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Business Notices.

The market is flooded with cheap Mineral Waters of uncertain composition and doubtful purity. To avoid all mistakes, use only CARL H. SCHULTZ'S.

New-York Daily Tribune.

SUNDAY, MAY 20, 1900.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—The carnival of rejoicing in London over the relief of Mafeking continued throughout yesterday with undiminished fervor; further details of the relief of the besieged town were received from South Africa, but no official confirmation; General Buller's cavalry under Lord Dundonald reached Laing's Nek, while Clery's division was at Ingogo, a day's march behind; the Berne Peace Committee has appealed to the Powers to mediate between Great Britain and the South African Republics. ═══ The "Boxer" agitation in China is growing more dangerous; German troops are protecting American missionaries at Shang-tung.

CONGRESS.—Senate: The amendment to the Postoffice Appropriation bill providing for pneumatic tube service was laid on the table by a vote of 32 to 16; consideration of the Clark case was postponed until Monday; exercises were held accepting statues of Benton and Blair from the State of Missouri, and a statue of General Grant from the Grand Army of the Republic. ═══ House: The entire session was devoted to the Grant statue exercises.

DOMESTIC.—President McKinley intends to visit his home in Canton after Congress adjourns, to remain two or three weeks. ═══ The credentials of the Boer envoys in Washington will be presented to Secretary Hay on Monday, and it is said that the delegates may possibly be officially received. ═══ Governor Smith of Montana signed the commission of Martin Maginnis as United States Senator. ═══ Senator Depew paid a high tribute to the founder of Girard College on the 150th anniversary of his birth. ═══ No choice of a Bishop was made on the twelfth ballot in the Methodist General Conference in Chicago, and a sentiment was expressed for indefinite postponement of the election.

CITY.—Stocks were strong and higher. ═══ Winners at Morris Park: King Bramble, All Green, Bonnibert Oneck Queen, King Barleycorn and Van Ship. ═══ The Chicago Platform Democracy held its State Convention and decided to put off action regarding a contesting delegation to Kansas City until after the regular Democratic Convention on June 5. ═══ It was announced that the Consolidated Gas Company had secured control of the New-Amsterdam company, and that the price of gas would probably go up to $1 a thousand cubic feet. ═══ There was no indication of a falling off in the great number of immigrants coming to this port. ═══ Miles J. O'Brien was elected president of the School Board of Manhattan and The Bronx, to succeed Joseph J. Little. ═══ A woman was arrested on suspicion of throwing the potash which burned Mrs. Cronin's face.

THE WEATHER.—Forecast for to-day: Fair and cool. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 72 degrees; lowest, 52; average, 58.

Make sure of your TRIBUNE *by leaving an order for it at any convenient news stand.*

If THE TRIBUNE *is not found on sale on any particular stand or any suburban train,* THE TRIBUNE *will be pleased to be informed of the fact.*

Subscription terms, for New-Yorkers in the country or abroad, will be found on page opposite.

GRINDING THE FACES OF THE POOR.

The Tammany Ice Trust has been compelled to recede in part from its abominable proposition. It set out to increase the profits on its bloated capitalization by doubling the price of ice to the poor. It was willing to let the rich and powerful have ice at the old rates, or at a little advance upon them. But with characteristic Tammany brutality and arrogance it thought that it had the poor and weak at its mercy, and it proposed to wring from them the last cent that greed could extort from need. The fear, however, of losing votes among the victims of its rapacity and the menace of powerful competition which might make its ring held stock less valuable have constrained it to modify its tactics, and it now makes a great flourish of selling ice to the poor at a rate which will not pay it more than 100 or 200 per cent profit. But the lesson of its original iniquitous scheme will not be forgotten.

It is a lesson that has other applications, equally direct if less obvious. Grinding the faces of the poor is not exclusively a Tammany Ice Trust function. It is a deplorable fact that in one way or another the poor, who have the least money and need, therefore, to get the most for it, actually get the least for it. They are as a rule compelled to pay far higher prices for the necessaries of life than are the rich, or even the moderately well to do. Not only must they pay more for the ice which cools them and preserves their food in summer, but they must pay more for the coal which cooks their food and warms them in winter. The tenement dweller who buys coal by the pailful or the bushel has to pay from three to five times as much as he who can purchase a ton or more at a time. Suppose prosperous householders and the rich were compelled to pay from $15 to $25 a ton for coal! And it is so, in a degree, with most articles of food. The poor, who through lack of capital or lack of storage room are compelled to buy in small, hand to mouth quantities, must pay double prices or get inferior qualities, or—as is generally the case—both.

