NEWS AND VIEWS OF WOMEN

WHEN 49 WAS 50.

"OLD BOYS" CELEBRATE.

Golden Jubilee of a Famous New-York Public School.

Every little girl at Public School No. 49, No. 237 East 37th-st., wore a yellow ribbon in her hair or a spray of goldenrod or a yellow chrysanthemum on her gown yesterday morning, and every boy had similar decorations on the lapel of his coat. The occasion was the golden jubilee of "Old 49." It was a wonderful day in the history of the school, and even the laws of arithmetic gave way to the importance of the occasion, for on that one day 49 was 50.

There was a great assemblage of old pupils, one, Joseph Schwartz, coming all the way from Plymouth, Penn., for the celebration. They had to come, they said, for the discipline for which

JAMES ROBERTSON PETTIGREW,
Principal of Public School No. 49.

No. 49 is famous led them to regard an invitation from the principal, James Robertson Pettigrew, as a command.

The old Forty-niners had a great time together, and the present Forty-niners shrieked with delight as the former recalled incidents of their school days.

"The old 'licking room' used to be there," remarked Dr. Edward H. Sill, district superintendent, pointing in a northeasterly direction.

"No, it was'nt," interrupted Dr. Charles E. Bruce, indicating another part of the building. "It was over there."

Dr. Still immediately surrendered.

"Dr. Bruce ought to know," he said, "because he made so many visits to it. I would probably have done the same, but corporal punishment was abolished shortly after I entered school. The 'licking room' is gone, I trust, forever. I don't think the love and affection with which the old pupils of No. 49 regarded their principal were enhanced by visits to that room."

Frank L. Moss, ex-Commissioner of Police, added that principals were to be congratulated no less than pupils on the abolition of this room, for in the old days unless a principal whipped thoroughly, properly and completely the Board of Education whipped him.

As a purveyor of reminiscences Dr. Bruce took the palm of the morning.

"We were jolly kids," he asserted, amid a delighted uproar of applause. "If there was anything going on we were in it. The boys of the other schools didn't amount to a hill of beans compared with us. We could yell to beat the band. Billy O'Connell"—here Dr. Bruce indicated a dignified citizen sitting behind him—"Billy O'Connell was the greatest fighter in the whole push. If we got into a scrape we could always depend on him to help us out. He was a good fellow, too. I want you to notice the scars on his face when he speaks to you. That boy got those scars"—the doctor's voice trembled with emotion—"by going into a burning house to bring out human lives.

"Yes, we had some bully times, but we had hard times, too. Sugar was 20 cents a pound in those days, and some of us had hard work to get the shirts that we put on our backs. We organized a military company at No. 49, and practised with wooden guns and tin muskets, but we weren't tin soldiers. They had a big competition parade of the school companies at Cooper Union, and No. 49 took the prize."

Dr. Bruce, who amused the children greatly by telling them how they used to speak of their teachers by such names as "Skinny" Forbes and "Billy" O'Connell, added that when a boy used their proper titles in speaking of the Misses Castill, who are still teachers in the school, they knew he was a visitor or a new pupil. The old pupils called them "Susie" and "Belle," and all over the country to-day grave and dignified citizens speak of them affectionately by those names.

The Mayor was represented at the celebration by Corporation Counsel J. J. Delany, and the president of the Board of Education, Henry M. Tiff, was one of the speakers. Mr. Tiff is not a Forty-niner, but was a pupil of Mr. Pettigrew at No. 14. The chairman was Charles G. Wagner, chairman of the local school board, whose children wrote their names in the visitors' book with himself as graduates of No. 49. Music was furnished by the 9th Regiment band, in charge of Felix McAuliffe, another graduate.

