matters quite clear she addressed to the Prime Minister a memorandum written in her own hand, dated from Osborne on August 12, 1850, and which remains historic, setting forth as it does the rights of the sovereign to the conduct of foreign policy. It says that:

"The Queen thinks it right, in order to prevent any mistake for the future, to explain what she expects from the Foreign Secretary. She requires that he will distinctly state what he proposes in a given case in order that the Queen may know as distinctly to what she has given her royal sanction. Having once given her sanction to a measure, she will not allow it to be altered or modified by the minister. Such an act she must consider as a failure in sincerity toward the crown, and justly to be visited by the exercise of her constitutional right of dismissing that minister. She expects to be kept informed of what passes between him and the foreign envoys and governments before important decisions are taken based upon that intercourse, to receive the foreign dispatches in good time, and to have the drafts for her approval sent to her in sufficient time to make herself acquainted with their contents before they must be sent off."

When, a little more than twelve months later, Lord Palmerston, in spite of these peremptory orders of his sovereign, took upon himself to inform Napoleon III on the morrow of the sanguinary coup d'état at Paris that Great Britain recognized the new French Government, without having consulted the Queen or obtained her sanction and approval, she exercised her constitutional rights of summarily dismissing him from the Secretaryship of State for Foreign Affairs, although he was at the time the most popular minister of the crown and possessed of a large following in Parliament.

This jealousy of the prerogative of the crown in the matter of foreign relations manifested by Queen Victoria served to prevent an outbreak of war between this country and England at the time of the Trent difficulty, a little over forty years ago. The Foreign Minister and the Cabinet had drafted a dispatch for transmission to the American Government which would inevitably have led to hostilities. Fortunately, it had to be sent to Windsor for approval, and although the Queen was watching by her husband's deathbed at the time she nevertheless managed to give it her attention and to subject it to such radical alterations as completely to deprive it of its offensive character, transforming it from an imperative demand for redress into a courteous appeal to the sense of justice of a valued friend.

King Edward continues in his mother's footsteps in this respect. For many years before her death he had taken the trouble to initiate himself into all the phases of England's foreign policy by having a duplicate of every dispatch that reached the Foreign Office forwarded to him immediately on its arrival in Downing-st. And to this day no foreign dispatch reaches the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs without the King being made immediately aware of its contents, while no dispatch is sent off by Lord Lansdowne without having previously secured his approval. Indeed, it may be questioned whether the King's control of England's foreign policy is not even more effective than that of his mother. For his relations with foreign rulers are more intimate, while he is in much closer touch with the foreign ambassadors and envoys accredited to his court. Inasmuch as the keynote of his foreign policy is the strengthening of the ties of friendship between England and the United States, this country has no reason to regret his apparently least known prerogative, of which the most recent exercise has been the steps which he has taken to cause the wretched Venezuelan imbroglio to be brought to a speedy conclusion, even at a heavy pecuniary sacrifice to England.

EX-ATTACHE.

PHILADELPHIA AFFAIRS.

Result of Remarkable Mayoralty Campaign —Councils Unchanged.

Philadelphia, Feb. 21 (Special).—The Republican organization on Tuesday polled for Mayor John Weaver a larger majority than had ever before been given for a mayor in this city, exceeding even the majority given to President McKinley at the last Presidential election, and this out of a total vote which far exceeded the expectations of either side in the contest.

With this election came to a close the most remarkable political campaign in the recent history of the city. That Mr. Weaver would be elected by a large majority was certain as soon as it was known that he was the choice of the Durham managers of the organization. Many elements of independent opposition to the machine melted away ostensibly before the record which Mr. Weaver had made during a single year's discharge of the duties of the District Attorneyship. The Municipal League, which had opposed his election as District Attorney, fairly tumbled over itself to indorse him, and other independent organizations fell into line behind it.

The gratitude of the Republican bosses to the Municipal League for this action was strangely shown in the election at the same time of the minority magistrate. This proved to be the most striking feature of an unusually striking campaign, and carried conviction to every one—whatever be the line of his partisanship—that the Democratic organization in Philadelphia is only a tender to the Republican kite.

The Municipal League having thus favored the candidate of the Republican organization asked in return only that it be allowed to leave its impress upon the campaign in nominating Magistrate David T. Hart, a retiring Republican official who had failed of renomination by his own party, in the hope that the league might throw the Democratic organization from the position of being the minority party, to which, under the Pennsylvania law, there are certain perquisites of place. No embargo was placed upon such action, the nomination was made, and for about two weeks there was prospect of a lively side fight.

For fear that the league might by a scratch beat out the Democrats, on Sunday before election the Republican bosses issued their orders that in each of the 1,662 election divisions in the city twenty-five Republican voters should cut their own candidate for magistrate and cast their ballots for Democratic Candidate O'Donnell. The returns show that the orders were carried out faithfully. Kane, the Democratic candidate for Mayor, polled 32,769 votes and O'Donnell on the same ticket polled 60,264, a difference of 27,495. Twenty-five Republican votes in each division would produce just 26,550. It goes without saying that O'Donnell was elected. The Republican candidate for magistrate polled 37,681 votes less than Mr. Weaver.

