Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—2—8:15—Siberia.
AMERICAN—2—8:15—Me, Him and I.
BELASCO'S—8—Adrea.
BIJOU—8:15—The Music Master.
BROADWAY—8:20—Fatinitza.
CASINO—8:15—Lady Teazle.
CIRCLE—2—8—Vaudeville.
CRITERION—8:20—Cousin Billy.
DALY'S—8—The Duchess of Dantzig.
EDEN MUSEE—World in Wax.
EMPIRE—8:20—The Little Minister.
GARDEN—2—8—The College Widow.
GARRICK—2:10—8:10—You Never Can Tell.
HAMMERSTEIN'S VICTORIA—2—8:15—Vaudeville.
HARLEM—2:15—8:15—The Two Orphans.
HERALD SQUARE—2:15—8:15—Woodland.
HUDSON—8:20—Sunday.
IRVING PLACE—8:20—Magda.
KNICKERBOCKER—8:15—The Winter's Tale.
LEW FIELDS'S—8—It Happened in Nordland.
LIBERTY—8:20—The Money Makers.
LYCEUM—8:30—The Case of Rebellious Susan.
LYRIC—2:15—8:15—Fantana.
MADISON SQUARE GARDEN—10 a. m. to 11 p. m.—Automobile Show.
MAJESTIC—2—8:15—Babes in Toyland.
MANHATTAN—8:15—Leah Kleschna.
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE—8—La Traviata.
NEW-AMSTERDAM—2—8:15—Humpty Dumpty.
NEW-YORK—2—8:15—Home Folks.
PRINCESS—8—Sweet Lavender.
SAVOY—2:20—8:30—Mrs. Leffingwell's Boots.
WALLACK'S—2—8:20—The Sho-Gun.
WEBER MUSIC HALL—8—Vaudeville.
WEST END—2—8:15—The Burgomaster.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 1905.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

CONGRESS.—Senate: Senator Mitchell made a long statement defending himself from the charges on which he was indicted in Oregon; Mr. Heyburn finished his speech on the Statehood bill; a number of minor measures were passed. House: It was decided to reach a vote on the Swayne impeachment charges at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon; debate on the Swayne case was long and spirited.

FOREIGN.—It was reported in Vienna that a parliamentary Cabinet would take the place of the present bureaucratic Ministry. ==== It was reported in Pekin that the Dalai Lama was about to enter into negotiations with Russia. ==== The charge was made in Tokio that Russia was trying to ease her defeat by attempting to involve France and China in the war. ==== Unpleasant comment has been caused in St. Petersburg by the report that priests of the "Old Russian" faith have been prevented from attending to dying soldiers of their faith at the request of the orthodox clergy. ==== The commission to investigate the Dogger Bank affair received statements of particulars from both contestants in a secret session. ==== Fifty-nine persons were killed by a huge wave caused by an avalanche into Leonvand Lake, Norway. ==== The Grand Duchess Caroline, of Saxe-Weimar, died at Weimar.

DOMESTIC.—President Roosevelt is taking a keen interest in the proposed new rules of the steamboat service for the protection of passengers; he is strongly opposed to any sort of cheap life preservers. ==== At the Senator Smoot hearing Richard W. Young, a West Point graduate and a Mormon official, refused to answer a question touching the Endowment House oath. ==== Senator Burton, it was learned, is sounding Senators as to the reception he would be likely to get were he to resume his seat in the upper house. ==== The Rev. Dr. Irvine filed notice of a suit for slander against Bishop Talbot; papers were served on the Bishop in Philadelphia. ==== United States Senators were elected and re-elected in various States. ==== Thomas K. Niedringhaus was elected United States Senator from Missouri; the investigating committee's report cleared him of the campaign contribution charges.

CITY.—Stocks close weak. ==== It was learned that the Gregory, disabled, had put into Westport, Mass., for repairs. ==== Suit was brought by the city against the Gas Trust, alleging breach of contract and demanding all the electrical subway conduits. ==== Ex-Governor Odell said he was deeply interested in the gas and lighting situation; one of his friends said there would be legislation at Albany this winter on the subject of gas prices. ==== John R. Platt, in the trial of his suit against Mrs. Elias, declared that he owned nothing but the clothes on his back. ==== W. B. Parsons was chosen consulting engineer of the Hudson companies. ==== The work of picking a special force of detectives to catch grafting captains was begun.

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

PURGING THE POSTAL SERVICE.

In a letter to the House of Representatives Postmaster General Wynne details the circumstances which led to the decapitation recently of certain luminaries in the postal service. These worthies had conceived the idea that their mission in office was not so much to expedite mail deliveries in city and rural routes as to get their salaries raised by dabbling in politics. With delightful naïveté they set to work to organize a letter carriers' "voting trust," and then proceeded to auction off its influence and goodwill to the highest political bidder. In their eagerness to drive a profitable bargain they tried to negotiate last summer with both the Republican and Democratic national committees. Neither party, however, was willing to invest in the "gold brick" offered to it, and the net result of the venture was the exposure of the would-be go-betweens and their dismissal from the public service. Little sympathy will be felt with these luckless middlemen. They had been publicly warned that they must refrain from any organized effort to intimidate Congressmen or influence legislation. They fully deserved the punishment they got. But the childlike candor with which they conducted their forbidden enterprise may dispose the public to smile rather than frown at their grotesque efforts to overawe administrations and make or unmake majorities in Congress.

