NEWS AND VIEWS OF WOMEN.

THE NEW SHORT SKIRTED COSTUME AT ITS SMARTEST.

THEATRE IN A CHURCH.

Mr. Bentley's Efforts to Provide Good, Wholesome Plays as Amusement.

The Rev. Walter E. Bentley stood on a box in his shirt sleeves performing manual labor in the basement of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, which he is having turned into a theatrical auditorium.

"No," said he, "it isn't really a theatre, as you can see. The inspector was up here to stop work unless we complied with the law as to theatre construction. But he perceived that it was merely a hall; a church basement arranged for dramatic representations. It will seat about three hundred when it is finished. But the stage is going to be a real stage, as far as it goes, with proscenium arch and scenery and footlights. Mr. Belasco's stage carpenter is coming up to direct the completion. And look at that," he said with enthusiasm. "Isn't that a fine dressing room? Plenty of professionals would be glad to get as good a one."

The dressing room was five feet wide and the length of the stage, and lined with cupboards enough to delight any "prop." man's eye; the erstwhile repository of the choir boys' vestments.

Mr. Bentley was an actor himself once before he became a clergyman, and he has a keen eye for details.

"What are we going to play?" said he. "Well, the manager of the 'Everyman' company has promised to come up here for a one night stand before it leaves for England. He will bring the scenery and everything complete. Then our own company will present some plays similar in character 'Rachel,' one of them, was written by a well known actor, and will lend itself admirably to production. Then there is 'Joseph and His Brethren,' which I brought with me from England. It has been produced over there for years, under the auspices of the Church of England, but it has never been seen in this country. That brings in Pharaoh and his spouse, Joseph and the eleven brothers, and a number of dancers in a sacred dance, about twenty in all.

"I think there are a number of such plays lying about the country in the hands of writers who have been unable to find a market for them. Then we shall present some modern things for the sake of variety; perhaps something Shakespearian, but probably something lighter.

"My company? Well, I shall call for volunteers early in January, and the only difficulty will be that I will get too many. Of course, with amateurs it is necessary to take young people. Older persons have become too rigid. No, I don't think it will require a great deal of time to train them. I know just how to go about it, and I know a great many actors and actresses who will give me a lift when I need it. Members of the company will all be members of the church, but the performances will be open to the public.

CHURCH AND AMUSEMENTS.

"Have I ever done this before? No, not exactly. I always wanted to, but never was situated so that I could do it in just exactly this way. At Bainbridge, in Central New-York, where I was for several years, I hired the opera house, and the Church dramatic society gave 'Othello' and other plays there. There was one young man who had been pretty wild about town who was brought under the influence of the Church through this channel, and he is studying for the ministry now.

"My theory? Why, it's very plain. The Church should touch the life of the people at every point. There should be nothing foreign to the clergyman. When there is it is because he isn't wide awake. The Church should direct all the amusements of the people, not control them—that is a very different thing. But the Church should recognize the universal, natural demand for amusement, and should supply that demand.

"In this church we are just as orthodox as we can be. We have the regular church services which minister to the religious life of the people. Then we have a lecture each Wednesday night. The first Wednesday in the month the subject is theological, the second sociological, the third literary and the fourth is connected with some trade or profession. On the literary and theological nights I speak myself. On the sociological nights we have representatives of such organizations as the Consumers' League or the various settlements. On the fourth night some member of a trade or profession describes his work in all its bearings. If you add to this our social dance once a month and our dramatic work, when we get it going, I think you will see that we touch the life of the people on about every side.

"This is the proper function of the Church, and one it always observed prior to the Reformation. Of course, the extremely restrictive and repressive policy of the reformed churches was a protest against the license of the times which gave birth to the Reformation; and the Protestant churches have been tinged with Puritanism ever since.

"But as to license and repression, one is just as bad as the other," said Mr. Bentley, with emphasis. "Just as bad. The provision of sane, healthful amusements is neither license nor repression; and the Episcopal Church has never gone to either extreme. It has always occupied middle ground.

STAGE A GREAT TEACHER.

"But aside from all that, you can look at that thing from the standpoint of the stage as well as of the Church. The stage is one of the greatest teaching agencies that has ever been given to man; as great as the school, the press or the ballot box. The trouble is that the stage isn't taken seriously as these are. The Church doesn't take it seriously, the people don't take it seriously and it doesn't take itself seriously. It is regarded as existing merely to cater to the amusements of the people; but even if this be true, the amusements of a people have fully as important an influence in moulding their lives as anything else in their environment. There is no greater channel for the conveyance of moral truths or high ideals to man-kind than the stage. But of course it can't fill that function when it is governed by the little window out in front. If actors could co-operate and manage their own theatres, it might be different. But the trouble is that a man who is a good actor can rarely do anything else. Dramatic sense and business sense don't commonly go together. Sir Henry Irving is a wonder, and wonders are rare. The stage itself doesn't realize its own value or worth to the world. It is for the Church to realize the value of this teaching agency and take it up and make use of it."

