New-York Tribune.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1911.

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THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—The United States cruiser Monterey arrived at Shanghai, raising the number of American warships at the Chinese port to eleven. ═══ Dr. Sun Yat-sen conferred at Shanghai with Dr. Wu Ting-fang on the revolutionary prospects in China. ═══ W. Morgan Shuster was officially notified by the Teheran Cabinet of his dismissal from the office of Treasurer General of Persia; martial law was proclaimed in the capital to deal with the popular protests against the government's action. ═══ The massacres of Persians at Resht by Russian troops were reported still continuing more than five hundred having been butchered; the Russian Consul assumed the government of the town. ═══ General Reyes was reported captured by by Mexican federal troops near Linares.

DOMESTIC.—King Davis, a negro who shot and killed Frederick A. Schwab, was taken from the lockup at Brooklyn, a suburb of Baltimore, by a mob and shot to death; the posse acted so secretly that the lynching was not known until the body of the negro was found by the roadside. ═══ C. L. McCay, cashier of a Chicago safe company, was seriously wounded by a robber, who after the shooting got away with $250. ═══ President Taft spent a quiet Christmas with his family at the White House; Mrs. Taft attended church. ═══ Miss Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross, celebrated her ninetieth birthday in her home in Glen Echo, Md. ═══ President Taft prevented the use of his portrait being printed with photographs of other persons. ═══ The Rev. Clarence V. T. Richeson continued to improve; he ate the ordinary jail fare in his cell at Boston. ═══ A dispatch from Atlanta stated the condition of Charles W. Morse, the convict banker, was unchanged. ═══ W. H. Leonard, a Denver Socialist leader, wants W. D. Haywood expelled for his recent speech advocating "direct action" in obtaining labor organizations their rights. ═══ George H. Sawyer, fourteen years old, of Lynn, Mass., was probably fatally burned when a Christmas tree took fire. ═══ Amateurs from a young ladies' Bible class gave a farce for the convicts at Auburn Prison.

CITY.—Many charitable organizations and individuals gave Christmas dinners at which thousands of the poor were entertained, and the day, unusual for its springlike weather, was also observed in the churches, the Cathedral of St. John the Divine holding its first Christmas service. ═══ A German freight steamer in from Calcutta reported that a giant cobra got loose, chased a man overboard to his death and spread terror among the crew for days until it was finally hurled into the sea with boathooks. ═══ The trustees of the Peabody Fund announced a gift of $500,000 to the College for Teachers, in Nashville, provided the institution itself raise $1,000,000 more in two years. ═══ More than seven thousand dwellers in the Bowery lodging houses had dinner at the expense of "Big Tim" Sullivan. ═══ An automobile in Orange occupied by three young men ran down and killed a boy and injured a woman who were crossing the street. ═══ Prisoners in Ludlow street jail, known as the "Alimony Club," gave a Christmas dinner and presented a loving cup to Thomas Rock, the retiring warden. ═══ Nine apes of Bronx Park sat at table for a Christmas dinner as guests of the city, displaying for the most part excellent manners.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for today: Fair. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 45 degrees; lowest, 33.

THE ORIGINAL PACKAGE AGAIN.

Senator Kenyon, of Iowa, has undertaken the difficult task of drafting a bill intended to prevent shipments of liquors from non-prohibition into prohibition states and yet not clash with the right of a citizen of any state to engage freely in interstate commerce. The authorities of prohibition states complain bitterly that their state laws are partly nullified by the free entry within their boundaries of liquors in the original package. Yet so long as the shipper has the constitutional right to forward and the consignee the constitutional right to receive a recognized commodity it is hard to see how the state can acquire the power to step in and penalize the transaction.

A state which endeavors to enforce prohibition has to depend largely upon the comity of its neighbors for suppressing the sale of liquors of outsiders to its own citizens. If full-blown ideals of courtesy were observed each state would seek to conform its laws to those of the states in its neighborhood. If one commonwealth were to decide to be dry it might hopefully request the adjoining states to try the prohibition experiment also. Yet the same rule of comity would compel it to try to pattern its own laws after those of the vicinage. Where there are many wills, as there are in our federate system, there must be many ways, and apart from mutual deference and conciliation there seems to be no means of harmonizing the desire of one state to exclude liquor shipments with the right of the people of an adjoining state to make such shipments to bona fide consignees across the state line under the protection of the interstate commerce clause of the federal Constitution.

Most persons will be inclined to sympathize with the desire of a prohibition state to enforce its domestic policy to the fullest possible extent. It ought certainly to have a free hand to terminate the sale of liquor within its own boundaries. Yet in dealing with its own citizens it cannot get away from the fact that they are also citizens of the United States, and as such entitled to engage in interstate commerce and to import liquors for their own use. A state does not try to punish the drinking of liquor, but only its manufacture and sale. The prohibition policy cannot easily be so broadened as to infringe upon the superior federal right of unrestricted interstate commerce. Its field is rather in making the retailing of liquor impossible, for from that trade most of the evils flow which prohibition aims to suppress. The man who can ship in a case of liquors for his personal use is not a dangerous enemy of order. The real enemy is the local dealer who sells at retail and makes his saloon a breeding place of poverty and crime.

