Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—8:15—Florodora.
AMERICAN THEATRE—2—8:15—Oliver Twist.
BELASCO THEATRE—8—The Darling of the Gods.
BIJOU THEATRE—8:15—Nancy Brown.
BROADWAY THEATRE—8—The Silver Slipper.
CASINO—8:15—A Chinese Honeymoon.
CIRCLE THEATRE—2:15—8—Vaudeville.
CRITERION THEATRE—8:15—The Jewel of Asia.
DALY'S THEATRE—8:15—The Billionaire.
EDEN MUSEE—2—8—The World in Wax.
EMPIRE THEATRE—8:20—The Unforeseen.
FOURTEENTH STREET THEATRE—8—The Smart Set.
GARDEN THEATRE—8—If I Were King.
GARRICK THEATRE—8:15—Mice and Men.
HARLEM OPERA HOUSE—8:20—The Little Princess.
HERALD SQUARE THEATRE—8:15—Mr. Pickwick.
IRVING PLACE THEATRE—8—O Schwiegermutter.
KEITH'S—Continuous Performance.
KNICKERBOCKER THEATRE—8—Mr. Blue Beard.
MADISON SQUARE THEATRE—8:15—The Earl of Pawtucket.
MADISON SQUARE GARDEN—10 a. m. to 11 p. m.—Sportsmen's Show.
MAJESTIC THEATRE—8—The Wizard of Oz.
MANHATTAN THEATRE—8:30—The Bishop's Move.
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE—8—Il Barbiere di Siviglia.
MENDELSSOHN HALL—3—Recital.
MRS. OSBORN'S PLAYHOUSE—8—Ghosts.
MURRAY HILL THEATRE—2—8—The Fool's Revenge.
NEW SAVOY—8:20—The Girl with the Green Eyes.
NEW-YORK—8:15—In Dahomey.
PASTOR'S—Continuous Performance.
PRINCESS THEATRE—8:30—The Frisky Mrs. Johnson.
PROCTOR'S THEATRE—Vaudeville.
VICTORIA THEATRE—8.15—Resurrection.
WALLACK'S THEATRE—8:15—The Sultan of Sulu.
WEST END THEATRE—8—All on Account of Eliza.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

MONDAY, MARCH 2, 1903.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—Ex-Governor Francis left London for Berlin to continue his work in behalf of foregin representation at the St. Louis Exposition. ==== The Unionist members of Parliament opposed to the government will act on independent lines in social, military and financial policies, forming virtually a new fourth party, with Winston Churchill as leader. ==== It is expected that a polo team will leave England in May for this country. ==== It is practically certain that this year's international motor car race for the James Gordon Bennett Cup will be run in Ireland. ==== Fears are expressed in St. Petersburg of a war between Russia and Turkey in the spring. ==== The Pope, ignoring the advice of his physician, held the reception for foreign Cardinals at the Vatican. ==== Henry Phipps, the American ironmaster, has given a further sum of $50,000 for the formation of agricultural and scientific education in India. ==== Wreckage off the English coast indicates the loss of the British ship Cambrian Prince in the recent gales; stormbeaten vessels continue to take refuge in the harbors of the British Isles. ==== José Batele Ordoñez was chosen President of Uruguay at yesterday's elections.

DOMESTIC.—The House adopted the report on the District of Columbia Appropriation bill. ==== By a party vote the House Committee on Banking and Currency authorized a favorable report on the Aldrich-Payne-Fowler bill. ==== Tariff revision and trust legislation are the reasons given by Democrats for forcing an extra session of Congress. ==== The painters' union of Schenectady backed down and agreed to reinstate William Potter, and allow him to remain in the National Guard. ==== State Engineer Bond will make to-night the special report requested by the legislature on the probable cost of a 1,000-ton barge canal. ==== There was another death from typhoid fever at Ithaca, and several new cases were reported. ==== The body of Edwin L. Burdick was taken from Buffalo to Canastota, his former home, for burial. ==== Five Regular Republicans in Delaware have accepted Addicks's proposition for the election of two Senators. ==== Everything is in readiness for a special session of Congress, which it is believed will begin on March 5.

CITY.—A mob of Italians, enraged at a fatal accident in New-Rochelle, chased a motorman with axes and knives; he narrowly escaped death. ==== A brick thrown as a bridal party was departing struck a spectator; she died from a fractured skull after two doctors had diagnosed her case as a scalp wound. ==== A thief was chased through one car and captured on another after he had felled a motorman and one pursuer with a club. ==== A woman and her two children, the youngest of whom may die, were knocked down and crushed by a team and carriage; the driver, who escaped, was denounced. ==== General Booth addressed three large Salvation Army meetings at which many converts went to the "Mercy Seat." ==== The mystery surrounding the Ansonia apartment house "ghost" was solved; it was a black cat. ==== A representative of the District Attorney's office went to Boston to consult Dr. J. B. Heald on the death of Theodore Hagaman. ==== It was announced that the work of clearing and grading Elm-st. would begin this morning. ==== President Truesdale, of the D., L. & W., and others were summoned to attend the Newark trolley inquest. ==== A rare monkey arrived at the New-York Zoological Park. ==== A cure for a rare bleeding disease was announced. ==== A match was arranged between Corbett and Jeffries.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Fair. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 50 degrees; lowest, 31.