Others who were present were Henry M. Unger, Commissioners Thomas J. Higgins, P. F. McGowan, Francis J. Lantry and James Clancy, the Rev. Jesse T. Forbes, William H. Hornidge, the Rev. Dr. Crocker, of the Church of the Epiphany; J. C. G. Hupfel and Samuel P. Goldman. Dr. Still conveyed the greetings of three principals, Oscar Birnbaum, Gustave A. Carts and Miss Anna E. Masterson, who, with himself, had been teachers under Mr. Pettigrew, and John Fruauf, principal of No. 14, where Mr. Pettigrew was formerly a teacher, sent the greetings of that school.

Although the festivities were arranged to celebrate the fiftieth birthday of the school, they resolved themselves into a tribute to the principal who has held that position for thirty-five years and is only the second principal that the school has had. In the opinion of the "old boys" the occasion surpassed the "glorious evening" last February when they gave a banquet to Mr. Pettigrew in the Park Avenue Hotel.

IN SEARCH OF A WIFE.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Out my way—in the West—women are in the minority, and therefore there are many bachelors who would marry if the conditions were different. In the East women, they say, are in the majority, and observers of events there report that marriages are on the decrease, much to the detriment of young men and women, who could enjoy life much better were they mated. Granting that celibacy should be discouraged and opportunities for marriage made more plenty, I have a suggestion to offer, i. e., any young man who wishes to marry should advertise his wants, and any young woman thinking she fulfils the exactions stipulated should reply. I am of the opinion that marriages are less numerous because the prospective contracting parties do not have sufficient opportunity to meet.

I visit New-York and the East occasionally on business, but I have never been able to become acquainted with a nice girl, although young and passably good looking, with a good business and income, excellent habits and health, etc. I realize that matrimonial publications are held in low repute, yet I can't see why an honest man cannot safely and with honor seek a helpmate by means of a public medium. What say your fair readers about it? I might add that many of the bachelors in my vicinity are highly educated and also gentlemen in the highest acceptation of the term, as well as being possessed of a supply of this world's good things, of which only the helpmate is lacking.

S. J. W.

Iowa.

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BISHOP POTTER ON HOMES.

Tells "Smug Brother" Why Poor Can't Live in Country.

Bishop Potter discusses "The Ethics of Home Ownership" in the October "Good Housekeeping." Speaking of the menace of city life to any true home making, he points out how intricately the place of a person's residence is bound up with the means of transportation, until the latter becomes veritably a moral question.

"One finds a mechanic or workman by the day," says he. "He may be a skilled artisan, living in some narrow quarters, two or three rooms, let us say, in some narrow street, lined on both sides with skyscraping tenements, and says to him, with a virtuous note of reproach in his voice: 'Why do you live here? Why do you condemn your wife and children to these miserable surroundings? Why don't you remove to such and such a suburb, where you can lease a cottage for the rent, or, at worst, only a little more than the rent, you are paying here for two or three rooms, and yet with air and light and space such as these cramped quarters absolutely deny to you?'

"Well, my smug brother, who art going to heal all the diseases of an overcrowded centre in the tenement house life of a great city, have you ever really tried to understand why the wage earner who lives in an overcrowded city flat doesn't do what you propose? He likes to be near the corner saloon, you say; his wife likes a chance to gossip with her sister in toil across the hall; the children can be put to work earlier and more easily, and so assist in lightening the burden resting upon the paternal shoulders. The whole household likes the bustle and fellowships of city life.

"All the considerations which I have rehearsed may be urged by the pharisaical critic of the denizens in cheap and poor 'flats,' but they do not really touch the nerve of the matter. The wage earner who lives in such a home, and his wife, and his children, would often hail with delight the prospect of transplantation to the country. But, even were his family settled there, he himself must earn his bread in town. Nobody has any use for the handicraft at which he toils in the country. The factory that pays him his wages is in the city—and every morning he must go there, and every evening he must journey thence to his home. It may cost him only five cents each way—it is more likely to cost him ten—but this means, at the lowest estimate, 60 cents a week, or about $2 50 a month, out of his wages, for transportation.

