EDUCATION IN FRANCE

Warm Debate Over Impending Academic Revolution.

Paris, March 5.

French schools and colleges seem to be on the verge of revolution. Is classical education useless? Is the purity of the French language going to the dogs? Is the Sorbonne a failure? Is the French Academy an obsolete, decadent institution that does more harm than good? Ought it to be abolished? Such are the questions that French students now discuss every day. What is the truth? Two works that have just appeared, "L'Académie Française Devant l'Opinion," by M. Frédéric Loliée (Emile Paul), and "L'Esprit de la Nouvelle Sorbonne," by "Agathon" ("Mercure de France"), present the educational crisis clearly and concisely.

M. Loliée gives the opinions of prominent French men of letters, other than members of the Academy, on the utility of retaining the grand old "club," "salon" or institution founded by Cardinal Richelieu. MM. Urbain Gohier, Octave Mirbeau, Albin Valabrègue, Paul Vibert, Frantz-Jourdain, Henri Rochefort and others say that the French Academy is merely a "picturesque ruin" and of no use, while others, including MM. Henri Bordeau, Réné Boylesve, Henry Kisteemackers, Etienne Bricon, Théodore Reinach, Paul Margueritte, Frantz Funck-Brentano, Pierre Wolff and Francis de Croisset declare that the French Academy has lost none of its prestige and that its importance is daily increasing.

In "L'Esprit de la Nouvelle Sorbonne" the author, who writes under the pseudonyme of "Agathon," openly confesses he is one of the "jeunesse ardente." Without disclosing his identity, it may be stated that the author's name figures prominently in the annals of French philosophy and that he himself is well known among recent university graduates.

For some months past a rather lively campaign has been carried on in the newspapers and reviews against the present teaching methods of the Sorbonne (University of Paris) and the secondary schools dependent upon it. A great deal has been heard of the "crise du Français." Complaints have arisen from various quarters to the effect that the rising generation has not the same culture and the same mastery of its mother tongue as had its predecessors. This regrettable state of affairs has been attributed to the new programmes of study and the new methods in force in the Sorbonne and the "lycées" (high schools).

In 1902 important changes were made in the curricula and examinations of the "lycées." A considerable amount of the time theretofore devoted to French and the classics was transferred to newly introduced subjects. The student is now permitted, or, rather, obliged, to specialize quite early in his career. This calls forth the animadversion of "Agathon," who considers that secondary education should aim, above all, to train the mind and furnish it with a general culture which would give it the necessary foundation for future specialization to rest upon.

Similar tendencies are to be marked in the faculty of letters. The old dissertation on a given subject—such as a moral maxim or a literary judgment—has been replaced by a written commentary on a page of some given text. Again, the second year, formerly devoted to general work and reading, is now occupied with the preparation for the diploma of higher studies, which necessitates the writing of a sort of minor thesis. This piece of work, though elementary in comparison with the "thèse de doctorate," is essentially scientific in character, requiring a carefully drawn up bibliography and personal research on the part of the student.

"Agathon" objects on the grounds that such work is not for young men, whose æsthetic sense and taste should be whetted and vivified by intelligent contact with the best authors. The genius of the French people, their good taste, keen sense of literary appreciation and almost infallible instinct of moderation and logic are in danger of being stifled by such work. Precious time is wasted at a most important period of the young man's development. All this is due in great measure to imitation of the German universities, which are now, says "Agathon," considering whether they have not gone too far in the direction of pure erudition and are inclining toward the French ideals of some years ago.

Another grievance brought forward is that philosophy is not properly taught in the university. In the philosophical department, it seems, the only principle of unity to be found is in the common hatred of philosophy. The staff is composed, according to "Agathon," of narrowminded sociologists, psycho-physiologists and historians.

"Agathon" is not content to criticise; he suggests remedies. The trouble with the Sorbonne is that it tries to perform three functions; it is at once an institute of scientific research, a pedagogic establishment to turn out future professors and a conservatory of higher culture for the more enlightened public. Its role would be rendered much easier if the Ecole Normal Supérieure, annexed to the Sorbonne in 1904, were separated from it entirely. The classics, philosophy and French literature as literature should again occupy leading places in the curriculum.

It is significant that "Agathon" has been supported in his criticism by several of the leading journals. He reproduces in his book several newspaper articles and letters. Two of the latter are especially worthy of note—one by M. Anatole Leroy Beaulieu, director of the "Ecole des Sciences Politiques," and the other by M. Guillain, president of the "Comité des Forges." Both of these men, leaders in their own spheres, but outside the university circles, assert that they have remarked on the part of the young men of to-day a want of general culture and inability to express themselves clearly on paper.

M. Emile Faguet admits and deplores the "crisis in French," but does not lay the blame thereof on the Sorbonne. It is due rather to the new methods and curricula of the "lycées" which are, however, dependent on the Sorbonne, and to more general causes—the reading of newspapers and magazines instead of the authors who write good French, the time and attention called for by scientific discoveries, and so forth. Thus, considers M. Faguet, it is inevitable that pure French and classical culture should become more and more things of the past. "Vous n'allez pas interrompre," he writes, "le cours de la civilisation pour ramener les hommes à l'étude de la langue Française."