The indorsement of Weaver by the league was not a unanimous one, and many members refused to be bound by the action, but the result of the election and the open favor shown the Democratic by the Republican organization has completed the work of demoralization. It is doubtful if the league will ever again attempt any political activity, and Republicans and Democrats of independent tendencies are left without any rallying point.

With the indorsement of Mr. Weaver and the nomination of Mr. Hart the league had apparently exhausted its vitality, for it placed only two candidates in the field for the Select Council and only five for the Common Council. None of them was elected. In every ward but one Republican machine candidates for the Councils were elected. In that one, the Sixth, which is bossed by Thomas B. Ryan, the junior partner in the firm of Donnelly & Ryan, which bosses the Democratic city organization, the Republicans made no nominations. The result is that the new Councils will be made up of no better material than is there now. Two-thirds of the members retiring in April were renominated and as a rule the new candidates were no better, no worse, than those who will retire permanently at the end of their present term.

There have been no developments of an important political character at Harrisburg this week. There has been an undercurrent of sentiment among the politicians that Governor Pennypacker may get a little closer to "the boys" than it was thought possible two weeks ago. This belief had a jar on Thursday, when the Governor, as Commander-in-Chief of the National Guard, announced the appointment of the members of his staff. To the surprise of every one who was not in his confidence he failed to renominate Surgeon General John V. Shoemaker. To no one was the surprise greater than to Dr. Shoemaker himself. The doctor has been in high favor for years with the Durham end of the organization. In medicine, he is the president of the Medico-Chirurgical Hospital, treasurer of the Medico-Chirurgical College, and as widely known in the international medical world as any other Philadelphia physician.

MUSICAL NOTES.

Calendar and Operas for the Week Henschel's "Requiem."

Sunday—Metropolitan Opera House, 8:30 p. m., popular concert; No. 101 Park-ave., 4 p. m., concert of chamber music by the Mannes Quartet.

Monday—Metropolitan Opera House, 8 p. m., Italian opera, Verdi's "Un Ballo in Maschera."

Tuesday—Metropolitan Opera House, 7:30 p. m., German opera, Wagner's "Siegfried"; Carnegie Hall, 8:15 p. m., orchestral concert, by Hermann Hans Wetzler; Mendelssohn Hall, 8:15 p. m., concert of chamber music by the Mannes Quartet; Chamber Music Room of Carnegie Hall, 8:30 p. m., concert of chamber music by the Dannreuther Quartet; Manhattan Theatre, 2:30 p. m., pianoforte recital by Mark Hambourg; Astor Gallery, Waldorf-Astoria, 8:30 p. m., Miss Williams's musical.

Wednesday—Metropolitan Opera House, 8 p. m., opera in Italian, Mozart's "Il Flauto Magico"; No. 128 East Fifty-eighth-st., 3 p. m., lecture by Elliott Schenck on "Lortzing, Nicolai and Schumann"; Church of the Ascension, 8:15 p. m., free organ recital by Charles Heinroth.

Thursday—Metropolitan Opera House, 8:15 p. m., performance of Georg Henschel's "Requiem" for charity; Mendelssohn Hall, 3 p. m., song recital by Miss Mary Colden Tracy and M. Charles Gilibert.

Friday—Metropolitan Opera House, 8 p. m., Italian opera, Verdi's "Traviata."

Saturday—Carnegie Hall, 2:30 p. m., Young People's Symphony Concert; Metropolitan Opera House, 2 p. m., French opera, Meyerbeer's "Prophete"; 7:30 p. m., German opera, Wagner's "Götterdämmerung."

At the Opera House this week, in addition to the special performance of "Siegfried" on Tuesday, there will be a revival on Monday of Verdi's "Un Ballo in Maschera" (the Boston version), and on Wednesday Mozart's "Il Flauto Magico" will be produced for the first time this season. The programmes:

MONDAY EVENING, REVIVAL OF VERDI'S "UN BALLO IN MASCHERA."
(In Italian.)

Amelia ..... Mme. Gadski
Ulrica ..... Mme. Louise Homer
Oscar ..... Mme. Fritzi Scheff
Riccardo ..... Mr. De Marchi
Renato ..... Mr. Campanari
Samuel ..... Mr. Edouard de Reszke
Tom ..... Mr. Journet
Silvano ..... Mr. Dufriche
Un Giudice ..... Mr. Begué
Un Servo ..... Mr. Vanni
Conductor, Mr. Mancinelli.

"DER RING DES NIBELUNGEN," BY RICHARD WAGNER. TUESDAY EVENING. AT SPECIAL PRICES.
SIEGFRIED.

