Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—8—The Wizard of Oz.
AMERICAN—8:15—Down the Pike.
BELASCO—8:15—The Music Master.
BIJOU—8:25—Mrs. Black Is Back.
BROADWAY—Closed this week.
CIRCLE—2—8—Vaudeville.
CRITERION—8:30—A Wife Without a Smile.
DALY'S—Closed this week.
EDEN MUSEE—World in Wax.
EMPIRE—8:30—The Duke of Killicrankie.
GARDEN—8:20—The College Widow.
GARRICK—8:15—Brother Jacques.
HAMMERSTEIN'S VICTORIA—2—8:15—Vaudeville.
HARLEM—8:15—Joseph Entangled.
HERALD SQUARE—8:10—The School Girl.
HUDSON—8:20—Sunday.
IRVING PLACE—8:20—Sodom's Ende.
KNICKERBOCKER—8:15—The Usurper.
LEW FIELDS'—8—It Happened in Nordland.
LIBERTY—8:20—Little Johnny Jones.
LYCEUM—8:30—Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace.
LYRIC—8:15—The Fortunes of the King.
MAJESTIC—8:15—Dorothy Vernon of Haddon Hall.
MANHATTAN—8:15—Leah Kleschna.
MADISON SQUARE GARDEN—2—8—St. Louis Fair and Pike.
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE—8—La Traviata.
NEW-AMSTERDAM—8:15—Humpty Dumpty.
NEW-YORK—8:15—Woodland.
PRINCESS—8:15—Richelieu.
SAVOY—8:15—Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch.
WALLACK'S—8:20—The Sho-Gun.
WEBER'S MUSIC HALL—8—Vaudeville.
WEST END—8:15—The Sign of the Four.

Index to Advertisements.

	Page.	Col.		Page.	Col.
Amusements	14	6	Instruction	13	4
Bankers & Brokers	13	2	Jewelry	11	5
Board and Rooms	11	5	Lost	11	6
Brooklyn Property for Sale	13	4	Ocean Steamers	13	5
Candies	11	1	Office Furniture	11	6
Carpet Cleaning	11	2	Proposals	13	6
Country Property for Sale	13	4	Public Accountants	13	3
Dividend Notices	13	4	Railroads	13	5-6
Domestic Situations Wanted	11	7-8	Real Estate	13	4
Dressmaking & Millinery	11	5	Savings Banks	13	3
Drygoods	11	5-6	Steamboats	13	5
Employment Agencies	11	6	Sporting Goods	4	1
Excursions	13	3	Surrogate's Notices	11	3
Financial	13	3	Trust Companies	13	2
For Sale	11	4	To Let for Business Purposes	13	4
Help Wanted	11	6	Unfurnished Apartments to Let	13	4
			Winter Resorts	11	2
			Work Wanted	11	6-7

New-York Daily Tribune.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1904.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—The series of assaults on Port Arthur, ending in the capture of 203-Metre Hill, is described in General Stoessel's dispatches, which reached Che-Foo on Friday, and were in part made public at St. Petersburg yesterday; the Russian commander estimates the Japanese losses at 22,000 men, and praises the gallantry of the troops; one Russian general died from his wounds; the crest of 203-Metre Hill, it is added, is swept by the forts' fire, and can be used only for observation. ==== Commander Mizzenoff, of the Poltava, who brought the dispatches to Che-Foo, said that the garrison now numbered 16,000; eight thousand men were in the hospitals; provisions, he said, were sufficient to last three months, and the ammunition was being husbanded for assaults. ==== A dispatch from Tokio said that the battleship Sevastopol had been struck ten times by Japanese torpedoes and was completely disabled. ==== Food and fuel are reported scarce in the neighborhood of Moukden, and the Chinese are suffering; the military situation is unchanged. ==== Major Kuhn, U. S. A., has been reassigned to witness the fall of Port Arthur. ==== The Porte has objected to the Austro-Russian plan to increase the number of foreign officers in the Macedonian gendarmerie.

DOMESTIC.—It was expected in Washington that there would be no quorum when the House meets to-day. ==== The testimony of John F. Wallace, chief engineer of the Isthmian Canal Commission, before the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, regarding the relative availability of the various plans proposed for the Panama Canal, was made public. ==== A fire occurred in an infant asylum at Providence, R. I.; one hundred and fifty children were saved by the nuns, who showed great bravery; four persons were burned. ==== The State Hospital at Middletown, N. Y., narrowly escaped destruction by fire; a panic was averted by the coolness of the attendants. ==== A tug reported at Woods Hole, Mass., that fifteen schooners were driven ashore at Vineyard Haven, while others were damaged in collisions. ==== A storm of blizzard severity was reported along the southern New-England coast, with all wires on Cape Cod down; three barges went ashore on Fisher's Island, and the crews were rescued by means of the breeches buoy. ==== Two feet of snow fell at Newport, badly tying up traffic. ==== New regulations for life saving apparatus on steam vessels, suggested by the supervising inspectors, have been approved by Secretary Metcalfe. ==== The Textile Council at Fall River voted to submit an arbitration proposition for the settlement of the strike there to the individual unions; in case of their approval on Tuesday the National Civic Federation will be asked to choose a board of arbitration.