The Sorbonne is, so to speak, officially defended by MM. Croiset, Lavisse and Ranson. They continue to maintain that the new methods form the mind and train it for serious intellectual effort more efficiently than the old, which, they state, tended to turn out pleasing dilettantes rather than earnest workers.

C. I. B.

YALE DIVINITY DIRECTOR

Rev. Charles Reynolds Brown, of Oakland, Accepts Post.

New Haven, March 23.—Announcement was made to-night that the Rev. Charles Reynolds Brown, of Oakland, Cal., for the last year substitute pastor of the Old South Church, Boston, has accepted the position of director of the Yale Divinity School. The election was made at a recent meeting of the Yale Corporation and the acceptance received to-day.

The new director is a native of Bethany, W. Va., a graduate of the University of Iowa in the class of '83, and took his theological degree from Boston University, of which he recently declined the presidency. He is forty-nine years old. For the last fourteen years he has been pastor of the First Congregational Church in Oakland, and was active in the relief work after the San Francisco earthquake. He is president of the board of trustees of Mills College, a trustee of the Pacific Theological Seminary and has just completed a course of lectures at Teachers College, Columbia University. He was the Lyman Beecher lecturer at Yale in 1906.

The school was reorganized recently, and Director Brown will carry on the work along the new lines.

Since the resignation of Dean Saunders several years ago the school has been without an official dean or director, it having been directed by Professor E. L. Curtiss.

TO BUILD LUTHERAN HOSPITAL

Organization Adopts Tentative Constitution and Elects Officers.

The organization of the Lutheran Hospital of the City of New York was effected in the Church of the Holy Trinity, 65th street and Central Park West, last night by the adoption of a tentative constitution and the election of officers. It was said that the society would be incorporated under the laws of the state of New York and would establish one or more hospitals and several dispensaries.

No particular site for the first hospital has been selected, but it was said that it would probably be situated somewhere in the upper part of Manhattan. Dr. George Hayunga, of No. 596 Canal street, was chosen president.

CARDINAL INDORSES FIGHT

Gibbons Praises Campaign Against Tuberculosis in Letter.

Cardinal Gibbons has expressed his approval of Tuberculosis Day, which is to be observed by the churches of the United States on or about April 30. He has also highly indorsed the organized campaign against tuberculosis, according to a report of H. Wirt Steele, executive secretary of the Maryland Association for the Prevention and Relief of Tuberculosis.

Mr. Steele and Dr. Charles O'Donovan, of Baltimore, obtained an audience with the Cardinal and explained the object of Tuberculosis Day, which is to secure a simultaneous and systematic presentation of the educational side of the tuberculosis campaign in all of the churches of the United States. He expressed his entire sympathy with the plan.

Cardinal Gibbons also sent Mr. Steele a letter, in which he reiterated his views. The letter read:

I have read with keen interest the pamphlets you sent me, which tell of the triumphs already achieved in the warfare against tuberculosis. My wonder has been aroused by the simplicity of the arms used in this warfare, namely, rational living and cleanliness, which are within the reach of all.

L. I. PRINCETONIANS AT DINNER

Dean of the University the Principal Speaker in Brooklyn.

Members of the Princeton Alumni Association of Long Island whooped it up for their alma mater last evening at the second annual dinner of their organization, in the Hotel Bossert, Columbia Heights, Brooklyn. George E. Brower, president of the association, was toastmaster. Governor Wilson of New Jersey, former president of Princeton University, sent regrets at his inability to attend.

Dean Fine, of the university, was the principal speaker. He said that no university in the country had made such progress in liberal studies in recent years as Princeton made under the presidency of Woodrow Wilson. The speaker asserted that, owing to the Wyman bequest, the university had the opportunity at last of securing one of the best faculties in the country. He declared that Princeton had the finest body of undergraduates in the world.

Other speakers were Parker Handy, a former president of the Princeton Club, of New York; Alexander Gulick, president of that club; Wilson Farrand, principal of the Newark Academy, and William Roper, athletic adviser of the university. Gilbert Hunting, '07, led in the singing of college songs.

VERMONT SOCIETY'S DINNER

The annual reception and dinner of the Vermont Society will be held in the Hotel Manhattan to-morrow evening. The guests and speakers will be Governor John A. Mead of Vermont, Governor John A. Dix of New York, Congressman Frank Plumley, John Barrett, director of the Bureau of American Republics; Philip Carpenter, vice-president of the New Hampshire Society; E. C. Smith, ex-Governor of Vermont, and Charles E. Littlefield, president of the Maine Society.

EMPRESS TO REST AT CORFU.

