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Ivers & Pond Pianos
on easy pay plan. Chandler's, 439 Fulton St., Brooklyn.

New-York Daily Tribune.

SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 1901.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—The Count de Castellane and M. de Rodays fought a duel in Paris, the latter being shot in the thigh at the first exchange of shots, the count escaping unhurt; M. de Rodays's wound is not serious. ==== The Duke and Duchess of Cornwall sailed from Portsmouth, England, on their tour of the British colonies. The Cuban Special Committee on Relations with the United States will recommend to the Constitutional Convention that the Isle of Pines be given to the United States, and that the latter have control of Cuban sanitary regulations, but that other demands of the Platt amendment be refused. ==== The United States vessel Mayflower, with Governor Allen on board, was floated from the sand bar at Fajardo, Porto Rico, on which she grounded. ==== Sugar refiners in Great Britain are urging their government to impose a countervailing tax on sugar, as well as the proposed import tax of a halfpenny a pound. ==== General Trias, commander of the insurgent forces in the Philippines, surrendered with twenty officers and two hundred men, and took the oath of allegiance to the United States. ==== General Kitchener reports the capture of a Boer laager and twenty-two men at Krügerspost, in the Transvaal, including the Boer leader Erasmus; Boer leaders are said to be holding a meeting at Pietersburg, in the Northern Transvaal, to discuss the discontinuance of the war.

DOMESTIC.—The body of ex-President Harrison lay in state at the Indiana Capitol and was viewed by a multitude estimated at fifty thousand; the church services will be held to-day, with the President and many other well known men present. ==== The coal mine workers voted to declare a strike on April 1, if the operators refuse to confer and no satisfactory agreement is reached. ==== Attorney-General Griggs will retire from the Cabinet in about two weeks, and resume the practice of law at Paterson, N. J.; some doubt still exists as to his successor. ==== Congressman Marriott Brosius died at his home in Lancaster, Penn., from a stroke of apoplexy. ==== Assistant Secretary Spaulding of the Treasury Department replied to criticisms of the methods of examining baggage by customs officials at this port. ==== Henry Clay Rye won the Derby at New-Orleans. ==== Tod Sloan won the California Derby at Ingleside. ==== A convict member of the "Wire Gang" has offered to tell all he knows about the murder of Miss Fosburg at Pittsfield, Mass., last August; he accuses two other members of the gang.

CITY.—Stocks were strong and active. ==== A conference was held in Senator Platt's office, and, it was said, a decision was reached to introduce a police bill along the lines of the Metropolitan bill of 1857. ==== There was a dispute over the possession of the body of Herman Sulzer between his widow, who had been separated from him and Mrs. Ida Wyman, who for several years had lived with Sulzer. ==== Andrew Carnegie's offer to give $5,200,000 to establish branch libraries in this city was generally praised, and Mayor Van Wyck and other officials thought that there was no insurmountable obstacle to the fulfilment of Mr. Carnegie's terms and the acceptance of the offer. ==== Miss Fitzgerald and Mr. Reynal, both ill with scarlet fever, were married. ==== Commissioner Murphy said he would prefer charges against Lyons, a ward man, and possibly Captain Donohue. ==== A fine of fourteen days' pay each was imposed on the Camperdown mutineers.

THE WEATHER.—Forecast for to-day: Fair. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 39 degrees; lowest, 32; average, 37.

BRITISH TARIFF CHANGES.

The somewhat startling changes in the British revenue laws forecast by "The London Times" are doubtless actually contemplated by the government and will probably soon be enacted. It would be premature to hail them as marking the abandonment of free trade. They will, however, make a significant inroad upon Cobdenism pure and undefiled, and may not unreasonably be regarded as an indication of a measurable turning away of the practical British mind from the sacrosanct shrine of a half century's idolatry. Richard Cobden, with all the earnestness of his perfervid soul, admonished his followers that they might as well doubt that the sun would rise next morning as doubt that within thirty years the entire civilized world would be converted to and would be practising free trade. As a matter of fact, not a single important nation has ever thus been converted, and, on the contrary, England herself to-day is about to re-establish not only a tariff upon sugar, but a certain measure of those corn laws against which Cobden's chief life campaign was waged.

