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New-York Daily Tribune.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 1908.

This newspaper is owned and published by The Tribune Association, a New York corporation; office and principal place of business, Tribune Building, No. 154 Nassau street, New York; Ogden Mills, president; Nathaniel Tuttle, secretary and treasurer. The address of the officers is the office of this newspaper.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

CONGRESS.—House: Two more sections of the bill for codification and revision of the laws were passed, the Republicans mustering their full strength; the Gill resolution calling for correspondence in connection with the naval controversy was passed; Mr. Bennet, of New York, introduced a bill making ex-Presidents members at large of the House. ==== The Senate was not in session.

FOREIGN.—Sixteen children were killed and forty were injured in a rush for seats at an entertainment at the public hall at Barnsley, England. ==== Mulai Hafig was proclaimed Sultan at Fez and a holy war was declared; the capital is reported in confusion, and Europeans fear a massacre. ==== Baron Takahira was informed by the government at Tokio of his appointment as Ambassador to the United States; he expressed belief that all pending questions would be speedily settled satisfactorily to both countries. ==== Dispatches from Tokio said that many Corean insurgents were surrendering their arms under promise of pardon, and that an ordinance is proposed for the reorganization of the government of the Kwan-Tung Peninsula. ==== The North German Lloyd has taken over the Indo-Chinese trade of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha; the Cunard Line met the cut in steerage and second class rates of the White Star. ==== A wireless message was received at Rio from the American battleship fleet, saying that the warships were approaching that port. ==== Representatives of various nationalities suffering from oppression by the Sultan decided at a secret congress in Paris to unite to establish a constitutional regime in Turkey. ==== A Peking dispatch reports talk among high officials that in European countries would be considered as presaging a revolution.

DOMESTIC.—A number of visitors at the White House were told by the President that he was in favor of the passage of the Aldrich currency bill. ==== A third committee from Cuyahoga County, Ohio, to name state delegates to the National Republican Convention was chosen by a mass meeting of Foraker followers in Cleveland; the Taft candidacy was indorsed in Jefferson and Mahoning counties. ==== Favorable conditions in the state banks were reported at Albany by Clark Williams, Superintendent of Banking. ==== The annual report of the State Controller to the Legislature was made public at Albany. ==== Clark Williams, State Superintendent of Banks at Albany, indicated his approval of the plan for the Jenkins Trust Company, of Brooklyn, to reopen.

CITY.—Stocks were strong. ==== A young travelling salesman shot himself and his wife at the St. George Hotel, Brooklyn. ==== There were still two bodies of firemen in the ruins of the Parker Building. ==== An application was made by the Brooklyn Union Elevated Railroad Company for permission to abandon the Court street and Boerum Place stations on the Fulton street line and substitute one at Borough Hall. ==== Miss Gladys Vanderbilt and Count Szechenyi went to the City Hall and obtained a marriage license. ==== The seceding De Leon faction made overtures for peace in the Socialist party. ==== Mrs. J. G. Phelps Stokes told the rent "strikers" that she loved the red flag better than the Stars and Stripes. ==== It was said that the Thaw jury might be changed because a member of the panel had expressed a decided opinion. ==== New Jersey Democratic leaders met to plan a thorough organization of the party in the state. ==== It was said that the New York and Kings County Republican committees might again defer action in indorsing Governor Hughes as a Presidential candidate at their February meetings. ==== Police Commissioner Bingham delivered to District Attorney Jerome affidavits bearing upon the cases of three policemen who were under charges.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Rain or snow. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 41 degrees; lowest, 27.

THE SUFFRAGE IN MARYLAND.

The newly inaugurated Governor of Maryland, Austin L. Crothers, stepped from the state bench into the Governor's chair. His legal and judicial experience was expected to stand him in good stead in recommending new laws and administering old ones. Yet the advantages of his legal training are not apparent in the suggestions he made in his inaugural address last Thursday regarding the restriction of the suffrage in Maryland. There is, perhaps, no very serious opposition in the state to the safeguarding of the franchise and the imposition of stricter tests of qualification for voters. But Governor Crothers shows a curious confusion of ideas when he declares that Maryland should keep to the letter the guarantees of the federal Constitution, which forbids discrimination in granting the ballot on grounds of race or color, and yet asserts that "a high and momentous obligation" imposed on the new administration is "the elimination of the illiterate and irresponsible negro voters from the electorate." He bluntly asks the Legislature to draw and submit a constitutional amendment which shall "rid the state of the negro voter as a political factor and as an element of power within our borders."

The constitutional amendment defeated in 1905 attempted to eliminate the naturalized white voter as well as the negro voter and to establish an electoral aristocracy based on descent from ancestors qualified to vote before 1867. The new plan, if Governor Crothers has his way, will be aimed at the negro voter alone. Yet it is plain that if it is so aimed it will violate both the letter and the spirit of the Fifteenth Amendment to the federal Constitution. There is no pretence in the Governor's language that the restrictions to be imposed will strike at the illiterate and the irresponsible as such, but only at the negro illiterate and irresponsible. Such an intention is unwise, and in a state like Maryland wholly inexcusable; for Maryland has a voting population more than four-fifths white and is not threatened even remotely with "negro domination."

