Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—8:15—The Squaw Man.
ALHAMBRA—2—8—Vaudeville.
ASTOR—8:20—Paid in Full.
BELASCO—8:15—The Warrens of Virginia.
BLANEY'S—2:15—8:15—Kathleen Mavourneen.
BROADWAY—8:15—A Waltz Dream.
CARNEGIE HALL—8:30—Lecture—Spain.
CASINO—8:15—Nearly a Hero.
COLONIAL—2—8—Vaudeville.
CRITERION—8:15—Miss Hook of Holland.
DALY'S—8:15—A Child of Nature.
DEWEY—2—8—Vaudeville.
EDEN MUSEE—The World in Wax.
EMPIRE—8:20—Father and the Boys.
GARRICK—8:20—Toddles.
GERMAN—8:20—Florette and Patapon.
HACKETT—8:15—The Witching Hour.
HAMMERSTEIN'S—2—8:15—Vaudeville.
HERALD SQUARE—8:15—The Girl Behind the Counter.
HIPPODROME—2—8—Battle of Port Arthur, Ballet and Circus.
HUDSON—8:20—The Honor of the Family.
KNICKERBOCKER—8:15—The Talk of New York.
LIBERTY—8:20—Polly of the Circus.
LYCEUM—8:30—The Thief.
LYRIC—8—Lord Dundreary.
MAJESTIC—8:15—Bandanna Land.
MANHATTAN OPERA HOUSE—8—Carmen.
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE—8—Tannhaeuser.
NEW AMSTERDAM—8:15—The Merry Widow.
NEW CIRCLE—8:15—Lonesome Town.
NEW YORK—8:20—The Soul Kiss.
STUYVESANT—8:15—The Music Master.
WALLACK'S—8:20—A Knight for a Day.
WEBER MUSIC HALL—8:15—Burlesque of The Merry Widow.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

MONDAY, MARCH 16, 1908.

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THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—Japan's finances are causing serious concern to the government at Tokio, and a plan is under consideration by which a European syndicate may assume control of the railroads which are now owned by the government and furnish funds for the peaceful development of the country. ═══ The news that the American battleship fleet would visit Australia was received with rejoicing at Sydney and Melbourne, where great welcomes are promised. ═══ A troop of Mexican cavalry has been sent to oust squatters on land recently bought in Chihuahua by an American syndicate headed by James R. Keene and W. R. Hearst. ═══ The Russian Minister of Justice has asked the Douma to vote $1,000,000 to enlarge the overcrowded prisons. ═══ A bomb was exploded in the central market place at Barcelona, severely injuring a woman; another bomb was found near by. ═══ The Chilian section of the transandine tunnel on the Arica & La Paz Railway was opened. ═══ Sir John Pickersgill Rodger, Governor of the Gold Coast, reached England on his return from America and highly praised the system of work on the Panama Canal.

DOMESTIC.—A letter to the Senate and Assembly Committees on Internal Affairs from State Engineer Skene, in which he protests against a highway bill, was made public at Albany. ═══ The death of Brigadier General Royal T. Frank, U. S. A. (retired), was announced at Washington. ═══ It was said at Wood's Hole, Mass., that there was little hope of saving the steamer Sylvia, which went aground on Sow and Pigs ledges at the entrance of Vineyard Sound. ═══ It was said at Albany that Governor Hughes would fight for the adoption of a system of direct primary nominations and the amendment of the Public Service commissions law to include telephone and telegraph companies. ═══ Harry Orchard will be sentenced at Boise City, Idaho, on Wednesday for the murder of former Governor Steunenberg of Idaho; it is said that he is determined to die and would refuse immunity or a commutation of the death sentence if such were offered him. ═══ It was reported in Cleveland that in view of a prospective light business in the ore carrying trades, an effort will be made to retard the opening of navigation on the Great Lakes until the latter part of June. ═══ Abraham Rosenthal, charged with the murder of his brother-in-law at Reading, Penn., on February 15, was arrested in Guthrie, Okla.

CITY.—A thousand Sicilians protested furiously against the conviction of Nasi, the former minister, by the Italian Senate. ═══ C. W. Morse issued a statement telling how he intended to rehabilitate his financial affairs. ═══ A special watchman living in Long Island City said he expected to come into the title of baron and a fortune, left him by his mother in Saxony. ═══ The Bureau of Municipal Research gave out a report on an investigation of the Department of Finance, which contained various recommendations made to the Controller.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Fair and cooler. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 56 degrees; lowest, 46.

TRADE WITH THE DEPENDENCIES.