The amount of the proposed sugar tax is not disclosed. The former sugar tax, which was abolished in 1876, produced in its latter years a revenue of more than $30,000,000 a year, and it is probable that the new one will be about the same. The tariff on wheat, disguised as a "registration tax," will probably be the same as that which Mr. Gladstone and his colleague, Mr. Lowe, abolished in 1868. That amounted to a shilling a quarter on wheat and 4½ pence, or 9 cents, a hundredweight on flour and meal. It yielded to the exchequer some $4,300,000 a year in its latter years, but will probably produce more now, because of the increased consumption and decreased production of breadstuffs in the United Kingdom. It is not made known whether the tax is to apply to grain from British colonies as well as from alien lands, though it is pretty safe to assume that it will, as the former tax did. This will, of course, be a small affair compared with the corn laws against which Bright, Villiers and Cobden conducted their memorable campaign. Early in the last century a sliding scale of tariff duties prevailed, under which only a shilling had to be paid when the price was 73 shillings or more the quarter, but when the price fell to 64 shillings the tariff was no less than 23 shillings the quarter. Peel in 1842 reduced this monstrous scale to a maximum of 10 shillings when the price was less than 48 shillings the quarter, and in 1849 abolished it altogether, save for the uniform "registration duty" already mentioned, which Mr. Lowe swept away in 1868. The reimposition of the latter will be therefore not so much a protective measure as a revenue measure. Nevertheless, the idea of any tariff on breadstuffs must seem revolutionary, or rather reactionary, in the extreme to the loyal disciples of Cobden and Gladstone.

The word "tariff" is scrupulously avoided in British fiscal statements. The fact is there, however, large, conspicuous and firmly fixed. Hitherto, despite the fiction of free trade, there have been substantial import dues on tea and coffee, tobacco and liquors, cocoa and chicory, and raisins, figs, prunes, currants, etc. To this list not only sugar, but all breadstuffs, are about to be added. That will bring free trade England perilously near to the condition which Democratic buncombeites used to portray as the lot of the American. Certainly the Briton will—to paraphrase the tale of woe of the buncombeite aforesaid—have to eat taxed bread and plum pudding made of taxed flour and taxed plums, drink taxed tea or coffee or cocoa sweetened with taxed sugar, smoke taxed tobacco, sneeze over taxed snuff, and seek to drown his much taxed sorrows in taxed beer, taxed wine or taxed spirits!

MR. CARNEGIE'S OFFER TO NEW-YORK.

The gift offered to New-York City by Mr. Carnegie in the letter to Dr. Billings which was made public in the newspapers of yesterday leaves a sufficiently deep impression when expressed in its baldest terms. The sum which he places at our disposal for the erection of sixty-five branch library buildings amounts to $5,200,000. "Sixty-five libraries at one stroke probably breaks the record," says Mr. Carnegie himself. It does more. Despite the many princely benefactions made by American philanthropists in the past, it touches the imagination with unique force. The first thought inspired everywhere by this announcement, we venture to say, looked solely to the magnitude of the gift. But second thoughts put mere figures in the background, and place the splendid offer in a different and far more interesting light.

The figures are large, but they stand for only a portion of the great work upon which Mr. Carnegie embarked some years ago, and to which, as he has lately declared, he means to devote the remaining years of his life. When all his plans have been carried out, vast as they may be, the statistician will have no difficulty in making a table of them. The deeper significance of those plans, however, has already got beyond measurement. "The share which I have had in the material development of our city," he wrote the other day to the people of Pittsburg, "may be considered only the foundation "on which the things of the spirit are built, and "in taking the proceeds of the material to de- "velop the things of the spiritual world I feel "that I am pursuing the ideal path of life and "duty." The erection of sixty-five branch library buildings in this city will mean the translation of a great mass of money into things of the spiritual world; the five million dollars and more are not merely, as the financial phrase goes, put into circulation; they become a definite force in the uplifting of mankind. This is the point on which the serious observer must dwell. It is obvious, no doubt. But the obvious thing is sometimes the all important thing.

The value of a library seems at first sight tolerably easy to state in plain terms. Get together a collection of reports, tabulate the number of books taken from each library and classify the books according to subjects. It can be proved without delay that this town is going in for science or history, that the other is sunk in the absorption of fiction. The benefit accruing from each library might possibly be settled, to the statistician's satisfaction, in the course of an hour. But in so far as one may divine Mr. Carnegie's idea from the evidence accessible these specific questions would seem to be troubling him not at all. He imposes no conditions beyond the purely financial ones relating to the provision of sites and of maintenance fund. He offers no suggestions as to the lines on which the libraries should be governed, though it may be pointed out that in the present instance he exercises constructive prescience in proposing many branch libraries rather than one central institution. He realizes the need in a great city like New-York for springs of learning everywhere, and therefore indicates a very special disposition of his fund. But even here he only recognizes the necessities of the case, he follows no whim. Rather, he says tacitly: "I give you the seed. Cultivate it as you will. "It is the seed of the spirit, and it cannot but "bear fruit."

From the same one of those sixty-five branch libraries which might appear, from a report, to be overwhelming a neighborhood in fiction, the solitary book might be issued to some seeker after truth and light which would prove a source of infinite good to the world at large. How many great men have in boyhood been directed by a chance encounter with a single book to the accomplishment of tasks which would have been left undone save for that early inspiration! It is perhaps no exaggeration to say that the greatest good springing from such a gift as that which Mr. Carnegie offers to the city is the good which it is impossible to estimate. A library contributes steadily to the growth of the bulk of those who live within a reasonable distance of its walls; inevitably it leavens the community for which it is established. But in the last resort the value of its ministrations is imponderable, immeasurable. All we know is that the influence of the spiritual world issues incessantly from every place in which the thoughts of great men are gathered together; of that we are sure. What we are chiefly conscious of in Mr. Carnegie's proposal is of a wise man doing more than most wise men are privileged to do in opening new channels through which the forces of civilization may flow.