CITY.—A car jumped a switch and caused a blockade for two hours on the Second and Third ave. elevated roads; reserves were called out to protect the ticket sellers from angry crowds. ==== The snowfall amounted to a record; the work of removing the snow was pushed. ==== Supervising Inspector Harris received orders to investigate the burning of the Glen Island. ==== The police found a complete counterfeiting outfit and hundreds of dollars of spurious coin in the rooms of a woman friend of a prisoner. ==== A woman was killed by a fall from a house, part of which had been torn down and which had been condemned as unsafe. ==== Two firemen rescued a man from the harbor with the aid of a snow scraper. ==== Senator Thomas C. Platt arrived here from Washington. ==== The steamer St. Paul arrived after an exceedingly rough passage.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Fair. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 35 degrees; lowest, 24.

THE FLEET AND THE LAW.

It is not in the least surprising that Japan feels some irritation at the reports of French hospitality to the Russian fleet. It is said that France has practically placed her coaling stations at Russia's disposal, all the way from Western Europe to Eastern Asia. Diego Suarez is mentioned as the place of meeting of the two divisions of the quondam Baltic fleet, at which they will receive supplies of coal, make repairs and prepare for their further voyaging toward the China seas. Next they may put in at Saigon, and there make final preparations for the life or death struggle which will occur the moment they come into touch with the Japanese. It is obvious that these privileges, if they are indeed being extended, are of enormous advantage to the Russians. It would scarcely be too much to say that they make possible what would otherwise be practically impossible. It is not at all certain that such a fleet could make the trip from the Baltic to the Yellow Sea without putting into intermediate ports for supplies and repairs. It is certain that if it could do so, it would arrive in the Yellow Sea in a condition hopelessly unfit for immediate service. If France is opening her ports to the Russian ships, she is enabling Russia to do what she could not otherwise have done. No wonder that the Japanese feel annoyed.

The question of Japan's legal grievance against France or any other power for thus aiding the Russian fleet is, however, an entirely different matter. There is a common idea that international law positively prohibits the harboring of a belligerent fleet for more than twenty-four hours, and the furnishing to it of more coal than enough to take it to the nearest home port. That idea is not well founded. Any nation is competent to make such a rule for the government of its own conduct toward belligerent ships, but it is not incumbent upon any to do so. There is no hard and fast prescription of international law to that effect. There is no universal compact to that end among the powers. There is no agreement upon it on the part of writers upon international law. Some authorities declare outright that a neutral nation, without violating neutrality, may give asylum to a belligerent fleet as long as it pleases, and may permit it to take coal in any quantity. The only requirement is that the neutral nation shall in such matters treat both belligerents alike. It may be recalled that within the last century some nations have openly proclaimed their readiness to act as "honest brokers" in coal and other supplies, to any extent, to all belligerents.

France will have, then, a ground of defence for her conduct in thus aiding the fleet of her ally, and Japan, however much she may dislike that conduct, will apparently have no valid ground of legal protest. She might, perhaps, put France's neutrality to the test, by sending some of her own ships westward, to coal at French ports on the way, and to enjoy the hospitality of Marseilles or Brest for a time. If she should, we assume French courtesy, hospitality and neutrality would not be found lacking. The whole question is, however, one of those which might well form the subject of deliberate international discussion at such a congress as that which the President desires to assemble at The Hague. Hitherto various questions of international law, particularly those pertaining to war at sea, have been considered at conferences held at the end of wars, and as the result of wars or to settle their issues. It would seem to be a more rational plan, though it is a novel one, to summon such a conference without reference to any particular war, but rather with the object of avoiding or at least ameliorating future wars. A congress held now at The Hague would not pass upon the propriety of France's treatment of the Russian fleet, but it might, as a result of its immediate study of that treatment, formulate some rule upon the subject which would hold good in all future wars and would leave neither belligerent, at the outbreak of a war, in uncertainty as to the conduct of neutral powers.

MR. TAFT ON THE ISTHMUS.

Secretary Taft has been to Panama and returned. The cable has briefly reported the substance of the administrative order which was issued after conference with the Panama authorities, and which places our operations in the canal zone on a basis satisfactory to the Panamans. The larger aspects of the work done by Secretary Taft, however, have received little attention. On another page this morning we publish a review of the mission by a member of the Tribune staff who accompanied Secretary Taft.

In discussing the Panama arrangement it is important to note that the Secretary of War has made no new treaty. Neither has he attempted to put any gloss upon the treaty or by a process of interpretation to modify its terms. The treaty stands in its full original force and effect. All that the Secretary has done is in his capacity of administrator acting under the President's designation in accordance with the act of Congress. Having seen at first hand the situation on the isthmus, he has found reason to modify some administrative policies based on an a priori understanding of the governmental problem. He has also by his frank and conciliatory spirit been able to remove suspicions as to American purposes springing partly from measures not exactly adapted to isthmian conditions, partly from the strangeness of our laws and partly from the mere difference of race and temperament. Panama now thoroughly understands that our one purpose is to dig and maintain a canal, that our administration will be conducted with a sincere regard for her welfare and that her independence and peace will be maintained.

