SERGIUS'S WIDOW.

Grand Duchess Elizabeth, and a Word for Her Murdered Husband.

Grand Duchess Elizabeth, widow of the ill-fated Sergius, was at the time of her marriage the most beautiful princess of the Old World, and, although just one and twenty years have elapsed since the day that witnessed the memorable double wedding at Darmstadt—her eldest sister, Victoria of Hesse, being married at the same time to Prince Louis of Battenberg, who is to visit the United States in the fall as admiral in command of the new English cruiser squadron—she still retains much of that beauty and fascination which aroused so much enthusiasm when she first went to Russia as a bride. She is as gifted as she is comely, and is credited with the authorship of several anonymous works, especially of a couple of novels which aroused an immense amount of sensation at the time of their appearance, dealing as they did with the courts of St. Petersburg and of Darmstadt in a manner that showed them to have been written "from above," instead of "from below."

In spite of her reputation for cleverness, she has retained her popularity in Russian society, and, thanks to her sweetness of disposition and to her tact, has been fortunate enough to avoid that persistent and altogether unmerited ill will that has dogged the footsteps of her equally talented younger sister, the present Czarina. Not only the men, but also the women of the great world have been in the habit of raving about her, and it is certain that there is no princess of the House of Romanoff who enjoys a greater degree of popularity among the masses than Grand Duchess Elizabeth. In fact, there is no doubt that her husband would have been murdered weeks and weeks ago had it not been for her presence by his side whenever he appeared in public. So anxious were his foes that she should sustain no injury that she proved, indeed, his guardian angel, and it is a remarkable fact that he should have met his doom the very first time in weeks that he drove out without her.

Despite all the ill natured gossip at St. Petersburg, they were a devoted couple. In fact, the grand duchess always seemed anxious that her husband's good qualities should be understood and appreciated in their true light, and that the many misapprehensions which she was aware prevailed concerning him should be dispelled.

THE BRIGHTER SIDE OF SERGIUS.

Much has been said during his lifetime and since his death concerning his bad points, and he has been painted in the blackest colors as the evil genius of the Czar. Most of the stories originated in the St. Petersburg grand monde, which he disliked as much as it feared and detested him. He abominated what he considered its frivolity and its worldliness. Unlike his brothers, Vladimir, Alexis and Paul, all of whom delight in society, he was disposed to austerity, was of a retiring disposition and very careful in the observance of the practices of his religion. His favorite pursuits were archæology and soldiering. In 1889 he presided over the Archæological Congress held at Moscow, and astonished the members by his profound knowledge of Russian antiquities, and the deep interest he took in the work of the congress.

It is only natural that a man so deeply imbued with the love of antiquities should wish to rule over the oldest province of the Russian Empire, and over a city so rich in historical associations as Moscow, and it was for this reason that he urged his oldest brother, Alexander III, to appoint him as its Governor General.

Moscow benefitted, rather than otherwise, from the change, for the grand duke and grand duchess lived there in a considerable amount of state, and maintained a court that was quite vice-regal in its splendor. This had the effect of attracting all the older and more conservative element of the Russian nobility from their country seats to Moscow, where they reopened their palaces and began once more to entertain, trade, of course, deriving much benefit therefrom.

AS HAROUN-AL-RASCHID.

Then, too, the grand duke used to play the part of Haroun-al-Raschid. Disguised as a peasant or a beggar, he would go about the streets, get himself locked up by the police, and then have them punished if they treated him unjustly or cruelly. He would also go into the bakers' shops in this disguise, and woe betide the tradesman who gave him short measure or bad bread. He was equally severe on chemists and doctors who refused to provide medicine or to attend dying people when rung up at night, and in the famine in the winter of 1891-'92 he, with the help of his wife, saved many thousands of lives by the measures which he organized for the relief of distress.

To say that he was dishonest, or that he ever benefitted in the slightest degree by the corruption that undoubtedly existed among the officials under his orders at Moscow, is ridiculous. For he was one of the wealthiest members of the imperial family, and as the favorite son of the late empress, whose pronounced religious views he shared, and whom he accompanied on her pilgrimage to Jerusalem, inherited at her death nearly the whole of the colossal fortune which she had amassed since the day when she came to St. Petersburg as a penniless princess. This being the case, it will be seen that the tales printed since his death to the effect that he misappropriated the Red Cross funds are preposterous.

Sergius devoted himself heart and soul, in fact, to his duties as Governor General of Moscow, which he fulfilled most conscientiously according to his own lights, and certainly did his utmost to check and punish the dishonesty and the malfeasance of the officialdom by which he was surrounded.

Of course, he was intolerant in matters of faith and of policy. He believed, like all Russians of the old school, who are imbued with Pan-Slav doctrines, that Russia is unfitted for Western institutions, and that the autocracy of the Czar is the best form of government. And in his family he was a kind hearted man. For, after the death of his sister-in-law, Grand Duchess Paul, he adopted her children, and brought them up as his own. At Paris he was almost unknown. Its gayeties did not appeal to him, and the French felt for this tall, remarkably thin man, with the severe face, furrowed with many heavy lines, lighted up by eyes small, though full of fire, none of that sympathy which they entertain for the other princes of the reigning House of Russia.