Cunningham and Tumber, two of the the ringleaders who were going to make the letter carrier vote the decisive factor in the last Presidential campaign, seem, after all, to have had a certain sense of humor. They knew that their game was ninety-nine one-hundredths "bluff." They admitted to themselves that the strength of the "organization" they pretended to represent was largely fictitious. Wrote one of them to the other:

> Both political parties think and believe that we have much more strength, many more members in our organization and a more perfect organization than we have. This is all in our favor, and all comes from the quantities of telegrams and petitions sent to Washington last winter.

Yet, though realizing that their bluff might be and probably would be "called," these cheerful optimists undertook to sell their "gold brick" simultaneously to the experienced politicians in charge of the Republican and Democratic canvasses. To use the words of the writer quoted above: "It was a bold plan." Yet a little thing like overcaution never troubled these Napoleons of the city beat and rural free delivery post route.

The dismissal of Keller, Cunningham, Tumber and the rest ought to serve as a warning to all postal employes scheming to get their salaries raised through political pressure. It is scandalous for government employes to unite to force the lawmaking branch to increase their compensation by threatening vengeance at the polls. It is an outrage that an association should be maintained by public servants to flood Washington with manufactured "telegrams and petitions." It is to be hoped that this sort of agitation will stop, now that its "true inwardness" has been confessed by the promoters of the crusade for higher postal salaries. Congress should raise salaries, if raises are necessary. But it should be left to deal with the question unhampered by intrigues and intimidation. The deposed officials will have suffered a useful martyrdom if their fate deters other government employes from huckstering their votes and influence from one national committee's doorstep to another's.

A STICKLER.

The attempt to defeat on constitutional grounds the will of the people declared in favor of the 1,000-ton barge canal by a majority of 245,000 is certain to cause considerable delay, and therefore serve in a measure the purpose of its authors, whether or not they expect their contention to be sustained in the end. If it is a fact that several eminent lawyers believe they have a good case, they have some reason for hoping to win, but their reticence as to the constitutional questions which they intend to raise does not indicate great confidence. Some light, however, is being gradually thrown on the nature of the points which they promise to call to the attention of the court, and we are disposed to commend Senator Cassidy for the comparative frankness of the speech which he delivered in the Senate yesterday.

Senator Cassidy appears to think that too many questions were submitted to popular vote in 1903. In his opinion the people should have been permitted to do no more than authorize a debt for canal enlargement, impose a tax to pay it and fix the time it should run; whereas the law on which they voted establishes the route of the canal, defines the powers of the State Engineer and the Canal Board and contains various other provisions. These, said the Senator, are not matters which can properly be put to popular vote. Perhaps he is right, but Article VII, Section 4, of the constitution, says:

> Except the debt specified in Sections 2 and 3 of this article (to repel invasions and not exceeding $1,000,000 to meet the casual deficits and expenses not provided for), no debts shall be hereafter contracted by or on behalf of this State, unless such debt shall be authorized by a law, for some single work or object, to be distinctly specified therein; and such law shall impose and provide for the collection of a direct annual tax to pay, and sufficient to pay, the interest on such debt as it falls due, and also to pay and discharge the principal of such debt within eighteen years from the time of the contracting thereof. No such law shall take effect until it shall, at a general election, have been submitted to the people, and have received a majority of all the votes cast for and against it at such election.

It has not thus far been intimated that too little was submitted to the decision of the people, and we think it will not be so easy as Senator Cassidy supposes to show that too much was submitted. There was the law. It was regularly passed. It prescribed the plans and methods devised by the legislature for the performance of the work, in case the people should decide that the money needed should be raised and devoted to the specified object. The prerogatives of the lawmaking body were not abandoned or threatened. The legislature having determined how the work should be done, if done at all, the people said, "All right; we'll pay for it." It looks to us as if Senator Cassidy were trying to be more constitutional than the constitution.

LEGISLATIVE WASTE.

Assemblyman Apgar's plan to shorten the sessions of the legislature by so amending the rules that bills before introduction must be submitted to the commission of lawyers employed to advise as to the form of bills is one worthy of serious consideration. An enormous amount of time and money is wasted on account of mere blunders in the drafting of bills. It costs the State about $1,000 a day to run the legislature. When bills are carelessly drawn and have to be amended, not for reasons of policy, but simply to correct mistakes, the business of the session is delayed. Strict attention to business on the part of members could materially shorten the term of the legislature without shutting off debate or unduly rushing bills through. A great deal of time is lost in the mere picking up of loose ends, and one of the extremely loose ends is this matter of imperfect bills.

Another even more important avenue of waste in relation to bills is the needless printing and reprinting. A member throws a hastily drawn bill into the hopper and has it printed at public expense. In a day or two he finds some bad English or some unconstitutional provision, so he gets it amended. Once more it is reprinted, and this may go on indefinitely. The printers are clever in making the most of such changes. The alteration of a word will give them the excuse for a reprint, which by some hocus-pocus they manage to charge up as if the whole thing were set up anew, while they could get only a trifle for the same number of additional copies of the first edition. In this and other ways the public printing is made to be unduly expensive, and sometimes it seems as if bills were amended for no other reason than the printer's profit. The rules ought to be revised to cut down the legislative printing so far as possible, and to compel members to put their measures in something like finished form before introducing them.