The growth of American trade with Hawaii, Porto Rico and the Philippines, commonly classified as insular possessions or non-contiguous territories, is strikingly illustrated in a bulletin recently issued by the bureau of statistics of the Department of Commerce and Labor. The increase has been steady and has brought benefits equally distributed between our own producers and the producers of the outlying islands. From the economic point of view these benefits fully justify the extension of American sovereignty, for they presage exchanges in greater volume of articles which the United States lacks for articles which the outlying possessions lack and which they can obtain on better terms from us than from foreign countries.

In 1897, the year before the annexation of Hawaii and the occupation of Porto Rico and the Philippines, the exports from the United States to Hawaii were valued at $5,478,000, to Porto Rico at $2,023,000 and to the Philippines at $69,459. The total was $7,571,000. The imports from those islands were somewhat larger—from Hawaii, $15,311,000; from Porto Rico, $1,943,000, and from the Philippines, $4,352,000; altogether $21,607,000. Closer relations with the United States have greatly stimulated commerce and more nearly equalized the value of exchanges. In 1907 our exports to Hawaii had risen in value to $16,000,000, to Porto Rico to $25,225,000 and to the Philippines to $10,926,000, a gain of $44,000,000. Imports from the dependencies had thus increased in value: From Hawaii to $32,017,000, from Porto Rico to $22,806,000 and from the Philippines to $12,264,000, a gain of $46,000,000. Imports had increased more than 300 per cent and exports more than 700 per cent.

The explanation of this remarkable growth in trade is simple. These dependencies produce articles like sugar, tobacco, tropical fruits and hemp, which we cannot grow in the United States in sufficient quantities to supply the domestic market. They are ready to take in exchange our breadstuffs and manufactured commodities. Commerce is therefore mutually profitable and can be readily extended. We lay no taxes on the sugar and tobacco of Hawaii and Porto Rico, and thus give them an advantage in our market over taxed sugars and tobacco from the Philippines, from Cuba and from other cane and beet sugar producing countries. As Hawaii and Porto Rico develop they take more of our merchandise in return. We have so far checked trade with the Philippines by imposing on Philippine products 75 per cent of the duties in the Dingley tariff. This is an unfair discrimination against the Filipinos and one which greatly hampers trade with the Philippine archipelago. That trade could easily be tripled in a few years if the present practically prohibitory sugar and tobacco duties should be reduced. Logic and good faith call for their reduction, and within the next four years we shall probably see the present unnecessary barriers to commerce with the Philippines lowered or swept away. The islands will then take their place with Hawaii and Porto Rico in our economic system and the three will offer an ever broadening field for the purchase of non-competing products and the sale of our own surplus manufactures.

BUILDING SUBWAYS IN SECTIONS.

Regarding the utility of the newly found plan of authorizing the construction of subways from year to year in such sections as the city's credit will permit, the chief practical question is whether or not that is the quickest way to get new subways. If it is, there is little doubt that public opinion will demand its adoption. If it is not, then, attractive as the idea is to those who believe that future transit facilities ought to be built with municipal rather than private capital, it should give place to whatever plan promises to be quicker. The city already needs additional lines, and it will need them very badly before any can be constructed; so that whatever method promises the speediest results should be employed.

Whether sectional authorization will be reasonably quick in its results or not depends upon how much money the city can spare annually for rapid transit construction. It is proposed to begin at once two lines, the cost of which is estimated at about $100,000,000. If the city can spare on an average only $10,000,000 a year for subway building, obviously it will take altogether too long to finish the lines; the law can be amended and private capital can probably be attracted into the field and the lines finished in that way before the city, with a small annual allowance, could provide new facilities. On the other hand, if there are reasonable prospects of the city's being able to apply an average sum of $20,000,000 a year, the advantage of a prompt beginning and of an avoidance of the uncertainty that exists regarding the attitude of private capital makes it desirable that the plan of yearly sectional contracts should be adopted. It rests with the city authorities and the Public Service Commission to consider carefully New York's financial prospects and to see clearly that the necessary funds will be available before committing themselves to this plan. Great uncertainty seems to exist regarding what the city can now borrow and what in the near future it is likely to be able to borrow. No outsider, certainly, can say, and there seems to be grave doubt if any insider can. We were told only a few days ago by members of the city administration that there was no money for subways and would be none for two or three years. Now they are all represented as welcoming a chance to provide whatever sums will be necessary to finish in a reasonable time a $100,000,000 project.

The objection is offered that building the subways in annual sections would be more expensive than building them on one or two large contracts, but it overlooks the fact that the present subway was farmed out by the contractor in sections to sub-contractors. If he could build it in simultaneous sections, the city can do so in annual sections without loss due to subdivision of the work.

VOX ET PRÆTEREA NIHIL.