It may frankly be admitted that the exclusion from the franchise of all illiterate and irresponsible negroes would be of benefit to the state. But the exclusion of all illiterate and irresponsible persons, white as well as black, would be of still greater benefit. We think that ex-Governor Warfield showed much greater breadth of vision and statesmanship when he contended in 1904 and 1905 that the state should impose general suffrage tests and make them binding on all citizens, regardless of race or color. If under such tests a large proportion of the negro vote should be eliminated it would be no hardship to the small proportion of the white vote—that portion which would have to confess itself illiterate and irresponsible—to ask it to yield the suffrage for the good of the commonwealth. Under the present election laws more than a fifth of those who do vote do not get their votes counted, and are thus actually disfranchised—and that fraction includes many white voters. An amendment proposing impartial and constitutional tests would be gladly accepted by the people of Maryland as the price of an elimination of the so-called race issue, which has been used by the politicians to distract attention from misgovernment and to hinder reforms in the election laws which would soon break their rule. Maryland can afford to settle the suffrage question fairly and equitably, and with it settled the cumbersome and tricky ballot laws could be repealed and unhindered majority rule, with its healthful stimulus to political progress, could be once more restored.

DR. BRYAN'S PANACEA.

Three or four bills have been introduced in Congress within the last few days providing in various ways for the insurance of national bank deposits. Presumably the authors of these measures think there exists a public demand for such a guarantee. If so, why has it never been in evidence before? Why have depositors been perfectly content to put their money in banks, trusting to their own judgment to select established institutions of good reputation under the control of safe and conservative bankers? It is always assumed, and with justice, too, that where there is a real demand private enterprise is ready to satisfy it. Why has no insurance company entered into the field of guaranteeing bank deposits? On practically everything in which the risk is sufficiently large for the public to desire insurance against it a policy may be obtained. The fact is that the chance of ultimate loss through bank failure is negligible, and depositors realize that it is. If a company should enter the field, offering to write policies on bank deposits, it could not hope to obtain any patronage, even though it could do a profitable business at a tenth of 1 per cent. If such private insurance is impracticable, why, supposing there is a public demand for insurance of deposits, have not banks themselves recognized it and accordingly formed associations for the mutual insurance of one another's deposits? If there were any desire for such a guarantee the members of such mutual associations might have easily outdistanced their uninsured competitors in obtaining business.

The demand for a guarantee of deposits, then, is not sufficiently strong to invite a private company into that field of insurance, nor to commend itself to the consideration of banks in the intense competition for deposits, nor even to keep alive the practice when once established. The device is just now simply an after-panic suggestion—one of the innumerable panaceas with which a host of volunteers are offering to cure incurable ills. It comes duly labelled from the intellectual laboratory of our greatest financial quack, who demonstrated his ability to show the country how to get well quick just after the previous panic, in the most famous year in the annals of quackdom—to wit, 1896.

ROTTEN HOSE.

Last Friday night the brave firemen of New York City offered up a burnt offering to their rulers. It was an offering of unusual size and value; before the pious service was ended three heroes had vanished in the roaring pyre, a score more were on their way to hospitals and a skyscraper full of property reduced in market value from several million dollars to a penny or two. Whether on the roof of some nearby 14th street palace a local Nero fiddled as he watched the conflagration history saith not. It is unlikely that this happened, though; for the powers to whom the holocaust was offered up were doubtless busy pointing out to wrathful visitors the eminent respectability and honesty of all the high officials who have been connected in any way during the last five years with the purchase of the rotten hose whose treachery at the Parker Building fire almost certainly doubled or trebled the property loss and the number of dead and maimed. If they were not doing this they were probably planning to buy from some dearly loved friend the vast quantity of new hose which Fire Commissioner Lantry declares absolutely necessary. And we may all be sure that the new supply will be honest and respectable hose, warranted to make future holocausts right merry.

Why did so many lengths of hose burst? Why has one-half of the lengths used by Engine company 55, in Broome street, burst in the last eleven months? Why has the same misfortune befallen several other companies? The honest and respectable gentlemen of the administration are invited to choose their answer from the following possibilities: (1) Worthless hose had been purchased; (2) good hose had been bought, but improperly cared for; or, (3) the hose, originally sound, was worn out and not replaced, as it should have been. Firemen and a committee of experts representing the National Board of Fire Underwriters give the first and third answers. We venture to prophesy that few Tammany apologists will care to pick the second; the personnel and discipline of our engine companies, as well as the firemen's knowledge that their lives often depend upon the strength of their hose, make that excuse flimsy indeed. Corruption or maladministration then, which shall it be? And after Tammany's answer has been published will all the firemen let bygones be bygones and vote, as of yore, for the same old clique? Will the business men whose property may be chosen for the next burnt offering to the local deities still say they are too busy to dabble in reform politics?