WAS DEVOTED TO THE CZAR.

Sergius was devoted to the Czar—in his own fashion—and probably entertained for him more real and unselfish affection devoid of any question of self-interest than any other of the grand dukes. Emperor Nicholas knew this, and lost no opportunity of showing him his confidence and regard. Indeed, the last token thereof was given only the other day, when on the recommendation of Sergius he appointed the latter's nominee, Boulaguin, to the post of Minister of the Interior, and Trepoff, who had been Chief of Police at Moscow, to the Governor Generalship of St. Petersburg, with the powers of a dictator.

There is no doubt that Sergius will be profoundly mourned by the Emperor and Empress, who knew him so well; by his brothers-in-law, Prince Henry of Prussia and the Grand Duke of Hesse, with whom he got on splendidly, and by his adopted children—they include, besides the offspring of his brother Paul, the illegitimate son of his other brother, the Grand Duke Alexis, a young fellow who bears the name of Prince Belowski, and the half brother of his wife, born of her father's brief morganatic union to Mme. de Kalomine—all of whom found in him a tender and indulgent father. There are likewise many poor people at Moscow whose wants he has relieved and whose wrongs he had redressed who will grieve at his death. But elsewhere the regret caused by his assassination will not be either deep or sincere, he was so little understood. But everywhere the most profound sympathy will be felt for the widowed grand duchess.

CZAR'S LIFE IN NO DANGER.

With regard to the impression which prevails that the life of the Czar is in danger, there is little ground for any such fears. The memebrs of the revolutionary party are firmly convinced that he personally is in favor of granting liberal reforms, and that he is only prevented from putting his intentions and those of his consort into execution by the influence of those of his relatives who are most prominently identified with reactionary doctrines and methods of government. Chief among them was Sergius. The others are Grand Dukes Vladimir and Alexis, as well as the widowed Empress. They are the ones whose lives alone are in danger at the present moment and who are likely to become the victims of the terrorists. That this is understood at St. Petersburg is shown by the fact that the Czar would permit none of the grand dukes but Constantine, who is renowned for his liberal sentiments, to proceed to Moscow to take charge of the obsequies of Sergius.

GREAT NAMES AS "NOMS DE GUERRE."

The French Duke de Trevise, whose family may be said to have been founded by the first Napoleon's Field Marshal Mortier, has obtained very little satisfaction from the suit which he recently instituted against a Parisian music hall favorite to prevent her from styling herself Mlle. de Trevise, in which she was merely following the custom of many other divettes, chorus girls and ladies of the half world, who for years have made a practice of assuming the most illustrious names of the French aristocracy as their "noms de guerre." For on being warned by the courts of the prohibition of her use of the name of "De Trevise," she merely transformed her name into "Treyvyse," which in French sounds absolutely the same. Nor can the duke prevent her styling herself thus, and the only satisfaction which he has obtained by his expensive lawsuit is the knowledge that he has given to the young woman an immense amount of highly appreciative advertisement.

The duke is the fourth of his line, and a grandson of the marshal, who, it may be remembered, was killed in 1835 while riding by the side of the carriage of King Louis Philippe by the bomb of the would-be regicide Fieschi. Curiously enough, the Trevise family has on at least two subsequent occasions been subjected to injury by bombs, the last time being when the Marquise de Trevise's town mansion in the Rue de Berri was badly damaged by a bomb, the perpetrators of the outrage remaining undiscovered to this day. The duke is the youngest of three brothers, the eldest of whom, Napoleon by name, died as third duke, while the other, Hippolyte, succumbed just a month earlier as Marquis de Trevise.

It is the widowed marchioness who owns the magnificent country seat of the family, the historic chateau of Sceaux, the gardens of which were laid out by Le Notre, who likewise designed those of the Palace of Versailles. It has belonged in turn to the Duke of Tresmes, then to the famous statesman Colbert, who, with his three daughters, each of them duchesses, entertained there King Louis XIV; to the dukes of Maine, to the Duke of Penthievre, to the revolutionist Lecomte, and, finally, to his son-in-law, the second Duke of Trevise.

The marchioness has one daughter, married to Rodolphe de Faucigny, Prince of Cystria. The princess is dark and Spanish looking and sings divinely. Her husband, the prince, is a great-grandson of the Duc de Berri, and, therefore, a great-great-grandson of King Charles X, his grandfather having married the royal Duc de Berri's eldest daughter (Countess de Vierzon in her own right) by his morganatic English wife, Amy Brown.

CROWN PRINCE RUDOLPH'S ALLEGED APPEARANCE.