The dropping of Congressman W. Bourke Cockran from several Tammany committees is taken to mean his banishment from the Fourteenth Street rostrum and his exclusion from prominence in Tammany affairs. It is the second time he has been silenced. Mr. Croker once drove him out of the Wigwam, and there is reason to suppose that there is nothing on which the Irish squire to-day looks back with greater pride. Mr. Cockran stayed outside the breastworks until the Murphy regime came in, when the new boss, needing an orator, received the exile into favor in the organization. Now, like Mr. Croker and many others who have employed his remarkable voice, Mr. Murphy, too, is sorry.

It may seem strange that Mr. Cockran has not been more successful in getting along with the bosses, for he is an ideal orator for Tammany. He could chop and veer as quickly as the boss could. His voice has been heard on all sides of all questions. He talked against Bryan in one campaign and for him in the next. He wrote the Tammany resolutions against Hearst in the spring of 1906 and for Hearst at the Buffalo convention the following fall. He took the stump for Hearst that year and against him the next, and in his support of Hearst he was not in the least hindered by the fact that the Hearst papers had always called him the Hon. "Bought" Cockran. Perhaps now he will find employment for his voice in the service of the new Independence Party.

Such a man would naturally be deemed useful by a boss who had constant need of some one to make the worse appear the better reason, but that intellectual shiftiness which made the public recognize in Mr. Cockran nothing but a voice must have shown itself even in his relations with his bosses. Mr. Murphy has not taken the public into his confidence regarding the mistake that Attorney General Jackson made in thinking to purchase favor with Tammany Hall by bestowing a receivership where Mr. Cockran wanted it to go, but Mr. Croker, in 1906, long after he had retired to private life, still cherished so strong a feeling that he said he considered Mr. Cockran "one of the most dangerous men in American politics." Mr. Croker exaggerated the danger, for Mr. Cockran has no more power of leading or even influencing public opinion than a phonograph would have.

THE SOCIALIST MENACE.

Thoughtful observers will not be inclined to charge Lord Rosebery with extravagance in his denunciation of the "active menace of socialism," the triumph of which, he believes, would mean the end of the empire, of religious faith, of property and of freedom. It will be easy, as easy as it will be unjust and untrue, for Fabian and other socialist orators to inveigh against Lord Rosebery as an enemy of the "common people" and as a type of the evils against which their reforms are directed. But those who remember that statesman's work for the public in the London County Council and elsewhere and who are familiar with his political and economic philosophy will esteem his utterances as not the voice of an aristocratic caste but rather of a singularly broad-minded man of catholic sympathies with all classes and conditions of men.

Time was, and not so many years ago, when it was regarded as a truism that "socialism "could never make any headway in Eng-"land." The individualistic genius of the people was against it. The democratic liberality of the government was against it. The trade unions and friendly societies were unalterably against it. And so on. Yet to-day there are few countries in the world in which socialism in its most obnoxious forms is so strongly settled and so influential in public affairs as it is in England. The trade unions, instead of being a bulwark against it, have opened their doors to it and have become its recruiting camp and citadel, and the government, so democratic, flexible and liberal, has yielded to its influences to a degree which even in Mr. Gladstone's later days would have seemed impossible. Last week, it is true, moved by Lord Rosebery's impressive warnings, Parliament did reject a notorious socialist measure, which baldly proposed to enact that the government should provide work for every man or else support him without work. But it was not without ominous significance that such a bill got before Parliament at all, and that, while it was rejected, it was supported by a considerable number of members.

There will doubtless be some hot denials of Lord Rosebery's forecast of what the triumph of socialism would mean. Those socialists who are of clean and decorous life, and of course there are many of them, will resent the imputation that it would mean a relaxing of domestic and social morals, while those who call themselves Christian socialists will deny that it would mean the abolition of religious faith. Yet it is indisputable that some of the most authoritative and most influential leaders of socialism openly proclaim its hostility to marriage and family ties and to all religion and all notions of God. And the exasperating and ominous feature of the case is that these abominable principles are involuntarily supported and prompted by those who really detest them, through their identification with the vague generality of "socialism." Never since Pierre Leroux invented the word—if he was the originator of it—has there been any general agreement as to its meaning or any generally accepted definition of it, and not many of the tentative definitions have been better or less faulty than that of Proudhon, who said that socialism was "every aspiration toward the amelioration of society."

The salient fact is that amid the heterogeneous hodge-podge of discordant elements which compose socialism as a whole there are some of the most pernicious type, and it is these which are most active, most aggressive and in some respects most influential. That is the consideration which should give pause to those who because of some philanthropic impulse associate themselves with the socialist name. If socialism meant all around what it means to them there would be little objection to it. But it means to others something very different, and those other meanings get the support of every name which is enrolled under the general heading. With the socialism which truly "aspires toward the amelioration of society" Lord Rosebery sincerely sympathizes, no doubt. But there is another and a more militant socialism which aims at the subversion not only of the empire but also of the family and the altar, and it is well that his clear, sane voice sounds against it a warning note.

