Amusements

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—8:15—Mlle. Modiste.
ALHAMBRA—2—8—Vaudeville.
ASTOR—8:20—Paid in Full.
BELASCO—8:15—The Warrens of Virginia.
BIJOU—8:20—The Wolf.
BLANEY'S—2:15—8:15—Dorothy Vernon of Haddon Hall.
BROADWAY—8:15—A Waltz Dream.
CARNEGIE HALL—3—Piano Recital.
CASINO—8:15—Nearly a Hero.
COLONIAL—2—8—Vaudeville.
DALY'S—8:15—Girls.
DEWEY—2—8—Vaudeville.
EDEN MUSEE—The World in Wax.
EMPIRE—8:20—Father and the Boys.
GARDEN—8:15—The Luck of MacGregor.
GARRICK—8:15—The Royal Mounted.
GERMAN—8:20—Die Grosse Leidenschaft.
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 Yankee Prince.
LIBERTY—8:20—Polly of the Circus.
LYCEUM—8:20—The Thief.
LYRIC—8—Lord Dundreary.
MADISON SQUARE GARDEN—8—Wild West.
MAJESTIC—8:15—The Flower of the Ranch.
NEW AMSTERDAM—8:15—The Merry Widow.
NEW YORK—8:20—The Soul Kiss.
SAVOY—8:20—The Servant in the House.
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.

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 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.—Senate: Mr. Borah spoke on the Brownsville affair, asserting the guilt of the negro soldiers. House: Speaker Cannon's action in his controversy with Mr. Williams was sustained and another drastic rule to prevent filibustering was adopted.

FOREIGN.—Persian tribes threaten to wipe out the Russian expedition near Belesuvar; the flooded condition of the country makes it difficult to send reinforcements. Winston Spencer Churchill, in a speech at Manchester, said that the Liberal government would claim a free hand in dealing with the question of Irish government. A dispatch from Melbourne, Australia, reported twenty-seven persons killed and forty injured in a collision of excursion trains. Turkey has granted the Italian demands, and orders for the departure of the fleet have been countermanded. Advices received in Washington say that the disease reported to be bubonic plague is rapidly spreading at La Guayra. President Roosevelt thanked the British government for the invitation to the fleet to visit England on its return trip to the Atlantic, and regretted that the warships could touch only at Mediterranean ports.

DOMESTIC.—The week's entertainment of the battleship fleet began at Los Angeles. The House Committee on Banking and Currency voted to table the Vreeland bill and ordered a favorable report on the Fowler measure providing for a currency commission. Dispatches from Albany said that the racetrack bills would not be touched again at this session, and that there seemed little prospect of their being passed at an extra session. The Senate, at Albany, discharged the Committee on Railroads from further consideration of the Coney Island 5-cent fare bill, and advanced it to the order of final reading, against Chairman Wilcox's protest. The report of Superintendent Kelsey on fire and marine insurance was transmitted to the State Legislature. The College Settlement was incorporated at Albany under the name of the Rivington Neighborhood Association of New York City. The Assembly passed the Francis bill providing for a commission to investigate inferior criminal tribunals in cities of the first class. A heavy snowfall was reported from Rochester, Utica and other upstate places. Secretary Cortelyou, at the Board of Trade dinner, at Utica, spoke on "Business and Citizenship."

CITY.—Stocks were weak at the close. Thomas F. Ryan, in a comprehensive statement, denied that the Metropolitan Street Railway had been looted or its stock watered. The special grand jury which investigated the Metropolitan Street Railway made public its minutes. Mr. Bryan told how the trusts had tried to tempt him to leave public life by hiring him at $25,000 a year. General Woodford called a conference of New York's delegates to the Republican National Convention. The National Erectors' Association, which declared an open shop, said dynamite was being used on its works. The trial of the McClellan ouster suit was begun. Justice Morschauser signed an order allowing Harry Thaw to apply for a writ of habeas corpus. Tulsa's delegation was disappointed when a permit for a parade was refused, and went to Philadelphia. Record Easter offerings were made in many churches, the total in Grace being $155,302.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Fair. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 56 degrees; lowest, 41.

THE WILLIAMS FILIBUSTER.

