

About People and Social Incidents.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

Washington, Dec. 10.—The President today discussed with the members of his Cabinet the letter he addressed to them on November 19, printed in the Tribune of November 24, relating to the political activity of federal officeholders who are boomerang him for a third term.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

Washington, Dec. 10.—Mme. Jusserand, wife of the French Ambassador, will have charge of the stall for fancy articles at the Christmas sale to-morrow afternoon at the Hotel de Ville.

IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY.

Washington, Dec. 10.—The French Ambassador and Mme. Jusserand were the guests of honor at a dinner given to-night by the Assistant Secretary of the Navy and Mrs. Truman H. Newcomb.

MUSIC.

Maeterlinck and Debussy's Opera—An Exposition by Mr. Damosch.

An audience of fine character, and also large in numbers, attended a lecture by Mr. Walter Damosch in the Lyceum Theatre yesterday afternoon on the subject of "Pelléas et Mélisande," the opera by Maurice Maeterlinck and Claude Debussy, which Mr. Hammerstein has announced as one of the novelties at the Manhattan Opera.

ment to the former Ambassador to Italy and Mrs. William F. Draper. The engagement of Miss Florence Braden, who is now the guest of Mrs. John Davis, in I street, and Lieutenant Henry Edmondson Mitchell, 34 United States Cavalry, is announced.

NEW YORK SOCIETY. Mrs. Eugene S. Reynal will give a theatre party this evening for Miss Gertrude Sluom, after which she will take her guests to Sherry's for supper.

Mrs. Kathleen Emmet will formally introduce her niece, Miss Margaret M. Harris, at a reception in the afternoon in the Emmet home, No. 89 Madison avenue.

Mrs. W. Milligan Sloane will give a reception this afternoon for Miss Margaret M. Sloane at her home, in East 65th street.

Mrs. F. Quintard Richardson and E. D. Morgan Rowland will be married in Grace Church churchy to-day.

Mrs. Archibald Rogers gave a reception for the debut of her daughter, Miss Ellen H. Rogers, yesterday afternoon at her home, in West 53d street.

Mrs. Charles D. Dickey gave a reception at her home, in East 51st street, yesterday afternoon to introduce her daughter, Miss Frances Dickey, who wears a frock of white chiffon.

General and Mrs. Edwin A. McAlpin and Kenneth R. McAlpin have returned to their country home, at Ossining, and will be at the St. Regis for the winter.

Mrs. Artemus H. Holmes will give a domino party for Miss Hilda Holmes at her home, in Madison avenue, on December 20. The guests will all be young people, as Miss Holmes is not yet out.

Mrs. James Henry Smith and her daughter, Miss Anita Stewart, who arrived from Europe on board the Lusitania on Sunday, are at the Hotel Plaza, where they have taken apartments for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. George G. Freilinghuysen will return to town next week for the winter from their country home, Whippany Farm, Morristown, N. J.

Mr. and Mrs. John W. Foster were hosts at a dinner to-night given in honor of Dr. David Jayne Hill, the new American Ambassador to Berlin.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hinckley entertained a dinner party of eighteen guests to-night in compliment to the new Ambassador.

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a bit too strong, but perhaps "abomination of exploitation" would be more exactly expressive.

Those whom we may term not slightly but with sincere respect professional peacemakers receive recognition and reward this year through the bequest of Alfred Nobel.

AN OUTRAGE!

Doubtless some of the corner grocery stores in Latta, S. C., are now ringing with denunciations of "imperialism" and "federal high-handedness."

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

A cargo of three hundred reindeer purchased by Dr. Wilfred T. Grenfell, the Labrador medical missionary, is on the way from Norway on a special steamer.

Playwright—Is he acting natural? Manager (enthusiastically)—Natural? Why, when she appeared as the dying maid, she was so natural that I had to insure her for \$5,000.

A paper in Atrostook County, Me., in order to show what has been done in that county in growing potatoes is being circulated at night among the farmers.

Stern Parent (anxious to impress the lesson)—Now, my son, tell me why I have called you Tommy (pitifully)—Boo-hoo, there, you've given me a good talking and don't even know what for.

"When I lived in New York," writes a former New Yorker from Berlin, "there was a house near Central Park which should have borne the number 13, but because of the superstition of the occupant was secured to place the number '14' over the door."

"Don't you think it awfully good of me to help beautify your church?" "Oh, but then—you always do!"—London Opinion.

"Why go to China to find a triumph of vanity," as you designated the refusal of Chinese women to confess that they were old in order to be allowed to use opium?" writes a Paris woman.

Mrs. Colman Early—Do you ever permit your husband to go to the theatre? Mrs. Stronghold—Oh, yes, now and then. It doesn't hurt to let him make a fool of himself occasionally.

Boston's fire fighting strength has been increased by the addition of an automobile fire patrol wagon. There is the customary seat for the chauffeur and a seat beside him for one man.

Might Guess, Otherwise—Pugaboy—Do you know where I am going? The kindred are. The twilight. Wigwag—Not if you live.—Somerville Journal.

PROF. BAKER OPENS HYDE LECTURES.

Paris, Dec. 10.—Professor George Pierce Baker, of Harvard University, opened the series of lectures founded by James H. Hyde at the Sorbonne this afternoon.

AMERICAN OFFICERS ENTERTAINED.

San Juan, Porto Rico, Dec. 10.—The officers of the American torpedo flotilla, which is here on its way to the Pacific, were entertained last night by the officers of the Porto Rican regiment at a ball in the barracks.