THE FRENCH "CRISIS."

It has long been so customary and is so convenient to speak of the resignation of a European Ministry as a "crisis" that the word naturally comes to the fore in speaking of the change which is now being effected in the French government. Really, however, it is not a crisis at all. It is not what the dictionary defines as "a decisive turning point." No revolution is impending, nor any marked change of policy. Governmental control is not to be transferred from one political party to another. The retiring Ministry is not forced out. It had a majority at its back, and could have remained in office if it had wished to do so. Upon really important issues it had an overwhelming support. Its strength had been increasing, as last year's Senate elections clearly showed. Indeed, it is not all really going out, or doing so in more than a formal sense. For it is understood that some, probably a majority, of its members will be included in the new Ministry, among them two or three of the most important, and it is practically assured that the new Ministry will on every important issue continue the policy of the old one.

The change will be one of Prime Ministers rather than of Ministries. Dr. Combes will retire, and M. Rouvier, probably, will take his place. The incident is not, however, to be looked upon as a defeat, or even a serious rebuke, for Dr. Combes. He retires voluntarily and with the honors of war, as did M. Waldeck-Rousseau before him, and he practically dictates who shall be his successor. It has long been known that he was quite willing to retire whenever the time was opportune—that is to say, when he could make sure of being succeeded by a strong man, who would maintain the policy which has been so successful for the last six years. That time has now come. There are, of course, some special though minor influences at work. Some features of Dr. Combes's administration have not been popular. Especially is the detective work in the army and elsewhere disliked, though there seems to be much excuse for it in the scandalous misconduct which was rife in some parts of the army in the Jew-baiting epoch of the Dreyfus case. Dr. Combes might, of course, have avoided any odium from that source by putting all responsibility upon his War Minister. Instead, he chivalrously takes it all upon himself, and retires with it, in order that his colleagues may reorganize themselves under more popular auspices.

M. Rouvier, we are told, is to be the new Prime Minister. There could be no better choice. A man of high character, great ability and long experience in governmental affairs, he will be a worthy successor to the two Prime Ministers who in the last half dozen years have done so much to free France from the reproach of instability and to place her public interests upon a secure and consistent basis. It is particularly auspicious that he is pre-eminent as a financier, because the finances of the republic are, of all purely domestic affairs, most in need of expert attention. He has been Minister of Finance in Dr. Combes's Cabinet. If he does not retain that portfolio in his own, he will select the man who is to do so, and will doubtless exercise a certain supreme control over that department. That he will continue the policy of M. Waldeck-Rousseau and of Dr. Combes toward the Vatican goes without saying. No other policy, apparently, would be possible in France at this time. If, as is confidently assumed, M. Delcassé retains the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, which he has held with such distinction, that fact will be an ample guarantee of the continuance of the successful and beneficent foreign policy of recent years. The "crisis," then, is not a crisis, nor a material change, but a strengthening and a confirmation of the French government in its ordered ways of peace and wisdom.

TO RE-ELECT SENATOR KEAN.

Not so very many years ago United States Senate elections in New-Jersey were shameless carnivals of corruption. Almost openly the barter and sale of legislative votes went on, and the quotations were as well known as the bid and asked prices on the Stock Exchange. The winner was usually the man with the longest purse, provided that his purchasing agents were men who knew their business and could hold the votes after having bought them.

How different things are nowadays! By the unanimous vote of the Republican majority in the legislature, John Kean is to succeed himself in the Senate without spending one dime for votes. It was perfectly well understood all through last year's campaign that he was a candidate for re-election, and with that knowledge the voters elected a legislature overwhelmingly Republican. The result was practically an indorsement of Senator Kean's candidacy, and the legislators have now ratified this. Next week the formal election will take place. By careful, constant and conscientious attention to his duties and unvarying courtesy to his constituents, Senator Kean has reached this final proof of popularity in his native State.

NEW-JERSEY'S NEW GOVERNOR.

Yesterday, in the Taylor Opera House, in Trenton, Edward C. Stokes took the oath of office as Governor of New-Jersey and then delivered his inaugural address to the legislature, the judiciary and the citizens there assembled.

The questions of State revenues and taxation, intertwined as they are, were dealt with at some length. As is generally known, New-Jersey is not in debt and has no State tax. The money needed to maintain the government comes from various taxes on corporations. One part of this income is derived from fees for incorporation papers, and Governor Stokes tried to make it clear that "New-Jersey does not com-"pete in any race for revenue between States "where the inducement to incorporations is lax-"ity of law." There has been a tendency in some quarters to advertise New-Jersey as being in the market to sell charters to any kind of people for all sorts of business, and that the State cared for nothing but to get the fees. Governor Stokes emphasized the fallacy of that notion.