Mr. Kenyon's bill is commendable in so far as it embodies a protest against what the prohibition states have found to be an inconvenience and a discourtesy. But it is doubtful whether those states have anything practical to gain through an effort to annul by legislation the effect of the Supreme Court's original package edict. If a state succeeds in enforcing prohibition within its own boundaries for a considerable period of time the original package problem will certainly take care of itself.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING.

A noteworthy feature of the holiday season of 1911 has been the abatement of former excesses of Christmas shopping. This year's experience has proved that it is perfectly feasible to prepare for Christmas without any of the wild rush and extra exertion which used to make the ten days or two weeks preceding Christmas Eve a period of penance for the weary shop workers. As soon as the public had been half persuaded that night shopping was a custom born not of necessity but of thoughtlessness the victory for reason and consideration was virtually won. Last year there was a material reduction in the extra hours devoted to the late buyers and this year few of the large shops kept open after 7 o'clock. Most of those which did humor the delinquents limited the extra accommodation to one, two or three evenings.

Next year it will apparently be possible to dispense with late hours altogether. There was no crush of business in the stores which remained open, and it is evident that the substantial shopping public has learned to purchase for Christmas in a forehanded and orderly way. The new method discourages extravagance and in that respect benefits the buyer. It is of advantage also to the merchant in enabling him to spread his Christmas business over a longer period and to handle it with less hurry and more economy. But the greatest gain goes to the account of the shop worker, who is relieved from a cruel and exhausting physical strain. To sell goods in an overcrowded store for twelve or fourteen hours a day is a severe ordeal. The rooms are necessarily overheated and no means of ventilation exist which will keep the air even moderately pure. Yet frail children and women have been obliged to breathe such an atmosphere for hours with no let-up.

Conditions which compelled a sacrifice like that had nothing of the spirit of the Christmas season about them, and it is to the credit of the public that it has recognized the inhumanity of the old "open nights" system. The Christmas of 1911 has set a new mark in the practical interpretation of the holiday's true meaning.

COMPENSATION BY AMENDMENT.

Mr. Francis Lynde Stetson is right in holding that any amendment to the state constitution opening the way to a workingmen's compensation law should be free from disputatious provisions. Public opinion seems to be prepared for such legislation. Recognition of its justice has been prompt. There is no reason why a properly prepared amendment should not be accepted at this session of the Legislature, which would make its adoption possible in the fall election of 1913, provided, as Mr. Stetson urges, the amendment is confined strictly to the business in hand. To confine it strictly to that business will require a vigorous assertion of public opinion, for a modification of the provision of the constitution which forbids taking property without due process of law will be full of temptation to many. That requirement stands in the way of various schemes which appeal to sentimentalists and idealists, and when the way is opened for a workingmen's compensation law an attempt will be made in many quarters to widen the breach just enough to let in some other things. To do this, however, would make the amendment the subject of debate and contention, endangering its passage, if not actually defeating it. By making the exception to the due process of law provision in the constitution apply explicitly to workingmen's compensation legislation it will be possible to open the way for just that and nothing more. If this is done, the injustice of the present system may be promptly cured.

An amendment to the constitution is the best method in this state. The decision of the Court of Appeals holding the Wainwright compensation law unconstitutional bars the way effectually to anything but some such device as that adopted in New Jersey and Massachusetts, which provides for compensation unless employers and employes otherwise contract, and then removes as many inducements as possible to the employer to require such contracts of his working people by abrogating the chief defences which have been the reliance of employers in accident suits under the present system. To adopt that method here in preference to amending the constitution would be to use a doubtful instead of a certain means to the end. The best that can be said for the Massachusetts and New Jersey statutes is that they afford the most hopeful means toward industrial justice possible under present state constitutions as they are interpreted by the courts. Just how much practical utility there is in these statutes has not yet been demonstrated. Moreover, although the Massachusetts law has been held constitutional in that state, it is not certain that a similar law would be sustained in New York.

THE FATE OF PERSIA.

The interesting interview with the former Shah of Persia which was transmitted to The Tribune of Sunday by our special correspondent at Constantinople exhibited in a particularly clear and convincing light the fate which is impending for the empire of Iran and the motives which have led to Russia's demand for the dismissal of the honest and competent treasurer general. It was significant to the appreciative mind that the dethroned despot was garbed like a Russian and had a whip in his hand; for the purport of his statement of facts and of his expressions of opinion was that Persia is to be Russianized by the methods of the Cossacks.