GLEANINGS

According to "Dun's Review" the cost of living is 1 per cent cheaper than it was a year ago. Fresh eggs are two cents a dozen dearer, butter three and a half cents more a pound and sugar is also dearer, but coffee, molasses, spices and hops have gone down in price, while apples are $2 a barrel and potatoes 74½ cents a barrel cheaper than they were. This decline of 1 per cent in the cost of living does not seem to have borne any appreciable fruit, however, among the boarding house keepers, who persist in charging their old prices in serene indifference to statistics. Had the 1 per cent spelled an increase in prices instead of a decline, the humblest boarder in the fifth story hall bedroom, back, would have heard of it before now.

Mrs. Hannah G. Solomon, president of the General Council of Jewish Women, which met in Baltimore the other day, spoke some very true words in her address on Wednesday regarding the entrance of women into public life. "Though women may be undesirable in public life," she said, "no one contests their right to labor for the betterment of social conditions. Work of this sort used to be considered the special function of the church. The change is an indication not so much of the weakening of the power of the church as an indication of the modern view of religion, which is now understood to be the life we live rather than the thought we preach."

The decline of the home is a phenomenon not confined to this country, if a recent book by George Russell is to be taken seriously. In commenting on recent changes in English society and contrasting the manners and tone of 1902 with those of 1852, Mr. Russell says that people really had a much better time of it half a century ago, when entertaining was less ostentatious, more informal and more frequent. London, he says, is killing the love of country life. People live in flats and rush back and forth between Cape Town and Cairo, London and Delhi; they fly around the country in automobiles, dining fifty miles from the spot where they had luncheon; they refurnish every year or two, read nothing but trash and regard a trip to the country as one more opportunity for "bridge." In short, the modern mode of fashionable living is ostentatious, vulgar, unsatisfactory, unpicturesque.

The Christmas "Lady's Pictorial" devotes an editorial paragraph to the recent catastrophe in Madison Square, which it compares to the explosion Guy Fawkes didn't explode on that memorable November 5, nearly three hundred years ago. "They were celebrating the return of a popular man to Congress; and there being no law in America prohibiting the discharge of fireworks in crowded public places, as there is in England," is the way the English paragrapher starts in to narrate the circumstance, which later he makes the occasion for a huge pat on the back of England. Naturally. There is scarcely a civilized country that is not justified in vaunting itself over the United States where the preventable loss of human life is in question. Those "poor, old, tottering, effete monarchies of Europe" have a knack of protecting their subjects' lives which the home of the brave and the land of the free has not yet mastered.

The National Consumers' League is sending out thousands of convenient little calendars for 1903, just big enough to slip in a card case or pocketbook. For each month there is a motto like the following:

January: "Buy labelled goods at the January sales."
February: "Receive no goods delivered after 6 p. m."
March: "Can you arrange for one parlor meeting during the month?"
April: "Have you secured one new member for the league?"
May: "Have your merchants added new kinds of labelled goods?"
June: "Do not shop on Saturday afternoons."
July: "Encourage the stores on the white list."
August: "Help to get the stores closed at 5 and the Saturday half-holiday."
September: "In this month all the children should return to school, not to work."
October: "When you buy an article, the merchant orders another like it."
November: "Do your Christmas shopping now."
December: "Shop early in the month, and in the morning."

PRETTY THINGS TO WEAR

A handsome cloak for a girl of fourteen is of dark blue cloth, the back half fitting, the front double breasted, with two rows of large buttons. The round collar is of cloth, edged with velvet, and appliqued with cream lace, and finished with long taffeta ties.

A Norfolk jacket of dark blue cheviot, lined with blue satin, is trim and trig. A light brown camel's hair is long and loose, and trimmed with narrow bands of dark brown satin, inclosing a satin gimp. The sleeves are loose and gathered into a deep cuff.

A long and elegant coat of black velvet is lined with heavy, quilted white satin, and ornamented with medallions of one of the heavy white laces.

A nice little afternoon dress for a girl of ten or twelve is of dark blue broadcloth, with two bias ruffles, and vest and yoke of white gros grain. Around the full part of the sleeve, above the cuff, and at other points on the frock, run cords of two toned velvet, between which are little embroidered silk dots.

Another of these little one piece frocks is of dark blue crepon, trimmed with velvet of the same shade, and white lace appliques.

A little Gibson frock for school is of blue canvas, with sailor devices embroidered in white. Another is a Russian blouse suit, also in dark blue, which is the standard favorite in schoolgirl wear, with tie and inlaid collar of bright red polka dot taffeta.

