of his life and services.

LIEUTENANT MAXWELL KEYES.
Who was killed November 24, at Ildefonso, Luzon.

Keyes was born at Fort Sill, Indian Territory, in 1873, where his father, Major Keyes, who lives to mourn his death, was stationed at the time. It was about the middle of September last that, with a small detachment, he reached his regiment at Manila, and on November 24 he was killed.

He is the fifth of his family to meet death in the country's service. His great-grandfather was killed in the Seminole War, and his great-granduncle died of wounds received at Lake Erie. Lieutenant Keyes was a gallant officer, and had many friends in the service.

THE GIFT OF LEANDER H. CRALL.

A STAINED GLASS WINDOW FOR HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, HARLEM.

In Holy Trinity Church, One-hundred-and-twenty-second-st. and Lenox-ave., a window given by Leander H. Crall in memory of his wife will be unveiled to-day. It was designed and made by Francis Lathrop. The window is 23 feet high and 7 feet wide and contains thirteen lifesize figures. The subject is the "Adoration of the Magi." Seated on the raised platform of a rude building the Virgin holds in her lap the infant Christ, and behind her stands St. Joseph. In the foreground and on the right are the Wise Men of the East, with attendants, bringing rich gifts of gold and incense in token of allegiance and worship. Above and behind these figures appear the thatched roof and the interior of the stable building, the timbers of which have been made to indicate a cross, and on this are assembled the various other instruments of the crucifixion—a branch of thorn, a hammer and nails, a rope and a sponge, together with a spear carried by one of the attendants of the magi. The child Christ is observing these emblems with premonition of the future, and does not notice the glittering gifts of the magi. At the top of the window, appearing in the clouds, is a group of five angels singing the anthem heard by the shepherds, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, good will toward men." In the sky above these angels is the crescent moon, and below the star of Bethlehem shines over the stable roof.

IN THE CYCLING WORLD.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF LEAGUE OF AMERICAN WHEELMEN IN FEBRUARY.

THE POLITICIANS HARD AT WORK—KEENAN LIKELY TO BE RE-ELECTED—THE DEMAND FOR SIDEPATHS—NOTES AND COMMENTS.

As the National Assembly of the League of American Wheelmen, which will be held at Philadelphia in February, approaches, the members of the organization are beginning to discuss the outcome with more or less interest. Regarding racing, those who are opposed to continued control of the sport have been doing all of the talking up to the present, and to all intents and purposes they might just as well espouse the cause of those who have arrayed themselves against the organization in the year. Possibly by the time the assembly is held there may be a decided change regarding this part of the business of the organization. The way the enemies of the League of American Wheelmen continue to rush into print their opinions as to what the major organization will do has caused many people to smile.

Politically, the pot has been boiling for some time past. Conservative officials in the League believe that Thomas J. Keenan, jr., of Pennsylvania, will be re-elected president. While Conway W. Sams, of Maryland, mentioned for the office, is saying little these days, it is believed, however, that his friends have not been idle of late. One of Sams's strongest supporters is "Uncle Jerry" Mott, of Maryland, the chairman of the Racing Board last year. Little is heard in the West regarding the candidacy of Otto Dorner, the Western dark horse. It is intimated that the Dorner supporters may be shifted to Sams later on. Still, the friends of the administration are confident that, if President Keenan will allow his name to be presented, he will be re-elected. Herbert W. Foltz, of Indiana, the first vice-president, will not be a candidate for re-election, and, it is said, R. T. Kingsbury, of New-Hampshire, the second vice-president, may not seek re-election. George L. Cook, of Rhode Island, is ready to fill either vacancy, and it is believed the Rhode Island man will get one of the vice-presidencies. H. B. Fullerton, of Long Island, has been mentioned as a likely candidate for office, and his friends think he would be a good running mate for Cook. J. C. Tattersall, of New-Jersey, may, and then again he may not, be a candidate for the office of treasurer. If he declines a re-election the chances are that a possible candidate for the place will loom up in H. C. Nickerson, of Massachusetts.

The average critic in England has no use for the single tube tire, which is so willnigh universally used in this country. In referring to a legal squabble over a tire patent an Englishman said: "We do not believe that a court could be brought to see novelty in winding a length of rubber hosepipe round a cycle wheel." And yet the same critic in discussing the bicycles seen at the recent cycle shows in London admitted, from personal knowledge, that for equal money he could purchase a better machine in America than in England. Such an admission by an Englishman two years ago would have branded the critic as a traitor to home industries.

Several bicycles designed especially for military purposes will be seen at the coming bicycle show at Madison Square Garden. One of these wheels has been designed by a veteran teacher and instructor, a colored man named Johnson, who a few years ago prided himself upon the fact that he had taught more society people how to ride a bicycle than all the other instructors in the city put together. Johnson says that he has ridden the machine more than two thousand miles, and that it is as sound as a dollar. The machine, so the inventor says, is designed for travellers as well as for military purposes. It has been recommended to General Miles for his consideration. When put together for riding it resembles an ordinary bicycle. When ready to be packed away the machine can be separated into three pieces. It is asserted that no screws, bolts, thumbscrews or tools of any sort are needed in putting the wheel together again.

