THREE MONTHS IN AMERICA.

THE TRIALS OF ONE IMMIGRANT WHO DID NOT REMAIN.

The Other Side of the Pleasant Picture that Attracts the Multitude who Seek these Shores—Returning to Kiss German Soil.

Reinhold Schlinger, an ex-Sergeant in the German army, landed at Castle Garden one day last autumn with $5 in his pocket. His knowledge of English was confined to "Nein," "Yah," "Lager Bier," "Thaler," and a number of those lurid expletives which travelling Americans have diffused throughout the world. He found the name of G. Breitenfeld, 644 Third avenue, in the Directory, and having found that address, and proven that he was Mr. Breitenfeld's half brother, got a home in that artist's household.

Every day he went to Castle Garden, and, having all the time he wanted to devote himself to the study, found out more about that place than the Legislative investigating committee did recently with all its zeal. It was his simple duty to present himself to the farmers, merchants, contractors, and others who came in and bellowed as to a pack of animals, "I want four men," or forty, as the case might be.

"Show your hands," they often said, and then rejected all who had white or soft palms.

"You can't work," they said to such.

Consequently all but the densest fools rubbed their hands in dirt to soil them, and in ashes to make them rough, before they presented themselves for employment. But even then Sergeant Schlinger was nearly always thrust aside because he was 37 years old, and plenty of young fellows between the ages of 18 and 28 could be had for the taking. One kindly employer explained this to the Sergeant.

"Middle-aged men," said he, "are set in their ways, and have fancies and prejudices. Worse than all, they have vices that are part of their nature. You don't find them out while the man are hard up, but when they get their first month's wages they prove to be drunkards or dandies or rough characters. You have paid their fare and gone to much trouble only to return to New York, choose another man, pay his fare and experiment again.

"But in time a contractor took the Sergeant. Schlinger paid his fare to Poughkeepsie, and by some hocus pocus, such as he says he met with on every hand, had to pay it over again when he got there. He crossed the river and was put to bed on a plank in a board cabin with thirty other laborers—Danes, Swedes, Hollanders, Italians, Germans, and Irish. The men all slept together on their board shelves in one room, in which were smoking kerosene lamps without chimneys. Under them was a kitchen, and sickening fumes penetrated the flooring. Every night the laborers fought. Once pistols were used. Knives were often brandished and more than once sheathed in flesh. The wrangling was carried on in a dozen languages. The letters the wretched immigrant wrote to his half brother told of the anguish of a brave man utterly disheartened. An accident removed him from this wretched place. A rock fell on his back, and he was paid off and sent to New York. His wages were $1.50 a day, out of which came $18 for a month's board, 50 cents for washing, and two railroad fares. He had been at work one month. When his daily trips to Castle Garden began again he found many of the men who were there when he landed still waiting for employment. They were habitually so hungry that he felt it safer to hide the generous meat sandwiches he brought with him, and eat them where he would not be seen. Somebody occasionally gave out tickets for meals at neighboring boarding houses, but the meals were as scanty as the tickets. They had to be, or the poor fellows would have stayed there until they died. Many people profited by the desperate condition of these immigrants. Men came every day to Castle Garden, and bought whatever the wretched beings could by any possibility be brought to part with: trinkets first, then coats, vests, and extra linen. One trick of these leeches was to take the immigrants out with a promise to secure work for them. The journey never extended further than to an intelligence office, where the immigrant was told that if he paid fifty cents his name would go down in a big book that was displayed.

"But I have not got fifty cents," said the immigrant in many cases that Sergeant Schlinger heard of.

"Well, give me your coat and I'll give you fifty cents," the human spider would say, "or your bundle of shirts, or your blanket. You'll be able to get along without it a little while, for now you are going to get work."

But so work ever seemed to come that way.

Help hunters also thrived on the misery of those who were reduced to almost the last degree of poverty. They took hopeless men away for their board and no wages to work on Southern farms, to lead blind men about, to care for cattle. The Sergeant got many such temptations, but yielded to none. He went to night school in Fifty-first street, near Lexington avenue, but, though he kept up his heart, he felt keenly the position this put him in, that of a grown man at the foot of a class of youths and children. When he walked through the streets the children hooted at him, and in Broadway one day a big boy walked up behind him and flung a hard snowball that struck him square in the face. He is an amiable German, but he was fretted out of his amiability; and hope, if it had not gone from him, was at least working out of his worn shoes, so that he was led to say that if he could have caught that boy he would have killed him, though certain to be hanged afterward.

