NEWS AND VIEWS OF WOMEN

MISS ELSIE MACOMBER,
Who is to name the cruiser Des Moines at Quincy, Mass., to-day. Miss Macomber was appointed by Governor Cummins, and is a resident of Des Moines.

CRAZE FOR ANTIQUES.

PLATES AND FURNITURE THE DESIRED CURIOS NOW—FOLKS WHO BUY AND SELL.

"The craze for the antique is the most fatal of all the fad microbes," said a young woman in one of the exclusive antique shops in the uptown section yesterday. "I love these things so dearly that my sole ambition in life is to own a curio shop of my own, and as to having a house or even a room furnished with modern stuff—why, I would rather never have anything."

"How long does it take for the microbe to taint the blood?" was the question that followed after her statement. The young woman said it took less than six months, and as she spoke she swept with loving gaze the walls, with the pictures and plates, the corners where ticked tall old clocks, and the shelves where reposed quaint bric-à-brac, the furniture and the cabinets, the massive mahogany highboys, the quaint old screens and dozens of things that people buy to remind them of their own or some one else's ancestors.

"The odd thing about all this is," she continued, "that one hates to part with the goods when they are sold, even though they are kept here to sell. I sometimes think they have a magnetism of their own, and that they attach themselves to you as if they were animate things. A shop such as this is like playing store, the same as one does in childhood. There is an indefinable charm about it. You never know what is going to turn up in trade. Always the queerest old things are brought in here to sell. But the things themselves are not half so queer as the people who come to offer them for sale."

PARTING WITH HEIRLOOMS.

"Do gentle people come here with treasures?"

"Indeed, yes, and, then, plenty of cranks besides. There is one dear old lady who comes now and then to offer a relic. She wears a poke bonnet that makes her look as if she had stepped out of a picture. Over the front of the bonnet is draped a real lace veil, with floral and foliage designs wrought in it. I believe she is a descendant of one of the Presidents. She always cries before she parts with the article she brings to sell.

"Then, there was another old lady who came in here not long ago with a brooch to sell. She asked 50 cents for it, but she looked so unhappy at the idea of parting with it that I gave her $1, and she was so surprised that she almost looked cheerful over it. One could readily tell that she was not accustomed to selling things. Yes, indeed, I think we could tell an impostor without any trouble.

"There is a man who speculates continually in small bits, usually jewels, which he picks up at auctions and in obscures places. He is known to every antique dealer in New-York, and is called 'the crazy Frenchman.' He comes in with something to sell, perhaps a ring.

"'How much do you want?' is the question asked of him by the dealer.

"'Eighteen dollars, monsieur.'

"'I will give you two.'

"'No, no, no! Impossseeble, monsieur! Ze ring is valuable.'

"'Two dollars is all it is worth,' is the response.

"This is followed by expressions of anguish and tears. But the dealer is obdurate. So the Frenchman makes ready to depart in great dudgeon. After starting and coming back no less than three times, and asserting that the ring cost him $10, he finally acknowledges that he paid $8 for it, and takes $2 and is glad to get it.

TO BE WILY IS TO SUCCEED.

"To succeed in this business one must be as wily as a pawnbroker. The antique shop is really the only place where one may realize money on valuables, aside from the pawnshop. At the latter place they only allow weight on old silver, while here the design and the hallmark are taken into consideration."

"For what special things is there the greatest call at present?"

"Furniture and old blue plates. Furniture is worth more and more every year. The price is constantly rising. That mahogany highboy over there is worth $1,100.

"There is a great and growing fancy for historical plates," said the girl, pointing to a half dozen or more dark blue plates used as wall decoration. "That platter up there is of special historic value, and represents the harbor at Detroit. There are a great many collectors, and we are glad to gather in all the plates we can get. They command a good price if genuine. Can we tell the genuine? Indeed, we can. The proprietor of this shop can tell whether a plate is genuine twenty feet away, and almost before the paper is taken quite off. One gets so familiar with antiques in time as to be able to appraise any article, no matter what it is."

"How about the people who come to buy?"

The girl in the curio shop laughed satirically.

"There is no better place in which to study human nature," she said. "If the woman who comes to sell is eccentric, the woman who comes to buy is often quite as much so. The society woman comes in, and, after regarding the goods in a supercilious fashion, she looks at a cabinet full of priceless things and says:

"Oh, what stunning little trash!"

"'Stunning little trash,' indeed!" the curio shopwoman said, in scornful repetition. "Then she will pick up something and exclaim: "How cute! How perfectly cunning! Isn't it a dear?"

MEN THE BEST CUSTOMERS.