The most important modification of governmental methods made by Secretary Taft is the abandonment of the plan to enforce the American tariff between Panama and the canal zone. On investigation the Secretary concluded that the original order was a mistake. Its issuance was natural enough. The zone was for practical purposes brought into the American system, and the traffic incident to building the canal would be large and might most conveniently be free. So the carrying of our external tariff boundary around it was the most obvious method to facilitate this commerce. The establishment of such a barrier between two parts of what are the same country, and even the same town, however, would be burdensome to the local inhabitants, and so for purposes of local trade the line between the Panama territory and our leasehold is ignored.

More valuable than any adjustment of specific questions was Secretary Taft's revelation to Panama of the American spirit and purpose. The ideal which he held up of "a government "that shall know no changes, except those according to the rules of law and the Constitution," and his admonition that the rights of minorities must be respected by majorities in a free State were most salutary, and evidently made a deep impression. Panama understands that the United States, as the guarantor of her independence and having a paramount interest in peaceful isthmian traffic, will not tolerate revolutions. Panama's liberties will be protected and the rights of her people scrupulously respected, but they must maintain orderly civilized government and settle their differences at the ballot box. Panama understands this, and is well pleased with the prospect of progress and of rescue from the characteristic evils of South American republics.

CANADA AND IMPERIAL DEFENCE.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, in introducing a deputation to Mr. Balfour the other day, took occasion to hint to the colonies that they ought to be contributors to the defence of the empire. With ten millions of colonists in widely scattered parts of the globe, it is scarcely to be wondered at that the forty millions of taxpayers in the United Kingdom should show a tendency to restlessness under the burden of empire and that they should suggest to the colonies that the latter ought no longer to expect to be treated as children, but to come forward and share the burdens of imperial defence. This, in fact, was the hint given courteously, but none the less plainly, by Sir Michael Hicks-Beach and by the Premier in their remarks to the deputation.

Still, the problem is by no means an easy one of solution. While the colonies, particularly Canada, have recently given plain indications that they are not to be treated as children, but, like Kipling's "Lady of the Snows," view themselves as daughters in their mother's home but mistresses in their own, it is evident that the line of duty and privilege has not yet been clearly drawn, and also that there may be great difficulty in drawing it. If Mr. Chamberlain's dreams of empire can be realized, well and good; but there are some very troublesome questions to be met and solved before its realization. The United Kingdom may justly complain that the burden of imperial armament falls upon it alone, but it is not yet ready, apparently, to welcome relief on the only terms which Canada, for instance, will be willing to offer it. As "The Pall Mall Gazette" asks, Why should South Africa and Australia be expected to give voluntary contributions if Canada goes free? And why should Canada contribute to a defence fund in the expenditure of which she has no voice? "The Westminster Gazette" figures it out that the contribution Canada ought to make in proportion to population would be $12,750,000, while, on the same basis, Australia and New-Zealand should furnish $15,750,000.

Evidently the time is coming, even if not already at hand, when there must be an understanding upon this subject between the mother and her daughters as to the common expense for common purposes, chief of which is the naval defence of the empire. Yet so far, with the exception of Mr. Chamberlain's proposals, Englishmen do not seem to have considered that it will be useless to ask for the financial co-operation of their colonies unless they are prepared to grant them representation either at Westminster or in some other equally direct way. As the great Earl of Chatham insisted with stirring eloquence at the time the thirteen colonies and the mother country came to the parting of the ways, taxation and representation are inseparable. Has the lesson of more than a hundred years ago been learned thoroughly, or will a similar mistake be made in reference to the daughters now nearly full grown? Mr. Chamberlain, and probably Mr. Balfour, realize that this is a question of the immediate future, but the leisure with which it is approached as yet gives small promise of its speedy settlement.

THE "PEACE" OF DOMESTIC SERVICE.

Mr. Carnegie has certainly been a fortunate man. Persons who envy him his wealth or his power to do good must feel that those are, after all, among the lesser blessings of one who through a long life has had the happy experience of domestic peace which enabled him to write thus to the National Civic Federation:

> We should always remember with satisfaction that peace reigns in six-sevenths of the industrial world. There are only seven out of twenty-two millions engaged in gainful pursuits, in mechanical and manufacturing occupations. Now, we hear nothing of war in the agricultural branch, which of itself has more than ten millions of workers. The farmer and his farmhands co-operate peacefully and their relations are satisfactory, as we safely infer from the absence of quarrel between them. In domestic service, comprising five and one-half millions, all is peace. Perhaps in this department the relations of employer and employed are most satisfactory of all. How very few are the homes with servants in which we do not find several old retainers, old nurses or old butlers, old coachmen, old gardeners, who pass their old age in comfort as part of the household and valued friends!
>
> These facts lead us to the cause of much of the tension and strife found in the manufacturing and mechanical departments. It rests just here. The former bring in the personal equation, and into the latter nowadays that scarcely enters. It is these personal relations, the knowledge of the virtues of the employer and employed revealed to each other, creating mutual regard, that establish the reign of peace in agricultural and domestic service.

"The reign of peace in domestic service"! It is a reign of peace which suggests Tacitus's phrase about those who make a desert and call it peace. A limited number of families have had Mr. Carnegie's experience with the "old retainers." But from millions of American homes goes up a continual cry over the hopelessly unsatisfactory condition of domestic service. Those who have many servants and pay high prices may receive satisfaction, but the domestic labor in the great majority of American homes is irresponsible and only half competent.

