Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—8—The Darling of the Gods.
AMERICAN—8:15—Siberia.
BELASCO—8—Adrea.
BERKELEY LYCEUM—2:30—8:30—Three one-act plays.
BIJOU—2—8:15—The Music Master.
BROADWAY—8:20—Boccaccio.
CARNEGIE HALL—8:15—Concert.
CARNEGIE LYCEUM—4—Lecture.
CIRCLE—2—8—Vaudeville.
COLONIAL—2—8—Vaudeville.
CRITERION—8:10—Nancy Stair.
DALY'S—8—The Duchess of Dantzic.
EDEN MUSEE—World in Wax.
EMPIRE—8—Sherlock Holmes.
GARDEN—8:20—The College Widow.
GARRICK—8:10—You Never Can Tell.
HARLEM—8:15—Woodland.
HAMMERSTEIN'S VICTORIA—2—8:15—Vaudeville.
HERALD SQUARE—8:15—The Woman in the Case.
HUDSON—8:30—Strongheart.
IRVING PLACE—8:20—Zapfenstreich.
KNICKERBOCKER—8—Hamlet.
LEW FIELDS'S—8:15—It Happened in Nordland.
LIBERTY—8:15—The Education of Mr. Pipp.
LYCEUM—2:15—8:30—Mrs. Leffingwell's Boots.
LYRIC—8—Fantana.
MADISON SQUARE—8:30—Mrs. Temple's Telegram.
MANHATTAN—8:15—Leah Kleschna.
NEW-AMSTERDAM—8:20—The Prince Consort.
NEW-YORK—8:15—The Shepherd King.
PRINCESS—8:30—The Trifler.
SAVOY—8:25—Abigail.
WALLACK'S—8:30—Mlle. Marni.
WEBER MUSIC HALL—8—Higgledy Piggledy and College Widow.
WEST END—8:15—Kellar.

Index to Advertisements.

	Page.	Col.		Page.	Col.
Amusements	14	6	Lectures	14	5
Art Sales	5	5-6	Lost	10	1
Bankers & Brokers	13	3-5	Marriages & Deaths	7	5
Board & Rooms	10	1	Ocean Steamers	8	6
B'ks & Publications	11	5	Proposals	14	5
Business Chances	10	2	Railroads	11	5-6
Citations	8	4	Real Estate	9	6
City Hotels	13	6	Real Estate	10	2
Change of Name	11	5	School Agencies	13	6
Carpet Cleaning	10	1	Special Notices	7	5-6
Dividend Notices	13	5	Steamboats	11	5
Dom. Sits. Wanted	10	5-8	Surrogate's Notices	11	5
Drygoods	10	5-6	To Let for Business Purposes	9	6
Excursions	11	5	Tribune Sub'n Rates	7	5-6
Financial	13	4-6	Trust Companies	13	6
Furnished Apartments to Let	9	6	Unfurnished Apartments to Let	9	6
Fur. Rooms to Let	10	1	Winter Resorts	8	4-6
Help Wanted	10	2-3	Work Wanted	10	3-4
Instruction	13	6			

New-York Daily Tribune

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 1905.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

CONGRESS.—All hope of securing ratification of the Dominican protocol at this session of the Senate has been abandoned, and it is expected to go over until Congress meets again in October.

FOREIGN.—Two sharp actions were fought on March 14, the Japanese attacking the Russians south and west of Tie Pass, and being repulsed in the former engagement with heavy losses. Ther are signs of a Russian retreat to Harbin. ═══ Conditions in the Caucasus and in Poland augur further trouble; the attempt at mobilization in the latter country is believed certain to meet with violent opposition. ═══ The Emperor has approved the selection of Grand Duke Nicholas Nicholaievitch to succeed General Kuropatkin. ═══ A Japanese fleet of twenty-two warships was sighted twenty miles east of Singapore. ═══ The attitude of Russia, according to dispatches from St. Petersburg, remains unchanged, and plans to continue the war are apparently still being made. ═══ Advices from Paris confirmed the statement that the Russian loan has been indefinitely postponed. Lord Rothschild considers that the bankers' action will have an important effect in awakening Russia to a sense of her peril. ═══ Over thirty lives were lost and great damage was done to shipping, transportation and telegraph lines by a severe storm, which swept over the British Islands. ═══ A committee's report to the French Chamber of Deputies urged a speedy separation of church and state.

DOMESTIC.—President Roosevelt appointed Peter V. De Graw Fourth Assistant Postmaster General. ═══ It was said in Washington that Assistant Secretary Loomis will remain in the State Department the greater part of the present administration, and that Ambassador Thompson will be transferred from Brazil to Mexico. ═══ Indications in Denver were that Peabody would be declared Governor and at once resign; there was talk of kidnapping legislators on both sides, and both parties were carrying arms. ═══ Services were held over the body of Mrs. Stanford at Honolulu. ═══ Japan placed large orders for Minnesota flour to feed Russian prisoners. ═══ Governor Frazier of Tenessee was nominated as Senator, to succeed General Bate.