The Hon. John Sharp Williams may have been within his constitutional rights as a Representative in Congress in demanding the ayes and noes on a motion to adjourn made in the House of Representatives last Saturday. If one-fifth of the membership of the House stood ready to second his demand he was entitled to a rollcall. Speaker Cannon remained at least figuratively deaf to Mr. Williams's parliamentary demand and saved twenty-five or thirty minutes by declaring, after a *viva voce* vote, that "on the sound the ayes had it." Mr. Williams laments the economy thus achieved and holds that he should have been allowed to inflict a rollcall on the House as a penance for its refusal to be guided in the arrangement of a legislative programme by the wishes of the minority. It may cheerfully be admitted that the Mississippi leader had a right to penalize his colleagues out of pique, wantonness or a spirit of anarchism, but no sensible critic of his filibustering campaign will agree that he is justified in his excuse that the minority is clearly entitled thus to punish the majority for failure to abrogate its functions and to surrender control of the business of the House.

Mr. Williams's attitude is logically indefensible. He can plausibly say that he is conducting a filibuster for the excitement there is in it, or for the purpose of making himself as obnoxious as possible to the members of the body who feel that it is their duty to legislate in an orderly and responsible manner. It is the privilege of any obstructionist to make as much trouble for those about him as he can. Yet such an obstructionist cannot rightly claim to be acting on a rational principle or to be demonstrating the irrationality of those who do not concede him a dictatorship in matters of legislation. The Mississippi statesman argues that because he is dissatisfied with the programme determined upon by the majority, he, as leader of the minority, should be permitted to overrule that programme and prescribe another more conformable to his own ideas and wishes. But this contention is absolutely subversive of the principle of responsible party government, operative in our system of legislation.

If there is any merit in the theory of majority rule the party winning a majority of the seats in the House of Representatives is entitled to decide what it will do or will not do. It is charged with power by the people and will be held responsible for the use made of that power. The minority has no political responsibility and no parliamentary responsibility beyond criticising and seeking to modify the majority's programme. It cannot be expected to originate and pass legislation, and it is at perfect liberty to disavow responsibility for what is done or not done. Why, therefore, should it absurdly aspire to take over the functions of the majority or persist in the grotesque claim of a right to determine what legislation the House shall or shall not consider?

A little sense of humor would have saved Mr. Williams from the delusion that he is the real arbiter of legislation in the House and that the country looks to him to guide the lower branch's destinies. At the election of 1906 the voters signified clearly enough that they preferred to hold him to a role of minor importance. He should stick to that role, and not imagine that the voters somehow vested him with supervisory power over the activities of a hostile majority.

NO NEW ATTITUDE.

President Gompers would have the public, and especially the laboring public, think that the recent application of the Sherman anti-trust act to boycotts introduced a new and unheard of principle into the law. But the basic thing, the law of Blackstone and Kent, which he says is now being ignored, forbade conspiracies in restraint of trade. Under the common law, which is the oldest law in this country and which represents the fundamental notions of English speaking peoples regarding justice, various state judges have over and over again held that the boycott was an illegal conspiracy; so that when the Sherman act forbade combinations in restraint of trade and was so broadly drawn as to include within its purview labor combinations in restraint of trade it introduced no new principle into the law, but merely put into a federal statute an idea of justice which had long existed in the common law.

Nor was Mr. Gompers any more accurate when he sought to make it appear that the Supreme Court applied the Sherman act in a way its makers never intended to have it applied. He said: "It was my good fortune to be "intimately associated with the men who "framed the Sherman law. Not I nor any "one else who worked upon the drafting of "the law ever meant to have it applied to labor "or labor unions." But the records of Congress show that a proposal explicitly to exempt labor unions from the provisions of the Sherman law was rejected. There was no intention to draw a law which should prevent one class of combinations in restraint of trade and permit another, for that is what Mr. Gompers wants. If it is an abuse for one set of men controlling a vast amount of capital to conspire for the destruction of business, it is equally an abuse for another set of men controlling an army of labor to conspire for the destruction of business. Those who engage in trade have an equal right to protection under the laws of the country from the unjust operations of the leaders of capital and from those of the leaders of labor. And if the public at large has any interest in the preservation of trade from conspiracies and restraints its interest is the same whether those oppressive acts proceed from labor or from capital. When the Sherman act was passed the people were unwilling to grant Mr. Gompers any such special privileges as he demands and they are unwilling to do so to-day.

ANTI-GAMBLING HISTORY.