THE ERIE CANAL IMPROVEMENT.

To the discussion of the merits of the proposed deep waterway from Lake Ontario to the Hudson, as compared with an enlargement of the present Erie Canal to accommodate 1,000-ton barges, a valuable contribution is made in another column by Gustav H. Schwab. It will repay careful consideration by those interested in the question. In this communication the writer expresses unqualified faith in the conclusion of Major Symons, recently quoted by The Tribune, that the cost of transporting grain from Buffalo to New-York would be greater if the work was done by lake steamers than if performed by barges. An emphatic opinion to the same effect from Mr. Carnegie is also quoted. Mr. Schwab then presents two additional arguments, one of which is based upon his own exceptional familiarity with the conditions which control the transshipment of freight in New-York Harbor. In this kind of knowledge the American manager of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company has few equals. His utterances are those of an expert.

Mr. Schwab declares that after grain had reached the metropolis it could not be directly transferred to ocean vessels from steamers of the lake type. Some intermediate agency (lighters or floating elevators, doubtless) would be required. In other words, the freight must be handled twice instead of once, and the extra charges would greatly exceed those now imposed at Buffalo. Besides the necessity for paying dividends on a larger investment of capital and for more costly maintenance, the project for shipping through from Duluth and other upper lake ports to New-York would render necessary a special tax at this end of the route. Whatever might be thought of the unrighteousness of such action, it would be in the highest degree impolitic. It would give to the Canadian canal system a dangerous advantage. It would be a bothersome fact to be confronted with before Congress when national aid was sought.

Not the least important service rendered by Mr. Schwab is recalling the utterances of the late Abram S. Hewitt on another phase of this subject. That broad-minded statesman was strongly opposed to letting the control of the Erie Canal pass from the State to the federal government. Every one who has had any experience with the delays which result from dependence upon Congressional appropriations will be alive to his principal objection. That protest should be well weighed before New-York surrenders a highway of immense value now exclusively her own.

NO OPPOSITION.

Some of the people who were opposed to the new National Guard law when it was under consideration in Congress are now expressing the opinion that its provisions cannot be carried out because the National Guard authorities of this State will not agree to use the rifle which is used in the regular service. In view of the fact that the highest officers in the State's soldiery approved of the bill and did their share toward urging its passage, there seems to be no foundation for the reports that the State soldiery is dissatisfied and will resist the efforts to adopt the new weapon. If the change were to be made at once there would be some reason for complaint, because it is highly probable that the rifle now in use in the army may be succeeded in the near future by another, and in that event a second change would be necessary.

But there is no need for haste. The bill provides that the changes in organization and equipment need not be made for five years. By that time the matter of rifles for the army will certainly have been settled. The bill appropriates $2,000,000 to be expended in carrying out the provisions of the new law, and of this amount $270,000 is available for this State. Thus it will be seen that when the question has finally been decided whether the Krag or the new Springfield rifle shall be used in the regular service the change in the National Guard of this State can be made, and the State will have the aid of the government to the extent of $16 a man, if the force does not exceed 15,000, toward the expense of the change.

As to the organization of the Guard under the new bill, there is no reason to doubt that the War Department will interpret the measure with a view to meeting the demands of those States where a strict adherence to the letter of the law might cause confusion. When the path has been finally cleared for the change by which the 115,000 citizen soldiers of the country will become the recognized aids of the regular establishment, when the obstacles which heretofore prevented uniform equipment and tactical organization shall have been cleared away, there will be no show of opposition to the change except on the part of the holiday soldiers, and if they should retire from the service the new National Guard law would have done the country a service beyond the expectations of its framers.

ON THE BANKS OF THE HUDSON.

It cannot be denied that the plan now under consideration to extend Riverside Drive so that it will connect with the picturesque and charming Boulevard Lafayette will cost a great deal of money, but it is also indisputable that if it is carried out it will add greatly to the attractiveness of the west side of Manhattan Island.

This splendid metropolis must be made still more beautiful. Riverside Drive is already one of the finest roadways in the world. With the projected extension, the boroughs of Manhattan and The Bronx could exult over a thoroughfare along the Hudson which no other city in the world could surpass.

ELECTRIC RAILWAY EQUIPMENT.