CITY.—Stocks were irregular and active. ═══ It was learned that a plan was on foot to place Alton B. Parker on the Supreme Court bench. ═══ A fire on the ferryboat Kentucky, on the East River, caused a panic among the passengers. ═══ Bids for city lighting were opened, and proved no lower than those of last October. ═══ An alleged poolroom in 42d-st., said to be patronized by rich women, was raided by the police. ═══ Henry W. Lundberg, assistant inspector, who passed the General Slocum, was placed on trial for manslaughter again. ═══ Interborough detectives went before the grand jury, where cases were being considered of strikers who interfered with the running of trains. ═══ J. F. Cordova was convicted of assault on his wife, making two convictions in two days. ═══ Transit conditions on Interborough lines improved; more strikers were taken back, at reduced wages. ═══ The Crimmins committee of policyholders voted to go on with its scheme to force mutualization of the Equitable, holding that the trustees' agreement would be too slow.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Fair. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 39 degrees; lowest, 28.

TAMMANY AND FIRE ESCAPES.

The burning to death of nineteen people in an Allen-st. tenement house on Tuesday morning was a distressing catastrophe for which the people of New-York as a whole have nobody to blame so much as themselves. Investigation may and probably will prove that various officials neglected to do their duty. The police seem to have been slow in sending in an alarm. The fire escapes were choked with boards, furniture, ash receptacles and ashes, so that the tenants could not escape, but in some cases were imprisoned on them and roasted to death. Of course, the officers whose business it was to see that the police were doing their duty and on hand speedily to turn in alarms if fire broke out on their beats, and those whose business it was to inspect tenement houses with especial reference to keeping fire escapes free from obstruction, should be held to a strict accountability. Particularly should the amiably inefficient Mr. Thomas C. T. Crain, for whom the Tenement House Department was provided as a comfortable berth by Mr. Murphy on his assumption of power, be asked to show what he is doing for his liberal salary. The Allen-st. blaze casts lurid but illuminating rays upon the administration of the city government. It more than suggests that underneath Mayor McClellan's suave good intentions there is the same old neglect and inefficiency which characterized previous Tammany administrations. The departments are filled up with subordinates, tenement house inspectors, employment agency inspectors, building inspectors and what not who are inattentive to their duties, if they are not of set and selfish purpose blind to infractions of the law.

Yet New-York has to thank itself for them. The Tenement House law has not been enforced because in the last analysis the people of New-York by a considerable majority declared that they did not want it enforced. For two years Commissioner de Forest enforced the law. His conscientious energy pervaded the whole department which he organized. Inspectors saw to it that fire escapes were kept clear, that sanitary regulations were enforced, that the lives of the poor people in the tenement houses were protected to the full extent of the law. But this policy was not popular. Real estate owners did not like to spend money on repairs. To be compelled to do away with broken drains and water soaked walls seemed to them an outrage. Tenants, too, thought the inspectors fussy and inquisitorial. Tenement house rooms were small and crowded, and it was a great convenience to set the ash bucket on the fire escape. It was handy to board over the hole and make a play yard for the children. Deprivation of this extra space was cruel despotism. In the municipal campaign the "puritanical" efforts to enforce the law were a leading issue. Commissioner de Forest was charged with narrow minded, petty persecutions. The people of this city were told by Tammany that they wanted a "liberal" policy. They should have freedom to do about as they liked and not be too much dragooned and governed. They were convinced. They voted to have Mr. de Forest put out and Mr. Crain put in. They have had the "liberal" policy to their hearts' content. And they see the result.

Just as likely as not some of the Allen-st. dead were going about in the last campaign shouting for McClellan and personal freedom—personal freedom to be burned to death. Poor, ignorant people, they didn't know any better. But how about the wealthy real estate owner, living in a fine house, who voted the Low administration out because it made him keep his tenement houses in order? How about the men of intelligence who let personal selfishness or political prejudice prevent the continuation of the good work for civilization? The nineteen dead in Allen-st. are victims of New-York's impatient, irresponsible weariness with well doing. It was tired of "reform" fire escapes and "reform" everything. It wanted Tammany and looseness, and it has it. And the wages of sin is death.

THE EQUITABLE SETTLEMENT.

Contrary opinions, which do not necessarily reflect a bias of feeling in either direction, are expressed concerning the Equitable settlement. It is described on the one hand as a complete victory for the president of the society and those whose views and wishes he at the outset represented, and on the other as a complete victory for Mr. Hyde, who represents a majority of the stock. The truth is that neither interpretation fits the case. The real meaning of the official statement made public by the committee is that, not under threats or with a reservation of bitter feeling on either side, an adjustment has been accomplished which is a compromise, but which, nevertheless, is a substantial victory for the policyholders. It means peace, and that is a fact of great importance not only to the multitude of persons who have a direct concern in the welfare of the society, but to financial interests whose stability is an immense factor in the general prosperity.

If the plan unanimously recommended by the committee is carried out, Mr. Hyde will relinquish to the policyholders of the society the power of electing twenty-eight of its directors, or one more than a majority. His decision to take that step is, however, to be regarded, not as a sign that he had been worsted in the stiff controversy of the last few weeks, but as a pledge of devotion to the permanent interests of the society. It has been accepted by his recent opponents in the same spirit, and there is every reason to believe that the results will be lasting and salutary. Under the arrangement by which Equitable directors are elected in classes the representative of a majority of the stock will for a time, and perhaps indefinitely, exercise control over the society; but it is not likely that the control will be despotically exercised, and if ever in the future the policyholders should be convinced that their interests were imperilled they would have the means of rescue at hand.