There should be in this state of affairs a pregnant suggestion to both philanthropists and business men. It is well in case of dire necessity to give food and fuel outright to the poor. It is incomparably better to put them in a way of earning and purchasing such supplies; and what could be more practical and beneficent to that end than to enable them to get their supplies of best quality at half or less than half the rates they are now paying—at the same low rates, that is to say, that are paid by their richer neighbors? We say that to enable the dwellers in crowded tenements to get ice at 25 cents a hundredweight, or at even the far lower rate which is possible, and coal at $4 or $5 a ton, and all other supplies at corresponding rates, would be one of the noblest benefactions of the age. And there is ample reason to believe that it might at the same time be made a profitable business undertaking. We must not imagine that the Tammany Ice Trust is going to run wagons selling five-cent bits of ice to the poor "just for its health" or at a loss. Not by a good deal. It expects to make, and will make, a handsome profit out of it. So might coal dealers make a profit if they sent wagons directly from their yards to peddle coal in small lots at the ton rate. So would other dealers who should engage in similar enterprises. The money of the poor is just as good as the money of the rich.

THE ST. LOUIS SITUATION.

A general sympathetic strike in support of the street railway strikers in St. Louis has been recommended by the Executive Board of the Central Trades and Labor Union in that city. Each separate organization, however, must decide by a three-fourths vote to obey an order to quit work, and it is by no means certain that such action will be taken. In the mean time the situation is not materially better than it was several days ago. Only about one hundred and fifty cars out of eight hundred in operation before the strike are running, and some of the lines controlled by the St. Louis Transit Company are completely tied up. Officers of the company say that this condition of things is chiefly due to the lack of proper police protection, while the strikers assert that the company cannot secure enough men to take their places. It will be observed that these statements are not contradictory, and both, as they stand, are probably true. If, however, the strikers mean that the company would be unable to operate its cars if the acts of violence which began the moment the strike was declared and have continued ever since should cease they are doing nothing to verify their prediction, and it is a fair inference that they fear a restoration of order would spoil their plans.

It is authoritatively announced that seventy employes of the Transit company, chiefly motormen, have received injuries requiring surgical attention during the last ten days. Doubtless in most of these cases nothing was needed beyond a bandage or a plaster or a stitch or two, but some of them are serious. It is scarcely an exaggeration, moreover, to say that every assault was potential murder. When a man throws a brick at short range he takes no small chance of killing the person at whom he throws it. Under the conditions prevailing in St. Louis it requires a good deal of physical and moral courage to run a streetcar, and if the company is finding it difficult to replace the employes who have abandoned its service and engaged—not unanimously, of course, but apparently in considerable numbers—in lawless acts the fact is far from surprising.

The public authorities, it is said, have been so much impressed by this steadily lengthening list of casualties that they have decided to arm the police, who are going through the motions of guarding the cars, with shotguns and orders to fire when their operation is violently interrupted. At this distance it looks as if a great deal of trouble might have been prevented by taking this resolve at an earlier date. For nearly a fortnight men desirous to work for the wages offered by the company have been abominably maltreated, property has been destroyed, life endangered and the public subjected to extreme inconvenience by a small minority of the citizens of St. Louis, while the municipal officials have remained either ignorant of their duty to all the people, the rioters included, or afraid to perform it. If they have finally got their eyes open to the fact that the one paramount and imperative necessity confronting them is to restore and preserve order the community for whose common welfare they are responsible has reason to rejoice, whatever the subsequent result of the strike may be.

CLOSING IN UPON THE BOERS.

With the relief of Mafeking the Boers are baffled in the last of the three important undertakings in which they had any prospect of success. The talk about planting the Boer flag in Cape Town and driving the British into the sea was, of course, never anything but bombast, not seriously taken by the most truculent Dopper of them all. But there was a time, of considerable duration, when the capture of Kimberley, Ladysmith and Mafeking seemed imminent. The first place was saved by the superb strategy of Lord Roberts and the brilliant dash of General French. The second owed its salvation chiefly to the stubborn heroism of General White. The third, after harder trials and a far longer siege than either of the others, is now saved through, we shall not say merely the valor, but the absolute genius of Colonel Baden-Powell. Of course, much credit is to be given to the relieving force, which marched two hundred miles in twelve days in almost unbroken secrecy and got in two days ahead of schedule time. Yet we are by no means certain that the indomitable "B. P." and his handful of comrades could not have held out six months longer, waxing fat and kicking on their diet of mule hash and curried locusts. But the great fact is that Mafeking is saved, and thus the Boers are beaten in all three of their most resolute and promising undertakings.

And now the British are closing in on all sides. Between Kimberley and Bloemfontein, when Lord Roberts was fully at work, one panic stricken Boer was heard to exclaim that the whole earth seemed covered with British soldiers. It must soon seem so to the defenders of the Transvaal. Lord Roberts is pushing on toward the Vaal, and seems likely to strike it at two or three points at once. Sir Redvers Buller is driving his way up the wedge of Natal and will presently cross the Buffalo River or pour his army through the passes of the Drakensberg. Lord Methuen is sweeping up the south bank of the Vaal, and General Hunter is advancing along the north bank straight toward Potchefstroom, which may be captured before any attack is made upon Pretoria or Johannesburg. Nor are these all. The force which relieved Mafeking is now free to march across either to Pretoria or, more probably, to Potchefstroom, where it may effect a junction with the other columns now converging upon the capital. And, finally, there is Sir Frederick Carrington's strong force, which has now served its purpose of making the Boers believe it was intended for Mafeking and thus distracting their attention from the force that was really hurrying toward that place, and which may now strike down upon the Limpopo at any point that seems most favorable.