He was employed by a gentlemanly, well-dressed man for $7 a month and board to mind a horse near Seventieth street and Ninth avenue. Thus he came to learn what few New Yorkers know. He was astonished at the discovery that his new home was a shanty and his employer a person busied in a brown-stone neighborhood in carrying ashes out of basements. He was told that the people in the brown-stone houses dislike the manner in which the city cartmen remove the ashes. The plan of these public servants was said to be to dump a little of the ashes into their carts, and to leave a pile on the aristocratic sidewalks, besides scattering a cloud to the four winds, which, in turn, deposited them in parlor curtains and upon elegant bedroom appointments. It was added that this nuisance can be avoided for money, but that it takes less money and less of a sacrifice of pride to pay a special man and feel sure that he will do his work. Will, and not, he would be discharged will have his place taken by a new applicant for bribery. Sergeant Schlinger was much impressed by what he observed in the shanty in the neighborhood of Seventieth street. His employer brought his ashes home, and sorted out about a bushel of good coal from every barrel of cinders and dust. The coal he sold and the cinders he carted to holes and vacant lots here and there that needed filling. Sergeant Schlinger thought his employer was making a fortune. At the end of a month, on account of his back, for one thing, he quitted the ashman, and took away whatever of his $7 had not gone for medicine, two half soles for his shoes, smoking tobacco, and the unavoidable and essential lager beer, from which every German gets a little solace, and, in this country, as they say, a great deal of froth.

Finally he heard that if he hurried over to Hoboken he might get a job on the steamship Donau. He went, and was employed as a coal-heaver. He was told that he was exceptionally fortunate; that scores of men besiege every German steamship for a chance to work their passage homeward, but that "since America got to be 'no good'" few sailors or ship hands run away, and chances for free shipment are few. Last Saturday he sailed, saying to his half brother that this is a slave-driving country, and that he hoped to land next Tuesday and "kiss the soil of grand old Germany."

ELECTRICITY AND EARS.

No Bad Effect Noticed by Operators who Use the Telephone.

It is gravely affirmed in a floating paragraph that a person in Troy, having had to use a telephone a great deal during eighteen months, found to his dismay that his left ear, which he constantly applied to the instrument, had grown to three times the size of his right ear, and that it still continued growing.

Mr. W. H. Eckert, General Superintendent of the Metropolitan Telephone and Telegraph Company, said, when asked what he knew about the effect of electricity on the ear:

Well, I never heard of any such preposterous thing as the statement in that paragraph. I have heard it said that the use of the telephone was injurious to the hearing, but from the facts within my knowledge I do not hesitate to pronounce that absurd. I have been in the business, in Cincinnati and here, since 1878, and have never yet heard any complaint whatever of such an effect from operators who were steadily at the receiver of a telephone eight hours out of every day for months and years. I would certainly have known of it if there had been anything of the sort. The severest test that could possibly be made is by the effect during a thunder storm, and I know that that produces no uncomfortable feeling, and is attended with no danger. We never stop work on account of a thunder storm, nor did we do so in Cincinnati. In Cincinnati our receivers in the main office were all stationary, and fixed for the left ear. In addition to them, however, I had put in at first receivers with flexible connections, that the operators might use to the right ear in case of necessity. After a time it appeared that these were useless, and I gave an order for their removal. Immediately a young woman—a very nice girl, and one of our best operators—sent in her resignation. I saw her and asked her what was the reason for her going away. She began crying, and said that my order had rendered it impossible for her to do her work, and so she had to leave. It then appeared that she had always been entirely deaf in the left ear, though we had never suspected anything of the kind in the years she had been with us. Of course I let her keep the instrument she could use, and she was one of our best receivers. She was as deaf before she came to us."

FAIRED DRESSES.

Descriptions of Some Ladies' Gowns with Novel Artistic Decorations.

Although ladies have appeared at many public balls and parties this season with painted dresses of novel and exquisite pattern, the fashion does not appear to be spreading as rapidly as was expected several years ago, when it first became prominent in this country. It was asserted at first that by the aid of painting all the effect of the most delicate embroidery could be secured, with much brighter and more durable colors, and at less expense. The groundwork of silk, satin, or velvet has furnished opportunity for many beautiful designs, and some effects have been produced that could not have been attained in embroidery without enormous cost. Some of the ladies complain, however, that the painting is not so durable as embroidery, and requires greater care to prevent destruction by cracking. The parts of the dress usually ornamented by painting have generally been the large, smooth surfaces, which are not easily wrinkled; but it is admitted that the wearer of a painted dress, if she wishes to preserve its beauty, must be a very careful person indeed.