IS "MARY OF MAGDALA."

Regal Costumes of the Orient Worn by Mrs. Fiske.

No one who has seen "Mary of Magdala" at the Manhattan but who has been impressed with the beauty and picturesqueness of the costumes. The play is rich in the atmosphere of the Orient. From Mrs. Fiske down to the humblest slave of the patrician Flavius, all are garbed with distinction, individuality and good taste. The Manhattan's interesting programme states that the fabrics used were found in the Orient, after diligent search had revealed the impossibility of obtaining them here. A view of the costumes confirms this statement. The like of them is not often seen even in the Oriental shops of this city.

More interesting than all others, of course, are the costumes worn by Mrs. Fiske. Of themselves, they tell, in a tone symphony, the great story of the play. What could better typify Mary than the gorgeous red gown in which Mrs. Fiske first appears. It is a peculiar shade, this red. Wine color, tinged with purple, might describe it best. The material is silk, heavy in texture and brocaded with a floral pattern outlined in gold thread and studded with jewels. The gown is in one piece, held at the waist with a girdle of the same material with gold clasps. The skirt has a train, and the decollete bodice is square cut, with shoulder straps surmounted by gold plates, studded with rubies. Of similar design are the breastplates. Rubies also glitter in the gold crown. Over the gown is worn a sort of loose sleeved, transparent cape of flowered red silk crêpe edged with wide gold lace and falling half way down the skirt. Red sandals are worn with this costume.

More magnificent, however, is the costume worn in the second act, where Mary visits the house of Flavius, to see from his garden the New Prophet. The effect is dazzling and the splendor is truly Oriental. The robe is of heavy cloth-of-gold, of a quality and pattern exceedingly rare. The conventional design of the material is covered with a profusion of rhinestones. This gown is cut after the princesse style, with a train. The skirt opens in front, revealing the lining of yellow satin and the underskirt of red silk. The sleeves of the gown are very short, but from them fall loose, flowing undersleeves of yellow satin. Here, too, is a crown of large and small turquoises, while the ears are covered, after the Oriental fashion, with clusters of the same stones. From the apex of the crown hang two veils, one of gold cloth and the other of yellow silk, embroidered in gold. The veils cover at first the entire head and shoulders, but after the entrance they are folded back from the face. The costume is truly a queenly one, and well suits the Magdalen in the fulness of her power.

In striking contrast to these sumptuous dresses are the simple gowns that Mary wears when through the influence of Christianity her regeneration is accomplished. In the third act Mary, enthralled by the new life that has opened to her, enters wearing a plain dress of black crêpe, with white sleeves and a dark blue cloak. The simplicity of the costume is eloquent and aptly expressive of the spirit of the penitent.

The same simplicity characterizes the gowns worn in the last two acts. That in the fourth act is of the softest crêpe, a delicate tan in shade, falling in graceful folds from the shoulders. That in the last scene is of the same style, but of purest white. Nothing could be more in keeping with the peace and exhaltation that fills Mary's soul.

Mrs. Fiske has always been noted for her skill and good taste in dressing, but she has worn nothing more beautiful in material, design and sentiment than the costumes in "Mary of Magdala."

HOUSEHOLD TALKS

REAL PUMPKIN PIES

The oldtime pumpkin pie was a superior article to the modern squash pie. Housekeepers in days of yore were willing to do their home tasks by slow, painstaking methods. Squash pies are more easily made than pumpkin pies, because squash is more easily cooked than pumpkin. There are so many fancy pumpkins that are nothing more than varieties of winter squash that it is necessary to call attention to the old Connecticut field pumpkin, which turns gold and orange in the sun and frost of October and is the best vegetable for pies.

It cannot be cooked like a squash, as too many people to-day attempt to cook it—that is, peeled and boiled in an abundance of water for twenty-five or thirty minutes. Pumpkin must be cooked slowly in its own juices. Select a medium sized pie pumpkin. The sweetest are flat at the ends, a deep red yellow and rather small. Cut it up without peeling, remove the seeds and stem, putting it in a large porcelain lined kettle with about a cupful of boiling water. Keep it well covered at the back of the stove until the steam has drawn the juices out, then let it simmer all day long, until the juices have boiled down, when it will be perfectly tender. Pull or cut the skin off and put the pulp through a colander. If it seems watery let it drain overnight. The juice that drips from it is excellent for brownbread of any kind. Measure the pulp after putting it through the colander by the cupful. To every five cupfuls of pumpkin add one teaspoonful of salt, one tablespoonful of mace and half of a nutmeg grated. Beat four eggs and one and a half cupfuls of sugar together and stir them into the pumpkin pulp. Now add four cups of sweet milk and half a cupful of rich cream, if convenient, although this is not strictly necessary. Stir this mixture well and fill it into deep pie plates which have been lined with pastry. Bake it forty-five minutes or until it is firm in the centre and a rich golden brown.