SOUTH CAROLINA BLOODGUILTINESS.

Seldom if ever has a more impressive indictment of an American state for lawlessness been made than that which is brought against South Carolina by a correspondent of "The Charleston News and Courier." Its force is enhanced by the fact that it is made not by some Northern critic but by a South Carolinian in the foremost paper of that state, and by the further fact that it is made in a particularly detailed, deliberate and matter-of-fact way. The letter to the editor which contains it is not a rhetorical stump speech. It is a dry, succinct statement of facts of record, compiled by a careful student of the subject in hand, after the manner of a statistical table in a year book. The figures cover the last half of the year just ended, from July 1 to December 31. Here are the salient features of the recital: Persons committing homicide, 158, of whom 70 were white, 85 colored and 3 unknown. Victims of homicide, 158, of whom 79 were white and 79 were colored. Homicides committed with firearms, 121. Homicides in prohibition counties, 82; in dispensary counties, 76.

We must regret that one detail which would have been interesting was not secured or stated by the correspondent. That is, the number of persons of one race who were killed by persons of the same race and the number killed by those of the other race. That would indicate to what extent this wholesale manslaughter is due to racial animosities. But even in the absence of positive information on that point certain facts are pretty obvious. One is, as the correspondent remarks, that these homicides are not chiefly mere "nigger killings," since just half of the victims are white—proportionately more than half, because only 42 per cent of the inhabitants of the state are white. Also we may be very sure that the white men killed are not chiefly or even largely the victims of negroes, for if such were the case there would be a tremendous outbreak of reprisals. It seems safe to assume, therefore, that most of the whites slain were victims of whites, and vice versa. Moreover, interesting as the missing details would be, and valuable as they would be from some points of view, they would have no bearing on the intrinsic morals of the case. Under the Decalogue, the common law and statute law it is just as bad for a man to kill a man of another race as one of his own race.

The appalling fact is that murder is rampant in South Carolina. There is no longer any cause for holding up some of our hot blooded naturalized citizens, not even those belonging to criminal societies, as being the worst offenders. South Carolina is conspicuously a "native born" commonwealth. Her foreign born inhabitants are an inconsiderable fraction of 1 per cent. Yet of her 600,000 native born white inhabitants one is murdered and one commits murder every three days or a little less; and of her whole population of, say, 1,500,000, more than 99 per cent native born, nearly one a day is done to death. It is to be noted, too, that the great majority of these homicides are committed with firearms, chiefly pistols, carried with the express purpose, or at least the expectation, of such use. There is no exaggeration in saying, as the correspondent does, of such a state of affairs that if tolerated much longer it will—it obviously must—result in untold evil to the state. It is not beyond bounds to add, as does "The News and Courier," that the sin of South Carolina is bloodguiltiness and that the state is stained with blood from the mountains to the sea. It is well that some clear, brave voices are raised in that state against its awful sin, and we earnestly hope that they will not prove to be voices crying in an irresponsive wilderness.

THE NEW PUBLIC LIBRARY.

A building enterprise which is carried over a period of years gets to be taken as a matter of course. For this reason there are doubtless thousands of New Yorkers who have only a casual idea of what has been done toward providing the Public Library of this city with an adequate home. In order to throw new and abundant light upon a remarkable achievement in civic progress, The Tribune devotes a number of the pages in this issue to the building in Fifth avenue which places New York, as regards its Public Library, among the first cities of the world. Numerous photographs exhibit the beauty of the edifice inside and out, and in several articles its artistic and practical merits are set forth. We commend this unique memorial, the first to treat the subject with a thoroughness and on a scale commensurate with its interest, to all those who take pride in the higher activities of New York.

Five years have passed since the cornerstone of the new Public Library was laid, and some time must elapse before the building is finished. But the greatest obstructions have been overcome and the architects, Messrs. Carrère & Hastings, are confident of a reasonably rapid completion of their undertaking. They testify with enthusiasm to the aid which they have received from the municipal administration. Mayor McClellan has taken the keenest interest in this great public work, lending the full weight of his support to every measure required for the swift letting of contracts and the steady furtherance of construction. He and the trustees of the library are at one in desiring that the building may be made perfect in every detail and that it should be got in readiness for use at the earliest possible moment. The architects, conscious of the importance and distinction of their task, are pursuing it with equal ardor and care. The citizens of the metropolis may congratulate themselves on the fine public spirit with which the work is urged forward.

CENTRAL AMERICAN REVOLUTIONISTS.

