

ART EXHIBITIONS.

THE BOER BACK DOOR.

PICTURES BY THE LATE WILLIAM L. PICKNEILL.

The death of William L. Picknell was a serious loss to American art. He was one of our most serious landscape painters, conscientious, thoughtful, always studying and always improving. He worked for many years in France and then came to America, finding congenial scenes in New-England and the South. Some fifty or sixty landscape paintings are now on exhibition at the Fifth Avenue Art Galleries, where they will be sold at auction to-night.

Several of Picknell's paintings—and those among the best he ever did—bear traces of the influence of a foreign artist. It is impossible, on looking at the "Old Fort, Antibes," the huge canvases called "In California" or the "Midday, Provence," to avoid reflecting that they probably would not have been painted in just that way if Montanard had not painted similar themes in a similar manner. Yet this may have been a coincidence as much as anything else. In the bulk of his work Picknell seemed always to be working at the commemoration of his own impressions in an original way. Even in one of the three pictures to which we have just referred, the "Midday, Provence," there is an accent of individuality on the familiar scene. It is the accent of the artist's firm and delicate technique. He made no sacrifices to any modern movement. He made no sacrifices to the graces, either, and that accounts for the absence from his work of anything like a lyrical inspiration. He had a limited capacity for the expression of beauty. The nearest he came to achieving it, to judge from the present exhibition, was when he painted the attractive "Springtime, Antibes," with its gracious atmosphere, the pretty "Apple Blossoms," and the admirably composed "St. Marguerite (Sur Mer)," with its picturesque grove on the left. On most occasions he impresses by his strength rather than by tenderness or subtle feeling for the spirit of landscape.

In his strength he was one of the most interesting men in the American school. His method was direct and vigorous. For the delicate "nuance" he had no great taste. His aim was always to record his subject in clear, bold terms, and though this gave sometimes a certain coarseness to his textures, and left occasional crudities in his color which he might easily have manipulated out of existence, there is something exhilarating in the frankness and rough veracity of his art. If he missed charm and the haunting note which is the highest achievement of the landscape painter, he had, at all events, a wholesome and sometimes very captivating simplicity. His work has, too, abundant light. The sun shines clearly and naturally in his canvases. The pictures at the Fifth Avenue Art Galleries are all good examples, illustrating in every case his excellence of composition, his thoroughness, and his skill in rendering atmospheric effects. The sale is of importance to collectors of American landscapes.

Last night at the American Art Galleries the sale of Mr. Henry Mosler's paintings and studio effects was begun. The concluding session will be held this afternoon. At the Keppel Gallery there may be seen an exhibition of drawings by Mr. Peter Newell. He is a pictorial humorist of the sort that is born, not made. His ideas are as funny as they are original, and his style is exactly fitted to them. It is a style without beauty, but not without cleverness and interest.

The Society of American Artists has issued circulars for its twenty-second annual exhibition, which will be held at the Fine Arts Building, 110 West 47th street, from Friday, March 3, to Friday, March 9. Exhibits will be received Thursday and Friday, March 3 and 4. Varnishing Day and Press View are set down for Friday, March 3; there will be a reception on the evening of that day; the galleries will be opened to the public the next morning, and the show will close on Saturday, April 28. The usual Webb and Shaw prizes will be awarded.

MUSIC.

THE BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Though the admirers of the Boston Orchestra are not accustomed to look to the solo feature in its concert for their highest enjoyment, it was found last night that the feature can be a source of profound disappointment. When the plans for the concert were first made it was expected that Frau-Lena Terina would take part in a performance of the last scene of "Götterdämmerung." The illness of the lady prevented her participation, and the management announced that it was anxious to provide a first class substitute and had therefore engaged Mme. Schumann-Heink. The admirer of the orchestra's numbers were to be the "Parto, ma tu ben mio" from Mozart's "La Clemenza di Tito," and Adriano's scene and air from Wagner's "Rienzi." The substitution under the circumstances could cause no serious disappointment. Yesterday forenoon, however, Mme. Schumann-Heink notified her indisposition to the management, and a second substitute became necessary. The dilemma was an awkward one, and the management met it by engaging Mlle. Oitzka, who occasionally sings at the Metropolitan Opera House. For those who have heard this singer the necessity of the change was made doubly irksome by her engagement. The solo feature, which the audience would willingly have forgone, became an affliction, instead of a joy, and memory of a similar mistake is ambered. For all who know that the highest pleasures of the year in the line of absolute music come from the Boston visitors.