Berlin, March 23.—The Emperor and Empress left here for Corfu this evening. They will visit Vienna on the way. It is understood that the stay of their majesties at Corfu will be more quiet than usual, owing to the need of the Empress of rest and recuperation after several attacks of influenza.

NEW YORK FROM THE SUBURBS.

The Columbia professor who says that we have poor teeth because we do not exercise them enough probably never took his meals in some of the New York restaurants to have met.—Springfield Union.

The New York subway company reports that it transports about twenty-six thousand passengers during what it called the theatre rush hours. Now some of the New York papers will begin counting up how many seats are provided in the subway trains during those hours.—Utica Observer.

"I don't mind Dr. Aked pulling up and leaving New York City because he can't interest the people here in religious matters," said the sensitive Gothamite; "what grinds me is that he thinks he will find San Francisco a more congenial field."—Chicago Tribune.

Can New York be made the art centre of the world? is under discussion in the big city, which does not seem to realize that the answer is: Yes, if Pierpont Morgan's pocketbook looks out.—Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

Even the suburbs of greater New York are realizing the folly of small fry municipalities as an alternative of metropolitanism, with all of its dignities, advantages and inspirations. A bill in the Legislature provides for the annexation of Mount Vernon, New Rochelle, Yonkers, Westchester and Pelham to New York, the theory being to form a borough to be known as Westchester. A sensible movement and one that should be crowned with success.—Troy Press.

MUSICAL NOTES

The Boston Orchestra Concert and Yesterday's Operas.

The Boston Symphony Orchestra gave what was announced as its "fifth and last" concert at Carnegie Hall last night. Of course, it was expected that the wide-awake people who attend the concerts of the Boston Orchestra would accept the announcement as being made in a Pickwickian sense. For is there not to be a concert by the same organization next Saturday afternoon? And are the lovers of orchestral music in New York not expecting to hear the Boston Orchestra over and over again, next season and the season and seasons after, no matter what it cost to maintain the hundred or more orchestral concerts provided by local organizations? Yea, verily. Local patriotism is a great thing, but appreciation of the Boston Orchestra's playing is a greater. Whereby New York demonstrates the provincialism with which all the other cities in the country delight in charging it.

The programme last night was in no sense sensational and seemed designed to effect the laudable purpose of displaying Mr. Anton Witek, the concert master of the organization, who was brought forward in the most dignified manner possible, it falling to his lot to play the Beethoven violin concerto. The Boston gentlemen are not disposed to sensationalism of any kind (which may possibly explain their permanent popularity in New York), and Mr. Witek kept up the lovely and profitable tradition, playing in a sound, musicianly manner, with a tone of great beauty and in a style which disclosed both admirable training and taste. As for the other numbers of the programme—Brahms's first symphony and Richard Strauss's "Don Juan," the quality and homogeneity of the tone developed by the orchestra in them and the rhythmical crispness of the playing, to speak of nothing else, could scarcely be dwelt upon without reflecting upon our local organizations, which are so admirable that they put a strain upon the phraseology of praise occasionally. And there are those who forbid us to be unpatriotic.

"Hansel and Gretel" had another representation at the Metropolitan Opera House yesterday afternoon; so did the first act of the ballet "Coppelia," by the Russian dancers. But after Humperdinck's exquisite opera there can be no desire to discuss even such graceful dancing as that of Mme. Pavlowa and M. Mordkin. There has been much to command admiration in the Italian, French and German representations at the Opera House this season, but nothing will linger longer and more delightfully in the memory of the public than Humperdinck's opera and Miss Alten's impersonation of Gretel—a masterpiece of action and song. Mme. Homer was missed as the witch, in spite of M. Reiss's splendid abilities as a character actor.

"Otello," instead of "Die Meistersinger," owing to the indisposition of Walter Soomer, was last night's opera in the Metropolitan. Mr. Slezak sang the Moor; Mr. Amato, Iago, and Mrs. Rappold, Desdemona. Mr. Toscanini conducted. The audience was of only moderate size.

Clarence Whitehill, who last year was one of the barytones of the Metropolitan Opera Company, gave a song recital yesterday afternoon in Mendelssohn Hall. Although the recital had been twice postponed, there was an audience of ample size. Mr. Whitehill's fine voice is pleasantly remembered, and he showed yesterday that he still possesses it, and with the proper opportunity knows how to use it. In fact, its very resonance was, perhaps, not altogether a blessing, as in the Schubert and Brahms selections he seemed to be afraid to let his voice out, and the constraint did not improve even the delicacy of his interpretation.

But he was at home in Tschaikowsky's "Sérenade de Don Juan" and in the air from "La jolie fille de Perth." Here his operatic experience stood him in good stead and he sang with fine feeling and spirit. He sang well, too, Rubinstein's "The Throne" and Schindler's "From a City Window." Kurt Schindler accompanied Mr. Whitehill admirably. The audience was cordial in its approval.