It seems clear that the committee, with the aid of counsel, has wisely and honorably adjusted a memorable dispute which threatened a disorganization of the society and an enormous impairment of values.

OBSCURE AT THE VERY LEAST.

There was a hearing yesterday at Albany before the Senate Railroad Committee on two bills to which our dispatches have referred and which distinctly belong to the objectionable class. That is not because they flaunt their viciousness in the face of the public, but rather because they imperfectly conceal an apparently mischievous purpose which it is not thought prudent to reveal. One of them empowers the Commissioners of the Land Office to sanction the substitution by a railroad corporation of a new right of way under water for an old one. The other provides that a railroad corporation may abandon any part of its route, with the consent of the Railroad Commissioners, and continue to operate the rest. Unless everybody is guessing wildly, these bills are both intended to promote Interborough interests—the former by means of the ancient Steinway tunnel under the East River, and the latter by relieving the company from the necessity of maintaining a service on certain routes which the consolidation of lines in The Bronx has deprived of their value, present or prospective.

It is not always necessary in the case of bills like these to conclude that they have absolutely nothing to commend them. If they were fairly and frankly explained and advocated, they might sometimes honestly command intelligent support. But their obscurity is always a vice. The legislature and the public are entitled to know what is wanted and what it is wanted for, and they are justified in pronouncing condemnation unless they are so enlightened. These particular measures appear also to confer important benefits upon an enormously prosperous corporation without compensation to the city, and for that reason to be deserving of defeat. If that is not the fact, there can be no difficulty in refuting it. The bills ought, at least, to make no progress so long as nobody is willing to give a clear account of them.

KUROPATKIN.

The announcement that Grand Duke Nicholas Nicholaievitch is to supersede General Kuropatkin as commander in chief of the Russian army in China is probably correct. At any rate, it seems certain that Kuropatkin is to be replaced by somebody, and there could, perhaps, be no more appropriate choice than that of the Czar's kinsman, who is now in the prime of life and has long been a prominent officer of the imperial army, being a general aide-de-camp, general of cavalry, inspector general, chief of the Lithuanian Guard and what not else. It is said that Kuropatkin is to be removed in order to put a stop to jealous intrigues among the officers. It may be that the appointment of a grand duke in his place would effect that end more surely than the appointment of any lesser personage.

Whoever is appointed, Kuropatkin's career is ended. That seems certain. It seems, also, a deplorable thing. For the man has had a distinguished career, and is being sacrificed upon the altar of impossibilities. To what extent he has been hampered and thwarted by more or less disloyal intrigues we do not know. It is known to the world that the Russian army is chronically subject to such influences, and that they have been particularly rife during the present war. The temper and tone of those officers who have returned home and who have been talking about General Stoessel and others sufficiently indicate what Kuropatkin has had to contend with. Against such things the mightiest hero might struggle in vain. If his subordinates are not loyal, in spirit as well as in letter, the ablest commander in chief is hopelessly hampered. Men have blamed Kuropatkin for personally attending to so many details. But what if there was nobody else whom he could trust to do it?

We repeat, then, the opinion which we have formerly and often expressed, that Kuropatkin deserves a better fate than that which has befallen him. He was set to perform an impossible task. He must pay the penalty of failure. But morally the reproach should fall upon those who set him at such a task. Men blame him for not being more aggressive and for not taking greater risks. But it should be remembered that he was in a place where he could not afford to take risks, for defeat would mean utter ruin. Five thousand miles from home, he was bound to be cautious. The Japanese could run risks, for in case of defeat they could fall back upon a near base. But what had Kuropatkin to fall back upon? No; he has done as well as any man could have done in his place, and he deserves not disgrace, but the gratitude of the Russian Empire and the honor of the world.

PORTO RICO'S COAT OF ARMS.

Undue importance seems to be attached in some quarters to the readoption by the government of Porto Rico of the coat of arms in use under the Spanish regime. This coat of arms, identified for three centuries or more with the island's history, was discarded five or six years ago for an Anglo-Saxonized device, with no historical associations or heraldic value. The wisdom of the innovation was challenged both here and in Porto Rico, but in the hurry of our first efforts to Americanize the dependencies we had suddenly acquired from Spain the argument for a remodelled and up to date coat of arms found ready acceptance. The Porto Ricans complained, however, that the new invention failed to meet either heraldic or historical requirements; and a few days ago the Insular Legislature passed a measure restoring the Spanish arms, which have the merit, at least, of keeping touch with the island's interesting and honorable past. The Hon. Robert H. Todd, the Mayor of San Juan, who was in Washington recently, has been quoted as condemning this abandonment of the new emblem as a "step backward." Mr. Todd holds that the change will tend "to awaken the spirit of the old Spanish days" and that in this respect it is regrettable and "harmful."