The conferences which the consulting engineers of British railways have just held in regard to uniformity of electric equipment, and which have been briefly mentioned in recent cable dispatches, initiate and represent a movement of much significance. One of the most important practices of railways operated by steam is the running of cars of one line upon the tracks of another. Thus has arisen the necessity for similarity of gauge, the employment of brakes and couplers of the same type, and standardization in other details. As electricity displaces steam as a motive power that policy must be carried a step further. In order to enable trains to run over connecting systems, certain adjuncts of the cars must be alike, even if the mileage on each line is short. Such uniformity, of course, will not be the result of accident. It must be carefully planned. That British railway managers recognize this fact, and are already seeking to find the proper basis of agreement, is a sign of much promise.

To a limited extent the tendency here mentioned has for years been visible in this country—in this city, in fact. Through trains have been run on the tracks of the Brooklyn Bridge, the Brooklyn elevated roads and portions of the old Brighton Beach and Long Island roads. To make the trip from Park Row to Manhattan Beach, for instance, it was necessary to travel over four lines that were once unrelated. In like manner plans have been announced for transferring certain local trains of the New-York Central to the rapid transit subway in the Borough of Manhattan two or three years hence. The proposed admission of some of the New-Haven road trains to the Pennsylvania company's underground station in Thirty-fourth-st. illustrates the same principle. In actual practice nothing has yet been achieved in London, but such transfers of rolling stock have been provided for in at least one instance. The tracks of the underground roads constituting the "Inner Circle" have been used not simply for strictly local traffic, but also for a few suburban trains of outside trunk lines. As soon as electricity was adopted for the one class of service, the necessity for making changes in order to take care of the other class was appreciated. When the conversion now in progress is complete both will be accommodated. The example thus set will no doubt be promptly followed both in and outside the metropolis in England.

From the language of the dispatches it would appear that British trunk line railway managers are considering the feasibility of applying electricity to long distance service as well as to suburban traffic. The former involves some difficulties which do not beset the latter. It has been suggested, too, that the great manufacturers of electric traction equipment will have their hands full for two or three years in meeting the demands for suburban outfits alone. Long distance electric service is bound to come, though; and since a certain amount of time will necessarily be consumed in the formulation of definite plans, to say nothing of actual construction, the work of investigation cannot begin too soon. The British railroad companies doubtless realize this fact. They know that everything cannot be effected in a day, but they are taking time by the forelock. Indeed, in their apparent appreciation of the wisdom of the impending revolution, and in the handsome manner in which they rise to the emergency, they put most of their American contemporaries to shame. On this side of the Atlantic practically all movements for the introduction of electricity on steam roads have been individual and independent efforts. There has yet been no general co-operation.

Upon many features of car, road and station equipment it is now feasible to reach an agreement. Almost the only open question at present involves the relative merits of the direct and alternating types of motor. Experiments during the coming year will doubtless throw much light on this matter. The utility of the third rail as a conductor and of the multiple unit method of making up trains is so fully established, though, that no mistake can be made in their adoption. Whatever form of motor be used under a car, too, the dynamos at generating stations are sure to be of the alternating type. By the time that these truths are fully mastered by railway managers in America and Europe the way will doubtless be clear for agreement on other essentials.

TEACHING THE YOUNG IDEA.

Outside the prize ring there is sometimes virtue in a knockout blow, but seldom indeed does a woman gain true distinction by the use of her fists. That rare experience seems, however, to have befallen Miss Mary L. Rogers, of Pawtucket, R. I., a teacher in the high school. Miss Rogers had scarcely assumed her duties when, through the intuitional power which is characteristic of her sex, she became aware of a disposition on the part of some of the big boys to defy discipline and in general make things hard for her. Rightly judging that there would be no end to her troubles if she did not assert herself at the beginning, she resolved to take the aggressive at the first sign of disorder. She did not have to wait long. Two big boys, one of them being the captain of the football team and a six-footer, were so undiscerning as to indulge in unmannerly remarks, whereupon Miss Rogers instantly cleared for action, and before her pupils knew what was happening had divided several black eyes between them and drawn the only blood which was shed on that memorable occasion. The affray ended there and then, but important results have followed.

All lovers of peace and admirers of a neat job will be rejoiced to learn that after due deliberation the school trustees of Pawtucket have unanimously passed a vote of confidence in Miss Rogers, while the populace is discussing the propriety of raising her salary, or, at the least, giving her a medal of honor. Now, if the big boys, who have been suspended for a fortnight, shall, on their return, constitute themselves the respectful, devoted and particular champions of their teacher, in obedience to the chivalrous feelings with which big boys are commonly capable of being inspired, all will be well and the Pawtucket High School may become a model for universal imitation.

REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

From Sairey Gamp to Florence Nightingale was a long march forward. It was worthy to rank among the most noteworthy works of progress achieved in the century of the world's greatest progress. The benefits to human life and health and comfort accruing from the system of specially educated and trained nurses are comparable with those from the advance in medical, surgical and chemical science. We have now, of course, got far past even the admirable standard set by Miss Nightingale, just as other branches of the healing art now are more perfect than they were half a century ago. This advance has in all these other branches been, in New-York and most other States, authoritatively recognized, and in consequence appropriately high requisites for professional practice have been legally prescribed. No longer can medicine be publicly practised by the famed genius who reported that his patient's "windpipe had rotted off and let his lungs fall into his stomach," nor can drugs be dispensed by one who believes in the pharmaceutic identity of epsom salts and oxalic acid. The physician and surgeon, the druggist, the dentist, in some cases the veterinary and even the horseshoer, must pass a satisfactory examination and receive a certificate of ability before he can practise his profession or trade. It certainly seems just, reasonable and in the highest degree desirable that the professional nurses shall be similarly regulated and designated.

The legislature at Albany now has before it two measures dealing with this subject, upon which, it is to be hoped, it will act, and will act with discrimination. One, which is known as the Armstrong bill, seems to be well designed to accomplish the end in view. It has the fine merits of simplicity and of consistency with the existing system of supervision of professional practice by the proper authorities. It provides that nurses, male and female, shall be registered and receive diplomas only on completing courses of training and passing examinations satisfactory to the Regents of the State University. That is just what is done now in the case of physicians, dentists, druggists and teachers, and it is logical and desirable that it shall be done in the case of nurses. In that way physicians will be assured of competent aid, patients of intelligent care, and the nurses themselves of a more dignified standing in their vocation. That the prescriptions of the bill are not too strict is shown by the fact that the nurses themselves are in favor of its adoption; that they are adequate is indicated by the earnest commendation of the medical profession.

We have said the legislature needs to act discriminatingly. There is before it another bill on this subject, which is in purport not only unsound but positively vicious. It was introduced by Assemblyman Nye, but he is not to be charged with its evils, for it is specifically stated that he introduced it only "by request." By whose request does not appear; but it cannot have been any one who has at heart the welfare of the public or the credit of the nursing profession. For this amazing bill proposes to register and license any applicant, regardless of age, character, qualification or experience. No requisites are prescribed. No examinations are needed. All one must do is to take oath that he or she is, in his or her own opinion, fit to be a nurse, and to pay a fee of 50 cents. Then, presto! he or she is formally and forevermore to be registered and licensed, and sent forth under the authority of the State of New-York as a professional nurse. Truly, that would be a short cut back to the days of Sairey Gamp!

What influences of ignorance or of charlatanry are back of this bill which Mr. Nye obligingly introduced "by request," we do not know. We cannot for a moment believe that so preposterous a measure will receive any favorable consideration at the hands of the legislature. We trust we shall not be in error in looking with equal confidence for the enactment of the Armstrong bill.

MONEY AND BUSINESS.

One more week like the last two and the superstitious element in the stock market would decide that Thursday was a day of declining quotations. Yet there was no more logical explanation of the break in prices last Thursday than that it had happened just a week earlier. Although these two days stand out somewhat clearly as the weakest spots in the fortnight, yet the general level of quotations has almost constantly tended downward until the average of the sixty most active railway securities is about $3 lower. Apparently there was successful manipulation for the short account, as total transactions were not sufficiently large to indicate general liquidation by the long interests. There undoubtedly was more or less discouraged selling, precipitated by the growing impression that there was nothing in sight to advance quotations, while many depressing influences were imminent. There was some calling of loans in preparation for the payment on the new Manhattan stock, and this tightened the money market just sufficiently to create uneasiness. With such large gains in railway earnings and buoyant trade reports, it is difficult for an outsider to feel pessimistic.

A slightly firmer tone in the local money market is most wholesome just at this time in many ways. It discourages excessive buying of stocks with other people's money: it tends to check the flotation of new securities, which has already been carried close to the line of safety; it militates against heavy exports of gold, which would be disturbing with the present low reserves. Meanwhile rates are not excessive on commercial paper and mercantile discounts are readily arranged. Recent transfers of currency have been against the associated banks, both with the interior and on Sub-Treasury operations. About $1,000,000 was sent to Chicago, and the government excess of receipts over expenditures was much heavier. There was also a small shipment of gold to South America, but this was balanced by a consignment from San Francisco. Exports of gold on the triangular plan seemed inevitable when the week opened, but a sharp rise in Paris exchange on London to 25 francs 17 centimes prevented any engagements, and the rate has declined only slightly from its top point. There was also some reaction in sterling exchange at New-York, due to purchases of American stocks by London, and also affected by the better supply of commercial bills. Meanwhile the urgent demand for exchange disappeared.