There are, indeed, no organized strikes on the farm or in the kitchen. Nevertheless, these two fields of employment are, for both employers and employes, in an unsatisfactory state. The farm hand or house servant who is dissatisfied moves on to another place, so there is no occasion for the strike or the boycott. But both of these callings are unpopular with workers.

Domestic and farm labor are, of all employments, least transformed to meet modern conditions. What course evolution will take with them it would be rash to predict, but certainly some change will come. Some way must be found to make the farm attractive to intelligent men and the household attractive to faithful women. The patriarchal plan which still survives is an evident failure for the majority, but necessary farm and household conditions are ill adapted to any yet discovered substitute.

TEXAS AND CALIFORNIA OIL.

A queer but not necessarily fabulous story comes from Texas. In one of the new oil fields near Houston there is said to have been an astonishing outbreak several days ago. The petroleum was forced from existing wells with increased violence and with a deafening roar. It is asserted that rocks were ejected with the fluid, that they wrecked adjacent buildings on which they fell, that fissures in the ground opened and permitted the exudation of mud and that the air was filled with phosphorescent vapors, which made an imposing spectacle at night.

As most of the testimony comes from a person having an interest in booming one of several oil producing regions in the Lone Star State, it would be safe to discount the narrative a little, but it is not intrinsically improbable. It is credible that the pressure upon a subterranean reservoir of oil had been augmented suddenly by an event closely akin to an earthquake. Precedents for such an occurrence might be hard to find, but until geologists say that it is absurd the possibility may be taken for granted, especially as the unusual demonstrations apparently lasted less than an hour. Besides, partial corroboration of the story is afforded by the officers of a steamship which arrived in New-York Harbor from Galveston last week. The San Jacinto, while a hundred and fifty miles south of New-Orleans recently, ran through an extensive film of oil. Some of her crew report seeing what they took to be petroleum bubbling upward on the surface from below. The incident is susceptible of more than one interpretation, but it is permissible to believe that it was in some mysterious manner related to the strange outbreak near Houston several days afterward.

These developments will remind the reader of the first startling discoveries of petroleum in the Southwest a few years ago and the remarkable growth of the production there within a short time. They also furnish occasion for noticing how much more marvellous has been the gain in the output of the Pacific Coast. According to the United States Geological Survey, the yield in Texas for 1903 was nearly 18,000,000 barrels, but was a trifle smaller than that of 1902. California last year produced more than 24,000,000 barrels, and showed an increase of fully 10,000,000! At different times in the past Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio have enjoyed the honor of supplying the largest share of America's petroleum. Last year every one of them, like Texas, showed a falling off, while California took the foremost place! A single county, Kern, contributed 74 per cent of the oil of that State, and hence was entitled to three-fourths of the glory. By her enormous production of gold and silver, by her agricultural wealth, by her giant redwoods and by her wonderful scenery California has long excited the admiration of the world, but it looks as if she had other amazing resources in reserve which are only now coming into view.

MONEY AND BUSINESS.

Stock market operations of late have been sufficiently erratic to gratify the most inveterate gambler, but are not calculated to develop confidence among conservative men. New-York financial methods have suffered in the eyes of the world, and it will take a period of sober earnestness to regain the reputation for solidity that American securities had attained in international markets. It matters not whether the collapse was directly due to the attack of one man, or whether he was used by bigger men to accomplish a definite purpose, or whether the previous advance had so inflated quotations that the market was susceptible to any adverse influence; the fact remains that prices collapsed violently for no apparent reason, recovered a large part of the loss, and then went still lower by such large fluctuations that only those speculators who were well protected were able to survive the second downward movement. After such a demonstration it was not at all surprising that prices developed irregularity and the market became dull. Confidence had been impaired. With railway earnings consistently showing good gains over the corresponding time last year, despite the fact that the St. Louis exposition is over, it is evident that the earning capacity of the various properties has not suffered, and the large orders recently placed for rolling stock and equipment indicate that there is confidence in a large volume of business next year. Yet the general public may view Wall Street askance for some time to come.

Considering the erratic movements of the stock market and the resumption of gold exports, the money market has remained remarkably easy. To some extent the liquidation of securities accounts for the heavy contraction of loans in the associated bank statement, to which was due the gratifying gain in surplus reserve. A large consignment of currency went to the Pacific Coast, and all the gold bars in the Assay Office were engaged for shipment abroad, while a considerable amount was taken in coin for foreign account. While it is true that rates of foreign exchange shifted in the direction of a profit for shippers, it is still probable that the last few exports of gold were accomplished only on special terms, dictated by the urgency of requirements abroad. Gross gold in the government vaults was drawn down to $700,000,000, but there still appears to be a sufficient supply of the yellow metal to prevent any anxiety. Meanwhile the month of December has brought a slight balance on the right side on regular Treasury operations, reducing the deficit for the fiscal year to $24,000,000.