"Men are much more agreeable customers than the women, and the Western women are the ones who drive the bargains. We can classify a woman the minute she puts her foot over the threshold. Then there is the woman who wanders in to pass away the time. She tells us how she has duplicates of everything we have. At home she has trunks packed with things that are the exact counterpart of what we have. She is the gentlewoman with ancestors. She always regrets that she didn't bring her sister along, for her sister knows everything at a glance. The usual man who comes to buy is purchasing something for a woman who is addicted to the antique, and he knows no more about it himself than he does about Mars. The meanest man of all is the one who comes in one day to sell something, and then returns in two days to ask the price of it, so that he can determine whether he has been cheated.

"A rule about prices of articles? No, there is no rule. That is the beauty of the business. We make our own prices, and as a rule we have our own customers. In the summer we do nothing. Every one is out of town, and except for the little transient trade of visiting people we might as well close the shop."

Then she displayed some foolish little snuff-boxes, and some stone vases with a glazed surface and stoppers that might have been sold to the uninitiated on the 25-cent counter without the purchaser ever suspecting that he had a bargain—and she said the price was $40. The standard of value is different in a curio shop from what it is out in the dollar grubbing world. A Bennington ware dog with an inane expression on his face and a basket of roses in his mouth stood mounted on a stone pedestal, proudly conscious that he was rare because he was made in Bennington, Vt., fifty years ago, and was on that account valued at more than $50 for the pair.

ON THE HUNT FOR RELICS.

"The buyer's market for these things? Why, the market is everywhere. We have agents all through the South and New-England buying from private families. The supply seems to be inexhaustible. We go over and over the same field, for as the old people pass away the young ones have less regard for the heirlooms than they have for the dollars, and are glad to make the exchange. Only the other day I called upon a woman in an apartment and saw the rarest firescreen, that certainly must have been one hundred years old. I immediately asked her if she would sell it, and she as promptly said she would.

"I must not forget to tell you about the people who have money and nothing else, and are desirous of buying heirlooms so that they can prove that they had ancestors. They are the ones we raise the price on. They buy old silver and rare old clocks and blue plates, and the trinkets to put in their cabinets. We can tell that class the minute we set eyes on them. They are the new rich, and if there is something which their money will not buy they want to find it. How I do love to get hold of that kind of a man, for that is the time when I work off the old stock."

"Do you think one can be quite honest in the curio business?"

"It's up to the customer to be well informed," said the woman in the curio shop with a wise expression in her eyes.

Long mousquetaire gloves, in white and black, are being worn again for evening dress. These are shown in both glacé and suède, but the former is essentially an evening glove, the leading dealers declare. They carry twenty buttons on the longest in pearl and pink shades. An attractive glove is the three clasp, embroidered suède, that comes in pearl, lavender, cream, primrose, manila, tan, mode, beaver, French gray, brown, black and gun metal color, which last is one of the novelties of the season.

All manner of novelties in gun metal increase in favor—long chains, belt buckles, sash pins, entire belts of this metal wrought into filigree work, handbag mounts, card cases, purses, match cases, penholders, fobs, shoe buckles and many fancy ornaments set with mock gems. The beauty of the gun metal is that it never tarnishes, and its soft shade harmonizes with any color of gem or fabric it is placed against.

Smart pedestrienne suits are shown in blouse models made of vicuna cloth in all the mode shades, trimmed either with many rows of machine stitching in white silk thread up and down the skirt seams and the blouse, or with "vestee" of fancy velvet and some of the new braids and ornaments. Other stylish walking suits are on the Norfolk jacket and side pleated skirt model, and made of white and black mixtures, the "snowflake" cloths and blue and black effects.

Many dressy suits are of velvet, with fancy trimmed tailored waist, gored and lap seamed skirt, handsomely stitched. Some of these velvet suits are ornamented only by a silk covered cord stitched into the seams of the seven gored skirts, the same trimming ornamenting the seams and edges of the waist or jacket. The old rich wine tones and warm garnet shades have returned in these velvets, and a particularly attractive gown was shown built of maroon colored velvet, the seams all being outlined with a cord of plaid silk, a Venetian lace vest and revers completing the costume.

The new buttons to be used on winter gowns and wraps are really little works of art. In size they range from one to one and a half inches in diameter, and are in all the fancy metals, especially old silver and gun metal, formed into circles of classical scroll and foliated work surrounding a centre of turquoise, a tiny Empire miniature, a large amethyst, a cluster of garnets, an irregular shaped fresh water pearl, or a few fine rhinestones. Some are designed in all sorts of flowers, true lovers' knots, various symbols and even small beetles; and there are handsome buttons of jet, coral, ivory (painted), cloth covered, and fancy but durable "compositions."

All the Scotch "clans" are represented in the gay plaids shown in the new winter sash ribbons. They are wide and soft as Roman scarfs, which will admit of knotting, crushing and twisting into any sort of treatment without creasing, an admirable quality in a sash ribbon. Pompadour and Dresden effects still hold their own for winter sashes and for the folded and crushed belts, underlying the belts of linked scrolls, garlands and medallions in old silver, which are more in favor than ever. One unique design is a folded plaid ribbon, caught and held in place at intervals of four inches all round the belt by large silver spiders, the belt clasping with a cluster of large roses in old silver.