Writing in the "Diaro de la Marina," of Havana, Mr. Antonio Escobar, the well known Cuban correspondent at Washington, comments somewhat pessimistically upon that one of the recently signed Central American conventions which relates to the non-recognition of revolutionary governments, holding that the commendable agreement not to recognize a government established through a revolution or a *coup d'état* is practically nullified by the conjoined provision that such a government may be recognized if and when the people of the country concerned ratify it in a constitutional manner. His view is that a revolutionary dictator could afford to go without recognition for a few months, until he had prevailed upon the people to elect him regularly according to the constitution, and that it would be far better for the states, instead of agreeing not to interfere in the domestic affairs of any of their number, to provide for concerted intervention by all, so that a revolutionary leader in one state would have not only to overthrow the government of that state but also to establish and maintain his ground against the united forces of the other four.

Theoretically that may be a correct view of the case. Precisely the course of events suggested by Mr. Escobar has more than once occurred, and may occur again. It might be supposed, moreover, that the assured active union of all the states against him would be a sufficient discouragement or an insuperable obstacle to the average would-be revolutionist. But there are many things which are theoretically possible which are also practically highly improbable, and there are things which are theoretically desirable which would in practice be most undesirable. A revolutionist might effect a *coup d'état* and a little later acquire a constitutional status and consequent international recognition, but we believe that the making of this and the accompanying treaties has rendered such a performance vastly less probable than heretofore. It is, moreover, a matter of well known record that a revolution in any Central American state has usually had its origin in or has drawn indispensable aid from some neighboring state. With the abolition of those conditions the danger of revolutions must be diminished. The other four states might, also, unitedly intervene to prevent a revolution in the fifth, but in practice their doing so would be likely to involve the whole five in the frequent wars which it is now so much desired to avoid; and it is quite certain that such intervention would greatly intensify the zeal and stubbornness of the revolutionary party.

On the whole, therefore, it may well be the part of wisdom to let the treaty stand as it is. For what is most desirable, after all, is not to bind the states with rigid fetters of convention in all details, but to effect general agreement upon a few basic principles and then trust to the educational influence of that system to elevate the entire standard and practice of them all. Something must be left to honor and discretion and to the will to do right. It is no small thing that the five states are now agreeing, in the presence and with the moral cooperation of the United States and Mexico, to refrain from wars and revolutions and to discourage and discountenance such proceedings. Possibly that pledge will not remain altogether unbroken. We have had actual secession once and secession plots more than once in our own land. But we are not sure that it will not be better for each Central American state to work out its own salvation, even at the cost of contending with a few revolutionary attempts, than for all of them to be bound to engage in universal war whenever a disturbance occurs in any one of them.

Mulai Hafig has played his last card in his desperate game by proclaiming a "holy war" at Fez. The result may be serious, or it may not. It doubtless would be if all the faithful responded to the call. But it is not at all certain that they will do so. Owen Glendower could "call spirits from the vasty deep." So, he was aptly reminded, could anybody. The question was, Would they come?

There were 75,000 mourners at the funeral of an East Side Yiddish poet. Yet there are those who think that the poet of to-day is a man without an audience and without a mission.

The appointment by the President of James Francis Blawn, son of John S. Blawn, private, 10th Battery, United States Field Artillery, as a cadet to the West Point Military Academy is a just recognition of and will give general satisfaction to the enlisted men. It is also a practical rebuke to those persons who have endeavored to misrepresent the methods employed in selecting principals and alternates for the Military Academy. It is to be hoped that a creditable academic record may be earned by the son of the man behind the gun.

Baron Takahira, who has been appointed Japanese Ambassador to America, is well known here, in both New York and Washington, through his former diplomatic and consular services, and all that is known of him is good. He will be welcome privately as an agreeable and estimable man and publicly as the representative of a great and friendly nation.

Welcome, indeed was the letter from Mr. Charles L. Thompson, secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions, stating that the recent news dispatch from Asheville, N. C., was a perversion of facts and that the board did not reject Mr. Roebling's offer of his estate because of his political views. We rejoice that our faith in human nature and the progress of the race is in no immediate danger of being shattered by the revival of the primitive ethics which a practical joker or an impecunious correspondent announced by wire. This is an occasion on which it is good to have been proved in the wrong.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

Rheumatism being such a universal complaint, it is hardly to be wondered at that there exists a paper entirely for the benefit of rheumatic sufferers. This is published in Germany, and in it rheumatic patients discuss their symptoms and tell of anything that has proved a relief to their pains, while medical men contribute articles to it on the different phases, symptoms and species of rheumatism and the progress which the cure of rheumatism is steadily making. Needless to say, most rheumatic patients in Germany make a point of seeing this strange publication.

"What happened when you passed a law against gambling in your state?"
"The bookmakers got right to work making bets on whether it would be enforced or not."—Washington Star.