No importance need be attached to the stories current just now in the newspapers to the effect that Crown Prince Rudolph of Austria has been recognized by a number of his countrymen here. Similar reports have been in circulation concerning nearly every royal prince whose death has been of a violent character, and there are far too many people of all sorts and descriptions at Vienna who saw the body of the ill fated Crown Prince as it lay in state, with manifest traces of the revolver bullets which caused his death, to render any deception possible.

Thus King Oscar has in his reign been on several occasions troubled by either cranks or frauds pretending that they were his elder brother, Prince Gustavus, who was killed by a fall from his horse at some military manœuvres at Skone, but who, his impersonators declared, had merely been imprisoned by his family and then sent to America because he insisted on marrying a girl of obscure birth.

Prince Baldwin of Belgium is likewise asserted to be alive to this day, and there are scores of other cases, both of royal and non-royal personages, which could be mentioned in this connection, notably that of Charles Stewart Parnell, the great Irish leader, who was firmly believed by most of the peasantry in Ireland to be fighting under the Boer flag against the English in South Africa under the name of General de Wet, while until the outbreak of the present struggle between Russia and Japan the Muscovite moujiks were equally certain that the famous "White General" Skobeleff, their legendary hero, was still in the land of the living and would appear at the critical moment to lead the armies of the Czar to victory.

MARQUISE DE FONTENOY.

DR. DE COSTA'S WILL FILED.

Leaves a Nephew $1 and a Niece $500—Roman Catholic College Residuary Legatee.

The will of the Rev. Dr. Benjamin F. De Costa, the Episcopal clergyman, who some years ago became a Roman Catholic, and who died on November 4, was filed for probate yesterday. The only relatives of Dr. De Costa are William H. De Costa and Elizabeth C. De Costa, the children of his brother, William De Costa. William H. receives $1 and his sister $500. To his godmother, Mme. Frederika Benavides, Dr. De Costa leaves his manuscripts, including his autobiography, which may be published in her discretion, and $300. He excepts from the bequest of his manuscripts his journal of more than twenty volumes, which he directs to be deposited in the archives of the New-England Historical and Genealogical Society, of Boston. The remainder of his estate he leaves to the Roman Catholic College of Boston, under the care of the Fathers and Society of Jesus, of which the Rev. W. G. Read Mullane is the president, the interest to be applied to the benefit of some needy student in good standing.

BEQUESTS TO SEVERAL CHARITIES.

The will of Mrs. Mary H. Hunt, widow of Washington Hunt, once Governor of New-York, who died at No. 20 5th-ave. on February 13, was filed for probate yesterday. The estate is large. Hobart College, at Geneva, N. Y., will receive $1,000; the Society for the Protection of Religion and Learning of the State of New-York, $1,000; the Home of the Holy Comforter, Free Home for Incurables, $5,000; the fund for the Relief of Widows and Orphans of Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church and Aged and Infirm Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church of America, $5,000; the Domestic and Foreign Missions Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church of America, for domestic missions, $3,000, and Christ Church, Lockport, N. Y., $20,000. The remainder is left in trust to Mrs. Hunt's sisters and other relatives.

SIR HENRY IRVING MUCH BETTER.

Wolverhampton, England, Feb. 21.—Sir Henry Irving is rapidly recovering from a severe chill, which caused alarm. He was obliged to cancel an engagement at the Town Hall here this afternoon, where a silver casket was to have been presented to him.

Sir Henry appeared here to-night as Becket. He was warmly received, but contented himself with smilingly bowing his acknowledgments. He looked weak.

SENATE HONORS NORTON P. OTIS.

Washington, Feb. 21.—In the Senate to-day Mr. Fairbanks, for Senator Platt, of New-York, offered resolutions respecting the death of Representative Norton P. Otis, of Yonkers, N. Y. A committee to attend the funeral was named, consisting of Mr. Depew, of New-York; Mr. Burrows, of Michigan; Mr. Elkins, of West Virginia; Mr. Martin, of Virginia, and Mr. Blackburn, of Kentucky. The funeral of Representative Otis will be held in the First Presbyterian Church, Yonkers, on Friday at 11 a. m.

MRS. R. H. SAVAGE TO LECTURE.

Mrs. Richard Henry Savage, widow of Colonel Savage, who was the author of "My Official Wife," which was dramatized by Archibald Gunter, will begin a series of historical lectures in Lakewood on Tuesday evening, February 28, opening with "Du Barry" and following with "Marie Antoinette" and "Catherine of Russia" on March 11 and 19. Mrs. Savage will appear in the royal court costumes of the periods of these famous women. At the close of the Lakewood season Mrs. Savage will appear in Lenten lectures at the Broad Street Theatre, Philadelphia, and at Ford's Opera House, Baltimore. Mrs. James W. Morrissey has signed a contract with Mrs. Savage for a spring tour.

BRITISH EMBASSY TO BE AT LENOX.

