NEWS OF THE THEATRES.

A new theatrical season starts with this week. The commencement is earlier by a fortnight than has been the rule in late years, but that may be regarded as a sign that there are many ventures to be tested, and that there is confidence in them on the part of their projectors. July was certainly dull in a rare degree. August will be as conspicuous in the opposite direction. To-morrow night the campaign will be inaugurated, and the doors of three first-class theatres will open for important productions.

Probably it will be safe to consider the Madison Square's reopening the event of chief note, because there are several uncommon features connected with it. The play, an English comedy called "Jane," is quite new to us; the company has been organized for elaborate work in polite comicality; the principal actress has for a long time attracted expert and public attention to what may be called her possibilities, and, finally, the production will be memorable as the last one at this theatre under the A. M. Palmer management. "Jane," however, is more directly a venture put forward by Charles Frohman, and it is the first of his many enterprises to get a test this season. Something of the play was told in last Sunday's SUN. English reports adapted it from a success in Paris; it had long life on a London stage; Frohman's keen eye perceived its likely value in America, and, having purchased it for this country, he organized a company to develop its drollery. Johnstone Bennett's work as Jane will be watched with much interest, now that this generally captivating young actress has come to be regarded as a probable star; and there will also be some concern in the performance of Paul Arthur, a light comedian, who has played many parts exceedingly well. Fire veteran M. C. Daly, Jennie Weatherby, Amelia Summerville, Robert F. Cotton, and Katherine Grey are also in the cast. "Jane's" length of life at the Madison Square is indefinite, but it will doubtless run through September if it duplicates in any degree its London success.

The old, familiar, and historic Fourteenth Street, freshened with bright new frescoing, fine mirrors, polished brasses, and judicious touches here and there of gilding, opens its doors to-morrow evening for the regular season with Henry P. Mawson's military play, "A Fair Rebel." Lavish scenery, military costumes and equipments are promised. "A Fair Rebel" comes with a good reputation. It was seen in this city for the first time last December, a year ago, at a trial mantinée, and it has since been seen in all the large cities. It is a play that appeals to the heart, and is thoroughly a military story. One of the important effects is a revolving scene representing the interior and exterior of a military prison. The scenery and mechanical effects are all new, and the production is likely to be on an elaborate scale. Fanny Gillette is the heroine, *Clairette*. Edward R. Mawson, who is well known from his association with Mantell, is the hero. Something like sixty people are told will be used in the play. Real horses, howitzers, fifers, drummers, and gunpowder are expected to rouse the auditors' enthusiasm, and all this is booked for a month's tenure at the Fourteenth Street.

The Bijou's first offering of its new season is a farcical entertainment called "A High Roller." It has been prepared for most diligently and elaborately, and with strenuous assurances on the part of its promoters that it will be a departure from the worn field of variety farce. It will be greeted with warmth, if it fulfils all the promises made in advance of its coming. A smooth performance at the Bijou is likely, because the piece has been placed on the road during the past week. "A High Roller" will introduce Barney Fagan as a light comedian. Fagan is recognized as perhaps the foremost deviser of picturesque stage manœuvring in the country, and his new venture will hardly be more interesting than to see what he has been able to accomplish with the pliable forms of graceful women instead of the unwieldy bodies of men in the execution of new and pretty dances, marches, drills, tableaux, and posturings of the character to which he owes his fame, and among which, it is said, there are any number of novelties and not a few startling spectacular, electrical effects. A little more than a dozen people usually comprise the ensemble of a variety farce, but "A High Roller" has in its cast nearly five times that number, in which are soubrettes a score, more than a dozen comedians, and a large dancing corps. John and James Russell, Barry Maxwell, A. C. Moreland, Louise Sylvester, and the Misses Cobourne, LaVerde, Gilbert, and Zublin are in this cast. The Bijou's auditorium has been somewhat renovated during the summer. "A High Roller" is to be on view several weeks, and it will be followed by "Niobe" for a long run.

Lubimoff, the Russian actor, has for some time been modestly working his way in the English provinces. Manager Mark Melford gave Lubimoff an engagement, but cut this short with a post card, on which he described the Russian actor's acting as "shocking, either designedly or from incapacity." Lubimoff could not, or would not, sit down quietly under a charge of this sort, so he instructed his solicitor to commence an action for libel. The case came on the other day at Manchester, and, as Melford put in no defence, the jury promptly found a verdict for plaintiff, with $100 damages, the Judge remarking that defendant would probably know now that he must not go about recklessly libelling people. The case is interesting, as illustrating an English managerial method of advertising a disappointing actor.