FOR A SOCIETY OF JEWISH ART.

A meeting will take place at the Temple Emanuel on the evening of December 17 for the purpose of organizing a society of Jewish art.

Governor Coming Here Thursday. Albany, Dec. 10.—Governor Hughes will go on Thursday to New York to speak that evening at the dinner of the Pennsylvania Society at the Waldorf.

WHITTIER CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

Philadelphia, Dec. 10.—The 100th anniversary of the birth of John Greenleaf Whittier will be commemorated here and until next Tuesday, the centennial date of the century, by the Society of Friends, of which he was a devoted member.

CAPTAIN LEACOCK KILLED.

Montreal, Dec. 10.—Captain F. H. Leacock, a member of the United Service Club, of London, who left here last night for Ottawa, was found dead this morning beside the tracks of the Canadian Pacific Railroad, five miles west of the Windsor station.

FRANCOIS COPPEE'S ILLNESS.

Paris, Dec. 10.—The health of Francois Coppee is causing anxiety. The poet is weak, the result of overexertion.

the Cuban, though the dictator at Lisbon seems to be taking a leaf out of Governor Magoon's book in announcing that he will let parliamentary elections be held just as soon as the people show themselves ready for them.

THE REMOVAL OF MR. ABEARN.

The removal of Borough President Ahearn is an act of simple justice. It was ordered only after a most painstaking investigation in which the scrupulous fairness of the Governor's attitude toward the accused was patent throughout.

Every fact bearing on the case received the most patient consideration. The conclusion reached by the Governor is the only possible one, as every one knows who remembers the shocking state of disrepair into which Mr. Ahearn allowed the city streets to get and the speed with which he showed he could improve them as soon as he became frightened by aroused public sentiment.

Mr. Ahearn's only defence was a practical confession of his incompetence. Although the conditions came directly under his own eyes, as they did under the eyes of every man who had to use the streets, he declared he knew nothing about them until they were brought to his attention by the complaints of a civic organization.

The constitutional grounds on which Mr. Ahearn's removal is proposed to fight his removal are that the Borough President is not properly removable by the Governor.

And now an expert declares John Milton's Bible, the one the hard is supposed to have consulted while writing "Paradise Lost," a rank forgery. Although the leading European authorities on seventeenth century books and literature have pronounced the volume to be all it appears to be, a little judicious squinting through a microscope seems to have set all this professional wisdom at naught.

There are three kinds of collectors—scientific, sentimental and mercantile. The first collect birds' eggs, meteorites or typhoid germs in order to learn something about the nature of this world; the second gather old postage stamps, pieces of langman's rope and bricks from the San Francisco earthquake for the sake of the pleasant ideas that go with them; and the third collect anything anybody will buy for the sake of selling the same at top prices.

The question before us is very different from that which would be presented by a provision that the Governor might remove for misconduct in office after a notice and a hearing. The constitution, by Section 8, Article 10, provides that "The Legislature may declare any office vacant when no provision is made for that purpose in this constitution."

The removal of Mr. Ahearn was not arbitrary, but was made on charges and after a hearing, and so would appear to fall within this reservation of Chief Judge Cullen.

PORTUGAL'S DICTATORSHIP.

The Portuguese dictatorship seems to be vindicating itself in the only way in which it could be vindicated—namely, by beneficent success.

This may well believe to be the case. The corruption of former administrations was notorious, and it is not denied even by his enemies that the dictator has effected some radical reforms. It is indeed largely because of these reforms, because of the grafters whom he has put out of place, that he is furiously denounced.

In Mexico order was brought out of chaos by a domestic dictator. In Cuba the same work is being done through the intervention of an alien dictator. In both cases the needs that were great and the results are good. In Portugal the Mexican plan is followed more nearly

as "The Evening Post" imagines many naval officers do, that there is only a petty and trifling difference between the problem of coaling and victualling the whole fleet of sixteen battleships and that of this caring for two or three. The difference is far greater than the difference between the numbers of ships.

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Amusements. ACADEMY OF MUSIC—2-8-10-The Lion and the Mouse. ALABAMA—2-8-Vanderbilt.

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New York Daily Tribune

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THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

CONGRESS. Senate—Senator Aldrich introduced the Democratic Senators who had introduced measures relating to the financial stringency to have them all referred to the Finance Committee before the subject is debated.

FOREIGN.—The trial of General Stoessel for surrendering Port Arthur was begun in St. Petersburg. The trial of the German sailors was transferred to other steamers.

DOMESTIC.—Andrew Carnegie added \$2,000,000 to his endowment of \$10,000,000 for the Carnegie Institution at Washington. The Department of Agriculture estimates the total production of cotton for the year 1907-08 at 5,511,000,000 pounds, equivalent to 1,618,000,000 bales.

CITY.—Stocks were weak. A plan for the combination of the National Bank of New York and the Consolidated National Bank was learned. The Board of Aldermen delayed action until next week on open Sunday.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Fair. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 57 degrees; lowest, 48.

NOT AN "EMERGENCY" CRUISE.

With all the battleships assembled at Hampton Roads for their cruise to the western coast of the United States there appears some revival of controversy over the propriety of making the cruise.

The answer is, none; and that is one of the most gratifying features of the whole case. There is no emergency, present or prospective. It is a time of profound peace, and of peace as well assured in permanency as it can well be in this world.

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