Among the earliest painted dresses to attract attention in this city were several which were worn by Miss Fanny Davenport. Since then many actresses have worn painted dresses, generally the work of artist friends. Mary Anderson has had a number of painted costumes. One of black velvet and white satin, having the appearance of embossing, was painted for her by Miss Louise Brudie of Syracuse. Miss Cora Tanner, who recently appeared in "Odette" at the Park Theatre, Brooklyn, had two painted dresses which attracted attention. One was a train dress, made up without lace, of blue satin, on which were painted scarlet poppies, golden rod, cat-tails, and wild leaves that covered the entire front. The second dress was a pink surah satin with painted panels, on which were one large bunch of peonies, the bough of an old tree, and two large bluebirds. They were painted by Miss Georgie Lamson of Brooklyn. Miss Rosa Keene, who played *Dora* in the "Planter's Wife," had a black velvet dress painted in the same manner by Miss Lamson. Miss Laura Don has worn several stage dresses painted by herself in water colors. One was painted on the back of the waist, and the other on the lower part of the skirt. Most painted dresses, however, have been done in oil, as water colors have been found to fade. Artists claim that the embroidery work lacks accuracy both of form and color, and is altogether inadequate to give the delicate tints, the proper shades, or the finely turned curves of vines and tendrils.

One of the opera companies playing "Patience" had a set of costumes painted by Vallier. Miss Leonora Bradley of the Robson and Crane troupe appeared in Brooklyn recently with a notable painted dress. It was a black satin train with shirred back, square-cut waist, and lace sleeves. The ornaments painted on the skirt by Miss Fanny Clare of Brooklyn were red lilies, red and yellow wild flowers, butterflies, and birds. Under the brilliant light of the theatre the effect was very striking. Miss Rose Coghlan and Miss Emily Rigl have a variety of painted dresses in their wardrobes. Miss Sadie Bigelow of Robson and Crane's troupe has worn a yellow satin dress, painted with scarlet lilies, roses, and morning glories by Miss Fanny Clare of Brooklyn. Miss Lillian Vane has worn a painted white satin dress. Miss Belle Melleville, who is now playing in the "Shan Blue," has some dresses delicately painted by Miss Amy Stocking of Brooklyn.

Among the artists Mr. Hicks has painted a dress for his wife, which she wore at the Soroosis reception this winter. Mr. Harry Fenn has painted several dresses for his daughter. Miss Griswold painted for herself a princess train party dress, with panels in place of overskirt. On the panels were blackberry vines shaded in autumn tones. There was recently on exhibition at the rooms of a theatrical modiste in Fifth avenue, near Seventeenth street, an elegant painted evening costume. The corsage was of ruby Lyons silk velvet, decolletée, pointed back and front. The neck and sleeves were trimmed with antique lace representing roses, and buds hand painted in delicate tints. Upon this was a long train of white satin Duchess, a narrow puffing of the velvet showing out from underneath the skirt, with full ruching of lace to match neck and sleeves. The panel on the right side was painted to correspond with the rest of the dress. Two paniers, one falling over the other from right to left, were edged with painted lace and fastened to the centre of the train with loops and ends caught with silver buckles. At the Arion ball this year a lady wore a dress, the painting alone, on which was said to have cost $2,000.

MAKING IT TOO WARM FOR SLADE.

An Enterprising Brakeman Forces the Maori to Take Off the Famous Fur Coat.

It was three degrees below zero as the Erie train was leaving Wellsville, N. Y., on Monday morning. A brakeman said to a passenger: "That is Mace in the fur coat, and Slade with the buffalo overcoat on."

"Well," he was asked, "why doesn't Slade take off that coat, or turn down the collar at least, so we can see how he looks?"

"Oh, he is from a warmer climate, and can't stand the cold, but I'll make him take off that buffalo skin, or I'll burn the inside of the stoves out before we reach Olean."

The dampers of both stoves were at once opened wide, in went a fresh supply of coal, and all the ventilators of the car were closed. Half an hour later the car was pretty warm. Mace shifted his position to the car window, unbuttoned his coat and vest, and opened the window. Presently he looked back at Slade, who was taking a nap. Either the air proved too keen for Mace or he was afraid it might cause the Maori to take cold, for he closed the window. The brakeman came along and said: "People think it is pretty cold when they see Slade in his buffalo skin coat, but I guess I can roast him out of it."

Nearly all the passengers in the car now understood why the car was kept so warm.

Olean is the next stopping place for this train," the brakeman shouted. "Up got the Maori and took off his fur coat. He was literally roasted out, the temperature being about 95°. The now satisfied brakeman quickly closed the stove dampers, opened the ventilators, and acknowledged the smiles and nods of the passengers with a bow which would have done credit to Chesterfield or Benjamin H. Brewster.

Mace and Slade, in company with a theatrical troupe, were on their way to Bradford, Pa. They did not see the brakeman's joke. "I thought I could make it warm for him," said the brakeman; "the stoves are all right yet, but I say, ain't he a solid-looking fellow, now that big fur coat is off of him?"

Base Ball.

The American Association of Base Ball Players will hold their regular spring meeting at St. Louis on Monday. The most important matter on hand is the report of the Conference Committee which the League and the Northwestern League have adopted. It is certain that the American Association will follow their example, for seven of the eight clubs have already expressed satisfaction with the committee's report.