IF CAPTAIN DORN CAME TO TOWN.

Of all places on earth, this imperial, unwieldy, money-making, money-spending settlement is usually the least stirred by the arrival of strangers, however famous or infamous. The mightiest monarch of the gorgeous East can do no more than get into the papers and make a few thousand pedestrians crane their necks with bovine calmness as he moves up Broadway with his retinue. Even a prizefighter fails to send up bunting on all the public buildings. But it would be otherwise if Captain Dorn, U. S. N., should ever chug up alongside a landing stage in a launch, and thence proceed to City Hall Park with orders in his pocket matching the ones under which he is now presiding over the destinies of Guam. Captain Dorn has the same habit of "doing things up shipshape" which his colleagues are constantly displaying, as they hit targets fifty times out of fifty shots and take a battleship fleet in perfect order around the world. Just now he is varying the monotony of sea life by teaching the Guamites how to live in the fear of the Lord and of Uncle Sam. And the edict which the naval governor has just issued makes us fancy that if he should be transferred to our own little island most of the population would forget all about racetracks and bridge and the congestion exhibit for a few hours. The nature of Captain Dorn's activities is thus described in his orders:

Every resident of the island having no apparent means of subsistence who has the physical ability to work and who begs or neglects to apply himself or herself to some lawful calling; every person found loitering about saloons, dramshops or gambling houses, or tramping or straying through the country without visible means of support; every person known to be a pickpocket, thief or burglar, when found loitering about any gambling house, cockpit or any outlying barrio, and every idle or dissolute person of either sex caught occupying premises without the consent of the owner thereof shall on conviction be punished by a fine of $250 or imprisonment for one year, or both.

What a blessing the sturdy captain's advent would be! No more worry over the debt limit after he became naval governor of New York! The fines paid by the persons mentioned in the edict would build all the new subways and bridges, leaving perhaps a few millions over for parks, fire hose and street cleaning. It would not take Captain Dorn more than a week or two to discover that his category of "idle "and dissolute persons caught occupying premises without the consent of the owners" included a large proportion of the prosperous and kind hearted citizens who are wearing out municipal furniture and the public's nerves in city houses and outhouses. Who owns these premises? Those who paid for them, of course! Did they ever give their consent to the occupancy of these edifices by their present denizens? Not by a jugful! And are many of said denizens idle or dissolute or both? Well, rather! Being able and willing to pay the fine Captain Dorn would impose, these statesmen, together with the ten thousand thieves in private practice, would spare Mr. Metz his sleepless nights of worry over New York's finances. They might almost make the local administration self-supporting. Wouldn't New Yorkers brush their hats and walk over to the dock to see the captain land?

REFORMS IN NEW JERSEY.

The report of the Hahn investigating committee in New Jersey is out at last. That committee, it will be remembered, was appointed by the late Democratic House of Assembly to investigate the doings of the Republican administration. It was probably intended and was certainly expected to make revelations of abuses and corruption which would provide effective partisan ammunition for use in last year's campaign, and there were those who apprehended as a result thereof something like a civic earthquake. But such expectations were disappointed. What was probably the worst scandal unearthed by the investigators—the unsanitary condition of the State Asylum for the Insane at Trenton—reflected discredit upon Democrats as well as Republicans, and in consequence little was heard of the work of the committee during the campaign. The report now presented to the Legislature is far less sensational than it was expected to be. In fact, it is not sensational at all. But in spite of, or perhaps because of, that fact it is valuable and should prove profitable.

The two specific cases which occupy most attention are those of the asylum already mentioned and the Rahway Reformatory, and the report deals with them substantially as has been forecast in our columns. The investigators do not feel competent to declare positively what was the origin of the epidemic of typhoid in the former institution, but they do unhesitatingly and unequivocally declare that carelessness, slovenliness, filth and gross disregard of elementary principles of sanitation were directly responsible for its disgraceful and disastrous spread, and for those conditions they properly hold the officials then in charge morally responsible. That is a judgment with which intelligent men must agree. The cruel and immoral conditions which made the name of the Rahway "reformatory" a bitterly ironical misnomer are also exposed and fittingly condemned. It should be added in justice to the state that the report finds much to commend in the conduct and condition of other important institutions, so that it contains no less of praise than of blame.