Brünnhilde ..... Mme. Nordica
Stimme des Waldvogels ..... Mme. Seygard
Erda ..... Mme. Maurer
Siegfried ..... Mr. Burgstaller
Der Wanderer ..... Mr. Van Rooy
Alberich ..... Mr. Bispham
Mime ..... Mr. Reiss
Fafner ..... Mr. Elmblad
Conductor, Alfred Hertz.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MOZART'S "IL FLAUTO MAGICO."
(In Italian.)

Astrifiammante (Queen of the Night) ..... Mme. Sembrich
Tre Damigelle ..... Mme. Seygard, Mme. Louise Homer, Miss Carrie Bridewell
Papagena ..... Mme. Fritzi Scheff
Tre Geni ..... Miss Marilly, Miss Bouton, Mme. Mapleson
Pamina ..... Mme. Gadski
Tamino ..... Mr. Salignac
Sarastro ..... Edouard de Reszke
Papageno ..... Mr. Campanari
Monostato ..... Mr. Reiss
Sacerdote ..... Mr. Mühlmann
Oratore degl' Iriziati ..... Mr. Dufriche
Altro Sacerdote ..... Mr. Vanni
Due Uomini Armati ..... Mr. Maestri, Mr. Dufriche
Conductor, Mr. Mancinelli.

FRIDAY EVENING, VERDI'S "LA TRAVIATA."
(In Italian.)

Violetta ..... Mme. Sembrich
Flora Bervoise ..... Mme. Van Cauteren
Annina ..... Miss Bauermeister
Alfredo ..... Mr. Dani
Giorgio Germont ..... Mr. Scotti
Gastone ..... Mr. Vanni
Barone Duphol ..... Mr. Bars
Marchese D'Obigny ..... Mr. Dufriche
Dottore Grenvil ..... Mr. Gilibert
Conductor, Mr. Mancinelli.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, MEYERBEER'S "LE PROPHETE."
(In French.)

Fides ..... Mme. Schumann-Heink
Bertha ..... Miss Marilly
Jean de Leyde ..... Mr. Alvarez
Zacharie ..... Edouard de Reszke
Obertha! ..... Mr. Journet
Jonas ..... Jacques Bars
Mathisen ..... Mr. Declery
Un Officier ..... Mr. Bégué
Un Paysan ..... Mr. Vanni
Un Hérault ..... Mr. Cernusco
Un Anabaptiste ..... Mr. Albertieri
Incidental divertissement by Mr. Albertieri and the corps du ballet.
Conductor, Mr. Flon.

"DER RING DES NIBELUNGEN," BY RICHARD WAGNER. SATURDAY EVENING, AT SPECIAL PRICES.
"GOTTERDAMMERUNG."
(In German)

Brünnhilde ..... Mme. Nordica
Gutrune ..... Mme. Reuss-Belce
Waltraute ..... Mme. Louise Homer
Woglinde ..... Mme. Fritzi Scheff
Wellgunde ..... Miss Carrie Bridewell
Flosshilde ..... Mme. Louise Homer
Siegfried ..... Mr. Burgstaller
Hagen ..... Mr. Blass
Gunther ..... Mr. Mühlmann
Alberich ..... David Bispham
Conductor, Alfred Hertz.

To-night's concert programme:

Jubel overture ..... Weber
Cavatina, from "La Juive" ..... Halevy
Mr. Blass.
Air, "O, ma lyre immortelle!" from "Sapho" ..... Gounod
Miss Carrie Bridewell.
Songs of the Ojibway Indians (harmonized and translated by Frederick R. Burton:
(a) "The Lake Sheen."
(b) "Song of Absence and Longing."
(c) "My bark canoe."
Mr. Bispham.
(a) "Träumerie" ..... Schumann
(b) Gavotte ..... N. Franko
Song: Waltz, from "Romeo et Juliette" ..... Gounod
Miss Marilly.
Stanzas ..... Flegier
Mr. Salignac.
Overture, "Mignon" ..... Ambroise Thomas
Drinking song, "Als Büblein klein an der Mutterbrust," from "Die Lustigen Weiber von Windsor" ..... Nicolai
Mr. Blass.
Songs:
(a) "Chant d'Amour" ..... Ph. Flon
(b) "Pastorale" ..... Bizet
Miss Marilly.
Song, "La Manola" ..... Bourgeois
Mr. Salignac.
Air, from "Les Huguenots" ..... Meyerbeer
Mme. Seygard.
Songs:
(a) Negro song, "Ipshua fit de battle ob Jericho" (arranged by) ..... Henry Burleigh
(b) "Danny Deever" ..... Walter Damrosch
(Words by Rudyard Kipling.)
Mr. Bispham.
American Fantasie ..... Victor Herbert
Conducted by Nahan Franko.