Holiday goods still monopolize attention in the various retail markets. The effect of weather upon business has been very different in various parts of the country, but on the whole there is a seasonable movement of heavy weight apparel, fuel and similar lines, and the volume is distinctly larger than for the corresponding time last year, which is clearly shown by the large gains in bank exchanges through the various clearing houses. At this time of the year and during the next few weeks there is usually much interruption to business through stock taking and inventories and repairs of machinery; but owing to the unusual quiet that prevailed early in the year it is not likely that conditions will call for as much attention as usual on these accounts, and as there is every indication of a large volume of trade in 1905, vigorous efforts will be made to push work rapidly and make the holiday season as short as possible. In view of the fact that there has been a good deal of idleness during the year, full occupation will probably be welcomed by all classes of wage earners. Reports from Fall River suggest that the controversy there will be settled shortly, and aside from this struggle there is comparatively little friction between capital and labor.

A little better movement of wheat at the Atlantic seaboard indicates that prices declined low enough to attract some foreign purchasing, but the domestic situation has not improved, Northwestern flour mills grinding below normal, and there is much complaint of the accumulation on railroad docks and in storehouses. While the price has declined very materially from the top point of the season, there is still such a wide excess above normal that even domestic consumers postpone purchases as far as possible. As dealers have stocked up sufficiently to carry them over the holidays, the milling situation cannot be expected to change until next year. Gradual improvement in corn exports is not sufficient to neutralize the effects of rapidly expanding receipts, and the tone of this cereal is also unsettled. Provisions are slightly easier, as might be expected with hog packing at the West averaging about 100,000 head weekly more than in 1903. Speculators who were long of cotton have tried to persuade planters to hold on to their crop, but the time is not propitious, because holiday money is needed. Some recovery from eight cents may occur, however, because the decline was probably carried to excess, as is usual in such cases.

Another week has greatly improved the manufacturing outlook, except where the elements interfere. Dealers in most lines are preparing for a large business next year, which results in great activity at mills and factories. As a rule, woollen mills have sufficient raw material to carry them several months, but the prospect for higher prices is such that manufacturers are constantly in the market attending to future needs. Cotton mills at the South are generally well occupied, but Fall River operatives are returning slowly, and buyers of cotton goods are tempted to wait for still lower prices. Fewer contracts are being received by New-England manufacturers of boots and shoes, because of the small advance in price made necessary by the recent change in raw material. Not only were pig iron producers able to maintain the former advance, but quotations have gained 50 cents more, and large purchases are recorded by the leading consumer. Mills that have been idle for many months are starting up, and the industry is in a better position than at any recent date.

The prevailing feeling in the Republican party is, we believe, favorable to conservative tariff revision, but if some of our free trade friends want to defeat the movement they will have a fair chance by urging it as a warfare against protection.

The old "Lion of the Transvaal," as shown by his political testament to the people he led so long, died unconquered and unconquerable, and in his last message endeavored to inspire his former fellow countrymen with his own spirit. If they follow his advice the era of good will will be a long time coming, and its eventual arrival can only be accomplished by just and enlightened treatment and policies. That such a course in the end will win, as it has long ago won in our own Southland, is the hope of the new rulers of South Africa.

There is still a Kossuth in Hungary, and he is right in the centre of the parliamentary tempest. Is history once more to repeat itself?

Mr. Howells, writing from an Italian olive grove, says he is sick of sunshine and of calms and would like to see "a naked elm tree shuddering in a good old northeasterly storm." And those who see the elm tree and shudder like it in the storm think of Italian sunshine and olive groves with a sigh. Such is life!

This is the week when delayed Christmas shoppers give clerks their annual lesson in the strenuous life.

According to the census returns, St. Joseph, Mo., is the healthiest city in the United States, its death rate being only 9.1 in a thousand. Will St. Joseph kindly disclose its valuable secret?

Keep up the good work of revoking permits of milk dealers whose product falls in any way below the standard, Dr. Darlington!

King Edward seems to have formally recognized that this is the age of steel. His new seal is of steel, instead of silver, according to immemorial custom.

Teachers of cooking classes in tenement house kitchens say that about 90 per cent of their pupils are Germans, and that Swedes and Irish follow next, with only now and then an American. Possibly this may represent about the proper percentage as to the nationalities in the tenement houses; but it is at least significant that Germans lead. The Germans are great homemakers.

PERSONAL.

The uniform of the President of the French Republic, designed by the master tailors of Paris, is to consist of a coat "a la Française, embroidered in gold, trousers with an embroidered stripe and a three cornered hat. Similar costumes are suggested for the president of the Senate and the president of the Chamber of Deputies. That for the chief of the State is white, for the president of the Senate blue and for the president of the Chamber red." Thus when the three officials stand together on any public occasion they will present the national colors.

"I have heard many good stories on Governor Atkinson of Georgia, who served the State from 1895 to 1899, but the best one I heard not a long time ago," said W. M. Miller, of Savannah, to a "Milwaukee Sentinel" reporter. "During one of his visits to a convict camp he called at one of the coal mines to make a thorough inspection of the condition of the convicts at work. Two guards accompanied him to the bottom of the shaft, and were showing him everything of interest. Finally, they took him to the place where the convicts were working. When the party approached the gang of convicts, one of them rushed up and said: 'Bill Atkinson, as sure as you are alive. I never expected to see you here. What did they send you here for?' It was one of the men he had known since childhood."