"Have we ever thought, now, of the conditions under which the wage earner must make these journeys? He must be at his post at 7 a. m., and he cannot leave it until 6 p. m. That means that, for a large part of the year, he must travel both ways in the dark. Have we ever tried getting to a train or trolley car in the country on foot in February, in the dark? I confess I do not wonder at, and do not blame the wage earner, if, under such conditions, he elects to live nearer to 'his job,' and to spare himself the hardships of rural life. Some day, let us hope, it will be easier for him to reach a suburban home; and, meantime, let the capitalist realize that, just at this point, his responsibility, as put in trust of means for bettering rural homes and facilitating access to them, begins!"

As to the agitation against flathouse, apartment house and hotel life, the bishop points out that if one lives in his own house in New-York to-day he must be a person of considerable means, "and the great majority of young married people are not persons of considerable means. They have small salaries, and must, if they are to make both ends meet, scrutinize every smallest outlay with jealous care. In an apartment house they can get four or five rooms, and, it may be, board for a definite sum; and 'they know where they are.' But the 'apartment' makes no allowance for children, for guests, or for sickness. It would be trifling with human speech to call such an 'arrangement' a home. Of the notes that most ennoble a home it has none."

Discussing the attractions of apartment house life, he mentions the solution of the servant question as one of them.

"When one enters those huge caravansaries which are multiplying in our great, and also in our small, cities he recognizes at once an economy of service in the whole mechanism, which has, undoubtedly, immense conveniences. The young married couple have an 'apartment' and go to the restaurant for their meals. Of housekeeping, therefore, in the old fashioned sense there is practically nothing. The men servants and maid servants are those of the establishment,' and not in any sense those of the people whom they serve. If, therefore, a young married woman who lives in three or four rooms finds them neglected or carelessly swept and dusted by the maid in whose 'detail' they happen to be she complains to the manager, and the manager has certain summary rules which make short work of an inefficient servant. Is it any wonder that the great majority of young married women hail with delight a system which relieves them of the whole dreary business of hunting or educating 'help'?"

WOMEN IN THE CHURCHES.

Two useful institutions were dedicated by Methodist women during the last few weeks. The Woman's Home Missionary Society, of Kansas City, Mo., dedicated a $60,000 National Training School for Missionaries and Deaconesses. The Methodist women of the Pittsburg conference dedicated a $15,000 children's home at Hulton, Penn. The place, of seven acres, with a brick house, accommodating thirty children, was given by three daughters in memory of their mother.

Queen Alexandra has consented to become a patroness of the Stockport Sunday School, said to be the largest in the world. It was founded in 1784, and numbers 400 teachers and 5,000 scholars. Queen Victoria was formerly a patroness.

The Christian Woman's Board of Missions, during the last ten months, has raised $128,326, a gain of $7,500 over the previous year. It is free from debt, and sends seventeen new missionaries to foreign fields—three to Jamaica, five to India, four to Mexico, three to Porto Rico and two to South America. The board proposes to raise $100,000, aside from the regular income, from 100,000 women not now contributors.

Bishop Fowler, of the Methodist Church, had some interesting things to say on "The Woman of the Future" at Lasell Seminary the other day.

"This is not too much to say: That woman is the gauge measuring a civilization. Find her round on the ladder, and you can count the libraries, measure the schools, test the churches, number the railroads, without moving another step," said he. "History is a long demonstration of this. Sparta strangled female infants, and Sparta taught her sons to steal and murdered her slaves to familiarize her sons with sins of blood. Athens, in better mind, honored Aspasia, the wife of Pericles and the ornament of Athenian society; and Athens shows best, and Sparta is put into the background of the picture.

"The merely working woman cannot be the woman of the future. She is useful, as is a broom, but she needs some one else's idea to handle it. Bridget is muscle and cannot control the future.

"The merely fashionable woman cannot be the woman of the future. She is much more able than Bridget, but she is too light, like froth. She cannot be the woman we are talking about.