Governor Hughes by his speech in Brooklyn clearly disposed of the favorite contention of the racetrack supporters—namely, that the state constitution was intended to prevent gambling in general, but not racetrack gambling. He went back to the history of the convention and showed what circumstances led to the incorporation of the anti-gambling provision in the organic law. Under the constitution then existing gambling was not forbidden, and the Ives law prohibiting it made an exception in favor of the racetracks. To their grounds its prohibition did not apply during a prescribed season of the year. A memorial was sent to the constitutional convention asking it to end a discrimination that made an act a crime on one side of a fence which was not a crime on the other side. From these circumstances and from the speeches made by the delegates it is plain that the anti-gambling section was put into the constitution not to stop gambling in general, but specifically to end racetrack gambling. Gambling everywhere else was at that time prohibited by law, and the convention sought to make it impossible for future legislatures to permit it in racing inclosures. Therefore the convention made the authorizing of gambling anywhere within the state unconstitutional.

The next Legislature found a way in the Percy-Gray law to continue the obnoxious discrimination of the Ives law for the sole purpose of preventing which the anti-gambling section was placed in the constitution. The Percy-Gray law is constitutional because the shrewd lawyers of the racetrack interests contrived a device to defeat the intention of the constitution while pretending to carry out its terms. It is no argument for permitting the existing situation to continue to say that because the Court of Appeals found the Percy-Gray law valid no fight should be made against it. It is not the only valid interpretation of that section of the constitution possible, nor is it the most obvious, nor the best, nor the one which conforms to the ideas of the framers of the constitution. Now that the issue is squarely presented to the people, is it the interpretation which they desire?

BRITISH COMPLAINTS OF CASTRO.

American complaints of Mr. Castro's arbitrariness in dealing oppressively with concession holders whom he once welcomed into his bailiwick are by no means so solitary as to be lonely. There are others, heard of elsewhere, but of similar tenor. Two are reported from Great Britain, where they have been laid before the Foreign Office with a plea for diplomatic good offices for the securing of equity. That the plea will be heeded is not at all certain. The British government is not always ready or willing to take up such cases. "Old Pam" laid down the principle long ago that British subjects making contracts with foreign countries are supposed to have arrived at years of discretion and to be free agents, and that if they get their fingers burned in playing with speculative fires in irresponsible countries their voices of lamentation are properly to be raised against nobody but themselves. Nevertheless, it is worth while to observe these cases and to mark their characteristics.

One is that of a salt manufacturing corporation. We are told that in June, 1905, President Castro decreed that the national government should thereafter have a monopoly of exploiting the salt resources of the country. Four months later he authorized a lease to Mr. Albert Pam of all the salt mines and deposits which belonged to the government, and all others which might be developed, for a term of ten years, in consideration of a royalty of $700,000 a year. Mr. Pam transferred his lease to a Venezuelan company, which sold out to an English syndicate. The lease was dated in October, 1905. But on January 13, 1908, Mr. Castro issued a decree arbitrarily annulling it, although it had more than seven years yet to run, and the Venezuelan government at once took possession of the salt mines and works for its own profit.

The other case is that of a match manufacturing concern. In May, 1899, a law was made declaring the manufacture, importation and sale of matches in Venezuela to be a state monopoly. In 1904 Mr. Castro leased the monopoly to Mr. Manuel Tejera, of Venezuela, who transferred it to a company, which in turn sold a majority of its stock to English capitalists. Then, in January last, without complaint, without trial and even without warning, the concession was cancelled and the English proprietors were informed that their property had been confiscated! There were, of course, the courts of Venezuela, to which appeal for redress might be made. The match company decided to try them. So it sought a native lawyer to conduct its case. With extreme difficulty it found one who admitted that it had or ought to have a good case against the government. But what was the use, he asked, in making an appeal against Castro in Castro's own courts? No matter, the company replied, the attempt should be made. The lawyer then required not only a round fee but the settlement of an annuity upon him for a term of years, for, he said, he would probably be exiled, if, indeed, he was lucky enough to escape imprisonment. The company gave him the annuity and the case was begun. But it was quickly ended when the Venezuelan government issued a warrant for the lawyer's arrest on a charge of treason in taking the side of foreigners against the sacred fatherland! It is reported that he is now in hiding or in exile, and will live on his annuity until the end of Castro's reign.

Really, it is not quite certain that Palmerston's principle properly applies in such cases as these. Men must take some risks in engaging in enterprises in foreign lands, and they are supposed to have discretion. But not every man can be reasonably supposed to possess a faculty of imagination sufficiently developed to enable him to conceive such extraordinary possibilities as these. A man might count on a breaking of all the Ten Commandments, but he could not well be expected to invent ten more and count on their also being broken.

THE ARBITRATION TREATIES.

