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THE FIFTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

FURTHER AMENDMENTS TO THE COPYRIGHT BILL IN THE SENATE.

When Reported From the Committee the Amendments Were Disagreed to, 30 to 31, and Then the Bill Was Laid Aside.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—In the Senate to-day the Vice-President announced the appointment of Messrs. Manderson and Walthall as members of the Board of Visitors at the annual examination of cadets at West Point Military Academy, and of Messrs. Chandler and Harris in a similar capacity at the Annapolis Naval Academy.

The resolution reported yesterday authorizing the Select Committee on Relations with Canada to continue its investigations during the recess was taken up and agreed to.

Mr. Call (Dem., Fla.) offered and had referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations a resolution declaring that the Senate had heard with great concern the newspaper statements in relation to the alleged persecution of the Jews in Russia, and also in relation to the cruel treatment of state prisoners in Siberia and other places of imprisonment in the domain of the Czar, and requesting the President to appeal, on the ground of humanity, to the Emperor of Russia to take measures to inquire into such alleged wrongs and cruelties to the subjects of Russia, and to place them in a condition of freedom and equal rights.

Mr. Chandler (Rep., N. H.) offered resolutions (which were agreed to) that the Senate realized in the death of Admiral Porter the loss to the country of an officer of the highest rank and distinction, whose achievements, through a service of sixty-two years, had fully illustrated the courage and patriotism of the American navy; that the tenderest sympathies of the nation were present with his family in its time of grief, and that a committee of five members be appointed to attend his funeral. Senators Cameron, Hale, McPherson, Blackburn, and Chandler were appointed.

The copyright bill was then proceeded with, and Mr. Carlisle (Dem., Ky.) offered an amendment intended to carry out the policy of the Sherman amendment adopted yesterday. It strikes out all of section 3 after the Sherman amendment, and substitutes for it a provision that the section shall not be construed so as to subject to duty any article now admitted free under the laws of the United States, and that, if any person shall in the United States print, or cause to be printed, either for sale or exportation, any book, map, chart, or dramatic or musical composition, in which there shall be a subsisting copyright, without the consent in writing of the proprietor thereof, or shall knowingly import for sale or shall sell any such work so printed, unlawfully printed or made, or shall offer the same for sale, he shall be liable in damages to the proprietor of such copyright, and upon conviction shall also be subject to a fine not exceeding $1,000.

The question as to the meaning and effect of the amendment, and as to its necessity in order to carry out the principles of the bill, gave rise to a long discussion, chiefly of a legal and technical character.

The discussion was interrupted to permit the conference report on the Army Appropriation bill to be presented. It was read and agreed to. The provision in relation to payment for transportation on roads and railroads is that the compensation shall be on a basis which the Secretary of War shall deem just and reasonable, not to exceed sixty per cent. of the rates charged to private parties for similar transportation.

Mr. Stanford, from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, reported back a bill for the erection of a new Custom House in the city of New York, and it was placed on the calendar. It is a substitute for the bill introduced by Mr. Evarts. It directs the sale of the present Custom House property in New York at not less than $4,000,000, the amount to be applied to the erection of a building on a site heretofore selected and designed under the appraisers' warehouse act of September, 1889; the present Custom House is to be leased by the Government meanwhile at a rental not to exceed 4½ per cent. on the purchase money. Five citizens of New York are to be appointed as Building Commissioners, and are to have charge of the erection of the new building. The bill makes no appropriation other than the price of the present Custom House and the appropriation made in the Warehouse bill.

The Copyright bill was again taken up, and Mr. Carlisle's amendment was agreed to—yeas, 30; nays, 24.

The bill and amendments were then reported from the Committee of the Whole to the Senate, and Mr. Platt demanded the yeas and nays on the Committee amendments in bulk. The vote was taken, and the amendments were disagreed to—yeas, 30; nays, 31, as follows (Democrats in italics):

Yeas—Messrs. Allen, Allison, *Bate*, *Berry*, *Blackburn*, Blair, *Casey*, *Cockrell* (Mo.), *Daniel*, *Faulkner*, *Frye*, *George*, *Gorman*, Hale, *Harris*, *Ingalls*, *Jones* (Ark.), *Jones* (Nev.), *McPherson*, Mitchell, *Pasco*, *Pettigrew*, Pierce, *Power*, *Pugh*, *Ransom*, *Morgan*, and *Vance*—24.

Nays—Messrs. Aldrich, Cameron, Casey, *Carlisle*, *Davis*, Davis, Dawes, Dixon, Dolph, Edmunds, Evarts, Farwell, *Gibson*, *Hawley*, Hiscock, Hoar, McConnell, McMillan, Manderson, *Morgan*, Morrill, Platt, Quay, Sawyer, Stockbridge, *Turpie*, Voorhees, Warren and Washburn—30.

Pairs—Messrs. *Butler* and Moody, *Gill* and Stewart, *Hagerty* and Chandler, *Irby* and Sherman, *Kenna* and Wolcott, *Walsh* (Ga.) and Wilson (Iowa.)