"The woman of the future is the little girl with a sound body. She has to go a great way to make that future, and needs all her strength. Men who always have the easy side of things cannot reach the front without being able to do the work of three men each. Truer of women. If you are rich and intend to carry a white woman's burden, the demands of society and of the dressmaker will send you into the shop for repairs. You must have a sound body.

"The woman of the future will be a thinker—an old habit of hers. Mrs. Stowe carried on the point of her pen two millions of armed men, five hundred parks of artillery and one thousand gunboats. 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' took hold of the continent by the arm and shook it.

"The woman of the future will be a queen. She has instinct, and can find the way to India without waiting centuries for the Pacific railroad. She has will power. She has persistence. She has sacrifice."

The full vote in all matters of church government has been given the women of the Episcopalian church in Tasmania.

A pretty controversy is on in England. A Cornish vicar closed his church on week days to sightseers because women would insist on entering it without hats. Thereupon a medical journal took up the matter and insisted that the clergyman should have commended the women instead of censuring them for introducing the first gleam of common sense into their attire. The women's papers and the daily papers have all expended valuable space on the subject.

GOOD CHEER.

Have you had a kindness shown—
Pass it on.
'Twas not given for you alone—
Pass it on.
Let it travel down the years,
Let it wipe another's tears,
Till in heaven the deed appears.
Pass it on.

AN OUTDOOR PRAYER.

Teach me, Father how to go
Softly as the grasses grow;
Hush my soul to meet the shock
Of the wild world as a rock;
But my spirit, propt with power,
Make as simple as a flower.
Let the dry heart fill its cup,
Like a poppy looking up;
Let life lightly wear her crown
Like a poppy looking down,
When its heart is filled with dew,
And its life begins anew.

—(Edwin Markham.

FOR GENERAL INFORMATION.

All letters and packages intended for the T. S. S. should be addressed to the Tribune Sunshine Society, Tribune Building, New-York City. If the above address is carefully observed communications intended for the T. S. S. will be less likely to go astray. The Tribune Sunshine Society has no connection with any other organization or publication using the word "Sunshine." All checks and money orders should be made payable to the Tribune Sunshine Society.

MONEY RECEIVED.

Miss Angell has sent $1 for Sunshine; "A Friend," at Fort Plain, N. Y., $1, in response to an appeal; Miss Tompkins, 15 cents for badges.

MRS. SHERMAN HAS RETURNED.

Mrs. Harry T. Sherman, president of the Souvenir Postal Club, returned from Europe on Tuesday. She writes: "I have had a delightful trip, having been to England, France, Switzerland, Germany and Holland, but I am glad to get home again and take up my sunshine work, although I have been in touch with all my members through postal cards. All summer I have sent cards from every country I've been in, and from their letters the members seem to have enjoyed them all very much. They have written such appreciative letters all summer, especially Miss Williams, of Mauch Chunk; Miss Shultz, Bethlehem; Mrs. Lincoln, of Richmond Hill, and Miss Lasch, of New-York.

COAL FUND.

John Krell, of New-Haven, Conn., writes that as the cold days will soon be here, bringing to many the need of warmth and comfort, he sends his mite, 25 cents. Mr. Krell's contribution is the first one received for the coal fund this year, and it was also his gift last year that started this special fund.

He says that he, too, almost gets discouraged in distributing cheer, as he receives so few acknowledgments, and he thinks those who receive should make known the fact either to the donor or the general office.

NEIGHBORHOOD WORK.

