

About People and Social Incidents.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

Washington, Dec. 13.—President Roosevelt received a visit to-day from "Uncle Jess" Claggett, of Frederick County, Md., who was introduced by Representative Pearra. Mr. Claggett was a member of the Rough Rider regiment, and as soon as he entered the executive office, the President recognized him and rose to grasp his hand.

Senators Ankeny and Piles, of Washington, called at the White House in a somewhat perturbed state to ask the President about the nomination of Miles Cannon as register of the land office at North Yakima. In their state, they were sent to the Senator yesterday. The President informed the Senators that Commissioner Richards had made the recommendation after the death of the former register, and he had appeared to receive any candidate of their own. Mr. Cannon is receiver of the land office at North Yakima, and familiar with the work at that point.

Though the price of camphor is regulated by a government bureau in Formosa, the monopoly thus established may eventually be broken. The gum can be produced from turpentine, to which it is closely allied chemically, and it has been manufactured on a small scale in the United States. Were competition between the artificial and natural products to operate as has that between synthetic indigo and the article derived from the indigo plant, the Formosan industry might be ruined.

A big industrial concern in New-England announces a voluntary increase of 10 per cent in the wages of all its 30,000 employees; but there will not be half the fuss made over it that there would have been over the ordering of a strike to secure such a raise.

A British explorer recently returned from Abyssinia reports the discovery of a region hitherto unknown to white men. Among the tributaries of the Blue Nile he found a mining population washing gold. He says thousands of natives are at this work and gold is plentiful.

Near the small town of Liegnitz, in Silesia, lies the village Knitz, which is the possessor of a small lake having a rush and reed covered island nestling in its centre. This island has been selected by a native dealer as a breeding ground for sea gulls and thousands may be seen there. The gulls are not only abundant but are also very tame. The demand is so large and the quantity of eggs secured is so considerable that the owner is making money quickly. The birds do not seem to object to the removal of their eggs, but lay all the faster to make up for the loss.

TO A FUR LINED COAT. Come from the coy retreat where Thou hast slumbered In an oblivion to the rounding year; Come, for the moments of his life are numbered, O grave and gracious, dignified (and dear); The gods have drawn close the time of frost begins; Come, may I need of these, sore need, my Coat of Skins.

How have I mourned the dawn of other winters! (A chilly thing am I, and frail to boot); The gods have drawn close the time of frost begins; The sharp East swept my heartstrings like a lute. How bilious was mine aspect in the glass! How blink my blue eyes, my nose how violet, blast And ever I grew hoarse, and ever more hoarse; And sterneration tore me with its throes; Men leaped and leaped, and I was in the mire; Has led me here, when I have blown my nose; And my teeth chattered, and my windly nose; Audibly rattled, like the clack of a millstone.

Now may we meet afresh. This morn my lynx eye Discerns a relish of the poignant North; The passing nose looms red, the nose is red; My hat a decent pretext, bear these forth! Come, let us take the air for some few rods; Gods! He mounts! He mounts! He mounts! He has a god's! Gods! Gods! (Punch.)

An English barrister, arguing before the criminal court, says "Answers," remarked with much solemnity to the presiding justice: "My lord, there is honor among thieves." The justice looked at him severely. "There is gold in sea water," he replied, "but it cannot be extracted in profitable quantities. Go on, sir."

Willing to Be Bribed.—Lady (at back door)—Well, what is it?—Lady (at front door)—I feel one of you periodical "Hobo-Da's" first word I want to see you about, Per me, my dear, I have a fine lot of goods here, I have a fine lot of goods here, I have a fine lot of goods here.

wrong to the people so thoroughly that it cannot be undone. This situation, as finally developed by the courts, is one manifestly calling for legislative remedy.

JUDGES, LAWYERS AND JEROME.

It is to be hoped that District Attorney Jerome's modesty will not silence him in the face of the failure of the Bar Association to call upon him for the facts on which his recent charges against the judges were based. He need not wait for any such invitation. The press is open to him, and he would find a welcome on many platforms. He has had a reasonable time since his original sensational speech on the subject to marshal his facts and at least give the few honest judges who are admitted on the bench the benefit of immunity from the general blight of his criticism. Still, if his health or the weight of his official duties makes more time desirable, the public will await his convenience with such patience as it may, provided only it understands that this cloud upon the judicial reputation is really to be cleared away by exposure of the judges who are not worthy of "even common, ordinary respect."

