Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—2—8—Quo Vadis.
AMERICAN THEATRE—2—8:15—Trilby.
BIJOU—2—8:20—Madge Smith.
BROADWAY THEATRE—2:15—8:15—A Royal Rogue.
CARNEGIE HALL—10:30 a. m.—Lecture by Professor Edward Howard Griggs—2:15—8:15—Sousa.
CASINO—2—8:15—Florodora.
CRITERION THEATRE—2—8—The Gay Lord Quex.
DALY'S THEATRE—2—8:15—Lady Huntworth's Experiment.
EDEN MUSEE—The World in Wax.
EMPIRE THEATRE—2:15—8—Mrs. Dane's Defence.
FOURTEENTH STREET THEATRE—2—8—The Village Postmaster.
GARDEN THEATRE—2:15—8:20—David Garrick.
GARRICK THEATRE—2:15—8:15—David Harum.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE—2—8—The Old Homestead.
HARLEM OPERA HOUSE—2:15—8:15—Richard Carvel.
HERALD SQUARE THEATRE—2—8:20—Arizona.
IRVING PLACE THEATRE—2—8—Die Strengen Herren.
KEITH'S—Continuous Performance.
KNICKERBOCKER THEATRE—2:15—8:15—Sweet Nell of Old Drury.
KOSTER & BIAL'S—1:45—7:45—Vaudeville.
LYCEUM THEATRE—2:15—8:30—A Royal Family.
MADISON SQUARE THEATRE—2—8:30—The House That Jack Built.
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE—1:45—Die Walküre—8—Il Trovatore.
MURRAY HILL THEATRE—2—8—Why Smith Left Home.
NATIONAL ACADEMY OF DESIGN—9 a. m.—8—Annual Exhibition.
NEW-YORK THEATRE—2—8:15—The Giddy Throng.
PASTOR'S—Day and Night—Continuous Show.
PROCTOR'S—Continuous Performance.
REPUBLIC—2—8:15—In the Palace of the King.
SAVOY—2:15—8:20—Mistress Nell.
ST. NICHOLAS SKATING RINK—8:15—Hockey Match.
VICTORIA—2:15—8:20—Miss Prinnt.
WALLACK'S THEATRE—2:15—8:30—Janice Meredith.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1901.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—United States Ambassador Choate presented the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty amendments to the British Foreign Secretary, the Marquis of Lansdowne. ═══ Several high civil appointments for South Africa were announced in London; Earl Roberts assumed charge of the Army Headquarters in London; two hundred Boers recrossed the Orange River, going north. ═══ Eight Turkish soldiers were killed while attempting to arrest a number of Bulgarian suspects. ═══ Generals Wheaton and Bates report many small captures, the destruction of insurgents' camps and the seizure of supplies in Luzon; Judge Taft's decision on the San José College case will be made public to-day. ═══ The winter exhibition of the Royal Academy will be opened in London to-day, with many notable paintings on view. ═══ Daily meetings of the foreign Ministers are held in Peking to discuss the peace negotiations, but nothing has been decided on. ═══ Reports of an outbreak of plague at Vladivostok and a renewal of plague cases at Smyrna are confirmed. ═══ Fifty lacemakers bound for Dowie's Zion City sailed from London for Halifax. ═══ A dense fog delayed traffic and caused thousands to stop work in London. ═══ Emperor William has consented to the change of the name of the North German steamship Kaiser Wilhelm II to Hohenzollern, and that a liner now building shall be named after him.

CONGRESS.—Senate: Debate on the Army Reorganization bill occupied the entire day; Senator Hoar offered an amendment looking toward conciliation of the Filipinos. ═══ House: The Olmsted resolution proposing an investigation of disfranchisement methods in the South was referred to the Committee on Census, and consideration of the Reapportionment bill of that committee was begun.

DOMESTIC.—Senator Hanna in an interview expressed great confidence that the Ship Subsidy bill will be passed at the present session of Congress. ═══ General Richard N. Batchelder, formerly Quartermaster-General of the Army, died in Washington. ═══ The second Booz inquiry, this time by a Congress Committee, was begun at Bristol, Penn., and the members of the cadet's family repeated the story of what he was subjected to and suffered from. ═══ Governor Odell began his work of economy yesterday by calling on the Attorney-General for free legal advice. ═══ Officers of Harvard University denied yesterday that President Eliot had resigned. ═══ It is probable that Raybrook will be selected as the site for the new State Hospital for Consumptives.

CITY.—Stocks were strong and active. ═══ At the dinner of the City Club the evils of present municipal government were discussed by Bishop Potter, Wheeler H. Peckham, St. Clair McKelway, John E. Parsons, Mark Twain and others. ═══ The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court decided that a seat in the Stock Exchange could not be assessed for taxation.