But what is most important is the recommendation of general changes in the system of the state's administration of public health, charities and corrections. It is recognized, as many thoughtful observers have heretofore perceived, that the unpaid State Board of Health is an obsolete and inefficient organization, and that the divided control which prevails in various institutions is directly conducive to mischief. The committee therefore recommends the substitution of an adequately paid Health Department, with extended and increased powers, and the creation of a central board which shall have supreme control of all eleemosynary and penal institutions. These recommendations are evidently calculated to improve the administration of the departments affected, and it is to be hoped that they will receive careful attention and form the basis of profitable action. It must be obvious, moreover, that an integral and fundamentally essential part of any such scheme of reform is the enactment of an effective Civil Service law, like that prepared by Senator Ackerman and now before the Legislature. If there is anything made clear by the Hahn report, it is that faults in administration largely arise from the prevailing systems of appointment and tenure, and that these would be corrected and prevented in great measure by the establishment of the merit system.

MONEY AND BUSINESS.

Last week's volume of business at the Stock Exchange was much larger than at any recent date, although comparison with the same week of 1907 shows a big decrease because of the abnormal activity at that time. As to tendency of prices the comparison is more satisfactory, the sixty most active railway stocks rising more than $2 a share for the week, whereas in 1907 there was a fall of $6 to the lowest figure in three years. More outside interest was exhibited than at any recent date, and the short account suffered heavy losses in the few specialties that monopolized most of the trading. There was not sufficient public support to maintain a steady advance when it became apparent that leading interests supplied stock freely, but this liquidation is to be expected on every upward movement, as there is a lot of stock hanging over the market that was accumulated during the collapse last fall. While the technical position is weakened by the elimination of part of the short account, the foundation is stronger because the load is better distributed. Rumors were again circulated freely regarding plans to benefit individual properties, but nothing tangible materialized except a somewhat better exhibit of railway earnings for the first week of March.

Money is abundant for any proposition with the maximum of safety. Rates are of little importance in cases where needs are urgent, but leaders still discriminate, accepting a smaller return willingly on loans in which there is the least risk. The good demand for the New York State 4 per cent bond issue is in striking contrast to the difficulty experienced in placing corporation short term notes at 6 or 7 per cent. Call money is steady at 2 per cent, but commercial paper seldom finds buyers at less than 5½ per cent, and demand is chiefly from banks in New England and the Middle West. Under the new method of presenting both the average and actual figures of the associated banks, the old terms—rising and falling averages—are made clear, and the simultaneous publication of similar statements for banks outside the Clearing House shows the movement of cash and the changes in borrowing most satisfactorily. Local banks have been losing heavily of late because of payments to the Treasury, not only through withdrawals of government deposits, but also on account of the 5 per cent banknote redemption fund that is constantly depleted by shipments to Washington for redemption. New York banks are called upon for their own notes, and are also drawn upon by interior correspondents. Treasury finances continue to show the adverse effect of smaller imports, receipts falling behind expenditures nearly every day, but gross gold stocks are equally regular in attaining new high records.

Domestic trade reports are becoming more uniformly favorable, last week's exceptionally fine weather reminding retailers that spring stocks needed attention. As purchases have been made thus far with great caution, it will be found that supplementary orders must be placed, and in many cases jobbers and wholesalers encounter an urgency for quick delivery that embarrasses shipping departments. Except in some farming sections, the small dealers have made little preparation for a normal volume of trade, and all divisions back to the manufacturer may look for good duplicate purchases if confidence continues to grow as it has in the last few weeks. Foreign commerce returns in February make a wonderful exhibit in so far as official statistics are available. The shortest month of the year recorded exports of farm staples valued at $94,332,779, surpassing all records for the corresponding month in preceding years. The gain over February, 1907, was $7,000,000, chiefly in breadstuffs and meats. As compared with exports two years ago, the increase was $20,000,000, and the gain over February, 1905, was $43,000,000. This country is obtaining profitable prices for its farm products, the gains in value being relatively larger in almost every instance than the increase in quantity, and in the case of cotton the first half of the crop year shows a larger value of exports than the previous record breaking season, despite a decrease of almost 500,000 bales in quantity.

Labor is being asked to bear its share of the readjustment in some industries that cannot recover full activity without lower prices. Several New England cotton mills have found the attitude of buyers of goods and the position of raw material and other supplies such as to necessitate a reduction of 10 per cent in wages. Other branches of business contemplate similar changes when new agreements are made on April 1, and much depends on the co-operation of employes in these efforts to restore full time and force. During the last decade wages have risen phenomenally, contracts often covering operations so far ahead that demands were granted without regard to the fact that profits were being eliminated; but conditions have altered, and if costs of production must be reduced in order to sell goods there is a logical share that must be borne by labor. Ill advised strikes will merely defer progress, and in many cases it is probable that mill owners will gladly shut down for a time, which would be much more economical than operating three or four days a week, as at present. The next two weeks will distinguish the good labor leader from the incompetent, and the amount of strife on April 1 will indicate whether the trade unions are selecting conservative men who have the best interests of their organizations at heart or the less capable leaders who seek personal notoriety in a struggle.