The American String Quartet, an organization formed recently by four young women of Boston—Miss Gertrude Marshall, first violin; Miss Evelyn Street, second violin; Miss Edith Jewell, viola, and Mrs. Susan Lord Brandegee, 'cello, gave a concert last night in Mendelssohn Hall. They were assisted by Heinrich Gebhard, piano. The programme consisted of Debussy's Quartet, Op. 10; Haydn's Quartet, Op. 33, No. 3, and Dvorak's Quintet, Op. 81.

The young women made a pleasing impression, playing together well, with firm tone and much spirit. Perhaps a trifle of the delicacy of the Haydn number escaped them, but on the whole they showed themselves earnest and capable musicians. The audience was of moderate size, but of ample enthusiasm.

QUAKER OPERA TROUBLES

Reported Demand for a Further Payment of $45,000.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Philadelphia, March 23.—It seems that to have another season of grand opera Philadelphia lovers of music will have to put up $45,000 in addition to the $55,000 guaranteed by E. T. Stotesbury to the managers of the Chicago-Philadelphia Company to make up this season's deficit. That is the practical ultimatum conveyed in a letter to Mr. Stotesbury from Clarence H. Mackay.

The general information had been that this season's deficit would be about $50,000, and this Mr. Stotesbury was willing to make good, but Mr. Mackay now announces that the deficit is nearer $100,000, and will have to be cared for in some manner if another season of opera is expected.

Mr. Mackay's communication, which is in the form of an open letter, follows in part:

"It was a matter of regret to members of our executive committee that you were unable to make an appointment to meet me before going South, all the more, as I pointed out to you in my letter of the 20 inst., 'on account of the critical condition which confronts the opera situation in Philadelphia at this time.'

"Not hearing from you, I wrote you on March 2 fully setting forth the situation and requested your secretary to see that my letter was forwarded to you at the earliest opportunity, which I was informed had been done. On the 8th inst. I cabled to you at Havana and received no word from you until Saturday, the 11th, at midday. The day before there was held in my office a full meeting of the executive committee of the Chicago Grand Opera Company. I was instructed by the committee to forward you the following resolution:

"Resolved, That it was the sense of the meeting that if the losses sustained in Philadelphia this season are properly adjusted by responsible Philadelphia interests, the company will proceed to negotiate for the next season.

"I was gratified to note from your letter that you personally will be willing to make up this year's deficit in Philadelphia, which you mention as being approximately $45,000, and further, that you personally will guarantee a sum of $100,000, if necessary, to insure the continuance of opera for another season.

"I do not wish to appear as if I were encroaching on your generosity or the splendid spirit which prompted you to make this offer but I would point out that the deficit as the Philadelphia season as figured out by the auditor, who is my informant, and as mentioned in my letter of the 20 inst., will amount by the end of the season to all probability to $100,000.

"The New York directors see no reason why they should assume any part of this deficit, as has been intimated. In order to carry through the Hammerstein purchase last year and insure Philadelphia an opera house of its own the chief interests in the Metropolitan Opera Company of New York subscribed $300,000, and in addition formed the Chicago Grand Opera Company, with a capital of $500,000, of which $320,000 was subscribed by these same interests."

TICKET SPECULATOR CASE

Decision Reserved on Constitutionality of Ordinance

Justice Newburger, in the Supreme Court, heard argument yesterday and reserved decision on the question of the constitutionality of the ordinance passed by the Board of Aldermen preventing the sale of theatre tickets on the street by speculators. The case came before the court on a writ of habeas corpus obtained for John B. Lange, a speculator, who was arrested on Monday in front of the Metropolitan Opera House, to test the legality of the new ordinance.

Louis Marshall, counsel for Lange, attacked the ordinance as unconstitutional, stating it was in contravention of the rights of citizens, in that it deprived a person of liberty and property without due process of law.

Justice Newburger said: "The only question involved is, has the Board of Aldermen the power to stop the business through the medium of the police? It does not stop the business; it only stops ticket selling on the streets."

"True," said Mr. Marshall, "but you can't stop a business because some people make nuisances of themselves. If you get to the point of stopping any one's business on the streets the law must be applied to all business."

The lawyer said that ticket selling on the street had been a common right for twenty-five years, and that while the charter gave the Board of Aldermen the power to regulate it did not have the power to prohibit.

Louis Hahlo, Assistant Corporation Counsel, argued that the Board of Aldermen had the power to pass the ordinance whose purpose was to regulate the use of the streets and not to prohibit ticket speculation. He quoted the case of the ordinance passed to prohibit the placing of signs on the Fifth avenue busses, which was upheld by the Court of Appeals. Referring to the speculators Mr. Hahlo said: "They ply their trade in the most crowded streets of the city, and particularly when the crowds are there."

IRVING PLACE THEATRE

"Der Kaufmann von Venedig."

"The Merchant of Venice" was presented last night at the Irving Place Theatre, Rudolph Schildkraut taking the part of Shylock. As this is one of Ernst von Possart's favorite roles, in which he appeared several times in the course of his recent season in this city, a comparison between the two performances was obviously invited. Possart gave the Jew of Venice more dignity and depth of character than it is customary to give him, and made him a more human and more genuinely tragic figure.