A consular report on the control of outdoor advertising in Lima, Peru, says: "The municipality of Lima regulates all outdoor advertising within the city limits, the respective tariffs covering all classes of advertisements, by making it unlawful to fix any advertisement or advertising matter on the walls of houses, carts, moving vehicles of any kind, or any structure except that placed on the municipal billboards. While the city owns and controls the billboards, it has found it more advantageous to sell the exclusive right to some advertising firm. A certain fixed amount is paid by this firm each month for the exclusive privilege, the contract running three years, and all advertising must be done through this firm. The tariff fixed by the city makes a price of about 30 cents a month for advertisements 36 by 26 inches, and this size is the one most generally used. The contract signed by the city on September 1, 1907, for the succeeding three years is with an American firm, which has established an office at Lima for distributing samples and general advertising for the city and the republic."

Margaret (to young brother—coaxingly)—Oh, Willie, are you an angel?
Willie—Not if it's anything upstairs.—Punch.

In an article on "Outdoor Sleeping and Living," in "Country Life in America" for January, Dr. Thomas McAdam says: "It costs about $50 to screen a veranda large enough for a family of four. The three grades of wire netting cost about $4 66, $10 30 and $24 38, respectively, for a roll 100 feet long and a yard wide. The first may last two seasons and the second four, but the copper wire is the only rustless and permanent thing. I would never be satisfied with anything else. It is maddening to have fly screens rust to pieces after a single season. I would rather have mosquito netting if I couldn't afford copper. The cost of an outfit for winter sleeping in cold countries is about $30 to $50, including cot and mattress, but if it saves you $200 in doctor bills and adds immeasurably to your happiness you cannot afford to do without it. The main item is the three down comforters, which give a maximum of warmth with a minimum of weight, so that the limbs never feel oppressed. Then you need a woollen blanket the width of your bed and twice its length, because this is to inclose the comforters and protect the feet from exposure."

Manager—Now, as to the moral quality of the piece, we wish that to be very conspicuous.
Playwright—By its absence?
Manager—Oh, when it comes to mere details of method, we leave everything to you, of course. We don't care how you manage it.—Puck.

COMMENTS ON TAFT'S SPEECH.

APPROVED BY HIS AUDIENCE.

From The Springfield Republican.

The Secretary proved equally effective in attack and defence, and his prompt and forcible replies and occasionally witty sallies evoked the same demonstrative approval as greeted the salient points of his address.

TEMPERATE AND CANDID.

From The New York Times.

The representatives of organized labor can hardly make any serious criticism, we should say, on the reply of Mr. Taft to their questions as to injunctions in strike cases. It seems a temperate, candid statement of the opinions of a fair-minded and careful lawyer.

AN EFFECTIVE DEBATE.

From The Brooklyn Standard Union.

It is probably true Secretary Taft is not a great orator, but he is undoubtedly what happens to be even more popular just now—a taking and effective debater. We have not had that class of public speaker in the most prominent place before the public since perhaps the time of Garfield, but its characteristics are likely to come into fashion again.

A FAIR PROPOSITION.

From The Brooklyn Eagle.

What he had to say about labor and injunctions reached back to some of his decisions when a judge in Cincinnati and reached forward to a further judicial step which, he thought, should be facilitated to make law more limber than it is now. He believes in injunctions, but he would have another judge than the one who grants them pass on them when they are appealed from. That sounds fair and that is fair, within limits.

SOUND AND PERTINENT.

From The New York Evening Post.

Mr. Taft appeared to excellent advantage in his address at Cooper Union last night. He stood up as his own man to express his own views, and they were in the main sound and pertinent. No one can make a long speech on capital and labor without saying a great many undisputed things in a solemn way, and the Secretary said them. But on the chief points at issue, and especially those which have been made against his own Presidential candidacy on the basis of his decisions when a judge, he spoke with emphasis and courage.

"INSTRUCTED BY COMMON SENSE."

From The New York Globe.

The Secretary, instructed, as usual, by common sense, brings home without an unnecessary word the truth that if all power is centred in a few hands this power in all likelihood will be abused to the possible destruction of the Republic. The perturbed persons who have pretended to fear that Secretary Taft is an excessive centralizer may pluck up confidence. As to this fundamental matter he is a leaner on no other man's view—he has definite ideas of his own of which he is unashamed, and which on all proper occasions he is ready to avow.

About People and Social Incidents.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Jan. 11.—The President held a conference this afternoon with Senator Knox over the Senator's employers' liability bill.

Senator Taliaferro, of Florida, escorted his new colleague, Senator William James Bryan, to the White House this morning. The President said he was very glad, indeed, to shake the hand of the "Infant of the Senate," and invited Senator Bryan to call upon him frequently.

Senators Burkett and Brown, of Nebraska, who are backing different candidates for the internal revenue collectorship of their state, met in the Pesident's office to-day and attempted but failed to reach concurrence.