Against this element of discouragement the orchestra contended with a more than usually brilliant performance of Brahms's "Tragic" overture. Two movements from Moszkowski's Suite in F major, and a symphony by Chopin are likely always to be more interesting to the curious inquirer into musical evolution than to the ordinary seeker after musical delights. A coterie in France, originally small but continually growing, has been trying to canonize the composer of this symphony for years. It will probably never succeed in the degree that it hopes, but the marks are likely always to command a high degree of respect. The sense of form in its greatest amplitude and the capacity for logical, consistent and beautiful development of well conceived ideas, upon which the use of the large forms depends, has never been the possession of the French school, and it is not manifest in Franck's symphony. Splendidly sonorous is the orchestration, full of interest the harmonies, most commendable the ingenious use of the old device to compel a recognition of unity by community of themes between the movements, but the essential principle of sound and proper development, of consistency in idea and evolution is still wanting.

MR. PADEREWSKI'S PROGRAMME. The fourth of Mr. Paderewski's pianoforte recitals, and the last prior to his departure for Mexico and the Pacific Coast, will take place in Carnegie Hall to-morrow afternoon. The programme will be as follows:

- Chromatic Fantasia and Fugue.....Bach
Sonata, 3 minor, op. 11.....Bach
Sonata, F sharp minor, op. 11.....Schumann
Waltz, 3 minor, op. 28, No. 1.....Chopin
Prelude, A flat, op. 28, No. 1.....Chopin
Two Etudes, op. 25, Nos. 8 and 9.....Chopin
Mazurka, B flat minor, op. 24, No. 1.....Chopin
Barcarolle, op. 27, No. 1.....Chopin
Vals, A flat, op. 24, No. 1.....Chopin
Etude, C major, op. 10, No. 1.....Chopin
Rhapsodie Hongroise, No. 12.....Liszt

DR. CALISCH NOT TO COME TO NEW-YORK. Richmond, Va., Jan. 13 (Special).—The Rev. Dr. E. N. Calisch, rabbi of Beth Ababa Congregation, has written a letter from Alexandria, Egypt, to the congregation of New-York City, requesting him to occupy the pulpit of their synagogue, which is shortly to become vacant by the departure of the Rev. Dr. David Davidson. The invitation, which was made a matter of public record, has been declined, states that Dr. Calisch is requested to occupy the pulpit with a view to extending him a call. Dr. Calisch has written declining the invitation, and regards the incident as closed so far as he is concerned.

HOW ENGLAND OVERREACHED HER. SELF-A NUT FOR KNICKERBOCKERS TO CRACK.—KRUEGER'S GOOD LUCK AND SALISBURY'S VEXATIONS. London, January 3. Mr. Gibson Bowles has been writing some pointed and interesting letters for "The Daily Mail" on the evil results of the Declaration of Paris as illustrated in the war in South Africa. He is an old-fashioned Conservative, who believes that the doctrine that "the neutral flag covers enemy's merchandise, except contraband of war" is a pernicious one, and that Mr. Pitt and Lord Nelson were right when they maintained that England should resist it "to her last man, her last shilling and her last drop of blood." He contends that if the Declaration of Paris had not been sanctioned after the war in the Crimea, British cruisers could now capture under the laws of nations not only the imports of arms and ammunition, but all merchandise destined to the Transvaal, and all property belonging to the enemy, including the gold transmitted by the Boers in payment of supplies. Under the Declaration of Paris all enemy's property transported under a neutral flag from the Transvaal and all supplies for the Boers except contraband of war are exempt from seizure. Mr. Bowles strongly favors re-emption of the Declaration of Paris because it enables neutrals to carry on for a belligerent who has no coast line a trade which otherwise would be impossible, and makes them enemies in disguise and participants in the war, with a selfish interest in securing its indefinite prolongation.

The irrepressible Captain Bowles, who finds it impossible to retire from public gaze even when Parliament is not in session, neglects to mention one fact, which lies at the bottom of all the difficulties over neutral rights and contraband of war. The back door leading into the Transvaal has been deliberately left in the possession of the Portuguese by a singular miscalculation on the part of the British Government. President Kruger was most anxious to purchase Delagoa Bay, in order to have a port of entry for the Transvaal, but the British Government thwarted his ambition, and in the end overreached itself. Ministers in their eagerness to cripple the energies and to retard the progress of an inland commonwealth cut it off from the coast because they considered it dangerous and impolitic to convert it into a maritime state with resources for making foreign alliances. If they had allowed the Transvaal Government to purchase Delagoa Bay the present difficulties over neutral rights would have disappeared. A naval blockade of the enemy's coast would have been established, Lourenço Marques bombarded by a British fleet and the back door leading into the Transvaal securely closed. The British Government by its own short sighted policy has armed neutrals with the power of prolonging the present war and greatly increased the Dutch resources.

