

Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—2.8—Miser of Op. 48. ... THE NEW YORK OPERA HOUSE—2.1—Elliott's ... METRO-POLITAN OPERA HOUSE—2.1—Elliott's ...

Index to Advertisements.

Table with 2 columns: Page No. and Advertiser Name. Includes entries for Bankers & Brokers, Real Estate, and various business notices.

Business Notices.

To-morrow is "Hospital Sunday": Remember the sick poor in your Church Offerings.

New-York Daily Tribune

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1904.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—Advices from Russian and Japanese sources report the usual skirmishes south of the Shakkie River, but the general situation was unchanged.

DOMESTIC.—Secretary Hay's note to the press suggesting a further exchange of views in regard to a second peace conference at the Hague, was made public at the State Department.

CITY.—Stocks dull and strong. Charles F. Dodge arrived from Texas and was taken to the Manhattan Hotel for a check-up.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Fair and much colder. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 45 degrees; lowest, 33.

BEGINNING THE BARGE CANAL.

The bids that have been opened for the barge canal work not only reflect great credit on the engineering force that made the estimates on which the people were led to approve the project, but also on the present public officials who have, in the light of experience, safeguarded the State treasury.

whether it was practicable to utilize Sir Oliver's invention. The abortive attempt at a military revolution in Panama a few weeks ago forms the topic of an instructive letter from a member of the Tribune's staff, printed elsewhere in this morning's paper.

On the whole, therefore, it approves the method, and it finds that the prices have not been increased by the plan. This is a most encouraging outlook. There is no doubt that a great majority of the people want to see an enlarged canal suited to the needs of modern commerce, and one of the chief objections of the minority to the project was the fear that it would not be wisely and honestly carried out.

LEARNING WISDOM.

That the protests against the granting of a perpetual franchise for the cross-town branch tunnel under Ninth-st. were timely and judicious is shown by the fact that the Rapid Transit Commission has yielded to them.

Of course, it would not be fair to complain of such losses without due consideration of the fact that the use of all these franchises has contributed greatly to that metropolitan development which now permits terms favorable to the taxpayers to be exacted from the promoters of new enterprises.

A MAJORITY PRESIDENT.

It may seem rather late to make comments upon the Presidential vote of nearly two months ago, but the report of the official canvass, published in our columns yesterday, suggests the agreeable consideration that in an exceptional case Mr. Roosevelt will enter upon his next term of office as a "majority President."

BESIEGED BY FOG.

Owing to a combination of geographical and meteorological influences, England is bothered more frequently with fog than some other countries, but the siege which she endured for two or three days this week was unusually trying.

DR. DARLINGTON'S LATEST VICTORY.

Consumers of milk in this city are to be congratulated upon the ending of Dr. Darlington's campaign against the company which had been selling a poisoned article here. His evidence that formaldehyde was added to the milk before it reached New-York was so complete and convincing that he felt justified in proceeding in a new as well as a particularly aggressive manner.

CIVIL RULE IN PANAMA.

The abortive attempt at a military revolution in Panama a few weeks ago forms the topic of an instructive letter from a member of the Tribune's staff, printed elsewhere in this morning's paper.

Happily, however, such impulses did not prevail. That was because there was a strong force among the Panamanians themselves making for constitutional methods, and because American support of law and order were made unmistakably plain. Nor was there the least inconsistency in our disapproving, even practically forbidding, a revolution in November, 1904, in the very place where we had recognized one as an accomplished fact in November, 1903.

The outcome, effected expeditiously and without violence, was a complete victory for the constitution and for the supremacy of civil authority over the military. It was a valuable object lesson, not only to Panama, but also to neighboring States in Central and South America, and a valuable precedent for stability of government.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

A substance called petroleigne is being adopted as a material for the decks of ships. It is prepared by mixing with certain minerals and formed into slabs under high hydraulic pressure. Its valuable properties are that it is non-inflammable and is not slippery when wet.

THE DEACON'S CHRISTMAS DINNER.

Why, Mrs. Tom! Did Ah hab turkey? Ah dat question Chris'mas Day—'T wouldnt' nohow seem lack Chris'mas 'Er Ah didn't eat no turkey 'Er Ah didn't know Ah raised no turkeys. Less 'n raised 'un off de perch? Ah'n dem scan'lous 'situations' de deacon's dinner?

THE SIMPLE LIFE.

'Tis not a dainty the gods would relish—'Those feasting gods of mythology'—'The menu of high society.' But nothing can get more proper action 'On a hungry man's belly' feller's jeans. Can give more comfort and satisfaction 'To a yearning stomach than pork and beans.

THE PRESIDENT TO REST.

Washington, Dec. 23.—President Roosevelt, so far as the exigencies of public business will permit, will rest thoroughly in the Christmas holidays. No engagements of any kind, except those of a purely personal nature, will be expected to spend as little time as possible in his office.

WIDOW OF DISTILLER CONVEYS PROPERTY TO HER CHILDREN.