THE WEATHER.—Forecast for to-day: Fair and cold. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 36 degrees; lowest, 19; average, 28⅛.

BELIEVERS IN A PARAMOUNT CONGRESS.

When the question of obedience to the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution was under debate in the House of Representatives yesterday Mr. Underwood, of Alabama, opposed obedience to the Constitution on grounds of expediency and sentiment, saying that the South was trying to solve the vexatious question of negro suffrage and should be permitted to carry out its own plans. Mr. Richardson and several other strict construction Democrats took the same view of the subject and strenuously opposed Mr. Oliver's resolution.

From the point of view of practical politics there is certainly much to be said on that side. The Southern States are by no means the only ones which restrict suffrage. Maine, Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts, California, Wyoming and Oregon have restrictions, and any readjustment of representation on the basis of suffrage instead of population, as ordered under existing conditions by the Constitution, would be of general application. Disfranchisement, however, has been undertaken on a much larger scale in the Southern than in the Northern States, and the effect of constitutional enforcement would be to decrease the present relative power of the South. Moreover, there are practical difficulties in the way of distinguishing the persons legally disfranchised from those who fail to exercise their rights for any reason. The wisdom of the change as a matter of policy, with a view both to the welfare and good feeling of the people and to the growth of the Republican party in the South and the breakdown of sectionalism, is extremely doubtful; but it ought to be a matter for surprise that Mr. Richardson, Mr. Underwood and their friends should plead expediency, no matter with how good reason, as an excuse for government without regard to the Constitution, the mandate of which concerning this subject leaves no discretion, but is absolute, without chance for evasion. They have often told us that a man, whether in the States or in far off Manila, who depends on the discretion of Congress for his rights is a slave. Yet now they assert a doctrine more extreme than the most radical imperialist's as to the supremacy of Congress and its power to govern this country according to the seeming dictates of practical wisdom, regardless of the rules laid down in the Constitution.

All any so-called imperialist says is that the Constitution was made for a union of States, and that its founders never meant the nation that they created, in dealing with problems which they did not foresee on the other side of the world, to be hampered by rules laid down to balance the powers of their general and State governments. He does not claim that the United States Government is not bound by the very conditions of its being to republicanism and regard for human liberty, or that the Constitution is not supreme within its proper sphere. He finds that the makers of the Constitution, as shown by their writings and debates, in providing for uniform imposts and direct taxes proportioned to population, were concerned solely, as James Monroe put it, "to secure a just equality among the States." They were not concerned about uniformity as a principle, as is shown by the objection of some members of the convention to the uniform rule on the ground that under it duties which would bear heavily on one section might be levied by the votes of other sections. Seeing that our internal revenue laws would bear with crushing weight upon Porto Rico, and that the extension of our tariff laws to the Philippines would have serious administrative and diplomatic disadvantages, the imperialist merely argues for interpreting this provision of the Constitution in the spirit of those who drafted it, and not extending its operation over lands for which it is manifestly unsuited.

Mr. Underwood and his friends, however, do not stop with this. They assert that Congress is at liberty to do, not extra-constitutional, but actually unconstitutional, acts. They say it is not a sovereign body, able to deal as expediency requires with conditions unforeseen by the Constitution makers, such as exist in the Philippines. Then they turn and proclaim that it is a sovereign body, able, for the sake of what in the light of to-day seems expediency, to disobey flatly the plain mandate of the Constitution placed in the fundamental law with clear foresight of the present condition and unquestionably applying to it.

If these gentlemen believe that we have a government founded on such principles, and that the Constitution is merely an advisory instrument, a legacy of grandfathers' lectures, to be disregarded in legislation concerning the States whenever the judgment of Congress does not approve the wisdom of its mandates, they ought to ask the Supreme Court to give them a hearing next week in behalf of the Porto Rican legislation; for if they are anywhere near right and Congress has any such discretion at home no court would ever dream of confining within far narrower limits its discretion in performing duties falling to it in connection with far off peoples whose needs were not in the least considered by those projecting the scheme of administration for our own land.

BEHIND THE GOVERNOR.

Governor Odell has doubtless listened with great satisfaction, and possibly some slight amusement, to the unanimous verdict on his message. We say unanimous, for, while here and there a note of hesitation or dissent as to two or three of his proposals is heard, the message as a whole has evoked nothing but praise. The Governor of the Empire State is not an inconsiderable personage at any time, and we intend no disparagement of the office or of its new incumbent's reputation when he took it in saying that he woke up on Thursday morning to find himself famous. Not often has even a President's proclamation in war time attracted so much attention as was immediately bestowed upon Mr. Odell's first State paper. The best of it is that the universal applause is abundantly deserved.