This pretender to the throne made no secret of the fact that while he was in exile in Russia he kept constantly in touch with affairs at Teheran through secret agents and conspirators. He made it sufficiently evident, too, that he had enjoyed the assistance of Russian agents, and the inference is inevitable, both from his remarks and from the fact of his easy passage from Russia into Persia, that the Russian government winked at if it did not actually assist his schemes. But the gist of the whole matter lies in

his closing remarks, in which he scouts the idea that Russia would in any case permit the establishment of a free government in Persia, because she knows that democracy in Persia would radiate hateful democratic influence into Russia itself. "Autocracy loves autocracy," and therefore "as long as Czardom is what it is" Russia will see to it that Persia is not free.

Confirmation of that plausible theory is found in Finland, where Russia has been unrelentingly trying to suppress the free institutions to which that grand duchy is entitled for the confessed reason that they would have the effect, if tolerated there, of arousing a demand for the same in the adjacent provinces of Russia and in Bulgaria and Servia, where Russian influence for thirty years has been cast against all liberal policies. So in Persia Russia has objected to the presence and services of Mr. Shuster, partly because he was making Persia solvent, and therefore strong and better able to resist external pressure and aggressions, and partly because he was an American, imbued with American ideas of self-government, and was therefore likely to promote the growth of democratic ideas in Persia. So long as Persia was under a government almost as despotic and illiberal as her own Russia was content that she should be independent. It was when Persia began to throw off the incubus of Shahdom and to develop ideas of constitutionalism and self-government that Russia found it necessary to meddle with her affairs. The logical outcome of it will be the transformation of Persia into another Poland.

BOOK LENDING AND LENDERS.

A co-operative movement is on foot against book borrowers. The "league against book lending" has been formed in France by Messrs. Paul Reboux and Réne Blum. Its ambition is to be international. Persons subscribing to it will receive a card to hang up on their bookcases certifying to their membership and informing every one who may have designs upon their libraries that they have entered into a solemn agreement not to lend their books. Any one who thinks that his backbone will be strengthened by a piece of pasteboard should hasten to subscribe.

Messrs. Reboux and Blum seem to have another interest in suppressing the borrower than that of the ordinary owner of a modest shelf of two favorite volumes, for they say that "every bor-"rower may be considered as one buyer "less, while every would-be borrower to "whom we refuse our books may be a "buyer gained." That is a consequence which would strike only an author. The mere owner of books would think chiefly of the depredations committed by borrowers, the missing volumes, the defective sets, the holes upon the shelves, the "foul gaps" here and there, "like a great eyetooth knocked out," as Lamb said, and they would care little about the effect upon sales and royalties.

But so much had been said in condemnation of book borrowers before men began to band themselves together for protection against them that it is only fair to utter a word against one class of owners—we mean those tactless persons who insist upon lending their books. They have read something which pleased them, and nothing will do but they must thrust it upon you with the urgent recommendation that you, too, read it. Usually you know with opening the covers that it is not to your taste. Time spent upon it you are certain would be time wasted. To carry it home is to make a packhorse of yourself for nothing. You try to forget the book upon leaving, but the owner's eye takes in everything—except what is going on in your mind—and he hunts it up and presses it upon you again at the door. And so you take the load away, depressed, moreover, with the certainty of being asked more than once if you did not find the book all that your friend told you it was.

If only these lenders of books could be induced to join Messrs. Reboux and Blum's league! For now there is no defence against them. Never to return the books thus forced upon you is inappropriate to the situation. To do this is to load your own shelves with books you do not want, where they will stand stupid and accusatory, a reflection upon your own taste and judgment among those who do not know their history.

PRIMARY LAW CHANGES.

Apparently Senator Franklin D. Roosevelt has got the insurgency habit incurably. Nobody but a thorough-paced, irreconcilable insurgent would have been so harsh with the established order of things political as he was in his speech at Buffalo. He declares that "Murphy must go," but refuses to be content with that. All of Murphy's kind in Democracy must go, and the Republican party ought to clean out its "old guard" also, in his opinion. In short, there should be a new deal in the political game, in which the cards should not be stacked and the players should be square.

A year's experience with Murphyism at Albany has given Senator Roosevelt an adequate idea of the difficulties of accomplishing all this under the existing political system. For that reason he deems a workable direct primary law—one not drawn in the interest of the boss—a requisite of first importance in the political housecleaning, and has pledged himself to do his best to amend the Murphy-Dix law in several important features. He would change it so that state committeemen would have to be elected in New York City at the coming spring primaries. Murphy had this city exempted from the law in that respect, so that he could retain his control of the Democratic State Committee without making a fight. Senator Roosevelt also would forbid political committees to use party funds in nominating and conducting the primary campaigns of their "organization" candidates, and would deprive the "organization," or boss's primary ticket, of the right to use the party emblem. These were other features which Murphy had put into the law. Senator Roosevelt would have a candidate's name on the primary ballot as often as he might be nominated by groups of party members. Its restriction to one place is a feature of the Murphy-Dix primary law borrowed from Murphy's notorious election law, which the Court of Appeals declared unconstitutional in this respect.