Entirely apart from the munitions of war and military supplies which have been smuggled into the Transvaal through Portuguese territory, the Boers have been enabled to ship gold from this natural zone to Europe, to pay for their purchases in war time, and to maintain their troops in the field. For years before the outbreak of hostilities the Transvaal Government was squeezing money out of the mine owners of the Rand, overtaxing all the industries there and "loading up" for a great campaign for the Dutch conquest of South Africa; and among millionaires and foreign investors were paying for the Krupps, the Creusots, the rifles and the shell. At the outbreak of the war the British residents were expelled from Johannesburg, and the mines, with their costly machinery and plants, which had been provided by foreign enterprise and capital, were "commandeered" for the benefit of the Boer Government. German miners have swarmed in through Delagoa Bay, and the best mines have been kept in operation for meeting the expenses of the war; and the gold goes out on neutral ships and the credit of the Dutch republics is maintained under the Declaration of Paris. The investors in Kaffir stocks paid in taxes for the secret armaments, which were provided before the ultimatum of October was issued; and they are paying in treasure taken from their mines for the current war expenses of the two republics.

There are more things in South Africa than are dreamt of in the philosophy either of Captain Bowles or of some of the Knickerbocker sympathizers with the Boers whose naive letters I occasionally see in the columns of The Tribune. I observe that they are in the habit of drawing parallels between this Dutch war of independence and the American Revolution; but I apprehend that they fail to do justice to the extraordinary shrewdness of the Boers in "financing" the war at the expense of foreign investors. The patriots of the American Revolution fought a good fight, but they were dull and overscrupulous in comparison with the Dutch allies in South Africa. They did not have the wit and craft to saddle the financial burdens of their armaments and current war expenses upon their enemies. From Lexington to Yorktown they paid for their own rifles, powder and shot, and went floundering through the Revolution with disordered currency and finance and with an empty treasury. The Boers do not carry on their war for independence in that dull and hopeless way. The foreign investors, mainly English, "pay the freight." The Boers not only fight behind the rocks of the kopjes, but they conduct all their financial operations behind the deep levels of the gold powdered Rand. If the fine old Knickerbocker writing platonic letters of protest against the mercenary and wicked English do justice in their parallels to the business talent and practical shrewdness of the Boers in "financing" the war, I do not wish to be equally unfair in my estimate of the American patriots of the Revolution. Compared with President Kruger and State Secretary Reitz, Morris and the financiers of the American Revolution were dull and possibly stupid; but they were honest in an old fashioned way, respected the Eighth Commandment and did not loot and confiscate private property on a large scale in order to pay the current expenses of their struggle for liberty. They sacrificed their own fortunes and expended their resources, and in the end, when victory was won, they were impoverished and bankrupt. The Boers have improved upon these primitive methods in an economic way, for the gold bearing Rand bears the burdens of armaments and actual warfare, but they have not raised the standard of international morality. Indeed, it is difficult to reconcile whatever Boer sympathy there may be in the United States with the high and progressive American doctrine of exemption of private property from seizure in war time. The United States Government declined to join in the Declaration of Paris on the ground that the Powers did not go far enough and stopped short of complete protection of private property on land and sea in time of war. The same Government subsequently embodied this principle in a treaty with Italy; and last summer at the Congress of The Hague the American delegates brought it forward as the most practical proposal for minimizing the evils of militarism and war, and thereby for diminishing the necessity for costly armaments on land and sea. This doctrine was too advanced and progressive for the European delegates, and the American proposal was deferred until a more convenient season within closer reach of the millennium. The exemption of private property from seizure and confiscation during war time is an enlightened principle to which Americans are fully committed; and