President of the T. S. S.: I wish to propose for members of our society three little neighbors of mine, all of South Orange—Edwina Reusch, Hazel Phillips and Gladys Mann. They are lovely children, full of sunshine, and playmates of Mary Noonan, who is already a member, and they will co-operate with her in Sunshine work. I inclose 15 cents in stamps for their badges. Please send them to me, and I will distribute them to the girls. My time has been so much occupied in taking care of my invalid father that I can manage to do only the Sunshine work that comes to my hands. Mrs. Thomas Noonan and Miss McGeean, Sunshine members and neighbors, prepared a package of clothing for a little orphan girl up here in South Orange, and have given the child much needed sunshine. I asked these members to report their work to you, but they are accustomed to make such kindly acts a part of their daily life, and hardly speak of them, and so it falls to me to tell you. With all good wishes, I am, yours in Sunshine,

MISS EMMA LOUISA TOMPKINS.

South Orange, N. J.

INVALID AT LITTLE FALLS.

Will the invalid at Little Falls, N. Y., who requested information about purchasing a second hand wheel chair please communicate with Mrs. Laura F. Atwood, No. 3 Franklin-st., Randolph, Vt., and she will get the desired information.

WANTS.

A Pennsylvania member would like to receive pieces of silk and velvet for Sunshine work; a West Virginia member would like to have a hand sewing machine. The cost is $5.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

A box of exceptionally fine sunshine was received yesterday from Harrison, N. Y. There were new combination suits of underwear, nightgowns to supply urgent needs and unfinished fancy work, with materials and silk. Another box of useful articles of clothing, a dressed doll, etc., came from Josephine Bates; embroidery silks, from Miss A. Morris; unfinished fancy work, from Mrs. E. S. Cover, eighty years old, in The Bronx; scrapbook pictures and cards, from Miss H. Lindsley; a box of dainty gifts, from Miss Angell, of Owego, N. Y.; Sunday school papers, without a name, which have been forwarded to a mission school in Kentucky; a large express box of dahlias, geraniums, gladioli, verbenas, etc., from Mrs. Anderson, of Carmel, N. Y., and a box of pretty shells for the inland Sunshine children, from Miss Newcome, of Woodhaven.

THE TRIBUNE PATTERN.

There is a charm to be found in the simple full waist that is always recognized, and that makes it a favorite for many occasions. At the moment, when bretelles and various fancy waists are greatly in vogue, it is doubly useful, and is greatly liked made in guimpe style of lingerie materials, while a bit later it will be exceedingly fashionable made of

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The pattern will be sent to any address on receipt of 10 cents. Please give number of pattern and bust measure distinctly. Address Pattern Department, New-York Tribune. If in a hurry for pattern, send an extra two-cent stamp, and we will mail by letter postage in sealed envelope.

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And tells what she sees in the "Smartest Set" of New York and Newport. By the authors of "The Lightning Conductor." The story of "LADY BETTY" begins in the OCTOBER

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15 Cents at All News-Stands

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HARVARD OPENS GATES.

Changes in Memorial Hall—President's Son a Freshman.

Cambridge, Mass., Sept. 28.—The 270th academic year of Harvard College was begun today. Just what the numbers of the various classes will be cannot be determined for several days, but it is believed that the entering class will be one of the largest in the history of the college.

Many improvements have been made in the college buildings during the summer, the most important being in Memorial Hall, where a large body of students eat their meals. A new serving room one story high has been built along the north side of the building, giving accommodation for two hundred additional men. This makes the dining room available for 1,400 students in all. The hall itself, upon the walls of which hang many famous portraits, has been renovated, and many of the pictures have been retouched. Another section of the fence which is being constructed about the yard was finished during the summer, completing the fence about the old campus, with the exception of three short open spaces.

Among the professors to return after a leave of absence are Paul Hanus, professor of the department of education, and Barrett Wendell, who for two years has been lecturing in France. Among the new teachers is Professor Julius Goebel, lecturer in German philology, formerly of Leland Stanford University.

Those who will be absent on leave during the year include Professors Henry P. Bowditch, of the Medical School, and P. B. Marcoe, of the French department.