Though an "insurgent" and a "reformer," Senator Roosevelt is of a fairly practical mind. He believes the voters of both big political parties are tired of the Murphy type of boss, indeed, of any brand of political leader except the kind they have a chance to choose in their party councils. By these amendments he would put the primary machinery into such shape that the voters could operate it about as well as the professional politicians. The law would not be perfect, but it would be workable. And after that, if the voters suffered long under the Murphy brand of bossism, it would be their own fault.

CUBA AND SPAIN.

There seems to be no reason why the prospect of a treaty of commerce between Cuba and Spain should not be regarded in this country with approval and even with gratification. It is said that the proposed convention does not in any way clash with the existing relations between Cuba and America. That should be a matter of course, since it is obvious that any such interference would be a violation of Cuba's obligations, of which we could not suspect that country of being guilty, and an invasion of our indisputable rights which we could not tolerate. The relationship of this country to Cuba which was foreshadowed in 1823, which was made explicit in 1840 and which since 1898 has been reaffirmed and specialized in the most formal and explicit manner, is not to be abrogated or impaired.

Outside of the limits thus indicated, however, it is not only proper but highly desirable for Cuba to enter into suitable and profitable treaty relations with other nations, and particularly with Spain. It must be remembered that Cuba is in race, speech and spirit, and in the closest of social and personal ties, a Spanish country. It will never return to Spanish allegiance, but it may and it should cultivate social and commercial intimacy with what is to it the mother country, for the direct benefit of both. Cuba's need of immigration may advantageously be supplied from Spain with such fine specimens of intelligent physical efficiency as have served this country so well at Panama. Spain has no colonies of her own which offer attractive fields for settlement, and in the lack of them she may better direct her surplus population to Cuba than to some less favorable and less friendly land.

The negotiation of the treaty will also serve to mark the healing of the wounds of 1898 and the complete acceptance by Spain of the accomplished and irrevocable facts. The long refusal of Austria-Hungary to enter into relations with Mexico and the reluctance of Colombia to make a treaty with Panama are examples of what ought not to be among nations. In the former case the bitter estrangement and aversion of years have at last been abated. In the latter we must continue to wait and hope. But it will be grateful to know that a similar estrangement is not in any respect to be maintained between Cuba and Spain.

A Pennsylvania psychologist declares that he has taught two monkeys not only to talk but to think seriously. Democrats ought to get this man to stay with Congress for a while.—Charlotte Observer.

So soon have the glories of the Clark-Underwood new era faded and rusted!

* * *

This is an ominous threat which comes from the Russian Foreign Office, that the Cossacks will give to Persia a lesson long to be remembered. Such lessons have been given by Russian troops elsewhere, as in Armenia, and they are, indeed, remembered; but not with pleasure nor with credit to those who gave them.

* * *

The Pure Food Board has just issued a new definition of mincemeat. But like most post-mortems the jury's finding in this case will hardly soothe the anguish of those who rashly associated with that most truculent of Christmas gathering insurrectos.

* * *

We have no right to call ourselves civilized or Christian as long as there is a single human being who wants work, who is anxious to toil for a living and cannot get it.—Frederick Townsend Martin at the Bowery Mission.

Respectfully submitted to those who insist that no man shall work unless he pays tribute to their close corporation labor union, and who do so in the misused name of "Christian brotherhood."

* * *

The State Department of Agriculture, after studying the chestnut blight which has destroyed thousands of the finest trees, is to ask the Legislature for funds to carry on a campaign against this disease. Too drastic measures cannot be taken to get rid of a pest which is destroying timber of great value and trees of dignity and beauty. Pennsylvania has made large appropriations to fight it. New York State should follow that course.

* * *

The wars in Persia and Tripoli were denounced in a bishop's Christmas sermon as the most unjustifiable in history. That was a strong and sweeping denunciation, but it would not be an easy holiday task to controvert it, or, at any rate, to point out more unjustifiable wars.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

In answer to an article in "Petit Parisien," in which the hobble skirt is blamed for a decrease in the output of the cloth works of France and Austria, a Vienna manufacturer writes to the "Neue Freie Presse" that six months ago the note of alarm might have been warranted. "But," he says, "the death knell of the hobble skirt has been sounded, and next season will see the women of fashion in skirts more ample if not longer." The fashion in question, he writes, never appealed as strongly to the women of Vienna as it did to those of Paris, and in the provinces, where modesty holds a check over fashion, it could never become popular. That the eccentric fashion had some effect on the sales of cloth no one can doubt when it is known that the new dress requires only three metres of material, while for the dress of last year five and a half metres was only enough.

Smith had just made the discovery that he had moved next door to a friend.

"Hello, old man," said the friend, "who are you working for now?"

"Same people," was the reply, "a wife and five children."—Town and Country.