of Ciudad Rodrigo. There is no reason for paying especial attention to it, save in respect to a certain suggestiveness which it possesses. That victory was the turning point, not in Wellington's career in the Peninsula, but in popular esteem of it. A couple of years before the Court of Common Council, of London, petitioned the King to inquire into his conduct, and accused him of "profiting by no lessons of experience, and exhibiting with equal rashness and ostentation nothing but a useless valor." And less than a year before, after the battle of Albuera, the other generals of the British army would, if they could, have "written a whining report upon it which would have driven the people in England mad." "However," said Wellington, with grim significance, "I prevented that." Such was the state of affairs right down to Ciudad Rodrigo. And the next day Wellington was the hero of the nation and the foremost commander of the world. We are not saying any one of the present British commanders in South Africa will presently gain such an apotheosis, or deserves it. But the memory of ninety years ago should have a restraining influence upon the exuberance of non-combatant criticism at the present day. Whatever is going on in South Africa, and whatever mistakes have been or are being made, the chances are that the generals in the field know pretty nearly as much about the business in hand as do their civilian critics at home, and are doing pretty nearly as well as the latter could do. And it is quite certain that they are doing right in keeping their own counsel about it.

OPENING PHILIPPINE PORTS. The announcement of the opening of additional Philippine ports to commerce is to be regarded with sincere satisfaction, for more reasons than one. Perhaps the most obvious consideration is that it indicates subsidence of rebellion and brigandage and the return of peace under the lawful authority of the United States. It is not yet a year since Aguinaldo and his fellow conspirators, impelled by lust of selfish gain and encouraged by wicked and lying reports from this country, began their violent resistance to American authority at Manila. Since that time those misguided men have succeeded in causing much trouble in Luzon, in inflicting deplorable losses upon this Nation in the persons of its military servants, and in bringing incalculably heavier disasters upon their own countrymen. Happily the tide of outlawry is now fast ebbing. It is not much longer to be deemed an appreciable factor in the affairs of the Philippines. Of that the opening of the ports is a sure sign.

This announcement is, moreover, not only a sign that peace has been restored in large if not complete measure, but it is also a guarantee that peace will be preserved. There can be no more effective method of winning the allegiance of those—the minority—who have been unfavorably disposed toward American control, and of retaining and confirming that of those—the majority of substantial citizens—who have been from the first favorably disposed, than is to be found in restoring and increasing the material prosperity of the islands. Government touches men through their pockets more directly than in almost any other way. Complaints against bad government usually have a financial basis. It was unjust taxation that brought Charles I to the block and that led to the Declaration of Independence. The chief grievances of the Philippines and of Cuba against Spain were related to the fiscal systems of those countries. History, ancient and modern, abounds with like instances. And, conversely, if high taxes and lack of prosperity drive men to revolt, low taxes and increasing prosperity will as surely commend their government to them.

Nor is it of less importance that the United States is thus seen to be taking actual as well as nominal possession of its new property. It has hitherto been urged that the way to annex the Philippines was not merely to overrun them with troops and thus to suppress armed opposition, but, at the same time, that this is done wherever it is unhappily necessary, to establish a de facto civil government, with all its benedictory appurtenances—to conquer the land, if conquest be necessary, with courts and schools and roads and posts and industries and commerce. That is not merely to overcome savage force with civilized force. It is to overcome savagery with civilization. Against a camp full of soldiers a people may rage. They will not rage against the institutes of industry, commerce and government which are operating for their own benefit. Equally does the principle serve the interests of the governing country. To hold distant possessions permanently at the point of the bayonet would be intolerable. To hold them in bonds of law and amity and profitable commerce, with ample benefits received and given, will be a far different matter. News of insurgents dispersing, inhabitants returning to their homes, civil government established and ports reopened to the commerce of the world is the news that justifies the past and gives best promise for the future.

WATERFRONT RAILWAYS. The State Commerce Commission, which has been studying the comparative decline of this port, will recommend, it is said, that with the rapid transit tunnel be coupled freight tunnels along the waterfronts of Manhattan and Brooklyn. The idea is that thus goods brought here by the trunk lines can be more cheaply and conveniently handled either for export or local delivery. This may seem like a startling proposition, and in the present state of the city's finances there is no prospect of its being carried out immediately as a municipal enterprise. But as a plan for giving this port adequate facilities for the transaction of its business there is nothing visionary or extravagant about it. It is a simple and sensible solution of the problem. Some day this scheme, or some modification of it, which will still bring our shipping into direct contact with our land transportation lines, will be adopted. That is, if we do not delay so long that the bulk of our trade has sought such conveniences elsewhere.