It is especially interesting to find that the politicians are vying with the general public in demonstrations of approval, and that, in particular, the politicians of the Legislature are not permitting themselves to lag behind the rest. The Lieutenant-Governor, who has no vote, but can exercise considerable control over business in the Senate; the leader of the majority in that body, the minority leader of the Assembly, the Speaker and other members of experience and influence have hastened to declare not only that they heartily agree with the Governor's views, but that his programme will be carried out. It was to be assumed that some of those who have been heard from would take this attitude, and perhaps it is not really surprising that others who have not heretofore been distinguished by their devotion to measures of reform have done the same thing, inasmuch as the popular response was so quick and loud. But this suggests the reflection that a relaxation of public interest in the Governor's scheme of retrenchment would probably be followed forthwith by a loss of enthusiasm at Albany. The promise, though encouraging, is easy, but the fulfilment is still a long way off. There are members of the Legislature, and they are not among the least expert and powerful, who will watch closely for signs that the people have begun to look in some other direction, in order that they may themselves feel safe in taking a different course if they see fit when the time for action arrives. It does not cost much now to say that the Governor's policy is sound and needs to be adopted. The rub will come when members are brought face to face with the separate items of that policy and enabled to determine their fate. Then many a man will be strongly tempted to reason that whereas the general scheme is good and this, that and the other abuse unquestionably ought to be corrected, the particular little arrangement in which he takes a personal interest is not an abuse at all and must be retained.

This is one of the reasons why we are glad to see so many Senators and Assemblymen putting themselves thus early and emphatically on record. If any of them should hereafter feel inclined to desert the Governor, their original expressions of loyalty would at least tend to restrain them by making desertion awkward. But we hope it is not necessary to look for such an oozing away of courage. If the people continue to show that they are on the Governor's side there will in all probability be votes enough in the Legislature to carry the main features of his programme into effect.

JUDGE LYNCH AT HIS WORST.

The frenzy for mob murder has been exceptionally violent and unreasoning within the last few days. Not that the fiendish passion for prolonged torture at the stake has been uncommonly conspicuous within a short time, but official reports show that several victims have been put to death by hanging or shooting for comparatively minor crimes, while in more than one case there has been much reason to believe that the sufferers were guiltless. The only charge against one man who was slain cruelly was that he had set fire to a barn. No human being had been burned or injured. No horses or cattle had been destroyed, but the lynchers had no pity. Even more devilish was the action of another mob which filled with bullets a young negro who had been tried and acquitted on the charge of stealing a bunch of keys.

The scoundrels who take human life without any sincere desire or effort to decide the guilt or the innocence of the helpless victims whom they send out of the world so brutally appear to be increasing in numbers in various parts of this country. How dark the stain, how deep the disgrace as this Republic enters the new century! How does the record of the United States in fatal mob violence compare with that of Europe? How many lynchings were there in Great Britain, in France, in the German Empire, in Italy or even in Spain in 1900? How advanced is American civilization in comparison with the Old World when it is blackened with such horrors of atrocious and unpunished assassinations!

THE TRIBUNE'S CENTURY REVIEW.

The artificial transition of time from the nineteenth century to the twentieth has given occasion of much activity to innumerable writers and speakers. Not a few books have been published, and more are in preparation, dealing with the old century in record and judgment or with the new in speculation and hope, while the name of magazine and newspaper articles upon various phases of the great theme is simply legion. Some of our local contemporaries have given or are about to give to their readers more or less elaborate groups of articles, each according to its own taste and fancy and the supposed or manifest desires of its constituents.

Readers of The Tribune, who have long been accustomed to look with confidence to the columns of this paper for the most satisfactory treatment of all important topics of contemporary human interest, need have no fear that on this unique occasion they will be left in the lurch. We have already advertised the preparation of a comprehensive group of articles, written by expert authorities, upon the salient features of the nineteenth century and, incidentally, upon the twentieth century in so far as we may, in the words of Patrick Henry, judge the future by the past. These articles have been completed, and will to-morrow morning be published simultaneously in the form of a special supplement to The Sunday Tribune. They will fill a number of pages the size of this, in fine, bold type, embellished and elucidated with numerous pictures and maps prepared expressly for the purpose. Without incurring the reproach of undue self-praise, we venture the confident prediction that this feature of to-morrow's Tribune will fully equal, if it does not surpass, in immediate interest and in permanent value, any similar publication made at this time in newspaper, magazine or book.