Lenox, Mass., Feb. 21.—Sir Henry Mortimer Durand, the British Ambassador to the United States, will again spend the summer in Lenox, having leased the estate of Dr. Francis P. Kinnicutt, of New-York. The Ambassador is expected about June 1 with his family and several of the attachés of the Embassy. The Kinnicutt estate was occupied last year by the German Embassy.

PLEASED WITH MR. WHITE'S SELECTION.

Rome, Feb. 21.—The Foreign Office has announced satisfaction with the proposed appointment of Henry White to be American Ambassador at Rome.

AUTOS FOR DOWN TROD.

ALSO FIFTEEN CENT GAS.

Some of the Bait by Which Murphy Tries to Catch Reformers.

(By Pipe Line from 14th-st.)

Charles F. Murphy to Thomas F. Smith—Tommy, what's all this talk I see about the Murphys and Gaffneys getting everything in sight?

Tommy—Oh, that's just a little by-play by the newspapers, that's all. They've got to have something to talk about, you know.

C. F. M. (angrily)—Now, don't try to jolly me. I don't like that sort of thing, and I want it stopped.

Tommy—It'll all die out before the campaign begins.

C. F. M.—And they hint that I get a rake-off of $700,000 on that New-Haven contract, too.

(Long pause, in which Phil. Donohue, treasurer, takes a chew of tobacco.)

C. F. M.—Well!

Tommy (stirring uneasily)—What is it, Chief?

C. F. M.—Well, that's an unqualified lie—a lie made out of whole cloth. I don't make half that on that contract. I want it contradicted.

Tommy—All right, Chief, I guess we can backcap that all right.

C. F. M.—What is Plunkitt looking for these days? He's right where I fall over him whenever I turn around.

Phil Donohue (butting in)—I guess he'll take it if he can get it.

C. F. M.—Take what?

Phil—Anything. (Sound of people cracking smiles all around the wigwam.)

C. F. M.—Did Grout say anything to-day?

Tommy (guardedly)—The returns are not all in yet. He said something, but we don't know yet what it was.

C. F. M. (musingly)—And I was lobster enough to stand for him when we made up the ticket, and I chipped in for that silver service that we gave him at the Hoffman House.

GROUT'S A DEAD ONE.

Tommy and Mr. Donohue together—Grout's a dead one!

C. F. M. (wearily)—I've heard you fellers say that about a hundred times this year, and he keeps on doing business.

Tommy (with a ring of optimism in his tones)—Everything is coming around all right, chief.

C. F. M. (not replying to the "all right" suggestion)—Has John Oakley been signing any more contracts?

Enter Commissioner John T. Oakley.

John—Hello, chief! You're looking fine!

C. F. M.—John, how's 'Con. Gas' to-day?

John, turning red and speaking low—Say, for Heaven's sake, chief, don't roast me before the gang here! You know that was all right. You told the reporters so.

C. F. M.—Odell's going to investigate those contracts.

John—Well, they didn't do much when they tried the Mazet racket on us.

C. F. M. (angrily)—Do you mean to insinuate that I get "cold feet" quicker than Croker did?

John—The old man wasn't in it with you, chief.

C. F. M.—The papers keep on saying I'm worth $2,000,000, and they keep on casting up about my country home. Why didn't they pound Croker for everything? They didn't say a thing about him.

John—I remember their saying a few things about him, too, chief.

Ring at the telephone.

Tommy Smith (who has just come out of the booth)—William A. Doyle wants to speak to you on the 'phone, chief.

C. F. M.—Who's William A. Doyle?

Tommy—Why, chief, you know—Deputy Fire Commissioner Doyle, our leader in Brooklyn.

C. F. M.—Oh, yes. I'd forgotten about that feller. What's the latest about McCarren?

Tommy—Senator McCarren is reported to have had an attack of heart failure.

C. F. M.—Same old story. Look out for him. When he gets those attacks there's something doing. (Going to the telephone.) Yes—yes; this is Mr. Murphy. Say, Doyle, you don't seem to be making good over there. Hey? You say you've got him licked? That's just what you told me before the last primaries. (Long talk at the telephone ending with Mr. Murphy returning to his desk.)

THE HOMELIEST MAN IN BROOKLYN.

C. F. M. (resuming)—I don't see what there is about McCarren that makes him a leader. He's the homeliest man in Brooklyn. He never did but one thing that showed the qualities of leadership. He got next to the Standard Oil Company. Aside from that and standing in with the Sugar Trust and the Gas Trust, he's a cheap one.

Tommy (answering the telephone)—Chief, here's a Citizens Union man asking if we are for municipal ownership?

C. F. M.—Tell him "Yes."

Tommy—He wants to know if you are for a referendum?

C. F. M.—I'm not sure about what that means, but tell him I'm for it.

Tommy—He wants to know if you are for a "wide open" town?

C. F. M.—Find out what he's for, and then tell him I'm for what he's for.

Tommy—He wants to know what you'll give them if they support McClellan.