Pumpkin is much sweeter if it is cooked with the peel. Some people prefer to sweeten pies with molasses instead of sugar, but it gives the custard a rather rank flavor not generally agreeable. Some people prefer to use only one cupful of pumpkin to two cupfuls of milk, and considerably more ginger than given in this recipe. This simply calls for more eggs, makes a lighter custard and gives a rather stronger flavor of ginger. Others prefer to leave the ginger out entirely, using only mace and nutmeg. These matters are merely questions of taste.

From across the water comes the idea of using fruits and the more decorative vegetables as centrepieces for the dining table. It seems a simple matter to the novice to arrange such a monument to Pomona, but it will be found to require the ability of an expert to secure artistic effect with stability, especially when this centrepiece is some four feet from base to apex, as is often the case. When prepared on so large a scale, however, the decoration usually has a circular table to itself, while about it are arranged the smaller tables, the guests occupying only one side of these, so that all face the gayly colored pile. The Germans have a custom of sending huge platters or waiters as New Year's gifts, bearing such appetizing and artistic wares. Sometimes the makeup is varied with fish and fowl. The foundation is usually of a dozen or more loaves of bread, while next in order come boiled lobsters and devilled crabs, mingled with the fruit and vegetables, and spiked with a few bottles of wine or champagne. The whole is crowned with a roasted pheasant, over which the skin, feathers and all has been again drawn.

A paste of salad oil and salt is said to remove the white marks on polished trays or tables, occasioned by the placing upon them of heated articles. The mixture should be spread lightly over the stain and allowed to remain an hour. It may then be removed with a soft, dry cloth, and the discoloration will vanish with it.

Plain white glue, with a small addition of milk, is advised as a simple waterproof cement for marble or porcelain. Plaster of paris or unslacked lime, moistened with white of egg, is also efficacious in such household fractures, while whitelead and plain putty, though not so sightly, are most convenient and reliable means of mending plain crockery.

SIMPLE' USEFUL HANDWORK.

Plain huckaback towels can be transformed into pretty toilet articles by the girl who knows how. A nice pair of bathing shoes can be made by cutting out uppers (using the uppers of castoff old shoes as a model) and stitching them to a pair of cork soles. Bind the edge with colored braid and sew on little rings around the edge. Then sew a tape or ribbon to the back seam and pass it through the rings as a fastening to the shoe.

A useful dressing cape to be thrown over the shoulders when "doing" the hair or drying it after a shampoo at home is made by dividing a towel in half to a depth of thirteen inches, leaving eleven inches of undivided towel below. The two halves hang down in front, while the undivided part forms the back. Overcast the edges to prevent fraying, and trim the front in any way fancy dictates. Towelling lined with oil silk makes a neat sponge bag for travelling. Another handy accessory for travelling is a toilet case made from a strip of towel fourteen inches long by six wide. This strip is lined with oil silk, then folded over at each end and sewed down, so as to form two pockets. Any amount of decoration can be lavished on this little article.

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.

HOW MEN LIVE.

Philip James Bailey, who died this year at the age of eighty-six, is largely forgotten now, though he wrote a poem called "Festus," which went through as many as forty editions. There are four lines in that poem that should never be forgotten and that are still remembered by many—occasionally still introduced into current literature. These are the four lines referred to:

We live in deeds, not years; in thoughts, not breaths;
In feelings, not in figures on a dial.
We should count time by heart throbs. He most lives
Who thinks most, feels the noblest, acts the best.
—(International Messenger.

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."

CHRISTMAS CHEER.

Mrs. B. H. Thomas, of Pennsylvania, has sent $5 for the Christmas cheer fund; "C. T.," of Flushing, Long Island, $5 for the same sunshiny purpose; "Mount Vernon," N. Y., $1, "as a Christmas ray of sunshine to a most needy member." This unknown donor, who often contributes to the Sunshine fund, requests that whoever receives her Christmas ray "will pray for her happiness during the coming year."

OTHER MONEY.

Miss Sarah Osborne, of Public School No. 96, has again sent $3 for badges, which shows that a hundred new members have been added to her already large branch; Manhattan No. 10, 50 cents for badges for seventeen new members; Mrs. B. Wyman, 25 cents to pay expressage on a bundle of clothes from the office for a poor family; Mrs. G. W. Marlor, of Roselle, N. J., $1 for the special fund.

SUNSHINE DOLLS.