Such a publication we believe to be a legitimate and essential part of the work of a newspaper. For news is not merely the ephemeral occurrences of the day. It comprises record and review—yes, and discussion—of everything of importance that is current in public thought. Such topics are the careers of men who are brought conspicuously before the public, the record of each year at its close, and, on occasions so rare as to be unique to the generations that behold them, the review of an ended century. For considerably more than half of the last century The Tribune has striven to be, and, as we are encouraged to believe, has pretty successfully been, an exponent not only of ephemeral incidents, but of the great evolutionary movements in literature, science and art, in agriculture, commerce and industry, and in political, social and religious life which have constituted the real progress of the human race. All of these things it has seen, and a not inconsiderable part of them it has been, and in getting its centenary review of them the multitudinous patrons of The Tribune may be assured, and will no doubt bear testimony, that, as usual, they "get the best."

ELECTRIC TRACTION'S FUTURE.

In the current number of "The Street Railway Journal" Dr. Louis Bell discusses electric traction in a prophetic vein. The subject is one on which he is admirably qualified to express an opinion. And most of his conclusions will command immediate assent. In one respect, however, it is possible that he betrays too much timidity. He hints that perhaps the automobile may in time become a formidable rival of the street railway. Well, the automobile has one advantage over the streetcar. It can navigate with greater freedom. But it must always be an expensive mode of transportation. The people who can own or hire small horseless carriages are comparatively few in number. The masses will always need cheap conveyance. And as for self-propelled omnibuses, these must be restricted as closely to specific routes as a streetcar, and without being able to carry one-fourth as many passengers. The automobile may displace the horse to some extent in city streets, but it is hard to conceive of its competing with the street railways. The bicycle once threatened to do so, but failed. The automobile, being more costly, must prove even less dangerous.

There can be little contention over Dr. Bell's other views as to possible changes to be experienced in large cities. He thinks that the superiority of tunnel roads over surface lines is most marked in places where the traffic is very dense, but beyond those limits surface roads will be required as feeders. Besides, there must ever be a local as well as an express business. Hence it is doubtful whether the surface roads will disappear entirely, except in the very heart of big cities. Still, Dr. Bell looks for a considerable evolution of the tunnel system, and would not be surprised to see a great deal of freight handled in this manner. And whether existing steam roads or new companies control the suburban passenger business, he is convinced that motors which emit smoke, cinders and foul gases will not be tolerated by the public much longer.

Another conspicuous development of electric traction which is predicted is the construction of light railways in the country to connect the farming districts with the steam roads. Competition with the latter is not the proper function of these lines, Dr. Bell says. Their true mission is the transportation of agricultural produce to market. It is pointed out that when an economically constructed road of this class is made patronage flows to it as naturally as rain collects in a watercourse. "And it is not long," Dr. Bell adds, "before a profitable business springs up, so to speak, out of the "wilderness."

The same writer looks for a great increase of speed on trunk lines. He believes that in the time of men now living one hundred miles an hour will be considered slow travelling. But if this service is to be rendered by electricity the third rail will not be so available as it is for short runs. Where long distances are to be covered the current ought to be supplied at very high pressures—ten thousand or twelve thousand volts, instead of five hundred. And several considerations dictate the raising of the conductor many feet above the earth. It may be expedient to operate the car motor with a high pressure current, too. Appliances suited to this class of work are altogether feasible, Dr. Bell says, but have not yet been reduced fully to practice. Hence a number of innovations in usage must be effected before New-Yorkers can enjoy fifty minute trains to Philadelphia or make the trip to Chicago in ten hours.

"MONEY TO BURN."

The phrase is a bit of colloquial slang, but it is highly expressive, and timely, too, in view of some of the last year's statistics. Attention has been called to the fact that in the United States in 1900 more than $62,400,000 was left in public bequests, more than half of it being for educational purposes. That is a splendid showing. But how small it is, after all, compared with the record of "money to burn," or, strictly speaking, wealth that has literally been destroyed by burning in the same space of time! We are told, according to underwriters' reports, which are not likely to exaggerate but rather to minimize, that the losses from fires in the United States and Canada in the last year aggregated more than $163,300,000.

Now, those figures mean so much absolute loss. The loss does not all fall upon the owners of the ravaged property. In many cases it is borne, or a part of it is borne, by the insurance companies. But that fact does not make the loss of wealth less real and absolute. Men speak of one having money to burn, or of his burning his money, when he squanders it in prodigal extravagance. But in such a case the money is not actually lost. It is simply transferred from the pocket of the prodigal to the pockets of those who profit by his folly. A man may eat and drink and gamble away a fortune, but the fortune is simply redistributed. The wealth lost in fires is, however, absolutely destroyed. Some one, owner or insurance company, is made the poorer and nobody is made the richer. That is the exceptionally deplorable feature of these statistics.