Drill of the Central Park Police.

By order of Gen. Viele, about sixty of the Central Park policemen assembled in their new uniforms at the Arsenal, at 1 o'clock yesterday, for drill. Gen. Viele was on hand to put them through according to Hardee's Manual. Gen. Viele also instructed the sergeants as to their duty. This is the first of a series of drills.

SPORTING NOTES.

The race horses have not as yet been worked out of their winter torpor.

The stakes of the Monmouth Park Association have nearly 1,000 nominations.

The Hanlan-Kennedy rowing match is to take place at the Point of Pines, Mass., May 30.

Shotover is favorite for the City and Suburban at 10 to 1, Sacham second choice at 100 to 6.

Fred Gebhard's racers, Eole and Kollst, are to be trained by wide-awake Eph Snedeker this season.

Cork pool is not a new game introduced by Vienaux. It was played in the Bowery five years ago, says Garno.

There is less interest over the Oxford-Cambridge boat race, which is to take place next Thursday, than in former years.

Pierre Lorillard's American racing string this year will consist of thirty-one head, including fifteen finely bred two-year olds.

Jay-eye-see, Bronze, and Lucy Gerneat will be among the entries for the five-year-old purse offered by the Continental Driving Association.

A new candidate for the Derby has come forth in Prince Maurice, a full brother to Dutch Oven. He is quoted at 500 to 10, never having run in public.

A tramp stole Prince Pulaski, sire of Mattie Hunter, from Mr. F. G. Buford's stock farm last week. The horse was recovered in a nearly broken-down condition.

The Vauxhall Athletic Club announce a twenty-mile foot race on March 26, in Wood's Athletic Grounds, Williamsburgh. Two gold and one silver medal as prizes.

The Wolf, gelding, the English horse that as a three-year-old in 1882 won the Chester Cup, the Goodwood Cup, the Gold Vase at Ascot, and the Doncaster Cup, died lately in Australia.

Bookmakers are sad over the defeat of the Pool bill. They predict a breaking up of the Jerome Park and other famous race courses unless betting on the grounds is permitted.

Among the innovations of the old-style purses in the Grand Circuit, Rochester announces a purse of $3,000 for three-minute class trotters, and another of $5,000 for three-minute pacers.

The owner of the racing mare Giroflé, whose horses are trained in Hindeker's stable, endorses the Sportsman's report that the mare is to be sent to England to contest with foreign cracks. Giroflé is a flyer under light weight.

Veteran John Deery was asked the other evening, while attending at Vienaux's play, whether there was a man in the world who could beat him (?) two out of three games. "There is no man who can beat him one game out of three," replied John.

A great array of boxing talent is announced to appear at the annual benefit of ex-light-weight champion Billy Edwards, in Madison Square Garden on Tuesday evening next. Among the thirty sparrers on the bill are John L. Sullivan, Joe Coburn, Mike Donovan, Prof. Austin, Billy Clark, Steve Taylor, George Rooke, Frank Wilson, Young Turnbull, Joe Fowler, Fanny Cook, Black Diamond, Pete McCoy, and Gus Lambert. The wind up will be a display of science between Edwards and Chambers.

THE BARBER ATTEMPTS POETRY.

He Immortalizes his Son and Gives Out of his Way to Speak Lightly of Wiggins.

"I can't dell it I should peen ashamed of it or not, but I haf some leedle poetry written alretty, vich I peen going to reat py der Beneuckle Glub Suntay night," said the German barber near the Cooper Institute yesterday; "I am of dot glub der President, und dem vill not pe mat so long I set up blendy larker peer. Here vos der boem, vich I choost in a pig hurry dashed off—aber, pedween me und you tergeder, I vos afrait I vood vent grazy und tie of old age pefore I der end of it finished yet:"

CHORUS VOSHINGTON KROUT.

I find dot der hardest dings vot is owit,
Vot makes my het ache choost like fan—
Is vot I shall chose mit Chorge Voshington Krout
(Chorge Voshington Krout vos my son).
Of course, dree glass schooling der pay's got to done,
Mit blass brattice vot I trilling spend,
But vot sort of peezness shall I make of my son?
I sleak of Chorge Voshington Krout.

Blendy of gierchymes awful frauds peen,
Und blendy peen boor as get owit,
Und, if dey'd from a pay grope der pay's fader's sin,
I vould bitty dot tiercchymen Krout.
Lawyers peen made up of so many sorts,
Dat so few of der pest peen spout,
I'm a dinking I'll dry to away from der courts
Keep my son—dot's Chorge Voshington Krout.

Und soldiers peiong not in goundries like dis,
Und sailors no fortunes make owit.
Apowd shaking! Vell, e'ry man hates his own bis,
Und men gomfortenably py name Krout.
In Vall street's a shance, but I'm scared of der blace,
Und a preventy costs doo much owit.
Py Chiminy Hooky! dot peen a hard race—
Vot to choose mit Chorge Voshington Krout.