WOMEN AS BLACKSMITHS

MANY TAKE UP WORK—NOT A FIT OCCUPATION FOR THEM, SAYS ARCHITECT.

Miss Nora Stanton Blatch, of London, who has passed the entrance examinations to the civil engineering course at Cornell University, is the first woman student to be admitted to this department. Miss Blatch is the granddaughter of Elizabeth Cady Stanton. She is a young woman of about twenty, tall and of the brunette type.

When Miss Blatch entered Cornell last year she chose the arts course, but later, developing ability in mathematics, she concluded to take up the engineering course. Three other girl students determined to do the same thing, but none of them passed the examinations, it is said.

One reason for Miss Blatch's success undoubtedly lay in the fact that she had already dipped into engineering and metallurgy, besides doing considerable practical work in blacksmithing. While at Cornell she will be obliged to attend lectures, the only woman in a crowd of men; to don the leather apron and do field work in the same exclusively male society; but at the Horace Mann High School in this city she was also the only woman in the department of forge work. When Miss Blatch graduated from the Mann School in 1901 she had completed the course in manual training, in which smithy work plays a prominent rôle, three thirty minute periods a week being devoted to it throughout one year. Working at one of the twenty forges in the big blacksmithing room at the Teachers College, she learned to make lamp stands, fire screens, drawer pulls, door handles and knockers. Here she mastered such unfeminine subjects as the making and tempering of steel dies, and explored the mysteries of the common iron ores, Bessemer steel and blast furnaces. Miss Blatch's blacksmithing has won her a prize.

Besides Miss Blatch, only one other girl is said to have taken up forge work at the Horace Mann High School, and she did not finish the course.

At first thought blacksmithing seems about the unlikeliest accomplishment in the world for a woman to choose. But, all the same, blacksmithing is among the arts and crafts now cultivated by the progressive American girl. It is one of the occupations followed at "The Shop," that interesting experiment in arts and crafts in this city. Workers at "The Shop"—women as well as men—have been using the forge of an automobile company, and hanging flower baskets, lanterns, swinging signs and candlesticks are shown as the fruit of their industry. It is the intention of a city architect who is interested in the movement to have the handwrought bolts, hinges and door handles that are usually made by Italian artisans done at "The Shop" for the houses he designs.

"Blacksmithing is fearfully hard work," said a New-York woman architect who has tried it to a Tribune reporter yesterday. "The girl who wields a hammer must have muscles like whipcord, a chest of steel and a back as strong as the iron she manipulates. Even then she will find that a little of it goes a long way. Forgework overdevelops some muscles, making ugly bumps and bulges if persisted in, therefore it is not an ideal system of gymnastics. Besides, it is very dirty; there's no disguising that—in fact, it is not a woman's occupation. There are not many things of which this can be said, but smithing is certainly one. However, I believe in women trying their hand at everything. Forgework is good fun. I have taken it up as a recreation merely, and enjoy a dash at it now and again. Often women who require an insight into the working of hot iron study at a foundry, where they familiarize themselves with all the processes involved, although the actual manipulation is done by the men. Women architects are expected to understand wrought iron thoroughly, although it is no more essential for them to perform the actual manual labor than for them to do the carpenter work on the buildings they erect.

"Designing for wrought iron is a branch to which the artistic taste and invention of women lend themselves admirably. There is a great field for women right here. Handwrought iron represents an art in itself, with principles and standards of its own, and these must be observed just as in sculpture or architecture. One woman out West has done so well with this sort of designing that she is now employed exclusively by one great iron firm. More women might follow in this path with profit."

Mushroom catsup is useful in sauces and should find a place in every store closet. To prepare it clean half a peck of full grown mushrooms and fill a stone jar with them, sprinkling over them as they are put in a half cupful of salt. After they have stood four hours break them in pieces and place in a cool spot for three days, stirring now and then. At the end of that time measure the juice that has been extracted, and to each quart add half an ounce of allspice, one-eighth ounce of cayenne pepper, half an ounce of ginger and half a teaspoonful of mace. Put the mixture into a tightly covered jar, place it in boiling water and boil three hours. Then turn into a saucepan and cook slowly twenty minutes longer. The next day strain through a fine cloth; to each pint of catsup add a tablespoonful of brandy, fill into small bottles and seal. Keep the catsup in a cool place.

A filling for layer cake is made of two cupfuls of chopped almonds, two ounces of melted sweetened chocolate, two tablespoonfuls of cream and a quarter of a teaspoonful of butter. Whole blanched almonds may be used to decorate the top of the cake.