Search by the Chicago Telephone Company for facts concerning Chicago's population and its distribution in 1930 has revealed some interesting information. The company's statisticians assert that the city probably will have stretched out over the entire County of Cook by that time and that such suburbs as Oak Park and Evanston probably will have been swallowed up long before that. It is shown that there now is a telephone to every eight and one-half residents of the city, and that Chicago's telephone subscription list shows more telephones in proportion to its population than any city in the world. The telephone company has twice as many 'phones in operation as London and more than France, Germany, Spain and Italy combined.

Penman—Why, did he ever do any newspaper work?

Wright—Did he? Why, say, he claims to be the fellow who wrote all the communications signed Constant Reader!—Yonkers Statesman.

Statistics show that there are 2,356 monasteries and convents, containing 58,500 monks and nuns, in Austria. The monks have eighty-five boys' schools and the nuns no fewer than 970 girls' schools of various kinds. These include those most patronized by the aristocracy for the education of their children. The property of the religious orders is known only to the government, and kept secret, but is generally

estimated to amount to $200,000,000. There has been a considerable increase lately in the number of religious houses in Austria since the expulsion of the orders from Portugal.

"A guy told me I had a case of exaggerated ego. What did he mean?"
"Exaggerated ego is a puffed up I, so to speak. What did you do?"
"Gave him another."—Boston Transcript.

"The Baltimore Sun" reports that a plan to purchase the Baltimore home of General Robert E. Lee as a memorial to him and to the women of the South is meeting with popular support. Speaker Champ Clark has written a letter to Dr. H. M. Wharton, who is leading the movement, commending it highly. Ex-President Roosevelt says that he "approves the project and would like to take part in any memorial to General Lee." "The Sun" adds that the success of the plans seems assured.

Silas—How ye happen ter elect Hi Higgins ez fire chief?
Hank—Natural qualifications. Why, he kin break more windows in less time than any volunteer in this county.—Chicago News.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. GRIGGS

Suggested as a Presidential Candidate by a Jerseyman.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I am a Republican, and want to see the Republicans win in 1912, and I want to offer a Christmas suggestion, namely, that John W. Griggs, of New Jersey, be nominated as the standard bearer of the Republican party for 1912, for the following reasons:

First—Mr. Griggs made Democratic New Jersey Republican New Jersey by his election as Governor, in 1895.

Second—He was appointed Attorney General of the United States by President McKinley when Attorney General McKenna was appointed to the Supreme Court, and served for about two years.

Third—Mr. Griggs retired from the Cabinet because he couldn't afford to stay in the Cabinet.

Fourth—He is a comparatively poor man, but recognized as a great lawyer.

Politically he is known especially well in New Jersey and New York, and in his official record he is well known throughout the United States. Why not nominate Mr. Griggs for the Presidency, which would be in my judgment, satisfactory throughout the United States?

I want to win.

CHARLES L. PARKER.

Plainfield, N. J., Dec. 23, 1911.

ANOTHER OPINION.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In your issue of December 22 I was considerably surprised to read the following criticism of the recent performance of Arthur Friedheim at the Liszt centenary: "The programme was composed of music three-fourths of which was unfamiliar to even veteran concertgoers in New York, and the remaining one-fourth to a large fraction of the audience, if a judgment may be based on the enthusiasm with which a very mediocre performance of the second pianoforte concerto, the solo part played by Arthur Friedheim, was received."

To say the least, I do not think that your critic did justice to Mr. Friedheim, and judging from the plaudits and the six encores, if they were to be accepted as a criterion emanating from a critical audience, his rendition was far from mediocre. As a matter of fact, I have never heard Mr. Friedheim with greater expression, more perfect phrasing and brilliant technique than on this occasion. Even if he did select comparatively unknown works of this great composer it in no way detracted from the enjoyment of the listeners, but rather it afforded them a treat with those works that have hitherto been buried by the mass of his other productions, and which are truly typical of Liszt. I have the highest respect for your critic's opinions on all matters musical, and believe that in writing the foregoing he was actuated by only the highest motives, but I think his seat must have been behind a post or in some part of the auditorium where he failed to get the full benefit of Mr. Friedheim's masterly renditions of the works of this great composer.

WILLIAM N. TYLER.

New York, Dec. 23, 1911.

CHRISTMAS CHEER FROM ELIOT

Sends Greetings to Son from Ceylon, and Says He Is Recovering.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 25.—The Rev. Samuel A. Eliot had his first word in four days from his father, Charles W. Eliot, President Emeritus of Harvard, to-day. Dr. Eliot, who is in Kandy, Ceylon, where he was recently operated upon for appendicitis, cabled his son this morning, extending to him and his relatives here hearty Christmas greetings and concluding by stating that he was on the high road to recovery. Fully fifty cablegrams expressing holiday greetings and wishing a speedy return to health were forwarded from this city to-day to Dr. Eliot.