"Unsound legislation, for revenue only," he said, "should never be encouraged, but honest "legislation which safeguards the rights of the "public, and thereby attracts capital and en-"terprise, and produces increased income, is "New-Jersey's aim." He recommended the appointment of a commission to review the incorporation acts.

Governor Stokes re-echoed the demand of the last Republican State Convention that second class railroad property be assessed at local rates for local purposes, but that the valuation be fixed by the State Board of Assessors. While not expressing a positive opinion as to the taxation of the main stem of the railroads, he made plain his preference to maintain the present system without radical change. He pointed out the glaring inequalities of taxation throughout the State, made a plea for strict and literal adherence to the constitutional requirement for assessment of all property at true value and suggested the creation of a State Court of Taxation Equalization.

Another important point made by Governor Stokes relates to municipal taxation. The steadily growing increase in municipal expenditures has, as Governor Stokes said, prompted many citizens to conceal their taxable property or put it into non-taxable forms. He suggested that this evil could be avoided by taxing all property at its real value, thus reducing the rate, and to give a protective guarantee by having a State law fix the maximum rate at, say, $1 70 on the hundred, or lower, if possible.

Governor Stokes recommended the appointment of a Commissioner of Charities and Corrections, having at his command an architect and a sanitary engineer, to supervise the erection and management of the various State institutions, with the present admirable unpaid boards of managers as an advisory council.

New-Jersey's forestry resources received more than passing mention. As the Governor said, there are thousands of acres of land in New-Jersey, "part of it mere brushland, part of it "abandoned and waste, all of it unsightly, and "all capable of growing trees that would beau-"tify the landscape, afford attractive driveways, "furnish places of recreation for the well and "health resorts for the sick, and be a source of "income to our commonwealth. Much of this "land can be purchased for $1 an acre, and in "some cases can be obtained for taxes."

In a voice and manner that betokened great earnestness, Governor Stokes turned to his associates in the government of the State and reminded them that they were chosen as the agents of the people to administer the affairs of the State "for the people, and for them only," and he declared that there must be no favoritism toward special interests. If this be borne always in mind and consistently lived up to, all will be well.

SHERIFF ERLANGER'S POSITION.

The Sheriff of this county, although elected on the Tammany ticket and not conspicuous previously as a candidate for a highly important office, has repeatedly shown his inclination to favor the unfortunate. His disposition to obtain a more reasonable treatment of wretched defendants in civil cases has been manifested repeatedly and earnestly. Too many sheriffs have often displayed no pity for the sufferers who, under the present system, are thrown into Ludlow-st. jail, and who, utterly unable to raise money enough to gain their liberty, are compelled to remain there for a long period. It is refreshing, therefore, to find an official who under the law cannot serve for another term without an interval concern himself with the betterment of the plight of persons under his charge.

Sheriff Erlanger is strong in the faith that the present legislature ought to abolish lasting imprisonment in all cases except those of contempt. In advocating the measure now before the legislature at Albany, the Sheriff says that under the present system arrests might be ordered on statements of a plaintiff in the absence of a defendant and without a hearing; and, even although the affidavit on which the warrant is granted might be wholly unfounded, the courts would not listen after arrest to a motion to vacate the order on its merits, and the defendant must either be bailed pending the action or, in default, remain in prison. In addition, he says: "The anomaly which grants the State's protec-"tion in the case of one who has committed a "felony and refuses it in a civil action is one of "the peculiar conditions found in the laws of the "State of New-York."

The fact is pointed out with emphasis that the poorer citizen can be detained in jail on an extravagant statement of facts presented against him and held to bail in an amount which it is impossible for him to furnish. His confinement must continue for as long a time as it may suit the plaintiff to keep him in jail. A most cruel punishment is thus imposed upon one not accused of crime, whose family may be left meantime to starve. He is practically at the mercy of the accuser. In case of debt the conditions are much the same. It is clear that there is good reason for the legislature passing the bill which the Sheriff advocates.

District Attorney Jerome's bill to discourage the abominable habit of carrying firearms should have the favorable attention of the legislature.

President Roosevelt is a practical statesman in the best sense of that much abused word "practical." Realizing that there would be no possible chance for a measure reducing Southern representation in Congress to pass the Senate, with its unlimited debate privileges, he has not favored such attempts, and is not likely to do so. He may have other and valid reasons for this attitude, but the one mentioned is sufficient.

For a highly superior, self-satisfied Police Commissioner Mr. McAdoo seems to have developed an astonishing nervousness and activity within a week.

With the scalps of Canfield, "Davy" Johnson, John Daly, McDougall, Frank Farrell, "Honest John" Kelly and "Lou" Ludlum dangling at his official belt, District Attorney Jerome is grinding his axe and looking further up. At latest accounts his glances turned threateningly toward Commissioner McAdoo.

Another French Cabinet has resigned. But the relatively long life of the latest Ministry is unmistakable evidence of an increasing fixity and stability in French politics.

Judging from Commissioner McAdoo's plaint about newspapers, there is at least one subject on which he is in thorough accord with Governor Pennypacker. Their hearts throb as one as regards the "chronic opposition of self-constituted censors."

If the Pope can put the revolutionary habit under the ban in South America, he will have the gratitude of the whole world.