Grape cups in a nest of whipped cream make a charming dessert for a heavy dinner. Soften in cold water one-half box of gelatine and dissolve it in a quart of grape juice. Add the juice of one lemon and sweeten to taste. Turn into cups and stand on the ice to "set." Just before serving turn out the forms, arrange them around a broad plate and heap the centre of the dish with sweetened whipped cream.

Those who delight in the making of soups, new and old, may be interested to know that the famed mulligatawney, originally peculiar to Southern India, derives its name from two Tamil words—mulagu (pepper) and tamur (water). In its simple form, as partaken of by the poorer classes of Madras, it is only what its name indicates. It is eaten with a large quantity of rice and constitutes a meal. To this native compound the English added chicken or mutton broth and other ingredients, thickened the liquid with butter and flour, and finally arrived at the present appetizing article of menu, which may be regarded as a kind of first cousin to the gombo of the Southern States.

When there are stains in the carafe that the ordinary treatment will not remove apply muriatic acid to them and let it remain for a day or two. Then drain, wash thoroughly and polish.

To keep cut asters for a long time strip the leaves from their stems and put into the water in the vase a piece of charcoal. The water will need changing daily.

"It is odd how often really valuable information comes to one by accident," said a young housekeeper the other day. "In the most unexpected way I discovered that by wiping off my furniture with a cloth wrung out in very hot water, before applying my furniture cream, a much higher polish could be secured and the wood would not show fingermarks afterward. I've found, too, that Japanned ware is best cleaned by the use of a sponge just dampened in warm water, and for the more obstinate spots sweet oil. I like to experiment with my housekeeping," she added, "and often make discoveries of real money saving and labor saving value."

If the tiny dark scales sometimes found on the rind of an orange be examined with a pocket lens, they will look like minute mussel shells, round side up. In reality they are the remains of the female coccus, a sort of cousin to the "mealy bugs," which are one of the worst pests the horticulturists have to contend with. Australia is the native country of these vegetation destroyers, and a few years ago, when the orange plantations of Lower California were threatened with ruin through their ravages, experts were sent over to the little continent to discover and import the natural enemies of these pests. These were found to be the lady bird beetle, and quantities of them were at once shipped to America and distributed among the planters. Sometimes, under the tiny scale or shell on the orange skin, the microscope reveals minute pearl-like eggs. When the mother coccus finds what she wants to eat, usually the rind of a fine young orange, she instantly inserts her proboscis, and thereafter is little more than a slightly animated stationary suction pump. The next generation, emerging from the minute pearly eggs, know their mother only as a sort of snug shed, and by the time the consumer is reached this has shrivelled until it appears to be little more than a segment of dry leaf or a bit of dust.

SIXTEENTH CENTURY "OAT MEALE."

The following is taken from the recipe book of "Elizabeth Armitage of Heresforthe Hall," which interesting manuscript bears the date of 1587: "To make an oatmeale puddinge take A quart of Creame Seven Spoonfulls of Oat meale, sette it on a Cleare fire and let it boyle leapingly, till it be as thick as hasty puddinge. Poore it into A dysh & putt in three quarters of a pound of butter, some grated nuttmoigg with a Manshott, grated. Add 2 or 3 Spoonfulls of Rose water, putt it in to A dysh well buttered and paiste layd about it—half an houre will bake it."

The Tribune Sunshine Society

GOOD CHEER.

Have you had a kindness shown?
Pass it on.
'Twas not given for you alone—
Pass it on.
Let it travel down the years,
Let it wipe another's tears,
Till in heaven the deed appears—
Pass it on.

LIFE.

Let me but live my life from year to year
With forward face and unreluctant soul,
Not hastening to, nor turning from, the goal.

Not mourning for the things that disappear
In the dim past, nor holding back in fear
From what the future veils; but with a whole
And happy heart, that pays its toll
To Youth and Age, and travels on with cheer.

So let the way wind up the hill or down,
Though rough or smooth, the journey will be joy:
Still seeking what I sought when but a boy,
New friendship, high adventure, and a crown,
I shall grow old, but never lose life's zest,
Because the road's last turn will be the best.
—(Henry van Dyke.

NOTICE.

All letters and packages intended for the T. S. S. should be addressed to The Tribune Sunshine Society, Tribune Building, New-York City. If the above address is carefully observed communications intended for the T. S. S. will be less likely to go astray. The Tribune Sunshine Society has no connection with any other organization or publication using the word "Sunshine."

TROLLEY FUND.

The generosity of T. S. S. members has enabled the president, through the general office, to pass on Sunshine in large and helpful ways during the summer to those who would otherwise have been classed among the neglected ones. The outing fund amounted to $236 85. There were 735 in the different outing parties, sent out, most of them children. One trolley party was reserved for mothers with sick babies and two for aged people. The children were allowed 20 cents each for their outing, while the mothers and aged people had 30 and 50 cents each. In addition to this, $29 50 was expended for individual Sunshine drives and day's outings for the sick and crippled ones, and for "reduced gentlewomen."