At the Metropolitan Opera House next Thursday evening, Georg Henschel's "Requiem," composed in memory of his wife, will be sung by the Brooklyn Oratorio Society, Miss Helen Henschel, Miss Pauline Woltmann, Ellison Van Hoose and Herbert Witherspoon. The composer will conduct. A miscellaneous concert, conducted by Walter Damrosch, will also be given, preceding the "Requiem," in which Mme. Schumann-Heink, Anton Van Rooy and Miss Elsa Ruegger will take part. On March 2 the "Requiem" will be repeated at the Academy of Music, Brooklyn, on which occasion Professor Horatio W. Parker's "Harold Harfager" will also be performed.

Mr. Paderewski is resting at his villa in Switzerland. In the course of his recent concert tour in England a concert of his own music exclusively was given at the Crystal Palace under the direction of Alberto Randegger. Mr. Paderewski played his concerto and Polish fantasia, and excerpts were performed from "Manru," namely, the ballet music from the first act, cradle song and duet from the second, the prelude and gypsy march from the third. The solo parts were sung by John Coates and Fräulein Krull, the latter the exponent of Ulana at the original production of the opera in Dresden.

Miss Cora H. Williams, soprano, will give a musical in the Astor Gallery of the Waldorf-Astoria next Tuesday evening, at which she will have the help of Miss Helen Marie Burr, harp; William A. Wegener, tenor; Miss Käthe Hüttig, pianoforte; Charles F. Higgins, violin, and Miss Elise Reimer, accompanist.

The Handel and Haydn Society, of Boston, now in its eighty-seventh year, is raising a fund to provide itself with a permanent home. In the furtherance of this project a concert is to be given on March 8, which is to be commemorated in a book of about two hundred pages, to contain a concise résumé of the origin and purpose of the society, the principal events in its history, a complete list of all its concert appearances and the works presented, portraits of its earlier and present officers and conductors, illustrations showing the scenes of the auditoriums used in the past and at present for its rehearsals and concerts, suggestions for the permanent building designed to be erected for its future use, a statement of the building fund as at present, and its trustees, with portraits and other matter and illustrations, calculated to make the record of permanent value to all friends of this old Boston musical institution. Contributors to the building fund to the amount of $5 are to receive this book, of which also a limited edition de luxe is to be issued, to be sold at $2 a copy. Correspondents may address the society, Box 1,847, Boston.

Mme. Roger-Miclos announces a piano recital at Mendelssohn Hall for Monday afternoon, March 2, at 3 o'clock, at which she will play exclusively compositions by Schumann and Chopin.

At the Chamber Music Hall, Tuesday evening, the second concert of the Dannreuther Quartet, of New-York—Gustav Dannreuther, first violin; Henry Hess, second violin; Joseph Kovarik, viola, and Emil Schenck, violoncello, assisted by Mrs. Gustav Dannreuther, pianiste—will be given. The programme:

Haydn—Divertimento in D major, for violin, viola and violoncello. a. Adagio.
Dvorák—Quartet, op. 96, in F major ("American").
Schumann—Trio, op. 63, in D minor, for pianoforte, violin and violoncello.

The song recital which David Bispham, of the Metropolitan Opera company, announced for the last Sunday afternoon in January, and which he was compelled to postpone because of illness, will be given in Carnegie Hall on Sunday afternoon, March 1, at 3:30 o'clock. The programme he will sing at his coming recital is the same as he announced for his previous one. It will comprise

MARY COLDEN TRACY.
Soprano Who Will Give a Song Recital in Mendelssohn Hall on February 26.

twenty songs by Schubert, Schumann, Franz, Brahms and Richard Strauss.

At Mendelssohn Hall, on Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock, Miss Colden Tracy and M. Gilibert will sing the following songs:

Duo, "Amour ouvre pour nous tes ailles" ..... Palico
Miss Colden Tracy and M. Gilibert.
Pensée d'Automne ..... Massinet
Si tu le voulais ..... Tosti
M. Gilibert.
Batti batti, "Don Juan" ..... Mozart
Mai ..... Reynaldo Hahn
Rêverie ..... Reynaldo Hahn
Nymphes et Sylvains (by request) ..... Bemberg
Miss Colden Tracy.
Plaisir d'Amour ..... Martini
Menuet d'Exaudet ..... Wekerlin
Jeunes fillettes ..... Wekerlin
M. Gilibert.
Ständchen ..... Brahms
Feldeinsamkeit ..... Brahms
Nacht und träume ..... Schubert
Auf dem Wasser zo singen ..... Schubert
Frühlingsnacht ..... Schumann
Miss Colden Tracy.
Duo, Barcarole ..... Gounod
Miss Colden Tracy and M. Gilibert.
Schlafoser Augen Leuchte ..... Mendelssohn
O Jugend, O schöne Jugendzeit ..... Mendelssohn
Roundelay ..... Reinhold Hermann
A Question ..... Reinhold Hermann
Mary Tracy.
Reinhold Hermann at the piano.