LOOSE METHODS IN OFFICE.

The dispute which has arisen between the Register of this county and the commissioner who is at the head of the department which has charge of the public supplies brings to view some interesting things which seriously concern the taxpayers. Both Register Fromme and Commissioner Kearny are prominent and influential members of Tammany. Here is no question of "ins" and "outs," and no charges emanate from a so-called "reformer" or "informer." Both the commissioner and the Register are practical politicians, with heads of the hardest kind. They are not rivals or enemies for district leadership or anything of the sort. It has often been said of Commissioner Kearny, and with ample reason, that he has shown an extremely liberal disposition in his estimates of expenditure in his department. But the Register's office has been so prodigal in the purchase of unnecessary and superfluous typewriting machines that even the generous temperament of Mr. Kearny is moved to protest. Moreover, scores of these instruments above the number which can be made actually useful have been obtained without submitting requisitions for the approval of the commissioner, as the law provides. Therefore the commissioner properly objects to the bills, and the Controller, also properly, refuses to settle them. The case is a perfectly plain one, and the evidence that extravagance prevails in the Register's office, as in almost every other office in New-York which is in the hands of practical, professional politicians, is absolutely unanswerable.

It is suggestive to recur to the former years when the Register of this county took in all the fees of the office under the law as it then stood and paid all the expenses out of those receipts. For many a year under that system the office was one of the most profitable in America, and it was a prize so eagerly coveted that the struggle among prominent politicians to secure the nomination was of the fiercest and most obstinate character. It is well known that the profits of the Register in that period exceeded $100,000 a year, and at times rose to the amazing figure of $150,000. Small wonder, then, that the fight to obtain a nomination which involved such tempting possibilities was arduous and determined.

When the Register paid his clerks out of his fees and bought all supplies out of his receipts the staff of his subordinates was kept within reasonable limits, and little money was wasted in any way. But since the office was made a salaried one the number of employes has been enlarged to an inexcusable extent, and the money of the taxpayers has been leaking away through many a seam and rift. If the Register were buying typewriting machines out of his own pocket no more would be called for than the office really needed, and if he paid his own clerks there would not be a horde of slothful and inefficient political favorites on the payrolls. The old fee system was full of abuses, and it was right to abolish it; but it is time that public sentiment should be brought to bear in such a way that the interests of the taxpayers shall be properly looked after in the Register's office and in every other office. More work and less waste must be insisted on.

A MORMON VETO.

The Governor of Utah has vetoed the bill providing that complaints of unlawful cohabitation could be sworn to only by persons whose adverse interests and feelings would make their refusal to support an action virtually certain. Ostensibly designed to prevent malicious prosecution in occasional instances, this bill was commonly understood to be a crafty device for perpetuating polygamy, in violation of the explicit compact under which Utah was admitted to the Union as a sovereign State. The Mormon Church authorities, by whom it was ardently advocated, naturally did not concede that such was its purpose; but its opponents, including some members of the church, had no doubt on the subject, and on that belief the issue was practically drawn. Governor Wells had an extraordinary opportunity to achieve honorable distinction by withholding his assent, contrary to his personal sympathies, on the ground that he could not be a party to a breach of faith, and there are many reasons to regret that his action was dictated merely by considerations of expediency.

The immediate effect will doubtless be fortunate, for the bill cannot be passed over the veto, and the present law, which, though it is not easy of enforcement, nevertheless makes polygamous relations somewhat dangerous, is left unchanged. But the incident does not weaken the position of those who contend that the evil just barely escaped for the time being ought to be forever prevented by making marriage and divorce subject to Federal regulation—possibly, indeed, by the adoption of a constitutional amendment expressly directed against polygamy. However that proposition may have been regarded heretofore by the majority of intelligent citizens of the United States, who are agreed in detesting the peculiar institution with which the history of Utah is identified, the argument in its support is rather strengthened than undermined by the occurrence which has lately aroused deep interest there and elsewhere.

Governor Wells has unquestionably taken a sagacious view of the case. If he had signed the bill the consequence, as he says, would have been a general demand for national action against "certain social conditions" in Utah. It may not be quite so certain as he supposes that under the existing circumstances the demand would have been complied with, though we hope there would have been no hesitation on the part of Congress in undertaking a solution of the problem. It remains to be seen whether his veto, due to a dread of reprisals instead of to a sense of honorable obligation, and therefore an act not of principle but of prudence, will be deemed a sufficient security for the future. As to that opinions may differ, but it is desirable to consider that if Mormonism is in fact spreading as rapidly as its propagandists represent, the lapse of time will make it increasingly difficult to secure the ratification of an antipolygamy amendment to the constitution by the requisite number of States.