Five children of Mrs. Johanna Fleischman, widow of the distiller, received as Christmas gifts from their mother yesterday property worth nearly \$1,000,000 and a business worth annually nearly the same amount.

PALMA A PARTISAN.

Havana, Dec. 23.—President Palma's response to local committees of the Moderate party which have called on him to enlist his sympathy and support indicate that he has decided to abandon his neutral attitude in politics and ally himself definitely with the Moderates.

MISS CHEATHAM'S SPECIAL MATINEE.

Miss Kitty Cheatham (Mrs. Cheatham-Thompson) announces a special matinee at the Lyceum Theatre on Thursday afternoon, January 5, at 1 o'clock. Miss Cheatham will have the assistance of one or two artists.

H. L. CLAPP'S GIFT TO MALTESE.

Valetta, Malta, Dec. 23.—H. L. Clapp, who has completed arrangements to build a hospital ship at Valletta, Malta, has an American who has been living at Malta for some time.

to give free lectures. Such work might properly be conducted by some of the charitable organizations of the city. It would be closely akin to, and would admirably supplement, one of the current methods of fighting tuberculosis in New-York.

When the subway is filled with walking "ads" perhaps those on the walls will come down—to see the phenomenon.

It would be presumptuous to pronounce off-hand a more than general judgment on the new terminal plans which the officers and architects of the New-York Central Railroad Company have been slowly maturing for a long time. But it is safe to say that they assure a vast improvement on present arrangements and justify the expectation that when the work is done New-York will have the most commodious railroad station in the world.

Reports from St. Nicholas Land say the wonderful Christmas trees are fuller of fruit this year than usual. The fruit will be ready for gathering to-morrow or Monday.

Now, if one of those earthquakes at Panama would kindly shake a way through the Culebra hills to the Pacific it would remedy what now seems to have been a defect in the original plans of the northern and southern continents, and also end the discussion as to the advisability of a sea level canal.

It is said there have been forty bank failures in Iowa the last year, with losses of over \$12,000,000. Eight of the presidents of these banks committed suicide and the whereabouts of some of the others are not known. The story of frenzied rural finance is told in the statement that the defalcations reported were generally due to losses in stock or grain speculations. Evidently there are more routes than the Chadwick one to bank failure.

Many of the drivers of horses in the streets of New-York and Brooklyn have shown a deplorable lack of consideration of their animals in troublous conditions of late. To force an ill-shod horse, dragging a ponderous load through the snows, which have been so heavy this December, is a form of particularly offensive cruelty. It is unfortunate that the society at Madison-ave. and Twenty-sixth-st. has so small a force for such an emergency.

Judging from reports that come from Washington in regard to the River and Harbor bill, the slices of "pork" will be fewer and thinner this year than usual, with a possibility that there may be none at all, except in the most commendable instances.

The reason of the Russian fleet's failure to make a final sortie from Port Arthur is set forth in the statement that the best guns were taken from the ships for use in the forts. The fleet was thus sacrificed for the strengthening of the land defenses. There is thus some grim satisfaction to the Russians in the loss of their fleet, for the naval guns have doubtless done far more execution against the Japanese on land than they could have done on the sea.

THE CABINET.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Secretary Morton has gone to New-York on private business, but will return to-morrow.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Count Cassini, if his health permits, will open the Russian Embassy to-morrow afternoon for theaffle of plans for the benefit of the Red Cross Society of Russia.

NOTES OF SOCIETY IN WASHINGTON.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Associate Justice and Mrs. John M. Harlan celebrated the forty-eight anniversary of their wedding to-day. At the reception given this afternoon at their home, in Euclid Place, they were surrounded by their children and grandchildren, among whom were Mr. and Mrs. James F. Harlan, the Rev. Richard Harlan and his wife, the Misses Laura and Ruth Harlan and Miss Edith Harlan Child.

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About People and Social Incidents.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

Washington, Dec. 23.—President Roosevelt received a call this afternoon from Mr. Takahira, the Japanese Minister, who came to pay his respects. It was the Minister's first visit at the White House since his recovery from a recent illness, of which he still bears traces.

The annual distribution of turkey took place at the White House this afternoon. Every man from Secretary Loeb to the humblest sweeper, who is the head of a family received a fine large bird. Henry Pinckney, the steward, who has presided at the yearly turkey distribution, was in charge to-day. He made a trip to the market early this morning and selected thirty-five of the fatter birds he could find.

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NEW-YORK SOCIETY.

Mrs. John E. Cowdin's dance at her house in Gramercy Park, for Miss Ethel Cowdin; Mrs. William P. Prentiss's theatre party and supper for her niece, Miss Martha Prentiss Strong, and the dance of the organization known as the Saturday Evening Dancing Class, at Delmonico's, are among the few entertainments scheduled for to-day in town. For it is Christmas Eve, which is always rather quiet in a social sense, the entertainments being, as a general rule, restricted to near kith and kin. Besides this, a large number of people are in the country, where many gay house parties are in progress, Tuxedo, in particular, being a scene of much Christmas revelry.