Miss Helen Henschel is to be the soloist at the fifth of the Kneisel Quartet chamber music concerts in Mendelssohn Hall on Tuesday evening, March 3. The principal number on the programme will be the Brahms sextet in G major, op. 36, for two violins, two violas and two 'cellos. The extra players will be Mr. Zack, viola, and Mr. Keller, 'cellist.

The Kaltenborn Quartet will give their third and last chamber music concert of the season in Mendelssohn Hall on Tuesday evening, March 10.

At Carnegie Chamber Hall Saturday evening there will be a piano recital by Eddy Fink, pupil of Gustave Lévy, with the assistance of Alex Lévy, violinist.

At Carnegie Hall will be given the last Wetzler symphony concert on Tuesday evening. Soloist, Mme. Lillian Nordica. Programme:

Symphonic Fantasia (new, first performance). Ottokar Novacek
Prelude to second act, and aria from "Tannhäuser." Wagner
Mme. Lillian Nordica.
Sinfonia Eroica ..... Beethoven

At the Manhattan Theatre the farewell recital by Mark Hambourg on Tuesday afternoon will present this programme:

Prelude and fugue in F minor ..... Clarence Lucas
Fantasia in C major, opus 17 (in three parts) ..... Schumann
Nocturne in G major
Six Preludes
Berceuse ..... Chopin
Valse in A flat from "Le Bal" ..... Rubinstein
Variations on a Theme of Paganini ..... Mark Hambourg
Vecchio Menuetto ..... Sgambati
Etude ..... Poldini
A Midsummer Night's Dream ..... Mendelssohn-Liszt

Henry Wolfsohn has arranged with Antoinette Szumowska, the pianist, who will give a recital in Mendelssohn Hall on Saturday afternoon, March 7, to fill the engagements he had arranged for Fannie Bloomfield-Zeisler in Bridgeport, Hartford, Baltimore, Washington and Syracuse.

RECEPTION AT U. OF P. CLUB.

President William C. Boulton gave a reception in honor of Provost Charles Charles C. Harrison, of the University of Pennsylvania, at the University of Pennsylvania Club, of this city, at the clubrooms, No. 44 West Forty-fourth-st., last Monday evening. Vice-Provost Edgar F. Smith came from Philadelphia with Mr. Harrison, and made a brief address. Dean Van Amringe, of Columbia College, also spoke. Mr. Boulton was assisted in receiving by Dr. Samuel McCullagh, the recently elected secretary and treasurer of the club. The annual dinner of the club will be given on the evening of March 9, at the Hotel Manhattan.

MEDICAL COLLEGE CLASS DANCE.

The first annual reception and promenade of the junior class of the New-York Homœopathic Medical College was held at Tuxedo Hall, Madison-ave. and Fifty-ninth-st., on Friday night. The patronesses included the wives of the leading physicians in homœopathic circles in the city, and were Mmes. W. H. King, H. M. Dearborn, G. W. Roberts, W. H. Bishop, F. J. Nott, St. Clair Smith, F. E. Doughty, L. L. Danforth, E. G. Tuttle, A. B. Norton and Charles McDowell.

STUDIO NOTES.

The fifth lecture of the series on "The Means of Expression Employed in Piano Playing" will be given at the Wirtz Piano School, No. 120 West One-hundred-and-twenty-fourth-st., on Friday evening, February 27. The topic for this lecture will be "Pedals," and the illustrations will be from the works of Bach, Chopin, Liszt, McDowell, etc. Arthur Griffith Hughes, barytone, will assist Mr. Wirtz in this recital.

James Pearce, one of Mr. Kaiser's pupils at the School of Musical Art, No. 128 East Twenty-third-st., has been engaged as tenor soloist at the First Presbyterian Church, in Hartford, Conn.

Mrs. Jennie Connel's pupils at Carnegie Hall are rapidly advancing in physical culture.

Lucille Smith Morris, director of the Morris Piano School of Public Playing, No. 201 West Eighty-first-st., reports great success in making the school popular.

A song recital by the pupils of Mme. Torpadie Bjorksten was given at Carnegie Hall on February 17. An attractive programme was rendered. Among those who took part were Miss Nellie Linde Wright, Mrs. Grace Toennims, Miss Margaret Laevenhaupt, Miss Saide Van Praag and Mrs. Edyth Cater Kerr.

LOSSES BY WORK OF PETTY PILFERERS.

EVERY DEALER HAS TO SUFFER—MEN WHO MAKE REGULAR BUSINESS OF TAKING LITTLE THINGS.

There are various degrees in stealing, running from the larceny of a two-cent loaf of bread through the shoplifting of a 15-cent made tie, "hooking" a watch, lifting a tray of jewels, burglarizing a safe, shortage in accounts, "grafting" in municipal service up to and including the looting in war of a city or a province. But there is one kind of stealing—a mean, snivelling sort of peculation—that does not come within the law, or if it does is not adequately punished. Those who suffer from it describe it as minute and irritating. It is mild but tenacious kleptomania, and the combined action of those afflicted makes it as destructive as the work of an army of grasshoppers.