SUNDAY OPENING OF THE EXPOSITION.

The question of opening the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo on Sunday is up for discussion, and all the old arguments for and against such an opening are being vigorously presented. A new feature in the present discussion, however, is the fact that a much larger proportion of avowedly religious people than ever before are either in favor of Sunday opening or acknowledge the force of the arguments in support of it. It still remains true, doubtless, that the preponderance of Christian sentiment is opposed to what is called the secularization of the first day of the week, and in fairness it must be admitted that much can be said in favor of such an attitude. The secularization of Sunday to the extent of making it an ordinary workday would be a misfortune which all good citizens should strive to avert, whether they accept the dogmas of Christianity or not.

The question, however, is whether the specific act of opening the exposition on Sunday would lead to such a secularization. The extreme Sabbatarians say that it would. But the old Puritan Sabbatarians of the last century would have condemned just as strongly the present day observance of Sunday by these same extreme Sabbatarians. Thousands of Christian people who are to-day protesting against the Sunday opening of the exposition do not scruple to drive on Sunday, or eat hot dinners, or make and receive Sunday calls. Yet when Christians began to do these things on Sunday they were denounced as Sabbath breakers. To-day, however, no religious organization, except perhaps one of the smaller Presbyterian denominations, either directly or indirectly forbids this relaxed observance of Sunday. And we may therefore ask if it is not possible that fifty years hence the churches will in the same way recognize the Sunday opening of expositions, libraries, museums and art galleries. Indeed, the tendency to take this view is manifest already in the approval by many representative Christian ministers of the opening of art galleries and museums. Moreover, it must be remembered that no specific directions for Sunday observance are given in the New Testament, and as a result the mode of its observance has varied widely in the history of the church, a fact which gives us the right to assume that even the present accepted ideal of the day may be greatly modified in the future.

The advocates of a rigid observance of Sunday always assume that they speak for the religious consciousness of the country. But this assumption is not altogether warranted. They do not speak for the Jews or for such denominations as the Unitarians and Universalists, not to speak of a great many liberal Christians in the other denominations; and these people cannot be left out of the account in determining what is the religious consciousness of the country just because they happen to be in a minority. Therefore, when they plead for the opening of the exposition on Sunday, as they do, on professedly religious grounds, their plea cannot be brushed aside as though they were evil livers or enemies of religion. The fact that religious people are not a unit on this question is brought out in the last issue of "The New-York Evangelist," which prints several letters from ministers of religion in Buffalo, some of whom advocate Sunday opening. The Rabbi Israel Aaron, who says that he speaks not as a Jew, but as an American citizen, declares:

> Many Jews and nominal Christians, and a large number of no religious affiliations, have stock and interest in the exposition, and the religious convictions of these people have a clear right to consideration. To suppress them, to deny them, by mere force of majority is to exercise the tyranny of brute force—to revive in our day, in a modern way, the horrid intolerance of the Dark Ages, when they tortured, persecuted and burned to death the adherents of numerically weaker faiths.

The Rev. Burrus A. Jenkins suggests that the educational features of the exposition be thrown open to the public on Sundays. The Rev. L. M. Powers advocates Sunday opening. "The man "who does not believe in the churchman's way "of observing Sunday," he says, "has as good a "right to his opinion as the churchman. More "than this, he has the same right to hear a con- "cert in the Temple of Music that I have to go "to church."

Two other Buffalo pastors take strong ground against Sunday opening, but it is noteworthy that one of them, the Rev. S. S. Mitchell, a Presbyterian, declares that Sunday as an institute of religion "is a debatable subject, both as "to the obligation that enforces it and the use "that shall be made of it"—an admission that makes strongly against the rigid Sabbatarians who condemn all views of Sunday observance but their own. With so much difference of opinion among good men it will be no easy task for the directors of the exposition to come to a decision on the question. But if, after weighing all the arguments, they should decide in favor of Sunday opening, the character of Sunday will not be changed. Those who believe in its rigid observance will continue so to believe, with no one to hinder them or make them afraid. All that will happen is that others who have a different conception of Sunday will be permitted to observe it in their own way.

HERTZ WAVE TELEGRAPHY.

The system of telegraphy with the evolution of which Mr. Marconi has been conspicuously identified is likely to undergo further improvement in many respects within the next few years, and hence opinions as to the limits to its future usefulness should be advanced with caution. At present certainly it does not threaten to replace the Morse telegraph for ordinary commercial or press messages. But if the cost of the requisite apparatus can be reduced and the number of words sent a minute can be increased the new system may yet be able to compete on even terms with the old.