The pending arbitration treaties between America on the one hand and Great Britain and France on the other are identical in their general provisions. Their terms may be disappointing to those who have indulged visions of unconditional, instantaneous and universal arbitration, and they should be reassuring to those who have feared the usurpation by some alien tribunal of the essential functions of our own national sovereignty. The majority of temperate thinkers between those extremes will probably regard them as marking an earnest and judicious attempt to systematize and facilitate the arbitration of a certain class of international disputes, which should be commended to sympathetic support, but which frankly recognizes those limitations of arbitral procedure which the truest friends of international peace have not failed to perceive.

Under these treaties the powers concerned agree to submit to arbitration at The Hague not all differences, but only those of a legal nature, and those which it has not been found possible to settle by the ordinary means of diplomacy, and such, moreover, as do not affect the vital interests, independence or honor of the powers concerned or the interests of any third party. These limitations or reservations, as we have frequently argued in these columns, are reasonable and substantially essential; and it is also reasonable and essential that each power shall, as these conventions suggest, be its own judge of the fitness of each individual matter for arbitration. Practically, these treaties will bind the United States to submit to arbitration only such disputes as the government, or the President and Senate, may see fit thus to submit. We would not, however, be understood as intimating that they are superfluous. While nothing will be done under them which might not have been done without them, the doing of it will be a little easier because of them and the inclination to do it will be a little stronger, and in those circumstances there is some gain.

The treaty with Great Britain differs from that with France in the addition of two provisos. One is that the special agreements which may be made under it shall not be binding upon Great Britain before they are upon the United States. That is obviously just and reasonable; so much so that it may seem to some persons strange that it is necessary to make it and that the principle has not always prevailed as a matter of course. The fact is, however, that while the United States waits until the Senate ratifies a treaty before being bound by it, Great Britain, having no such system of Parliamentary ratification, has been in the habit of considering herself bound as soon as the treaty was signed. The other proviso is that before engaging to arbitrate any issue affecting one of her self-governing colonies Great Britain shall obtain the concurrence of the government of that colony.

Substantially these treaties are practical agreements to systematize that which has hitherto been unsystematic. They make no promise of inerrant benevolence, but they do offer a lively promise of businesslike good. They will make the settlement of most disputes a little easier and a little quicker, and they will incline the official minds of the nations a little more toward friendly methods of adjudication.

BAD PRACTICE AND BAD POLICY.

The controversy over the appointment of an excise commission in New Jersey affords an example at once of the bad practice in legislative procedure which too often prevails at Trenton and of the bad policy of those interested in the liquor trade and their partisans in resisting an impartial and equitable application of governmental functions. A resolution authorizing the Governor to appoint the commission in question was introduced in the Legislature, and it was ultimately reported back to him with the official certification of the clerk of the Senate that it had been adopted by both houses. It unquestionably was adopted by the Senate, but there is a dispute as to what happened in the House. Some confidently insist that it was promptly passed, while others declare that they have no recollection of its passage or of its having been acted upon at all. There is good reason for believing that it was passed. It is entirely certain that it was not rejected. Concerning several other measures there is similar uncertainty, from which circumstance we must conclude that there was some careless and slipshod work on the part of the officials or employes of the Legislature, and that there is danger of serious malpractice one of these days if a more businesslike system is not enforced.

The question has naturally arisen what the Governor should do about it. Technically he appears to have a right to act upon the measure as one which was duly passed by both Houses. He is entitled to accept the official certification of it, and is not required to go behind the returns and investigate their correctness. But if he did not care to do that in the face of some doubt, however slight, of the correctness of the certification, he would still seem to be empowered to appoint the commission all the same on another basis. There was voted for his use a contingent fund, which was increased from $10,000 to $20,000 for the specific purpose of paying the costs of such a commission. Thus the means were provided for it, and of his power to use those means for the specified purpose there can be no reasonable doubt. As for the sentiment of the majority of the people of the state, it is overwhelmingly in favor of an investigation by such a commission.

For years there have been earnest and persistent declarations by both the temperance people and the liquor trade that radical revision of the excise laws is needed, and it has been notorious that the existing laws have been grossly violated. Governor Fort's proposition is that an impartial commission should be appointed with ample power to investigate the condition of the liquor trade, to determine what changes in the law are desirable, if any, and to ascertain in what respects the existing law is violated or is ineffective. That would certainly seem, from the antecedent conditions, to be a fair, just and decidedly valuable thing to do. But the liquor interests are up in arms as almost never before in the history of the state against it. Scarcely any other proposal of the Governor's has been so bitterly antagonized.