C. F. M.—Who the deuce have you got on the wire, anyway? It ain't Jerome, is it?

Tommy—He won't give his name, but he wants to know what you'll stand for if they support McClellan.

C. F. M.—Tell him 15 cent gas, free electric lights, an open town, open saloons on Sunday, a free public library on every block, automobiles for cripples and the down trod, free soup for the men without teeth, free theatre passes to Sullivan's shows for every one south of The Bronx, old age pensions, municipal control of all public utilities, mutualization of the other fellow's bank account, pipe galleries on the elevated roads, free rides for school children, free meals for school children whose parents go to work early in the day, the early annihilation of William R. Hearst, Edward M. Grout and—

Tommy—Hold on, chief; I've told him all those things, and I hear voices in the room where the fellow's been talking.

Just then Mr. Smith, after talking a few seconds over the wire with some one, put up the receiver and said:

"That Citizens Union man on the other end dropped dead from too much joy."

MILES TO PUBLISH DAVIS LETTER.

Will Do It in His Own Way and Time, However, He Says.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Boston, Feb. 21.—"In my own good way and in my own good time, I shall publish a photographic copy of the letter sent to me by Mrs. Davis when her husband was a prisoner at Fortress Monroe."

This is General Nelson A. Miles's answer, given to-day to Mrs. Jefferson Davis's demand, as written by her to a Savannah paper, that General Miles publish any letter he says he received from her, thanking him for his treatment of her husband.

"I shall not make any answer to a letter of such offensive character as the one written by Mrs. Davis to the Savannah press," said General Miles. "That is all I will say about this incident at this time."

AT THE IRVING PLACE THEATRE.

"Er und Seine Schwester" a Benefit Performance for Mr. Von Seyffertitz.

The Irving Place Theatre company presented last night an amusing Viennese farce entitled "Er und Seine Schwester," by Bernhard Buchbinder. The performance was a benefit for Gustav von Seyffertitz, the Irving Place stage manager, and this sterling and popular comedian found himself cast in a role which gave full play to his genuinely comic talents. The farce deals with the efforts of a letter carrier (Seyffertitz) to get his sister, Josefine (Fraulein von Ostermann) a chance to make a career on the comic opera stage. She finds the opportunity through the brother's persistence and diplomacy, and not only meets success as a bouffé star, but marries the poet who wrote the book of the performance. Mr. Seyffertitz was greeted by a house full of admirers, and the new piece went off with great spirit. The acting of Fraulein von Ostermann was capital, and Heinrich Marlow played a roué baron with his usual cleverness at character sketches.

PLAN TO BUILD YALE DORMITORIES.

New-Haven, Conn., Feb. 21.—It is announced that under the auspices of the Yale class of '94 a committee has been appointed to promote a movement for raising funds for five new dormitories at Yale. The plan provides for one dormitory to be given by classes previous to 1865 and four dormitories by classes representing each of four successive decades.

VARIED CELEBRATIONS.

Washington's Birthday To Be Observed in Many Ways.

Few holidays are celebrated in so varied a fashion as Washington's Birthday will be to-day. The celebrations range from a reception for the dinosaur at the Museum of Natural History to dinners, patriotic addresses, religious observances and a general suspension of business. The day will be observed in the financial district as a general holiday. All the exchanges, the banks and the Post-office will be closed.

The annual invitation installation, entertainment and reception of Peter Cooper Post, No. 313, Grand Army of the Republic, will be held to-night at Tammany Hall. The installation services begin at 7:30 o'clock.

The twenty-second annual dinner of the Sons of the Revolution to-night at Delmonico's will be marked by a distribution of bronze medals to the guests in commemoration of the late Frederick S. Tallmadge, twenty years a president of the society, and also commemorating the purchase of Fraunces' Tavern. President Wilson of Princeton, Brigadier General Frederick Grant and Governor Higgins will be among the speakers.

At 1:30 o'clock the Old Guard holds its luncheon in Fraunces' Tavern.

More than two thousand invitations have been issued for the public reception at the Jumel Mansion, at 3 o'clock, given by the Washington Headquarters Association, which was founded by the Daughters of the American Revolution. Several prominent speakers will make addresses.

The Society of the Cincinnati will hold its annual dinner to-night at the Waldorf-Astoria.

Grammar School No. 49, in West 37th-st., will give a dinner at the Park Avenue Hotel for the principal, James R. Pettigrew.

Randolph Guggenheimer will fill the stomachs of the newsboys with food and their souls with patriotism at his annual Washington's Birthday feast for them to-night in the Newsboys' Lodging House in New-Chambers-st.

The annual dinner of the Associate Alumni of the City College will be held at the Hotel Astor, at 7 o'clock. William M. K. Olcott, '81, the president of the alumni, will be toastmaster.

In view of the interest taken by the public in the dinosaur recently placed on exhibition in the American Museum of Natural History, the members of the scientific staff of the Museum will be in attendance in Fossil Hall, from 10 a. m., to 4 p. m., to explain about the specimens.