The Bar Association failed to "call" Mr. Jerome's hand; whether because it did not wish for his sake to expose what it thought a "bluff" or feared it was an uncomfortably "full house" he held, we have no means of knowing. It was equally chary about objecting to political activities on the part of judges, and contented itself with resolving to confer upon itself more influence hereafter in the nomination of judges. This eminently conservative course suggests a consciousness that things are not what they should be, tempered by a determination not to disturb things as they are. Better nominations are wanted for the future, but the nominations of the past will not be considered. The Bar Association retains its reputation as a highly respectable body that can be trusted to frown upon legal and judicial abuses after the people in general are well aroused to correct them. The absence of the Bar Association, however, does not deprive Mr. Jerome of his right or his duty to justify his serious strictures upon the personal and professional honor of our whole bench.

RAMAPO OBSTRUCTIONISTS.

Ramapo appears again as a dog in the manger. Years ago it tried to loot the city treasury and failed. Now it tries to prevent the city from getting an imperative needed water supply unless the city will pay some exorbitant tribute. Incidentally it is to be observed that Ramapo preserves the same characteristics of vagueness and mystery that marked it at its origin. We are told that it is a great corporation, which has spent large sums of money in good faith and has issued millions of dollars of stock to the honest investors; and yet the counsel who officially represents it confesses—or professes—that he does not know its president's name, does not know who controls it and does not know how he can find out such details about it! A precious hole-and-corner concern that, to stand in the way of one of the most important and most necessary public improvements ever undertaken by this city!

"Lost we forget," it may be well to recall a few facts concerning the Ramapo scheme. The Ramapo company proposed to supply this city with water, not exceeding 200,000,000 gallons a day for a term of forty years, for \$70 a million gallons. It proposed to get the water from Esop Creek and elsewhere in the same region from which the city now proposes to get its own supply. The monstrously exorbitant nature of this scheme was revealed by the reports of the city's expert engineers, who estimated that the city could get its water from that region, with its own system of reservoirs and aqueducts, at a total cost of \$17.2 a million gallons, or less than one-fourth the price demanded by Ramapo, and that for \$22.70 a million gallons it could get the supply and provide a sinking fund which would pay off the total cost of the works in forty years. Now the city is moving to go into that region and get its water for itself at a cost of from one-fourth to one-third of what Ramapo tried to export, and Ramapo tries to block the way!

We note, too, that Ramapo has been trying to stir up a lot of "local sentiment" against New-York's invasion of that territory as an outrage upon the people up and down the Hudson. To the reflective mind it will appear an interesting and somewhat suggestive fact that such a sentiment has only now been manifested. Years ago when Ramapo was making surveys and filing maps and getting options, and was preparing to take all the available water of that region for its own selfish gain, there was heard no word of protest. On the contrary, we were assured that the people were sitting up at night in their eagerness to welcome Ramapo and to surrender to it their water rights. Yet now, when New-York City wants to take the water on more favorable terms to the people than Ramapo offered, there is a wild ululation against what is apparently regarded as the consummate crime of all the ages. Why? In what respect will it be a greater hardship for the people to sell their water rights to New-York for New-York's own use than to sell them to Ramapo for it to resell to New-York? Has not a great city as good a right to take water for public needs as a private corporation has to take it for private gain?

On the whole, we are not prepared to believe that Ramapo's attempt at obstruction will prove successful. We note that Corporation Counsel Delany welcomes the opportunity of a passage at arms with Ramapo, likening his meeting with that concern to David's encounter with Goliath. We sincerely trust, and expect, that the result will be as satisfactory as was that of the Biblical duel, and that David Delany will, like his prototype, not only down Goliath Ramapo with a well slung stone, but will also slay off its head and make an end of the thing forever.

Two more election inspectors and two more Tammany heeled have packed their suitcases and stolen away. Apparently that was the last thing they could steal.