WHITE HOUSE MAIL HEAVY

Many Expressions of Confidence Among Christmas Greetings.

Washington, Dec. 25.—Among the things that Santa Claus brought to the White House to-day was a mail bag that contained what the office force estimated at three times the usual quota of Christmas mail. In addition to the letters scores of cable messages and telegrams from the outlying countries of the world and from various parts of the United States came in over the White House wires.

The usual merry Christmas and happy New Year wishes came to the President, but there were many expressions of faith in his administration and hope for the future.

The President spent two hours in his office before luncheon dictating and signing letters and was unable to attend church. The White House Christmas dinner was held to-night.

PROMISCUOUS DANCING AN EVIL

Its Whole History Is Soaked with Shame, Declares Chicago Preacher.

Chicago, Dec. 25.—"The social promiscuous dance is evil, and only evil. Its whole history is soaked in shame and its course is marked by blackened souls and lost spirits."

In these words the Rev. Melbourne P. Boynton, pastor of the Lexington Avenue Baptist Church, here, denounced last night in his sermon the installation of dancing in the public schools of Chicago. "To install the devil of dancing," continued the Rev. Mr. Boynton, "means the wrecking of the school system by the short-sighted and narrow-minded."

RAISE FUND FOR HOSPITAL ASS'N.

Otto M. Eidlitz, James R. Strong, William H. McCord, Charles T. Wills, John J. Downey, James G. Beemer and Charles N. Brizse have been appointed a committee to raise subscriptions in the building trade for the Hospital Saturday and Sunday Association, which is trying to raise a fund of $30,000 for the care of the sick poor, irrespective of creed or race, in hospitals of Manhattan and The Bronx. Douglas Robinson, No. 146 Broadway, is making collections for this charity among the real estate interests.

PITY 'TIS 'TIS SO.

From The Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.

Governor Dix's evident reluctance to dismiss Dr. Doty, even at the behest of Tammany, does honor to his better nature. It is a pity that he lacks backbone to return an emphatic negative to the demands of the ring leaders.

People and Social Incidents

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Dec. 25.—The President received no visitors to-day. He remained in his office only a short time, signing business letters and Christmas messages and looking over a large number of greetings from friends all over the world.

Official reports of the condition of Charles W. Morse received by the White House to-day are entirely at variance with those which have gained widespread circulation. Morse's condition is no worse, and until there is some change in that direction President Taft will not consider any application for a pardon.

A well paying photographic proposition, in which the President has been shown shaking hands with all of the photographer's patrons—in other words, a "fake" reception—has been ordered discontinued by the White House on the ground that individuals and organizations are using the photographs for advertising purposes. "Fake" pictures representing the President receiving patent medicines have been widely circulated. For this reason the making of these composite pictures has been prohibited.

Among the presents received by the President to-day was a beautifully bound copy of "The Book of Job." Accompanying it was a small card on which was written "Life of a gentleman who passed through many trials and tribulations before he came into his own."

While no elaborate preparations were made for Christmas Day either by the President or Mrs. Taft, it was made eventful by informal calls and a constant stream of good wishes and gifts from their friends.

The President and Mrs. Taft and their three children, Miss Taft, Robert Taft and Charles Taft; their one house guest, Vane Jones, a school friend of Robert Taft, and Mr. and Mrs. William Collins Herron, the brother and sister-in-law of Mrs. Taft, enjoyed their Christmas dinner without other guests. Just after breakfast this morning the family found their larger gifts waiting for them in the library on the second floor, while the smaller gifts were distributed in the good old-fashioned way through the medium of a stocking for each. Mrs. Taft attended service at St. John's Church alone, walking to and from the White House through Lafayette Square. All of the younger members of the household exchanged visits with the young people of the Cabinet and other friends. Many gifts, some plain and wholesome and others handsome and costly, were sent to the President and Mrs. Taft, while the gifts to the children were well chosen but inexpensive.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Dec. 25.—Good old English hospitality was extended at the British Embassy to-night, the Ambassador and Mrs. Bryce entertaining the members of the embassy staff at dinner.

A Christmas dinner, with all sorts of pleasing innovations, both in the menu and in the service, was that at the Persian Legation, where the Chargé d'Affaires and Mme. Ali Kuli Khan were hosts. Their guests of honor were Mr. and Mrs. William Morgan Shuster, and their house guests were Mr. and Mrs. Frederick L. Seegar, of Philadelphia, and Charles F. Seegar, of New York. Others of their party were Mirza Ali-Akbar Khan, recently appointed secretary to Ali Kuli Khan; Mozasser ed Dine Khan and Seif ed Dine Khan, who came from their school in Pennsylvania; Mirza Hassein Khan, Mirza Soltan Mahmod and Haji Ali.

The Danish Minister and Countess Moltke had a Christmas tree for their little son, Paul Moltke, inviting a few of his young friends to enjoy it with him.