Business conditions steadily improve as the season advances, staple lines of merchandise going into consumption freely, while there is already great preparation among wholesalers and jobbers for the Easter opening of spring business in clothing. It is probable that this trade will surpass all previous years, especially in the high grades of goods purchased, as the whole tendency of late years has been in the direction of better quality. Reports from many interior points indicate that stocks have run low owing to the difficulty of getting deliveries, and the activity of shipping departments at Chicago testifies to the vigorous efforts being made to restore normal conditions. It promises well for all branches of trade and industry if this is a representative sample of the whole nation's condition. Open weather has made farm work general, and laborers are already in demand, while implements, fertilizers and other supplies are bought freely. Freight is moving more promptly, but only after the opening of lake navigation will shippers be able to restore normal conditions, and even then it will take time. The labor situation is quiet in so far as any great struggle is concerned, but numerous small strikes are in progress and others are impending.

Cotton is still the leading staple both as to relative price and activity of option trading. For the first time in over two years the current month and nearby future deliveries have sold above ten cents. There were many evidences that the support was not limited to manipulation, and reports are frequently heard that the mills have not provided even a normal supply of raw material. If the invisible stocks are light the situation has great strength, for the quantity of cotton in sight is certainly smaller than desirable. As to the future of prices, however, it must not be forgotten that any unreasonable advance will curtail consumption. Winter wheat is now fairly rooted and in position to withstand any ordinary weather. The movement both to market and out of the country has been disappointing, but the export movement will be resumed, especially as to flour. Prices are steady without any great excitement or activity, and it is asserted by experts in the trade that the low grading of corn is no more than should result from the early marketing of a new crop. In preceding years this early corn has been marketed from bins where it was stored from the previous season. No such reserves are now existing.

Manufacturing conditions are rapidly becoming complicated, and it is difficult to ascertain whether activity means prosperity. In the leading industry there is little question regarding the wholesome situation, orders running far into next year and prices being readily paid by consumers without complaint. The structural and railway work, including machinery, engines, tools, etc., cannot be delayed, and increased cost of production is added to the finished product. But in many other industries it has proved more difficult to hold the market at a profitable position. Just at present the situation is notably confusing at cotton mills, where there is actual fear that the raw material may be advanced to twelve cents a pound. Quotations of goods have been moderately advanced, but far from proportionately to the cost of production. In the item of fuel alone one plant has expended an amount equivalent to 6 per cent of its capital in excess of the charge on that account last season. Some worsted mills have been closed and there is more or less uncertainty in the woollen goods branch of textiles, owing to cancelled orders and high prices for wool, fuel, labor, etc.

It is an absurd notion, that of establishing a pension system in the Department of Buildings similar to methods in the Police and Fire departments. Firemen risk their lives frequently. Patrolmen are in danger now and then. What perils do the inspectors of buildings encounter in the performance of their daily duties?

American methods drove Yellow Jack out of Cuba. But Mexico is still suffering from that disease, as well as from the bubonic plague. Several cases of yellow fever appeared recently in Vera Cruz. The Diaz administration has shown a great deal of energy in many ways. Why does it not follow the plans which were carried out so successfully under General Leonard Wood in the entire territory of the Queen of the Antilles? Yellow fever can be extirpated in Mexico as it was extirpated in Cuba.

How long must an anxious universe await the official reports concerning the results of the preservative diet of antiseptically treated food which has been tested in Washington? Everybody is eager to know whether frugal meals of disinfected herbs soaked in boracic acid and other chemicals are better tonics and afford more satisfactory nutrition than strictly fresh eggs and fish, chops and cutlets, steaks and roasts.

The inventor of the Gatling gun has gone over to the majority. In conversation and disposition, and in the various associations and habits of ordinary life, he was one of the mildest mannered of men, and he died at a ripe old age. Amiable in temper, he was nevertheless the discoverer of the basic principle of some of the deadliest and most destructive weapons of modern warfare. Such are the inconsistencies of the race. Dr. Guillotine was a lover of humanity, sympathetic and compassionate, but how dreadful a use of his invention was made in the time of Robespierre.

In various parts of the country lynchers have been exceptionally busy this month. Fearless, resolute and conscientious sheriffs can foresee the dangers of mob violence in most cases, and can enforce the laws and defeat the schemes of these cowardly assassins if they are prompt in taking measures of precaution.

Governor Murphy of New-Jersey, in his annual message, advised the legislature to adopt strong measures for the restraint of careless or incompetent handlers of automobiles. The Trenton statesmen are now considering the matter. In this recommendation the Governor has the earnest support of public sentiment. There have been so many accidents on both sides of the Hudson River and elsewhere, caused by running these vehicles at excessive speed or by the lack of training and skill on the part of the drivers, that hosts of citizens have been stirred to anger.

An Edinburgh court of high jurisdiction has decided that a Scottish company of shipbuilders must pay to the Spanish Government the considerable sum of $375,000 because of its failure to complete in contract time four torpedo boat destroyers. The Tribune printed recently a most important and interesting article which gave the facts and figures as to the long delays in the work on war vessels in this country. Are not American shipbuilders in fault?