In offering such opposition to it the liquor interests surely seem to be making a great mistake. They themselves last year clamored for sweeping changes in the excise law. Yet now they oppose an investigation which has for its primary object the ascertaining what changes are desirable. Can it be that they want changes made in the dark, without information and without intelligence? Or do they want only such changes as would benefit them, regardless of the general desires and needs of the state? Again, it is notorious that the existing law is violated. Are the honest members of the liquor trade willing to go on record as opposing investigations into lawbreaking? Can it be that they would make the intolerable proposition that their business alone of all in the state should be exempt from the common obligation to obey the law? It is the assumption of precisely such an attitude that puts the liquor dealers in the bad graces of the public and that arouses and intensifies popular sentiment against them. The true and profitable policy would be for them to uphold the law and so to conduct their business that they would not dread but could welcome official scrutiny. The very fact that the appointment of the commission is opposed in the way and for the reasons that it is must be regarded as a pretty strong argument for its appointment.

ITALY AND TURKEY.

The Duke of the Abruzzi will, after all, have no chance to cow the Paynim with actual use or even display of force. It is not necessary to send his squadron to Turkish waters. The mere threat to send it has been sufficient. The Porte has yielded, and the sailing orders have been countermanded. It is a bloodless victory, but it is, nevertheless, a distinct and not unimportant victory for the Italian government.

The circumstances of the case have been sufficiently set forth in the dispatches. For many years Great Britain and other powers have maintained in Turkey their own postal services, distrusting the Turkish postoffice, with its habit of opening letters, and persons who have wanted to make sure of the delivery of their letters without tampering have sent them through those alien offices. Italy has not hitherto maintained such a service, but has used the British or some other postoffice in Turkey. But now she demands the same right to maintain such a service that other powers enjoy. It was that demand which Turkey resisted, and which Italy has enforced by the gentle expedient of mobilizing her fleet.

The incident is another demonstration of the impairment of Turkish sovereignty, but it involves the reasonable requirement that that impairment shall be equally for the advantage of all other powers. Turkey might, with some show of reason, refuse to let any alien power establish an *imperium in imperio* at Stamboul. But, having permitted one power to do so, she cannot equitably or consistently refuse to let another power of similar rank and interest do the same. It is simply an application of the principle of the open door, or of the most favored nation.

The arrival of Mr. Bryan in town is followed by an immediate decline in the talk of a pro-Bryan bolt. If this discouragement of the malcontents has been accomplished without any promises from Murphy and Conners to Bryan the triumph of the better element is magnificent.

Colonel James Hamilton Lewis is a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Governor of Illinois. If the Hon. Roger Sullivan has any worldly wise sagacity or any appreciation of the picturesque in politics he will see to it that Colonel Lewis is chosen. As a campaigner the colonel is an unfailing treat to both the intelligence and the senses. He not only soothes the ear drum but captivates the eye.

A dispatch from Birmingham, Ala., announces that Representative Hobson will be a candidate for the Presidential nomination in 1912. This announcement may seem to Mr. Bryan to furnish one more reason why he should take another chance on the Presidency in 1908.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

A sentence, probably unique in this country, was recently pronounced by a magistrate in Everett, Mass. Two youngsters of twelve years had been convicted of throwing stones, to the destruction of property and the peril of passers-by. Just how to deal with such youthful offenders was a puzzle for the court for a while, but after due thought the judge hit upon the happy idea of turning the youngsters' "fun" into a penalty. He ordered a police sergeant to take the boys back to the lot where they had been captured and make them spend a half hour in throwing stones as fast as they could pick them up. The sergeant obeyed orders to the letter, and the youngsters got enough of stone throwing to last them the rest of their lives.

"What do you understand by the term 'crying evil'?" asked the teacher.

"A baby," answered little Dickey, who happened to be the youngest son of an apartment house janitor.—Chicago Tribune.

"A mysterious theft and a strange recovery" is the subject of a story in a Vienna paper. Thieves entered a house at Graz, Styria, last summer and carried away much plunder. Among the articles taken were the framed portraits of the great-grandparents of the householder. All efforts to recover the portraits, which had much sentimental value but little intrinsic worth, were fruitless and they were given up for lost. A few evenings ago the owner of the lost pictures went to see the first performance of the "Erbförster" at the Graz theatre, and was not a little surprised in the second act to see the portraits of his great-grandparents as part of an old library scene. He learned later that the pictures had been purchased by the theatre from an antiquary, and through him the thief was soon detected. The dealer gladly relinquished the heirlooms, and the owner was so overjoyed that he refused to prosecute the thief.