There is little ground for surprise in such circumstances at the rumors of the formation of a peace party at Pretoria and of reports that Mr. Krüger himself will soon make overtures for peace. The futility of further resistance, and indeed the impossibility of maintaining it with any degree of effectiveness, must be apparent to the Boers. There can be in such a case little wisdom in fighting on to the "last ditch." Yet the stern reality of the situation is that there is no apparent alternative save that of unconditional surrender, which would not be to the Boer taste. There is certainly nothing in the aspect of the war at this moment which makes any stronger appeal for intervention than there was months ago. Intervention is, in fact, impossible. Mediation might be possible if Great Britain should request it; but, seeing that she has fought this war largely as a practical protest against mediation, nothing is more unlikely than that she will ask it or admit it, now that she is bringing the war to a triumphant close. The question whether it is desirable to open negotiations with the Boers over terms of peace or is best to press unrelentingly and inexorably on until they are compelled to surrender unconditionally and let her dictate a settlement according to her own will is for Great Britain herself to answer. At present there seems to be little doubt as to what her answer of it will be.

MR. GARDINER EXHIBITS HIMSELF.

District Attorney Gardiner, at his latest hearing before Commissioner Wilcox on Friday, made a statement concerning his management of important cases which is worthy of both public and official attention. The testimony of Mr. Gardiner is reported as follows:

"Assistant District Attorney Blake, who was criticised by the Recorder, came to me and told me that the Recorder was very sore. He begged me to placate him by sending an important case to his court. I sent a homicide case there and the man was convicted. Justice Van Brunt, of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, advised me to send the more important cases to the Criminal Branch of the Supreme Court. I sent some of them to General Sessions to mollify the Recorder. He complained that the cases I sent him were not of note."

"What do you mean by 'of note'?" queried Mr. Untermyer.

"Of newspaper notoriety."

The irresistible inference is that the case in question was that of Molineux, which, as is well remembered, was thrown back and forth between courts for no apparent reason, and finally, to the general astonishment, removed from the Supreme Court and brought to trial before the Recorder at a time when it was commonly supposed that the District Attorney would not care to bring a case in which his own reputation was so much at stake before a Judge with whom he was publicly at odds. The event, however, showed that the Recorder had no prejudice against the prosecution, but rather treated it with the greatest consideration. The Tribune has hitherto expressed critical views of some of the acts and rulings of the Recorder on that trial as transcending proper judicial functions, but the monstrous insinuation of the District Attorney that the Recorder's conduct on the bench can be controlled by such mean and petty motives, and that he can be "placated" and "mollified" into making smooth the path of the District Attorney by chances for newspaper notoriety, calls for repudiation.

In making this attack on the Recorder the District Attorney makes a confession concerning himself. He admits that with a homicide case he was willing to play politics, sending it not to the court where he thought it would be best and most fairly tried, but where he thought it would be most useful to himself. Against his own convictions, and, as he says, against the advice of an eminent jurist, he was ready to sacrifice the interests of justice to making his peace with the Recorder. As we say, he doubtless does outrageous injustice to Recorder Goff, but even if he did believe that the Recorder was a man who wanted an important case for notoriety, and in return would be "placated" and even rule in his favor, was it honorable for him to prostitute the character of his own semi-judicial office by concession to any such assumed disposition?

This confession of juggling with cases and playing battledore and shuttlecock with them for personal purposes does as much to show Mr. Gardiner's unfitness for his office as any of the charges brought against him by others.

TEACHING BACKWARD CHILDREN.

The public school authorities of Philadelphia have at last adopted a scheme which has for some years been advocated by their accomplished and efficient Superintendent of Public Instruction, Dr. Edward Brooks, namely, for the establishment of a number of special, ungraded schools for children who are backward in their studies. To such schools will be assigned children who are mentally sluggish or deficient, who are careless or wilfully neglectful of their lessons, and who are irregular in their school attendance. They will be gathered into classes of not more than twenty-five or thirty each and be under the charge of teachers specially selected because of their ability to deal with such children, the qualifications including, of course, not only scholarship, but tact, authority and the fine power of versatile self-adaptation to individual requirements.

It is believed, and with reason, that such schools will serve a doubly or perhaps a trebly beneficent purpose. There can be no doubt that they will do much good to the otherwise unfortunate children who attend them, who will in them make such progress as would be practically impossible elsewhere. They will also aid the general school system by ridding it of a class of children that has hitherto been a disturbing element and a handicap upon progress. Finally, they will free the teachers of the latter schools from endless annoyances and from a great amount of work of which the heaviest burden has lain in the fact of its futility and fruitlessness. Such benefits will be conferred upon the Philadelphia schools by Dr. Brooks's wise system, and would doubtless be conferred upon those of any other city in which that system might be adopted.