Mr. and Mrs. Pembroke Jones have left town for their plantation in South Carolina, where they are entertaining a large house party over the Christmas holidays.

A number of people went to Morristown yesterday to attend the dance given last night by Mrs. John I. Waterbury, at the Whippany River Country Club, for her daughter, Miss Gladys Waterbury, with whom Stove Phelps led the cotillon.

A dance for young people not yet out took place last night in the Ladies' Annex of the Metropolitan Club, under the patronage of Mrs. C. B. Alexander. Mrs. Benjamin Welles, Mrs. Charles H. Foster and Mrs. Richard Mortimer, Schuyler Schieffelin led the cotillon, dancing alone, after which a supper was served at small tables.

Mrs. Arthur Mason Jones gave a large theatre party last night for her daughter, Miss Julia Mason Jones, who is one of the debutantes of the season, and after the performance took her guests home to supper at her house, in Fifth-ave. Among those present were Miss Janet Fish, Miss Marian Fish, Miss Corinne Robinson, Miss Pauline Rizzo, Miss Grace Chaplin, Miss Dorothy Kane, Miss Natalie Wells, Miss Georgette Borland, Miss Dana, Miss Dorothy Snow, Miss Alice Hasell, Miss C. Ledyard, Jr., Frederic De Rham, John Waterbury, William Iselin, Gordon Douglas, Roger Poor, Asmar Johnson and Albert Gray.

Earlier in the day Mrs. Howard Mansfield gave a large luncheon at the St. Regis for her daughter, Miss Margaret Tuttle, who has been launched into society this winter. The luncheon was followed by an entertainment, which took place in the ballroom. Among those present were Miss Dorothy Grinnell, Miss Janet Dana, Miss Julia Dodge, Miss Ruth Hubbell, Miss Lydia Mason Jones, Miss Georgette Borland, Miss Louise Kohbe, Miss Beatrice Morgan, Miss Edith Landon, Miss Blanche Shoemaker, Miss Malvina Hoffman, Lyman Delano, Frederic de Rham, John Sloane, Jr., Stephen Landon, Dwight Keroch and Stewart Witherbee.

Mrs. Douglas Robinson has cards out for a small dinner on January 2 in honor of Henry James and R. M. Ferguson.

General and Mrs. Lloyd S. Bryce are entertaining a large house party to-day at their country place, at Roslyn, for the Christmas holidays.

Mrs. Norman Whitehouse has left town for the South to spend Christmas with her mother.

Another departure for the South is that of James H. Hyde, who is one of the house party which Mr. and Mrs. George Vanderbilt are entertaining at Biltmore for the Christmas holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Berkeley Mostyn have taken Mrs. Hugh Thompson's house, No. 24 East Fifty-third-st. for the season, and will take possession immediately after the holidays. Miss Helen Stevens, the daughter of Mrs. Mostyn, has now recovered from her attack of appendicitis.

Mrs. and Mrs. C. Oliver Iselin and their little boy have left town for Providence, to spend Christmas with Mrs. Iselin's parents, Colonel and Mrs. William Goddard. They will be joined at Providence to-day by the Misses Iselin.

Mrs. Frederick Neilson has also left town to spend the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Reimold C. Vanderbilt, at their place, near Newport.

"Faust" was given last night at the opera, with Mme. Eames in the role of Marguerite. Among those present were Mrs. Orme Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence M. Hyde, Mr. and Mrs. E. Francis Hyde, Mr. and Mrs. Rutherford Suggs, Mrs. Struvsant Fish, Mrs. Astor, Mr. and Mrs. Bross, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest H. Crosby, Mr. and Mrs. William B. Leeds, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. C. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. I. Townsend Burden, Miss Gwendolyn Burden, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Sloane, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Mackay, Mrs. George L. Rives, Mr. and Mrs. James A. Stillman, Mrs. Egeon Winthrop, Mrs. Margaret A. H. Snider, Frederic Pearson, General and Mrs. Frederick Dent Grant, D. O. Mills and Colonel John Jacob Astor.

MILLIONS AS PRESENTS.

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ELEANOR ROBSON'S WELCOME.

A big audience gathered at a special matinee of "Merely Mary Ann" at the New Amsterdam Theatre yesterday afternoon to give a hearty welcome to Miss Eleanor Robson, the American actress, who has just returned from London, where she met with exceptional success in Mr. Zanweller's play. Miss Robson gave her first London performance at the Duke of York's Theatre on September 4, and for three months and a half she played to crowded houses. She will start to-day for St. Louis, where she opens her American season on Christmas evening. In the company that appeared with her yesterday, and which will support her this season, were Frank Mills, Ernest Fremont and Miss Ella Dwyer. Among the many messages of welcome Miss Robson received was one from George H. Ketcham, the turfman, who telegraphed: "You are the Cressida of the year; you have broken all records."