The "special session" is the bugaboo which now haunts the dreams of Congressmen. The time is coming, however, when Congress will get over this fear and realize that the present short sessions are not long enough to transact the public business with the care and thoroughness it requires. When this realization comes it will no longer be necessary to hold the special session in terrorem over Congress in order to secure legislation which the people demand.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

Oregon, like California, is a land where snow is seen but rarely felt, and it is now enjoying its first fall of snow for two years. It will not linger long, however. As a snow remover the Japan current makes even Commissioner Woodbury seem slow.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

[With acknowledgments to that entertaining volume "The Housewife's What's What."]

Sweet ladies, when life with its worry appears
To be but a valley of trouble and tears,
When the sun is a shadow and day is as night,
When everything's wrong and when nothing is right—
Don't sit down and weep at your pitiful lot,
But send off at once for "The Housewife's What's What"!
And thus may you end, just as soon as you care to,
The infinite natural shocks flesh is heir to,
For here you will find all the woes that exist—
With their cures, in a long alphabetical list—
Deep wrinkles, which hasten—mirabile dictu—
To smooth from your brow all those lines which afflict you.

If an Accident happens, as happen it may,
You have nothing to do but to look under A;
Is Butterscotch wanted or Black currant tea?
For excellent recipes look under B;
Under C you will find in this wonderful book
How to blow out a Candle or blow up a Cook;
Under D there are hints for the feminine sex
On the checking of Draughts and the Drafting of cheques,
While eating one scarce is astonished to see
Included with Everything Else under E.
Next follow remarks about Feathers and Fares,
And how to behave when a Gentleman Glares,
With much information on Halibut, Hams,
Ionian Islands, Jute, Jellies and Jams,
Kale, Ketchup and Kidneys, Kid gloves, Keys and Knives,
Lamps, Lollipops, Lard and insurance of Lives.
Under Medicine you'll find mythological lore
You probably never have heard of before,
For though it would doubtless occur to most men
That Nerves and Neuralgia should come under N,
I think it unlikely that many will know
That the Father of Medicine, who lived long ago,
Was called "Ossenlapius"—(see under O).

Next we learn about Painters, Pots, Parrots and Pails,
Quinine, Quinquagesima Sunday and Quails,
What to do when a Runaway train leaves the Rails,
How to brander a Steak, cut a Skirt, Shop at Sales,
Make a Tart, wear a Train, or concoct little Tales,
How to hang up the kitchen Utensils on nails,
The nature of Vinegar, Vermin and Veils,
Warts, Waterproofs, Whiskey, Welsh rabbits and Whales.

"The Green Bag" tells this story:

"Your honor," observed Mr. Bailey, "my unfortunate client"——

"There the court is with you," gently interrupted the judge, with a grim smile.

And the future Senator from Texas lost his case.

"I'm going to endow one of the universities," said the millionaire—"going to establish a chair."
"Chair of what?" asked his friend.
"Well, I don't know what you'd call it for short, but it's a chair that's badly needed—a chair to teach graduates how to get a job."—(Brooklyn Life.

The new woman, it is said, has reached Japan, and "the little women, garbed in gay kimonos, are being influenced by the strenuous spirit of Westernism creeping in, and are going to clubs, plunging into modern movements for the welfare of everybody, except their own families," or so at least, says Dr. Jamel Kin, a lady of far Cathay, who has been lecturing in Buffalo. The fact, moreover, that a Chinese woman has taken the platform in America to tell of what American women are doing in Japan shows that the Orient knows how to revenge itself for the Westernism that is now disturbing what used to be called "the unchanging East."

In After Years.—Old Fogy Father—My father never supplied me with money to squander on fast horses, theatre parties, late dinners and the like.
Up-to-Date Son—Oh, that's all right, dad. You must remember that I come of a more aristocratic family than you did.—(Chicago News.

A New-Rochelle man thinks his custom of taking icy baths in Echo Bay has saved him from consumption. Perhaps, but should it come to a choice between consumption and taking a daily bath among ice floes a good many people would take their chances with consumption.

Difficult, Indeed.—Old Friend—Is your part very difficult to play?
Barnstormer—Well, rather! I'm living on one meal a day and playing the rôle of a man with the gout!—(Detroit Free Press.

If there is still any one in the United States who has not seen the stage production of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," he or she would do well to improve the next occasion when it comes to the village town hall. An Iowa reformer is after the show and wants to reform it off the earth. The contract is a big one, but the bigger the contract the better it pleases a crank.

Domestic economists, don't let it trouble you
If you find that the list ends abruptly at W,
For really but little remains to be said
By the time you are landed at X, Y and Z.
—(Punch.

The great Halifax dockyard, established one hundred and fifty years ago, is to be abandoned by the British Admiralty. Its closing with only a week's notice threw three hundred men out of employment. The chief reasons for the closing were the expense, its payroll amounting to $50,000 a year, and the fact that, in the opinion of the Admiralty Board, its maintenance was no longer necessary in the new scheme of imperial defence.

Why She Missed It.—Mrs. Hatterson—I didn't see you at the lecture on the "Simple Life."
Mrs. Catterson—Why, no; I had no idea it was going to be such a swell affair.—(Brooklyn Life.