But there are several comparatively narrow fields in which wireless telegraphy already offers facilities distinctly superior to those now existing. For communication between shore stations and lightships it is both cheaper than a submarine cable and less subject to interference by accident. It is unquestionably more efficient than the steam siren as a fog signalling device, inasmuch as its use is apparently unattended by phenomena corresponding to the mysterious belts of silence that sometimes alternate with those of sound around a foghorn. And it is only a short step from this application of wireless telegraphy to the employment of it for conveying warnings to the merchant marine of coming storms from such eligible points as Hatteras and Key West. Again, one of the objects of Mr. Marconi's present visit to the United States is to provide for the establishment of stations for reporting incoming steamships. This is another highly promising scheme. Indeed, its practicality and value have already been demonstrated to a limited extent on the other side of the Atlantic. And it is not an over-sanguine prediction that within the next five years all passenger ships from north European ports to New-York will announce their arrival while passing Nantucket.

For military service wireless telegraphy possesses marked advantages. Bodies of troops on the march can report their progress and be controlled from headquarters more conveniently by this means than by either the heliograph or existing field telegraph. But the superiority to present methods of communication is more manifest at sea than on land. Neither flags nor lanterns can operate in a fog, and even in clear weather they are effective at insignificant distances compared with the range of the Hertz wave. England has already authorized the equipment of many of her naval vessels with wireless telegraphic instruments, and the adoption of the same policy by other nations is only a question of time. Whether the invention has yet been developed sufficiently to warrant its immediate introduction to the American Navy may be questioned, perhaps. It is altogether possible that Mr. Fessenden, Mr. Tesla, Dr. Slaby or even Mr. Marconi himself may ere long make marked improvements on the apparatus of to-day, although no one is justified in making a positive prediction to that effect. Even as it is, messages can be sent two hundred miles. And in this respect there is little more to be desired in naval usage.

Since Mr. Marconi began to attract attention by his achievements he has increased the efficiency of his system materially. Not only has he extended the distance to which he can communicate, but he has made his apparatus more compact, and so modified it as to lessen the chance of either interference or stealing a message. When some one finds a more sensitive receiver than the Branly coherer and devises an automatic Hertz wave repeater the world will derive still more benefit from the invention with which Marconi's name will always be so honorably associated.

Marconi and Tesla are both in town. Do they spend their time in exchanging wireless messages?

It is good news that Andrew H. Green, affectionately and rightly spoken of as the Father of Greater New-York, is recovering his health. The career of this venerable man, who has done so much to make this city not only broader and bigger, but also better, has been long and illustrious. May he round out a hundred years of usefulness and distinction!

Draco is in the seat of justice once again when Devery presides over the trials of patrolmen in the Mulberry-st. headquarters. Also Minos and Rhadamanthus, three arbiters of retribution rolled into one. Devery is especially severe on policemen who don't pay their bills for "booze," to use his own refined and elegant expression. He has no mercy on the button wearers who "bilk" the saloons, to quote another of his choice phrases. Between Devery and the keepers of the dramshops there are ties that bind. What a formidable collector of outlawed claims for the barrooms the ex-Chief is making of himself!

Divorce suits will always be one of the most unpleasant parts of legal procedure, no matter how carefully the laws relating thereto may be drawn. Nevertheless, the evils of them should be mitigated as far as possible, and that means a good deal, even in New-York, where the laws are supposed to be more strict than in some other States. There is only too good reason to believe that many divorces are obtained fraudulently, through collusion, a form of evil which under existing laws the courts seem powerless to prevent. For this evil a remedy is proposed in a bill which Senator Elsberg has introduced at Albany at the request of the Association of the Bar of this city. It provides in brief for the suspension of final judgment in certain divorce cases for not more than six months, at the discretion of the Court, after the filing of the decision of the court or report of the referee, and for the appointment, also at the discretion of the Court, of a court attorney, with functions corresponding somewhat to those of the King's Proctor in England, an officer whose services have been of inestimable value in the cause of honesty and justice. The bill leaves much to the discretion of the court, as is necessary, but it seems to guard against all possible abuses of such discretion, and appears to be well designed to check flagrant abuses and to protect the courts, the bar and the public against the impositions which are now too frequent. As a long step in the direction of justice and social integrity the measure is to be commended and its enactment desired.

The calm, cool and collected placeholder in Corsicana who brought in an official finding that the "best people in the United States" had burned alive a negro murderer, and that this action was highly commendable, evidently believes that all courts and all laws should be abolished, and that the "wild justice of revenge" should always rule in the punishment of crime. Was ever an untutored cannibal in the South Pacific so lost to every feeling of decency, duty and honor as this extraordinary officeholder in Corsicana?

PERSONAL.

By the will of Miss Sophronia Catlin, of Winsted, Conn., the Connecticut Missionary Society receives $2,000 and the Ecclesiastical Society of Winsted $1,000. The American Home Missionary Society of New-York and the American Missionary Society are made residuary legatees, receiving in all $13,000.