It is difficult to see how Americanism in Porto Rico is to be checked by the simple acknowledgment that the ancient Spanish coat of arms is artistically and historically preferable to the modernized device which temporarily supplanted it. The idea of restoring the Spanish emblem originated with the American members of the insular government, and the bill just passed was introduced by Mr. Regis Post, the insular secretary. It seems to have had the support also of Governor Winthrop and of the whole Porto Rican administration. We can discover, therefore, in the legislature's action no subtle attack on American ideas. Nor can we imagine what harm can be done through replacing a less appropriate insular coat of arms with a more appropriate one. The new resident commissioner from Porto Rico, Mr. Tulio Larrinaga, who is also in Washington, disagrees wholly with Mayor Todd on this issue. In a recent interview he dismissed the controversy over the rival emblems as a matter of no political consequence, though he warmly defended both Secretary Post and Governor Winthrop for their readiness to repair what they considered an error of taste or judgment on the part of a previous insular administration.

This little breeze over a minor detail of legislation serves chiefly to emphasize the real tranquillity of conditions in Porto Rico. Up to two or three years ago the newspapers were filled with pessimistic pictures of Porto Rican life. For a time after the American occupation the islanders doubtless suffered certain hardships, due to the severance of old commercial ties and the slowness with which industry and business accommodated themselves to a new environment. But recently the island seems to have entered an era of greater prosperity and contentment. It is living its own quiet life, and we hear no more complaints of governmental neglect or industrial stagnation. Mr. Larrinaga himself reports a notable improvement under the governorship of Mr. Winthrop, and says that the island's material future is now secure enough to permit its people to turn their energies to securing a larger measure of local self-government. If a mere change of emblems can be heralded as the event of a legislative session, Porto Rico's lawmakers certainly have few local problems of gravity left to wrestle with.

CREDITABLE GEOLOGICAL WORK.

Part of the fruits of an elaborate geological research are embodied in a volume which has just been issued by the State Museum at Albany. The work relates to the fossil remains of a primitive class of organisms known as graptolites, and has been prepared by Rudolf Ruedemann, assistant State paleontologist. These creatures existed at that stage of the earth's history when the rocks of the Cambrian and Silurian periods were deposited, and antedated the fishes, reptiles, birds and mammals, which had more complicated structures. Little of the original substance of the graptolites has been preserved by conversion into stone, but their forms are distinctly outlined in the layers of soft shale which bear testimony concerning them. The late James Hall discussed the earlier specimens which were discovered in New-York State. Mr. Ruedemann describes those which have been found here more recently, and reviews with ability and in a comprehensive fashion the American and foreign literature regarding what must be considered one of the world's oldest families. Geologists will, of course, appreciate the performance more keenly than the uninitiated, but the Empire State is to be congratulated on having on its scientific staff a man who is capable of doing such valuable work.

Graptolites were not only exceedingly abundant in their day, but, according to Mr. Ruedemann, their wide distribution over the globe had no parallel among the other animal forms of that remote period. This fact has a bearing on the arrangement of land and water at the time, which, it is hardly necessary to say, was very different from that now observed. A naturalist named Frech a few years ago designed a chart of the Cambrian and Silurian oceans, basing his outlines on the distribution of trilobites, another group of ancient inhabitants, which, like the graptolites, had a marine residence. Now, when the fossils of the two classes of organism are compared certain differences are perceived. These may be due to the fact that the trilobites lived in shallow water and near the edges of the then existing seas, whereas the graptolites appear to have required a greater depth. At any rate, Mr. Ruedemann thinks that the discrepancies, some of which are wide, may make it necessary to reorganize the geography of the age in which the graptolites flourished.

Several biological questions are discussed in the Albany report. One of the problems which naturalists have tried to solve is whether graptolites were stationary or moved about. The opinion is expressed by the assistant paleontologist of New-York that some of them were attached to the sea bottom or other fixed objects, some were suspended from sea weeds and some floated free like the class of organisms known collectively as "plankton." Several genera, each including a number of species, have been recognized, but the variations of form which many of them underwent suggest that there were independent lines of ancestry, instead of only one. Professor Osborn, curator of vertebrate paleontology at the American Museum of Natural History, is inclined to believe that the same thing is true of the horses, camels, elephants and certain other mammals which once lived on this continent. His views and those of Mr. Ruedemann to some extent support each other. Whether the graptolites have any lineal descendants to-day is another point that has been much debated. Perhaps the closest resemblance to them at present is found in what zoologists call sertutarians, but there is a wide gap in point of time between the disappearance of the earlier family and the appearance of the later one, and their relationship is more than doubtful. Mr. Ruedemann, in harmony with other modern authorities, deprecates any attempt to unite the graptolites with any class of living forms. At the same time, however, he wishes to "emphasize the necessity of using a group of similar forms as "means of reconstructing, if only by analogies, "the picture of the organisms, and thereby gaining new hypotheses to stimulate investigation."

The rubbish clogged fire escape ought to go the way of the granulated cork life preserver.

Experts in Chicago estimate that railroad managers in this country will expend this year no less than $200,000,000 in improvements in traffic equipment, and the prospects are of an increase in business that will warrant the outlay of so large a sum.