Other callers at the White House included Senators Long, Warner, Wetmore, Heyburn, Smith, Burrows and Piles, Representatives Foster, Candler, Brownlow, Smith, Kahn, Hayes, Reeder and Bradley, Leslie M. Shaw, Charles H. Scott, Republican National Committeeman from Alabama; Herbert Knox Smith, Commissioner of Corporations, and Captain Seth Bullock, United States Marshal for South Dakota.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Jan. 11.—The Ambassador from Italy and Baroness Mayor des Planches have issued invitations for a dinner party at the embassy on February 3.

Baroness Hengelmüller, who made the evening reception in Washington a success, received at the Austro-Hungarian Embassy to-night, between 10 and 12 o'clock, a number of prominent persons, who were earlier in the evening guests at dinner parties. Mrs. Hubbard and Miss Oelrichs, of New York, house guests at the embassy, assisted the baroness in receiving.

The Mexican Ambassador and Señora Creel, who will leave Washington next Saturday for a visit of three months in Mexico, are engaged for almost every hour with some social entertainment.

Mme. Chermont, wife of the second secretary of the Brazilian Embassy, was hostess at luncheon to-day to Miss Nabuco, daughter of the Ambassador and Mme. Nabuco. Miss Ridgely, Miss Garlington, Miss Sadie Murray, Miss Noble, the Misses Buetler, the Misses Bond and others were in the party.

IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Jan. 11.—The Vice-President and Mrs. Fairbanks entertained a dinner party at their K street home to-night.

The Postmaster General and Mrs. Meyer entertained a dinner party to-night, having as guests the Attorney General and Mrs. Bonaparte, the Secretary of the Interior and Mrs. Garfield, the Secretary of Commerce and Labor and Mrs. Straus, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy and Mrs. Newberry, the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury and Mrs. Beekman Winthrop, Representative and Mrs. Herbert Parsons, Mr. and Mrs. Alford Cooley, Senator Bourne, Miss Jackson, Miss Lovering, William C. Lovering and Mr. Hitchcock.

Mrs. Frederick H. Benedict, of New York, who has a house in N street this winter, entertained at dinner to-night the Secretary of the Navy and Mrs. Metcalf, the Minister from Belgium and Baroness Moncheur, Viscount d'Alte, Minister from Portugal; Mr. and Mrs. Pierre Lorillard, Mr. and Mrs. Woodbury Blair, Associate Justice Moody and Mrs. Hobson.

Mrs. Richard Butler entertained at dinner to-night in honor of the Mexican Ambassador and Señora de Creel. To meet them were ex-Associate Justice and Mrs. Brown, Senator and Mrs. Burrows, Major General and Mrs. Gillespie, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Wadsworth and Senator Warren.

Mrs. Edwards, wife of Brigadier General Clarence R. Edwards, was hostess to-day for Mr. and Mrs. William Douglas Sloane, of New York, the house guests of Rear Admiral and Mrs. William Sheffield Cowles, who were also of the breakfast party. The other guests were Representative and Mrs. Longworth, Major and Mrs. McCawley, Mr. Brun, the Minister from Denmark; Mrs. Keep and Lieutenant Commander Clelland Davis.

The wedding at 4 o'clock this afternoon of Miss Gertrude Claggett, daughter of Mrs. William H. Claggett, and Paymaster Edmund W. Bonnaffon, was celebrated by the Rev. Father Buckey. There was a decided military aspect, the bridegroom, his best man, Lieutenant Sylvester Bonnaffon, and six of the eight ushers being in full dress uniforms. Henri de Sibour, of Washington, the bride's brother-in-law; C. E. Gilpen, of Philadelphia; Naval Constructor Stuart Farrar Smith, Lieutenant Commander Clelland Davis, Paymaster George P. Dyer, Paymaster George C. Schafer, Paymaster John R. Hornberger, and Assistant Paymaster Reginald Spear were ushers. Mme. de Sibour, the bride's sister, was matron of honor and her only attendant.

NEW YORK SOCIETY.

New York's social season is now at its height. The date has been definitely set for each of the two weddings concerning the time of which there has been much speculation. The marriage of Miss Gladys Vanderbilt to Count Laszlo Szechenyi will be solemnized by Monsignor Lavelle, rector of St. Patrick's Cathedral, on January 27, at Mrs. Vanderbilt's house in West 57th street. The other marriage, that of Miss Theodora Shonts to the Duc de Chaulnes, will take place on Saturday, February 15, probably at the home of the bride. Several of the duke's relatives, notably his brother-in-law and sister, the Duc and Duchess d'Uzes, are expected to come to this country for the ceremony, while the kinsfolk of Count Szechenyi who have been invited to his wedding are already on the ocean and are due here on Tuesday or Wednesday. They will figure conspicuously in the remaining entertainments of the season, which will come to an early close with the departure of many of the members of the fashionable set for the South and for Europe.