Professor Francis G. Peabody will spend the first part of the year as the first Harvard professor interchanged with a German professor at the University of Berlin. Professor Santayara will deliver a series of lectures at the Sorbonne, in Paris. Professors Strobel and Westengard, of the law faculty, who have been advisers of the King of Siam for two years, have been granted another year to continue their services there.

Among the members of the entering class is Theodore Roosevelt, jr., son of the President of the United States.

Radcliffe College was opened to-day for its twenty-seventh year, and the entering class is expected to be the largest in its history. The Elizabeth Cary Agassiz house, the newest of the college buildings, will be occupied for the first time this year. It was built for the purpose of furthering the social life of Radcliffe.

THE OPENING AT YALE.

Registration Indicates General Increase in Enrolment of 3,100.

New-Haven, Conn., Sept. 28.—Yale University opened in all departments to-day for the college year. The registration of the entering classes indicated a general increase in enrolment, though the number of new students is not expected to be exceptionally large. The total attendance is estimated at about thirty-one hundred for the year.

The opening of the Law School was marked by addresses by President Hadley and Dean Henry Wade Rogers.

ON COLLEGE FALLACIES.

Address by Dean Lambert to Medical Students of Columbia.

President Nicholas Murray Butler of Columbia University followed the usual custom and introduced the dean to the students at the opening exercises of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, the medical adjunct of the university, yesterday afternoon, in the lower hall of the college building at No. 435 West 59th-st.

In his remarks, which were very brief, President Butler, referring to the Russo-Japanese War, said:

Through all of the reports of the conflict came the news of the most astonishing improvements in sanitation, in medicine and in surgery, until it seemed as though the physicians and surgeons had made war almost humane.

He then introduced Dean Lambert, head of the college faculty, to his students.

Dr. Lambert was sweeping in his criticism of the existing conditions in the curriculum of medical schools in his address, on "Some Present Fallacies in Medical Education." He declared that the four months' vacation was too much, as no one needed that full measure of rest.

Dr. Lambert said in part:

As most of the students and professors took up work during vacation, it was surprising that the summer session of the university was not better attended. The university offered the students an opportunity to advance their knowledge of medicine, and advantage had not been taken of it. It was not due to the expense, which was light compared with the amount paid every year for extra tuition, or to the character of the instruction given, which was by the same men who teach in the fall and winter. The cause, probably, was that the studies taken, except in two cases, were not counted for degrees. I would suggest that the university change this.

Another fallacy is "Trades Unionism in Medical Education," inasmuch as the curriculum, like trades unions, limits the work to be done by its members. It has been the fixed policy of the college for some time to limit the opportunity granted in the individual school to each individual student of medicine. No one student is permitted to secure more work than another, at least, with official sanction. The result has been that the students with better equipment, either of preliminary training or of natural endowment and intelligence, have been compelled to limit their activities to correspond with the capabilities for work and for intellectual absorption of their most poorly prepared and their least intelligent fellows. To characterize such a system as "unionizing" of medical education is to stigmatize it as a companion only of those degenerated trades unions which have fallen under the control of the worst elements among their members.

Another fallacy has to do with the confirmed habit of the medical student to modify the existing curriculum to meet his individual ideas, and the commonest error for a student to make in this respect has been to run away from his required duties and enter some hospital as a substitute for one of the house staff who is absent on leave. The work on the house staff of a general hospital is a most instructive experience, and an important addition to the more theoretical portions of a medical school's calendar. The cure for this is the supplying such work by the college as part of the curriculum.

TAKES UNION SEMINARY CHAIR.

The Rev. James Everett Frame Installed at School's Opening.

The sixty-ninth year of Union Theological Seminary was formally begun yesterday, with the installation of the Rev. James Everett Frame as Edward Robinson Professor of New Testament Theology. Mr. Frame came from Harvard thirteen years ago, and he has been identified with the seminary as student and instructor for that time. He succeeds Professor Briggs.