Mr. Daniel moved to amend the proviso requiring copyright books to be printed from type set within the United States or from plates therefrom by adding to it the words: "Or shall be otherwise produced in the United States from process executed in the United States."

The discussion on this amendment was interrupted at half-past 3, when the message of the President announcing the death of Gen. Sherman was laid before the Senate.

House of Representatives.

In the House Mr. Flower (Dem., N. Y.) asked unanimous consent for the passage of the bill for the erection of a new Custom House in New York city, but Mr. Dunnell (Rep., Minn.) objected.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole (Mr. Dingley of Maine in the chair) on the Indian Appropriation bill.

Mr. Pierce (Dem., Tenn.) made a brief political speech. Touching upon the silver question, he said that the people of the country had an opinion on that subject which would not down even at the dictates of ex-President Cleveland.

The bill was then read by paragraphs for amendments, and when about a third of the measure had been disposed of the committee rose.

The Naval Appropriation bill was on motion of Mr. Boutelle (Rep., Me.) sent to conference.

The Speaker having laid before the House the message from the President announcing the death of Gen. Sherman, it was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Boutelle, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported resolutions expressive of the grief with which the House has heard of the death of Admiral David Dixon Porter, who, during more than sixty years of distinguished honor to his country has added to the honor of one of the most illustrious names in naval history, and directing the Speaker to appoint a committee of seven members to take such action as may be appropriate in regard to the public obsequies of the deceased.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted, and the Speaker, in accordance therewith, appointed the following committee: Messrs. Boutelle, Herbert, O'Neill of Pennsylvania, Flower, Lodge, McCreary, and Vandever. The House then, as an additional mark of respect, adjourned.

AN ACCOMMODATING JUDGE.

He Decides That Indians Are Citizens, but Would Decide Otherwise on Occasion.

TACOMA, Feb. 14.—Judge Hanford, in the United States District Court, has decided in favor of the defendant in the case of the United States Government against J. D. Campbell, indicted for selling liquor to the Puyallup Indians, on the ground that the Puyallup Indians, under the law of 1877, granting to them lands in severalty, are citizens of the United States, and no one has any authority to question their right to buy whiskey and drink it in their own houses.

The decision is qualified by the statement by the Judge that the defendant, being impecunious, could not appeal from the adverse decision; therefore, in another similar case, where the defendant could afford to appeal to the United States Supreme Court, he would decide in favor of the Government, in order to secure the opinion of that court as a last resort.

A Decision Involving $1,750,000 Worth of Land.

DENVER, Feb. 14.—The Supreme Court has passed upon the title to large land and canal interests in San Luis valley in the case of T. C. Henry against the Travellers' Insurance Company. Mr. Henry wins. The Del Norte and Citizen's canals and 70,000 acres of land under them are involved in the decision, and the title to the several valuable properties now stands where it did in 1865 when the litigation first commenced. The present value of these properties is over $1,750,000.

BURGLARS IN RUTHERFORD.

Many Houses Entered and One New Resident Frightened Out of Town.

There have been many burglaries lately in the town of Rutherford, N. J. The first visit of the thieves was about ten nights ago, when the house of Mr. Graham, a newcomer, was entered. The thieves carried away a load of wearing apparel for about three men. About $100 worth of jewelry in Mr. Graham's room was taken. A few days later Mr. Graham moved back to New York.

For three or four nights after that the burglars had bad luck. They were industrious enough, as the marks of jimmies upon a half dozen window shutters testified, but they were either interrupted or scared away by dogs. On last Thursday morning they were seen in Lyndhurst at the home of Mr. Leonard B. Harrington. Mrs. Charles Harrington was taking care of her son, who was ill, about 4 o'clock in the morning. She was tired out and had fallen off into a doze. She heard a slight noise in the room and jumped up. She saw a shaggy head at the foot of the bed. "Is that you?" she asked, thinking it was Mr. Harrington. The man pulled out a pistol.

"Hush," he said, "don't say a word, or you're dead."

She screamed, and the man made for the stairs and escaped out of an open hall window.

On last Sunday night C. W. Lawrenson, who is employed in Peck & Snyder's Nassau street store, went to church with his two children, Willie and Winnie. On their return and as they neared home the children walked on in advance. They came running back to him very much frightened, with a report that there was a man on the back stoop. Mr. Lawrenson pulled out a revolver and crept quietly around to the back porch. He saw a man in rubber boots standing near a window. "Throw up your hands!" said he, and a pair of hands shot up into the air. The man said meekly that he was looking for his dog. Mr. Lawrenson was marching him off to the lockup as a suspicious character, but he thought better of it, and let the man go, concluding that he had better look to his house. He let his two dogs out and they made for the barn with a rush. The next moment a man was tearing across the fields for dear life, with the dogs at his heels, and Mr. Lawrenson in the rear, shooting off his revolver and yelling "stop thief" at every jump. But the man was fleet and he got away.