With regard to the programme of the week opening to-day, Mme. Nordica, who will leave in a few days for Chicago to fulfil professional engagements, gives a musical this evening at Sherry's, to which she has asked a large number of friends, and which will be followed by a supper. Victor Maurel, barytone; Signor Constantino, tenor; Eduard Dethier, violinist, and Vladimir de Pachmann will assist Mme. Nordica in entertaining her guests. Her absence in Chicago will prevent her from taking the part of the French maid in the play which is to form the feature of Frederick Townsend Martin's afternoon tea at the Plaza on Tuesday week, and in which Mrs. George Gould is to appear, supported by Kyrle Bellew.

To-morrow evening Mrs. John Jacob Astor, who has been prevented by mourning for her father and by the severe illness of her mother-in-law from taking any active share in the hospitalities of the last two seasons, gives a large dinner party, followed by a dramatic entertainment, at her house in Fifth avenue. "The Van Dyke" and "The Shirkers" will be presented by Arnold Daly and his company on a portable stage obtained from the Waldorf-Astoria, and which will be set up for the occasion in the large ballroom and picture gallery which serves as a means of communication between Colonel Astor's house and that of his mother. About ninety invitations have been issued for the dinner, and some two hundred additional guests have been asked to come in afterward for the theatricals. To-morrow week Mrs. John Jacob Astor will give a dance.

These will not be the only contributions of the Astor family to the gayeties of the season, for Mrs. M. Orme Wilson will give a dance on Friday evening at her house in East 64th street for her two sons and another dance about a fortnight later. On Thursday evening next Mrs. Frederick W. Whitridge will give a large dance for her daughter, Miss Joan Whitridge, one of the debutantes of the season, at her house in East 11th street.

On Tuesday night Mrs. Paul Tuckerman, Mrs. Archibald Rogers, Mrs. Charles Henry Coster, Mrs. Charles D. Dickey, Mrs. John E. Alexandre and Mrs. Edwin D. Morgan give another of their dances at Sherry's for their debutante daughters. Their former entertainment of this kind took place on December 12.

Among the weddings of the week is that of Samuel T. Skidmore, of the Union and other New York clubs, to Miss Judith Dousman, youngest daughter of Mrs. N. S. Dousman, of Prairie du Chien, Wis., and granddaughter of the late Samuel D. Sturgis, U. S. A. The Rev. H. C. Semple of the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola will perform the ceremony on Wednesday next at the Fifth avenue house of the bride's sister, Mrs. Arthur Cosby, who will afterward give a small reception for the newly married couple.

On Saturday the marriage of Miss Mabel Lefferts Jones to Gustavus Calhoun Marshall will take place at the Brick Presbyterian Church, Fifth avenue and 37th street. Miss Gladys Jones will be her sister's maid of honor, and Miss Sarah and Miss Charlotte Marshall, Miss Eleanor Gurran, Miss Gertrude Easton and Miss Ruth Ashmore will be the bridesmaids. Edward Clarkson Potter, jr., Arthur Cooley, Robert Bartholomew, Howard Jackson and Erwin Cornell will be the ushers and S. Duncan Marshall, jr., the best man. After the ceremony a reception will be given by the parents of the bride, Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Arven Jones, at their house in West 51st street.

Mrs. John R. Drexel has issued invitations for a dinner dance at her house in East 62d street on Thursday week for her nieces, Miss Mary Astor Paul and Miss Frances Fell, the latter a daughter of Mrs. Alexander Van Rensselaer, of Philadelphia. On the following evening Mrs. William Douglas Sloane will give a dance for her niece, Miss Emily Sloane, the debutante daughter of Henry T. Sloane, at her house in West 52d street. Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney has a dance on Tuesday week at her house in West 57th street for her sister, Miss Gladys Vanderbilt, and for the latter's fiancé, while Mrs. Ogden Mills will give a dance at her house in East 69th street on Friday, January 31.

Dinners were given last night by Mrs. Charles H. Marshall for her debutante daughter, Miss Evelyn Marshall, at her house in East 77th street, and by Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt at her house in Fifth avenue. Mrs. Vanderbilt has planned a series of musicals, the first one of which will take place on Saturday, when the Philharmonic orchestra will play, with Fritz Kreisler as violin soloist, while on the following Saturday Miss Geraldine Farrar, of the Metropolitan Opera, will be on the programme.

Mrs. Charles R. Huntington, Mrs. Charles E. Sands and Mrs. John C. Jay were among the patronesses receiving the guests at Delmonico's, where another of the Saturday Evening dances took place last night. Francis Johnstone Hopson led the cotillon.

Mr. and Mrs. William Douglas Sloane have left for Washington, where they are staying with Rear Admiral and Mrs. William Sheffield Cowles. To-night the Austrian Ambassador and Baroness von Hengelmüller give a dinner in their honor.

Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Drexel and Miss Drexel have arrived in town from Philadelphia and are staying at the Plaza.

The annual charity ball, the fifty-second of the yearly series in behalf of the Nursery and Child's Hospital, will take place on Tuesday evening, February 4, at the Waldorf-Astoria. Boxes may be obtained from Mrs. Alexander T. Van Nest, of No. 31 West 37th street, between the hours of 11 and 1.