Mr. John Burns is said to have desired the Presidency of the Local Government Board, which he now fills in the British Cabinet, in order that he might deal with the problem of the unemployed. He thus sought the assumption of a burden at which the strongest man might well hesitate. If he bears it successfully, he will do a vast service and be entitled to untold praise. But what is a practical statesman to do with men who are out of work and whose families are starving and begging in the streets, but who refuse to work in relief establishments unless they get full "union" wages?

Russia is beginning to present some suggestion of Turgenieff's colossal vision of chaos, with the formless mass advancing over the plains with ominous speed and fury. But the spectre of the rider on the pale horse has not yet appeared in the heavens, and in its absence the world will continue to hope that the empire may be saved.

It may be all very well for a man to get his wife enfolded from using her tongue too freely in public. But just suppose she makes up for it in private!

crime it becomes a federal charge to the extent that he is entitled to trial, and, if convicted, punishment only by "due process," and that any person attempting, as by lynching, to interfere with that "due process" is guilty of crime against the United States.

The requirement of "due process," like that for the "equal protection of the laws," is a command laid upon the state. It is forbidden in its corporate capacity to violate either, and it may be argued that the interference with "due process" by an individual, so long as no more gives the United States jurisdiction than does a personal invasion of equal rights. Judge Jones, however, holds that such interference is a violation of the Revised Statutes, which punish a conspiracy to injure any person in "the exercise or enjoyment of any right or privilege secured to him by the Constitution or laws of the United States." That "due process" is one of these rights, and while the state is primarily forbidden by legislation to invade it, when the state has undertaken to administer it the attempt of an individual to interfere with that course is an offense against the federal as well as the state government. The United States often punishes persons who in violating a state law also violate a federal law. This is the doctrine of Judge Jones, the validity of which is still open to test.

THE CASE OF SANTO DOMINGO.

A year ago the Dominican Republic was practically bankrupt. Under incompetent and corrupt administration of its customs and other services its revenues were not sufficient to pay the running expenses of the government and interest on the public debt. Foreign creditors were clamorous and were preparing to intervene forcibly for the satisfaction of their claims. The republic was on the very verge of ruin. Then something happened. The Dominican President appealed to the American President for aid, and the American President lent him a man. This man, a young army officer, was appointed by the Dominican President a receiver of customs for the insular republic, to be paid for his services by the republic and to be accountable to it as it would be responsible for him. He reorganized the service with integrity and efficiency. He turned over 45 per cent of the gross receipts to the Dominican treasury for its running expenses, and put the rest, less costs of administration, into bank for liquidation of the public debt. That 45 per cent now amounts to more than the whole 100 per cent formerly received by the government! In addition, he put a stop to smuggling and facilitated the creation of an efficient police force. In brief, where he found bankruptcy, prostration and disorder he established solvency, prosperity and peace.

All this was done under a temporary and tentative arrangement. Now it is proposed to confirm and perpetuate the good work by means of a treaty, which is pending at the present moment before the Senate of the United States. If that treaty does not receive unanimous approval it will be interesting to know why not. It will be interesting to hear convincing reasons for disapproving an arrangement so purely beneficial as this has been. Until the votes are cast we shall hesitate to believe any Americans will oppose this country's playing the Good Samaritan when it can do so to its own profit and without the expenditure of even a little oil and wine.

NO RECOUNT.

The Court of Appeals by a vote of five to two has reversed the rule laid down by Judge Parker in the Brink case and adopted Judge Parker's present opinion that the court is without power to order a recount of the ballots in an election district, even when the return of votes for the candidates does not tally with the total number of votes cast, in which case, according to the terms of the Election law, the inspectors must make a recount. This decision practically gives Mr. McClellan the certificate of election and relegates Mr. Hearst to quo warranto or other proceedings to establish his title after January 1. Judges Bartlett and Vann, who dissent from the court's finding, argue that the legislature, in commanding the preservation for six months of the ballots and other documents relating to an election, manifestly intended to have them available for a recount, and they say: "If this is not to be permitted under the present law, a new 'election law cannot be too soon drafted and enacted." With full respect for the court's declaration that this is not permitted by the present law and the weighty reasons of public policy which, much more than the text of the law, probably led to that view and made the judges reluctant to assume an authority that might provoke long contests and unsettle government, we think this statement of the minority just and worthy of attention. No doubt it is highly desirable that the result of an election be promptly and finally declared. But it is not less desirable that it be honestly declared.