About People and Social Incidents.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, Jan 17.—President Roosevelt received from Senator Nelson, of Minnesota, to-day a photograph of the family of John Ulstadt, of Lac Qui Parle County. Fourteen sons and daughters, with the father and mother, are included in the picture. When the Senator was in Minnesota last he persuaded them to have the photograph taken for the President. President Roosevelt thanked Senator Nelson for such a fine exhibit of Minnesota's citizenship, and said that he would write a letter to Mr. Ulstadt congratulating him.

Among the callers at the White House to-day were the messengers bearing the official electoral votes from Ohio and Michigan; Senator Fairbanks, who came to talk with the President about a matter of interest to Indiana; George Uhler, supervising inspector general of the steamboat service, and Representatives Foster, of Vermont; Hildebrant, of Ohio, and Bradley, of New-York, who came to introduce friends to the President.

Mrs. Roosevelt's collection of Presidential china, which she has had placed in the east corridor of the White House, received this morning an addition of eight pieces of Washington and Madison ware. They were lent by Mrs. James Bradley, of New-York. Mrs. Bradley obtained the Washington specimens at the final settlement of the H. L. D. Lewis estate in Virginia, and the others from the Payne Todd collection. It will be recalled that Payne Todd was a son of "Dolly" Madison.

THE CABINET.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, Jan. 17.—The Secretary of the Treasury and Mrs. Shaw gave their Cabinet dinner this evening in honor of the President and Mrs. Roosevelt. The additional guests were the French Ambassador and Mme. Jusserand, the British Ambassador and Lady Durand, Senator and Mrs. Fairbanks, Senator and Mrs. Dryden, Senator and Mrs. Elkins, Senator and Mrs. Foraker, Lieutenant General and Mrs. Chaffee, Mr. and Mrs. Glover, Mrs. Hobart and Senator Allison. Floral decorations of red and green were used, with a Dresden service of green and gold.

NOTES OF SOCIETY IN WASHINGTON.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, Jan. 17.—Senator and Mrs. Hopkins, of Illinois, entertained in honor of the Secretary of the Navy and Mrs. Morton at dinner this evening. Invited to meet them were Associate Justice and Mrs. Harlan, Senator and Mrs. Cullom, Senator and Mrs. Spooner, Representative and Mrs. Dalzell, General John C. Black, Mrs. Logan, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Noyes, Mrs. Peffers, of Evanstown, Ill., and Mrs. James Hopkins, of Chicago.

Mrs. Gaff gave a german to-night for her debutante daughter, Miss Zaidee Gaff, and for their house guest, Miss Harding, of Boston. The cotillon was danced by thirty-two couples, led by Captain Gilmore and Miss Gaff. There were six figures, the favors for which were selected by the hostess when abroad. Mrs. Gaff will give another cotillon in February.

Mrs. H. Kirke Porter gave this evening the last of her series of receptions for which she issued cards early in the month. In the receiving line with the hostess and her daughter, Miss Hegeman, were Mrs. Garret A. Hobart, Mrs. John W. Foster, Mrs. McKee Dunn, jr., Mrs. George Shiras, 3d, Miss Hitchcock and Miss Squire. Mrs. Loomis and Mrs. Audenreid were at the tea table.

Senator and Mrs. Wetmore entertained a dinner company to-night.

Mrs. Aldrich, wife of Senator Aldrich, had as her guest of honor at luncheon to-day Mrs. Elisha Dyer, of Rhode Island. The company included Mrs. Hay, Mrs. Morton, Mrs. Hitchcock, Mrs. Metcalf, Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Wetmore, Mrs. Spooner, Mrs. Alger, Mrs. Dryden, Mrs. Kean, Miss Kean, Mrs. Dalzell, Mrs. Draper, Mrs. Hobart, Mrs. McLean, Mrs. MacVeagh, Mrs. Henderson, Mrs. Lothrop Bradley, Mrs. De Koven, Mrs. Palmer, Mrs. Rockhill and Miss Patten.

General and Mrs. W. B. Rochester are entertaining the latter's niece, Mrs. Julien T. Davis, jr., of New-York. Mrs. Archibald Thatcher, of New-York, is expected at the Rochester home next week.

Miss Margery Colton was the hostess to-night at a dinner in honor of Miss Mary Southerland, a debutante of last month. Invited to meet her were Miss Pauline Morton, Miss Cobb, Miss Ethel De Koven, Miss Eleanor Hoyt, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Merriam, Paymaster Deering, Harry Lay and Francis Colton, father of the hostess.

Miss Emily Colton is on a short visit to New-York.

NEW-YORK SOCIETY.