Beyond these intensely practical arguments in favor of such special schools there lies the general principle of duty to the unfortunate. It is, as was said with authority centuries ago, the sick, not the well, who need a physician. In savage tribes the sick, the weak and the aged are neglected or put to death as useless to the community and as an actual drag upon it; the contrary practice of tenderly caring for such and restoring them if possible to a sound estate is one of the foremost characteristics of civilization and one of the most marked criterions of human progress. We shall do well to carry that principle into our school systems, as Dr. Brooks is doing, and thus to bring the backward forward and to make dull minds bright. For the mission of the school is to the ignorant no less than to the learned.

HEAVY INSURANCE LOSSES.

The fire underwriters of the country have been passing through times of sorrow and of bitterness. At the annual meeting of the National Board held in this city a few days ago the reports were not of a joyous and sanguine kind. The official figures showed that the fire losses in the United States in 1899 amounted to $153,597,830. This startling sum surpassed by more than $23,000,000 the total of 1898 and by more than $37,000,000 that of 1897. In this State alone the figures rose to $85,727,285, exceeding the amount in 1898 by more than $14,000,000. Insurance men feel disturbed and disheartened over ravages of this sort. It ought to be possible to enforce so effective precautions among the owners and guardians of insured property that the destruction by fire hereafter shall fall much below the amounts now chronicled. It is admitted by broad minded and candid experts that the competition among the companies has been carried to excess, and that in the fierce struggles for business the interests of the stockholders and the principles of sound management have been too frequently disregarded.

The companies are passing through a period of storm and stress, but the fault lies to some extent with their own methods. It is true they have been hampered by hostile legislation in several States. Too many of the legislative bodies find a favorite quarry in these corporations, and pass measures interfering with insurance in ways that cannot be defended or excused. The retiring president of the National Board was vehement in his language concerning hostile legislation. He is reported as saying: "Legislation against insurance interests continues to be the most popular craze among our "State legislators, and we do not have the consideration shown us that is given to the liquor "interest or the gambling saloons; and the taxes "imposed upon us are greater than those imposed upon them in proportion to the profits of "the business. To say the least, this is a sad "commentary on the intelligence of our legislators."

Other reports at the recent meeting referred to the enmity exhibited by many Legislatures in various States to the best interests of insurance, and the opinion was put forth that it would be highly desirable that there should exist exclusive National supervision over the insurance companies. It is not expected, however, that so radical a step will be adopted at an early date. The protests against the unwarranted attacks upon the companies in certain parts of the country are fully justified. In time, undoubtedly, the force of enlightened public sentiment will relieve the companies from the worst of the oppressions and exactions from which they now suffer. But the officers of these corporations should bear in mind that it is their duty to refrain from the extreme violence of rivalry which inevitably tends to the loosening of restrictions as to the risks on property. If the companies will insist that the insured shall pay reasonable rates, and will adhere firmly to the plan of bringing to bear every legitimate influence to induce property owners to guard more carefully against fire, if they will encourage in every proper way the construction of the most substantial buildings and the most vigilant watchfulness over goods that are insured, the years to come need not be blackened with such a record as the destruction of more than $150,000,000 of insured property within our own territory.

The fire departments of the best known cities do not seem to have been falling off in efficiency. The trouble appears to be with the insurance companies and with the owners and guardians of insurance property. More rigorous supervision must be applied.

IS NEW-YORK PROVINCIAL?

The chatty "Spectator" of "The Outlook" raises again the old question of the alleged provincialism of New-York. He quotes a visiting Englishman as saying that he found the newspapers of this city "far more provincial" than those of Chicago, which he explains by saying that the papers of the latter city "have a good deal more of America in them." While the "Spectator" is not quite sure that this statement is true or that the inference from it is just, he is led by it to discuss other aspects of the case. A resident of a small New-England city tells why he thinks this city is provincial. It seems that he was recently one of a luncheon party at the University Club, and told a story about a distinguished man of letters. He paused for some comment, whereupon a guest politely asked, "And who is Mr. Blank?" Moreover, he declares that distinguished literary people are seldom mentioned in New-York papers and they have no place in its social life. New-York, he concludes, therefore, is nothing more than "a great cosmopolitan trading post."

Now, it is possible to admit the truth of the incidents thus given without at all settling the question whether or not New-York is provincial. Indeed, the word "provincial" is so vague in meaning as commonly used by the critics of New-York that the discussion of the question is usually profitless. Take, for instance, a concrete fact. Every New-York newspaper would give more space to the present war in South Africa than it would to some routine, though in a way important, happening in the West or Far West. But that is not a mark of provincialism. On the contrary, it shows that the readers of the New-York papers are cosmopolitan. They want to know what is happening everywhere in the great round world. Even the Chicago papers, which constantly criticise Eastern papers for printing so much European news, are to-day printing war news from Africa to the exclusion of much interesting local news. And they do so for the good reason that their readers want them to do so. In that respect they are just like the so-called "provincial" people of the East. All this talk about Eastern newspapers refusing to print certain kinds of American news because they are "provincial" is the veriest nonsense. They print the news, whether of the East or the West, knowing well that if they failed to do so even for a week they would begin to lose their readers.