After devotional exercises John Crosby Brown, as president of the board of trustees, formally tendered the appointment to Mr. Frame. The Rev. Dr. Charles Cuthbert Hall, president of the seminary, delivered the charge to Mr. Frame, and the newly installed professor read a paper on New Testament theology.

UNIVERSITY CO-OPERATION MISSION.

Worcester, Mass., Sept. 28.—Professor Mehelm Poszkowski, of the University of Berlin, delivered an address at Clark University to-day, beginning his duties as special commissioner of the Emperor of Germany to visit American universities to establish a new system of international university co-operation. Professor Poszkowski announced that he would visit fourteen American universities in connection with his mission, a purpose of which is to establish closer working relations between the universities of Germany and the United States. The plan includes also a system of exchange of students and professors.

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY OPENS.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Middletown, Conn., Sept. 28.—Wesleyan University, the oldest college in this country under the patronage of the Methodist Episcopal Church, opened to-day with an entering class of more than one hundred, including ten young women students. Among the new instructors are Professor W. A. Heidel, from Iowa College, in the chair of Greek; Professor Karl P. Harrington, from the University of Maine, in the chair of Latin; Dr. T. W. Hewitt, from Worcester Academy, associate professor of Latin and Greek; Dr. R. P. Stephens, a graduate of Johns Hopkins, and W. A. Howland, of Wesleyan, instructors in mathematics, and J. W. Buddington, of Williams, instructor in biology.

WOULD DAM THE SARANAC RIVER.

State Senator Malby Presents Petition to State River Improvement Commission.

Albany, Sept. 28.—The State River Improvement Commission to-day was requested to authorize the construction of dams across the Saranac River at Franklin Mills and Union Falls. The petition was presented by State Senator Malby and Paul Smith, jr., on behalf of the towns of Franklin, Franklin County; St. Armand, Essex County, and Blackbrook, Clinton County.

The petition declares that the banks of the river are rendered unsanitary by frequent overflows, which leave sewage exposed to the air. They say that the proposed dams would regulate the floods and remedy existing conditions. The Paul Smith Electric Light and Power Company purposes to build the dams without expense to the State.

The petition was referred to Attorney General Mayer to determine whether the commission can grant such a right. The proposed dams would flood about four hundred acres of State lands.

AN ECHO FROM THE SUBWAY FLOOD.

John T. Oakley Demands That Rapid Transit Commission Repair Damages.

Commissioner John T. Oakley yesterday made a demand that the Rapid Transit Commission repair the watermain that burst and blocked the subway trains in Park-ave., near 42d-st., on June 11. He said that if the main was not repaired in a couple of days his department would do the work and make a claim for damages.

The commission told Mr. Oakley to go ahead, as he would probably be able to repair the damage as cheaply as was possible, and the question of damages and responsibility, as between the city and the contractor, could be settled in the courts later.

NEW-ENGLAND DAY AT IRISH FAIR.

New-England is to have a day at the Irish Industrial Exposition and Carnival, at Madison Square Garden, next Tuesday, which is set aside for the reception and entertainment of the Irish societies and public officials of the New-England States. The Governors and their staffs have all been invited to attend the exposition in a body. Special arrangements have been made with the railroads throughout New-England to run excursion trains. The State officers of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and other Irish organizations are personally in charge of the formation of excursion parties.

RED SHIRTS ONLY FOR PARADE.

Staten Island "Vamps" To Be Replaced by Croker's Men Sunday.

The red-shirted "vamps" of Staten Island will be superseded by paid firemen next Sunday. In place of the volunteer companies scattered along the north shore, seven companies of experienced men from Brooklyn and Manhattan will be stationed there. Battalion Chief William Guerin will be in command, with headquarters at Port Richmond. Commissioner Hayes will replace the "vamps" of the South Shore with paid firemen in a few months. Volunteer firemen may become members of the paid force if they can pass the Civil Service examinations, but they must first serve in the busy districts in Manhattan.