Mr. Schildkraut followed the popular conception and made Shylock talk and act more like the traditional pawnbroker. His naturalism was exact and finished, however, and he worked out the role as he conceived it consistently and effectively. His performance deserves high praise. Miss Kleen was notably good in the trial scene, and the rest of the support was capable. Much credit is due to the stage management for expediting the performance, the last curtain falling before 11 o'clock. The cast was:

CAST OF "DER KAUFMANN VON VENEDIG."

Der Doge von Venedig	Herr Heine
Antonio	Herr Krueger
Bassanio	Herr Pittschau
Solanio	Herr Staudte
Salarino	Herr Oesfeld
Graziano	Herr Agetty
Lorenzo	Herr Robert
Shylock	Herr Schildkraut
Tubal	Herr Hatrich
Launcelot Gobbo	Herr Wender
Der alte Gobbo	Herr Olmar
Salerio	Herr Sondern
Balthasar	Herr Keller
Ein Senator	Herr Korn
Portia	Frl. Kleen
Nerissa	Frl. Robba
Jessica	Frl. Huebler
Prinz von Marocco	Herr Hansen
Prinz von Aragon	Herr Werner Franz

DRISCOLL OBJECTS TO PLAY.

Liebler & Co. have been requested by Deputy Commissioner Driscoll to change the name of "Lieutenant Flynn," a detective in "The Deep Purple," now playing at the Lyric Theatre. Commissioner Driscoll also takes exception to the uniform worn by Inspector Bruce in "The Deep Purple," and he has asked to have it changed.

CONCERTS AT WINTER GARDEN.

The first Sunday night concert at the Winter Garden will take place on Sunday at 8:15 o'clock. This concert will differ from the regular entertainment, but the artists will be drawn from the Winter Garden company. The prices for these concerts will range from 50 cents to $1.50.

A feature of the Winter Garden performances during the week has been the presence of theatregoers who have come to see the last act of the programme. The performance does not close until 11:30 o'clock.

THEATRICAL NOTES.

Harrison Grey Fiske announces the engagements of Miss Kate Lester and Charles Harbury for important roles in "Mrs. Bumpstead-Leigh," the new comedy by Harry James Smith, a Harvard man, which Mrs. Fiske is to offer for the first time at the Lyceum on Monday, April 3.

William Collier will continue his presentation of "I'll Be Hanged If I Do" at the Comedy Theatre for three weeks more, after which, on April 17, he will begin his spring revivals, the first of which will be "The Dictator."

Miss May Buckley has been engaged by Werba & Luescher for an important role in "Little Miss Fix-It." She joined the company in Philadelphia yesterday. Miss Buckley was last seen in New York in the title role of "The Little Damozel." "Little Miss Fix-It," in which Nora Bayes and Jack Norworth are the stars, will be seen in New York on April 3, following Miss Elsie Janis at the Globe Theatre.

Henry W. Savage announces a professional matinee of "Everywoman" at the Herald Square Theatre on Tuesday, March 28. The guests of honor will be the members of Mr. Savage's "Excuse Me" company, now playing at the Gaiety Theatre, and the "Prince of Pilsen" company, which will begin an engagement in Brooklyn next week.

Beginning next Tuesday night, Miss Frances Starr will act at the Garrick Theatre in Eugene Walter's "The Easiest Way."

PAYS $430 FOR A PORTRAIT.

A portrait of "Miss Stephens," attributed to Sir T. Lawrence and painted about 1790, brought the highest price—$430—last night at the second session of the sale of the Ichenhauser collection at the Fifth avenue Art Galleries. Mrs. George R. Schieffelin was the purchaser. The total of the sale was $5,930, making the total to date $11,192. "Lord Apthorpe," by R. A. Hilton, was sold to A. S. Vernay for $240. The same buyer obtained for $186 "Artist and Musician," by Crespi, and "Voltigeur and Flying Dutchman," by Herring. F. C. Mentor paid $200 for "The Discovered Engagement," by Herpfer. The sale will be concluded tonight. This afternoon the books, engravings and furniture will be sold.

FORDHAM LOSES ANNUAL DEBATE

Boston, March 23.—Favoring the popular election of United States Senators, Boston College defeated Fordham University in their annual debate to-night. Boston College took the negative. The speakers were: Boston College—D. B. Waters, '11; C. A. Gainey, '13, and T. L. Gannon, '11. Fordham was represented by V. H. Isaacs, '11; A. J. King, '12, and M. B. Ahearn, '12.

OBITUARY

JOHN E. BACKUS.