"I have been taking some moving pictures of life on your farm."

"Did you ketch the hired man in motion?"

"I think so."

"Ah, science kin do anything these days."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

The musical world of Dresden, says the "Musikwelt," enjoyed a pleasant sensation at the concert which took place at the beautiful new Christus Church at Dresden-Strehlen. Psalm xviii set to new music was rendered by Marie Fuchs, a well known oratorio singer, who came from Berlin for that purpose. The composition was credited on the programme to "L. Stein," but the fact became known that the composer was the Princess Friedrich Leopold, the sister of the German Emperor. The princess is known to possess unusual musical talent and only favorable comment was made by the large and critical audience before whom the psalm was rendered.

The minister, knowing how fond Pat was of wine, offered him a small wineglass full, and said, "Pat, that wine is one hundred years old."

"Faith, it's small for its age, then," said Pat.—Judge's Library.

According to some Chicago papers, not a few of the school children of that city have adopted a plan, proposed by Mrs. Edward Roby, a clubwoman, of saluting policemen they pass. Mrs. Roby suggested the salute in an address before a woman's club. "We think too little of our policemen," she said. "They protect our homes and often endanger their lives in our behalf. Their calling should stir our patriotism, and every child should be taught to salute the star which the policeman wears."

Evelyn—He's a very learned man. You wouldn't think so, would you?

Natica—Oh, yes! I suspected it at once.

Evelyn—Indeed?

Natica—Yes, he makes me so tired.—Illustrated Bits.

About People and Social Incidents

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, April 20.—The President and Mrs. Roosevelt and several friends witnessed the annual Easter Monday egg rolling on the White House lawns to-day. According to custom, the grounds were thrown open to the children from 9 a. m. to 1 p. m., and several thousand youngsters took advantage of the permit. After the gates were closed the Marine Band gave a concert on the ellipse south of the White House grounds.

The members of the Princeton baseball club called on the President to-day and talked with him about athletics. The President said that only one member of his family, Quentin, was a baseball player, but all of them loved healthy, manly games of all kinds.

The President sent to the Senate to-day the renomination of Frank Wyman as postmaster at St. Louis.

Callers at the White House included Senators Brown, Bourne, Dixon, Dolliver, Lodge, Warren, Piles and Flint, Representatives Hill, Driscoll, Dickema and Campbell, ex-Secretary Hitchcock, Emerson Hough and A. A. Anderson, of New York, and Captain P. F. Hodge, Captain Josiah Hessing, P. D. Bricker and W. H. Lefingwell, who constitute the commission appointed by Governor Stuart to select a site for a monument to the Pennsylvania troops on the battlefield of Cold Harbor.

THE CABINET.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, April 20.—The Secretary of State returned to Washington this morning from New York, where he spent the week-end with Mrs. Root and their children as the guests of Mrs. Root's mother, Mrs. Salem H. Wales. Lieutenant and Mrs. Grant came from their home in Brookline, Mass., and Mr. and Mrs. Elihu Root, jr., and Edward Wales Root were also the guests of Mrs. Wales for Easter. Mrs. Root will return to Washington later in the week.

Miss Helen Taft, accompanied by her schoolmate, Miss Dorothea Baldwin, who spent Easter in Washington, the guests of the Secretary of War and Mrs. Taft, returned to their school, outside of Philadelphia, this afternoon. Robert Taft is spending the Easter holidays in Washington with his parents.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, April 20.—The Italian Ambassador and Baroness Mayor des Planches were dinner hosts this evening. Their list included the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador and Baroness Hengelmüller, the Spanish Minister, the Greek Minister, Representative and Mrs. Bourke Cockran, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy and Mrs. Newberry, the naval attaché of the Austro-Hungarian Embassy and Baroness Preuschen von und zu Liebenstein, Mr. and Mrs. Batcheller, Mrs. Nicholas Fish, Miss Anna Cockrell, Miss Gertrude Williams, the counsellor of the Brazilian Embassy, Mr. do Amaral, and Prince Kretzulesco and Signor Cora, of the Italian Embassy staff.

The British Ambassador left Washington last evening for a Southern trip.

The Minister from Cuba and Mme. de Quesada were among the boxholders at the opening performance to-night of "Prince Parchesi," a play given for the benefit of the National Junior Republic. Others occupying boxes and entertaining parties were Senator and Mrs. Elkins, Colonel and Mrs. Frank Lee Denny, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lee, General and Mrs. Draper and Mr. and Mrs. Woodward.