How many American stars own "Nance Oldfield," any way? Rose Coghlan played it last season, and she was the first to use Charles Reade's story in a stage form in this country. Ellen Terry made a success as *Nance* in London a little while after. Now it is told that Margaret Mather has purchased from Miss Terry the right to play "Nance Oldfield" in this country. Meanwhile, as fewer persons have heard, Nat Goodwin has gone through the form of buying "Nance Oldfield" from Henry Irving, and will cast pretty Mabel Amber for *Oldfield*. At least two of these investors have made a bad bargain, if, indeed, they have paid for anything. Reade's old story is public property here, and there are doubtless half a dozen various dramatizations of it to be had for the asking. There is, in fact, a man in Omaha who swears that his his version that Miss Coghlan is using; but that actress ridicules the assertion as gayly and as airily as she did the earlier claim that she had utilized "A Night's Frolic" for her new play, "Dorothy's Dilemma." "Dorothy," she says, "is as honestly purloined from a German basis as 'A Night's Frolic' was, and as THE SUN explained in each case. But our author, Leopold Jordan, has departed entirely from the German translation, and has written almost an original play. Sufficient, however, of the original remains to at least credit the German dramatist with the foundation of the play, and I haven't objected to that from the start. In my version the scene is transferred to England, and deals with the trials of a dashing English woman—a perfect *Lady Gay Spanker*—who is on a short visit to a friend's house in London. The complications she gets into form the plot. Then there are a grumpy, gouty old Earl, a gay debonair H. P., a barrister with his first case, a Lieutenant of the Enniskillen Dragoons, an orderly from the same regiment, the wife of the M. P. aforesaid, the Earl's daughter, and a French maid who is stage struck. I am really going to ride a horse man fashion in one of the scenes—the masquerading episode of the comedy—and I've been practising mounting and riding for weeks; but I've done it all in the twilight of late, for there must be some escape from the amateur photographer, you know."

There will be plenty of August openings besides the three which will make to-morrow night interesting at the city playhouses. Next week Monday the Bowery Windsor will start the east siders into activity, and another season will commence for Manager Frank Murtha, whose popular-price plan will not be disturbed. The veteran J. B. Studley, supported by Henrietta Vaders and others, will open the house with "Rose Michel," an old Union Square success. During the summer Murtha has made many changes and improvements in the Windsor, including a new stage, a new drop curtain (by Schaffer and Maeder), new carpets, and fresh decorations. On Aug. 17 Lillian Kennedy, a young actress well known in the provinces, makes her first appearance at the Windsor in a new sensational comedy-drama, "She Couldn't Marry Three." Contrary to predictions Niblo's Garden will swing into line again this season, and will open on Aug. 24 with "The Kbedive," a comic opera new to this city. It is booked for four weeks, and presumably it is a good thing. The night of Aug. 24 will be uncommonly eventful. Daniel Frohman announces that E. H. Sothern's fifth annual season at the Lyceum will begin on that date with a new play by Henry Arthur Jones, entitled "The Dancing Girl," which after nearly 200 performances at the Haymarket, London, ended the season there recently. This play's success in England has been a feature of the past theatrical season there. It is a story of infatuation, a common human experience, and has been regarded in London as referable to certain incidents in London social life. In Sothern's supporting company will be Virginia Harned, Kate Pattison-Selten, Jenny Dunbar, Bessie Tyree, Morton Selten, Rowland Buckstone, Augustus Cooke, Owen Fawcett, and twenty others. Others will play the rôle performed in London by Beerbohm Tree. Proctor's Twenty-third Street will start its new season on Aug. 24, one of the Charles Frohman troupes reviving "Mr. Wilkinson's Widows," which was so well liked here last season. The Star will have Roland Reed on Aug. 24 as its inaugural visitor, and Reed will try to make his trip memorable by producing Sydney Rosenfeld's new comedy, "A Club Friend." The Standard, with "Fleurette," a new comic opera; the Park, with Rose Coghlan, and the Union Square, with an untried melodrama called "The Black Masque," are also on the list of openings for Aug. 24. The Harlem Opera House starts its season on Aug. 29, while Hammerstein's Columbus opens as early as the 15th with a Bolossy Kiralfy spectacle. Each of the Hammerstein houses has been more or less repaired and altered during the recess, and for both theatres the clever Voegtlin has painted new scenery. The contracts are with the best of the stars and travelling companies. "Fleurette," at the Standard, promises to be one of the interesting events of the whole season. For the first time in the history of the stage there is to be produced an opera written and scored by a woman, and the performance will be given under her personal direction. Emma R. Steiner, the composer of "Fleurette," is well known, and her enterprise, energy, and pluck are widely discussed in theatrical circles. The cast includes several persons of note, among whom are Edward Favor, Teddy Webb, Annie Louise Day, Marie Sanger, Rose Beaudet, and Mamie Scott.