Of course all der vile der brincibal ding
Vot I gut such excidement apout
Is vot peen most cerdain a million to pring
Py der negst cheneration of Krout.
But it vouldn't be right, I gan't choost—choost now—
So blease e'ry glass cuddy owit,
Blendy dinne comes for bodder, now e'ry man trink:
"Gesundheit! Chorge Voshington Krout!"

Der monkey parber py der negst shair hat snyt he did not know uf I vos a boet or not—a man should not peen gondemned for choost a leedle slip like my boem. If he peen me und could make such a boem, he sayt, he vould yet dake owid anoder lease of der parber shop. He says der most of der boets vould peen clad if dem hat a parber shop to vent pack on.

"It used to peen a saying if a pig gurlosidy came rowid, 'Parnum vould make a gollection of it,' but py der chumbing Chulius Zeeser, if Parnum ton'd of his rebudation dake care, Viggins vill sduff him choost like he done der rest der vorld. Vot vos of Viggins my brifate obinion? Vell, if it shall come along ordinary Mood vind und rain all der rest der fools vill py Viggins shwear; but if vo should haf less of a March as usual, bedher Viggins vent und make himselfuf as leedle as bossiple like dot Number Von Irishman vich der New Yorick reborders und der British Guffernmend can'd find alretty.

"I vill to-night, yet make a motion py der Beneuckle Glub browiding dot if vo got a ball or bienie ve vait und see vot day comes some of Viggins's brifate sdorms along, und den ve shall settle on der same day for glear vedder."

ROUNDABOUT ADVERTISING.

Sending Cards and Circulars from London Asking for their Neighbors' Custom.

A sealed envelope bearing an English postage stamp and the printed request, "If not found, return to ——, Red Lion square, London, England," is pretty sure to be opened by the lady of the house when it comes through the mails addressed to her by name. Before it is opened it suggests an estate of a few millions of dollars awaiting in the Bank of England the presentation of claims by unknown next of kin. It is usually opened by the lady herself, and the contents secure her attention. It may contain an announcement of a fashionable dressmaker or milliner, or a handsome card setting forth that some up-town tradesman would be pleased to serve his former customers and many new ones at the old stand.

Such an envelope recently came to a lady residing on Madison avenue. Her name as written on the outside contained an error which also appears in the name as printed in an "elite directory." In the envelope was an elaborate card of English workmanship advertising the business of a Broadway trader. The tradesman said to a reporter yesterday that this roundabout way of advertising was inexpensive, comparatively, was really no more obtrusive than the sending of circulars mailed in New York, and might yield better results. "The cards," he said, "are much handsomer than those I could be procured in the country for the same money. There is no duty to be paid on them, because they are sent to this country one by one in envelopes. The postage is only one penny. It costs but little to have the names of persons whose attention you wish to call to your business copied from the directories and forwarded to the agent in London, who, for a moderate consideration, sees to the printing and mailing of the cards. The envelopes are sure to be opened by the persons to whom they are addressed, and their contents are sure to be noticed. There is nothing disrespectful in sending the cards, and the receivers can take no offence at the little ruse adopted for the purpose of securing attention. Undisguised circulars are apt to be crumpled up by servants without ever coming under the notice of those for whom they are intended to reach. The ruse of mailing cards in London is resorted to, as much as for any other purpose, to circumvent the blockade set up by servants, few of whom are likely to open or destroy a sealed letter mailed in Europe and addressed to their mistress. There are many tradesmen who make the distribution of cards or circulars a part of their advertising have adopted this method. Of course, the greater number when go into it the sooner it will play out."

Mysterious Number One.

A dilapidated figure stealthily approached a Sun reporter waiting for a night car on Park row, and a voice husky with persistent intemperance whispered, "An' have yes foive cints wid yez, sorr?"

"I have," said the reporter, carefully buttoning his pocket.

"Shure, an' av coorse, a foine gintlemon loike yessif wud niver be widout a shmall coin to lind another gintlemon, dead brewuk loike mesilf, hoy?"

"But I don't know you, and ——"

"Whisht, noo! Is it throw ye're tellin' me? Rade the papers, sorr; rade the papers, an' ye'll be affther knowin' me well. Offn Noomber Wan!"

"Number One, the Irish assassin?"

"Throth an' O'Ian, sorr," said the scarecrow proudly, "at lasth, bechuth the Chief o' Pulis, may hap, me Fairther was Oirish at some paried av his life. God bless his minory, but sorra a dhrap av Oirish blood did he lave me. I ask affther the ould 'ooman, who was a Frinch lady intirely."

"And where do you live?" asked the reporter.