New-York burdens commerce with one of the most expensive and inconvenient cartage and lighterage systems that could well be imagined. With the exception of a few wharves on the Jersey shore and in Staten Island, there is scarcely a spot in this harbor where freight can be transhipped without being drawn laboriously through the streets or floated across the rivers. Of course, towns in which incoming freight trains are pulled up beside an ocean steamer have the advantage over New-York, and as the mechanical means of handling freight are more and more improved that advantage will tell increasingly against us unless we abolish it by making possible the placing of a car of grain from Duluth or beef from Chicago on any wharf frequented by ocean steamers without breaking bulk or lighterage. New-York is now trying to carry on the principal part of the country's commerce with facilities worthy of mediæval trade. Only one line connecting with the West has any direct access at all to Manhattan Island and it can reach the waterfront in only a few places. The Brooklyn wharves are entirely cut off from rail communication with the rest of the world. The proposed North River bridges and tunnels will give the many railroads centring about Jersey City access to this island, but unless they can find further outlets for their tracks from bridge and tunnel terminals to the places where their freight is wanted they will really be little better off than they are now. They will find stations

on Manhattan Island useful for passengers and local freight, but there will be no use in bringing goods for export into the most crowded section of the metropolis just for the sake of carting them where congestion is greatest and carting most difficult and expensive. A circuit of railroad tracks about Manhattan Island and along the Brooklyn shore, such as was long ago so strenuously urged by Erastus Wiman, would remove some of the most annoying of the present shackles upon the port's commerce. The idea of putting these tracks in tunnels is a new development, which has come with the passenger rapid transit plans. But even tracks along the surface, if used under proper regulations, might be endurable, or elevated freight tracks along the water's edge, with spurs onto the wharves at a level not inconvenient for shipping, might answer the purpose and be little or no obstacle to foot and wagon traffic. The plan to connect waterfront lines with passenger tunnels is more ambitious, but by no means impossible. Perhaps when we have a great system of underground passenger railroads they can be used at night for the distribution of freight cars from railroad yards into the cellars of the great wholesale establishments in the centre of the city. Also we believe that private enterprise has contemplated the possibility of freight tunnels through the most crowded sections of the town. It may be yet a long time before any such complete scheme of local freight handling can be developed, but it is a good sign that the need of it is understood by practical business men like Mr. Schieren and his associates on the Commission.

The Park Board's firm determination that the elevated structure must be removed from Battery Park would seem to indicate that Tammany Hall and the Manhattan officials had not yet reached a modus vivendi. The opposition of certain special interests in France to the ratification of the commercial treaty with this country is not unexpected, nor, indeed, unnatural. Precisely the same kind of opposition has more than once been manifested in this country against reciprocity treaties and changes in tariff legislation. And those who do so in one country are the very ones who most deplore or resent the doing of it in another! The course of the Government is to be determined, however, by the general welfare, and not by that of any one class or industry.

The only way to reform the prizefighting which now disgraces and debases this city is to "reform it altogether." The only effectual reform is abolition.

Japan is one of the best friends we have among the nations, and in sending to us the expectancy and hope of the fair State—that is, her Prince Imperial, who is presently to visit us—she is assured beforehand of Dame Columbia's cordial greetings. The young gentleman will arrive with the summer, which will spread a blooming welcome for him from ocean to ocean.

PERSONAL.

Mrs. Mary Emma Woolley, M. A., professor in Wellesley College, who has been elected president of Mount Holyoke College, is a daughter of the Rev. Joseph J. Woolley, pastor of the First Congregational Church of Pawtucket, R. I., and was born in South Norwalk, Conn. After preparatory study in the classical school of Providence, R. I., she was graduated from Wheaton Seminary in 1884, and was for some years teacher of history in that institution. She entered Brown University in 1891, as soon as its classes were opened to women, and was graduated with the degree of B. A. in 1894, the first woman to be thus honored. After post-graduate study she also received the degree of M. A. from the same university. During both her undergraduate and graduate years at Brown she made a special study of history, devoting also a large part of her time to languages, Latin, Greek, Hebrew and German, and giving special attention to philosophy, political economy and political science. She has published monographs on historical subjects in the "Rhode Island Historical Society" and "The American Historical Review." She has spent some time in Europe, and is one of the trustees of Pembroke College, the college for women in Brown University.

President Hadley of Yale thus explained his views four the other day in Kansas City: "The main feature of the trip is the explanation to the alumni and friends of the university of the plans for the erection of a new set of buildings at Yale. It is no trouble to get money for special schools, but it is a matter to get enough funds to rebuild the necessary structures for them around the campus."