Professor A. S. Bickmore will give a free illustrated lecture on Holland at 3:30 p. m. in the large lecture hall of the museum.

Washington's Birthday will be observed at Trinity Methodist Church, East 118th-st., with an entertainment and social gathering in the evening. Miss Barbara Elizabeth Salter will give a reading.

The employes of the Street Cleaning Department will celebrate the holiday and air their grievances at a mass meeting in Carnegie Hall. A number of clergymen will be present to indorse their plea that they should not be required to do other than absolutely necessary work on Sunday. The doors will be open at 5:30 p. m.

The Kings County Volunteer Firemen's Association will hold its fourth annual parade in Brooklyn this afternoon. It will be reviewed by the Mayor and other officials in front of the Borough Hall.

The annual entertainment of the City History Club will be held at 2:30 o'clock at the Educational Alliance, Jefferson-st. and East Broadway. Dwight L. Elmendorf will lecture on "Yellowstone Park." Mrs. Robert Abbe will make her annual gift to the children, and there will be a contest by musical clubs for a loving cup presented by Mrs. Boas.

The public schools of Richmond Borough held their special exercises yesterday. The classrooms were decorated with flags, bunting and pictures of Washington. The exercises consisted of the singing of patriotic songs, and recitations by the pupils. At the Curtis High School, in addition to the regular exercises, there was a special commemoration service in honor of George William Curtis, from whom the school received its name.

WHAT IS GOING ON TO-DAY.

Sportsmen's Show at Madison Square Garden.

Epworth League Missionary Institute meeting, Union Methodist Church, West 48th-st.

Washington's Birthday parade of the Kings County Volunteer Firemen's Association, starting from Livingston and Court sts., 11 a. m.

Convention of boot and shoe manufacturers to form a national organization, Hotel Astor.

Dinner for newsboys, given by Randolph Guggenheimer, Newsboys' Lodging House, No. 14 New Chambers-st.

New-York Catholic Protectory celebration of Washington's Birthday, 10 a. m.

Public celebration of Washington's Birthday by the Washington Headquarters Association, Washington Heights, 160th-st., near Amsterdam-ave., 3 p. m.

Dwight L. Elmendorf on "Yellowstone Park, the Wonderland of the World," at annual entertainment of the City History Club of New-York, Educational Alliance, Jefferson-st. and East Broadway, 2:30 p. m.

Washington Continental Guard luncheon, Fraunces' Tavern, 1:30 p. m.

Torrey Botanical Club meeting, Botanical Garden Museum, Bronx Park, 3:30 p. m.

Muster of the 1st New-York Mounted Rifles, Astor House, 2 p. m.

Celebration of Washington's Birthday at the Metropolitan Club.

Twenty-second annual dinner of the Sons of the Revolution, Delmonico's, evening.

Dinner of former pupils and teachers of Public School No. 49 for Principal James R. Pettigrew, Park Avenue Hotel, evening.

Annual dinner of the Associate Alumni of the College of the City of New-York, Hotel Astor, 7 p. m.

Architectural League lecture by Daniel W. Langton on "The Recent Progress of Landscape Design in America," No. 215 West 57th-st., evening.

Dinner of the New-York State Society of the Cincinnati, Waldorf, evening.

Meeting of the representatives of educational associations to consider college entrance requirements in English, Teachers' College.

Free lectures of the Board of Education, 8 p. m.—High School of Commerce, 66th-st., west of Broadway, Ernest R. Holmes, "Paris and Its People" (illustrated); Public School No. 54, 104th-st. and Amsterdam-ave., Professor James C. Monaghan, "A Hundred Years of Industrial and Commercial Life"; Board of Education, Park-ave. and 59th-st., Professor A. Frederick Collins, "Wireless Telephony, Wireless Telegraphy and Color Photography" (illustrated); Cooper Institute, 8th-st. and 4th-ave., A. Emerson Palmer, "A Century of Public Schools in New-York City" (illustrated); St. Bartholomew's Lyceum Hall, No. 205 East 42d-st., Alexander D. Van Laer, "Paintings in the Metropolitan Museum of Art" (illustrated); Young Men's Christian Association, No. 5 West 125th-st., Isaac F. Smith, "Literary and Historic Shrines of Boston and Vicinity" (illustrated); Young Men's Hebrew Association, 92d-st. and Lexington-ave., Lewis Gaston Leary, "Around the Historic Mediterranean" (illustrated); Young Men's Institute, No. 222 Bowery, Frederic Reddall, "Patriotic Songs"; Cathedral School Hall, No. 111 East 50th-st., D. Everett Lyon, "The Wonders of the Beehive" (illustrated).