Victor Hugo's eldest daughter, Mlle. Adèle Hugo, is now nearly seventy-seven years old. She was engaged to be married to an English officer, who died in India. On learning of her loss her mind became affected, and she is still ignorant of her father's death. The two other heirs of the poet are his grandson and granddaughter, M. Georges Hugo and Mme. Jean Charcot, who married the son of a well known neurologist.

At the classical conference to be held at Ann Arbor at the spring meeting of the Michigan Schoolmasters' Club, March 29 and 30, papers will be read by Professors Carl D. Buck and Edward Capps, of the University of Chicago; Professor George Edwards, of Olivet College, and Professors Martin L. D'Ooge and John C. Rolfe and Dr. Henry A. Sanders, of the University of Michigan.

Mr. Whymper, the Alpine climber, who was the first to ascend the Matterhorn, has arranged to visit Canada this summer, with a view to climbing some of the unconquered peaks in the Canadian Rockies. Mr. Whymper is to take his own Swiss guides, although he has retained the services of "Tom" Wilson, a Canadian guide, who has made the first ascent of several peaks. It is understood that Mr. Whymper's chief objective is Mount Assiniboine, about twenty miles south of Banff, which, in spite of several plucky attempts, has as yet never been scaled. The height of the mountain is variously estimated at from 11,800 feet to 12,600 feet.

The proposed new statue of Queen Victoria will raise the number of London's statues of royal persons to thirty-one. The city has fourteen statues of statesmen and a dozen of soldiers.

Colonel Charles Marshall, of Baltimore, who was invited by Washington and Lee University several years ago to write a military biography of General Robert E. Lee, is reported to have practically completed his work. General Lee himself collected data for an account of the operations of the Army of Northern Virginia, but did not begin the work of actual composition. Colonel Marshall has made use of this material in preparing his memoir, and has also had access to many of the captured Confederate records in the War Department at Washington.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

"The Chicago Inter Ocean" remarks: "If the estimable ladies and gentlemen who induced Congress to abolish the army canteen could have visited Highwood and Fort Sheridan Thursday night their ideas on the subject of temperance reform would have been considerably altered. At Highwood they would have found all the old and several new saloons filled with soldiers drinking and gambling in the company of vile characters of both sexes. Later in the night they would have found in the Fort Sheridan barracks more drunken sleepers and more men absent without leave than have been recorded for years."

Brown—So you lost your lawsuit with Smith?
Jones—Yes; but it's a satisfaction to know that Smith didn't win anything.
"But didn't you have to pay him $1,000 damages?"
"Yes; but his lawyer got that."—(Philadelphia Record.

Signor Matteucci, who has been studying Vesuvius for many years, says that from July, 1895, it kept constantly active for more than four years, the flow of lava ceasing in September, 1899. The depth of the crater was then over 600 feet. Last April the lava rose to within 240 feet of the top, when a series of explosions within the crater began. Some blocks of lava were projected 1,800 feet perpendicularly into the air. One block weighed thirty tons, and Signor Matteucci estimates that it took 610,000 horse power to eject it. Five hundred thousand cubic yards of lava and ashes were belched forth in April and May. The crater is thirty feet higher than before, so that Vesuvius rises now 4,300 feet above sea level.

An old farmer in Scotland once went to have a troublesome tooth extracted. Said the dentist, after looking at the offending molar:
"It is a very ugly one. I would advise you to have it out by the painless system. It is only a shilling extra."
He showed the farmer the apparatus for administering gas, remarking that it would cause him to fall asleep for a minute, and before he awoke the tooth would be out. After a slight resistance the sufferer consented, proceeding to open his purse.
"Oh, never mind paying just now!" said the dentist, kindly.
"Hoots!" answered the cautious old Scot, "A wasn't thinking o' that; but if A'm ga'en ta sleep A' thocht A' wad like ta count ma siller fust."—(Glasgow Evening Times.

A fifteen-year-old girl in Chapman, Kan., tried to commit suicide the other day because her mother would not let her marry a widower, forty-seven years old.

Justice—You say that you doubt the statement of the previous witness, that the defendant squandered his inheritance. Please give the reason for your doubt.
Witness—I tried three or four times to get him to visit a church fair, but it was useless. He always smiled and informed me that he was not born yesterday.—(Boston Transcript.

The extra stationery used by the British Government during the South African war cost $500,000.

Mamma—Johnny, I want you to be good to-day.
Johnny—I will be good if you'll gimme a nickel.
Mamma—Johnny, I want you to remember that you cannot be a child of mine unless you are good for nothing.—(Philadelphia Press.

A correspondent writes to "The London Daily News" to protest against the proposal to whitewash Westminster Abbey, which, he asserts, "would be as gross a piece of vandalism as that outrageous blot on the Tower Hill—the red brick building recently erected, which entirely mars the scene, and is out of all keeping with the gray stone battlements of our grand historic castle. But the Abbey," he exclaims; "surely every voice in the land would be raised against the sacrilege and vandalism of whitewash there! Oil it, if need be, and preserve the dear old pile—but chalk it, never!"

