

About People and Social Incidents.

MISS RUTH HANNA SICK.

Cleveland, March 24.—Senator Hanna, who arrived here on Saturday, received a telegram from Thom...

VON WALTERSE COMING HERE.

Berlin, March 24.—The Count and Countess of Walders...

THE VANDERBILT-NEILSON WEDDING.

Newport, R. I., March 24.—It was announced here to-day that Mrs. Frederick C. Neilson and Miss...

The date of the wedding has been fixed for Tuesday, April 14, and it will be performed by the Rev. William H. Mason, pastor of St. Mary's Church...

PRESENTATIONS TO THE POPE.

Rome, March 24.—Monsignor Kennedy, rector of the American College here, to-day presented to the Pope in private audience...

JAMES STILLMAN RETURNS.

James Stillman, president of the National City Bank, who has been in the South for several weeks, has returned to the city.

RAMSEY SAILS TO SEE SICK DAUGHTER.

Joseph Ramsey, Jr., president of the Wabash Railroad Company, sailed yesterday on the Kronprinz Wilhelm for Cairo...

ELECTED A PRINCETON PROFESSOR.

Princeton, N. J., March 24.—It was announced at the Theological Seminary to-day that the Rev. Dr. Theodor H. Rice, pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church of Atlanta, Ga., had been elected professor of homiletics...

BENEFIT FOR BEEKMAN HILL CHURCH.

An entertainment was given last evening in the Astor Gallery of the Waldorf-Astoria for the benefit of the Beekman Hill Methodist Episcopal Church...

NOTES OF THE STAGE.

Webber & Fields Make an Engagement.—Gillette and "The Admirable Critchton."

NEW-YORK SOCIETY.

There is no truth in the report that the Fortnightly Dances are to go out of existence. They will be continued as usual next season...

HELPING THE HEATHEN.

(Tacoma, Wash.)—H. F. Krohnson, of Seoul, Corea, is on his way to New York and Philadelphia to contract for idols to be used in the temples of his country...

GOOD WORK.

The Health Department, which has been notably diligent and efficient in its labors for the general welfare, asks for an appropriation of the moderate amount of \$5,000 to be used for the purpose of stamping out the serious disease of glanders among the horses in this city.

THE LAW'S DELAYS.

Unless the legislature extends the life of the commission to investigate the law's delays, the extensive work already done by that body under the act passed last year will go for naught...

AN EARLY SPRING.

There can no longer be any doubt that spring is here, and that it is ahead of time. When a remarkable warm wave carried off most of the accumulations of snow in the Northern States...

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

The Paris papers have unearthed a new anecdote about Victor Hugo. During the latter years of his long life he was very fond of the surveyor's mansion from the top of which he looked out over the city...

A STEP BACKWARD.

Members of the Bar Association who have studied the Brackett bill restoring former Section 1022 of the Code of Civil Procedure, which is now before the Governor, are thoroughly convinced that it ought not to become a law.

THE DIFFERENCE.

The interesting and agreeable academic discussion of the limits of the treaty making power with our neighbor "The Sun" might be prolonged indefinitely without getting any nearer a conclusion than have the two schools of constitutional lawyers who have been debating the question for a century...

WITHDRAWN FOR REPAIRS.

Senator Goodsell has withdrawn his railroad bill for amendment because of the manner in which it has been attacked since light began to sift through its mysterious phraseology.

THE ERIC APPLICATION.

The Erie application for a passenger bridge over West-st, ought to be granted. Light spans, well developed by competent architects and engineers, may be exceedingly useful in lessening the perils of crowded crossings.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

Washington, March 24 (Special).—Mrs. Roosevelt will remain at the White House while the President is on his Western trip. He will return in time to take part in the ceremonies at the opening of the new Dutch Reformed Church...

THE CABINET.

Washington, March 24 (Special).—Secretary Shaw will arrive in the city to-morrow, after having visited New-Orleans, Atlanta and other Southern cities.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

Washington, March 24 (Special).—The Italian Ambassador and Signora Mayor des Planches gave a dinner to-night. Their guests were the Peruvian Minister and Mme. Calderon, Mr. and Mrs. Cabot Ward, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Henderson, Mrs. Wallach, Miss Gwynne, Miss Stevens, Jesse Brown, Commander Schaefer, of the German Embassy, and Signor Borghetti, of the Italian Embassy.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

When the Panama Canal is finished and the first ships go through, heading a procession to be kept up for a thousand years, and then an American Senator Morgan, if he still survive, may feel like doing penance for his obstruction of that work by standing awhile in humility and repentance silent upon a peak in Darien.