PROMINENT ARRIVALS AT THE HOTELS

ALBEMARLE—M. L. Parrish, Philadelphia. ASTOR—Virgil P. Kline, Cleveland. CAMBRIDGE—Charles W. Knapp, St. Louis. FIFTH AVENUE—S. M. Perry, Denver. IMPERIAL—F. C. Pingree, Detroit. MAJESTIC—A. E. Barker, Scranton. WALDORF-ASTORIA—Count Antoine Sala, attaché French Embassy, Washington; W. H. Lee Ewart, honorary attaché British Embassy, Washington.

THE WEATHER REPORT.

Official Record and Forecast.—Washington, Feb. 21.—Generally fair weather has prevailed in all districts, except along the South Atlantic Coast and in Florida, where rain has fallen. Rain has also fallen in North Pacific Coast States, and snow in the upper lake region.

An area of low pressure has drifted slowly eastward from the Dakotas in the last twenty-four hours, and is central to-night in the upper lake region. It will continue to advance eastward during the next forty-eight hours, and cause snow in the lake region and rain or snow in the northern portion of the Middle Atlantic States Wednesday. A second depression central to-night in the extreme northwest will probably reach the upper Mississippi Valley and lake region Thursday, causing unsettled weather and snow or rain in these districts. Elsewhere fair weather will continue. Moderate temperatures will prevail.

Forecast for Special Localities.—For Eastern New-York, increasing cloudiness, with snow in the interior and rain on the coast, to-day; Thursday, fair; fresh east to southeast winds.

For New-Jersey and Delaware, rain to-day; Thursday, fair; fresh east to southeast winds.

For the District of Columbia, partly cloudy to-day and Thursday, with moderate temperatures; fresh east, shifting to south, winds.

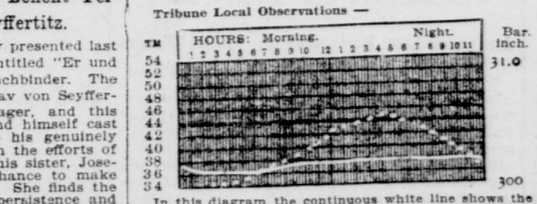
For Western New-York, snow to-day; somewhat colder; Thursday, snow; increasing east winds, shifting to northwest.

For Western Pennsylvania, rain to-day; Thursday, snow flurries and colder; fresh south, shifting to west, winds.

For New-England, rain in southern snow in northern portion to-day; Thursday, fair, except snow in northern portion; increasing east to southeast winds.

For Eastern Pennsylvania, rain in southern, snow in northern portion to-day; Thursday, fair; fresh east winds, becoming northwest.

Tribune Local Observations —



In this diagram the continuous white line shows the changes in pressure as indicated by The Tribune's self-recording barometer. The dotted line shows the temperature as recorded by the local Weather Bureau.

Local Official Record.—The following official record from the Weather Bureau shows the changes in the temperature for the last twenty-four hours, in comparison with the corresponding date of last year:

	1904.	1905		1904.	1905.
3 a. m.	25	34	6 p. m.	41	44
6 a. m.	24	35	9 p. m.	42	42
9 a. m.	27	38	11 p. m.	45	39
12 m.	35	43	12 p. m.	45	—
4 p. m.	39	45			

Highest temperature yesterday, 45 degrees; lowest, 34; average, 39; average for corresponding date last year, 34; average for corresponding date last twenty-five years, 32.

Local Forecast.—Increasing cloudiness, with rain, to-day; Thursday, fair; fresh east to southeast winds.

THE DRAMA.

MISS GEORGE AT THE SAVOY.

"Abigail."

Admirers of the acting of Miss Grace George assembled in the Savoy Theatre last night, to welcome her re-entrance upon the local stage, and to see her performance of the central character in a new play, by Mr. Kellett Chalmers, called "Abigail." Miss George, a blithe, sprightly, spirited little player, has, within the last two years, acquired considerable popularity by a vivacious representation of a wild Irish girl, under the name of Peg Woffington, and later, as Louise in "The Two Orphans." She now appears as an adventurous, energetic, sweetly sympathetic young woman, of New-England origin and typical character, who has become resident in a New-York boarding house, and is thus associated with various more or less eccentric and impecunious persons. The design of the play is to show a picture and tell a story of actual life—partly among artists, toilers, and, particularly, females who are delving and struggling for subsistence, and partly among the more affluent classes—in the New-York of the passing hour. The picture is diversified. The story is sufficiently interesting. The types of character are numerous. The play comprises incident, pleasantry, frolic; and it does not lack serious significance. The temperament of Miss George, inclining far more to the lively than the severe, shows itself in blended piquancy and kindness, through her impersonation of Abigail; she is much happier in the display of her own brisk and nimble self, in the thin disguise and under the quaint name of a down East spinster, than in her efforts at emotional impersonation. Readers of Holmes's "Autocrat" are aware that a boarding house can be made fertile of suggestion, and, recalling Balzac's wonderful novel of "Père Goriot," they know it can be made to yield the constituents of both tragedy and comedy. In the play of "Abigail" the heroine is implicated in the fortunes of John Kent, an ambitious young civil engineer, whom she loves and by whom she is eventually beloved; and of a Mrs. Gormally, a wealthy aunt, who waits until the poor Abigail has inherited a vast fortune before publishing the relationship.