The shipments of fresh eggs and butter to this great market are reaching an enormous volume. The Southern sources of production are feeling the stimulation of a genuine spring boom, but New-York waits with some trepidation to see what the snowfall reported from Chicago will amount to on the Atlantic Coast. We have certainly had enough ice and snow in the streets in this city to get along without a further visitation.

France shows a commendable disposition to pull the purse strings unless Czar Nicholas will agree to sheath his sword.

A Deadwood visitor admits that if he couldn't live in Deadwood he would want to live in New-York. The compliment is of a kind that will still permit him to enjoy life in Deadwood, though it may be advisable for him not to stop off at Chicago on his return.

The tempest which invaded the United Kingdom on Tuesday night doubtless originated on the Atlantic, if, indeed, it did not proceed from this country. During the last three or four months the ocean has been the scene of many heavy storms, and shipping has been sadly buffeted thereby. Only a slight deviation from the normal path of such disturbances would carry one of them inland. Such a change, with an unusual increase of intensity, probably accounts for the prostration of telegraph wires in England, in addition to the wrecking of several vessels this week. Although the dividing line between winter and spring is always poorly defined (except in the calendar), the nearness of the vernal equinox warrants a hope that the latest season of marine disaster as well as bitter cold is drawing to a close.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

While President Butler is thinking of the proper means and limits of upper class "disciplining" of freshmen, the students of the Amherst Agricultural College are turning their attention to the proper "disciplining" of the faculty. What happened is described in the language of one of the senior "Aggies": "In order to show our dislike to one of the professors we went to class armed with torpedoes and revolvers, and for the time being there was a mad outbreak." Three seniors were suspended for these "disciplinary" measures. The faculty having thus lent its support to the "disliked" professor, the senior class has "disciplined" that honorable body by withdrawing from college.

"THIS FEVER CALLED LIVING."

"This fever called living," said Poe, in a vein
Descriptive of life's ever-hastening pain.
The phrase, though poetic, small knowledge displays
Of the symptoms that indicate life nowadays—
So lend me your ears while I tell, if you please,
The way that our citizens catch the disease.

In old Philadelphia, solid and sleek,
Where Sabbath prevails seven days in the week,
Where nothing is heard but the snores of the "copper,"
And clocks dare not run (because running's improper),
Where citizens yawn while the trolley cars creep,
Life isn't a Fever—it's more like a Sleep.

In Boston, where only the chosen may speak,
Where the bartender seasons your cocktail with Greek,
Where the maid that you woo sits Minerva-like frowning
And crushes your hopes with quotations from Browning,
Where the gateway of Heaven is called Beacon Hill,
Life isn't a Fever—it's more like a Chill.

In dizzy New-York, money mad with the dicker
Of getting-rich-quick and of getting-poor-quicker,
Where skyscrapers, stilted high over the town,
Are built in a day—and the next are torn down—
Where crowds meet and struggle like floods through a chasm,
Life isn't a Fever—it's more like a Spasm.
—(Life.

A new beet root pest is reported from Paris. It is a small, blackish beetle, known as the Attica tibialis, which until recent years was hardly known except on the shores of the Mediterranean and in Brittany. A solution, which is to be sprayed on the beet at sunset, has been invented, consisting of tobacco juice, 10 parts, by weight; methylated spirits, 10; black soap, 10; carbonate of soda, 2, and water, 1,000 parts.

One Too Many.—"You say you wouldn't like to get out?" exclaimed the prison visitor. "Why, I thought you were in for life."
"Oh, worse than that, ma'am," replied the convict; "I'm in for a double life. I've got two wives waiting outside."—(Philadelphia Press.

A London dealer in such wares last year received from India the skins of six thousand birds of paradise to adorn the hats of the feather wearing British women and to meet the export need. At the same time he got about half a million humming bird skins, and an equal number of those of various other tropical birds. There is an auction room in London where such things are sold, and its recent record for a third of a year was close to a million skins, all told, coming mainly from the East and West Indies and Brazil.

THE BEST MAN.

"The best man" at a wedding is,
It's very strange to state,
Always somebody other than
The bridegroom; and now wait;

Is this why many marriages
Turn out so badly, pray?
It seems as though it might be so—
I really think it may.
—(Town Topics.

The St. Petersburg census taken two years ago showed a population a trifle over 1,500,000. Of these about one-third are unable to read or write. Four-fifths, roughly speaking, are Catholics of the Greek rite; of Jews there are only 2 per cent, and of Roman Catholics only 3 per cent. Of the population, 40 per cent are peasants and 20 per cent householders. There are 250,000 workmen on wages, with upward of 87,000 employers. There are 425 churches and four state theatres. The principal manufactures are Gobelin tapestries, glass, porcelain, surgical instruments, articles of malachite, embroideries, textiles, leather, paper, copper, iron, machinery, etc. Its health tables show the lowest mortality of all European cities. Nearly all its growth has been within the last century, but its progress has been nothing like that of many other Continental cities, some of which have more than doubled their population with each generation in that period.