A strong indication of the demand for sidepaths is furnished in this State, where last year a law was passed in the Legislature providing for sidepath commissioners in each county of the State, whose duty would be to collect a fixed license fee from each wheelman using the paths, and to use the proceeds so collected for the building and maintenance of paths. Every county in the State has its board of commissioners except the counties contained in the limits of this city, and they have collected nearly $200,000 in fees during the year. This sum has been expended almost in full in the building of paths, and it is estimated that nearly five hundred miles of them are now built in this one State alone.

Wheelmen in Maine are making a vigorous fight against the townships in the State which have not placed signboards at crossroads, as required by law. Some of the Supervisors in these towns are inclined to take the matter as a joke, but several of them have found, to their cost, that the wheelmen are in earnest. This State is also making a strong campaign for better roads, with the prospects of some successful legislation.

A veteran wheelman gives this advice to novices:

If you are riding over greasy ground and afraid of side slip, don't grip the handle bars too tightly. The slip is usually with the hind wheel, and you go down because the front wheel does not work in harmony with it. Therefore, on greasy roads hold the bars as lightly as possible. Also, don't get flurried.

The failure of professional racing as conducted under the auspices of the "outlaw" associations this season has caused many of the riders either to retire from the path or to think seriously of visiting foreign shores next season. Among those who have quit the game are Bald, Gardiner and Michaels. It is now said that Cooper and Kiser, two of the "outlaw" riders who won most of the honors in the course of the year, have also prepared to give up the game and to devote their energies to other pursuits hereafter. It has been a bad year for the professionals all around, and if the conditions remain the same next season it will be worse. A prediction to this effect was printed in these columns last spring, but many of the riders preferred to listen to the advice of the professional promoters, and have only themselves to blame for the lukewarm interest taken by the general public in their doings on the track last summer and fall.

In England and on the Continent the average tourist shows a disposition to return to the larger tires in vogue several years ago. In many instances two inch tires have been ordered put on wheels. In this country the tendency at present is to ride 1⅝ or 1½ inch tires.

COLUMBIA GLEE CLUB'S ANNUAL TRIP.

CONCERTS AT PHILADELPHIA, SCRANTON, SYRACUSE AND BINGHAMTON—PLANS FOR THE SEASON—THE MUSICAL SOCIETY.

The Columbia University Glee, Mandolin and Banjo clubs will start on their annual Christmas trip on Tuesday. The first concert will be at Philadelphia that evening. The schedule for the trip includes Scranton on Wednesday, Syracuse on Thursday and Binghamton on Friday. It is possible that a concert will be given on Saturday evening in either Corning or Elmira. Last year the itinerary comprised Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington. The experience of this trip conclusively showed that it would be much more profitable to visit smaller towns, where there was not such a surfeit of holiday attractions. Nearly two thousand patroness invitations have been sent out, and the returns have been encouraging.

In Binghamton many of the alumni have interested themselves in the appearance of the Columbia boys, and the concert there is practically an assured social and financial success. The alumni are arranging for a large reception to be given after the concert. In Syracuse the prospects are equally bright. Following the concert there the members of the clubs will attend the Charity Ball. The privileges of many clubs have been extended to the boys in each town, and they will be royally entertained everywhere.

Already this year the clubs have been heard in several concerts about New-York, in Yonkers, at the Park Hill Country Club, Jersey City, and Mount Vernon. Some twenty-five men compose the Mandolin Club and include the best talent in the university. In the Glee Club there are twenty-four men, with Lee M. Bingham, '00, as leader. The glee quartet and mandolin double quartet are the pick of their respective clubs, and will be heard several times in each concert.

Besides the regular trip, plans have been perfected for concerts in many nearby towns, and in Brooklyn and Manhattan. On the evening of January 5 the Glee Club will give a joint performance with the Dartmouth Dramatic Club, and on February 10, with the mandolin double quartet, will appear at the Germania Club, in Brooklyn. The most important concert of the year will be the annual New-York concert, to be given this year at the Waldorf-Astoria.

The clubs are under the supervision of the Columbia Musical Society, an incorporated body, which controls all undergraduate musical and dramatic interests. The list of officers of the society follows: President, Howard S. Harrington, '02 L.; vice-president, Joseph H. McKay, '00 C.; secretary and treasurer, Robert Maclay, '01 C.; dramatic representative, Harry H. Burdick, '00 C.; manager musical clubs, Gustavus W. Buchholz, '01 S.; manager 'varsity show, W. Robert Quinn, '01 C.; assistant manager 'varsity show, Goelet Gallatin, '00 C.; assistant managers musical clubs, Arthur C. Stratford, '02 C. and Morton G. Bogue, '00 C.; directors, Lee M. Bingham, '00 C.; Abbot M. Cregier, '01 S., and Alfred Wright, Sp. S.

NOTES OF THE STAGE.

This is the last week but one of Miss Julia Marlowe's engagement in "Barbara Frietchie" at the Criterion Theatre. The final performance will be given on Saturday, January 6, and on the following Tuesday Miss Maude Adams will begin an engagement of two months. A special Christmas matinee will be given to-morrow afternoon.