On the next night Mr. Lawrenson's servant, who had gone to the kitchen at a late hour, saw a man's face at the window. She screamed, and the man vanished over backward.

For two days after that the burglars kept quiet, but on last Wednesday night they made up for lost time by breaking into three houses. They began on the house of F. B. Carpenter in Montrose avenue. They must have been at work in the house about an hour when Mrs. Boyd, who lives opposite, happening to look over, saw a light, which she knew the Carpenters were away, and she gave an alarm. Mr. Thompson, another neighbor, went over to investigate. The burglars were gone, but there was a truck load of clothing in one of the outhouses, all packed ready for removal.

About three hours later the thieves were in G. A. Weaver's house in Passaic avenue. They bundled up a lot of clothing and silk dresses and started to walk out. Mr. Weaver woke up suddenly, and, sitting up in bed, shouted "Burglars!" They fled, but carried almost all their booty with them.

About 4½ o'clock in the morning thieves broke into the house of Mr. J. W. Sandford on Carmita avenue. A big man in rubber boots, apparently the same one whom Mr. Lawrenson had held up on the Sunday night previous, walked up stairs and went into Mr. Sanford's bedroom. He got property of considerable value.

On last Thursday night thieves went to the house of John Tyler, near Ridge road. They worked very carefully. They took out a pane of glass as carefully as a glazier would have done. A man had his head through the hole, reaching for the catch. Then an inmate of the house shrieked, "Good God!" The man fell back into the street, leaving another pane of glass in his haste. There was a scuffling of feet, then a general stampede and the burglars had gone.

Six deputy marshals have been sworn in to patrol the town. Besides this, private detectives have been engaged by several residents to guard property at night.

THEY ARE LEVYING WAR.

An Italian Walking Delegate with a Gun and Two Sneaks with Clubs.

Rocco Lamar of 190 Elizabeth street, and Innocenzio Jula of 177 Thompson street, tailors, employed by Haas Brothers of West Twenty-sixth street, were set upon by six Italians on strike in front of Jula's house as they were going to work yesterday morning. The six men, who had been lying in ambush in an alley near Jula's house, crept up behind them, and, drawing clubs four feet long and as thick as a man's wrist from under their coats, began without uttering a word to beat the union men over the head and arms. Jula and Lamar, who were unarmed, turned and recognized Louis Peralto of 240 Seventh avenue and Antonio Ri zo, formerly workmen in Haas Brothers' shop.

The men assailed tried to shield themselves by holding up the half-made garments they were carrying, but the clubs beat their arms down. Lamar remembered suddenly that he had a pair of tailor's shears about a foot long in the clothing, and he managed to get hold of them and make horizontal sweeps with them in front of him. Rocco Peralto, who came with the police of them, Peralto fell to the sidewalk with a groan, and his five companions took to their heels.

Jula was arrested, but was discharged at Jefferson Market. Lamar could not be found. Peralto is in St. Vincent's Hospital.

There are about thirty of ninety employees out on the strike, most of them Italians and German Jews. For about a month a minority of the workmen have worked to make the shop a union establishment. The members of the firm, two months ago, tried to form a shop union on a basis of mutual aid, the firm contributing $100 and the head cutter $50 to the scheme, and about forty signatures of the workmen were obtained when the union came to a standstill. Three weeks ago the firm learned that many of their employees had joined the Tailors' Protective Union, and that Foreman Bedoni was a walking delegate. Haas Brothers discharged a workman named Brockman for spoiling a shirt, and thirty men struck at once. Police and detectives have since been time nicketed the street near the shop.

Two strikers were arrested on Tuesday, on complaint of the firm. They were Walking Delegates Rosenkranz and Klingenberg. Klingenberg had a revolver a foot long in his pocket. He was held, in default of $500 bail, for trial at the General Sessions. The Italian strikers have been trying to persuade Lamar and Jula to leave the shop, and had threatened to beat them if they continued to work. Jula went to work yesterday, but he carried two black eyes, a peeled nose, and big bruises on his arms.

EIGHTY-TWO DAYS OUT.

Surmises as to the Fate of Capt. Norton's Unsinkable Lifeboat.

Nothing definite has been heard from Capt. F. L. Norton and his non-capsizable, unsinkable steam lifeboat since she left New London on Nov. 24, eighty-two days ago. A rumor came from Gibraltar that the vessel had passed there on her way up the Mediterranean on Dec. 18. The rumor was telegraphed from London to this city as a fact. It could not be traced to an authentic source. The *Marine Journal* of yesterday says:

"The trip was an experimental one, made in midwinter for the purpose of proving that the 'water ballast system,' of which Capt. Norton was the inventor, when applied to any craft insured it against capsizing or sinking. We fear one or the other of the two causes which the inventor claimed were impossible has led to the loss of the F. L. Norton with all on board, as nothing reliable has been heard from them since their departure."