Lieutenant Commander Boyd has been appointed German naval attaché, to succeed Commander Retzmann.

IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Dec. 25.—One of the most delightful Christmas parties entertained to-day was that at the home of Representative and Mrs. Martin W. Littleton, who received the House delegations from New York, Tennessee and Texas. The Littletons' old-fashioned house, in Calumet Place, was aglow with Christmas cheer. Receiving with Mr. and Mrs. Littleton was Thomas Jefferson Littleton, of Kingston, Tenn., the father of the former. In the afternoon there was an interesting musical programme. Thomas Jefferson Littleton, over eighty years old, assisted Senator Taylor, Douglas Littleton and others in giving impromptu violin numbers, with suitable accompaniment.

Christmas trees were lighted in many homes to-day, and hospitality was spread plenteously for the student visitors in Washington. The largest dance of the evening was that given by Captain W. Strother Smith, U. S. N., and Mrs. Smith and Mr. and Mrs. John F. Effinger, of Staunton, Va., for their daughters, Miss Margaret Strother Smith and Miss Frances Effinger, who are cousins and debutantes of this season. The ballrooms at the Highlands accommodated the two hundred dancers, and Christmas greens, poinsettias and other blossoms and berries formed the decorations. For the four dances with fancy figures the favors were taken from the big Christmas tree in one corner of the largest ballroom. The tree also contained gifts for every one.

Another sprightly dance was that at The Playhouse, where the fifty young people forming the Monday night dancing class made merry. There was a Christmas tree there, with gifts for all the members and their friends, while The Playhouse was a bower of green and red. The guests included Mr. and Mrs. Preston Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. Henri de Sibour, Mr. and Mrs. John F. Wilkins, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. George Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Leiter, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Legare, John Barrett and others.

The Ambassador to Great Britain and Mrs. Whitelaw Reid will arrive in Washington early in January. Mr. and Mrs. William J. Boardman will entertain them on January 10. Mrs. Richard H. Townsend will give a dinner in their honor on January 9.

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander R. Magruder gave their annual Christmas tea this afternoon, their guests of honor being Captain and Mrs. L. Mason Gulick. Assisting Mrs. Magruder were Mrs. John Rogers, Mrs. Horace Westcott, Mrs. Biddle, Mrs. Crabbe, Miss Elizabeth Reid Rogers and Miss Eleanor Reyburn.

NEW YORK SOCIETY.

Although many in the New York world of fashion have left town for the holidays and will not return to the city until after Tuesday next, yet the social calendar for the last week of the year remains crowded.

To-night Mrs. Schuyler N. Warren will give a dance at Sherry's for her daughter, Miss Hope Warren. Mrs. Joel E. Fisher will have a dinner dance at her house in West 76th street for her daughter, Miss Vieva Fisher. Mrs. Eugene Philbin will give a theatre party, afterward taking her guests to Sherry's for supper and an informal dance. Mrs. Henry N. Thornell will give a theatre party, followed by a supper and small dance, at her house, in West 49th street, for Miss Eleanor Prentice, the debutante daughter of William S. Prentice.

Mrs. Vanderbilt will entertain a large party at dinner the day after to-morrow at her house, at Fifth avenue and 57th street, and will afterward take her guests to the dance which Mrs. T. Todhunter Thompson will give that evening at Sherry's.

Mrs. Hamilton McK. Twombly and Miss Ruth Twombly leave town to-day for Canada.

Mrs. Clarence Buell will give a reception this afternoon for Miss Beatrice and Miss Constance Buell at her house, in East 67th street.

Lord Herbert, eldest son and heir of the Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery, and his wife, Lady Beatrice Herbert, sister of the Marquis of Anglesey, are on their way to New York, bound for Coronado, Cal., where they will spend the remainder of the winter, with Lord and Lady Tweedmouth, who have already arrived there.

Miss Gladys Waterbury, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John I. Waterbury, of Morristown, N. J., is spending the winter in Berlin.

Mrs. George H. Bend and Miss Beatrice Bend have left town for Lenox, to stay with Mrs. Cortlandt Field Bishop.

Mr. and Mrs. George Folsom, with Mr. and Mrs. Clark G. Vorhees and Miss Ethel and Miss Constance Folsom, are booked to sail for Nassau on January 9.

Mr. and Mrs. George E. Turnure leave town to-morrow for Lenox.

SOCIAL NOTES FROM NEWPORT.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Newport, Dec. 25.—Many of the summer residents remembered their Newport friends at Christmas, especially Mrs. French Vanderbilt, who was about early to-day delivering many of her packages personally. Mrs. Vanderbilt, who has a house party at Harbor View, was a Christmas dinner hostess this evening.

Other Christmas dinner hostesses included Mrs. Sidney Jones Colford, jr., Mrs. Roderick Terry and Miss Martha A. Codman.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul A. Andrews, Miss Margaret F. Andrews and Miss Dorothea Watts are leaving for New York this week, preparatory to going abroad.