"The Singing Girl" enters on its last fortnight at the Casino to-morrow, having nearly reached the limit of its allotted time in New-York. The new songs introduced on the occasion of the one hundredth performance on Friday were well received. "Little Red Riding Hood," that opens at the Casino on January 8, will have its first performance on Christmas Day at the Hollis Street Theatre, Boston

The new Primrose & Dockstader Minstrels will be seen at the Herald Square Theatre to-morrow afternoon for the first time in a Broadway theatre. In forming this company and in arranging the entertainment Messrs. Primrose and Dockstader have tried to get well back to the old fashioned style of negro minstrelsy, which was popular many years ago, and has since degenerated, or developed, just as one pleases, into the so-called negro minstrel show of the present time, which is a sort of combination of spectacle and vaudeville. In this attempt it is said that they have in some measure succeeded.

MESSRS. PRIMROSE AND DOCKSTADER.
Who will appear at the Herald Square Theatre to-morrow.

William Gillette is still playing "Sherlock Holmes" to the capacity of the Garrick Theatre. For the next two weeks he will depart from his usual custom of giving only seven performances of "Sherlock Holmes," and will give eight, adding an extra matinee each week—one on Christmas Day and the other on New Year's Day.

Miss Annie Russell's successful season in "Miss Hobbs" at the Lyceum Theatre will continue until January 20. Matinees of "Miss Hobbs" will be given on Christmas and New Year's afternoons, and there will be besides the regular Thursday and Saturday matinees. When Miss Russell's engagement here ends she will visit the principal cities with "Miss Hobbs," and return to the Lyceum next September. On January 22 Mr. Frohman will produce a new French comedy at this theatre for the first time on any stage. It is entitled "The Surprise of Love."

"The Maneuvers of Jane," at Daly's Theatre, begins the second month of its career at that house, and has afforded a merry holiday bill for the visitors at Daly's. This permanent home of Daniel Frohman's company promises to be as popular as its late home at the Lyceum.

"Ben-Hur" has not felt the customary holiday falling off in attendance at the Broadway Theatre, where it seems to have been accepted as a special Christmas attraction. The story in many of its aspects is very timely, and that, perhaps, in part accounts for the fact that the attendance during the last week has held up to the capacity of the theatre. To-morrow afternoon a special Christmas matinee will be presented.

Frank Daniels and his company will hold forth at Wallack's through the holidays in "The Ameer." There will be the customary Christmas matinee.

At Koster & Bial's Music Hall this week Miss Gertrude Haynes and her "Choir Celestial" is one of the new numbers. Miss Haynes's choir consists of twenty-one boys. Besides Miss Haynes, Miss Henrietta Paer, a singer from the Folies Bergère, will make her American debut. La Fafalla is another importation who will be seen for the first time in America. She was booked for Koster & Bial's some months ago, but her foreign engagements were such that at the last moment her managers could not secure her release. The Halloways, high wire acrobats and tumblers, from the Empire, London, will also make their American debut. Besides these, the De Foreests, whirlwind dancers; the Beaumont sisters, Helen Marvin, the mimic; Marie Dressler and Adele Farrington, Clivette, McBride and Goodrich, Madge Fox, Felix and Barry and John W. Ransone are some of the newcomers. The bill for to-night includes the above and several others.

MISS HELEN MARVIN.
Who is to appear this week at Koster & Bial's.

At the Grand Opera House James A. Herne's "Shore Acres" begins its second and last week to-morrow. A special matinee is announced for Christmas Day. "Because She Loved Him So" comes to the Grand Opera House on January 1. It will be presented with a good cast and appropriate scenery. On January 8 Mr. Pitou presents his elaborate production of "The Gunner's Mate," a sensational melodrama.

It will be a lively Christmas week at Keith's. Three acts will be seen for the last time—"The Girl with the Auburn Hair," Joseph Hart and Carrie De Mar, and Adelaide Herrmann—and the new engagements will include Canfield and Carleton, Hilda Thomas, Charles T. Aldrich, the Cardownie Troupe of international dancers and Cyrus Dare. For Christmas Day the doors will be open at 9:30 a. m.

Belasco and De Mille's "Men and Women" will be the offering of the Donnelly Stock Company at the Murray Hill Theatre for Christmas week.

Miss May Irwin and her company will continue to play "Sister Mary" at the Bijou Theatre this week. It is getting to be an old story to say that the farce is still popular, but that is all there is to say. There will be special matinees on Christmas and New Year's days.

Tony Pastor will have a special Christmas company this week, when Kelly and Ashby will make their first appearance in their new act, entitled "On a Billiard Table." Gus Williams will return to this house after a year's absence; Matthews and Harris return with their latest sketch, "Adam the Second." Then there will be Arthur Rigby, the Lavelles, the Pantzer Trio, George Austin, Castellat and Hall, in George M. Cohan's "A Friend from Wall Street"; Murphy and Nolan, Miles and Nitram, Fredo and Forrest, the Mullally sisters, in character songs and acrobatic dancing; "Pinkie" Mullally, Debi