Besides Capt. Norton and his wife and niece, Miss Bickaby, there were aboard the lifeboat Chief Engineer James Menseirs, Assistant Engineer Arthur McLean, Sailing Master C. F. Carlsen, Seamen John Anderson, Oscar Milevar, Steward Joseph Marcial, Cabin Boy John Roberts.

Ballet Girls Threaten to Sue.

Many of the young women who danced in airy costumes in the spectacular production of "Babes in the Woods" at Niblo's a week ago are at present saying unpleasant things about the failure of the ghost to walk and wondering how they are going to pay their board bills. When the show went to pieces, they say, there were two weeks' salaries due to the ballet and chorus. Some of the young women had been brought over from England and expected employment in this company until May. There were also a number of Chicago girls in this company who are at present living in a theatrical boarding house in East Ninth street. One of them said yesterday:

"We consulted a lawyer this morning and intend to sue the managers for our money. It's a perfect shame to leave us on our uppers in this way when we are so far from home."

KEPT HIM 18 YEARS ON WARD'S ISLAND.

Doubtful if Wilson Was a Lunatic; He Was Certainly Not a Pauper.

In January, 1889, a keeper in the Ward's Island lunatic asylum informed Lawyer W. T. Fox of 245 Broadway that an inmate of the institution named Horatio Maine Wilson was not only sane but had property, in place of being a pauper, and consequently ought not to be detained there. It was his property which was the cause of his detention, the keeper said, for his relatives had procured his incarceration in order to enjoy it. Lawyer Fox did not pay much attention to this story until, through the instrumentality of the keeper, he received a letter from Wilson confirming it, which was too coherent for a lunatic to write. Investigation, too, showed the allegations as to the writer's property to be true. Accordingly, in the following March, Mr. Fox got out a writ of habeas corpus. When Wilson was produced in court Lawyer George W. Weaver of Utica appeared in behalf of his committee, who was his sister, Mrs. Mary W. Hutchinson. Mr. Weaver's admission that Wilson had property was a revelation to the asylum physicians, who had considered his declarations to that effect evidence of his insanity.

The case was referred to Charles M. West. The testimony taken by him showed that Wilson had about $20,000 left him by his maternal grandfather Maine, which yielded an income of $600 a year. He was adjudged a lunatic and put in the state asylum in Utica in April, 1872, within thirty days after becoming his grandfather's heir. He was discharged from the asylum after a while, and for a few years lived in this city on an allowance made by his sister. In 1876 he committed a misdemeanor, for which he was sentenced to twelve months in the workhouse unless he gave bonds in $1,000 to behave himself. His sister, by way apparently of keeping him out of the workhouse, got physicians to testify as to his lack of mental power, and, on the strength of their certificate, Judge McAdam committed him to the Ward's Island Asylum. Here he was supported almost entirely at the expense of the taxpayers for thirteen years. His sister's total financial contribution to his support in that time was but $18.

Referee West recommended in August, 1889, that Wilson should be supported out of his estate, and not by the taxpayers of New York city. Since the finding of Referee West, which was confirmed by Judge Barrett, Wilson has been an inmate of the Brunswick House in Amityville, L. I. He comes to town frequently to see his lawyer. Although at one time he may have been rightly adjudged a lunatic, his trouble is not so much loss of mind as lack of it. He is mentally deficient, but not sufficiently so, it seems, to warrant his incarceration among lunatics.

In October, 1889, Wilson's sister was constrained to die an account of her committeeship, which she had not done in seventeen years, although the law required her to file an account annually. In this account she acknowledged Wilson's ownership of $20,000 all the thirteen years she had lived among the paupers on Ward's Island. Proceedings to remove her from her post as committee are now going on in Utica.

Wilson's father, C. S. Wilson, who died a few years ago, was Mayor of Utica during the war.

ASSETS NOT ALL GILT-EDGED.

Examiner Cahill Can't Report Just Yet the American Loan and Trust's Condition.

Bank Examiner Cahill wrestled with the books and securities of the American Loan and Trust Company all day yesterday. At dusk he said he could scarcely tell when he could make his report. He had been busy looking over the collaterals and assets, and said that the case differed from others in his experience. He believed that, from the nature of the collaterals, it would take longer to determine the company's exact condition. He did not care to say anything about the character of the assets until his official report was made. He had some hopes that the report could be made some time this week.