"Oeh, jist forninst th' Cinthral Park, in an illegant brown-shtone risidince; an' Ol'm the b'y wull intrijuice yez to the foinest bottle av ould whushky, av ye'll foly me to the acquaintince. We'll git dhrunk thegither!"

"Shall I inquire for Number One?"

"Shuall good 'twud do yez av yez did, fur Ol'm not Noomber Wan oon there. Ol'm only Musther Bedlinty at hoom; the Misthress is Mistress Bedlinty, she's Noomber Wan—an' she'd be Noomber Wan av she wur dyin'."

"Good night," said the reporter, as his car rattled up to the stand.

"Oeh, an' bad cess to yez! an' not a dirthy ould nickel to shpare fur all me rivilashins. Ol thought yez wur lookin' out fur Noomber Wan—but now Ol'm shure ye sir."

FASHION NOTES.

Long pelisses will be much worn.

The favorite Paris bonnet is the very close capote.

Even in Paris spring styles are not yet definitely settled.

Lace frills and ruches, black, white, and ecru, will be much worn.

The rabbit is the prominent object in all the Easter shop windows.

The redingote plays an important part in Paris fashions this spring.

Spots of plush *appliqué* on plain goods are favored by English dressmakers.

Birds' nests in every variety of form are favorite Easter gifts for little folks.

Black lace bonnets covered with many frills of black lace will be much worn.

The dolman effect is sought for in all the new wraps that are not jackets or pelisses.

Velveteen is much worn by first-class English women, but it must be first-quality velveteen.

Large *pouf* crowns and pleated brims are features in some of the most fascinating spring bonnets.

The dressiest silk wraps are dolman visites and mantles of rich Ottoman silk, plain or brocaded.

The American Easter cards excel the English this year in originality of design and artistic finish.

Cats are the fashionable animals at present, and cat-head and cat-paw ornaments are in high favor.

Brown and dark, almost invisible, green are favorite colors for spring wraps when of woollen cloths.

Merinos are again in favor, and, combined with velvet, bid fair to rival cloth for dressy street costumes.

The new wraps, pelerines, scarfs, dolmans, and visites are all made bouffant by the top of the shoulders.

The most elegant ball dresses—to be worn after Lent, of course—are of embroidered tulle over silk and satin.

An eccentric fancy is to cut the ends of all ribbon bows, strings, and sashes into long forks or notches.

A fancy of the moment is to decorate the ends of plain satin sash ribbons for evening wear with head embroideries.

The new fraises and ruches for the neck are very wide and full, and are nearly a yard long, so as to form a jabot down the front.

Raglans, Havelocks, jackets of all kinds, dolman visites, and old fashioned mantles will all be worn as the spring advances.

A moderate quantity of new brocaded or plaided or checked silk converts an old merveilleux satin dress into a handsome spring costume.

The trimmings of new spring wraps are sleek chenille fringes, guipure and soutache laces, braids, passementeries, cords, tassels, and metal buckles and slides.

The new bonnets, trimmed with upright frills of gathered lace, bows of ribbon with forked ends, and many small flowers, look very aspiring and defiant.

Tambourines of all sizes in white and colored silk are utilized for Easter gifts by an appropriate design and motto painted on the face, while the back is covered with a reticule top and filled with bonbons.

From a Paris correspondent we learn that costumes of all periods in the classic, middle age Renaissance, Restoration, and Directory styles are still worn, and will continue to be worn in Europe for at least two seasons more.

PRODUCE WAGON AND COAL CART.

A Pleasant Interchange of Courtesies in a Street Blockade.

A wild-eyed but pleasant-looking young man with bucolic aspect and big feet presided over the destinies of a produce wagon that moved clumsily down Warren street yesterday. It was drawn by a team of morose-looking horses, whose heads hung nearly to the ground. They almost stepped on their noses, and created the impression that they were scenting for gas leaks. But the wild-eyed young man sat erect, with his face toward the west, and evidently sniffed the air of New Jersey from afar. He knew he wanted to get to the further shore, but was totally unable to locate the ferries. When about half a block from Broadway he stopped his team by a well nigh imperceptible twitch at the reins and a soft "whoa," and for a moment sunk his head in thought. Then a voice was lifted from the rear:

"Phat, d'yez want the entoire metropolis?"

It was the voice of a coal cart driver, and the voice was husky with emotion. "Go on back to Pam-rap-po, ye Jersey skit."

The countryman turned around in his seat, held his breath till his eyes bulged, and then said with great originality: "Ah, pull down your vest."

"Git out, ye cross-eyed bung starter, Ol'll cum up there and jump on yer chest."

Upon this the rural delegate stuck out his tongue in derision at the coal cart driver, and jerking the reins violently, yelled "Yerp there!"