THE HUNTING OF THE NORTH POLE.

The hunting of the North Pole becomes an all absorbing passion with many explorers, and new expeditions will go Northward this year and in 1904.

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THE SPEAKERS OF A LIQUOR DEALERS' ASSOCIATION.

The spokesmen of a liquor dealers' association who abused Mayor Low because he would not break an engagement with other citizens in order to see them at a particular time, and who became highly indignant when they learned that he would not see them at all until they had answered certain interesting questions on the subject of saloon assessments, have discovered that the Mayor is not an easy mark.

THE PARIS PAPERS.

The Paris papers have unearthed a new anecdote about Victor Hugo. During the latter years of his long life he was very fond of the surveyor's mansion from the top of which he looked out over the city...

THE BRACKETT BILL.

Members of the Bar Association who have studied the Brackett bill restoring former Section 1022 of the Code of Civil Procedure, which is now before the Governor, are thoroughly convinced that it ought not to become a law.

THE RIGHT OF COUNSEL.

It would re-establish the right of counsel in equity cases to compel the court to make a finding on every question of law or fact which either side chose to submit. This power was greatly abused. A lawyer might submit to a judge or referee a thousand questions remotely bearing on a case merely to confuse the issue and trap the court into an error on which appeal could be founded.

THE SILENT SPECTATOR.

At the request of the confirmed dyspeptic Senator was taking an X ray photograph of the seat of his trousers, and he was told to be facetious with a shabby attempt to be facetious, "is what might be called taking light exercise on an empty stomach."—(Chicago Tribune.)

THE SOUTH DAKOTA SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

Thirteen districts are away to the bad in some of the South Dakota school districts. As soon as a new teacher arrives in a school, and is carried here, and all the children are ill from eating too much wedding cake. Not long ago the following notice was put up on the door of one district school: "Teacher wanted—If single, must be old and unattractive, as two wealthy bachelors threaten to marry the next teacher at this school."

THE HEATHEN.

(Tacoma, Wash.)—H. F. Krohnson, of Seoul, Corea, is on his way to New York and Philadelphia to contract for idols to be used in the temples of his country as well as in China. He is sent by wholesale men and his models with him. He says that a few years ago an American firm sent a few idols as a gift to one of the sacred orders, and a demand for them was the result.

THE HEATHEN.

"The heathen in his blindness Bows down to wood and stone"—Some idolatrous heathen: But now we'll help the heathen The error of his way: And sell him more idols Made in the U. S. A.

THE HEATHEN.

We'll lift the foolish heathen From groping in the dust, And change and civilize him—He'll put on a hat and shoes, For ages he has groveled In superstition dim, But now we'll help his progress By making gods for him.

THE HEATHEN.

No seven handed fiddler: No gods with curling tails: No birds, no bugs, no serpents, No animals, nor whales: No sir! He'll have our idols: A snoreful of coal, And now before he can To terrify his soul.

THE HEATHEN.

A bonnet and a ribbon: A balaclava and a strife: They'll cause will make the heathen Howl for his better life: The poor, benighted pagan Will commit the deed of dark: And now before he can To terrify his soul.

THE HEATHEN.

The students of Dublin University are as full of pranks as a election of the world over. They celebrated the election of a new member of Parliament recently. James H. Campbell, the Irish Solicitor General, who was elected, was borne through the streets on the shoulders of students, or sitting on the driver's seat of a "jaunting car," with yelling students between the shafts, or making a speech from the top of a lorry. Poor Mr. Campbell's dress was naturally in a deplorable state after all this, and in this condition he was brought to a photographic studio, where he was pictured, ordered by the students to the rate of twelve for a shilling.

THE HEATHEN.

A Permanent Cure.—Hodge—You mean to say that Christian Science cured you?—Fudge—Sure!—No, no, appendicitis?—Fudge—No, of Christian Science.—(Brooklyn Life.)

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FACTS ABOUT THE CITY.