Two little girls are anxiously asking if the Sunshine Santa Claus will remember to bring them each a doll. One lives in Troy, Idaho, and her mother is an invalid member, unable to provide cheer for her little one. The other is a little orphan girl in Wisconsin, who was taken from the State School for Orphan and Dependent Children by an aged woman and her crippled daughter, but beyond giving her a comfortable home they are not able to provide holiday pleasures. There are scores of little East and West Side children in Manhattan who will not think it is Christmas at all if no dollie finds its way to them, so the Sunshine Santa Claus is urged to be as generous as possible, that these little neglected ones may have a merry and happy Christmas.

ONE WAY TO HELP.

Any Sunshine members and friends who would be glad to purchase Christmas novelties or fine fancy work from invalid members as a means of helping these unfortunate members financially will please write to the office for addresses.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

A large package received from H. R. V., of Freehold, N. J., contained articles of clothing, several pairs of shoes, stockings, wools, quilt pieces, etc. A warm jacket, trimmed hats, shoes and unfinished fancy work came from Mrs. H. Charles Ulman; an express box filled with useful and fancy articles, materials for a sewing class, and a workbox completely furnished, to be given to a "little mother" who looks after younger children; flannels, underwear, shoes, silk and velvet pieces, etc., from "A. M. W.," of Schenectady, N. Y.; fourteen pairs of new mittens and fifteen knitted washcloths tied with ribbons, from S. C. C., of Manhattan; a box of Christmas cheer from Mrs. Charles E. Grant, of Plainfield, N. J., contained fancy baskets, penwipers, new handkerchiefs, play ball with bells, sachets, Christmas cards and silk pieces. An infant's sack and five pairs of bootees came from Miss Minnie Kreskey, of Huntland, Tenn.; Christmas cards in stamped envelopes, fancy blotters, booklets with good wishes for a merry Christmas, from Mrs. C. W. Hedges, of Norwich, Conn., a book from Mrs. Thomas Nicholson, of Jersey City; pictures from A. C. R., of Rhode Island; a shoulder shawl, several pairs of mittens, silk and cotton crochet work, all made from Sunshine material by Mrs. Jane Lyle, of Farmdale, Fla.; a package of holiday cards from Frances H. Galpin and I. R., of Manhattan; sachets, from Mrs. Annie Brown, of Tuckerton, N. J.; women's underwear from Mrs. Power; reading from B. L. Young, of Long Island, and fancy boxes for gifts from "M. B."

Mrs. H. Lindsley, Washington—The address of Miss Sara White is No. 28 Meehan-st., Mount Airy, Penn.

APPRECIATION OF CHEER.

Mrs. William Smith, of Pennsylvania, has written to the office her words of appreciation for the excellent cheer received from Mrs. Sprague and Mrs. Ulrich, of Connecticut, and Mrs. Cary, of New-Jersey; Nelson McCartney, of Pennsylvania, acknowledges with thanks the special money gift at Thanksgiving from Miss C. Spiro, who never fails to remember the many Sunshine invalids on her list. This cheer made a dark day bright to the crippled man. The receipts for the Thanksgiving cheer sent from the general office are being returned by every mail accompanied by words of overflowing gratitude and heartfelt blessings on the many givers who helped to make the day one of genuine pleasure. Miss Eliza A. Shier, president of the Landrum, S. C., branch, was greatly assisted in her school work by the school books sent through the general office. A Maine invalid, a widow, now ill from overwork, was delighted with some warm underwear sent to her, and an Illinois member was no less grateful for a flannel gown. Mrs. Mardin, of Anson, Me., desires the Greenwich, Conn., member to know how much she appreciates the kindness that prompted her to send two warm nightdresses for her little girl. The Bloomingdale Day Nursery has received children's books from Mrs. J. Crowell, of Brooklyn; Miss J. Olmstead sends thanks for books, games, doll, etc., sent for children of South Ferry Branch.

REQUESTS FOR READING MATTER.

President of the T. S. S.: I desire to thank the dear Sunshine friends for their kindness in sending me magazines to my lonely home. They have cheered us in the bush where we live, and have proved, indeed, to be rays of sunlight. Our home is twenty miles from the nearest village, in the heart of the Algoma forest, and on account of my infirmity we are unable to buy any literature, and thus it is more prized when we do get it. We are always glad to pass it on to others. If any friends have "The Christian Endeavor World" or any papers with the Sunday school lessons in them, I should be so glad of them or any others. Again thanking you for your kindness, I remain, yours in Sunshine. (Mrs.) S. C. GARDINER.
Iron Bridge, Ontario, Canada, Dec. 1, 1902.

THE TRIBUNE PATTERN.

A Tissue Paper Pattern of Maid's Apron, No. 4,298, for 10 Cents.