There are several excellent auxiliary performances, notably those of Miss Louise Closser, Miss Annie Woods and Mr. Joseph Coyne. The piece appears to be a decided popular success.

CAST OF "ABIGAIL"

Abigail Stokes	Grace George
Sylvia McCann	Louise Closser
Theodora Robbins	Selene Johnson
Mrs. Gormally	Mrs. Hone
Mrs. Mirabel	Annie Woods
Mrs. B. Jones	Mary Stuart
Miss Van Peek	Ruth Benson
Sister Angelica	Justice Cutting
Julia	Vivia Ogden
Raymond Gormally	Arthur Forrest
John Kent	Conway Tearle
The Duke of Gadsbrook	Joseph Coyne
Featherstone Wilkes	Henry Mills
Mr. B. Jones	Herbert Rollins
Young man with 'cello	Arthur Tennyson
James	Willis Martin

OBITUARY.

THE EARL OF SOUTHESK.

London, Feb. 21.—The Earl of Southesk (James Carnegie) died this afternoon.

James Carnegie, ninth Earl of Southesk, who sat in Parliament as Baron Balinhard, was born in Edinburgh, November 16, 1827. He was the son of Sir James Carnegie, whom he succeeded in the baronetcy in 1849. The peerage, which had been under attainder from 1715, was restored to him in 1855, and he was created Baron Balinhard of Fasnell County, Forfar, in 1869. After being educated at Sandhurst he entered the army. He was Lord Lieutenant of Kincardineshire from 1849 to 1856. In politics he was a Conservative. After he retired from the army he travelled and devoted himself to literary pursuits and art collections. He shot big game in this country when bison were plentiful. His home was Kinnaird Castle, where he had 22,700 acres, and within the grounds of the castle kept 500 red, Japanese and fallow deer and a herd of Highland cattle. He had a large collection of Italian, Dutch, Flemish, French and German paintings, with family portraits by Raeburn and others, and a cabinet of choice antique gems, chiefly intaglios. In his library of 10,000 volumes are "The Missal of Sarum," 1497, and fine copies of the 1632 and 1685 Shakespeare folios. He wrote and published "Herminius, a Romance," "Britain's Art Paradise," "Saskatchewan and the Rocky Mountains," "Jonas Fisher, a Poem in Brown and White," "The Burial of Isis, and Other Poems," "The Origins of Pictish Symbolism," and "Suomiria, a Fantasy." His first wife, who died in 1855, was a daughter of the Earl of Gainsborough, and his second wife a daughter of the Earl of Dunmore. His heir is his son by his first marriage, Lord Carnegie.

DR. WILLIAM E. GRIFFITHS.

Dr. William Edward Griffiths, who died at his home, No. 320 Schermerhorn-st., Brooklyn, on Monday, served on the frigate Colorado in the Civil War and was a member of Grant Post, G. A. R. After the war he resumed his medical studies and was graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1868. He had practised in Brooklyn for more than thirty years. Dr. Griffiths was born in New-York City in 1842. He was studying in Germany at the outbreak of the Franco-Prussian War, and took advantage of the opportunity to get some experience in the ambulance service of the Bavarian army. In Brooklyn Dr. Griffiths was visiting surgeon on the staff of St. Mary's Hospital, and for some years was connected with the Board of Health. He was a member of several medical societies. He had served several terms as the president of the Third Ward Republican Club and was a member of the Brooklyn Young Republican Club. Dr. Griffiths was a widower and had no children.

Married.

Marriage notices appearing in THE TRIBUNE will be republished in The Tri-Weekly Tribune without extra charge.

THOMPSON—ANDERSON—At Somerville, N. J., Monday, February 20, 1905, by Rev. Dr. Edward Griffen Read, Alice Gordon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander G. Anderson, to Lewis A. Thompson. No cards.

TYLER—WOOLVERTON—On Saturday, February 18, at the United Church, New-Haven, Conn., by the Rev. Artemas J. Haynes, Mary Benham, daughter of the late Charles B. and Mary C. Woolverton, to William Butler Tyler. Brooklyn papers please copy.

Notices of marriages and deaths must be indorsed with full name and address.

Died.

Death notices appearing in THE TRIBUNE will be republished in The Tri-Weekly Tribune without extra charge.

Dawes, Aaron.
Griffiths, William E.
Heminway, Olivia P.
Hills, Sarah D.
La Forge, Elizabeth D.
Landon, Edward H.
Law, Polly S.
Miner, Herman F.
Otis, Norton P.
Pillsbury, Mary K.
Van Brakle, Elizabeth B.

DAWES—At Hightstown, N. J., February 18, Dr. Aaron Dawes, aged 86. Funeral at home, February 21, 11:30 a. m.

GRIFF