Mrs. Greene—Mrs. Kreesus is sick of her bargain already, it is plain to see, and probably wishes she had married young Hartley.
Mr. Greene—Kreesus, they say, is made of money, and naturally his wife wants to change him.—(Boston Transcript.

German postmasters have been so annoyed by eccentricities in the shapes and sizes of the envelopes inclosing mail matter that a bill is to be introduced in the Reichstag prescribing the size and shape of envelopes. Postmasters in this country are watching the bill with interest, and hoping for a similar one. The chief annoyance is the delay in stamping the letters with postmark and cancelling stamps, for these odd shaped and odd sized missives will not pass through the stamping machine in such a way as to receive the stamp properly, and have to be gone over again by hand.

Tennyson is said to have been fond of foolish fun, that ever delightful sort of fun which is not wit, but nonsense. One day at Burlington House he asked the guests a conundrum which he had just made:
"Who are the greatest women in the world?"
The answer was:
"Miss Ouri, the Misses Ippi and Sara Gossa."—(Youth's Companion.

The Baltimore City Directory for 1901, just issued, indicates a population of 669,812 for Baltimore.

"What is the use of a man's getting into a crowd and yelling as he does at a baseball game."
"Great heavens!" exclaimed the enthusiast. "He's got to do it in a crowd. If he were to go away by himself and yell in that manner they would have him in a lunatic asylum in less than a week."—(Washington Star.

MUSICAL MATTERS.

YESTERDAY'S DOINGS.

At the Opera House yesterday "Tosca" was given in the afternoon and "La Traviata" in the evening. So far as the representation bore on the question of popular demand, old lessons, and old lessons only, were enforced. The new opera, performed more tellingly and effectively than either time before, beautifully furnished, treating of a story with which the country has echoed all season, virile, unconventional, stirring, hot i' the mouth, given for the first time in the afternoon, drew a smaller audience than did the hackneyed old piece in the evening. But Mme. Melba sang at popular prices. There might be comment, but whether or not it would make for improvement is not plain. In any event it can be spared. Both performances were admirable and enthusiastically enjoyed.

Mr. Ludwig Breitner gave a concert of chamber music at Mendelssohn Hall last night with the help of Mr. Max Bendix and the Bendix Quartet. The music consisted of Schumann's trio in G minor, Schütt's suite for violin and pianoforte, and Sgambati's quintet in F minor. The music was finely played, the suite brilliantly, indeed, but was received listlessly. The combination was a happy one, and would augur well for chamber music if it could be perpetuated.

MME. SEMBRICH IN THE WEST.

Mme. Sembrich has recently made an important change in the itinerary of her opera company which speaks eloquently of her success. All of her Southern dates have been cancelled, and after twelve performances in San Francisco she will start toward New-York, singing practically in every city in which she has already appeared. Denver, Des Moines, Omaha and all the principal cities of the Middle West, in which it was arranged at first to give but one representation, will be revisited, and after singing for the second time this year in Rochester and Buffalo her tour will end here on May 1, as originally planned. Mme. Sembrich's San Francisco season will begin to-morrow night, and she will appear there in "Il Barbiere di Seviglia," "I Pagliacci," in which she has never been heard before here; "La Traviata," "Lucia di Lammermoor," "Rigoletto" and "Faust." After one performance in Los Angeles she will start for the East.

MR. WU TO SPEAK HERE SOON.

HE WILL MAKE THE PRINCIPAL ADDRESS AT A PUBLIC MEETING AT THE CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH.

A public meeting will be held in the Calvary Baptist Church, West Fifty-seventh-st., on the evening of March 26, under the auspices of the Baron and Baroness de Hirsch Monument Association, to call attention to the movement begun by this association for the eradication of racial prejudice and religious intolerance.

The president of the association, Thomas L. James, will preside. Edwin Markham will read a poem written for the occasion. Wu Ting-fang will be the principal speaker of the evening, and short addresses will be made by the Rev. Dr. R. Heber Newton, the Rev. Dr. Joseph Silverman, the Rev. Donald Sage Mackay, the Rev. Dr. Samuel Schulman, the Rev. Dr. Charles H. Eaton and the Rev. Dr. Robert Stuart MacArthur.

FUNERAL OF DAVID J. LEES.

FOUR JUSTICES TO BE AMONG PALLBEARERS OF JUSTICE LAWRENCE'S PRIVATE SECRETARY.

The funeral of David J. Lees, private secretary to Justice Lawrence, of the Supreme Court, will take place on Monday morning in the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola. The pallbearers will be Justices Truax, Scott, Stover and Lawrence, ex-Justice Cohen, Franklin Bien, Emanuel Blumenstiel, Ambrose O. McCall, William H. Ricketts, William J. Lynch, James J. Nealis and Peter L. Halpin.