Bishop Mallalieu, who has just passed his seventy-sixth birthday, is one of the hardest workers among churchmen. Aside from his duties as bishop, he is writing a book, "Moses, the Man of God," is at work on a long article on Dante's "Divine Comedy," in which the religious attitude of that author will be compared with that of Milton and Shakespeare, and is preparing three volumes of translations of the sermons of the French Protestant, Bersier.

King Edward has given to the monks of the Great St. Bernard Monastery a piano to replace the one given by his mother half a century ago.

A pension has been granted by the government of Sweden to Pierre Ibsen, brother of the dramatist. He is a lighthouse keeper.

The small prejudice against color in England is exhibited in the case of Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, a mulatto, who is hailed as "a great English composer," and at the Leeds musical festival not long ago led an orchestra of 140 performers with an immense chorus. Taylor married an Englishwoman and has two children, a boy and a girl. The latter is a blonde, with blue eyes and flaxen hair.

E. W. Hoch, Governor-elect of Kansas, published the following notice on the first page of his paper, "The Marion Record," last week: "As the editor of this paper will leave Marion temporarily in a few weeks, he is especially anxious to settle up with every one who owes him and whom he owes before he leaves. Won't all our debtors kindly respond to this request at once? We are sure those we owe will!—E. W. Hoch."

Judge A. B. Dissette, who retired from the bench of the Court of Common Pleas, in Cleveland, when his term expired recently, purposes to devote the rest of his life to giving free advice and aid to those unable to pay for legal services. "Ten years on the bench," he says, "have shown me the necessity of such a practical philanthrophy. The poor man undoubtedly is at a great disadvantage in court because of his inability to engage competent counsel, and I know of no way which a lawyer can do more good than in remedying this unavoidable defect as much as lies in his power."

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

Here is a bit of wisdom from the English bench. "I used to regard motor cars as nuisances," said Judge Lumley Smith, in the City of London Court the other day, when a man whose car damaged the parapet of a bridge at Hendon and who, with two friends, was precipitated into the water was ordered to pay a fine for its repair.

"I hope you don't think so now," said the defendant.

"It all depends," was the judge's reply. "If I am in a motor I don't, but when I am walking I do."

THE CALENDAR.

A little bit of sunshine,
 A little bit of snow,
A little heap of autumn leaves
 Where roses used to grow;
A little bit of darkness,
 And a little bit of day,
A smile and then a sigh
 For little pleasures passed away.

A little bit of folly
 And a little bit of sense,
A little bit of saving
 And a little wild expense;
A little bit of sorrow
 And a little bit of cheer,
A little bit of waiting
 And we've rounded out the year.
—(Washington Star.

A curious question has arisen in the Maine courts. Last winter several important cases were tried at the January session for Androscoggin County and marked "law court." Immediately after the term ended the court stenographer died, and no one can be found who can translate his notes, because of his peculiar system of shorthand. Must they be retried, and, if so, at whose expense?

Changed His Mind.—A tramp, dirty and ragged to the last degree, called at a house on the door of which was a doctor's sign. A large, rather masculine looking woman opened the door.

"'Scuse me, lady," said the tramp, "but I just called to ask if the doctor had any old clothes he'd let me have. You see, I'm kind o' bad off fer all kind o' clothes, an' I'd be much obleeged fer anything the doctor could let me have, an' I ain't perticklar as to the fit."

The woman smiled, and made reply:

"I am the doctor."

"Sufferin' Moses!" ejaculated the tramp, as he made a beeline for the gate.—(Lippincott's Magazine.

"The Booster," of Brimson (Mo.), describes the first wedding celebrated in that metropolis as follows: "The first wedding of a Brimson person in Brimson occurred Monday evening, when Miss Mary Salyars and John Mack were married at the residence of the bride's parents, in North Hannah-ave. (Brimson), at high 7 o'clock. They were married by the beautiful silver dollar ceremony, the presiding officer, Judge Seymour Oyler, instructing the groom to present that much of the fee to the bride. The bride wore a blue dress with skirt of three gores, tastefully trimmed in brass buttons, and later entertained the company by singing unaided that beautiful ballad entitled 'The boy who broke the Sabbath and got into the penitentiary.' The bride has lived here only a short time and has made many friends. The groom is an industrious young man, and 'The Booster' wishes them great happiness. They are visiting at Tindall, but Mr. Mack may join his father-in-law in the blacksmithing business here."

The Color of It.—Towne—Now that young Rakeley has come in for his uncle's millions, I suppose he'll paint things a vivid red.

Browne—Yes, I guess he'll be a regular vermillionaire.—(Philadelphia Press.

A London cabman had brought suit against a woman for not paying the legal fare, and his constant remark was, "She ain't a lady." "Do you know a lady when you see one?" asked the judge. "I do, yer honor. Last week a lady gave me a sov'rin instead of a shillin', and I called: 'Beg pardon, madam, I've got a sov'rin instead of a shillin,' and she shouts back: 'Well, you old fool, keep the change and get drunk with it!' That's wot I calls a lady!"

THE PATH OF PROGRESS.

[Luther Burbank, of California, has perfected a fadeless flower.]