How long is the world to suffer such loss? On this continent it was more than $163,300,000 last year and $136,700,000 the year before and $119,600,000 the year before that. It is no answer to say the country can stand it and is rapidly growing richer in spite of it. The country ought not to endure the preventable loss of a single dollar, not to mention hundreds of millions. Granted that a considerable proportion of fires and resulting losses are practically unpreventable, the fact remains that a large proportion of them, especially in large cities, where they are most numerous and most destructive, might be prevented by methods of construction now perfectly well known and of perfectly well proved efficacy. It is now more than a quarter of a century since the Tribune Building set the example to New-York of fireproof construction that is actually fireproof. It is not creditable to American civilization and progress that the miserable old firetrap method of building should still prevail so widely as to make possible such an appalling total of losses as that which we have cited.

The only people opposed to a reform in the extravagant extension of the system of government by Commission, from which we are now suffering, are the Commissioners. Every man-jack of them is busy writing to the newspapers, or getting interviewed, or at least "buzzing" his friends, to prove that Governor Odell is all right in the main, but that he has made a mistake about this one particular Commission. To turn him and his lot out would be a woful loss to the State!

"Odell and economy" is now the Republican watchword.

The Political Liberty Society, which favors the giving up of the Philippines by the United States, probably takes over the effects of the anti-imperialists who went into political bankruptcy some time ago. It shifts its headquarters from Boston to New-York in order to be where things are going on, but as its ideas find no support in the spirit of the time it will gain no attention or influence from the transfer.

"They do some things better in France." The proverb is musty, but there is nothing stale, flat or unprofitable about the decision of the French Government to lessen the number of disfiguring advertisements on cliffs, walls, buildings and fences, by putting a proper tax on signboards, whether they are displayed upon public or private property. The Gallic example should be followed promptly in the United States. No more hideous placards can be seen anywhere than many of those in this country.

After Governor Odell's message has been read to Richard Croker at Wantage, will the Tammany Boss venture to come back?

England would gladly follow Bellona's precept and build a golden bridge for her flying South African enemy if he would only fly. But that is what he has no apparent notion of doing, and, though several times whipped, rises again as formidable and troublesome as ever.

Even sleepy Spain is shaking off her age-long slumbers and is opening electric lines for local traffic. It is significant that Americans are supplying rolling stock and materials for the new roads. As Alfred Harmsworth says, Americans are far in advance of all other peoples in the mastery of that miraculous force, electricity, and in the practical development of electrical inventions and appliances of almost every kind imaginable. But what would Don Quixote and Sancho Panza or Cervantes himself have said could they have seen a Yankee trolley car rolling over the plains of La Mancha?

Drowning men clutch at straws. Devery has sunk twice already. As he rises to the surface for the third and last time he grabs desperately at the ultimate tuft of the tiger's tail, while Croker yells, "Let go!"

Cotton mills both in the North and the South have had an encouraging and prosperous year. In New-England most of the makers of cotton goods are rejoicing over handsome dividends, while manufacturing in the Carolinas, in Georgia, in Mississippi and in other Southern States has been so profitable that many new mills have been built and many old ones have been enlarged. The North and the South shake hands over the sound and healthy growth of their industries.

The city of New-Orleans is to be congratulated on having reached the high water mark of prosperity in imports, exports, customs duties, postal receipts and bank clearings. On the last day of the dying century twelve large steamships, the aggregate value of whose cargoes reached the enormous total of $2,668,706, cleared for foreign ports. Of these, one vessel alone—the Mechanician, of the Harrison Line—sailed with a cargo valued at $1,000,000. The exports for 1900 touched the record total of $142,211,562. This is an increase of $45,645,584 over the exports of 1899. The total in imports for 1900 amounted to $20,124,508, an increase of $6,049,274. In customs duties the total for 1900 was $7,546,219, an increase of $2,860,453 over the total for 1899. There is not much evidence in these figures of the indolence and apathy that are popularly supposed to characterize the cities of the South. The Crescent City, indeed, appears to be quite as much alive as any of the bustling cities of the North.

Thin ice it is over which officeholders who draw enormously excessive fees in our counties are now skating, and the air holes widen. When our new Governor laid bare in his message the abuses of the fee system in certain offices on each side of the East River he left no room for apology or excuse. Under his leadership the Legislature will doubtless take action that will mean something.