Maid's aprons require to be ample before all else. To be correct the skirt must be long and full, the bib of generous size. This excellent model includes both features, and is tasteful and becoming at the same time. As shown it is made of cambric with trimming of embroidery, but fine muslin, long cloth, nainsook and lawn are all suitable. The quantity of material required for the medium size is 3¾ yards 36 inches wide, with 2 yards of embroidery and 2 yards of insertion. The pattern, No. 4,298, is cut in three sizes—small, or 32 inch; medium, or 36 inch, and large, or 40 inch bust measure. The pattern will be sent to any address on receipt of 10 cents. Please give number and bust measure distinctly. Address Pattern Department, New-York Tribune. If in a hurry for a pattern send an extra two-cent stamp, and we will mail by letter postage in sealed envelope.

NO. 4,298—MAID'S APRON.

PLEADS FOR SHOPGIRLS.

Clergymen Ask that Women Finish Shopping Early.

An appeal to the shopping women of New-York was made yesterday morning from many metropolitan pulpits. It was that the women, for the sake of the shopgirls, complete their shopping before 5 o'clock in the afternoon, because after that time there was a rush of women who had forgotten something. Women should remember what they wanted and buy it before the rush hour.

The Rev. Dr. G. C. Houghton, of the "Little Church Around the Corner," was most insistent that the women of his parish complete their shopping expeditions before 5 o'clock. He said in part:

In the large stores of this city the last hours come only too soon. There are many persons who have forgotten things which they need on the next day. They put these purchases off until the last hour of that day. Then they meet the shop people, who are tired, who have striven all the day to meet the demands of the public. These shop folk deserve to get home. It does seem hard to keep them from their home to cater to the wants of the tardy public. So it is most cheerfully that I make the suggestion that the women of this parish and those who worship here complete their shopping before 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

LOTUS BUDS SPEED AWAY

Hustled from Island in Private Tug to Special Car.

DETECTIVES FORM FLYING WEDGE.

The eleven Cuban children, known as the "Lotus Buds," who arrived recently at this city on their way to the Raja Yoga School, at Point Loma, Cal., where they were to be taken in charge by Mrs. Katherine Tingley, were yesterday, after being released from further detention by the immigration authorities, quietly removed from Ellis Island by A. G. Spalding and other friends of the school, placed on board a private tug and hurried to Jersey City. There transportation had been obtained, and, guarded by a dozen private detectives, they were placed on board a 1 o'clock train on the Pennsylvania Railroad, and started on their long journey across the country to Point Loma.

The greatest secrecy was maintained by the friends of Mrs. Tingley's school, for it was feared that officials of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children would take steps to prevent the "Lotus Buds" from leaving the State.

Commissioner Williams said that the children had been released on an order from Washington which had reached him early in the day. They had been turned over to Dr. Gertrude Van Pelt, in whose care they were brought from Cuba, and who has remained here during their detention.

In the party instrumental in the removal of the children were A. G. Spalding, Mrs. Spalding, James E. Sullivan, Oluf Tyberg and E. Vilas Beckwith, of counsel for Mrs. Tingley. Mr. and Mrs. Spalding and some friends and the lawyer went to Ellis Island early in the morning. They held a consultation with Commissioner Williams, and at its end the children were declared released. They were marshalled out of their quarters in the hospital, and their belongings were soon packed.

Mr. Spalding, as soon as it was certain that the decision would be in favor of admitting the children, had been warned that the children's society would try to gain possession of them. He was warned to act secretly. He received a telegram, Mr. Sullivan said, reading:

Look out for Gerry society. They will try and seize the children as soon as they come within the jurisdiction of New-York City.

He acted accordingly. As soon as the "lotus buds" were turned over to Mr. Spalding he had them placed at once on the immigration transport boat John E. Moore, and the start was made at once for the station at Jersey City. Not satisfied with his well laid plans, Mr. Spalding, his charges and friends were reinforced in the station by twelve private detectives. The children were placed in the centre of a flying wedge and hustled through the long station to the car Myrtle. Mr. Tyberg, who purchased the railroad tickets for the children and looked after the detective force, accompanied the children and Dr. Van Pelt to Point Loma.

Mr. Sullivan, who was with the party, gave out a statement last night, part of it being as follows:

It was decided at first to send the children to Point Loma on Monday, but instead they were sent yesterday. It is well known that the Gerry society has been on the qui vive for some time, prepared to nab these children, as the statement had been made by an officer of the society that, no matter what the decision of the government would be, the children would not be allowed to go to California. This threat could only mean that if the government released the children they would be seized in New-York City and subjected to more trouble and inconvenience before they would be allowed to proceed on their way.

The children left the island in the private tug at 12 o'clock, making at once for the Jersey shore and landing at the express company's docks, next to the Pennsylvania Railroad depot. Mr. Tyberg procured the tickets in advance, and scouts were placed at all parts of the building, to observe any movements of the agents of the Gerry society, the intention being to thwart them at every point.