The sum of $20 was also given to the outing fund of the Little Mothers, $10 to the Ninety-ninth-st. playground, $6 for railway fares to the country for members who were entertained free, and $2 for noonday luncheons for poor children at the playground.

The president desires to express her hearty appreciation of the liberal contributions which have been the means of bringing so much bright Sunshine into many restricted lives.

Our grand business in life is not to see what lies dimly at a distance, but to do what lies clearly at hand.—(Thomas Carlyle.

IN MEMORY.

"S. A." of Albany, N. Y., has sent $1 as a birthday memorial (September 22) of her aged mother, who has passed to the other life. It is to be "passed on" to a Florida invalid, whose days are full of suffering and sorrow.

SUNSHINE FAIR.

Miss Lucy Philo, of Newark, N. J., president of the Busy Bees reports a Sunshine parlor fair on September 13, at which about a dozen children with the help of their friends realized $10, which is to be given to the Home for Crippled Children. The decorations were golden rod, and the young folks wore the Sunshine colors, yellow crepe paper hats and sashes over white frocks, and made a pretty picture as they flitted about the parlors waiting upon the people who came to buy despite the rainy day and who manifested much interest in the work of the T. S. S. Miss Philo is looking forward to the enrollment of several new members.

FLOWERS.

The floral contributions on Thursday were numerous and beautiful. The Yorktown Heights branch sent five boxes of lovely autumn flowers, deep purple pansies and two bouquets of wild flowers; Mrs. Lisa A. Fletcher, of Manchester, N. H., a box of bright colored blooms in excellent condition after the long trip from the Granite State, and Mrs Frank J. New, of New-Rochelle, N. Y., sent another box of attractive Sunshine from her garden. A West Side Settlement, an invalid in Brooklyn and two in Manhattan shared in the flowers. A small box filled with sweetpeas reached the office without the name of the sender.

The embroidery silks contributed by Mrs. M. Hedges Washburn will be forwarded to a member in need of this helpful "ray."

NEW MEMBERS.

The following new members have joined the Yorktown Heights branch: Mr. and Mrs. I. S. Rich, Mrs. M. S. Carthy, Miss Mary Gregory and Miss Etta Gregory. Individual members who have been enrolled during the week, besides those previously mentioned, are Mrs. H. C. Plumb, Mrs. George Griffin, Mrs. Hyde, Mrs. Charles Fowler, Mrs. E. P. Cranford, E. R. Prudden, Miss Jeanie Bulmer, Miss M. O. Folger, Mrs. G. A. Weaver, Miss E. S. Cooper, Miss Nancy Darling, Mrs. Henry Cobham, Miss Eleanor Whiting and Miss Anna L. Hawkins.

HABIT OF INANITY.

A student of child life and development devotes a considerable portion of a volume embodying the result of his investigations to the subject of question answering. He does not advocate the encouragement of silly and inane questioning, in which children sometimes persist. But this he says results from lack of proper mental occupation, and the child's mind should be at once directed to something interesting or puzzling, as there is such a thing as forming a "habit of inanity." But any reasonable desire for information which shows itself in the thousand and one questions asked by the normal child from dawn to dark it is criminal to disappoint. It would be less unkind to refuse bread and water. Perhaps it is wearying to go patiently over familiar ground—the a b c's of life, not once only, but again and again, but the parent who is too indolent or selfish to do this is in reality starving his child, and no later acquisitions ever quite make up in the mental development what was denied it in its early expanding years; just as lack of physical food when the new bones and tissue most need it will result in a stunted body which no amount of later feeding will ever bring up to normal size.

THE TRIBUNE PATTERN.

A TISSUE PAPER PATTERN OF GIRL'S BOX PLEATED COSTUME, NO. 4,141, FOR 10 CENTS.

Box pleated frocks are among the latest novelties for young girls, and are exceedingly chic and charming. This pretty design is in the height of style, and is suited to a variety of fabrics, simple silks, challis, veiling, cashmere, linen, dimity, madras and the like; but as shown it is of pongee in pastel pink, with yoke and cuffs of cream lace over white and trimming of black velvet ribbon. To cut this costume for a girl twelve years of age eight yards of material 21 inches wide, six and one-half yards 27 inches wide, six yards 32 inches wide or three and one-half yards 44 inches wide, will be required, with one yard of all-over lace for yoke, collar and cuffs. The pattern, No. 4,141, is cut in sizes for girls 8, 10, 12 and 14 years of age.

NO. 4,141—GIRL'S BOX PLEATED COSTUME.

The pattern will be sent to any address on receipt of 10 cents. Please give number and age distinctly. Address Pattern Department, New-York Tribune. If in a hurry for pattern send an extra two-cent stamp, and we will mail by letter postage in sealed envelope.

HEAVY ARTILLERY.