France consumes ten million tons of coal in excess of her production, and generally supplies the deficiency from her near neighbor England, but, in view of possible contingencies, is reaching out toward our markets, and is likely sooner or later to become a steady and liberal customer. She is about to order two hundred thousand tons, having an agent now in this country for that purpose. We are glad to have France on our books, and can assure her of honest weight and an unimpeachable commodity.

During the official trials of the Viper, the British torpedo boat destroyer which is equipped with the steam turbine, it was observed that the coal consumption, at less than the maximum speed, was somewhat greater than that of another craft of the same model and displacement, but provided with the engines of the old type. Mr. Parsons, the inventor of the steam turbine, now declares that this form of motor, when run at its proper speed, is really more economical in the use of fuel than any other. If this can once be demonstrated clearly, it will be a great triumph, for the turbine already possesses many advantages in respect to lightness and size, and may ere long be extensively adopted for the propulsion of large as well as small vessels.

PERSONAL.

N. L. Goldstone, who died recently in Des Moines, made charitable bequests of $14,000, including $1,500 to the Home for Aged Hebrews in Albany, N. Y., and $2,500 to the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati.

Governor Mount of Indiana has received the deed to the tract of land surrounding the grave of the mother of President Lincoln, in Spencer County, near Lincoln City. The deed conveys the land from the County Commissioners of Spencer County to the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial Association. A custodian for the land, which will be transformed into a park, will be appointed, and arrangements made to beautify it.

"The Congregationalist" says: "One of the large personalities and great educators among Baptists of this and the last generation has passed away with the death of the Rev. Dr. George W. Northrup, a graduate of Williams College, who began his career as a teacher as professor of church history in Rochester Theological Seminary, and then in 1867 went to the Baptist Theological Seminary at Chicago, now merged in Chicago University as the divinity school of that institution."

John Summerfield Berry, who died on Thursday in Baltimore, was for many years a lay delegate from the Baltimore Conference to the Quadrennial General Conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he served as the treasurer of the Board of Stewards of the Baltimore Annual Conference. He was also president of the Board of Managers of the Home of the Aged of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and interested in many charities. In 1864 he was elected a member of the conference to frame a new constitution for the State, and was the only slaveholder in Maryland who advocated the insertion of the article abolishing slavery.

A life size oil painting of the late Dr. Joseph Leidy was presented by his widow to the University of Pennsylvania on Thursday evening.

Dr. Jacob Hirsch, of Munich, exhibited his $50,000 collection of coins and medals to the Philadelphia Numismatic Society on Thursday evening.

TRANSATLANTIC TRAVELLERS.

Some of those booked to sail for Rotterdam on the steamer Statendam to-day are I. Straus, the Rev. A. H. De Viras and Bradford Johnson.

Among those who expect to sail to-day for London on the steamer Minneapolis are Robert Hamilton Gibb, D. W. Granbery, Dr. E. A. Jones, Miss Jessie St. Clair Liddell, the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Wodehouse and Claude R. Watson.

Among those booked to sail for Hamburg on the steamer Pretoria to-day are Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. O. Edge, Mrs. C. C. Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Milton and Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Lodge.

Some of those who have planned to sail to-day for Naples, Genoa and Alexandria on the steamer Fürst Bismarck are Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Andrews, Miss N. Andrews, Mrs. J. C. Alvarado, Mr. and Mrs. I. D. Adler, Miss Fanny Adler, Mrs. Sackett M. Barclay, the Misses Beatrice W. and Cornelia Evelyn Barclay, Henry Bedlow, the Rev. John Binney, Mr. and Mrs. A. De Bary, the Misses Leonie and Anita De Bary, the Misses Elizabeth Katharine and Blanche Bayliss, Mr. and Mrs. William S. Benson, Miss Margaret Benson, Mrs. M. A. Crosley, Mrs. George H. Daniels, Miss Harriet M. Daniels, Mr. and Mrs. John E. Dwight, the Misses Mabel and Ruth Dwight, Dexter B. Dawes, Mr. and Mrs. Elisha Dyer, Jr., Miss Eleanor M. Ferguson, Mr. and Mrs. J. Swan Frick, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Gunther, Mr. and Mrs. Harlow N. Higinbotham, F. P. Knott, the Rev. W. W. Webb, Miss C. S. Walker, the Marquis Rodolphe de Voelke, Captain and Mrs. C. M. Von Roth, Mrs. John Tod, Miss Tod, Miss Swan, Mrs. Sallie Stalker Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Stockton and family, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Dillon Ripley, H. Richardson, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Pierce, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon P. Paine, Major and Mrs. Frank W. Oakley, L. Z. Leiter, Miss Leiter, E. W. Longfellow and George Von L. Meyer, United States Ambassador to Italy.