Prices of commodities are declining, last week marking a big change in some of the leading staples. One factor of weight was the unusually early spring weather in agricultural sections. Cotton fell to the level of a year ago, and exports decreased in comparison with the same week in 1907. The old crop does not come into sight any more freely, although it is known that large quantities are held back for 15 cents a pound. That attractive price is gradually becoming more remote, sales at most Southern markets being made at about 11 cents. The fall in wheat was still more noteworthy, the statement of farm reserves proving larger than had been estimated, but after a steady drop of more than six cents a bushel there was moderate recovery. Argentina again made a new high record of weekly exports, but there is a good foreign demand here also, and Minneapolis mills are consuming raw material more freely than at any time since October. Corn did not sympathize with the weakness of the leading cereal, but rose to the best price of the season.

Persons interested in modern French art will please turn to the back numbers of the Paris newspapers and peruse, in the light of current events, the realistic word-pictures in which the American navy is shown to be a barely floating heap of scrap iron, headed for Yokohama, but destined never to reach the Strait of Magellan. The quarrel over the relative merits of romanticism and classic realism may now break out afresh.

If the Independence party nominates Mr. Hisgen, of Massachusetts, for President, his nomination will be a sort of coming out party. Nobody outside of Massachusetts ever heard of him.

The eloping Hempstead pastor who has just amended his philosophy of life must tinker at it further before it will do service. He is reported to have said: "Lately I have begun to realize "that no man, however strong he may be or how-"ever great may be his incentive, can 'buck' the "world. It is older than us and stronger." This is not the exact truth; he should have said that nobody can "buck" the world by trying to make it put up with thoroughly bad morals or to champion an evil cause. The futility of such "bucking" is due, not to the world's superior age and strength, as the unhappy sinner fancies, but to its superior wisdom.

Practical difficulties never feaze the truly academic mind. Witness the advice of a learned professor on Morningside Heights:

> The greatest vice of the American educational system is that, while we have intelligence enough to add new things, we do not have the courage to cut out the old. In this time of imperialism and yellow journalism teaching our students about Tiglath Pileser and Frederick Barbarossa, of whom the youths will never hear after passing from our classrooms, is contributing to the triumph of the yellow newspaper. Were we intelligently interesting them in persons and questions of which every day bears record there would be an ever-widening public to which the high grade newspaper could appeal and to which it would respond.

It has not occurred to the speaker that writers of textbooks might find current history a troublesome topic. Suppose our own Board of Education were to invite Mr. Maxwell to write "A History of New York City from the Day When Croker Started for Ireland to the Cremation of Bourke Cockran: In Words of One Syllable and Several Implications." Could the versatile textbook manufacturer do it and hold his job? The great advantage of Tiglath Pileser is that the old gentleman has no friends on the school board. As the latter body, here and in other cities, sometimes has members who raise a howl against textbooks that tell the plain truth about the American Revolution and Thomas Jefferson's Jeffersonian simplicity, the most ingenious manipulator of monosyllables would certainly lose either his mind or his life if he tried to explain to the sons and daughters of everybody's constituents just how it happens that Mr. Ahearn and some rotten fire hose still linger under municipal roofs.

Making faces at Wall Street seems to be a popular diversion among the politicians.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

Writing from Teheran, a correspondent says in the "Berliner Tageblatt": "Public executions were once of frequent occurrence here, but no decapitation has taken place since the new Shah came to the throne until to-day, when two highway robbers were executed. It was a dreadful spectacle. The men, with hands and feet in chains, were dragged to the execution place, where a burly fellow, wearing a dirty red blouse, awaited them. They moaned and wept and he grinned. The men were forced to the ground into that half kneeling, half sitting position which comes as naturally to the Persian as it is difficult for all others. The chains were pulled so tightly that the fellows could not move an inch. Then the man in the dirty red blouse leaned over the first man, bored finger and thumb into his nostrils, pulled back the head with that grip and ran a sharp knife across the culprit's throat. And then came the second man. That the men were quickly dispatched was due to the liberal tip bestowed upon the executioner by friends of the condemned men. When no tips are given and when these do not come up to his expectations the sufferings of the condemned are often long drawn out. One of the first duties of the National Assembly will be to put an end to that kind of barbarism."

The Professor's Wife—You haven't kissed me for a week.
The Professor (absently)—Are you sure? Then who is it I have been kissing?—Life.