It was heard all through Wall street that the company had come into possession of certain shares of the Third National Bank at the time they were depressed by the transactions which James A. Simmons was alleged to have had with the bank. It was furthermore stated on very excellent authority that these shares were "kited" for the purpose of at the same time securing loans and preserving the apparent financial standing of the company in the eyes of its directors at the annual meeting on Jan. 1. Secretary Thurston said that the company did not own, directly or indirectly, a single share of the stock of the Third National Bank. W. C. Buckhout, who was acting President of the bank at the time these transactions were said to have occurred, would not deny or confirm the stories. When it was called to his attention that Mr. Baldwin was said to have put in a paper asset of $200,000 to make a good showing at the annual meeting of the directors, Mr. Buckhout was equally noncommittal. It will be remembered that Mr. Baldwin put in a similar deposit in order to bring up his reserves when he was President of the North National Bank. It was said that at the next meeting of the directors in May Mr. Baldwin would retire from the Presidency. The standing of the company cannot be known until Mr. Cahill makes his report, but there is without question a difference of opinion among the directors about Mr. Baldwin's management. It is said that hazardous loans have been made. As for the statement of H. R. Rich, a discharged employee, little attention was paid to it. The Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association, of which Mr. Baldwin is Vice-President, authorized the statement that they had at times had on deposit with the company $300,000 and over, but that their balance now was very small indeed. They declined to explain the change in their policy in depositing with their Vice-President's company further than to say that there was trouble in the Board of Directors, and that Mr. Baldwin's management of the Trust Company had been criticised in certain quarters.

The greatest nut to crack in the complication was the advances made to the Decatur, Chesapeake and New Orleans Railroad. Geo. A. Evans of the Bethlehem Steel and Iron Works is closely associated with McCracken & Co., the fiscal agents of the road, and Mr. Evans was Vice-President of Mr. Baldwin's Loan and Trust Company advised the advances of nearly $500,000 on the road's bonds and preferred stock. It was learned that the Trust Company has $1,400,000 of the road's securities as collateral for the loan, but nobody in Wall street could tell the market price of the bonds and the preferred stock.

FIFI KICKING.

It's More Than the Role Requires of the Princess in Tights.

Manager Charles Frohman and Miss Lilla Vane are in a bit of a tangle on the tights which the young woman is expected to wear in the production of "All the Comforts of Home" at Herrmann's Theatre next Thursday. Miss Vane has been on the stage for about six years, and has never worn tights in public. She is cast for the part of *Fifi Oritanski* from the opera comique, and in one scene *Fifi* appears on the stage in the customary costume of a princess, consisting chiefly of tights. She remains but a minute, and then is hustled off. Miss Sheridan played *Fifi* in this play when it was produced at the Boston Museum, and defended the costume very cleverly by contrasting it with her bathing suit.

Early last week Miss Vane told Mr. Frohman that she intended to wear with her tights top boots and a long cloak. Mr. Frohman's hands went up in horror and he said the part called for tights pure and simple and was not to be played in boots and a cloak. He did not want to wound Miss Vane's feelings, but surely there was nothing strange in the leading lady of the play appearing in tights for a minute on the stage if the play called for it.

Then Miss Vane got angry, and said that she had never appeared in tights, and she didn't propose to do so now. Until yesterday it looked very much as if Miss Vane would persist in her refusal to be a Comfort of Home in tights.

Remembering Miss Sheridan's defence of the tights Mr. Frohman brought the conversation around to bathing suits. Miss Vane, who is a swimmer, admitted that she was fond of hers, and that perhaps there was not such a great difference, after all, between a real nice bathing suit and tights. If Mr. Frohman would permit her to wear a long cloak from her dressing room to the stage, and put the cloak right on as soon as this one scene was over she would wear tights. If she doesn't an understudy will.

Undressed in Three Seconds.

TROWBRIDGE, Pa., Feb. 14.—Clarence Belknap runs a portable wood-sawing machine in this place. The other day while the machine was running rapidly Trowbridge was caught in the shafting. In just three seconds after he was caught he was set down in a snow bank twenty-five feet away. Every stitch of clothing from his shirt, rubber boots and stockings had been stripped off of him, and he was not hurt to the extent of a scratch.

WHAT WE ARE ALL TALKING ABOUT.

If a man had to earn a dollar by walking in the brown-stone district until he came across a doorplate he would lose the cost of a pair of shoes. The doorplate has disappeared so completely as to be almost forgotten. But apparently the front door itself has become the object of the deepest solicitude and pride in that region. There is unavoidable monotony in the miles of great square houses that have stood for a quarter of a century or longer, but there is the widest latitude in front doors, and the styles of those appurtenances now form an interesting and complicated study. Some are mainly of beveled plate glass, others are single doors and very wide, yet others are split in twain to open at top or bottom in the colonial style. There are doors of sturdy oak richly carved; doors over which gilded hinges run in opulent arabesquerie; doors panelled with hand-worked patterns in iron; doors ornamented with bronze bas-reliefs—in fact, there are doors and doors, and yet other doors, for every taste and purse.

The official excitement over the trucks in the streets brings to mind the fact that there are many more trucks than truck owners in the city. A vast trucking business is done in the dry goods district and in the square half mile of streets around Washington Market, where the commission dealers in farm and garden supplies have their stores. The small firms do not own trucks, but contract their business out to the men who do. The livings made by trucking are so good that it is the ambition of a large proportion of the porters and clerks to save money enough to begin with one horse and a single truck. In time they expect to own a double truck, and many thrive sufficiently to acquire two or even three trucks. Trucks that stand in the streets at night are thickest in the quiet old district between Hudson street and the North River, from Clarkson street to Fourteenth street. That is one of the solid portions of the town, and the residents often own their homes as well as their trucks.