The freight agent was the first to speak of it. "I have just discharged a messenger at the shed," he remarked, "for being the worst kind of a general nuisance. I have followed sharply for twenty-five years all sorts of thieves, and the worst of them all is the thief who would not acknowledge the corn, and who would be really indignant if you called him by his right name. Nemo, the fellow in this case, was a glowing example, and Primus, one of my clerks, has given me a full account of the man. I feel like 'firing' Primus for not telling me before. Nemo's duties sent him to all sorts of places, and he seems to have sworn an oath to himself that he would never leave without some little memento of the visit. As he visited from two hundred to three hundred places a week his ravages were considerable. He would go to a fruit place, transact his business, talk with one of the clerks, perhaps, and then take an apple or a banana or a handful of nuts. He would repeat this when he went to a provision dealer's, and would take an onion, carrot, beet or a potato. He would take a couple of nails at a hardware place, trifles at a notion dealer's, and from what Primus tells me, the clerks in the office say, at night he would go home with a big bag of fruit, vegetables, nails, notions, sample bottles of cod liver oil, sheets of paper, twine—in fact, everything from the whole range of the people that use this road.

"Would he steal those things? No, he would take them while he was talking, or he would ask for them. He was a persistent beggar. He would ask for the defective pieces of crockery, soiled or defective notions or fancy articles, soiled dry goods, samples, everything that he thought he could get. 'Turning down' did no good, and he was so persistent that one of our customers wrote that if he was sent out again we could expect them to move their freight by another line. So I discharged Nemo. When I told him he was through he whined, and I was on the point of relenting. But I did not relent quickly enough, and he became impudent, and told me that he was an old man, and didn't intend to work much longer, but while he was at it for the last ten years he had not bought a bit of fruit or a vegetable. He had pan-handled everything."

"But surely he is an exception?"

"If he was I should have kept him as a curiosity. No, I believe that my softening toward him was criminal. Such people never reform. He is of the breed that sits in the country store and eats the dried apples, that shares anything you have with you, that begs a little here and a little there. Every dealer will tell you what he suffers from these people, either from the professional or the unconscious nibbler. They only take a little. That is true; but when thousands are taking a little every day it mounts up."

"Yes," said Primus, who had just come in, "This week the railroad discharged one of its men for squandering supplies, and threatened with dismissal any one who should be caught taking even a pen from the office."

The agent broke in: "That reminds me of another chap. I worked with him for years. He was hard on supplies. He used more pens, more stamps, holders, pencils, stationery, etc., than any three other men in the office together. At last he got through, and he started a little store over in Jersey. I dropped into his place one day, and in the course of his remarks he told me that he had taken enough stuff from the office to stock up on several articles for years to come! 'Why, man alive!' I said, 'That was rank stealing.' 'Oh, no,' the scoundrel said with consummate gall, 'I never took more than a dozen pens, a few holders or pencils at a time. But little things pile up.' I was amazed at this fine distinction as to where stealing began. And he was a member of the Church, too."

The group of listeners had increased, and a wholesale grocer stuck in. "Don't leave out the Christmas present 'grafter,'" he said. "About a week before Christmas regular and irregular visitors come to see me. 'Merry Christmas, Mr. Scales,' they say. 'Hope you'll be even more prosperous next year than you've been this, but your prosperity for this year would suit me.' That is a touch. If I don't come up they ask plump and plain for something to remember me by. Once Nemo, who was a gem among them, asked me for a gift. I was tired of him, so I said: 'Can't give you anything, but that packing case,' and I pointed to a big one at the delivery door. He thanked me, went out and he filled in a lot of smaller cases, boards, etc., and then had it sent over to his place by one of my teams. He said he was building a henhouse, and it was just what he wanted."

"Yes, and there is a chap that comes from a color house," remarked a hardware man. "About the middle of November he came into my place, and after he had finished his business he told me that he didn't expect he could get around at Christmas, and would I give him something then? I was floored, and he picked up a gun metal inkwell we are handling and said that was just the thing. I'm rather good at standing surprises, but I stood back like the new boy at school, and he got away with the prize."

"But you fellows don't get it half as hard as I do," said a notion dealer. "I handle thousands of articles where you handle one. They are usually small, and so our visitors seem to think it pleases me to have a few taken off my hands. They ask for the defective ones, but their good nature does not stop there; they will take a perfect article any time. I don't care to call them thieves, but they make you an unwilling contributor."

"Well," remarked a provision dealer, "I have a very respectable scavenger, who comes from a house that supplies me with imported articles. He is a 'sticker', and this year, as a joke, I presented him with a fine drumhead cabbage worth 15 cents. It was a monster, and I expected he would be indignant. Was he? I rather think he wasn't. He entered into the spirit of the joke, and surrounded the cabbage with celery, turnips, apples, sweet Car'linas, murphys, cranberries, carrots, and then, to make good weight, he threw in two artichokes that cost me eight cents apiece. I never saw a fellow enjoy a joke more than he did or less than I did. He had over $2 worth of truck before he stopped."