The horseless carriage whizzes by,
 With puff and dash and slam;
Through every breath of ours may fly
 A wireless telegram;
The seedless raisin on the plate
 We joyfully devour;
Things are perfected while we wait—
 Here comes the fadeless flower.

The coreless apple is announced;
 The whipless school is here—
No scholar any more is trounced
 By teacher kind and dear;
The scentless onion now is grown—
 Improvement every hour
Into the scheme of things is thrown:
 Behold the fadeless flower!

The jokeless comedy we see;
 The tailless horse we drive;
The honey served to you and me
 Comes from a beeless hive;
Buckwheatless buckwheat cakes we eat,
 And gather strengthless power;
Some new thing every day we greet—
 Observe the fadeless flower.

Oh, would they freeze some meltless ice;
 Or make some footless gas,
Or furnish coal without a price—
 Fate is unkind, alas!
Henceforth the maiden fair to see
 Will grow reserved and sour,
And say: "Bring withered blooms to me—
 No cheap old fadeless flower!"
—(Chicago Tribune.

"The Philadelphia Ledger" tells of two women of that town who had been on a tour of the country and were discussing their expenses. "One hears strange stories about Chicago," said one, "but I never believed half of them until I went there a while ago on a visit. Will you believe, my dear, that I went to dinner where there was a little silver trumpet beside each soup plate?" "What were they for?" inquired the other. "I didn't know at first, but I found out later that they were called 'soup coolers,' and were used for blowing the soup!" said the travelled one.

DIRECTLY OPPOSITE.

They say that opposites should wed:
 Too much alike, you'll clash;
And so I'm looking for a girl
 Possessed of lots of cash!
—(Lippincott's Magazine.

An almost unparalleled circumstance is noted in the lives of Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher Jones, of Johnson, Vt., who passed the sixtieth anniversary of their marriage December 5. Not once in their married life has death entered the home circle. Their five children are all living, also their grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Proud Lineage.—"She comes of an old and distinguished family."

"I saw no portraits of ancestors in her house."

"Very true. That is not the American mode. In her safety deposit vault she has the vermiform appendices of no fewer than four generations in the direct line, preserved in alcohol."—(Life.

MUSIC.

The Symphony Orchestra.

For the third of his concerts with the New-York Symphony Orchestra in Carnegie Hall yesterday afternoon Mr. Walter Damrosch enlisted the co-operation of M. Ysaye, and had his reward. Though ordinary concert prices prevailed, the large room was crowded, and M. Ysaye's playing called forth unbounded enthusiasm. He played Beethoven's concerto in his best manner, by which is meant not a manner that is flawless, but one so permeated with lofty beauties that its defects are forgotten as soon as they are observed. He was much more at ease than on the occasion of his first appearance and played the whole concerto with opulent tone, the slow movement with seraphic serenity and the final rondo with great breadth and vigor. Altogether, he has put nothing better to his record in this city.

Mr. Damrosch began the concert with Mozart's one act comedy with music, "Der Schauspieldirektor," and followed the concerto with Tschaikowsky's "Pathetic" symphony. It fell to him to introduce the symphony in America, and his interest in it is therefore pardonable. Neverthless, there seems to be danger of overworking the Tschaikowsky cult this season. The Philharmonic Society has already produced one of his symphonies, and has another and the violin concerto underlined for the next concert under the Russian conductor Safonoff. In all likelihood he will repeat the "Pathétique," with which he created a furor last season at the fifth concert. What with these performances and the pieces on the list of the Russian Symphony Society, there is just a little danger that Tschaikowsky's music will soon begin to grow threadbare.

An interesting contribution to the history of the sixth symphony is contained in the concluding chapter of the biography of the composer, written by his brother, Modest Tschaikowsky. From this it appears that the title epithet "Pathetic" did not originate with the composer, and though it was adopted by him for a time, it was cancelled before the publication of the work. Tschaikowsky, it appears, first contemplated calling it "Programme Symphony," but inasmuch as he stubbornly refused to divulge what the programme was, he realized the ineptness of the term. His biographer says: "When I came to breakfast the next morning (the morning after the symphony had had its first performance) I found Peter Iljitsch sitting at the tea table with the score of the sixth symphony in his hand. He had agreed to send it to Jurgenson in Moscow on that day, and he was pondering over a title for it. He did not want to leave it unnamed and designated only by a number, and he was out of conceit with the title 'Programme Symphony.' 'What significance has programme symphony if I refuse to tell what the programme is?' I proposed that it be called 'Tragic Symphony,' but that did not please him. I left the room before he had come to a decision. Suddenly the title 'Pathetic' occurred to me. I returned to the room—I remember it as distinctly as if it had happened yesterday—and mentioned it to Peter Iljitsch. 'Excellent, Modi! Bravo, Pathetic!' And in my presence he wrote the title which has clung to it ever since." After he had sent the score to the publisher, Jurgenson, however, he wrote a letter asking that the symphony be simply designated as No. 6.

The Mozart overture, a bright and merry little piece, proved to be an interesting novelty. The concluding number of the programme was Vieuxtemps's "Ballade and Polonaise" for violin and orchestra.

A PLAYFUL SPEECH BY IRVING.