These last nights of "The Grand Duchess" at the Casino are worthy of attention. The charming opera is capitally sung, and of course it possesses at this time added interest because Lillian Russell is making her farewell appearances at the Aronson theatre, the home of her very best triumphs. Her final night, Aug. 15, will probably be seized upon as an occasion for some notable ceremonies; it ought to be utilized in that way, at any rate. The ten years between 1881 and 1891 mark the important era in the career of this pretty woman and captivating artiste. In 1881 she was a burlesquer at Tony Pastor's. Before 1891 has passed away she will have been the best paid star at the head of any light opera troupe ever known in American theatricals. It is not a bad record for a woman of 28. When she leaves the Casino for French's Garden Theatre, the Aronson house will at once offer a fresh bill in the shape of an English version—the first—of Strauss's old opera, "Indigo und Die Vierzig Rauber." This work has been heard here in French and in German, but there is no very keen memory of its earlier performances at this day. At the Terrace Garden during the past week it was sung by the German company, and its graceful music, its picturesque situations, and comic lines were highly enjoyed, it appears. The Casino's production may be confidently expected to prove notable from a scenic standpoint. Max Freeman, who is rehearsing the opera, has caused to be built a Stave and scene model of each act, and each of the characters has been duplicated in figures resembling chess men. All the figures are dressed in costumes similar in pattern and color to those intended to be worn by the people in the production. The figures are attached to wires, so that they can be moved about, as in action. During rehearsal the miniature stage model is placed on a table near the centre of the stage, and as each scene is gone over Freeman illustrates what he desires the singers to do by referring to the model and placing the figures in the position required by the lines and business of the scene.

Before the close of next week "Wang" will reach its 100th performance at the Broadway. There will be a souvenir of course. The conspicuous feature of the long run of this merry opera is found in the constant improvement that has distinguished the work of all the company. The ponderous Hopper is tireless in his impressive comicality; the diaphanous Della Fox is surcharged with animal spirits, and there is an abundance of what is best known theatrically as "do" in nearly all the subordinate actors in the cast. Of course "Wang" has profited by this harmonious briskness on the part of its performers. It is likely to run very prosperously into October, when it will be time for Francis Wilson to open his all-winter season at the Broadway—an enterprise, by the way, that is going to have some attractive points about it. At present Wilson is enjoying the comforts of his new country house on the northern shore of the Sound.

Frequent changes of programme contribute to the public interest in the engagement of the Theodore Thomas orchestra at the Madison Square Garden Amphitheatre. Generally the nightly selections are such as to appeal to all tastes, and it is especially noted that the Sabbath music is not entirely sacred. Carl Streitmann will sing to-night. The amphitheatre is a favorite resort for visitors to town, most of whom are amazed to find that Thomas's musicians may be heard at 25 and 50 cents admission. When the Thomas orchestra go on the circuits the prices are gilt-edged. They will leave town in two weeks.

Kiralfy's El Dorado, on the Weehawken Heights, has all the attractiveness of a big spectacle, a fireworks exhibit, and an "outside ascension," which latter is an item of consequence with most of the circuses. The balloon and parachute annex to the big show has been of value, and McKim and Donald, the venturesome aeronauts, will continue to trifle with existence a week or ten afternoons longer. Levy, the cornetist, is retained, and when he opens his concert of solos, just before dinner time, he will be the undisputed Cory Island aspect about Eldorado. But Bolossy's big religious spectacle has been unsurpassed in its line.

Richard Mansfield's programme at the Garden shows no change. Between "Prince Karl," "A Parisian Romance," "Don Juan," "Beau Brummell," there is a choice varied enough to suit any theatregoer's taste. Cooler weather must increase the size of Mansfield's audiences, and the new season will doubtless bring him forth a new play. His city season, however, is bound to last until Oct. 10.

At Palmer's "The Tar and the Tartar" is a continued good thing, with its 100th performance not far away, to prove its popularity, and rumors of an extension of its engagement to further emphasize its success. A dozen managers of variety farces have complacently confessed that the finale of this opera is a first-class thing. They will all steal it and use it on the road in the fall. That is the way many a variety farce gets along.