The Mean Way It Works.—"If you refuse to marry me," said the wealthy old man, "I shall pine away and die."
"Of course," responded the girl, bitterly. "And if I should marry you, you would hang to life like a bulldog. But that's the way it goes."—(Detroit Tribune.

Denmark has a society for the extermination of rats, and its operations are considered to be of so much importance that Berlin is on the point of adopting them as a corrective of an invasion of that animal from which it has recently suffered. They appeared in certain sections of the capital in such numbers that they became a real burden to the inhabitants, and in the hope of relief a municipal decree was passed offering a bounty of ten pfennigs for every rat's tail delivered. The creatures seem to come and go in swarming multitudes, to which no effective check has so far been found, though their visitations in such numbers do not normally last long, and so far as any individual locality is concerned are very infrequent. It is not likely that Hamelin has had another plague of rats since the time when the Pied Piper of imperishable memory delivered it from the first one to be recorded of it. Since the rat has been medically declared to be a bearer of infectious diseases increased efforts have been made for his destruction, but so far he seems to survive them all and to show no abatement of his constitutional vigor. An international league for his suppression has been proposed, bringing all the resources of science to bear upon the work, and this may be able to effect some useful results.

Pat—Do yez ever git dispondint, Moike?
Mike—Only whin Oi'm feeling "blue." Oi always feel good as long as Oi'm feeling foine, be gobsl—(Puck.

About People and Social Incidents.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, March 15.—The President and Mrs. Roosevelt entertained the Vice-President and Mrs. Fairbanks, the Postmaster General and Mrs. Cortelyou, Senator and Mrs. Ankeny, Senator Clapp, Senator and Mrs. Dryden, Senator Hansbrough, Senator and Mrs. McCumber, Senator Penrose, Senator and Miss Perkins, Senator Warren, Rear Admiral and Mrs. Higginson, General John M. Wilson, General and Mrs. Hawkins, Major Charles L. McCawley, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Spencer, Mrs. Longworth, Mrs. Nicholas Fish, Miss McMillan, Miss Gwynne, Miss Mabel Boardman and Miss Hagner at dinner to-night. The table was decorated with jonquils and mignonette. Mrs. Roosevelt's dress was of pink and white brocade.

President Roosevelt was invited to-day by the Young Men's Christian Association, of Richmond, Va., to address the members of that organization when he visits the city. Senator Martin headed the delegation of members which presented the invitation.

Francesco Fanciulli, formerly leader of the Marine Band, gave the President the manscript copy of an ode composed for the inauguration. Senator Allison introduced the Rev. O. H. L. Mason, of Boone, Iowa, who wishes to become a chaplain in the army. Ex-Senator Quarles called on the President to say goodby before sailing for Europe. "I arranged for the trip before the President appointed me to the judgeship in Wisconsin," said Mr. Quarles, "and I guess I'll have to shorten it a little in order to open court on time. Senator Bard, of California, and his wife will accompany Mrs. Quarles and myself on the cruise."

Senators Frye, Cullom, Foraker, Beveridge, Platt, of Connecticut; Alger, Crane, Carter, Clapp, Fulton, Spooner, Gallinger, Burrows and Clay called on the President this morning. Most of them came to talk about the Dominican treaty.

Among other visitors were Vice-President Fairbanks, John S. Wise, of New-York; Representatives Gaines and Gilbert, ex-Senator William E. Chandler, of New-Hampshire, and Secretaries Hay, Taft and Morton, who came to discuss department affairs with the President.

THE CABINET.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, March 15.—Secretary Hay will make a trip of some extent for rest after the Senate adjourns and the rush of business at his department is succeeded by the calm which sometimes prevails in a recess of Congress. "I have been planning to take a cruise for some time," said the Secretary to-day, "and will probably get away soon after Congress finishes its work. It is not true, as has been stated, that I am planning to make a formal visit to the European capitals. I am not going on business, but to get a rest."

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, March 15.—The French Ambassador and Mme. Jusserand gave a dinner to-night. Their guests were Mr. and Mrs. Wharton, Baron Moncheur, the Minister from Belgium; Mr. and Mrs. Wayne MacVeagh, Mr. and Mrs. Webster, Mr. and Mrs. Lodge, Mrs. Hobson, Miss Josephine Boardman, Walter V. Berry and Viscount de Chambrun, of the Ambassador's staff.

Ernest Probst, secretary of the legation of Switzerland, left here to-day for New-York, to sail on Tuesday for London, where he goes as secretary to the Swiss legation there.

NOTES OF SOCIETY IN WASHINGTON.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, March 15.—The Vice-President and Mrs. Fairbanks will go to New-York on Saturday to attend a dinner to be given in their honor that evening by General and Mrs. McCook.

Mrs. John R. McLean gave a luncheon to-day in honor of Mrs. John L. Gardner, of Boston, who is visiting Mrs. Hunt Slater.

Mrs. Nicholas Longworth also entertained luncheon guests to-day.

NEW-YORK SOCIETY.

Sir George Murray, who arrives to-day, is the secretary and permanent chief of the Treasury Department in England and a member of the great Scotch house of Murray, of which the Duke of Athol is the chief. He is accompanied by Lady Murray and by his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Owen Roberts. Marshall O. Roberts, although born in this country, has been educated in England, and served for a time in the English army as an officer of the Scots Guards. His father, the late Marshall O. Roberts, was one of the most prominent business men in New-York. After his death his widow married an Englishman, Colonel Ralph Vivian.