About a year and a half ago it cost about $15 to become a member of the volunteer department on Staten Island. Then some petty officeholder learned that the companies were to be abolished, and thought it would pay to become an exempt fireman. He spread the idea among his friends with the result that there was such a rush for enrolment in the Staten Island companies that the price of initiation jumped from $15 to $150 and $200.

ASA BIRD GARDINER ON ANDRE.

Ex-District Attorney Criticises Action of Historic Preservation Society.

The announcement that the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society has bought the André monument at Tappan, Rockland County, has met with criticism in some quarters, on the ground that it is an attempt to perpetuate the name of a British spy.

The statue was put up by Cyrus W. Field in September, 1885, as nearly as can be found out. The inscription was the work of Arthur Penrhyn Stanley, Dean of Westminster, and was intended to conciliate and draw together the two nations. Three attempts have been made, however, to blow it up. The American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society expects to form a small park about the monument and preserve it.

Colonel Asa Bird Gardiner yesterday denounced the project as weak-minded, and the result of the ignorance of historic facts on the part of the society. He said:

At the unveiling of the monument I said to Mr. Field: "Why don't you erect a monument to Benedict Arnold? It would be about as appropriate." It certainly would be more appropriate to erect a monument to the memory of the three men who captured André—Spaulding, Williams and Van Wart.

André was of Swiss parents, who moved to London. They had no social standing, but the young man was patronized by a British noble. This man got him the position of lieutenant in the 7th Regiment of Foot, known as the Welsh Fusileers. He came to America, and, by a fortunate series of circumstances, rose to the position of adjutant general of the British Army, under Sir Henry Clinton. He entered into negotiations with Arnold to gain possession of West Point; and, against the advice of Clinton, ascended the Hudson to deal with the traitor. It was while planning out a way to more easily massacre our brave patriots that he was captured. This is the sort of man whose memory the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society would preserve.

SEES MOTHER BURN TO DEATH.

Invalid Unable to Aid Sick Woman When Oil Stove Explodes.

Ogdensburg, N. Y., Sept. 28.—An oil stove warming the sickroom of Mrs. Ellen Nicholson exploded to-day, and Mrs. Nicholson was so seriously burned that she died to-night. She was eighty years old and feeble. Her daughter, an invalid, was also in the room and saw her mother fatally burned without being able to render assistance.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS OFFICERS.

Washington, Sept. 28.—Supreme Commander J. H. Bieler, of Indianapolis, was to-day re-elected to that office by the Supreme Lodge of the Improved Order of Knights of Pythias. Other officers chosen were Otto Miller, of Baltimore, Vice Supreme Commander; Louis Brandt, of Washington, Supreme Treasurer; Wolfgang Bauer, of Syracuse, Supreme Preiate; G. S. Knudel, of Indianapolis, Supreme Scribe, and George Poehler, of Buffalo, sergeant at arms.

A resolution was adopted commending the President's course in bringing about the Russian-Japanese peace treaty. The convention then adjourned.

THINKS WITNESS IS CAPTIVE.

Mother of Missing Brooklyn Woman Believes She Saw Joyce Murder.

Mrs. Margaret Kemp, of No. 329 South 3d-st., Williamsburg, according to a story published in a Brooklyn paper last night, believes that her daughter, May Isabelle Fowler, who has been away from home for two years, is being held a prisoner somewhere in Manhattan. Mrs. Kemp, it is said, thinks her daughter knows something about the murder of Ray Joyce, son of ex-Captain Walter Joyce, of the 71st Regiment, who was stabbed to death in Tobey's Café, Broadway and 31st-st., on the night of April 12, and that she is being held a prisoner to prevent her from telling what she knows about the case.

Mrs. Kemp was not at home last night, and her neighbors couldn't say when she would return. Those who know the family said they doubted very much if there was any truth in the story that Mrs. Kemp has been looking for her daughter, as the two quarrelled before the girl left her home.