"The London Chronicle" says that, while Colonel Baden-Powell is out scouting his way to be purchased by English soldiers at its published price, within a week of its appearance it was translated, published and distributed without cost to every soldier in the German Army.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

The following advertisement recently appeared in "The Church Times," of London: "STRONG BICYCLE urgently needed by a poor Vicar, who has not given up the ceremonial use of incense at Mass."

"You know that jewel of a hired girl of mine who left the Blinksopons and came to me for \$1 more a week?" "Yes."

"Well, would you believe it, that despicable Billinger woman is trying to buy her away from me?" "Yes."

"The Anglophobes of Paris will no longer be peeped at in the presence of some mad Englishman." The following advertisement recently appeared in a Paris paper:

CAFE ANTI-ANGLAIS. Under the management of Ch. Schroeder. Luxembourg-avenue de la Gare. English-speaking waiters will not be served.

"That panic started me, I tell you." "No, but suppose the people whom I owe money should get any poorer than they are?" (Indianapolis Journal.)

Lido Martinez, a Cuban resident of Philadelphia, has just returned from Havana, and gives his impressions of it in "The Press." "Havana," he says, "is to-day an entirely different city from what it was when I was a young man. The first thing that would impress the visitor would be the general cleanliness of the streets. This is one of the many American reforms. Every day three or four hundred men clean the streets with brooms and water, and the truth when I say that Havana's streets are cleaner than are streets in Philadelphia. The Cubans like the American ways and are fast growing accustomed to the change. They see that they are being benefited, and they are anxious to do what they can to even better their present conditions. In the way of education, the change of government has accomplished the best. There are now a large number of public schools, with competent teachers."

Mrs. Brown—She's so active; in fact, a most uncommon woman. Mrs. Jones—Yes, indeed; she's not like other women at all. For instance, yesterday I watched her sell her army-shaking machine and she knew all the time she had her hands in the flour her nose didn't itch once! (Philadelphia Press.)

currency limited to 90 per cent of the par value of the bonds bearing a higher rate of interest now outstanding. It is true that when money on call loans largely at 2 per cent, United States bonds at that rate and exempt from taxation would be in demand. But there has been much proof lately that in times of prosperity people will not place money at 2 per cent, because they can get more. If the issues of currency based on 2 per cent bonds were limited in amount the case would be different. But the offer to refund bonds exceeding \$1,000,000,000 in amount provides for a practically unlimited expansion of bank circulation if at any time the banks find it profitable to issue notes under the more easy conditions now proposed. When a speculative epidemic, such as was seen last year, renders currency in special demand for a time the opportunity for expansion will be great. But when reaction comes and credits are sharply contracted, how far will 2 per cent bonds fall in the effort to realize on them? There has been much talk for years regarding the advantages of an automatically elastic currency, but is there not danger that such operations as those proposed would produce an explosive currency instead?

Any currency that is elastic does not expand only, but also contracts. Moreover, it has an uncomfortable property of contracting just when people in difficulty need more of it. The cheapness of 2 per cent bonds and the power to issue notes against them at par, with taxation at a reduced rate, are evidently expected to insure a vast increase in banking circulation, with natural results in the kindling of speculation. But when the time comes for contraction, will such a currency be as safe as that we now have? If the bonds fall below par the law requires the banks to make additional deposits of bonds or legal tenders, but at such a time of emergency would that involve no banks in trouble? It seems most questionable whether changes so radical in the currency system should be made without far more extensive and thorough discussion and popular understanding than can be expected in this instance. Certainly the gold standard bill would be less assailable without an addition so foreign to its purpose.

A PENALTY THAT MUST BE PAID.

In the flood of talk, almost wholly favorable, which has suddenly been set loose by the success of the Rapid Transit Board in obtaining a responsible bid for the underground franchise and the prospect that work will be begun within a few weeks we find some foolish and possibly mischievous statements. It is said, for example, that the construction of the tunnels will not interfere with the operation of the surface roads, and the belief is encouraged that no particular inconvenience will result from the execution of the project in which Mr. McDonald is preparing to embark with creditable energy. Now, such a supposition is necessarily erroneous, and it is especially unwise for persons officially concerned to spread it abroad. Intelligent citizens are rejoiced that the plan so long approved and so obstinately hindered is apparently on the verge of realization. They believe that underground roads are essential to the comfort and welfare of the city, and will repay a thousand-fold whatever injury the process of building them may inflict. But all such persons must realize, if they stop to reflect, that during the period of construction the community will have to put up with much inconvenience and more or less serious losses, and it is the part of common sense to acknowledge that fact at the outset, instead of cultivating expectations which are sure to be disappointed.