The appearance in New-York courts at this late day of claimants to the estate of Alexander T. Stewart, who died nearly a third of a century ago, brings to mind Dickens's descriptions in "Bleak House" of the almost interminable litigations in the British Court of Chancery. It is reported that a speculative syndicate was formed abroad for the purpose of pushing some of these ancient claims.

There is trouble ahead for Chicago. Unless the barkeepers can be induced by the labor leaders to organize and demand union wages, union hours and other things essential to the happiness of the barkeeper the union drivers will refuse to deliver beer at the saloons where the unaffiliated barkeepers dispense drinks. This would mean the closing up of hundreds of beer saloons, thousands of people driven in desperation to drinking Chicago water, and many men out of work who at great sacrifice of personal comfort and by hard labor and close application had become proficient barkeepers with the faculty for drawing imported beer from domestic kegs perfectly developed. But there is hope that the barkeepers will recognize the fact that only as union men can they attain to the loftiest positions in the reach of the profession.

PERSONAL.

Mrs. L. H. Grenewald, wife of Captain Grenewald, who was at the head of the famous Jessie Civil War scouts, named in honor of Mrs. Fremont, is the only woman weather forecaster in the country. She is the observer of the United States Weather Bureau at York, Penn., and has just completed her sixteenth year of service in that capacity. She has been commended on many occasions for efficiency.

Mayor-elect John Weaver, of Philadelphia, sailed for Europe last week in search of health, having broken down in his recent campaign. He will return about April 1. He is to visit his old home in Stourport, England.

Dr. G. E. Morrison, the famous Peking correspondent of "The London Times," is paying one of his periodical holiday visits to his old Australian home, the Geelong College, which was founded by his father, and is now conducted by his brother, C. N. Morrison.

The doyen of French medical men is Dr. David, of Montpellier, who celebrated his 103d birthday on February 10. The doctor was born on the 19th day of Pluviose, year IX, and practised medicine until he reached the ripe age of ninety-eight years. He then retired and went to live at Montpellier with his daughter. Dr. David is in full possession of all his faculties. He is an authority on certain diseases, and patients still come to consult him, some from great distances.

Professor Cunningham, who has been appointed to succeed and serve under his old teacher, Sir William Turner, in the chair of anatomy in the University of Edinburgh, is the greatest authority upon giants. He is at present occupied in elaborating the proofs of his belief that a giant is a morbid phenomenon. A man or woman who is more than six feet five inches, or, at the outside, six feet six inches, cannot be regarded as merely abnormal, the professor thinks. He has shown that the mental characteristics of giants—easy good nature, sloth and poor intelligence—are those shown by victims of a rare disease of overgrowth called acromegaly. This is due to enlargement of an appendage of the brain, and Professor Cunningham has personally examined every giant skeleton in the British and Continental museums, and found that the little cavity in the skull corresponding to this part of the brain is enlarged in all of them.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

The piety of a Huntsville banker started a run on his bank a few days ago. A revival meeting had been going on at Huntsville, in which everybody in town became much interested. Cashier Hubbard of the Farmers and Merchants' Bank, being anxious to attend the meetings and have other persons employed in his bank do so, caused this card to be stuck on the front door:

> THIS BANK
> WILL BE CLOSED
> For the Next 15 Days at 3 o'Clock on
> Account of the Revival Meeting at the
> Methodist Church.

The man who printed the card "set" the first five words in large type, and the rest in small ones. A man who was passing had his eye caught by the words "This bank will be closed." He immediately concluded it was about to quit business. He went in and got his own money, and then started to warning his friends to get theirs. Pretty soon a good sized run was on. The cashier became alarmed, and asked one man why he was withdrawing his account. "Just wanted to get it before you quit," was the reply. "Who said we were going to quit?" asked the cashier. "That card there." The cashier read the card aloud; and then for the first time the frightened depositors knew exactly what the words on it were. The run quickly stopped. "Here, take it back," said one man, as he returned the money he had drawn out. "If you're just knockin' off early for meeting, guess it's all right. Never hurts a bank to git religion"—a sentiment in which the rest of the community heartily concurred.

BALLADE OF A BEARD.

With downcast head
And shifty eye,
With timorous tread
He shuffles by;
Why does he shy
Like one crime seared?
This is the why?
He grows a beard.

Fate weighs like lead,
Ah! could he die;
All joy has fled,
Life's but a lie;
His throat is dry,
His eyes are bleared,
He longs to fly,
He grows a beard.

Sun overhead,
Blue in the sky,
Daylight's a dread,
Nature's awry;
Each foe's a spy,
Friendship is feared,
Where can he hie?—
He grows a beard.

Envoy.

Friend, you and I
Were likewise "queered";
Therefore, we sigh,
"He grows a beard."
—(Rochester Post-Express.