The Duc de Chaulnes has arrived in town and is staying at the Waldorf-Astoria.

Mrs. José F. de Navarro will be at home on Thursdays at No. 13 West 46th street the remainder of the season.

Among those who sailed for Europe yesterday were Lord Herbert Vane Tempest, brother of the Marquis of Londonderry, who has been over here for a few weeks, and Prince Lynar, who has been transferred from the German Embassy at Washington to that at Rome.

From Europe comes the announcement of the engagement of Countess Fabbricotti, who is well known in New York society, to Baron Aliotti, formerly attached to the Italian Embassy at Washington.

Mr. and Mrs. Rutherfurd Stuyvesant are booked to sail on Wednesday next on board the Oceanic to spend the remainder of the winter and the spring at their house in Paris.

NOTES FROM TUXEDO PARK.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Tuxedo Park, N. Y., Jan. 11.—Ideal winter weather to-day favored the Tuxedo colonists for their week-end entertainment. Many came out from town to stay at the clubhouse, and the cottages that still remain open entertained guests.

The winter sports attracted a large number and the skating on Tuxedo Lake to-day, the first of the season, was enjoyed by many.

A large toboggan slide has been erected at Tuxedo Lake, and as soon as the ice permits will be put in use.

A series of winter sports will be arranged by the committee, for which silver cups will be offered. There will also be hockey matches during the winter and the usual matches at court tennis and racquet at the Tuxedo Tennis and Racquet Club, which will open next week.

Among those who are spending the winter at Tuxedo are Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Foster Carey, who are in their villa in West Tuxedo Lake Road; Mr. and Mrs. John F. Harris, Mrs. John Murray Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Henry H. Rogers, jr., Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Tams, Mr. and Mrs. Walter G. Gurnee, Mr. and Mrs. Newbold Leroy Edgar, Mr. and Mrs. Eben Richards, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick A. Snow and Mr. and Mrs. J. Fred Pierson, jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Pierre Lorillard closed Keewaydin this week to spend the winter at Washington, and Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Dinsmore will go abroad next week for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Mortimer will keep their villa open during the winter months, spending the week-ends here.

Among the arrivals this week were Mr. and Mrs. Stuyvesant Pellot, Miss Alice Preston, Mr. and Mrs. I. C. McKeever, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Tams, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. V. Hoffman and Miss Tuckerman.

SOCIAL NOTES FROM NEWPORT.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Newport, R. I., Jan. 11.—Mr. and Mrs. Pembroke Jones arrived from New York this morning to make an inspection of their villa, which is nearing completion.

T. Shaw Safe went to New York to-day for a short visit.

The Misses Alice and Caroline Grosvenor are visiting in New York. They left Newport to-day.

Dr. William T. Bull arrived to-night to spend Sunday here.

WEDDINGS.

West Point, N. Y., Jan. 11.—The marriage of Second Lieutenant Henry E. Mitchell, 3d United States Cavalry, and Miss Florence Braden, daughter of Lieutenant Charles Braden, U. S. A. (retired), took place here to-day in Cullum Memorial Church, the ceremony being performed by Monsignor Charles G. O'Keeffe.

The matron of honor was Mrs. John T. Davis, of Washington, and the maid of honor was Miss Josephine C. Kelly, of New York. Miss Ellen Dunwoody, daughter of Brigadier General H. H. C. Dunwoody, U. S. A. (retired), a cousin of the bridegroom, and Miss Ethel Allen, daughter of Lieutenant Colonel S. E. Allen, Artillery Corps, commanding officer at Fort Wadsworth, New York, acted as bridesmaids. The best man was Lieutenant Barnes.

Lieutenant Mitchell is an instructor at West Point. His father was General W. G. Mitchell, who served many years on the staff of General Hancock.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Baltimore, Jan. 11.—Mrs. Basil Gordon, formerly Miss Lelia Sinclair Montague, of Virginia, was married to-day to Lieutenant Colonel George Barnett, United States marine corps. Christ Church, in which the ceremony took place, was filled with guests from Washington, New York and Baltimore. Congressman John W. Weeks, of Boston, attended the bridegroom as best man, and the ushers, in the full uniform of their rank, were Colonel Laucheimer and Major Charles McCauley, of the marine corps, and Commander A. E. Culver, Commander Dombaugh and Paymaster J. Quitman Lovell, retired, of the navy. Following the ceremony there was a luncheon for four hundred guests at the bride's home, in Charles street.

Colonel Barnett will sail from San Francisco for China on January 20, having been ordered to Peking to command the United States troops at the American legation. His bride will join him in China in the spring.

MR. DE CASTRO LOSES INFANT SON.

Rome, Jan. 11.—A son was born to-day to the wife of the American consul general here, Hector de Castro, but died soon afterward. Mrs. de Castro formerly was Miss Grace Aldrich, of New York.