The installation of the trolley in Forty-second-st., under which the tunnel is to be driven, is pointed out, for example, not as an illustration of the possibility of conducting such operations without actually stopping traffic, but as a proof that the building of the tunnel is going to cause no trouble worth speaking of. Unhappily the proof is lacking. For a long time Forty-second-st. was in a wretched condition. It couldn't be helped, but it was a great nuisance; and though the cars were run they were run in a fashion to vex the souls of passengers and pedestrians. So it will be when Mr. McDonald gets to work. Skill and ingenuity will, we hope, reduce the inconvenience to comparatively small proportions, but the evil will not seem a slight one, and we confidently expect to hear a pretty incessant chorus of complaints.

The sensible thing, as we have said, is to look the inevitable fairly in the face, and be reconciled in advance to a penalty which it is well worth while to pay for the sake of the recompense which is certain to follow.

GENERAL BULLER'S ADVANCE.

Sound comes out of the silence at last, and it is a sound of war. The rigid censorship kept the world for a week in ignorance of what was going on along the Tugela. The British army was engaged in momentous operations, and its commander did not mean to have those operations frustrated or impeded by betrayal to the enemy. He preferred to let his own guns, rather than the telegraph, announce his advance. In that he was quite right. No doubt his repression of news was trying to the public patience and exasperating to the correspondents. But then war is not waged for the sake of giving the correspondents a chance to distinguish themselves or of supplying the public with a fresh sensation every day. To cross a large river in flood in the face of a strongly entrenched and fortified foe equal if not superior in numbers to his own army—that is the task which General Buller was essaying. It can in no respect be deemed anything but arduous and formidable. It was well that he acted in silence and in darkness, for he had need of every possible aid of circumstance. To-day the embargo is removed and news comes through. It is important news. The British army has advanced, with both tact and courage. It has crossed the Tugela River at two points and is approaching Ladysmith. At any hour we may hear that the siege of that town has been raised. Or we may hear that the British advance has been checked again by the resolute Boers.

For, while the present plan of campaign on the Tugela is the most commendable, it is not necessarily bound to be successful at the very first attempt. Beyond doubt a flanking movement is preferable to a frontal attack. Yet it must be remembered that flanking is not always all beer and skittles. The nearest parallel which recent warfare offers to the task which General Buller has thus undertaken is furnished in Grant's campaign against Lee. Again and again Grant tried to outflank Lee and get past him to Richmond. Again and again Lee, by virtue of superior mobility and familiarity with the country, baffled him. In the end Grant won, but at tremendous cost. The armies now confronting each other at Ladysmith are more nearly matched in size than were Grant's and Lee's, and the Boers ought therefore to oppose General Buller more effectively than Lee did Grant. For obvious reasons there will be little cause to wonder if the first attempt or the first half dozen attempts to turn the Boer flank fail. Yet we can scarcely credit the Boer commanders with the consummate skill of Lee, and it may be that the first flank movement of the British will succeed. For, of course, the British have this advantage over Grant, that their objective point, Ladysmith, is held by their friends, who are able to give them material aid by rear attacks upon the enemy. To-day is the anniversary of the capture

Amusements. 10
ACADEMY OF MUSIC—6-10—Way Down East.
AMERICAN THEATRE—8-15—Martha.
BROADWAY THEATRE—8-15—Rip Van Winkle.
CRITERION THEATRE—8-15—The Little Minister.
DAILY THEATRE—8-15—The Menace.
ELGIN THEATRE—8-15—The Menace.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE—8-15—The Gaiety.
HAMMERSTEIN'S VICTORIA—8-15—Chris and the Wagon.
HARLEM OPERA HOUSE—8-15—Bewitched.
HAYWORTH THEATRE—8-15—The Gaiety.
IRVING PLACE THEATRE—8-15—Schwaeffer in Gehell.
KNECKERBOCKER THEATRE—8-15—The Cowboy and the Lady.
KOSTER THEATRE—8-15—Vandeville.
LYCEUM THEATRE—8-15—Miss Hobbs.
MADISON SQUARE THEATRE—8-15—Wheels Within Wheels.
MENDELSSOHN HALL—8-15—Concert by the Columbia University Philharmonic Society.
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE—8-15—Aida.
MUSIC HILL THEATRE—8-15—An Enemy to My King.
NATIONAL ACADEMY OF DESIGN—Exhibition of Oil Paintings.
NEW-YORK THEATRE—Closed.
NEW-YORK THEATRE—8-15—The Gaiety.
WALLACKS—8-15—The Amerer.