Masanao Hanihara, second secretary of the Japanese Embassy, gave a dinner this evening for the Japanese Ambassador, the embassy staff and a number of the newspaper correspondents who attended the Portsmouth peace conference.

IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, April 20.—The fifth Wilson-Greene morning musical at the New Willard this morning drew an audience from representative Washington official, diplomatic and resident society and proved a delightful affair. Most of the audience remained for luncheon in the palm room.

Several of the luncheon parties attended the afternoon reception given by Mrs. John W. Foster for her daughters, Mrs. Allen Lacy Dulles, of Auburn, N. Y., and Mrs. Robert Lansing, of Watertown, N. Y., who are spending the Easter season with her.

Senator Du Pont, whose daughter, Mrs. Crowninshield, acts as hostess for him, was among the dinner hosts this evening.

Miss Alice Shepard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fitch Shepard, was hostess at a large supper party this evening, to which she invited the entire cast, including principals and chorus, of "The Prince of Parchesi" and a few other guests.

NEW YORK SOCIETY.

Extreme simplicity marked the quiet wedding of Miss Elizabeth Gracie King and Alpheus Sumner Hardy yesterday afternoon at Grace Church, in the presence of only a few relatives and intimate friends. The Rev. Dr. William R. Huntington performed the ceremony, and the bride, who was given away by her father, and who wore a gown of white moiré, trimmed with lace, and a veil of point appliqué lace, was unattended by maid of honor or bridesmaids, nor did she carry any flowers. Arthur F. Townsend officiated as best man, and Herman Le Roy Edgar and Edgar King, jr., were the ushers. Among those present were Mrs. Herman Le Roy Edgar, William Butler Duncan, Mr. and Mrs. Alpheus Hardy, Mr. and Mrs. James Gore King, John Van Rensselaer, Mr. and Mrs. William Wharton and the Rev. Philip Rhinelander. The ceremony was followed by a small reception at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward King, in University Place.

Another quiet wedding of yesterday was that of Miss Nathalie Lorillard Bailey and Lewis Gouverneur Morris, at the Madison avenue house of her mother, Mrs. J. Muhlenberg Bailey, in the presence of only a few near relatives and intimate friends. The bride, who is a granddaughter of the late Jacob Lord and of the late Dominick Lynch, was given away by her mother, and was arrayed in a gown of ivory satin, trimmed with old point lace, of which material her veil was also formed. She carried a bouquet of lilies-of-the-valley and was attended by Miss Evelyn Spencer Witherbee, in a frock of white crêpe, with a white crêpe hat trimmed with white ostrich plumes, her flowers consisting of pink roses. The bridegroom, who is a son of Mrs. Francis Morris and a great-grandson of Richard Morris, the first Chief Justice of the State of New York, had John D. Peabody for his best man, and as ushers H. Schuyler Cammann, Harold Mason, John Reese and Henry W. Whitman, the last named of Boston. Among those at the wedding were Mrs. George L. Kingsland and Miss Ethel Kingsland, Mr. and Mrs. Reginald W. Rives and Miss Helen Rives, Mr. and Mrs. Amos Tuck French, Mr. and Mrs. Louis L. Lorillard, Mrs. Stuyvesant Le Roy, Mr. and Mrs. H. Van Rensselaer Kennedy and Mr. and Mrs. Woodbury G. Langdon.

Henry Pelham Robbins, who is to marry Miss Emily Welles, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Welles, to-morrow afternoon in Grace Church, gave his farewell bachelor dinner last night at the Union Club. His guests included Fletcher Harper, who will be his best man, and Phœnix Ingraham, Joseph Earle Stevens, Sumner K. Gerard, Richard Newton, jr., Grosvenor Atterbury and Harold Bend.

Frederick Townsend Martin will give a luncheon to-day at Sherry's for Mrs. George J. Gould, and will afterward, with his guests, attend Mme. Francis L. Pruyn's recital of French songs at the Plaza.

St. Thomas's Church will be the scene this afternoon of the wedding of Miss Clara Wright Barclay, daughter of Mrs. Henry A. Barclay, and José Victor Onativia, jr., at 3:30.

A little later, namely, at 4 o'clock, the marriage of Miss Nathalie Gourlie, daughter of the late John Hamilton Gourlie, to Francis Henry Appleton, jr., of Boston, will be solemnized at St. George's Church, Stuyvesant Square.