The students in the Scotch universities enjoyed their "Meal Monday" some time ago, but few of the undergraduates remembered how the holiday was instituted. In far off days, when learning was really nourished on "a little oatmeal," the students before leaving home for the universities provided themselves with a quantity of meal sufficient to make "halesome parritch" half through the session. By the end of January their "meal kists" had run low, and "a day off" was given in which the student was expected to journey halfway home, meeting at this point his parent or brother, who brought with him a second load of the simple diet. The holiday was fixed on a Monday, so as to allow the undergraduate the benefit of the preceding Saturday. In times past the journeys would often extend to fifty or sixty miles. The modern student goes home for "Meal Monday," but he travels with a week-end ticket, and has no thought of the painful journeys of his ancestors.

The Reason.—A man in New-York—call him Mr. Brown—is big and of a chubby aspect, and is the father of a more numerous family than is commonly found in New-York. A visitor to his house said to his wife, "Do you notice how much Mr. Brown looks like Tom Reed?"
"I don't see it myself, but it has often been observed. When we lived in Washington Mr. Brown was often taken for Mr. Reed."
"Yet there is no resemblance in detail. It's all a matter of general effect."
"We noticed long ago in this family that the baby looked like Mr. Brown. So did the next baby, and the next, and the next, until I realized that it was not so much that the babies looked like Mr. Brown as that Mr. Brown looked like a baby."
"That's it! That's the secret of Mr. Brown's resemblance to Mr. Reed. Mr. Reed looked like a baby, too."—(Harper's Magazine.

White lines are painted across all windows in third class cars in Japan as a check upon the impulse of occupants to thrust their heads through them. Window glass is an article with which the people are not familiar in daily life, and since passengers commonly suppose that sashes are merely spaces for air, the bill for glazing was one of the largest petty items in the monthly accounts for all the companies until the white line was invented.

Not the Same.—"Come along," said Mr. Nupop, fresh from his interview with the janitor, "we'll have to look at flats elsewhere."
"But why can't we take this?" demanded Mrs. Nupop. "It's like heaven here, and"——
"Not much it isn't, and that's the trouble. They take children in heaven."—(Philadelphia Press.

MUSICAL COMMENT.

Reflections on the Philharmonic Society —Bounties, Subsidies, Endowments.

The action of the Philharmonic Society in refusing to accept a gift of $25,000 a year for four years on condition that it change its fundamental law so as to permit its reorganization on a basis looking to permanency of employment, the extension of its activity and the improvement of its performances is likely to cause a deal of ill advised comment from both the friends and enemies of the institution. The question which presented itself to the society when Mr. Damrosch projected the plan in his desire to make the Philharmonic Society to be in New-York what the Boston Symphony Orchestra is in Boston and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in Chicago, was not a small one. The success of his plan might have given New-York a really permanent organization of the highest class, not on the basis of the bounty system proposed, but by arousing a public spirit which would eventually have called into existence the large endowment fund absolutely necessary to the permanent maintenance of the ideal concert institution toward which the longings of New-York's best music lovers are directed. Its failure would have left the society injured in prestige and obliged either to go out of existence or return to old methods with its ambition blunted and its machinery impaired. In the first case the great good done to the cause of music would have recompensed the society for a trifling change in identity and administrative methods which would necessarily have followed the permanent endowment of the body. In the second the catastrophe which has seemed imminent ever since the death of Mr. Seidl would have come, but at least have been postponed for a space.

But the men have spoken, and, deplorable as their decision seems, there is yet something heroic about their determination to preserve the integrity of the organization that has stood for the highest in orchestral music in the United States for over sixty years. At least, there is a view which those disposed toward kindly judgment may take (and which is the only just view toward many of the leading spirits of the organization), which makes the action seem heroic. From its inception the Philharmonic Society has been a democratic, or rather, a communistic body. When it was formed the thought that professional musicians should band themselves together, and, mutually sharing labor, cost and possible emolument, give concerts of high class music to the public, was new and strange to the world. Through vicissitudes of all kinds the men have been true to their trust. Small and sordid motives have had their influence at times in the conduct of the society, selfish interests have occasionally prevailed over the larger interests of art, but on the whole the men have been honestly proud of the record made by the society and have rejoiced righteously in the prestige which membership brought them. Naturally a spirit of conservatism has been devolved and fostered. New members have been admitted, but slowly and chiefly in the ripieno places. Of the men who are playing in the orchestra this season only a few more than one-half are members. The others are musicians hired by the society. For twenty years conductors have labored to effect changes and have found themselves obliged to wait until the reformatory measures which they aimed at had been accomplished by time. During all this time the society has been prospering. Is it strange that these men should not take the view of the present situation and future outlook that others take whose interest in the society is a sentimental one merely, who want the orchestral art finely represented and would like the Philharmonic Society to be that representative for old sake's sake? It is not strange; but neither is it wise. It is very much to be feared that by the time the society realizes that it may be necessary some day to adjust itself to new conditions (for it is ever true that "the old order changeth, yielding place to the new"), the sentimentalists will have cast off their allegiance or transferred it to another organization. The signs of the times are too plain to be ignored. The Boston Orchestra has conquered the place once held by the Philharmonic Society. If unwise conservatism, begotten of pride, stands in the way of progress and allies itself with selfishness to rob the orchestra of its effectiveness as a factor in art culture, what shall the attitude profit the society as a whole or its individual members? It was not fair to expect that all the unselfish sentiment in the case should be felt and exercised by the public.