Frederick P. Garrettson has returned to New York.

MISS BARTON 90 YEARS OLD

Red Cross Founder Able to Celebrate Day with Friends.

Washington, Dec. 25.—Miss Clara Barton, founder and first president of the American National Red Cross, was showered to-day with greetings and good wishes on the ninetieth anniversary of her birth.

Although feeble from her illness early this year, Miss Barton was able to celebrate the day with her relatives and friends. Several are spending Christmas with her at her home, Red Cross, in Glen Echo, Md., a suburb of Washington.

JUSTICE HARLAN'S SUCCESSOR.

Denver, Dec. 25.—In an interview here to-day, Senator Francis E. Warren, of Wyoming, is quoted as saying that President Taft will appoint either Circuit Judge Walter C. Hook, of Kansas; the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, Charles Nagel, of St. Louis, or Frank Kellogg, of Minnesota, as associate justice of the Supreme Court to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Justice Harlan, and that in any event President Taft will appoint a man from the 8th Circuit.

WEDDINGS PAST AND TO COME.

Miss Adeline Selz, daughter of Mrs. Luciene Selz, was married yesterday afternoon to Luciene Levy, son of Leon Levy, in the east ballroom of the Hotel Astor. The Rev. Gabriel Hirsch and the Rev. Theodore F. Joseph, of Troy, N. Y., officiated. Miss Camille Selz, sister of the bride, was maid of honor and Gilbert Newhouse attended as best man. A reception and luncheon followed the ceremony. The honeymoon trip will be through the South.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Newport, Dec. 25.—The engagement of Lieutenant Wallace L. Clay, coast artillery corps, to Miss Margaret Noble, of Muncy, Penn., was announced this evening at the home of Mrs. E. R. Noble, in Muncy. Lieutenant Clay, who is now at Fort Adams, is a native of Jersey Shore, Penn., and a graduate of Pennsylvania State College. Lieutenant Donald Noble, of the navy, is a brother of Miss Noble.

Chicago, Dec. 25.—Mr. and Mrs. Hobart Chatfield Chatfield-Taylor yesterday announced the engagement of their daughter Adelaide to Hendricks Whitlan, of Brookline, Mass. The wedding will take place at Lake Forest, Ill., in June.

George W. Olvany, of No. 25 West 4th Street, First Deputy Fire Commissioner, will be married to Miss Agnes Irene Halpin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. John Halpin, of Ossining, on Thursday. Mr. Olvany is a member of the law firm of Earle & Russell, of No. 55 Liberty street. He is also active in Tammany Hall, is an ex-Alderman and was formerly in the Corporation Counsel's office.

GIORDANO FOR HARTFORD

"The Adoration of the Magi" Given to Morgan Memorial.

Hartford, Conn., Dec. 25.—The art gallery of the Morgan Memorial of the Wadsworth Atheneum was enriched to-day by the gift of a painting, "The Adoration of the Magi," from the brush of Luca Giordano, one of the last of the great Italian school of painters, who died in 1705. The giver is Herbert Randall, of this city, in memory of his wife, Alice E. Sawtelle.

Artists who have studied the canvas call it a rare piece of coloring. Mr. Randall rescued the painting from obscurity during the tearing down of an old building in which it had lain neglected for nearly half a century. George H. Story, curator emeritus of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, later examined the work and attributed it to Giordano.

HONOR FOR KIDERLEN-WAECHTER

Berlin, Dec. 25.—The Emperor has conferred upon Herr von Kiderlen-Waechter, Secretary of Foreign Affairs, the brilliants and oak leaves of the Order of the Red Eagle of the first class. The Secretary already possessed the order.

REPAIRS AT GRANT'S TOMB.

Because of the bad condition of the flagging around Grant's Tomb the Park Department is making repairs, which when completed, it was said yesterday, would cost $12,000 or more.

NEW YORK FROM THE SUBURBS

Thieves stole a million feet of lumber in New York, where some of the world's experts go to take lessons.—Chicago News.

A capitalist recently went to New York and got rid of $10,000,000 in three months. If he had gone to really competent New Yorkers he could have got rid of it in less than three days.—Syracuse Journal.

New York "boasts" of 10,000 new babies in November. Additional interest would be given to the "boast," which some of the papers suggest might be spelled "boost," if statement were made as to nationality and condition of the parents. How many of the babies have come into the world to starve?—Pittsburgh Dispatch.

At the new Pennsylvania Station in New York 377,714 questions were asked the bureau of information within the year. No less than 377,713 of the questions were, "What is the earliest possible train I can get for Richmond?"—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

It is not only the surface of the ground that is valuable in New York. Space above and below can be utilized profitably, and in these days of subways and skyscrapers there is no telling where business will be done. With the perfection of flying machines the upper stories of buildings in a metropolis like New York may become the most valuable and desirable part of the structure.—Troy Times.