The commission in charge of the Turin international exhibition of industries and labor, to be held in 1911, to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the proclamation of the kingdom of Italy, announces an international competition to determine the best means to render fireproof, or at least non-inflammable, the timber to be employed in the exhibition buildings. In a circular the commission says: "The executive commission, considering the heavy damages inflicted by fire upon some preceding shows, has opened a competition among such persons as can supply material fit to render fireproof, or at least non-inflammable, timber and textures. The jury will have at their disposal two gold medals and two silver medals, presented by the Società Promotrice dell' Industria Nazionale. These are to be the first and second prizes in each of the two categories of the competition, and the sum of 4,000 lire is eventually to be distributed among the winners of the competition and those recognized worthier of awards in consideration of recent researches made or noteworthy results obtained."

"What do you think young Chumpley weighs?"
"About two hundred pounds on the scales and about ten ounces in the community."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

United States Consul Bishop, at Palermo, Italy, reports some experiments made by the chief of the sanitary service at Gaboon, French Africa, with the cactus as a substitute for petroleum for the extermination of mosquitoes in warm climates. "The thick, pulpy leaves of the cactus," he says, "cut up in pieces, are thrown into water and macerated until a sticky paste is formed. This paste is spread upon the surface of stagnant water and forms an isolating layer, which prevents the larvæ of the mosquitoes from coming to the top to breathe and destroys them through asphyxiation. It is true that petroleum can do the same service, but in warm climates petroleum evaporates too quickly, and is thus of little avail. The mucilaginous cactus paste, on the contrary, can hold its place indefinitely, lasting weeks, months or even an entire year; and the period of development of the larvæ being only about a fortnight, it has the most thorough effect."

Rollingstone—This here country is gettin' too darn prosperous.
Tatterdon—That's right. I was obliged to refuse six jobs yistidy.—Pick-Me-Up.

"The successful production at Linz of two plays by the Minister of Agriculture of Austria, Dr. Ebenhoch, and their equally good reception at the Intime Theatre, at Vienna," says the "Fremdenblatt," "are worthy of especial note. There are not many instances in the history of Austria where a minister in office has found time and inclination to cultivate the muses. Dr. Ebenhoch will be remembered in the same class with the Knight Adolf von Tschabuschnigg, who, as Minister of Justice, wrote poems and good novels, and with Johann Nepomuk Berger, who wrote humorous articles over his own name, and as 'Sternau,' for Saphir's 'Humorist' and Ludwig August Frankl's 'Sonntagsblätter.'"

"He has a bad habit of calling every one a 'mutt.'"
"Yes; he's a New Yorker, you know."
"Well?"
"Well, a New Yorker's idea of a 'mutt' is any one who isn't a New Yorker."—The Catholic Standard and Times.

CORNISH SHRINES.

Truro Cathedral—Quiller-Couch's Troy.

Fowey, Cornwall, March 2.

Revivals in architecture and letters mark the later history of Cornwall. In a circuit from the Lizard to ancient Fowey a saunterer feels the influences of these modernizing tendencies in an isolated section, which in the racial remaking of England remained Celtic and was neither Romanized nor Saxonized by conquest. He sees at Truro the first Anglican cathedral, which has been built on a large scale since the Reformation; and he passes by at St. Austell and Lostwithiel two of the most characteristic of the old churches in the land of Celtic and Breton saints before he reaches Mr. Quiller-Couch's Troy, a centre of literary activities as fresh and original as the painting in Newlyn, Falmouth and St. Ives. Here are proofs of the virtues of a vigorous, racy soil. Cut off from the main currents of English life and forced into the backwater of its own resources, Cornwall had a reserve of imagination and creative power for a renascence of art and letters.

The cathedral at Truro is in a hollow and so closely surrounded by houses and shops that its tower and granite gables and pinnacles are not easily seen except from the outlying hills. In this respect it resembles St. Albans and Lichfield cathedrals, and in its seclusion and aloofness is a characteristic monument of lonely Cornwall, shut off from the world. Cramped in ground space, like many Continental cathedrals, it has a French rather than an English aspect, with its shorter and longer transepts and their rose windows, its central tower flanked by a shorter one with a copper cone, and the aisle of the old parish church and the artistic baptistery as its most decorative features. Here, too, the architecture is expressive, for the Celts overrunning Cornwall from Ireland and Wales left their impress upon Brittany across the Channel.