At a banquet in honor of Sir Henry Irving given by the Lord Mayor of Liverpool, on November 30, at the Town Hall of that place, the actor delivered the following playful speech, reminiscent of his early days of professional hardship and struggle:

My Lord Mayor, I am deeply sensible of the high courtesy which has made me your guest to-day and of the most gratifying terms in which you have been good enough to speak of me and of my associations with this great city. I have known Liverpool nearly fifty years. I remember it in the days which were for me days of apprenticeship and struggle, but also of considerable buoyancy, stimulated by the kindness which has culminated now and in this distinguished company. Perhaps I was not quite so buoyant in the year 1860 as to anticipate the course that events were to take. In that year I spent a fortnight in Liverpool, and played a modest engagement at the old Theatre Royal. Five years later I was here again and did something or other at the St. James's Hall, in Lime-st. The eye of a young man is sometimes very prophetic; at any rate it often seems to him in after years that he used to see a long way ahead. But I don't think my prophetic eye saw me across the gulf which separated St. James's Hall from the Town Hall. What I did in Lime-st. I have forgotten—but what other people did, or failed to do, had the effect of leaving me to walk about that thoroughfare with a total lack of anything tangible to cling to. I must have indulged at that time in a good deal of airy speculation. There was nothing else to indulge in—but I am inclined to doubt whether I came down to the Exchange flags and took a good look at the Town Hall, and said to myself: "Well, there's a capital lunch and there's uncommonly good company there for me—about forty years from now!" To the uneasy wayfarer in Lime-st. there came in that year 1865 a stroke of fortune in the shape of a six months' engagement at the Prince of Wales Theatre, in Slayton Square. From that time dates the encouragement I have always found in Liverpool—encouragement I owe above all to my old friend Sir Edward Russell, one of the very finest critics of the drama this country has ever known. Sir Edward is a living refutation of the old-fashioned notion that when a man gives his mind to the drama he is fit for nothing else and should be watched with some anxiety by his friends. Yes, you have a practical example of this truth in Liverpool, which I should not call a sentimental or scatter-brained community; not a city where men run about looking for Utopia. And I am tempted to point this moral in favor of a municipal theatre.

This is now a pretty old hobby of mine, and, as I don't get the opportunity every day of showing its paces to the Lord Mayor of Liverpool, I might proceed to ride it for the rest of the afternoon. Don't be alarmed! I content myself with giving you a glimpse of the high-spirited animal. Yes, it is still high-spirited, in spite of years and labor and while I have breath I shall refuse to turn it out to grass. I take leave to imagine you, sir, associating the responsibilities of your high office with an active interest in the administration of a playhouse for the intelligent recreation of your fellow-citizens. I say no more than this—except that there is evidently delightful scope in the Town Hall for that hospitality which should relieve the anxieties of theatrical management without offence to the ratepayers, and hold out to every young recruit in the municipal stock company the bright promise of that privilege which I enjoy to-day. I take this great compliment you have paid me as a tribute to dramatic art as a serious pursuit. I use the word "serious" in your presence without any fear of misunderstanding, although it is sometimes assumed that an actor is a creature of humorous accident and quite incapable of any solid purpose. I have not found that to be so in the course of a long career which, whatever it may have achieved, has certainly been full of a pretty steady toil. I have always nursed the ambition to make the drama an appeal to the imagination—a means of lifting us to a higher plane of feeling without losing touch with the realities of life. That is the true function of the theatre—a function which can be exercised without robbing any playgoer of his legitimate amusement. The drama has its moods of irresponsible gayety; it also has the mood for an ideal which demands artistic devotion from its interpreters. It is in that spirit I have labored, however imperfectly, and I am very grateful for the recognition I have had the good fortune to win from you and the people of Liverpool.

SENATOR PLATT HERE.

To Work for the Re-election of Senator Depew.

Senator Thomas C. Platt arrived in the city yesterday afternoon and went to the Fifth Avenue Hotel. When he was seen last night he was averse to talking for publication. A statement of his attitude, however, was given in a dispatch from Washington in Saturday's Tribune. He is a sturdy advocate of Senator Chauncey M. Depew, and in the time that he is here he will do everything in his power to assure the re-election of his colleague. The Senator will remain here until Congress reconvenes after the holidays, and while here he will urge all his friends to stand by Mr. Depew. Although Mr. Platt would say nothing for publication yesterday, he seemed much in earnest as he talked of Senator Depew.

Governor Odell, who went to Newburg yesterday, will be back early this week, and it is expected that he will then have a talk with Senator Platt regarding the situation. Governor-elect Higgins may be down at the end of the week, and a general conference of leaders from all parts of the State will be held to consider the organization of the legislature, the election of a United States Senator and other matters.

E. G. BLACKFORD SERIOUSLY ILL.

Eugene G. Blackford, who has an extensive fish business in the Fulton Market and is one of the best known citizens of Brooklyn, is seriously ill at his home, No. 725 St. Mark's-ave., that borough. For two years he has been suffering from heart trouble, and several days ago had a severe attack. Last night it was said that his condition was somewhat improved. Mr. Blackford has been prominent in financial affairs, was the founder and president of the Bedford Bank. He is president of the Commission for the Improvement of Atlantic-ave.