AMBASSADOR WHITE HONORED.

Berlin, Jan. 4.—Andrew D. White, the United States Ambassador here, has been elected a member of the Berlin Academy of Science.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

The publishers of "The Cleveland World" issued a paper last Tuesday purporting to give the news of January 1, 2001. The phonetic system of spelling is used throughout this alleged twenty-first century journal, and among the leading news articles are an account of the opening of communication with Mars, a story of the robbery of an airship express by bandits who froze the messenger to death with liquid air, a description of the execution of a "murdres" by vaporization, and a recital of the discovery in the ruins of abandoned Cincinnati of several barrels containing a curious, foul smelling liquid labelled beer. Minor items chronicle the intention of "Mme. Sara Heartburn" to make a farewell tour of America, the death of a woman who once rocked George Washington to sleep in his cradle and the fall of a workman from the ninety-sixth floor of an office building.

Terry—The landlord of the Phillupp made a good thing out of that banquet last night.

Terry—So?

Terry—Yes: you see, it was given out that Slyghter was going to make an after dinner speech. Thinking about it worried Slyghter so much that he could eat little or nothing, and the others so dreaded the infliction that it quite spoiled their appetites.—(Boston Transcript.

The Rev. Oliver C. Miller, who served as a chaplain in the Philippines under General Lawton, says: "The establishment of the canteen has done much to abolish those drinking places that so quickly surround our army camps, by furnishing only beer and mineral waters, with ice and such food as cannot be got elsewhere. In the Philippines, as in our own country, the saloonkeepers strongly advocate the abolishing of the post exchange, or canteen. Our soldiers are not wasting all our money in carousing, but many of them are depositing with the paymaster a good portion of their allowance, to be drawn out at the expiration of their time of service. I have seen little drunkenness among our soldiers throughout the archipelago, and only at one time was there much in Manila—the time the volunteer army was assembled in large numbers to embark for the voyage home."

"I sent for you to fix a key in my daughter's piano," said the man of the house.

"But, my dear sir, I don't know anything about pianos. I'm a locksmith," replied the workman.

"Exactly. I want you to make it possible for me to lock the blamed thing up."—(Philadelphia Press.

A rural Wesleyan minister sends to "The Methodist Times," of London, some startling evidence of the religious ignorance of little children. In a class of more than thirty children, varying in age from seven to fifteen, not one boy or girl had ever heard of the parable of the Prodigal Son! In another spot in that neighborhood he asked about the same parable, and he found that there were three boys who knew something about it, but the rest, including even girls of seventeen, were absolutely ignorant of it.

Mr. Binks (whose invalid wife insists on boarding)—Look here, now. 'The Medical Record' says nothing will improve a woman's health like sweeping, baking, bedmaking, dishwashing and polishing the silver.

Mrs. Binks—Huh! You know very well you never get me any silver to polish. No wonder I'm sick.—(New-York Weekly.

Signor Brignoli once agreed to sing a solo at St. Agnes's Church, in this city. He came in late, and, after divesting himself of many coverings, tumbling over music racks and exasperating the choir by trying his voice, he came to the conclusion that he was ready. By this time, however, the sermon had commenced, but Brignoli, unabashed, leaned over the choir railing and tried to attract the attention of the preacher by shaking his head and gesticulating wildly. At last he yelled out in a voice that reached every corner of the church: "Me ready for ze sing. Stoppe ze preach! Stoppe ze preach!" And the priest actually cut the sermon short in order to accommodate the impatient tenor, whose voice now rang out with such fervor as to thrill the worshippers and justify the sacrifice.

A New Year's Programme.—"Well," remarked Mr. Jolliwell, "I suppose you are going to make a lot of good resolutions for the new year."

"No, I'm not," answered Sirius Barker, with characteristic acrimony. "I'm going to make a lot of bad ones."

"That's an unheard of proceeding."

"Yes. It's an idea of my own. If I am as successful in breaking my bad resolutions as I have been in breaking my good ones, I'll manage to become a pretty high toned and estimable citizen."—(Washington Star.

GEORGE FOWLER M'CORMICK IMPROVING.

George Fowler McCormick, the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold McCormick, was reported last night to be steadily improving. He is suffering from scarlatina. Fresh flowers arrive by express daily to be placed on John Rockefeller McCormick's coffin. The vault is watched night and day by men.

ART EXHIBITIONS.

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF DESIGN.