"But why," asked the questioner, "do you not stop it?"

Opinions varied. Some said it was too long established; others said those who were guilty worked under cover of their house and it was too much to complain of them. All agreed, however, that if the habit of sampling could be stopped, and if the petty "grafter" could be carried beyond Sandy Hook and gently but firmly dropped overboard, it would mean a saving of hundreds of dollars a week to each of thousands of merchants in this and other cities.

HAMPTON WORKERS HERE TO-DAY.

The Rev. Dr. H. B. Frissell and some of the Hampton graduates will be heard at Rutgers Presbyterian Church this evening at 8 o'clock, when they will give a presentation of Hampton's work for the Indian and negro. Dr. Frissell will give some account of the history of the work, and will show some of the results of the work of those who have been graduated from the school. There will also be two brief talks by Hampton graduates, who will give some of their personal experiences in their work as teachers. J. B. Williams will represent the colored students, and Miss Lucy Conger, a member of the Sioux tribe, will speak for the Indians. Both these young people have had work in the schools since their graduation. The Hampton Quartet will be present, to sing some of the old plantation melodies of slavery days. In the afternoon at 4:30 o'clock a similar presentation will be made at the vesper service of the West End Presbyterian Church, Amsterdam-ave. and One-hundred-and-fifth-st. The public is cordially invited to these meetings.

Hampton is obliged to raise upward of $80,000 each year from voluntary contributions for the carrying on of its work. It is not a government school, nor is it under the control of any one of the church missionary societies. It seems necessary, therefore, to keep up these meetings, in order to get the work before the people of the country. This term the school is providing instruction to over twelve hundred students, seven hundred and thirty of whom are boarding students in the main school. The school has well equipped trade and domestic science departments, makes a special feature of agriculture, and also maintains a normal department as a graduate course.

IN AID OF AUDUBON SOCIETY.

A lecture for the benefit of the Audubon Society of the State of New-York is to be given at Delmonico's on next Friday afternoon by Frank M. Chapman. "The lecture is to be on "The Home Life of Birds" and will be illustrated by lantern slides. The work done by the Audubon Society for bird protection is important, and there is need of public interest in the subject now, and of financial aid for the society, to enable it to carry on work already begun. Tickets for the lecture may be obtained at No. 8 East Seventy-fifth-st., No. 13 West Seventeenth-st., No. 8 West Forty-ninth-st. and No. 243 West Seventy-fifth-st.

The lecture is under the patronage of Morris K. Jesup, Bishop Potter, Dr. George Bird Grinnell, Abbott H. Thayer, Miss Maria R. Audubon, Mrs. Samuel P. Avery, Mrs. Walter Phelps Bliss, Mrs. R. James Cross, Mrs. T. M. Dillingham, Mrs. David S. Egleston, Mrs. Charles S. Fairchild, Mrs. Malcolm Graham, Miss Mary Douglas Graham, Mrs. Robert D. Graham, Mrs. Edwin R. Holden, Mrs. Edwin Babcock Holden, Mrs. Henry R. Hoyt, Mrs. Morris K. Jesup, Mrs. Adrian H. Joline, Mrs. Hamilton Fish Kean, Mrs. William M. Kingsland, Mrs. Francis P. Kinnicutt, Mrs. Henry R. Kunhardt, Mrs. Francis G. Lloyd, Mrs. Seth Low, Mrs. Charles Russell Lowell, Mrs. V. Everit Macy, Mrs. Clarence Blair Mitchell, Mrs. George B. Mosle, Mrs. H. Fairfield Osborn, Mrs. De Witt Parshall, Mrs. A. H. Poillon, Mrs. E. P. Stillman, Mrs. Frank K. Sturgis, Mrs. E. T. H. Talmage, Mrs. Ramsey Turnbull and Mrs. John King Van Rensselaer.

IN AID OF FINNISH FAMINE SUFFERERS.

A fair is to be held by the Finnish Aid Committee for the benefit of the sufferers from famine in Finland, at Marion Hall, No. 150 East One-hundred-and-twenty-fifth-st., on next Saturday. Doors open at 12 o'clock, and the programme begins at 7 p. m. The programme includes speeches in Swedish and English by the Rev. G. Blomgren, singing by the Finnish and Swedish singing societies and Finnish Good Templars, a speech in Finnish by the Rev. E. Blomberg, addresses by Mrs. M. E. Sangster and G. Hallimond and recitations.

NATIONAL GUARD NOTES.