The dismal-looking horses, who had apparently found a leak and been stepped by the gas, were awakened from their comatose condition in the course of time, and lifting their feet, languidly started forward. When the driver from the suburbs came to the corner he turned southward, and thus committed an awful blunder, for he drove his team into Church street. Within ten minutes nearly all the north-bound street car travel on the west side of New York was blocked, there were half a dozen car drivers around the produce wagon, and the countryman was reduced to black despair. His wagon was firmly wedged across the street, with all the cars and car drivers urging it northward, but its progress was effectually barred in that direction by the driver of the coal cart, who remained obstinately in his place.

The burly policeman sauntered up, and looking at the driver of the coal cart for a moment, cried loudly:

"Move on there, you tarrier."

"Phat's ye hurry?"

"To clear the way."

"Clear the way yourself."

Then the policeman seized the horse by the bit and yanked the cart out of the way. This was followed by a similar service to the countryman, and the jam was broken.

"Come an' see me some time Pamrap-po?"

"Oh, if I ever ketch you," cried the countryman, "I'll come and see ——"

"Yaas, do, thingstarter, do. Of live in the East River. Drop in anny toime. Ta-ta."

HIGHER PERCENTAGES WANTED.

Steamship Men Threaten to Take Immigrant Traffic from the Trunk Lines.

There is a movement among steamship agents to break up the immigrant passenger pooling arrangement at Castle Garden unless they can secure larger commissions on the fares of railroad tickets. An agent said yesterday: "The steamship agents are much dissatisfied with the order which cut down their commissions for acting as agents for the railroads upon immigrant traffic to the West from 15 to 5 per cent. We have sent a letter to the four trunk lines represented in Castle Garden, asking an increase in the commission to 10 per cent. No answer has been received. Unless we receive the percentage we ask we will form a pool of our own. We will appoint an agent or a pool commissioner, open an office in New York, and have all orders drawn on him, thus placing all the Western business in the pool. There are two lines to Buffalo not in the pool. The Grand Trunk is not bound by the pool, and the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western has united with the Chicago and Grand Trunk for a Western outlet, and will not enter the pool. There is a break there, but all very likely obey us, for three or five year contracts for carrying immigrants. The Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Company was invited to enter the present pool, but declined.

"Under the present arrangement the Erie is allowed 41⅔ per cent. of the immigrant business, the New York Central 34 per cent., the Pennsylvania 16 per cent. and the Baltimore and Ohio 6¼ per cent. These percentages were not lived up to in the first month's business, and there is much dissatisfaction among the trunk lines. The New York Central did a larger business for its share of Erie's percentage, and this was due to the fact that the lines that had been doing business for the Central before the organization of the pool continue to send us paid orders by that company. There is a question whether the difference in percentage shall be paid to Erie in cash or by an increase of business next month. The percentages allowed the different roads in the pool were based upon the business of 1881, which was not satisfactory to at least two of the roads in the agreement—the New York Central and the Pennsylvania. Never in the history of the trunk lines was there such a scramble for business as there will be before long."

The List of Referees.

The following referees were appointed in cases in the State courts in this city last week:

SUPREME COURT.

By Judge Lawrence.

Cases.	Referees.
Haskins agt. Cummings	G. S. Hubbard.
Grover agt. Spalding	Cecil C. Higgins.
Batterlee agt. Meehan	Henry Wilder Allen.
Kingsland agt. Chetwood	Thomas L. Ogden.
Johnson agt. Elliot	Elliott Sandford.
Matter of Mott	Horace Russell.
Stacker agt. Stacker	Henry Wilder Allen.
Kroehl agt. Babcock	Hamilton Cole.
Cobb agt. Cobb	Henry Wilder Allen.
Doane agt. Moore	Henry Wilder Allen.
Phœnix agt. Livingston	Henry E. Howland.
Hoyt agt. Graham	Henry Wilder Allen.
Rubins agt. Dillingham	Hamilton Cole.
Underhill agt. Salmson	Chas. W. Welmore.
Burton agt. Sale	Henry J. Scudder, H. W. Allen, and Philo T. Ruggles.
Winslow agt. Tingley	Henry H. Andrews.
Brown agt. Brown	Cecil C. Higgins.
Kneeland agt. McNulty	Geo. D. L. Harrison.
Matter of Harrison	Howard J. Forker.
Witschen agt. the Germania Fire Insurance Company	Geo. H. Starr.
Kingsland agt. Chetwood	Thomas L. Ogden.
Woglom agt. Richardson	Cecil C. Higgins.
Matter of Matthews	Geo. B. Newell.
Taicott agt. Gumbernat	John H. Glue.

By Judge Donohue.

Slaughter agt. Slaughter	Chas. F. MacLean.
Baker agt. Baker	Sidney H. Stuart.
The Mutual Life Insurance Company agt. Tracy	Wm. P. Dixon.
Gade agt. Gade	Roderick F. Farrell.

By Judge Barrett.

McLewee agt. McLewee	Geo. P. Smith.