As to the assertion that literary people are ignored in New-York, it is a curious fact that so many of them nevertheless prefer this city as a place of residence. What would the critics have? Surely they would not approve of the daily exploiting of self-respecting literary men and women by some prying Jenkins of the press. Such articles might interest the mob, but we are sure it would be unpleasant to literary men. Indeed, we suspect that they like this city, among other reasons, because, in the immensity of its many sided life, they can lose themselves and thus secure the privacy which all well bred people desire. Some, not many, literary "bounders" occasionally do emerge to the surface and seek to secure a factitious fame by press puffery; but they gain nothing except the amused contempt of the discriminating public. It is, indeed, true, in a sense, that New-York is "a great cosmopolitan trading post," and the fact is not at all to its discredit. It is the most important commercial entrepot of the Western Hemisphere, and a good part of the business of the United States passes through it. Why, therefore, should it be ashamed to take an interest in commerce and trade? But the charge, often made, that it takes no interest in anything else is simply untrue. Its journals discuss literary people and literature with great fulness. It is the greatest book publishing city in the Western World, and nowhere can finer book stores be found. Besides the daily papers, there is a multitude of periodicals that are devoted to literary news, and they are all flourishing. It is to be wished that the demands of commerce and trade in New-York were not so exacting. Business men, as a rule, have too little time for reading and for the pursuit of the higher culture. But that is their misfortune rather than their fault; and, considering all the circumstances, they will compare favorably in general intelligence with the business men of any other city in the world.

People who pay 60 cents a hundred for ice will not be consoled by the rise in the price of gas from 65 cents to $1.

The Duke of Orleans, on being requested to resign from a London club on account of his having approved obscene lampoons upon the Queen, refuses and challenges expulsion, saying he proposes to know "if hospitality signifies bondage." We do not know what the club's reply will be, but it might well be that hospitality does signify bondage—to the laws of decent manners.

It is a fine thing to have set out fifteen thousand trees and plants along Riverside Drive. But how about the thousands of trees and plants and stretches of sward that are about to be destroyed along upper Broadway?

It is agreeable to know that plans are being made for the improvement of the beach of that part of Coney Island which lies east of the Ocean Parkway. It used to be the finest part of the whole beach, but of late years, because of the ravages of the tides, it has been almost inaccessible to the public. It would be a splendid thing if the Concourse could be reconstructed as it used to be twenty years ago, extending with a fine broad stretch both east and west from the Ocean Parkway, from the Brighton Beach Hotel to the iron pier. New-York is much closer to the sea than most of our large cities, but it has surprisingly few fine bits of beach that are accessible and open to the public for driving, riding and wheeling.

"Bay Hampton" may be a more euphonious name than Good Ground, or even than Pon Quogue. But euphony is not the only thing to be considered. Long Island already has so many Hamptons that she has to count them every night when she puts them to bed. In such circumstances, would not some more novel name be preferable, if, indeed, the old one must go?

In retiring from the presidency of the Board of Education and the School Board of Manhattan and The Bronx Mr. Joseph J. Little will take with him into private life the respect and goodwill of the community. Whatever differences of opinion may exist concerning the administration of the schools, the sincerity of Mr. Little's purpose to promote their interests and advance their standard is beyond dispute. He was made the object not long ago of a coarse attack in an educational journal by a writer who thought it smart to ridicule him as an "educational mastodon," and sought to win cheap applause by applying that epithet to a public official serving his fellow citizens without pay in a laborious place; but if he not unnaturally suffered in his feelings from that unmannerly assault he did not suffer in general estimation.

PERSONAL.

The Parliamentary golf handicap tournament in London shows seventy-eight members of Parliament among the contestants, the best known of whom are Mr. Balfour, Herbert Gladstone, the Earl of Yarborough and the Marquis of Winchelsea.

Dr. Marshall Lang, the new principal of the University of Aberdeen, is a cousin of Andrew Lang, and was a playmate in childhood of Robert Louis Stevenson.

The law faculty of the University of Michigan is planning to appoint a day during the latter part of this month to be observed as Cooley Day, in memory of the late Thomas B. Cooley, who was connected with the law department during the first thirty years of its existence. The orator of the day will be Justice Claudius B. Grant, of the Michigan Supreme Court. It is the intention to make Cooley Day an annual event.

Congressman J. P. Dolliver, of Iowa, has accepted an invitation to deliver an address on expansion before the Texas-Colorado Chautauqua on July 20.

Queen Victoria has a walking stick which was once the property of Charles II, to whom it was presented by a citizen of Worcester. Originally it was a branch of the tree in Boscobel in which Charles I hid when he was pursued by Cromwell's men. To the plain gold handle which first ornamented the stick Queen Victoria has had added a queer little Indian idol—a part of the loot from Seringapatam.