A genuine public service will be done by the City Club in its publication of a series of pamphlets setting forth the history, organization and functions of the principal departments and functions of the municipal government. The average citizen, we fear, not altogether well informed upon such matters, and to such lack of information are due many unwitting violations of law, many failures to secure the full benefit of the law and a pretty general failure to appreciate the good or bad qualities of local administration. Naturally there follows indifference as to the personal organization of the government, and in the train of such indifference come most of the evils which the metropolis is heir to.

EUROPE AND CUBAN RECIPROCIITY.

It has been rumored at Berlin that as soon as reciprocity in trade is established between the United States and Cuba, Germany, and perhaps some other European powers, will ask both these governments for identical concessions to them, on the ground of the "most favored nation" clause in existing treaties. This rumor seems to have been taken seriously at Berlin, and even in this country some have used it as an argument against ratification of the Cuban treaty, saying that we shall be bound to grant the demands of Europe or else violate our treaty obligations and quarrel with those countries.

All such talk chiefly serves, however, to promote the gavelty of nations. The idea that the conventional "most favored nation" clause applies to reciprocity treaties is not to be entertained for a moment. Ever since the days of Monroe and Adams it has been a well established principle that a covenant to give to the nation the privileges that are granted to the most favored nation refers only to gratuitous privileges, and does not at all refer to privileges granted on the condition of reciprocal advantages. That principle has been affirmed and confirmed in too many cases and during too many years to be seriously challenged at this time.

It may be, of course, that Germany and other nations will make some such formal request. They will not do so, however, with the slightest expectation that it will be granted. Their purpose will be simply to remind the United States that they, too, may take a hand at this same game, and make commercial treaties discriminating in favor of other countries and thus against the United States. The United States must expect that. We do not think it need be frightened at the prospect. There has been some talk lately about a Central European Customs Union, to be formed for the express purpose of boycotting the United States. Thus far only one country appears to have approved the scheme. That country is Utopia.

WITHDRAWN FOR REPAIRS.

Senator Goodsell has withdrawn his railroad bill for amendment because of the manner in which it has been attacked since light began to sift through its mysterious phraseology. The Senator says that he hopes to make changes which will satisfy his critics, but he does not undertake that task in a mood which inspires confidence, for he still asserts his inability to recognize the justice of the objections which he consents to remove. The general impression at Albany seems to be that the bill will not be seriously pressed again at this session, but we hope its opponents will be on the lookout for its reappearance and prepared to analyze its provisions without delay in case it should suddenly emerge. It is not unfair to say that if its sponsor in the legislature persists in thinking it is all right those who are convinced it is all wrong cannot safely trust him with its revision.

This bill justly fell under suspicion the moment it attracted attention, for the reason that it did not clearly disclose its meaning, but was vague, complicated and apparently intended to produce results which could not readily be foreseen. At first the disposition of those who had observed these faults may have been to assume that they were due to carelessness or incompetence rather than to ingenuity; but the deeper the probe went the plainer it became that the obscurities of the bill were the reason for its existence, while now not a doubt remains in the minds of impartial investigators, like the Assistant Counsel to the Corporation who is stationed at Albany to watch legislation affecting this city, that it bestows great and unwarranted privileges on our local transportation companies. In short, they are sure that it is a sneak bill of the most flagrant sort, craftily designed by its beneficiaries to escape public attention and gain the support of unwary or unscrupulous members of the legislature.

Spokesmen for the street railroad companies sometimes profess to be grieved or indignant on account of the censure to which operations within their field of activity are freely subjected by the public, and declare that they cannot understand such an attitude of hostility. If they would prayerfully consider the case of this Goodsell bill they might see a light.

Unless the legislature extends the life of the commission to investigate the law's delays, the extensive work already done by that body under the act passed last year will go for naught and we shall be no nearer than before to a solution of the problem. There cannot be the least doubt that the problem is as acute as ever. The need of a remedy is not less than when public appreciation of the practical breakdown of the judicial machinery here led to the creation of the commission. Perhaps if it had been promptly appointed a final report might have been made to this legislature, but the difficulty of securing the right men at the beginning of summer led to long delay, and there was not time to make any adequate study of the situation before the beginning of the year.