The memorial monument to the 1st Connecticut Heavy Artillery will be dedicated at the Capitol Grounds, Hartford, on September 25. All the military bodies in the State are invited. Photographs and description in to-morrow's Tribune.

CROKER MADE PRESIDENT.

THE FIRE CHIEFS GIVE HIM UNANIMOUS ELECTION—NEXT MEETING AT ATLANTIC CITY.

Yesterday was the last day of the thirtieth annual convention of the International Society of Fire Engineers. The business of the day was the most important of the convention, including the election of officers and the selection of a place for the next convention.

The first business was the reading of a paper by Chief H. W. McAdams, instructor of the New-York Fire Department, on "The Drill School for Firemen." In Chief McAdams's absence, Chief Mayhew W. Bronson, of Larchmont, read the paper. After the reading Father Smith, one of the two chaplains of the Fire Department, told of the duties of the chaplains. He recited the inception of the office, which was soon after the Hotel Windsor fire, and gave instances of the work which the chaplains were called upon to perform. A strong appeal to the fire chiefs not to neglect the needs of their spiritual nature, which, he said, were all the greater because of the strenuous, dangerous work they were called upon to perform, brought the assembled firemen to their feet with round after round of applause. A paper on "Progress in Fire Alarm Telegraphy" was read by Joseph W. Stover, president of the Gamewell Fire Alarm and Telegraph Company, of New-York.

CHIEF EDWARD F. CROKER.
Who was elected president of the International Association of Fire Chiefs yesterday.

Superintendent Perez M. Stewart, of the New-York City Building Department, discussed fireproof wood. Professor Ira H. Woolson, instructor in mechanical engineering at Columbia University, illustrated Mr. Stewart's paper with a number of interesting tests, demonstrating the comparative combustibility of treated woods and wood shavings and non-treated woods and wood shavings. In all cases it was shown that the treatment of wood as described by the building superintendent removed the danger of the wood catching fire almost entirely, even when subjected to a heat of 5,000 degrees.

C. H. Swan, superintendent of the Protective Corps of Providence, R. I., read a short paper on the uses of and necessity for protection or salvage corps. The report of Secretary Henry A. Hills was read and adopted. The report of the treasurer, D. G. Larkins, was read, showing receipts of $2,378 11; disbursements, $1,779 28; balance, $598 83.

Resolutions reported by a committee were adopted thanking the Mayor, Commissioner Sturgis, Chief Croker and the members of the various committees for the reception and entertainment of the delegates.

Atlantic City was chosen for the next place for a convention.

The next order of business was the election of a president of the association. With enthusiasm and applause and shouts and yells it resulted in the unanimous election of Fire Chief Edward F. Croker of the city of New-York. Ex-Captain Brophy, of Boston, made the nomination, which was seconded by Chief Devine of Salt Lake City. Chief Croker, who had been sitting on the platform, then arose, and said:

"It is a high honor to be elected to the presidency of this great International association. I assure you I appreciate the distinction, but more than the honor I appreciate the spirit which prompts you to bestow it upon me. There are times in the life of every man when an expression of confidence from his fellow men is doubly dear to him, and this is such a time for me."

The chief also said that as president of the association he would try to emulate the work of those who had preceded him. "I have no ambition in this world but one," he said, "and that is to be a fireman." He then went on to speak a few good words for the firemen. Many considered their work a lowly one, he said, but it was most useful, and the association was trying to make it more so.

The association then re-elected First Vice-President Major Edward Hughes, of Louisville, Ky., and Second Vice-President John Stagg, of Paterson, N. J. Secretary Henry A. Hills, of Wyoming, Ohio, was re-elected after a contest with Chief Harris of Tampa, Fla. D. C. Larkin, of Dayton, Ohio, was re-elected treasurer. The board of directors will be appointed by the new president later. The convention adjourned after the election and proceeded to Fire Headquarters.

A very heavy shower came up at 3 p. m., the time set for an exhibition, and it was decided to postpone it until 11 a. m. to-day. However, as all preparations had been made for a test of speed, an alarm was sent in from the box at Lexington-ave. and Sixty-seventh-st., opposite the 7th Regiment Armory. In just thirty-two seconds from the time the alarm had been sent in a ladder had been raised to the wall in the Lexington-ave. end of the armory and three men stood on it playing a hose on the wall. This beats all previous records by several seconds, and the chiefs were elated over the quick work. It was then decided to postpone the rest of the exhibition until 11 a. m. to-day, as the rain did not cease.

MISS GOULD HELPS FIREMEN.

GIVES $100 AND TALKS OF BUILDING CLUB-HOUSE FOR THEM.

The members of Jackson Engine Company, a volunteer fire fighting organization of Tarrytown, were made happy on Thursday night, when they were entertained by Miss Helen M. Gold at Lyndhurst, her country seat at Tarrytown-on-the-Hudson. She gave the firemen a check for $100, to be added to the fund for the purchase of a new chemical engine, and then she spoke about building a club-house on her estate for the exclusive use of the volunteers.