Eugene Bruce, who has been interested in the lumber business in the Adirondacks for several years, is to be employed by the Division of Forestry of the United States Department of Agriculture in preparing working plans for the forest reserves and for the large Eastern tracts owned by the Government.

According to "The Watchman," the presidency of Columbian University, Washington, has been offered to the Rev. Dr. George C. Lorimer, of the Tremont Temple, Boston.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

"Suppose," asks "The Hartford Times," "there were such things as party platforms in England, and that one of the great political organizations there were to denounce the action of the United States Government in regard to the Philippines; would not the average American citizen begin to talk about a shooting match right away? What better warrant have our conventions for making declarations about controversies affecting the British Empire?"

"Good gracious!" said the stranger, "I never saw so many saloons in my life. I've counted nineteen in this block. This is simply awful!"

"Yes, I know it," replied the man who was showing him around, "but it's worse right here than anywhere else. Over on the next street the average is not more than four or five to the block."

"Why are there so many here, then?"

"You see, this is the street leading to the station where people who live in our prohibition suburbs get off the train."—(Chicago Times-Herald.

"The Congregationalist" tells of a clergyman who had a notice printed in which, after enumerating the various attractions of his coming Sunday programme, he wound up by saying, "If you want to be in the swim come to our church on Sunday." His ecclesiastical neighbor was reading the notice to his wife, with no little amusement, and she, not being fully posted on current phraseology, inquired in all seriousness if they were to have a baptismal service.

Part of the cargo of the Dutch steamer Queen Wilhelmina, which left this port the other day, consisted of about one thousand tons of steel rails, which are being carried to Tokio, Japan, where a regular American surface railway is to be installed. The rails were made at Pittsburg. There preceded this shipment a half hundred American laborers and mechanics, who will build the road in Tokio. Rails are to be laid on twenty miles of streets. There are being made at Providence, R. I., forty air power cars, which will be shipped for use on the Japanese capital line. The operating company is the Tokio Tramway Company, and contracts for $400,000 have already been placed. Should the line prove satisfactory other Japanese cities are to adopt the system. Interesting facts to American manufacturers are that most, if not all, the machinery and rolling stock is likely to be purchased in this country, and that Tokio alone has $1,500,000 to spend for street transit as soon as her people can make up their minds as to the best way to spend it.—(Philadelphia Record.

A correspondent of "The Indianapolis Press" writes from Yokohama, Japan: "April 8, Buddha's birthday, is celebrated in all the temples by bringing out the images of the infant Buddha, placing them in a large bowl and pouring over them licorice tea with a ladle. On this day, 1900, a great multitude of women and children flocked to what corresponds to the parish house of the Episcopal Church, which can be entered without removing the shoes. Each child had a bamboo cup, and when this was filled with the precious fluid it walked away sipping it with great satisfaction, for it is believed to be a remedy for worms and other internal disorders. The mothers had bottles of the same, which they wrapped up to take home, to place near the pillar of the house to keep away ants and other insect pests. The crowd was most good natured, pushing and jostling to get near the boy priests that filled their cups and took their money. The temples, like the American churches, are most frequented by women."

Mabel (apropos of a new evening dress, which has just arrived from the dressmaker)—O mother, how lovely! Do wear it to-night!

Mother—No, dear, not to-night. This is for when ladies and gentlemen come to dinner.

"O mother, let's pretend, just for once, that father's a gentleman!"—(Punch.

"The Kennebec (Me.) Journal" says: "They made a strenuous matter of religion in the good old days, as is shown by this extract from the diary of Charles Creamer, of Waldoboro, under date of June, 1828: 'Sunday, there was a knockdown in the Congregational meeting house between the Congregationalists and Universalists. The Universalists came off victorious. I was there. Saturday night the pulpit was guarded all night by men with clubs. Sunday was the great day. Both parties occupied the church, and there were great music and singing. Afterward the Congregationalists bought out the Universalists, and there was no more trouble.'"

Those who ought to know say there is a noticeable increase of vegetarianism in Philadelphia. At the corner of Park-ave. and Berks-st., completely overshadowed by the Baptist Temple, which looms up at the Broad-st. corner, there is a modest little church edifice, and all the attendants are vegetarians. It is an evangelical church, and differs in its creed from other denominations only in the fact that its members are pledged to forego a diet of flesh. Outside of any organized cult, the diet question has become a matter of such serious consideration that there are vegetarians who, when they are asked out to dine or sup, carry bread of their own baking with them. Among vegetarians there is a threatened split over ducks. Some of the cult claim that the meat of the duck is really fish. Whatever their differences may be, it has been noticed that the members of the little church devoted to vegetarianism are all big, healthy looking people.—(Philadelphia Record.

An arithmetical genius in England has calculated that about 1,000 tons of soot settle on the 110 square miles of London's area every year.