The present election law contains peculiar provisions and vests in the inspectors extraordinary powers which are a menace to the rights of citizens if they stand off and refuse to enforce upon the inspectors the proper performance of their duties. This law may be unwise and involve niceties of judgment on the part of the inspectors which are likely to delay counts and block government, as was pointed out in the Feeney case by the Second Department Appellate Division, in 1897, while the present Chief Judge Cullen was sitting in that tribunal. Though that court commented on the dangers of throwing a count into court and asked a change in the law, it did not for an instant think of shirking the duty under the law of forcing a proper count of miscounted ballots. Last year the Court of Appeals narrowed the scope of that supervisory duty, and held that the inspectors could not be forced by mandamus to make a recount except in case the totals of the votes for separate candidates and the tally of votes cast did not agree, when the law affirmatively calls for a recount. Now the court goes a step further, and even in such a case, orders a recount. If in 1897 the law involved public dangers, even with competent judicial oversight, in 1905 that same law, administered with greater dangers and oversight, involved greater dangers and, as Judges Bartlett and Vann say, should be modified.

Of old time the work of the election inspector was purely mathematical. There was no such thing as a void ballot. Every voter put his own ticket into the box. It might be white or pink, written or printed. That system gave free play to bribery, and adequate provisions for watchers and safeguards against ballot box stuffers were wanting. But the ballot, once in the box, was beyond question. The inspector had nothing to do but to count. The present law, however, puts upon the inspector a more delicate duty. It requires a special form of ballot containing certain peculiar marks and no others, and any ballot not conforming to the rule must not be counted. The inspectors, from being mere counting machines, become possessed of semi-judicial functions. They decide whether or not a man has voted legally and count or throw out his ballot. On the correctness of their judgment of the length or character of a pencil line a citizen's vote depends, and on that judgment, as now, may hang the title to an important office. These men are often ignorant; they work in haste; they are subject to prejudice and prone to think the crosses for their candidates good and other crosses bad. In view of this complicated duty and the likelihood of mistakes, the framers of the law provided a new safeguard against the new danger by ordering the preservation of the ballots for six months. Yet now it is finally determined that this safeguard is of no moment, that a recount cannot be ordered and that these ignorant inspectors are practically the court of last resort, who, when they say that an illegal ballot is legal and lock it in the box, have done a

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Business Notices. A Popular Advertising Medium. The New York Daily Tribune. Circulation Books Open.

New York Daily Tribune

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1905.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

CONGRESS.—Senate. In executive session the treaty with Santo Domingo was sent back to the Foreign Relations Committee for revision. House. Bitter personalities were exchanged on the Democratic side, Messrs. Lamar and Shackelford attacking Mr. Williams, the minority leader.

FOREIGN.—Messengers from Livonia reaching St. Petersburg say that Riga has been captured by the insurgents, and that a provisional government has been established. Twelve thousand Cossacks have been sent to put down the rebellion.

DOMESTIC.—The engagement of Miss Alice Roosevelt to Representative Nicholas Longworth, of Ohio, was announced at the White House, the wedding to take place about the middle of February.

LYNCHING AND FEDERAL LAW. The decision just handed down by the United States Supreme Court in the Riggins case turned on a technicality, and so does not pass upon the general principle involved in the plan for suppressing lynching proposed by United States District Judge Thomas G. Jones, of Alabama.

to John Leggett Pultz, will take place in February, the exact date not yet having been announced.

NEW-YORK SOCIETY. St. Bartholomew's will be the scene to-day of the wedding of Miss Ella Morris de Peyster to William B. Shoemaker.

At Sherry's this evening the first of the season's Cinderella dances will take place, and the guests will be received by a committee composed of Mrs. Archibald Rogers, Mrs. E. C. Harriman, Mrs. Henry Fairfield Osborn and Mrs. Amos Winter.

James Hazen Hyde will give a dinner next Sunday evening to Mme. Sarah Bernhardt at his house, in East 64th-st.

Among the debutante receptions set for this afternoon is that given by Mrs. John E. Cowdin for Miss Ethel Cowdin at her house, in Gramercy Park.

The reception which Mrs. George Winthrop Polson was announced as giving this afternoon to introduce her daughter, Miss Constance Polson, will not take place owing to the death of Lenox of Joseph S. Whistler, brother-in-law of Mrs. Polson.