Major General Adna R. Chaffee, U. S. A., will review the 7th Regiment at its armory on the evening of March 9. An interesting series of battalion drills and reviews has been arranged for, each battalion to be reviewed by a former officer or member of one of the companies parading. These combined drills and reviews will be held as follows: Companies D and G, March 16; C and K, March 18; A and H, March 20; E and F, March 24; B and I, March 26. First Sergeant William A. O'Connor, of Company I, has been elected second lieutenant. Company H will hold a mess dinner on Friday night next at the armory, to be followed by dancing. Company F will hold a stag dinner and smoker on Tuesday. Company K will give an exhibition drill on Wednesday. Adjutant Falls will give a lecture on Friday to the "non coms" of the 71st Regiment, on the Fort Riley manœuvres.

Governor Odell will review the 1st Naval Battalion on board the New-Hampshire on the evening of March 23, and a reception will follow. Each division will go through a separate drill. The battalion has now an organized band of thirty-two pieces. A pistol and rifle range has been established on board the ship, and other needed improvements made.

The annual veterans' review of the 23d Regiment will be held at the armory on Saturday evening, March 14.

Colonel Dyer of the 12th Regiment has appointed Quartermaster Sergeant George Simons sergeant major of the second battalion, vice Coloe, honorably discharged. Sergeant Major Simons, while on duty with the 12th in Cuba during the war with Spain, was selected as orderly by General Wilson.

Company C, 7th Regiment, has unanimously elected Second Lieutenant Nicholas Engel first lieutenant, vice Brainard, deceased. Lieutenant Engel joined the 7th as a private on March 7, 1890.

The 3d Battery will hold a reception at the armory on Friday night.

Company I of the 69th Regiment will hold a euchre and reception at American Theatre Hall on Tuesday evening. The regimental band will furnish the music.

Colonel Appleton of the 7th Regiment will review the 71st Regiment, Colonel Bates, at the armory of the 7th, on next Saturday night.

Captain James T. Ashley of Company G, 13th Regiment, who has been elected major, vice Smith, resigned, entered the regiment as a private in Company H on November 14, 1884. His first commission was that of a first lieutenant in Company G, December 17, 1894. The clubhouse the regiment intends to erect at Creedmoor is to be a two story frame structure, to cost about $2,000, and should be completed by May. Tests are being made with new projectiles made of rubber, for use in the 8-inch gun. A projectile submitted by Captain W. I. Taylor last Tuesday was tried with great success, carrying away part of the railing at the end of the armory and several rows of seats.

Second Lieutenant Dudley, of Company C, 12th Regiment, has received the nomination for the vacant first lieutenantcy, and an election will be ordered in a few days. Company C has decided to give a musical drill at the tournament of the Military Athletic League at Madison Square Garden. Armory rifle practice has been taken hold of with great interest, and thus far seven experts, seventy-five sharpshooters and 335 marksmen have qualified. In the higher branches of marksmanship Company B is in the lead, with three experts and nineteen sharpshooters. Companies B and G will drill next Wednesday under Colonel Dyer; Companies C, D, E and K next Thursday under Major Buck, and Companies A, F, H and I next Friday under Major Huston. There will be another review of the regiment on March 19. The rifle contest for the Jones trophy, open to teams of ten men, will be shot in the armory range on March 4. Company D will hold a stag party at the armory on March 28.

Another review of the 22d Engineers, by a prominent officer of the War Department, will be held early next month. Company H will hold a beefsteak dinner at Arios Hall, in West Forty-seventh-st., on Saturday night.

General George Moore Smith, commanding the First Brigade, of Manhattan, will visit Brooklyn next Tuesday night, accompanied by his entire staff, to review the 47th Regiment, commanded by Colonel Eddy. Private William T. Kirkman, of Company B, who served as a lieutenant of volunteers during the Spanish war, has been appointed a battalion sergeant major. A committee, of which Major Barthman is chairman, has been appointed to arrange for a military spectacle at the armory in April.

First Sergeant William E. Beattie, of Company G, 23d Regiment, has been nominated for second lieutenant. Private Bradford E. Willcox, of the same company, has been promoted to be quartermaster sergeant. Company I will have a euchre and dance at the armory next Thursday night, and Company F has arranged for a barn dance at the armory the same evening.

Ex-Colonel Harry Michell of the 14th Regiment will review the regiment on Saturday evening.

Lieutenant Colonel N. B. Thurston, of General Roe's staff, will lecture to the non-commissioned officers of the regiment on Tuesday evening. The War Veterans' Association of the regiment will hold a euchre and dance on March 10.

Colonel Austen of the 13th Regiment will parade his command at the armory on Thursday evening for review by Major General Roe. Company B has elected Second Lieutenant J. Lynch first lieutenant. Company G will hold its annual dinner in honor of its veterans on Saturday evening.

As the guests of the 4th Regiment, Maryland National Guard, the 47th Regiment, N. G. N. Y., is planning a trip to Baltimore in April. A similar excursion was taken in 1900, when the regiment was royally entertained by the Maryland soldiers. The parade, that was a feature of the last visit, will probably be repeated, and there may be a trolley excursion to Fort McHenry, which was occupied by the 47th Regiment during the Civil War.

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