John E. Backus, president of the Queens County Trust Company, of Jamaica, died yesterday in his home, in Hoffman Boulevard, in Newtown. He was sixty-five years old. His father was Ascam Backus, who came from an old line of Long Island farmers. John E. Backus with his brothers first developed intensive farming in that region, carrying their produce down the Newtown Creek to the East River and thence around the Battery to the North River for New York markets. They became wealthy from this business, together with the appreciation in the value of their farm lands, which they gradually sold.

Mr. Backus was appointed first deputy bridge commissioner of Queens County by Mayor Van Wyck in 1898. He was treasurer of the Citizens Water Company of Newtown and was a director in the old days of the Queens County Agricultural Society, now the Queens-Nassau Agricultural Society. He was treasurer of the Jamaica Normal School until it was taken over by the state in 1906. He organized the Queens County Trust Company and was president for many years. Since young manhood he was an officer in the Old Dutch Reformed Church of Newtown. For many years he was a member of the Queens County Democratic Committee. He married Miss Phoebe S. Vandeveer on November 5, 1873. Mrs. Backus's ancestors settled on Long Island more than two hundred years ago. He leaves three sons, F. Eugene, I. Wyckoff and J. Edwin Backus.

WILLIAM WARD CHILDS.

William Ward Childs, secretary and treasurer of the American Manufacturing Company, of Greenpoint, died on Wednesday at St. John's Hospital, Brooklyn, after an operation. He was the great-great-grandson of Betty Washington, the sister of George Washington. He was born at St. Louis sixty-seven years ago. The Civil War broke out while he was attending Washington University, and he enlisted in the Confederate ranks. He served four years, most of the time under Generals Johnson and Price. In 1891 he became connected with the American Manufacturing Company and went to Brooklyn. For several years he had lived at the Hotel St. George. He was prominent in patriotic societies, belonging to the Sons of the Revolution, Sons of the Colonial Wars, the Confederate Veterans, the Southern Society of New York and the Southern Society of Brooklyn. He leaves Mrs. Childs, formerly Miss Mary Fairfax Berkeley, daughter of the Rev. Edward Fairfax Berkeley, of St. Louis, and two sons. The funeral service will be held at St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church. The burial will be at St. Louis.

WARREN HIGLEY.

Warren Higley died at his home, No. 68 West 40th street, yesterday, after a brief illness. Mr. Higley was born at Genoa, N. Y., sixty-four years ago. He was graduated from Hamilton College in 1872.

For several years following his graduation Mr. Higley was engaged in educational work. He was School Commissioner for the 2d District of Cayuga County, principal of the Cayuga Lake Academy at Aurora, N. Y.; superintendent of schools at Auburn, and principal of the West Side High School in Cleveland. Later he was appointed Superintendent of Public Instruction at Dayton, Ohio.

He was admitted to the Ohio bar in 1874 and remained in active practice until he was elected judge of the police courts of Cincinnati in 1881. He came to this city three years later and began his law practice. Mr. Higley was a member of the Republican Club, the Sons of the American Revolution, the Empire State Society, the Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity, the Patria Club, the Ohio Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The funeral will be held to-morrow at 11 a. m.

DWIGHT KASSON TRIPP.

Dwight Kasson Tripp, sixty years old, died yesterday at his home, No. 210 West 110th street, from pneumonia, after an illness of eight days. He was born in Sheboygan, Wis., and was educated at the University of Berlin. He was a member of the bar in California and Illinois, and served on the bench of the Supreme Court in both of those states. He came to New York City ten years ago, after having practised law in Chicago for nearly thirty years. He engaged in corporation law work here and was interested in railroad promoting. He had an office in the Imperial Hotel. He leaves a wife and three children.

MRS. LAURA A. BLOSSOM.

Mrs. Laura A. Blossom, widow of captain C. D. Blossom, one of the prominent citizens of St. Louis in the 80's, died early yesterday morning at the house of her niece, Mrs. Olin D. Gray, of Garden City. Mrs. Blossom was born on April 7, 1826. Death was caused by pneumonia. During the last season she rarely missed a matinee at the Metropolitan Opera House in this city. The only son of Mrs. Blossom died in St. Louis four years ago. Burial will be at Woodlawn Cemetery.

LOUIS OSCAR ROTY.

Paris, March 23.—Louis Oscar Roty, the noted French engraver of medals and member of the French Institute, died today. He was born in this city in 1846.

MISS MARIA B. POOLE.

Boston, March 23.—The death of Miss Maria Brooks Poole, a young missionary at Harpoot, Eastern Turkey, on February 2, was announced at the office of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions to-day. Miss Poole died from heart failure, following an attack of pneumonia. She was a native of New York City, where her father was for thirty years librarian of the 23d street branch of the Y. M. C. A.

CAPTAIN KNIGHT'S WIFE DEAD.

Annapolis, March 23.—Mrs. Austin M. Knight, wife of Captain Austin M. Knight, U. S. N., died this morning, following an operation. Her husband was recently court martialled for the sinking of the monitor Puritan, used by the Navy Department for target practice, in Hampton Roads. The finding of the court has not been made public.