She asked them if they would make use of such a building, and all declared in chorus that they would be glad to have a place for recreation. Miss Gould said she might build the clubhouse near Woody Crest, the manual training home for poor boys which she maintains near Lyndhurst.

Miss Gould has furnished the employes on her place with uniforms, and they have formed two baseball nines, and play ball on her lawn.

John D. Archbold, one of the Standard Oil directors, and General Howard Carroll also contributed to the chemical engine fund.

TO STOP TIPPING ON PIERS.

COLLECTOR STRANAHAN WARNS CUSTOMS INSPECTORS NOT TO RECEIVE GRATUITIES.

Collector Stranahan, in announcing yesterday the dismissal of five inspectors of customs for receiving gratuities from passengers, declared that he intended to put a stop to tipping at the steamship piers, and that information that any inspector is taking tips will be enough to cause his dismissal. Recently a cattle inspector was dismissed for demanding and receiving gratuities for hurrying through the inspection of cattle. At that time Surveyor Clarkson made an investigation and found that the tipping system extended to the steamship docks, and that incoming passengers made a practice of tipping the inspectors for various favors.

The Collector declined yesterday to make public the names of the men to be dismissed, saying that their fellow inspectors knew who they were, and that no public good would result from publication of the list. The Collector's formal statement on the case was as follows:

Collector Stranahan, upon recommendation of the Surveyor, recently recommended to the Secretary of the Treasury the dismissal of five inspectors of customs who were assigned to the duty of examining baggage of passengers on the docks, because of their acceptance of cash gratuities from persons whose baggage they had examined. The Secretary of the Treasury yesterday approved of the recommendation, and these five inspectors will be dismissed from the service.

It is to be regretted that passengers arriving at the Port of New-York do not seem to appreciate the fact that in tendering tips to inspectors they do them a great unkindness. Under the Treasury regulations, dismissal must follow the acceptance of any such gratuity.

VIRGINIA DEBT COMMISSION.

EFFORTS TO MAKE WEST VIRGINIA TO SETTLE WITH OLD STATE.

Richmond, Va., Sept. 18 (Special).—The Virginia Debt Commission, constituted under the Virginia act of 1900, met to-day at the Jefferson Hotel in this city. All of the members of the commission were present. Mr. Moon occupied the chair, and Attorney General Anderson was present, representing the State of Virginia. The certificate holders' committee was represented by John Crosby Brown, chairman, and Edward M. Scudder. They reported that they held on deposit under their agreement with depositors upward of $10,300,000 of the deferred certificates of the State of Virginia, and that they had complied with the requirements of the act of the Virginia Assembly of March 6, 1900. This amount of certificates is largely in excess of the amount required by the act. The committee subsequently entered into an agreement with the Debt Commission with the view of negotiating with West Virginia a settlement of the proportion of the Virginia debt proper to be paid by the latter. This agreement relates only to the certificates deposited with the committee, but provides that all certificates hereafter deposited may participate in its benefits. The act referred to provides that the commission shall be authorized, with the approval of the Attorney General of Virginia, to institute such proceedings to bring about a settlement.

The impossibility of inducing West Virginia to meet this obligation became so thoroughly recognized after years of trial that Virginia, the original debtor, enacted the statute of 1900, so that she, as a State, through the commission thereby created, could address herself to its adjustment. This debt was contracted for public improvements made since 1785 throughout the entire original State. After the war broke out the settlement of West Virginia favored a separation from the old State, and military policy proved a strong temptation to strain constitutional provisions and create a new State in this section. The advocates of admission found themselves forced, by the logic of the situation, into giving personal assurance that the new State would act honorably and meet its share of this debt. The matter came up for discussion in Mr. Lincoln's Cabinet, and it was regarded as honorably arranged for, and upon this belief all opposition to the new State was withdrawn and she was admitted. As years went by, however, West Virginia's sense of duty seemed to grow weaker, and finally an apathetic satisfaction over the indifference of the certificate holders to their rights had pervaded the West Virginia citizens. From this it is now hoped to arouse them. The influence of a great mass of certificates united in one effort promises to be more potent than any previous attempt in this direction.

LEWIS NIXON BUYS A HOUSE.

DR. J. A. FORDYCE SAID TO HAVE SOLD A HOME TO THE EX-TAMMANY LEADER.

A report was current yesterday that Dr. John A. Fordyce had sold his house, No. 66 Park-ave., to Lewis Nixon, who recently resigned the leadership of Tammany Hall. It could not be confirmed. Dr. Fordyce left this city for Boston yesterday, and is not expected to return for some days. The caretaker at the house said she had not heard a report of the sale of the property.

WOODBURY TO END GARBAGE CONTRACT.