The materials for Mr. Pearson's construction—granite, copper, chinastone and serpentine—have come from the neighboring hillsides and sea combs; the money for walls, pavement, tiles, window glass, reredos and screen has been contributed mainly by generous Cornish folk; the canons' stalls commemorate local saints, hermits and martyrs; the Crusades, Wesley's preaching among miners, and other scenes appealing to the hearts of people in the duchy are portrayed in glass or carving. While the west end and early English design suggest resemblances to Salisbury, it is a foreign looking cathedral, not out of touch with its Cornish environment.

The revival of the Cornish bishopric after the lapse of eight centuries and the completion of a cathedral as long as Rochester and more artistic in detail, with a more impressive interior and a grander tower over 200 feet high, have involved the expenditure of over $1,000,000. This has been done in the course of a single generation and mainly by the generosity of Cornish churchmen. The new granite may not have mellowed in tone so as to accord with the stone in the sixteenth century aisle saved from the parish church, but it is a homogeneous structure, which carries out Bishop Benson's pious aspiration for a post-Reformation cathedral for the revival of the religious life of the historic duchy. The Liverpool cathedral will probably surpass it in beauty and symmetry, but it is superior to many of the made-over parish churches, like Wakefield and Newcastle, which are now classed with mediæval English cathedrals.

It upholds the dignity of the Established Church in a district of miners' and quarrymen's towns and fishermen's hamlets, where there is little effective architecture. St. Austell's, beyond Truro, has a shapely perpendicular tower, and the lantern spire of Lostwithiel, at the turning for Fowey, has been described by architects as the glory of Cornwall; and at Bodwin, St. Neoto and Launceston there are fine mediæval churches. Truro cathedral stands for modernism, with a combination of self-sacrifice and local pride behind it, and is an ambitious landmark of progress on the home soil.

Tintagel, on the north shore, is the cradle of poetic myths—King Arthur and his knights, Geraint and Enid, Guinevere, Tristram, St. Ursula and many more—and every Cornish village church has its legend or saint or hermit. As far removed as the modern cathedral from the rough-hewn Celtic crosses is the new literature from Arthurian romance and an inexhaustible stock of folklore. It is a homely kind of realism, with close observation, open air movement and salty humor. It is as characteristic of Cornwall as the painting done in the fishermen's villages. Mr. Quiller-Couch represents the new school of West Country fiction, and his father and grandfather were writers and keen observers before him.

He tried to live in Oxford and in London after his university training, but the home country was in his dreams and early romances, and the smugglers' haunt at Polperro and the tranquil reach of the Fowey gallants called him back seventeen years ago, and he has remained at anchor in "The Haven" of his own "Troy Town," as contented as Mr. Henry at Falmouth or Mr. Stanhope Forbes at Newlyn. A natural waterman, like the hardy tars who sailed for the siege of Calais and would "vaile no bonnet" to the sea power of the Cinque Ports, he has been a coast roving yachtsman, and every year there has been a fresh romance or a volume of verse or essays from his pen.

Painters had found the way to Fowey before Mr. Quiller-Couch made it his permanent home. Sir Laurence Alma-Tadema and Mr. Dixey had discovered the Cornish Dartmouth, with its picturesque harbor and clusters of old stone houses on the green hillsides, and artists had swarmed after them until it had become almost too popular a summer resort, and they took refuge in the fishing village of Polperro, a few miles away. Fowey has ceased to be a fishing haven and retains a semblance of its oldtime dignity as a commercial port by reason of considerable shipments of china clay, but the chief industry is the housing of summer guests, and it is a favorite station for yachtsmen.

There is, indeed, no prettier port on the Cornish coast; and there is no more bracing and varied walk in the "Delectable Duchy" than the ten-mile stretch up hill and down dale from Fowey to Looe, with Lansallos tower as a beacon across country from Lanteglos cross, as it is for fishermen at sea, and with Polperro in a cleft between overhanging cliffs, with a fishing fleet encircled by a cluster of stone cottages, with patches of green on the steep hillsides around them. This fishing village is the ancestral home of the Couches—naturalist, historian and novelist; and after a sudden dip to the sea at Tolland one may find in churchyard and manor house walls memorials of the Grenvilles and Bevills whose exploits have been celebrated by Kingsley, Tennyson and the author of "The Splendid Spur" and "Troy Town."

The Hockings, Silas and Joseph, were born at St. Stephen's, on the edge of the barren moors west of St. Austell; and while their ministerial circuits have carried them far afield their novels have retained a distinctive Cornish flavor, like the saffron cake and clotted cream of the primitive duchy. Another novelist, Mr. Lowry, has lived in the mining towns of Truro and Camborne, and the windows from which Mrs. Havelock Ellis has studied her Cornish neighbors, cottagers and fishermen, have opened upon Lelant and the beautiful reaches of St. Ives Bay. Charles Lee is a writer of the same school, and Mr. Rennell Rodd, in spite of his