FUNERAL OF DAVID H. MOFFAT

Business Halted in Denver in Honor of Dead Railroad Builder.

Denver, March 23.—There was an almost complete cessation of business in Denver for a time this afternoon out of respect to the memory of David H. Moffat, Colorado financier and railroad builder, who died in New York on Saturday. At 2 o'clock, when the services began, every streetcar in the city halted for five minutes and every power house in the city closed down. Every wheel on the Denver, Northwestern & Pacific (the Moffat road) ceased to turn, and work stopped as far as possible on the Denver & Rio Grande lines within the city. All banks, business houses and railroad offices closed for at least part of the afternoon. Both branches of the Legislature adjourned.

Escorted by members of the Colorado Pioneer Society, the body of the financier was taken to the State House this morning, where it lay in state until 12:30 o'clock.

The services at the family home were private. The body was placed in the family vault in Fairmount Cemetery to await the arrival from France of Mr. Moffat's daughter, Mrs. James A. McClurg.

MGR. LAVELLE IN THEATRE

With Eight Priests He Goes to See "The Confession" in Lent.

Monsignor Lavelle, rector of St. Patrick's Cathedral, and eight Roman Catholic priests attended a performance of "The Confession," by James Halleck Reid, in the Bijou Theatre last night. In view of the fact that it is Lent the presence of the priests created not a little comment.

Monsignor Lavelle said, in explanation of his presence:

"There is no law in the Roman Catholic Church that prohibits priests or laymen going to the theatre during Lent. The Archbishop did not give us permission to attend. It was purely a matter of conscience. It is, however, unusual for Roman Catholic priests to go to the theatre during Lent."

In speaking of the play Monsignor Lavelle said:

"'The Confession' represents accurately the doctrine and practice of the Catholic Church upon the obligation of the priest to preserve inviolate the confidence he receives from the penitent. The play seems to me very strong, tender and well constructed. It tells a story dear to my Catholic heart—one that we would be glad the whole world should understand."

NEW BAGGAGE RULING

Treasury Department Defines Free and Dutiable Articles.

Washington, March 23.—Secretary MacVeagh has approved a new customs ruling which the Treasury Department believes will do much to reduce the troubles of returning tourists from Europe and minimize attempts to smuggle personal belongings into the Port of New York.

Under the law each American returning from abroad is entitled to bring in free $100 worth of personal belongings. The customs rulings hitherto have been susceptible of elastic interpretation, and many troublesome incidents have arisen. The new ruling announces the articles a returning American may bring in free to the value of $100, as follows: Clothing, toilet articles, jewelry, personal ornaments, cameras, fishing tackle, golf sticks, guns, musical instruments, steamer rugs, toys, shawls, valises and trunks.

Household goods, books, pictures, tableware, table and bed linen and similar articles, unless used by the owner a year abroad, will be considered dutiable. Goods in the piece will have to pay duty, as will presents for other persons or articles of any nature for sale.

Proof will be required from so-called expatriated Americans that they have abandoned their homes in the United States and taken bona fide residences abroad. Non-residents of the United States, however, may bring in personal effects for their own use, comfort or convenience, or articles of adornment without limit of value, under the usual regulations.

WORTHINGTON WILL FILED

Bishop's Widow Leaves Nearly $275,000 to Church and Institutions.

Pittsfield, Mass., March 23.—Bequests aggregating nearly $275,000 are left to the Episcopal Church and several institutions outside of that denomination by the will of Mrs. Amelia Worthington, widow of Bishop George Worthington, of Nebraska. Mrs. Worthington lived in Pittsfield during the summer for a dozen years. The will, which was filed here to-day, provides for the following bequests:

Diocese of Massachusetts, $50,000, for increasing salaries of missionaries and rectors.

Diocese of Western Massachusetts, $20,000, for the salaries of missionaries and rectors.

Diocese of Western Massachusetts, $15,000, for the assistance of aged and needy clergy, as well as widows and orphans of the clergy.

Clarkson Memorial Hospital, Omaha, $5,000.

Church of St. Philip the Deacon, Omaha, $2,000.

Trinity Cathedral, Omaha (endowment in memory of Bishop Worthington), $30,000.

The sums mentioned and several other bequests are given outright. After the death of two or three relatives the following sums are to be distributed:

Diocese of Western Massachusetts, $20,000.

Williams College, $50,000.

Diocese of Massachusetts (for missions), $50,000.

Children's Hospital, Boston, $25,000.

Sunnyside Day Nursery (Wellesley), $5,000.

The residue, if any, is to go to the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Episcopal Church (New York), as a trust fund.

HEIRS DIVIDE MYERS $44,000,000.

San Bernardino, Cal., March 23.—The appraisement of the estate of George S. Myers, a St. Louis tobacco manufacturer, was filed in the Superior Court to-day. The estate is valued at $44,365,583. By the terms of his will the estate would have been held in trust for seventy-five years, the heirs receiving only the income. The latter instituted a contest, declaring the testator to have been of unsound mind, and the court allowed immediate distribution.