Not in a long time has the Academy organized a show so good as that which opens to the public to-day at the Fine Arts Building. The catalogue just stops short of three hundred numbers, which means that the galleries are not crowded. The Hanging Committee has done its work well, having been spurred to great effort, perhaps, by the general excellence of the material at its disposal. The show testifies to the virtue of catholicity. Old prejudices have apparently been shelved. The art of some of the most conservative members of the institution is duly honored, but space is freely given also to painters of all tastes and associations. As a result, the walls have a variety of aspect which is alone a source of pleasure to the observer. That there is also something more solid than mere variety to appeal to the latter is shown by the fact that no fewer than six pictures have been found worthy of prizes. The frequent visitor to art galleries scarcely needs to be reminded that prize pictures often fail to justify their claims to the distinctions they receive.

The first Hallgarten prize goes to a "Winter Evening," by Mr. W. E. Schofield, which is admirable in the skilful treatment of values which it illustrates, and is further to be commended for its fidelity to the spirit of a scene in nature difficult to represent with truth. The picture is not beautiful—the color scheme is too monotonous for that—but it is thoroughly well done. In the case of Miss McChesney's portrait of a man, entitled "A Good Story," on which the second Hallgarten prize has been bestowed, there is one disappointing detail, the dark tones below the head are almost opaque, but the face and head are so good that we can forgive the defect elsewhere. Altogether this painting marks a step ahead on the part of Miss McChesney. To a cattle piece by Miss Matilda Browne, "Repose," the third Hallgarten prize has been awarded. It is sound in design, drawing and atmospheric effect, though a trifle cold in color. The Thomas B. Clarke prize passes to Mr. W. F. Kline for "The Flight into Egypt," an oblong panel possessing remarkable dignity as a composition. A true feeling for what might be called scenic landscape is disclosed in this work, the landscape that while beautiful in itself is chiefly of importance as a background for figures. Mr. Kline strikes the right note, and it will be interesting to see what he does in the future. The Inness gold medal, given in memory of the great American painter by his son, for the best landscape in the exhibition, has fallen to "The Year's Wane," by Mr. Bruce Crane. The choice could not well be disputed, for there is abundant merit in this work, both as respects the delicate handling of tree forms and the subtle reproduction of a chill atmosphere. The double portrait by Letitia B. Hart and Mary T. Hart, which has gained the Norman W. Dodge prize, is a far better piece of work than we have hitherto been justified in expecting from their hands. Incertitude still marks their craft. The color needs purification, as it needs force; the textures show a touch which still wants authority. On the other hand the heads are vigorously modelled, and the canvas has, in the main, a certain vitality, a certain character, which it is agreeable to praise.

The point most conspicuous after the interesting quality of the group of prize pictures is the increase in the number of attractive figure pieces. Again and again in the past the Academy has had to rely chiefly upon its landscapes. These make themselves felt this year—in fact, the outdoor work is constantly inviting one to pause. Mr. Groll's "Glimpse of the Village," an elegiac painting of peculiarly penetrating charm; Mr. Redfield's clever river scenes; Mr. Caliga's exquisite "Field of Poppies"; Mr. Van Laer's broadly painted "Connecticut Hillside," are the first few pictures which recur to the mind in this field out of a long and uniformly delightful list. But work of this sort is nearly always certain to be encountered in the big winter exhibitions. It is not so common to meet figure studies like Mr. Barse's "End of the Day," or his other panel, "A Question." In both of these there is a dryness of line which we could well spare, but there are, too, elements distinctly admirable. This artist may want distinction of style and beauty of color, but at least he is competent within its limits, at least he leaves the impression of painting that is serious, energetic and workmanlike. There is more painting like this in the show, not always quite so facile, so deft, but on a sufficiently high plane, nevertheless. We may cite Mr. Potthast's "Wood Nymph," a capital example of graceful draughtsmanship, or Mr. Du Mond's "Mending the Net," which smacks a shade too aggressively of the mechanical correctness that is learned in the schools, but is touched with individuality in its quiet tones, and is, in the long run, a creditable picture. Mr. Hassam's "July Night," a garden scene, with lanterns and a single figure, if less convincing in its light and air than his urban sketch, "Winter Morning on Broadway," is one of the striking things here by virtue of its general cleverness. A bold style and a flavor of originality cause the figure studies by Miss Juliet Thompson to stand out from the crowd, works not at all brilliant, but obviously of considerable promise; and there is richness of color, besides poetic feeling, in Miss Macomber's "Music," a composition embracing three heads. Mr. Hawthorne's "Splitting Fish," a big realistic picture of rough types, has not much beyond its realism to recommend it, but in this, as in Mr. Perrine's "Dying Sioux," Mr. De Cost Smith's "Defiance," another