"Will some one please chase the cow down this way?" said the funny boarder, who wanted some milk for his oatmeal. "Here, Jane," said the landlady in a tone that was meant to be crushing, "take the cow down there where the calf is bawling."—(Chicago News.

THE WEEK IN SOCIETY.

It was an unusually quiet week. Of dinners there were a few informal ones; luncheons and teas were not numerous, nor were there any weddings which summoned together an especially large number of persons of the fashionable world. May is not regarded by some young women about to change their names as a felicitous month in which to approach the hymeneal altar. However, that all young women are not averse to May weddings is demonstrated by the number of these ceremonies announced to take place before June glides in upon us.

One of the noteworthy out of town weddings of the coming week will be that of Miss Alice Lyon Watson, daughter of General and Mrs. Thomas L. Watson, of this city, to Paul Armitage, also of this city, which will be celebrated at noon on Wednesday in St. John's Church, Bridgeport, Conn. A number of guests from this city will attend the church ceremony and the reception, which will be held at Allbreeze, the summer home of General and Mrs. Watson, at Black Rock. Miss Watson, who will be given away by her father, will have neither bridesmaids nor maid of honor. She was educated in France, and recently returned from a trip abroad. Mr. Armitage, who is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert G. Armitage, who have a handsome place at Bay Shore, Long Island, was graduated with honors from Columbia College and Law School. His best man will be Archibald Douglas, and the ushers Dr. Ernest Valentine Hubbard, Henry Hornbostel, H. Percy Douglas and George Chapman. As General Watson is a prominent yachtsman, a member of several yacht clubs, and was for years fleet captain of the Atlantic Yacht Club, the anchorage off his country home at Black Rock will be crowded with steam and sailing craft. Conspicuous in the fleet will be the racing and cruising schooner yacht Sachem, owned by ex-Commodore Frederick T. Adams, of the Atlantic Yacht Club. Commodore and Mrs. Adams will have as their guests on the yacht Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Ceballos and Mrs. William E. Pearl. While the wedding festivities are taking place the yachts will "dress ship."

Another out of town wedding of interest to society will take place at Morristown, N. J., on Thursday afternoon. The bride will be Miss Gertrude Von E. Hoy, daughter of Mrs. Harry Erwin Hoy, of Franklin-st., and the bridegroom, Ridley Watts, son of Lieutenant William Watts, of the United States Navy. The marriage ceremony will be performed in St. Peter's Protestant Episcopal Church, and the reception will be held at the home of the bride's mother. Miss Hoy will be given away by her brother, Harry Erwin Hoy. Her only attendant will be Miss Matilda Churchill, of Montclair, N. J. The bridegroom's best man will be Horace C. Stebbins, of this city, and the ushers George L. Wrenn, of Boston; George J. Little, Gurdon M. Maynard and the bridegroom's brother, William Alexander Watts, of Morristown, and Howard Slade, Duncan D. Sutphen, Robert H. Allen and John A. Cade, of this city. Mr. and Mrs. Watts, after a wedding trip of several weeks, will take possession of their new home, in James-st., Morristown.

One of the most active days, in a matrimonial way, of the month of May will be Monday, the 28th. On that day there will be at least three large weddings, those of Miss Mary Mott Low, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph T. Low, of No. 59 West Fifty-second-st., to Henry Gansevoort Sanford, which will be celebrated at 4 o'clock, in St. James's Protestant Episcopal Church, Madison-ave. and Seventy-first-st.; of Miss Harriet Eugenia Dyer, daughter of the late General Alexander Dyer, of the United States Army, to Theodore Hazleton Price, of this city, which will take place in the afternoon, in the Church of the Epiphany, Lexington-ave. and Thirty-fifth-st., and of Miss Katherine Stauffer Clark, a daughter of Senator William Andrews Clark, of Montana, to Dr. Lewis Rutherfurd Morris, announced to take place at 3:30 o'clock, in St. Thomas's Protestant Episcopal Church, Fifth-ave. and Fifty-third-st. The Sanford-Low nuptials will attract a large gathering of members of the fashionable world, as the bride and bridegroom, besides being great favorites, are connected with many well known old New-York families, including the Motts, Lows and Stuyvesants. The marriage ceremony will be performed by the Rev. Dr. E. Walpole Warren, the rector of the church, and it will be followed by a reception for the relatives and intimate friends of the pair at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Low. The bride will have as her bridesmaids her sister, Miss Laura Low; the bridegroom's sister, Miss Mary B. Sanford, of Poughkeepsie; Miss Eleanor Keyes, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Edward L. Keyes; Miss Mary Van Nest, daughter of Mrs. Alexander T. Van Nest; Miss Florence Miller and Miss Josephine Bissell Roe, daughter of General and Mrs. Charles Francis Roe. The bridegroom, who is a son of Robert Sanford, of Poughkeepsie, and a grandson of the late Chancellor Nathan Sanford, of Albany, has selected as his best man Frederick De Peyster Townsend, of Boston, and for his ushers, his two cousins, H. Stuyvesant Dudley and Robert McKean Thomas; David Thomas Moore, of Brooklyn; Gordon W. Burnham, William H. Maclay and Howard K. Sherwood, of this city. Mr. Sanford, who is a graduate of Williams College, Class '95, and a practising lawyer in this city, will give his farewell bachelor dinner on Saturday evening, at the University Club. After their honeymoon trip Mr. and Mrs. Sanford will spend the summer, or at least part of it, at Bar Harbor, with Mr. and Mrs. Low.