ALAN LYNE COREY TO MARRY

Son of Former Steel Head Will Wed Detroit Young Woman.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Detroit, March 23.—Alan Lyne Corey, of New York City, who gave his age as twenty-one years and said he was a Yale student, took out a marriage license today to wed Miss Marguerite Johnston, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Johnston, of this city. Mr. Corey is the son of W. E. Corey, former president of the United States Steel Corporation. He will graduate from Yale in June.

Miss Johnston, a debutante of a year ago, is one of the most popular young women of Detroit. The exact date of the wedding has not been given out, but it will not take place until after Mr. Corey's graduation. The young couple will go to Europe on their wedding trip.

WHAT IS GOING ON TO-DAY.

Free admission to the American Museum of Natural History and the Zoological Garden.

Meeting of the Post Parliament Club, Waldorf-Astoria, 10:30 a. m.

Meeting of the Century Theatre Club, Hotel Astor, 2 p. m.

Meeting of the Iowa New Yorkers, Hotel Astor, 2 p. m.

Appreciation Day of the Washington Irving High School, 9th Regiment Armory, 3:45 p. m.

Dinner of the Lehigh University Club, Hotel Astor, 7 p. m.

Meeting of the Principals' Club, Hotel Astor, 3 p. m.

Meeting of the Washington Heights Taxpayers' Association, New Corrigan Hall, 8 p. m.

Meeting of the Society of Chemical Industry, Chemists' Club, No. 108 West 55th street, evening.

Review of the 23d Regiment by Governor Dix, evening.

Address by Dr. Edward Howard Griggs before the People's Institute, on "The Problem of Personal Relationships," Cooper Union, evening.

Free lectures of the Board of Education, 8 p. m.: Public School 27, 42d street, east of Third avenue, "Historic Naples Region," Mrs. George Sawyer Kellogg; De Witt Clinton High School, 59th street and Tenth avenue, "Scotland," Thomas S. Robiet; Wadleigh High school, 115th street and Seventh avenue, "Miss Bronte and the Study of Emotion," Dr. Charles F. Horne; Public School 14, No. 223 East 27th street, "What Vaccination Has Accomplished," Dr. Charles MacDowell; Public School 17, 47th street, west of Eighth avenue, "Everyday Life in Burma," Dr. Levi J. Deuchfield; Public School 38, Dominick and Clark streets, "The Health of School Children," Dr. John J. Cronin; Public School 40, No. 320 East 20th street, "Electricity and Chemistry," Charles L. Harrington; Public School 63, 88th street, east of First avenue, "The Department of Agriculture," John C. Welsh; Public School 90, 147th street, west of Seventh avenue, "Thomas Jefferson," Charles F. Dana; Public School 96, Avenue A and East 52d street, "Hawaii," William K. Makakou; Public School 182, 182d street and Wadsworth avenue, "Our Great Northwest Empire," Herbert C. Schattuck; Public School 157, St. Nicholas avenue and 127th street, "How Federal Taxes Are Raised and Spent," Dr. William MacDonald; Public School 160, Suffolk and Rivington streets, "Building a Career," Eli W. Weaver; Y. M. B. A. Hall, No. 311 East Broadway, "Russia, Culture Idealism," John Ellis.

MISS ELKINS LEAVES CHICAGO

William S. Hitt Accompanies Party to Washington.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Chicago, March 23.—Miss Katherine Elkins, after a stay in Chicago of thirty-six hours, left the city this evening for Washington. Her brother, Blaine, and his wife accompanied her. William S. Hitt was also a member of the party.

Mr. Hitt was found by a reporter while he was checking his luggage at the Blackstone preparatory to leaving the hotel for the station. The hotel precautions that had protected the party from the inquisitive public failed at the last minute. Mr. Hitt acknowledged his identity with a nod and a pleasant smile. The hotel detective went to the train with the party to protect them from photographers.

MARRIED.

RANDALL-MACIVER—DAVIDGE—On Tuesday, March 21, 1911, at Grace Church Cranford, by the Rev. Charles Lewis Slattery, D. D., Joanna Stewart, daughter of Mrs. William H. Davidge, to David Randall-MacIver, Esq.

Notices of marriages and deaths must be accompanied by full name and address.

DIED.

Acken, Albert.
Blossom, Laura A.
Brown, Mathilda D.
Coyle, Emely.
Cross, Mary W.
Ferguson, Henry A.
Gillespie, Louis C.
Gillet, ——
Ginna, Elizabeth C.
Halloway, Henry R.
Haviland, Ann E.
Higley, Warren.
Hitch, Frederick D.
Lewis, Lydia J. L.
Peck, Hiram F.
Robb, Marion A.
Street, Josephine B.
Tripp, Dwight K.
Williams, Thomas T.

ACKEN—On Tuesday, March 21, 1911, Albert Acken, aged 79 years. Funeral from his late residence, Metuchen