Mrs. Charles Henry Coster introduced her daughter, Miss Emily Pell Coster, yesterday at a reception given for her at her house, No. 37 East 87th-st. Among those who assisted in receiving were Miss Pauline French, Miss Sally Dixon, Miss Eleanor Mortimer, Miss Gladys Pell, Miss Annie Kuntz, Miss Dorothy Kissel and Miss Rosalind Fisher.

Mrs. Frederick Snow will give a large theatre party this evening for her daughter, Miss Dorothy Snow. After the performance Mrs. Snow will take her guests to Sherry's for supper, which will be followed by dancing.

Mrs. Clarence S. Day will hold another of her Thursday receptions to-day at her new home, in East 88th-st.

Mr. and Mrs. William H. Lane, of Flushing, Long Island, announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Helen Bogart Lane, to Charles Davis Dew.

MISS ROOSEVELT TO WED. DR. PRITCHETT RESIGNS.

Her Engagement to Mr. Longworth Announced—Marriage in February. Coming Here to Devote Time to Carnegie Foundation.

Washington, Dec. 13.—Formal announcement was made late this afternoon by the President and Mrs. Roosevelt of the engagement of their daughter, Alice Lee Roosevelt, to Nicholas Longworth, Representative in Congress from the First District of Ohio, one of the Cincinnati districts. The wedding will take place about the middle of February.

According to custom, the engagement was announced to the friends of Miss Roosevelt and Mr. Longworth several days ago and to a number of Mr. Longworth's associates in the House yesterday. No idea was given as to the time of the wedding. The love affair of the two young people dates back about two years, when it became noticeable that wherever Miss Roosevelt was invited, there Representative Longworth was likely to be. Then followed Miss Roosevelt's visit to Mrs. Wallingford, the sister of Mr. Longworth, in Cincinnati, and the trip to the Philippines. They have been close companions since their return to the United States.

It is thought by those who are most intimate with the family that the wedding will take place in the Blue Room at the White House, where President Cleveland and Mrs. Folsom were married, and where Mrs. Roosevelt received the guests at Miss Roosevelt's debut five years ago. The last daughter of a President to be married in the White House was Nellie Grant, the daughter of President and Mrs. U. S. Grant, who was married to Mr. Sartoris, and from that time until the marriage of Mr. Cleveland there was no other White House bride. With the wedding so near at hand, conjectures as to the probable attendants of Miss Roosevelt are rife, and all her New-York cousins are suggested, as well as a number of young women who have been friends of Miss Roosevelt since her early school days, when her father was Civil Service Commissioner. Mr. Longworth was sent to Congress by the first party caucus, became an Ohio State Senator in 1901 and was later returned to the 58th and 59th Congresses. He has ever since coming here been prominent in society, and is a lover of all kinds of sports. His most intimate friends in the House are Representatives Gillett and Ames, of Massachusetts.

EARL OF ABERDEEN AT DUBLIN. Lord Lieutenant and Mr. Bryce Welcomed—Earl of Dudley Departs.

Dublin, Dec. 13.—The Earl of Dudley, the retiring Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, left Dublin to-day coincident with the arrival of his successor, the Earl of Aberdeen. There was the usual state procession through the streets, which were thronged with crowds and lined with troops and police.

SIR EDWARD GREY'S RECEPTION. London, Dec. 13.—Sir Edward Grey, the new Secretary for Foreign Affairs, held his first diplomatic reception to-day. Among those present were the French, Russian and Japanese Ambassadors and the Chinese and Persian Ministers.

TRANSATLANTIC TRAVELLERS. Among the passengers who sailed yesterday for Liverpool on the Barmore, Mr. and Mrs. Fitzhugh and Mrs. Amory S. J. Whitcomb.

MR. GILDER'S JUDICIOUS REPLY. From The Buffalo News. The young woman journalist was entertaining a hair dozen Wesley undergraduates at tea.

PAUL MORTON AND THE REBATE CASE. From The Recent Opinion of Judge Phillips. The attention because of the sensational association of the names of Mr. Ripley and Paul Morton, with the transaction, the record in the case, however, consisting of pleadings and exhibits, is being made known to the public by the publication of a book.