THE COMMISSIONER TAKES ACTION ON NUMEROUS COMPLAINTS OF BROOKLYNITES.

Street Cleaning Commissioner Woodbury decided yesterday to terminate the contract, which was awarded to James Mundy several weeks ago, for the collection of garbage in Brooklyn. Major Woodbury has referred the case to Corporation Counsel Rives for an opinion, and then it will come before the Board of Estimate for final action. Mundy will be allowed to continue with his work until the contract is re-advertised and awarded, unless Mr. Rives decides that his contract may be terminated immediately.

"The collection of garbage," said the Commissioner, "has been most unsatisfactory to me and to the people of Brooklyn. Complaints have been and are being received daily from all parts of the borough, and I have come to the conclusion that in justice to the public Mr. Mundy's contract should be terminated."

There were two bidders when the bids were opened for the collection of garbage several weeks ago. Mundy offered to do the work for $8,250 a month, and the Brooklyn Sanitary Utilization Company, which up to that time had a day to day contract with the city, bid $9,853. Under the law the commissioner was compelled to award the contract to Mundy as the lowest bidder.

Mundy, the Commissioner says, had very little equipment to do the work. He did not have a sufficient number of carts, and the department was compelled to supply carts at its own expense. Horses, also, were lacking, and they were sent on from Chicago, but not enough were secured. Mundy has the contract for the collection of garbage in several other large cities.

WINDOW GLASS WAGE SCALE.

SETTLEMENT REACHED AT PITTSBURG—STATEMENT OF WORKERS.

Pittsburg, Sept. 19.—To-night at the close of a three days' wage conference between the officers of the American Window Glass Company, the Federation of Co-operative Manufacturers and Window Glass Workers' Local Assembly No. 300, Knights of Labor, this statement, giving the result of the conference, was issued by the workers over the signature of Simon Burns, president:

A settlement of the wage scale for next blast on the following terms was agreed to:

The manufacturers agree to pay the scale of wages that was paid at the end of the blast last May, which is 12 per cent higher than the workers of the new organization settled for with the independent manufacturers at Philadelphia on Friday last. All plants are to begin work together on October 15, 1902, and run continuously for not less than thirty-two weeks, and longer, providing the manufacturers operating under Local Assembly No. 300, Knights of Labor, decide to do so. This rate of wages will be paid provided the workers of the new organization agree to not start before October 15, 1902.

The statement then continues:

A committee has been appointed by President Burns to notify the president of the new organization to call immediately a meeting of its wage committee and execute board to take action on this matter. Should the officers refuse to meet or to accept the propositions for an advance of 12 per cent in wages, the officers and members of Local Assembly No. 300, Knights of Labor, will make an appeal to the member of the new organization to refuse to start work before October 15, 1902, so that all may secure the advance in wages. This means that the independent workers who are to start on October 4 will delay their start eleven days.

The manufacturers refuse to make any statement.

MORE ELECTRIC TRAINS SOON.

The Manhattan Railway Company is making steady and rapid progress in the substitution of electricity for steam as the motive power of its trains, and within a few months it is expected that the entire system will be operated by electricity. The change has been complete on the Second and Third ave. lines, every locomotive having been retired. It is likely that before the end of October some electric trains will have been placed on the Sixth-ave. line, which is now equipped with the third rail from the Battery to Ninety-third-st., and thence, with a few gaps still to be spanned, to One-hundred-and-thirty-fifth-st. The Ninth-ave. line, on which the work of electrical equipment is also in a forward state, will be the last of the four lines to be operated by electricity, but it is understood that before spring the Sixth-ave. service will be wholly electric and some of the Ninth-ave. trains will be run by electricity, instead of steam. The new service, however, cannot be fully installed until all the power sub-stations are ready for operation; on some of these houses there is still not a little work to be done.

The electric trains, it is found on the East Side lines, make better time than the steam trains used to make, and are carrying a much larger traffic than was handled by those lines under the old conditions.

BANKERS MEET AT FRANKFORT.

Frankfort-on-the-Main, Sept. 19.—The General Congress of Bankers held its first plenary meeting here to-day. Representatives of the imperial and provincial authorities were in attendance. The president, Councillor of Justice Herr Riesser, of Berlin, in his opening address expressed the hope that the government would vigorously press the Reichstag bill amending the Boerse law. The prosperous development of German agriculture, he pointed out, was necessary to the wellbeing of the economic position of the country generally.

Privy Councillor Hauss, in behalf of the Imperial Home Office, assured the meeting that the result of its deliberations, which were of far reaching importance to the whole industrial life of Germany, would meet with the most sympathetic consideration in official quarters.

SANDS POINT, LONG ISLAND.

Photographs of Howard Gould's 300 acre estate at Sands Point, the elaborate grounds and buildings and his plans for further improvements there in to-morrow's Tribune.