Mr. Lees, who had been private secretary to Justice Lawrence for twenty-seven years, died at Palm Beach, Fla., on Thursday, after a long illness. His body was brought home yesterday.

SPEAKERS AT MARCH CONFERENCE.

The March conference, under the auspices of the Charity Organization Society, will be held next Tuesday, at 11 a. m., in the Assembly Hall of the United Charities Building, No. 105 East Twenty-second-st. Robert W. de Forest, president of the Charity Organization Society, will discuss the question, "Can earners of low wages be comfortably housed in New-York City tenement houses?"

George T. Powell, director of the School of Agriculture and Practical Horticulture, Briar Cliff, N. Y., will discuss the subject of "Practical instruction in farm and garden culture, as a relief to city poverty," and Miss Mary E. Cutler, of Winthrop Gardens, Holliston, Mass., will speak on "Flower Culture by Women." The public is cordially invited to be present.

THE LOTOS CLUB ELECTION.

The annual meeting of the Lotos Club was held yesterday. Officers were elected for the coming year. The only changes were the retirement of H. H. Harrison, as treasurer, and the election of Charles W. Price to act in his place. The ticket follows: President, Frank R. Lawrence; vice-president, William Henry White; secretary, Chester S. Lord; treasurer, Charles W. Price; directors (to hold office for three years), John Elderkin, George H. Daniels and Henry B. Wilson.

TO MEET IN PALESTINE.

Mrs. J. P. Newman, widow of Bishop J. P. Newman, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, sailed yesterday on the steamer Graf Waldersee, of the Hamburg-American Line. Mrs. Newman has promised Mrs. Leland Stanford, widow of Senator Leland Stanford, that she will join her at Palestine on Easter Sunday morning, and expects to keep her engagement. These two well known women have planned to remain abroad until next fall.

TRANSATLANTIC TRAVELLERS.

Among those booked to sail for Gibraltar, Naples and Genoa to-morrow, on the steamer Kaiserin Maria Theresia, are Mr. and Mrs. Walter Brooks, Dr. and Mrs. F. Bradley, Professor and Mrs. Walter Blair, Miss Blair, Amos G. Batchelder, the Misses Jane M. and Irene N. Black, Mrs. E. Hamilton Bell, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Davenport, Mr. and Mrs. Ernesto G. Fabbri, Alessandro Fabbri, Edward H. Kidder, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Kimball, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. George W. Wickersham, Dr. Edward F. Schwedler, Mr. and Mrs. William Salomon, Mr. and Mrs. Edmund D. Randolph, the Rev. and Mrs. James W. Roberts, R. Romayne Simmons, Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Stearns, Mr. and Mrs. Willard H. Platt, Mr. and Mrs. Henry F. Noyes, Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Newlands and Gustav H. Schwab.

Among those who arrived here yesterday on the steamer Barbarossa, from Bremen, were Mr. and Mrs. John M. Bailey, Dr. E. Burkard and the Rev. and Mrs. F. G. Jewett, jr.

On the steamer Umbria, which sailed for Liverpool yesterday, were Henri Pène du Bois, Alfred Chapman, Baroness Halkett, Mr. and Mrs. Archer Harmon, William C. Post, Miss Helen Phelps Stokes, J. E. Tindall, George H. Weyand, W. H. Woodcock and Eugene Zimmerman.

On the steamer Campania, which arrived here last evening from Liverpool, were Miss Bence, S. Berliner, Consuelo, Duchess of Manchester; Shirley M. Crawford, Conte Augusto Fantoni, Hammersley Heenan, Mr. and Mrs. Percival S. Hill, Miss Marion M. Kemp, Professor Knapp, Sir John and Lady Lister-Kaye, William Prime, Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Pullen, the Rev. Dr. and Mrs. James Robertson, Colonel Skinner, Dr. Stone, Miss Tobin, H. E. Wanamaker and Frank D. Waterman.

AN APPRECIATION OF THE TRIBUNE.

From The Peekskill Blade.

One of the most welcome exchanges to our editorial desk is The New-York Tribune—a journal emphatically Republican to the core, and yet so moderate in its tone and precepts as not to give offence to the most radical of its opponents. The paper is one of the best printed in New-York City, and its columns teem with all the latest and most reliable news of the day, not spread before you in sensational headings that would have put Horace Greeley, the founder of The Tribune, to the blush, but carrying throughout its entire makeup and general contents those essential characteristics of great journalism, modesty, skill and talent all combined, "distinct like the billows, but one like the sea." One department in this journal should alone be considered invaluable, and that the Westchester County news, covering, as it does, the transaction of all important events in the county, both political and otherwise, and given without prejudice or scandal. In fact, no paper is received at our office that meets with a more hearty welcome than The New-York Tribune, pre-eminently a people's paper, and as an educator of the masses one of the best in the land. The success the paper has already attained is almost phenomenal, and still greater successes are promised in the future. May your watchword continue to be "Onward!" gentlemen, and may the shadow of your journal never grow less!