Still another wedding set for to-day is that of Frederic Ashton de Peyster, son of Mrs. Frederic J. de Peyster, and Miss Alice Abercrombie-Miller, daughter of Commander and Mrs. Abercrombie-Miller, out at Lakewood, in All Saints' Episcopal Church, where the ceremony will be performed by Bishop Mackay-Smith, of Philadelphia. A reception will take place afterward in the ballroom of the Laurel House.

Mrs. Herbert Shipman has organized an entertainment for this afternoon at the Plaza in behalf of the Fresh Air fund of the Church of the Heavenly Rest, of which her husband is the rector. It will take the form of a series of tableaux, arranged by Ben Ali Haggin, and of the production of Breton songs in costume. The tableaux will represent characters of the various grand operas. Miss Ione Page, Miss Gretchen Hoyt, Miss Edith Kane and Miss Marjorie Curtis will be among the figurantes.

In the evening a vaudeville and theatrical entertainment will be given at the Plaza for the benefit of the Downtown Nursery. The principal play represented will be "Neurasthenia," Frank Crowninshield's comedy, in which he satirizes the fad for rest cures. The leading part will be taken by Mrs. James B. Eustis, who will be supported by Miss Gertrude Sheldon, Miss Lelia Bryce, Miss Margaret Dix, Miss Rosamond Street, Lydig Hoyt, Buell Hollister and Chalmers Wood. In the vaudeville entertainment preceding the play, which has been organized by Mrs. Arthur Scott Burden, in conjunction with Mrs. Frederick Kernochan, Miss Evelyn Parsons and Mrs. Moses Taylor Pyne, there will be some clog dancing by the sons of James L. Breese.

Dr. and Mrs. Herman Bendell, of Albany, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Myra Lewi Bendell, to Daniel England, former Mayor of Pittsfield, Mass.

SOCIAL NOTES FROM NEWPORT.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Newport, R. I., April 20.—Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt was a visitor here to-day for the first time since last fall. Mrs. Vanderbilt's stay in the city was short. She arrived early in the morning and at once drove to The Breakers, where she made an inspection of the house and grounds. She left for New York again in the afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. George L. Rives, who have been in Newport for a few days inspecting their cottage, went to New York to-day. They are expected in Newport for the season early next month.

Mr. and Mrs. Humphry Ward, who were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Sterner at Maryholme over Easter, went to New York to-day.

George Henry Warren, Frank Mitchell, Major and Mrs. William B. Wetmore and Mrs. Austin Flint, jr., of New York, were in Newport to-day attending the funeral of Mrs. Thomas R. Hunter.

Miss Georgianna G. King went to Boston to-day. She will sail for Europe to-morrow.

FATE PURSUES WHITE HOUSE TREES.

But Ex-Secretary Hitchcock Will Give a Third "Washington Oak."

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, April 20.—Ethan Allen Hitchcock, ex-Secretary of the Interior, called on the President to-day and told him that he would make a third attempt to break the "hoodoo" which seems to hover over, or under, the eastern terrace of the White House, and has thus far killed two "Washington oaks." If the third oak succumbs Mr. Hitchcock says he will give it up.

When Mr. Hitchcock was Ambassador to Russia he picked up a handful of acorns from beneath the "Washington oak" that Charles Sumner planted in the Peterhof grounds. The acorns picked up by Mr. Hitchcock were taken to his summer home in New Hampshire, and there grew into sturdy little trees which are now about ten years old. Soon after President McKinley invited Mr. Hitchcock into his Cabinet the latter noticed a large bare plot of ground near the eastern gate of the White House grounds and asked the President if he would not plant one of the little "Washington oaks" on the spot. President McKinley said he would be glad to do so, and one afternoon handled the spade at the tree planting ceremony. For a time the tree flourished; then it withered and died without apparent cause. After President Roosevelt succeeded President McKinley another of the oaks was planted, the President wielding the spade. It did well for a time, then drooped and died. Now, to prove that he is not superstitious, Mr. Hitchcock will send to New Hamp'shire for a third tree.

Mr. Hitchcock has just returned from a vacation spent on the coast of Texas, where he fished for tarpon, rowed a boat and became brown as a berry.

PRESIDENT TO HAVE OAK PLANTED.

New Haven, April 20.—President Roosevelt has directed that a memorial oak be sent to East Haven and planted on the site of General Lafayette's camp in the Revolution. The oak will be planted on Arbor Day.

PRESIDENT OF TRUSTEES RESIGNS.

Hartford, Conn., April 20.—Elbridge Torrey, of D