Miss Marian A. Haven, who is to be married to Forsyth Wickes on April 27, at St. Bartholomew's Church, will make her future home at No. 266 Madison-ave., which belonged to her aunt, the late Mrs. Ogden, and is now occupied by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Haven, while their own house, in East 39th-st., is undergoing alterations. It will be entirely refurnished and redecorated and will probably not be ready for the young people until the autumn.

May 16 is the date set for the marriage of Miss Mabel McAfee, granddaughter of James B. Haggin, to Lewis Butler Preston, of Tuxedo Park. The wedding will take place at St. Thomas's Church and will be followed by a reception at the Haggin house, No. 587 5th-ave.

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Rogers, jr., are receiving congratulations on the birth of a son a few days ago, at their house in East 38th-st.

Mr. and Mrs. James A. Burden, jr., arrived in the city yesterday from Aiken, S. C., where they have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney. Mr. and Mrs. Whitney are expected back from Aiken on Monday.

Saturday, April 29, has been selected as the date for the annual parade of the Ladies' Four-in-Hand Club, of which Mrs. Thomas Hastings is the president and Mrs. Arthur Iselin the vice-president. On the following Saturday, May 6, Mrs. Iselin's father, Colonel Jay, will preside at the annual parade of the Coaching Club, of which he remains the principal officer.

It is to-morrow that the marriage of Miss Eleanor Roosevelt and her cousin, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, will take place at the house of the bride's cousin, Mrs. Henry Parish, jr., in East 76th-st. President Roosevelt will give away his niece, whose attendants will include Miss Alice Roosevelt, Miss Corinne Douglas Robinson, Miss Helen Cutting, Miss Isabelle Selmes, Miss Muriel Robbins and Miss Ellen Delano. J. Roosevelt Roosevelt will be his half-brother's best man, and Lyman Delano, Warren D. Robbins, Warren Cary, Nicholas Biddle, Gustavus O. Winston, Lathrop Brown, Edmund Rogers, Charles Bradley and Thomas Prince Beal will be the ushers. The Rev. Endicott Peabody, of Groton, Mass., will perform the ceremony.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fulton Cutting and the Misses Cutting have returned to town from the South. Miss Helen Cutting's marriage to Lucius K. Wilmerding takes place at the end of the month.

Mr. and Mrs. I. Townsend Burden are due here to-morrow from Palm Beach.

Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish, who returned to town the other day from the South, starts to-morrow for her country place, at Garrisons, where she will spend the spring.

It is to-day that the marriage of the Chevalier Marconi and the Hon. Beatrice O'Brien takes place in London, St. George's, Hanover Square. The bride of the inventor of wireless telegraphy, who is well known in New-York society, is a sister of the present Lord Inchiquin, who, as a descendant of the last Irish Kings of Thomond, enjoys the unique hereditary prerogative of using the royal liveries by virtue of patent bearing the signature of King Henry VIII. The Chevalier Marconi and his bride are booked to sail from Liverpool on March 25, and he will be in New-York throughout April and May.

JAPAN'S ENVOY TO PRINCE'S WEDDING.

Berlin, March 15.—The Emperor of Japan has designated Prince Arisugawa to represent him at the wedding of Crown Prince Frederick William. He represented Japan at Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

WORD FOR "CITY BEAUTIFUL."

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I note in your issue of to-day your illustrated article on the well named "Civic Centre at the City Hall, Proposed by the Municipal Art Society." Originally, and for several years, in its formative and experimental stage, a member of that society, I am naturally interested in its recent activities, and hope the press will give it all the opportunity that can conveniently be afforded for the presentation of the ameliorative, civilizing and altogether worthy aims it sets forth.

New-York's Borough of Manhattan, in its natural formation and early lay-out, possesses in but limited measure the unrivalled opportunities for architectural display, ample vista and grand scenic effect provided for Washington in the many central circles, long radial spaces and diagonal lines cutting through its rectangular blocks, in consonance with L. Enfant's topography, as approved by the Father of His Country. All the more reason our city should make the most of the few opportunities its conformation, boundaries, and the mainly artificial lines of its early days allow.

The plazas, with their congeries of public buildings, one sees in European cities add greatly to the convenience of their citizens, and are among the chief attractions to the traveller and sojourner from America or elsewhere. The Municipal Art Society and other bodies at work pro bono publico are much to be congratulated on the fact that in these current days political partisanship, however necessary in practical politics, is not permitted to interfere in questions of large public beneficence. A Democratic official nowadays is seemingly just as apt to appreciate the worth and claims of art and its civilizing sequences as a Republican one.

New-York, March 13, 1905. A. J. BLOOR.

ARBITRATION BOARD FOR STRIKERS.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The recent unsuccessful railroad strike in our city must, it seems to me, impress two facts upon the public mind: One, the futility of attempting anything of the kind without proper organization; the second, the state of affairs existing between capital and labor, which makes a strike the paramount means of settling differences between them.