SUPERIOR COURT.

By Judge Truax.

Carter agt. Carter	W. S. Andrews.
Owens & Co. agt. Lynch	Edward M. Shepard.
Duregé agt. Duregé	Alfred Erbe.
Head agt. Wolff	Joseph P. Fallon.
Collier agt. Collier	Wm. S. Andrews.

By Judge Ingraham.

Cross agt. McMullin	Edward M. Shepard.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.

By Judge Daly.

Dudley agt. Dudley	Geo. L. Rives.

By Judge Van Hoesen.

Coulter agt. Scallon	Thomas F. Wentworth.

By Consent of the Attorneys.

Bowne agt. Cantrell	Edward B. Merrill.
Devoe agt. Sharpe	Hamilton Cole.

The Doors of a Banking House Closed.

The offices in this city of the banking house of Kidder, Peabody & Co., at 1 Nassau street, were closed between noon and 1 o'clock yesterday, out of respect to Nathaniel Thayer, whose funeral was in progress in Boston. The closing attracted a crowd, from which the rumor spread that the firm had closed its doors in a financial scene. The rumor influenced speculation for a few moments until the facts were ascertained.

One Castle and Thirty Cottages.

Cyrus W. Field has built one castle and thirty villas at Irvington in the last year. The castle cost $100,000. It is said to have been named Castle Ardsley.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

New York Stock Exchange—Sales March 10.

UNITED STATES, STATE, AND CITY BONDS (IN $1,000).

20 U. S. 4s, c	119¼	1 Ark. 7s, Cen. iss	104
1 La. consols	69¾	8 Tenn. comp	44

RAILROAD AND OTHER BONDS (IN $1,000).

1 Atl & Pac 1st, W. D.	93	3 Louis. & N. E.	90
10 Buff. & P. 1st	96¾	11 A. & N. 1st	100
7 B. C. R. & N.	105	70 M. & St. P. 1st	107
3 Ches. & O. sc. A	108	10 C. & P. W. d	92½
9 Ches. & O. 1st	111½	10 Mut. L. 7s	84
10 Ches. & O. cnv.	87¾	3 Nor. Pac. 1st	104¼
10 C., B & Q. 4s, ia. d	98	32 N. Y. & Lack. 1st	113
11 C., B & Q. 7s	126½	1 N. J. Cent. adjust	100¾
2 Ch. & N. W. s. f.	101¼	117 N. Y., L. E. & W. 2d 6s	107⅞
1 Ch. & N. W. con.	131	46 N. Y. Cen. 6s	103
23 Can. So. 1st	105¾	5 N. Y., Ch. & St. L. 1st	97
1 Ch. L. & N. O. 5s	106½	1 Ohio Cent. 1st	80½
5 Col., H. V. & T. 1st	81	10 Ohio Cent. inc	31
14 Den. & R. G. con	90¾	10 Rome, W. & O. inc	43
3 Evans. & T. H. con.	97½	12 Rich. & D. deb	64
1 Erie con. 1st	125½	5 Syr., B. & N. Y. 1st	105½
49 E. Tenn. V. & Ga. inc	35½	58 So. Pac. of Cal. 1st	106
5 E. T., V. & G. 1st	117	2 St. P., M. & M. 1st	108½
2 Ho. & Tex. Cent. 1st M. L.	110	4 St. P., M. & M. 2d	116
4 Ind. Bl. & W. 1st, E. D.	92	7 Syr. P. & O. d	81½
1 Iron Mt. 2d	109½	141 Tex. Pac. l. g.	60½
5 Int. & G. N. 6s, c.	82½	5 Tex. Cen. 1st	105½
3 Kan. P. con.	99¾	4 Un. Pac. 1st, s. f.	105
3 Kans. & T. con.	105	5 Utah Sou. ext. 1st	100
2 Kan. & T. 2d	57½	44 West Sh. & R. 1st	70
12 Kan. & T. gen. 8s	86½		

RAILROAD AND OTHER SHARES.

Railroads.			
1900 Alt. & T. H.	71¾	5 Del. & Sch.	138
200 A. & T. H. pf	99½	13256 N. Y. Cent.	129
10 Am. Tel. & C.	67½	2600 Nor. Pac.	40½
300 Col. & Cin. pf	416	4300 Nor. Pac. pf	60½
100 C., C., C. & I.	74	4600 N. Y. R. & N.	133
6950 Can. South.	68½	900 N. Y. R. & N. pf	100
4950 Cent. N. J.	72½	4100 N. Y. N. H.	148
3200 Cent. Pac.	81½	730 N. Y., Chic. & St. L.	12½
200 Ch. & Alt.	134	100 N. Y., Chic. & St. L. pf	28½
728 Ch., B. & Q.	119½	200 Omaha	40¾
300 Ches. Pacific	53	100 Om. pf	108¾
100