What the conditions proposed by the subscribers to the fund (which, for want of a better word, we have called a bounty fund) were has not been set forth in full. Mr. Damrosch says they did not of necessity contemplate his election for the period for which the subscription was pledged. That would have been, indeed, an unwise provision. The conductor of the Philharmonic should not buy his position, either by such means or by subserviency to the appointing power. Much of the criticism of the society has been based upon the theory that proper discipline is not possible when the administrator of that discipline owes his continuance in power to the votes of the disciplined. The matter has been grievously misunderstood and misrepresented, for, with all its democracy, the Philharmonic Society is ruled as with a rod of iron by the officers appointed to enforce its rules. But if the members felt that there was such a contingency in the gift, implied, though not expressed, they ought not to be blamed for feeling apprehensive of possible happenings after the expiration of four years. There was no guarantee of permanency in the subscription. The period would have been a probationary one at the best, and its happiest outcome a reorganization on the basis of an ample endowment. Obviously the promoters of the provisional enterprise expected to be met on the part of the society with a willingness to make the experiment for the sake of the greater things which might follow. But it must again be emphasized that voluntary annual gifts cannot assure the permanency of so expensive an institution as an orchestra wholly devoted to the giving of high class concerts. Chicago has furnished the most convincing demonstration. It was a fine ebullition of public spirit which called the Chicago Symphony Orchestra into existence and robbed the Philharmonic Society of Theodore Thomas, who was at once its most lastingly popular conductor and the one most intolerant of its inherent defects. The Chicago orchestra is now ending its twelfth season, and its directors have sent out the proclamation that unless a fund of $750,000 is raised the orchestra will be disbanded when the season comes to an end. The reason? Up to the end of last season it has cost its guarantors the sum of $371,000—that is to say, an average of $33,725 a year. The supporters of the organization were generous, public spirited men. A deficiency of $53,631 did not frighten them nor give check to their enthusiasm. For six years the deficiency steadily declined; but at the end of that period there was no indication that there was any likelihood that the orchestra could ever be maintained without a perpetual bounty of from $25,000 to $35,000 a year. Old subscribers were dying or losing their interest, and it was necessary to enlist more and more men. The task of doing this seemed to be growing intolerable, and as a last resort the project of raising $750,000 by gifts was devised, the money to be expended in building a hall whose rentals, coupled with the receipts from ticket sales, it is fondly hoped will suffice to maintain the orchestra. It is not likely that the project will be carried to a successful issue, and the end of the season will in all likelihood see the end of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the retirement of Mr. Thomas. Sixty years ago the Philharmonic Society thought, like Chicago to-day, that its greatest need was a philharmonic hall. That supposititious need gave New-York its first performance of Beethoven's Choral Symphony. It does not exist now even in the dreams of the most devoted Philharmonician. But the need of something which will preserve the philharmonic, with all its memories, honors and prestige fresh, green, fragrant and undespoiled, does exist.

Why not capitalize the Philharmonic Society, and thus preserve its name, fame, past achievements, present affections and future hopes?

AN AMERICAN CONCERT.

The Scholarship Committee of the National Society of New-England Women has projected a concert of unusual attractiveness for the benefit of the scholarship fund of the society. It is to take place at the Waldorf-Astoria on the afternoon of March 21, and is to be devoted to the music of American composers, all but two of whom will participate in the performance. They are Professor Horatio W. Parker, Arthur Foote, Henry K. Hadley, Arthur Whiting, Rubin Goldmark, George W. Chadwick and E. A. MacDowell. The last will be represented only by three songs. Professor Parker will play his suite for pianoforte, violin and violoncello, with Gustave Dannreuther and Emil Schenck; Mr. Foote his pianoforte quartet in C, with Messrs. Dannreuther, Hess and Schenck; Mr. Hadley will accompany two vocal quartets of his composition, which are to be sung by Mrs. Percy, Mrs. Feltman, Mr. Van Yorx and Mr. Hilliard; Mr. Whiting will play three movements from his "Suite Moderne" for pianoforte, and Mr. Goldmark will accompany two of his songs to be sung by Mme. Marie Rappold. The Dannreuther Quartet will play Chadwick's string quartet in E minor.