Vernon M. Davis, president of the Gerry society, last night, at his home, No. 194 Lenox-ave., said:

We knew nothing of the design to take the children away from the city in the way in which they were taken. There was no hearing in Washington. When we got to Washington we went to Commissioner General Sargent and Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Taylor. They did not and would not listen to any evidence as to the moral character of Mrs. Tingley. Commissioner General Sargent said that the school was financially well able to take care of the children, and he thought they should be allowed to go there. After we saw the futility of trying to get the Commissioner General and the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury to listen to any evidence, we withdrew, after spending a few hours with them.

If there had been a hearing in this city we would have convinced the authorities we were right, and the children would have been sent back. The children are now out of the jurisdiction of the society, and the society hopes that no harm is done to their moral character.

CUBAN CHILDREN LEAVING ELLIS ISLAND.

TRACHOMA RIFE ON THE EAST SIDE.

Dr. Lester Says One-half the Children Are Afflicted.

Dr. John C. Lester, assistant surgeon of the New-York Eye and Ear Infirmary and acting surgeon of St. Bartholomew's Clinic and Hospital, said yesterday to a Tribune reporter:

From 40 to 50 per cent of the children in the crowded districts of the East Side of town, from the Brooklyn Bridge to Twenty-third-st., are afflicted with trachoma, or "graular lids," one of the most formidable of the extrinsic diseases of the eye. The disease has spread because of the unhygienic conditions there, and the prevalence of the disease has been specially brought out by the rigid examinations of school inspectors of the Board of Health. So large a percentage of children in the public schools have been turned out because they are afflicted with this disease that all the hospitals of New-York which treat this disease have been flooded with cases. Probably five thousand would be a small estimate of the number of these children who have trachoma. In fact, there has been such a tremendous influx of cases at the ten or so special hospitals, where they can be intelligently treated, that it is almost impossible to handle them in an operative sense, which is really the only cure for the disease.

An effort is being made to have the city appropriate a certain amount for the exclusive treatment of these cases, which have recently been so prevalent and are constantly on the increase. Smallpox is not affecting the race more seriously than the epidemic of trachoma, on account of the eye itself becoming involved and the possibility of future blindness when the case is not properly treated. The New-York Eye and Ear Infirmary is making special efforts to cope with the epidemic, and I understand the institution has taken a dwelling house for this purpose. This has been brought about by the efforts of Dr. Richard H. Derby, the executive surgeon of the infirmary, and a member of the consulting staff of President Lederle, of the Board of Health.

What are popularly known as "granular lids" are due simply to eye strain, which may be corrected by properly adjusted glasses, but trachoma is an entirely different thing, and it is so extremely insidious that some of the worst cases present no external signs of disease.

This epidemic, I find, is now extending to the children of the better classes, who contract it by contact in the public schools, for instance, with towels used by those afflicted or by contact of hands. It is a common thing where a child has the disease for all the other members of the family to contract it, too. Heretofore, the examination of the eyes of school children has been for defective eyesight, and mostly by teachers having "test cards" which the children read. Attention this year, however, has been specially called by the Board of Health to this disease, and all the school children have been examined, not simply those troubled with defective eyesight. The only way to get rid of these cases is by operative treatment, and each case must be handled individually.

Dr. Lester added that historical evidence traced trachoma back at least 3,400 years. It was known to the Egyptians, Israelites, Greeks and Romans. The European infection with trachoma might be attributed to Napoleon's soldiers, who contracted the disease in Egypt a hundred years ago. There had been a decline in the disease since 1850, and it was now confined more or less to Russia, Hungary, Belgium and Eastern Prussia. Its prevalence in Eastern Prussia and Posen was due to poor hygiene, overcrowding, lack of occupation, poverty and alcoholism. The disease was more prevalent in this city, too, among the natives of the countries mentioned, although trachoma was frequently found among the native born Americans, the Irish, and especially the Italians.

It has been asserted that trachoma is to be found in low countries only, and does not exist six hundred metres above the sea level, as in Switzerland and the Tyrol, while others assert with equal positiveness that the disease is not influenced by altitude, but may exist quite as easily at altitudes of from one thousand to five thousand metres as on plains, the only indispensable factors for its spread being contagion and defective hygiene. Dr. Lester said that corroborative of this statement as to the spread of trachoma was its great prevalence among the Hebrews of this city. This was not due to any racial predisposition, as Hebrews of the better classes were no more prone to the disease than those of other nationalities, but it was due to their lack of hygiene and to their Asiatic habits.