The thinking men among the strikers must have known that the half strike that existed during the last week could have but one ending. The direct result was that thousands of innocent persons were forced to risk their lives daily through the incompetency of employes on the elevated roads and the subway, while thousands of others were obliged to stand for fearful distances in crowded cars, victims of tedious transportation and foul air.

People did reach their destinations by hook or by crook; therefore the strike as a means of paralyzing business was ineffectual. If the strikers had waited until the power house men and the street-car employes joined them, a helpless, indignant multitude would have aided them to obtain their end. As it is, the more thoughtful ones must have come to realize the foolishness of their act, while those who entered into it thoughtlessly have plenty of time to think it over, when they see their places given to new men.

Are the elevated railroads and the subway of this city run for the purpose of paying big dividends to stockholders or for the accommodation of the public? If for the latter reason, a long suffering people should demand that a board of arbitration be appointed to settle differences of this kind that arise from time to time.

That an ideal state may exist at some future time in which the rich shall hold their wealth as subject to the demands of the poor and downtrodden does not help the working man of to-day or the suffering citizen of 1905. If any employe is overworked and underpaid he should have redress in a court of arbitration appointed for the purpose, whose decision should be final; but he should not seek to enforce his rights by endangering the life and health of the tired shopgirl, the weary artisan and the anxious business man. Such action may help him to gain his end, but ultimately it must result in injuring his cause, by thrusting his wrongs into the background of people's thoughts by the overshadowing of their own personal inconvenience. S. B.

New-York, March 13, 1905.

STILL IN THE DARK.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: There was a superb, scholarly, picturesque and obscure letter from Dr. T. B. Leonard, of Northampton, Mass., in a recent number of The Tribune. It concerned "the muscular method of commanding sleep." It was written in the best style of Bostonese, but unintelligible to some of us Yankees who early left our New-England homes. He says "sleep is accomplished by the contraction and relaxation of certain muscles and groups of muscles," evidently meaning some particular set of muscles. Well, why not omit this philological whirlwind and tell the poor sleepless fellows just what to do? G. G. R.

New-York, March 15, 1905.

LATER DATE FOR INAUGURATION.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I have just read your article in the paper of this morning on "Inauguration Day Perils," with your suggestion that it should be set forward to April 30. The plan of setting the day forward that it may take place in a milder season, with less liability to serious results from exposure to the severity of early March, should meet with general approval, I think; only, I would ask you to amend the date and urge that the last Wednesday of April be selected as the day, as this would largely avoid the necessity of encroaching upon the Lord's Day preceding or succeeding the day of inauguration. Fixing that day, the closing of the national legislature would not encroach with any degree of necessity upon sacred time. SUBSCRIBER.

New-York, March 13, 1905.

The Presidential term is fixed by the Constitution at four years. Consequently a sliding date—like the fourth Wednesday in May—seems out of the question.

GETS WEEKS PAINTING.

M. M. A. Accepts One of Works of Dead Artist.

The trustees of the Metropolitan Museum of Art have accepted one of the paintings of the late Edwin Lord Weeks, called "The Last Voyage." The picture was given to the Museum by the artist's widow as a memorial gift. A large number of Mr. Weeks's paintings are now at the American Art Galleries, where they are being disposed of at public auction. The trustees had the privilege of taking any picture of the collection they desired and chose "The Last Voyage" as best fitted to their purposes.

The first of the three evening sales was held yesterday. The total receipts amounted to $5,667. Auctions will be held at the galleries this evening and at Mendelssohn Hall to-morrow evening.

S. D. RIPLEY WILL PROBATED.

Property Supposedly Settled on Family Before Document Was Drawn.

Mineola, Long Island, March 15.—The will of Sidney Dillon Ripley, former treasurer of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, was filed for probate in the Nassau County Surrogate's office this morning. Mrs. Mary Baldwin Ripley, the widow, appeared for the probate. The petition states that the value of the personal property is more than $10,000. The will names Mrs. Ripley and the Mercantile Trust Company executors and trustees.

The widow receives for life all the property. Control of the property placed in Mr. Ripley's hands by his grandfather, Sidney Dillon, is not given to Mrs. Ripley. This is left in trust for his children, Anna D., Henry B., Sidney D., jr., and James H. Ripley. What share of the estate is to be theirs the will does not state. It is supposed that prior to making his will Mr. Ripley settled on his widow and children the amounts he desired them to have.

GERMAN-AMERICAN COPYRIGHTS.

Objection in Reichstag to Present Arrangement with United States.

Berlin, March 15.—In the Reichstag to-day Dr. Müller, of Meiningen, referred to the copyright arrangement between Germany and the United States, characterizing the agreement of January 15, 1892, as a gift of German intellectual property to Americans. He said a volume of George Ebers's novels sold in the United States for five cents and in Germany for $2 50 to $4 12.

Vice-Chancellor Posadowsky-Wehner said that the government, in arranging for the protection of German exhibits at the St. Louis Exposition, discovered how difficult it was to deal with the United States on this subject. "When we take up negotiations with the United States for a new commercial treaty," he said, "then the copyright question will have exhaustive consideration from the standpoint of the Berne Convention and German interests."