The Bostonians are quite proud of having instituted a new whim, that of giving costly china cups as testimonials of friendship. To New York ears that sounds like a feeble, tinkling echo of a custom that has rooted deep in this town within a year or two—the custom of giving solid silver loving cups in the same way. Among persons of means it no longer requires a very formal or important occasion to bring forth a loving cup that costs between $100 and $200. They are sent to actors and actresses, even to amateurs who please a coterie with a single performance. They are presented at parties between friends before a journey; they are prizes at parties. They have a caste and rank among themselves, so that the importance of such a gift is now measured by the number of handles on the cup.

Mr. Augustus St. Gaudens, who has undertaken the delicate contract to add an artistic quality to the Chicago World's Fair, may be considered one of the most fortunate of New Yorkers. But along with the growth of his fame has come a popular tendency to regard himself and his studio as among the public sights of the town. He has undertaken to overcome this misconception by novel means. There are two doors to his studio, and whoever passes the outer one finds himself face to face with a sign announcing that under no circumstances will the sculptor see any one with whom he has not made a definite appointment. Whoever persists beyond that door may expect formal treatment.

The great reaches of asphaltum roadways that have been laid down in New York within the past year or two have given roller skating a new impetus and in a new direction. In the nicest neighborhoods as well as in the ordinary ones the streets are kept jubilant with the cries and rattle of roller skaters, and the little folks all enjoy the sport by catching hold of wagons and carriages in order to be pulled along over the flawless surface of the patent streetways. A flying header turns the sport into breathless exercise.

Mr. R. F. Cutting owns a remarkable little Shetland pony that affords delight to many more children than the ones who ride behind it. Its name is Dandy and it is as fat as butter. It is not many times the size of a St. Bernard dog. Like such a dog it will shake hands with whoever asks it to, and in its stable it can be easily induced to give its two front hoofs at once and stand up on its hind ones like any human biped who visits it.

It was in a Third avenue elevated car and a number of shop girls were clinging to straps in front of a line of persons in the seats. Several times, as persons pushed their way through the car, one of the shop girls trod on the toes of a man seated in front of her. She noticed the recurrence of the accident, but had not the politeness to apologize; indeed, any proper or graceful impulse would have been foreign to her nature. Once again she was pushed off her feet, and again she stepped on the man's toes. Their glances met. "Do it again," said he; "I am beginning to like it." That was a chance for repartee that no such character could allow to escape. "Do you?" she said; "well, then, take it home in a box."

It seems strange to born New Yorkers to hear of Thomas Hunter telling people where they will find the best public school in New York. Men of the present generation all remember when the "show school" was the one in West Thirteenth street over which Mr. Hunter was the principal. But the same development of the town that sent him to preside over the nonsensical Normal College alongside Central Park has shifted the best grammar school also, and it is now to be found in West Fifty-fourth street, under the management of Mr. Matthew J. Elder. He will vouch for the statement that it is not an unalloyed blessing to have a school of the first reputation. In his case 250 extra boys study in extra class rooms divided by curtains, and not even a Commissioner can get another boy in the building, which is about one-half the size it ought to be.

The latest eccentricity of fashionable nomenclature is the new spelling of the name Conover as "Conova." This adds another chapter to the checkered history of a very old New York name. Originally it was Hollandish, and was first spelled Cowenhoven. There are families of Cowenhoevens in Flatbush and other towns on the west end of Long Island who still spell the name that way. The name travelled to New Jersey and turned up after the Revolution as Rovenhven and Covenhoven, but the descendants of those same families now spell it Conover.

Senator Keep of New Jersey did not mean to slight the State in which he holds office by coming to New York the other day to dine Gov. Abbett and a lot of Jersey legislators. None the less he demonstrated how thoroughly New Jersey is dominated by New York and Philadelphia. Less than a hundred miles wide and with the think of its population between those two large cities, it is two-thirds suburban to this city and one-third to the Quaker capital. Not one more than a little fine hotel, and there is not a restaurant in the whole State that has even a "swell" local reputation. Gov. Abbett himself has his office in this city, and almost the only notable Jerseyman whose entire interests are within the State is Senator Blodgett. His headquarters is at Long Branch.

A notable argument at the Fifth Avenue Hotel yesterday was ended very suddenly and queerly. Mr. Theodore H. Lee was endeavoring to show that by logical sequences it is possible to prove that nothing exists. Mr. James Anderson of the New York, Ontario and Western Railroad came along and heard part of the astonishing mental performance. "Pshaw!" said he, "you can prove anything if you know how. It can be shown that a beehive is a bad potato. First, a beehive is a bee-holder; of course, a beholder is a spect-tator, and it follows that a spect-tator is a bad potato. Oh, you can prove anything if you only know how."