As to the assertion that the negro race was practically immune, and that negroes were only exceptionally affected, Dr. Lester's experience was that among many hundreds of cases examined few had been found among negroes. He recalled one case in which the affection occurred in a young negro, was limited to the left eye and was of the acute type.

Dr. Lester was of the opinion that trachoma was both contagious and infectious, and declared that, as one of the great causes for its spread was poor hygienic surroundings, no case of trachoma could be successfully treated for which there was not provided at the outset a healthful environment. Tonics, of course, were indicated, and must be resorted to in nearly every case. The doctor emphasized the importance of an early recognition of this disease by the average practitioner, so that proper treatment might be instituted at once, as the prognosis depended so largely upon the prompt and thorough application of remedial measures.

J. D. ROCKEFELLER, JR., ON PRAYERS.

Advocates Leaving Them to the Judgment of God.

John D. Rockefeller, jr., yesterday took up the lesson of the "Agony of Gethsemane" with his Bible class. The text of the lesson was, "Made perfect through suffering." Mr. Rockefeller said:

Let us say our prayers. Don't be carried away with the idea that God does not hear them. If He does not answer them at once, He will do so some time. At all events, let us leave them to His judgment. What do you suppose Christ brought the three disciples into the garden with Him for? He brought them because the presence of friends was a source of helpfulness in His hour of sorrow. I think it a beautiful thought that Jesus sought human sympathy.

SERVICES OF ELKS FOR DEAD COMRADES

Services in memory of the members of the Brooklyn Lodge No. 22, B. P. O. Elks, who have died during the last year were held yesterday afternoon in Plymouth Church, Brooklyn. A musical programme was given, and addresses were made by William J. Buttling, Exalted Ruler of the Brooklyn Lodge, and C. S. Andrews, Exalted Ruler of the New-York Lodge. "Thanatopsis" was recited by Thomas T. Hayden, the blind actor. "Lead, Kindly Light" was sung by a quartet, consisting of Miss Maude Kennedy, Mrs. Katherine Wilson O'Neil, Peter J. Collins and James J. Byrne. Solos were also given by each member of the quartet. General Horatio C. King was at the organ, and played several selections, including "Marche Funèbre" as a postlude.

JEROME LIKE CARRIE NATION.

Dr. Banks Says His Axe Makes More Noise in Breaking than in Convicting.

The Rev. Dr. Louis Albert Banks, pastor of the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church, West One-hundred-and-fourth-st., took as a prelude to his sermon last night the subject, "New-York City's Monte Carlo, or, Jerome's Raid on the Gamblers." He said in part:

Our picturesque Mr. Jerome has been smashing doors again. Like our friend Carrie Nation, his hatchet has made so much more noise in breaking doors than it has in convicting criminals, that, while we are still interested at the performance, we are never really sure that it means business. We would not do Mr. Jerome injustice, but when a man arouses so much expectation by such resounding crashes on the doors of wrongdoers, the public feels cheated when the criminal is always escaping.

The gambler has held the centre of the stage all the week in New-York. Thanks to Mr. Jerome's smashed door, the general public has been taken into the secret, which was no secret to the police or the press and multitudes of people before, that right here, in the heart of our own city, we have a Monte Carlo of our own. We have seen thousands of dollars worth of gambling machinery taken out from behind the smashed doors. But the smasher says that this is no evidence against the owner, and so it seems probable that the gamblers will not be punished. Fortunes have been lost with this very gambling paraphernalia; but the gambler slips through the axeman's fingers.

Mr. Jerome's raid at least does one good thing. It brings this gambling habit to the front, and lets us look at it, and reflect what an ugly thing it is. The very essence of gambling is to get one's pleasure at another's sorrow; to get one's gain at another's loss; to get something valuable without giving any return for it. If those things are not wrong, then nothing is wrong.

It is impossible that the gambler can be a good citizen. Nothing save the liquor saloon itself is corrupting modern politics more widely than this gambling spirit. When one is really possessed with the spirit of the gambler he has no political principles. He would throw the dice or cut the cards or turn the wheel for the Presidential chair or a seat in Paradise.

We wish good luck to Mr. Jerome with this case—better luck than he has sometimes given us. We need to have more than the doors smashed. The gambler needs to be locked up and the gambling practice stamped out.

WEATHER UNSETTLED.

Weather conditions were unsettled yesterday. After a clear night, there was a fog at 7 a. m., which lasted most of the morning, and about 10 a. m. light snow fell and continued to fall fitfully till nearly 3 p. m. The lowest temperature was reached at 12:45 a. m., when the thermometer registered 25 degrees. It was 1 degree higher at 8 a. m., 37 degrees at 11:45 a. m., and 35 degrees at 4 p. m. Snow fell yesterday at Albany, Pittsburg, Erie, Buffalo, Rochester and Oswego.