Society travelled far downtown yesterday afternoon to attend the marriage of Miss Katherine Dix to William H. Wheelock, in old Trinity Church. The rector, the Rev. Dr. Morgan Dix, not only performed the ceremony, but likewise gave away his daughter, who was escorted to the altar by her brother. She was dressed in white satin trimmed with bands of old Venetian point lace, and her veil was of Brussels point lace, an heirloom of the bridegroom's family. She was attended by a number of bridesmaids, including her sister, Miss Emily Dix; Miss Therese Iselin, Miss Frederica Webb, Miss Pauline Robinson, Miss Nathalie Chauncey, Miss Marion Whittaker, Miss Mary Sargent and Miss Olive Thorndyke, whose frocks were of pink chiffon, with which they wore hats of dark brown velvet trimmed with brown tulle and pink ostrich feathers. Norton Perkins officiated as best man, and the ushers comprised Beverley Robinson, George R. McLane, Edward Thurston, Charles A. Cone, Langdon Mann, Frederick Jordan, Dr. Austen Riggs and R. B. Flershen. After the service, which was choral, the Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Morgan Dix gave a reception at their house, in West Twenty-fifth-st., for relatives and intimate friends. The couple will spend their honeymoon in the South. Among those receiving invitations to the wedding were Colonel and Mrs. William Jay, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Iselin, Mrs. Lewis Iselin, Mrs. Thomas Hitchcock, Colonel and Mrs. John Jacob Astor, Mr. and Mrs. Elbridge T. Gerry, Mrs. Astor, Mr. and Mrs. W. Emlen Roosevelt, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. H. McK. Twombly, Mr. and Mrs. William A. M. Burden, Mrs. E. F. Shepard and Sir Percy Sanderson.

Mr. and Mrs. Pembroke Jones and their children were among those who sailed yesterday for Europe; also Mr. and Mrs. Levi P. Morton and Miss Mary Morton and William Earle Dodge.

Mrs. Benjamin Knower gave a luncheon yesterday at her house, in East Seventy-seventh-st., for the young girls who are to act as bridesmaids on the occasion of the marriage of her daughter, Miss Constance Knower, to Henry Coleman Drayton on Saturday next. The party comprised Miss Carolina Drayton, Miss Sydney Henop, Miss Constance Pratt, Miss Antoinette Hewitt, Miss Augusta Munn, the Misses Helen and Elizabeth Cutting and Miss Julia Morgan.

Announcement was made yesterday of the engagement of Miss Marion Whittaker, daughter of James Whittaker and a niece of Mrs. Henry Asher Robbins and of the late George H. Bend, to Joseph Earle Stevens, who, hailing from Boston, has been a resident of New-York since his graduation from Harvard three years ago, and is a member of the Calumet, the University and other clubs. Miss Whittaker acted yesterday as one of the bridesmaids of Miss Katherine Dix on the occasion of the latter's marriage to William H. Wheelock in Trinity Church.

Several weddings are set for to-day, among the most notable of which is that of Miss Grace Llewellyn Eaton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bradley L. Eaton, to Frank L. Schoonmaker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sylvanus L. Schoonmaker, in the Collegiate Church, at Fifth-ave. and Forty-eighth-st. Miss Ruth Eaton, Mrs. Witherbee Black, Mrs. Lewis Waring, Miss Betty Collamore, Miss Madeleine Evans, of Morristown; Miss Louise Vanderhoef, Miss Evelyn Ellison, of Philadelphia; Miss Mona House, of Texas, and Miss Helen Judson will be in attendance on the bride, while little Margaret Luce and Gretchen Schoonmaker will act as her flower girls. Frederick Bull will be the best man, and the ushers will be William C. Clark, Lewis E. Waring, Charles W. Fisk, J. Frederick Byers, L. Hasting Arnold, Henry Lowe, George S. Oliver and Frank T. Roamer. After the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Eaton will give a reception for the bridal couple at their house, in West Seventy-third-st.

Another wedding for to-day is that of Miss Gladys Childs, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Childe H. Childs, to S. Morgan Barker, at St. Thomas's Church, at 4:30 o'clock. Miss Childs will have as her bridesmaids Miss Edith Cammack, Miss Elsie Stratton, Miss Ethel Herrick, Miss Olive Hitchcock and Miss Marguerite Spraker. Martin McVoy is to be the best man, and Henry S. Sewall, William A. Gilman, Joseph Allen, Henry Hammens and Harold H. Childs the ushers. After the ceremony, which will be performed by the Rev. Dr. Ernest M. Stires, a reception will be given by Mr. and Mrs. Childs at their house, in East Fifty-fourth-st.

Mr. and Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt, jr., start this week for Palm Beach.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence A. Postley are booked to sail for Europe on February 1, on board the Baltic.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney are at their house, in West Fifty-seventh-st., for the season.

There will be a meeting this afternoon of the Wednesday Bridge Whist class at Mrs. Charles Francklyn's house, in East Thirty-fifth-st.

January 25 is the date set for the marriage of Miss Frances Appleton Dana, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard H. Dana, of Cambridge, Mass., and Henry Casimir de Rham, whose engagement was announced last week. It will take place in the Longfellow home, known as the old Craigie House of Cambridge.

BIONDI WANTS GROUP.

In Amended Complaint He Asks That M. M. A. Pay Bond.

In the suit of Ernesto Biondi, the Italian sculptor, to recover $200,000 alleged damages from the Metropolitan Museum of Art for failure to exhibit his bronze group, "Saturnalia," an amended complaint has been served by Hawes & Judge, counsel for Biondi, upon Robert W. De Forest, of De Forest Brothers, attorneys for the Museum.