"It is strange," said a Louisiana creole, "that New Yorkers do not get up some grand and gorgeous annual festival like Mardi Gras, such as has just been held in New Orleans, Mobile, Galveston, and other cities of the Gulf States. I should think that the people here who have read THE SUN'S despatches about the spectacular display in New Orleans on Tuesday of this week would try to get up something of the kind in New York, where you have nothing like it. We had the King of the Carnival in all his glory, with beautiful tableaux, in the streets; we had Proteus, with the magicians and sultans and caliphs and Oriental altars and groves; we had the Mystic Krewe of Comus, with weird figures of hobgoblins, giants, witches, vampires, furies, and the three-headed monster. But if you have never seen the carnival in New Orleans you can't imagine how picturesque it is or what delight it gives to the people of the city. It is the one great popular festival of the year, when everybody is merry. I wonder you New Yorkers don't get up a festival like it once a year for the enlivenment of the city."

MUSIC AND MUSICIANS.

This evening's Thomas concert in the Lenox Lyceum is a special event in the series, and it promises to be exceedingly attractive. Mlle. Clementina De Vere and Signor Italo Campanini are the soloists, and they will sing the grand duo from "Benvenuto Cellini," by Berlioz. In addition, Mlle. De Vere will sing the mad scene from "Hamlet," by Ambroise Thomas, and Signor Campanini will sing "Walther's Prize Song," from Wagner's opera, "Die Meistersinger." Miss L. Florence Heine will render a ballad by Moszkowsky, and the orchestral numbers will be the introduction and march from Gleason's "Montezuma;" Schubert's unfinished "Symphony, B minor;" the "Vorspiel," from "Die Meistersinger;" overture "La Carnival Romain," by Berlioz; "Kaiser Franz," theme and variations, for the string orchestra, by Haydn, and Strauss's waltz, "Freuet euch des Lebens."

The Symphony Society of New York announces its fifth afternoon concert for Friday next, Feb. 20, and its fifth evening concert for next Saturday, Feb. 21. The soloists are to be Mrs. Walter C. Wyman, contralto, and Mr. Alexander Lambert, pianist. Mrs. Wyman is to sing an arioso by Delibes, and "Dis Quelle," by Goldmark; "Chanson Slave," by Chaminade, and "Aime Moi," by Bemberg. Mr. Lambert will play Chopin's "Concerto in E minor," with orchestral accompaniment. The orchestral numbers are Saint-Saens's "Symphony in A minor," and Rubinstein's "Overture to Antony and Cleopatra." Mr. Walter Damrosch will conduct.

Mr. H. E. Krehbiel, the musical critic of the *Tribune*, announces a series of lectures on Wagner and his productions, which subject is exceedingly appropriate, inasmuch as the entire series of the Wagner operas are about to be produced in the Metropolitan Opera House. Mr. Krehbiel's first lecture, on the 24th of February, in the Metropolitan Opera House Assembly Room at 3 in the afternoon, is to be on "The Lyric Drama and Wagner's Art Work." The other lectures are to be on "Parsifal," on "The Ring of the Nibelungs," on "Tristan," and on "Die Meistersinger." Mr. Henry Holden Huss, at the piano, will illustrate musically the points that Mr. Krehbiel makes.

Announcement is made of Miss Virginia Rider's third series of pianoforte recitals, to be given in the drawing room, 301 Fifth avenue. The first recital will be next Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock, at which a Chopin programme will be presented, consisting of twelve well-arranged selections from the works of that composer.

The third of a series of Sunday evening sacred concerts, arranged by Mr. W. A. Corey and Prof. Louis Herrmann, will be given in the Masonic Temple this evening. A number of first-class soloists are announced to take part, and the programme to be presented is varied and excellent.

The Church Choral Society of New York will give its second service of this season in St. George's Church, Stuyvesant square and Sixteenth street, next Thursday evening, when it will present Gounod's "De Profundis" (130th psalm) and the "Stabat Mater," by Dvorak. The soloists are to be Miss Clementina De Vere, soprano; Mrs. Hattie Clapper-Morris, contralto; Signor Italo Campanini, tenor; Mr. Franz Remmertz, basso, and Mr. Horatio W. Parker and Mr. William S. Chester, organists. Mr. Richard Henry Warren will conduct, and there will be an orchestra of sixty in addition to the chorus of the society.

A grand testimonial concert to Signor Ferranti, which promises to be an event of exceptional interest to music lovers, will be given in Chickering Hall next Saturday evening, Feb. 21, by the following artists: Mlle. Clementina De Vere, soprano; Mme. Anna Lankow, contralto; Mme. Du Barri, tragedienne; Signor Del Puente and Signor Tagliapietra, baritones; Signor Bologna, basso; Mr. Arthur Voorhis, pianist, and Signor Italo Campanini, tenor. The concert is under the management of Mr. J. H. Aiquente, and the programme to be presented is very attractive. It includes some of the best selections from the works of Bellini, Rubinstein, Moszkowski, Rossini, Verdi, Grammean, Sachs, Meyerbeer, and Donizetti, with duets and quintets, in which the famous singers mentioned will be heard.