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Business Notices.

\$3,500 will buy half interest in a business already established with most excellent outlook. Money used in the purchase of LANDLORDS' PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION, Park Row Building.

New-York Daily Tribune.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 1900. THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—General Buller informed the War Office in London of the passage of the Tugela at two points by his troops; British artillery was bombarding the enemy's position at Pottgieter's Drift yesterday, and General Warren's division was expected to turn the Boer flank by a five-mile march from Trichart's Drift; General Hector Macdonald, who will succeed General Wauchope in command of the Highland Brigade, arrived at Cape Town from India. A Paris newspaper asserted that Count Boni de Castellane had lost, sum estimated at from 3,000,000 to 20,000,000 francs in speculations on the Bourse, and had gone to America to secure financial help; the story of the losses was denied by the Count's father. A French court has reversed a judgment awarding 100,000 francs to the widow of a victim of the disaster to La Bourgoigne. The French Chamber of Deputies voted confidence in the Government in its treatment of the St. Etienne strikes. CONGRESS.—Senate: Mr. Wellington spoke in favor of giving the Philippines independence, and Mr. Teller continued his speech on the Currency bill. House: The Senate bill increasing the powers of the chief engineer of the Census was passed, with a proviso that the printing must be done by the Public Printer. DOMESTIC.—A statue of Daniel Webster was unveiled in Washington, Secretary Long and Secretary Taft were present. Representative James S. Sherman has declined to accept the secretaryship of the United States Senate. The report of Henry K. Carroll, President McKinley's special commissioner to Puerto Rico, was made public; he recommends a territorial form of government for the island. CITY.—Stocks were dull and irregular at small final changes. President Johnston issued a statement declaring that the deposits of the State Trust Company had not been affected by the proceedings begun against it, and that the cash balances were larger than in any time within three months. It was announced that the assistants of the chief engineer of the Rapid Transit Commission in the building of the tunnel would be appointed only after Civil Service examination. In the Molinex trial more evidence regarding the death of Henry C. Barnett was introduced. The Republican County Committee voted down Abraham Gruber's proposition to take from the president of the committee the power to select election officers and vest it in the district organizations. THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Rain. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 44; lowest, 33; average, 39.

THE TWO PER CENT CURRENCY SECTION.

The agreement to close debate in the Senate on the gold standard bill on February 15 doubtless means that the bill will pass in some form, but in a form to be determined by the private action of a conference committee, and not by discussion and voting in open Senate or House. It means, apparently, that the Democrats do not intend to make serious opposition to the measure. The natural significance of such a decision is that the passage of the bill in its present form would, in the judgment of Democrats, help more than it would hurt their party. They have blundered so long and so often that their judgment is not entitled to great weight, and as to the silver issue they certainly mistake if they suppose that the pending measure would weaken the Republicans. But they expect to gain most by reason of provisions which the Republicans of the House did not adopt, nor did their committee think it wise to recommend them. Obviously the Democrats mean to claim that the refunding section will make a present of a good many millions to the National banks, permitting them to continue outstanding as large a circulation as they have at present, but based upon far inferior security, and encouraging them indefinitely to increase their paper circulation based on such security. The Democrats are not in haste to disclose this line of attack in the Senate. As the shortened debate may therefore not draw much attention to the feature in question, it seems worth while to consider what the Republicans will have to offer in justification if the provision passes as reported to the Senate. They will be able to show that the interest payable in future years will be diminished by the full equivalent of the money paid to holders of bonds now outstanding for the surrender of those bonds and the substitution of the 2 per cents. The Secretary of the Treasury may at his discretion, under the present worth of the outstanding bonds surrendered, permit them to continue outstanding as large a circulation as they have at present, but based upon far inferior security, and encouraging them indefinitely to increase their paper circulation based on such security. The Democrats are not in haste to disclose this line of attack in the Senate. As the shortened debate may therefore not draw much attention to the feature in question, it seems worth while to consider what the Republicans will have to offer in justification if the provision passes as reported to the Senate. They will be able to show that the interest payable in future years will be diminished by the full equivalent of the money paid to holders of bonds now outstanding for the surrender of those bonds and the substitution of the 2 per cents. The Secretary of the Treasury may at his discretion, under the present worth of the outstanding bonds surrendered, permit them to continue outstanding as large a circulation as they have at present, but based upon far inferior security, and encouraging them indefinitely to increase their paper circulation based on such security.