The plaintiff asks that a referee be appointed, or that special issues be framed, to be submitted to a jury to ascertain the amount of damages suffered by the plaintiff by reason of the alleged wrongful acts of the defendant.

It is alleged that the defendant, by its wrongful acts, has constituted itself a "trustee ex maleficio," and in holding the group and keeping it concealed from public view, against the wishes of the plaintiff, the defendant has converted the "Saturnalia" to its own use, in violation of the bond given to the United States.

Demand is made that the defendant be compelled to pay to the United States government the $18,200 provided for in the bond, and that the defendant deliver the group to the plaintiff free from the condition of the bond and free from any other lien, claim or obligation whatever.

REORGANIZING THE RED CROSS.

President Roosevelt Designates Corporators and New Central Committee.

Washington, Jan. 17.—President Roosevelt, in accordance with the act of Congress approved on January 5 last providing for the incorporation of the American National Red Cross, has designated the following to act as corporators: Alvey A. Adee, Assistant Secretary of State; Charles Hallam Keep, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury; Brigadier General George B. Davis, Judge Advocate General of the Army; Louis A. Pradt, Assistant Attorney General, and Medical Director John C. Boyd, U. S. N.

The following have been appointed members of the central committee of the Red Cross: Surgeon General W. K. Van Reypen, U. S. N. (retired), chairman; Francis B. Loomis, Assistant Secretary of State; Mr. Keep, General Davis, Mr. Pradt, Dr. Boyd, Miss Mabel L. Bordman, of Washington; Cleveland H. Dodge, of New-York; Samuel Mather, of Cleveland; H. Kirke Porter, of Pennsylvania; John Sharp Williams, of Mississippi, and Frederick H. Gillett, of Massachusetts.

MUCH LESS COSTLY.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I find in The Tribune of January 14 this:

> It has been a hard job to keep Russia shut in from the always open seas. It will be a harder job to keep this American metropolis shut away from the available water supplies which it needs, and which it is able, willing and ready to pay for.

What a wealth of suggestion there is in this brief paragraph! How small a percentage of the cost of the Russo-Japanese War to this date would have bought "open sea" for Russia for all time to come, and with what a saving of life! The American way would have been for a square deal on a money basis. GEORGE E. POMEROY.

Toledo, Jan. 16, 1905.

METCALFE WILL SUE.

Klaw & Erlanger's Lawyer Quotes Law on Their Side.

James L. Metcalfe, of "Life," to whom admittance to Daly's Theatre on Monday was refused on the ground that he was "an objectionable person," declared yesterday that he would sue Klaw & Erlanger, carrying the case, if need be, to the highest court.

To a Tribune reporter James W. Osborne said that he was the lawyer who accompanied Mr. Metcalfe to the theatre, and was acting in his interests.

"Shall I bring suit? Of course I shall," he said. "Do I think I can win the case? I don't think it. I know it. If some of these lawyers who quote decisions would only study the law a little more, they would better understand the points of the case. The nature of the action has not been decided on."

In yesterday's issue of the publication of which he is both dramatic critic and Editor Mr. Metcalfe reproduced the "Bluebeard" cartoon for which Klaw & Erlanger unsuccessfully sued him for $100,000.

Mr. Metcalfe, over his own signature, then declared that immediately following the verdict in Mr. Metcalfe's favor Abraham L. Erlanger approached him and threatened to beat him if Mr. Metcalfe ever again mentioned Mr. Erlanger's name in "Life."

"No ruffianly threats," says Mr. Metcalfe, "are going to deter this journal from exercising its rights and doing what it considers its duty to its readers and the public."

Mr. Metcalfe closes by saying that in its criticisms of "the Theatrical Trust and its methods" an effort has been made to make it appear that his journal has been actuated by "racial or anti-Semitic prejudice." This Mr. Metcalfe denies.

Abraham H. Hummel cited chapter and verse yesterday to show that Wilbur M. Bates, general representative of Klaw & Erlanger, had been acting entirely within his rights in refusing to Mr. Metcalfe admittance to see "The Duchess of Dantzic." Mr. Hummel indicated the following paragraphs in recent decisions, mostly in ticket scalping cases:

In the Daly case Justice Monell, in the District Court, said:

> It (a theatrical enterprise) is in no sense a public enterprise, and is consequently not governed by the same rules which relate to common carriers or other public institutions.

In the General Term this decision was affirmed in the following words:

> In the same way if tickets are sold to a person the proprietor may still refuse admission, in which case the proprietor would be compelled to refund only the price paid for the tickets of admission, together with such other expense as the party might have been put to, but which expense must be directly connected with the issuing of the ticket of admission.

In the fall of 1903 Judge Patterson, sitting in the Appellate Division, in the ticket speculating case of Collister against Hayman, said:

> The weight of authority is to the effect that a theatre ticket is merely a license given by the proprietor of the place of entertainment to the purchaser of that ticket to enter upon the premises of such proprietor to witness a performance, and that in its nature it is a revocable license.

A LIBRARY IN ITSELF.

From The Lewiston (Me.) Journal.

The Tribune Almanac and Political Register is once more placed before the public, bigger and just as complete and accurate as ever. It is an encyclopædia, in fact a whole library in itself, in such a form as to be always available in the office or the home.