Herr Xaver Scharwenka will give his second pianoforte recital in Palmer's Theatre next Thursday afternoon, Feb. 19. The programme includes five selections from Chopin, four of Herr Scharwenka's own compositions, Schubert's "Impromptu à la Hongroise," Schumann's "Zwei Fantasiestuecke," and the "Tell Overture," by Liszt-Wieniawski. This will be Herr Scharwenka's last recital for some time, as he is soon to start on a Western tour.

Next Thursday evening, Feb. 19, M. L. Planel and Mme. Tekiey-Planel will give a musical and dramatic soirée in the Berkeley Lyceum. They will be assisted by M. Alfred Cabel, baritone; Mme. Blanche Bartlett, piano; M. Rene de Saint Leger, and Mlle. Clementina De Vere. An excellent programme is announced.

Miss Emma Heckle, a young soprano, well known in the West as a leading singer, and who has lately returned from Europe, will give a concert in Steinway Hall on Tuesday evening, Feb. 24, assisted by some excellent artists.

The McCaull company, at their recent engagement in Cleveland, played to the best business of the season, and on Saturday night Manager Hart presented Mr. Harry Askin with a handsome gold locket set with diamonds, as a souvenir of the banner week of 1890-'91.

The announcement is made that the third regular season of grand opera in English at popular prices will be given at the Grand Opera House, beginning May 24 and continuing six weeks. The management has made arrangements for the production of the following operas, which will be given in the order named: Donnizetti's "Lucia di Lammermoor," "Amber's," "Fra Diavolo," Bizet's "Carmen," Verdi's "Il Trovatore," Flotow's "Martha," and Gounod's "Faust." Among the artists who have been engaged for this season are Mme. Pauline l'Allemand, Mlle. Louise Natalie, Miss Bella Tomline, Miss Fanny Meyers, Miss Stella Beaumont, Mr. Chas. Bassett, Mr. Frank Baxter, Signor Montegriffo, Signor Tagliapietra, and Mr. George Edwards, basso, from the Carl Rosa English opera company. It is probable that Mr. Ludwig, the basso of the Carl Rosa company, will also appear.

The season of grand opera in German at the Metropolitan Opera House is nearing its close. This week will witness the last evening performance of "Lohengrin," which will be given on Wednesday evening. On Monday evening "Die Gotterdämmerung" is to be presented, and this opera will also be the attraction at the Saturday matinee. The first production this season of Bizet's opera, "Carmen," is billed for Friday evening.

There will be a special musical event at the Metropolitan Opera House this evening, when a grand concert, consisting of selections from Wagner's "Parsifal" is to be given.

The Arion Masquerade.

The four chief committees having the Arion masquerade ball in charge will be handsomely costumed. The Committee of Arrangements, numbering thirty-two, will represent German Councillors; the Floor Committee, fifty-two, will be dressed as Knights of Gascoyne; the Lobby Committee, thirty-eight, will represent Mexican nobles, and the Finance Committee, thirty-two, will appear as Royal Guardsmen of the sixteenth century. These committees will execute a military drill just before the procession. July, the month of national independence, will be represented in the procession as June. On a float Washington will be seen holding the Constitution of the United States, and at his feet will be Indians, Continental soldiers, a white and a black citizen of the republic. The four corners of the float will typify the North, with fur and timber; the South, with cotton, tobacco, rice, and whisker; the East, with manufactures and navigation, and the West with agriculture and mining. The coats of arms of the thirteen original States will ornament the sides of the float, which will be drawn by blues and grays. A rehearsal will take place in the Garden on Feb. 19, the night before the ball.

Sculptor St. Gaudens's Work at Chicago.

Mr. Augustus St. Gaudens, the sculptor, said yesterday that the report that he was going to remove to Chicago was not correct. He had received a communication from the directors of the World's Fair asking him to act in an advisory capacity with the architects on the distribution of the ornamental sculpture in the buildings, and he had consented to do so. This will not require his continued presence in Chicago, which he will visit from time to time as his services may be needed.

NEWS OF THE RIDING ACADEMIES.

Brisk In and Outdoor Exercise by the Various Clubs and Classes.

At the various riding academies in this city the business has been unusually good lately. The music rides last week were all well attended, especially the one at Dickel's school in West Fifty-sixth street, at which over fifty ladies and gentlemen were present. Road riding is also being indulged in to an unusual extent. This is especially noticeable on the drives and boulevards in Hudson and Bergen counties, which are crowded daily with enthusiastic equestrians. Most of the riders on the other side of the North River, if not all of them, make Philip Hexamer's big Hoboken establishment their headquarters. Mr. Hexamer is more fortunate than most riding academy proprietors, inasmuch as he is practically without competition. Even if this were not so, however, he would probably do just as large a business, for