Invitations for the marriage of Miss Dyer to Mr. Price were sent out a few days ago by Mr. and Mrs. James L. Taylor, brother-in-law and sister of Miss Dyer. Miss Dyer, who passed most of the winter in Washington with Mrs. Taylor, will have as her maid of honor Miss Taylor, of London, England. There will be no bridesmaids. Mr. Price's best man will be Walter Winston Price, his brother. The ushers will be De Witt Parshall, George Hammond Sullivan, Franklin A. Plummer and Eugena D. Hawkins, of this city, who a few years ago married Miss Julia F. Clarkson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Clarkson; Cyrus H. McCormick, of Chicago, and Major John P. Bellinger, of the United States Army. Following the marriage ceremony, which will be performed by the Rev. Dr. William S. Rainsford, rector of St. George's Church, Stuyvesant Square, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Theodore Sedgwick, there will be a small reception, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, in East Fifty-second-st.

The most elaborate wedding of the day will doubtless be that of Miss Clark to Dr. Morris. Flowers and plants in profusion will be used to decorate St. Thomas's Church. White and pink will be the prevailing colors. Arches fifteen feet high, made entirely of white and pink flowers, are to be erected outside of the chancel rail, at the right and left, the bases of the arches set in a background of flowers and palms. The nave and the side aisles, midway between the entrance and altar, will be spanned by arches of the same height, the one over the nave to be of white roses, and the side arches of pink and white roses. The floral gates under these arches will be in charge of small pages. The columns will be ornamented with cherry and apple blossoms, and hanging from the columns will be festoons of flowering vines. Every other aisle post will be ornamented with clusters of white and pink roses. The beauty of the chancel will not be hidden behind a mass of flowers or plants. The decorations within the chancel rail are to be few, and on the altar there will be three or four vases filled with roses. There will be an elaborate musical service to accompany the marriage ceremony, which will be performed by the rector, the Rev. Dr. John Wesley Brown. The bridesmaids will be Miss Christine Pomeroy, of California, and Miss Mai Pfouts, of Butte City, Mont. Mrs. Everett M. Culver will be her sister's matron of honor. The bridesmaids' gowns, to correspond with the decorations in the church, will be of pink silk, veiled with white organdie. Dr. Morris's best man will be William M. Harriman. The ushers will be William Andrews Clark, jr., brother of the bride; her brother-in-law, Dr. Everett M. Culver, Dr. Charles Thorndyke Parker, Newbold Morris, Frederick Stafford Young and Wirt Howe. The wedding reception will be held at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. Culver, No. 175 West Fifty-eighth-st. Dr. Morris and his bride will go abroad soon after their marriage, and will spend the summer cruising along the English coast, and afterward will proceed to the North Cape, thence to Norway, through the Baltic Sea and Gulf of Finland to St. Petersburg. This voyage will be made on the steam yacht Latharna, owned by Hugh H. Smiley of Glasgow, Scotland, and chartered in England. They will not return to New-York until late in the autumn.

The marriage of Miss Estelle S. Fox, daughter of Joseph Fox, president of the Columbia Bank, to Edward S. Siesel will take place at Delmonico's on Tuesday, May 29.

In St. Paul's Church, Tivoli-on-the-Hudson, on Saturday, June 2, will take place the marriage of Miss Katherine Livingston, daughter of John Henry Livingston, of Clermont, Tivoli, whose mother was Miss Hamersley, of this city, to Lawrence Timpson, son of the late Theodore Timpson, of Maizeland, Tarrytown-on-the-Hudson.

On the same day, in the Rutgers Riverside Presbyterian Church, Broadway and Seventy-third-st., Miss Jermain Stoddard, a daughter of the Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Charles Augustus Stoddard, will be married to Stuart Duncan, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Paterson Duncan, of No. 9 East Sixty-fourth-st. The marriage ceremony will be performed at 4 o'clock by the bride's father. The bride, who will enter the church and be given away by her brother-in-law, William M. V. Hoffman, will be attended by her sister, Miss Marion Stoddard, as maid of honor and by two bridesmaids, Miss Amy Duncan and Miss Jeanie Belle Duncan, sisters of the bridegroom, whose best man will be Howard Caswell Smith, of this city. A reception, to which only relatives and a few of the intimate friends of the couple will be bidden, will be held at the home of the bride's parents, No. 300 West Seventy-second-st.

Invitations for the wedding of Miss Edith Dupignac, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Dupignac