Nevertheless, a great deal of work has been done that can be made useful if the investigation is continued. The commission has gone over the court records for the last seven years to ascertain the amount of business accomplished and the average limit of judicial capacity in disposing of cases here. It has also looked into the methods in other cities where a large amount of business is transacted, to discover if judges accomplish more in them, and, if so, how well and by what method of procedure. That is the scientific way of studying the question. It will be extremely difficult to devise independent schemes to cure abuses, but by comparison much may be learned. It is well known, for instance, that criminal trials are conducted with more speed, dignity, and, above all, certainty of punishing crime, in New Jersey than in New-York. Analysis should discover the reason and show us how to remodel our procedure in the light of the excellent methods of our neighbor. The English courts, too, have a reputation of cutting through red tape and quickly getting rid of suits without merit which our calendars. The commission has gone far enough in this direction to promise valuable information if time is given to complete the work.

The bill now before the legislature to enable the commission to go on and report a plan of reform next year ought to be passed. The necessity of reform is generally conceded, and it is obvious that neither the commission nor anybody else, in the legislature or outside it, is prepared at present to offer any cure. There is no choice but to take more time or abandon all

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New-York Daily Tribune.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1903.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—Uncertainty in regard to the new Transvaal loan caused a further fall in British consols. A court martial has been authorized to try Major General Sir Hector Macdonald...

DOMESTIC.—President Roosevelt appointed William M. Collier, now head of the New-York State Civil Service Commission, a special assistant attorney general to aid in the enforcement of anti-trust laws. The War Department's plans for providing a new currency for the Philippines were outlined. Senator Newcomb's bill providing for a \$100,000,000 canal, to cost \$101,000,000, was passed by the Senate at Albany. Mrs. Burdick said at the inquest into the death of her husband that it was not a medical combination, but a murder. The hearing on the \$15,000,000 bill was announced in Chicago; the directors of the company include members of the Armour, Swift, Morris and other large packing companies, and it was said that the bill would be approved by many of the present concerns and expected to do a business of \$150,000,000 a year.

CITY.—Stocks were weak and lower. Control of the New-York Central and direction of its operation, it was announced, has passed from the Vanderbilts to the Rockefeller-Pennsylvania Trust. The hearing on the \$15,000,000 mortgage was filed on the property and rights of the New-York and New-Jersey Bridge Company, arousing the belief that a Hudson River bridge may be built. The hearing on the summons for H. H. Vreeland was begun. The Board of Aldermen passed a resolution against high license by a vote of 40 to 3. At a meeting of the Board of Education of the New-York, New-Haven and Hartford Railroad Company yesterday a proposition to advance wages of the employees was decided on, and it was stated that the Board of Directors would be no difficulty with the men. George W. Perkins and others opposed the franchise of the Interborough Railroad Company. Plans to build a bridge over the Hudson river by the family. A policeman rescued a woman and a child at a fire.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Fair. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 65 degrees; lowest, 53.

AN EARLY SPRING.

There can no longer be any doubt that spring is here, and that it is ahead of time. When a remarkable warm wave carried off most of the accumulations of snow in the Northern States about three weeks ago, and suddenly softened the ice on lake and river, it would have been unwise to repose much confidence in the prophetic character of the event. Even after the robins and bluebirds appeared in abundance it seemed possible that they might have been a trifle premature. Signs have continued to multiply, though, in a convincing fashion. Crocuses and snowdrops are out, the Forsythia is in bloom, and the buds on the trees have swollen suggestively. Nor have indications of vernal warmth been observed in the latitude of the metropolis alone. This genial visitation has been reported also from the Adirondacks and Northern Vermont, where its occurrence must be regarded as much more phenomenal. Of course, there will be temporary reactions of greater or less severity, but ethereal mildness has now prevailed long enough to be entitled to formal recognition.

An early spring was to be expected, perhaps, from the behavior of winter. The seasons show a notable disregard of the almanac. They begin with a freakish indifference to the calendar, sometimes erasing unaccountable slughtness and sometimes betraying undue promptitude. One need not look back many years to find winters that did not open until February and extended well into March. The last onset of practically continuous cold weather, however, came unusually early. If it did not prove particularly trying, the winter of 1902-'03 attained its legitimate length by the first of March. Another natural anticipation has been realized, too, in the last few weeks. One season seldom gives way to its successor gradually. The transition is likely to be rather abrupt. Whatever be the explanation, the fact is that the chapters into which the meteorological year is divided are, with rare exceptions, fairly distinct from one another. The initiation of the present spring was a little better defined than that of some others, possibly, but not enough so to justify surprise.

By most people the change will be welcomed. The exceptionally high price of fuel during the last eight or ten months is a strong, even if