The French Quartet Toulousain have replaced the Spanish dancer and the English singer at Koster & Bial's, which may well be likened unto a hall of all nations. Besides the French singer, the programme this week employs the well-known English comedienne, Millie Price; the Braats brothers, imported acrobats; the Austin sisters, trapezists of international repute, and others. A week from to-morrow night the current burlesque, "Le Olden Times," will be set aside for the introduction of a new musical extravaganza, entitled "Dick Whittington and His Cat." Jennie Joyce and "Gus" Bruno will interpret the leading characters.

Pastor's is keeping pace with the town's August awakening in things theatrical. The bill this week is exceptionally long and well prepared. That popular minstrel, manager, author, and all-around fun maker, Frank E. McNish, heads the list of entertainers, which also includes the favorite little balladist, Lottie Gilson; Bryant and Richmond, a clever sketch team; Wilson and Cameron, black-face comedians; Pettie and Elise, in "Passing the Toll Gate;" Carew and Williams, singers and dancers; Lord and Howe, in their amusing burlesque trance act; Leona Fontainbleau, skirt dancer; Max Ritzenger, and his acting dog, Jim, and the Reed brothers, with their clever shadowgraphic exhibition.

The "Columbia" ballet is still a potent and pleasing attraction at the Eden Musée, where the audiences are of good size and truly representative of New York's fitness as a summer resort. The extensive wax work collections furnish food for the studious, while the Hungarian band lends languorous enchantment to time that is whiled away in the cool corridors. The chess automaton, the picture gallery, and the stereoptic views remaining standard features of interest.

Pain's pyrotechnic display at Manhattan Beach is a remarkably strong magnet on propitious nights for pleasure seekers far and near. The spectacle is picturesquely instructive, telling in vivid lines of fire, and in dots and dashes of brilliant colors the story of "Paris, from Empire to Commune." There is an added charm in a visit to the Beach through the sweet music furnished by a picked and capable band.

Terrace Garden continues to enjoy success as a summer opera garden. The selections for this week name several popular works, and they will be well sung.

The paid press agent for stars and travelling companies never gains access to THE SUN'S columns, as everybody knows. Justification of the rule that debars him is, of course, not called for; but that it may be perceived to what extent the puff worker would carry his fancy, if unfettered, this sample of his work is offered: "Miss L——, who is soon to open her tour, is reported to have said that she 'would come back from Paradise to own and produce a new play.' She intended going to Paris when her season closed, but arrangements for the production of ——— detained her in America. Her position at the time has been assigned by the author and Miss L——— in a pretty lively discussion about the equestrienne costume for the second act. Miss L——— favors appearing in the regulation circus rider's costume. The author swears he'll have no suggestion of Clemenceau Case' in his play, and L——— says tights and tarlatan skirts or no L———."

POEMS WORTH READING.

Washington Rock, New Jersey.

Here on this giant rock, backed by this wood,
He viewed the hostile red coats of the foe,
Led by Cornwallis on the plains below,
Noting their movements, while concealed he stood.

What a vast prospect was before his eyes,
Where now fair plains and pleasant towns abound!
Yonder's the gray of Staten Island Sound,
And here the Raritan low winding lies.

New Brunswick's but a dozen jumps, you'd think,
O'er there the towers of Brooklyn Bridge so tall;
Yonder stands Liberty enlightening all;
And there's the rusty ridge of Navesink.

How varied are the scenes which spread below,
Where Washington once stood and watched the foe.

EDWARD S. CHESHIRE.

Love Dormant.

I know that love lies sleeping in her breast,
And oft I've tried to wake him from his rest;
But, oh, so blissful doth he find his nest,
I cannot rouse him, though I try my best.

Full well I know that there the archer lies,
For I have seen his arrows in her eyes,
And heard him dreaming in the soft, sweet sighs,
That sometimes from his charming cradle rise.

Perhaps 'twere best to let him sleep it out,
And by and by he'll wake himself, no doubt;
And when he does I hope I'll be absent,
And not bald headed, suffering with the gout.

A. C. GAHAN.

She Simply Couldn't.

From the News Letter.

She could sing and she could play,
She could dance from night till day,
She could while the hours away,
So 'tis said;
She could skate and she could paint,
She could play the patron saint,
But she couldn't and she wouldn't
Make a bed.

She could walk eight miles a day
And play tennis charmingly,
Flirting in a saucy way,
Little scamp!
She could drive and play baseball,
She could make a stylish call,
But she couldn't and she wouldn't
Clean a lamp.

She could swim and she could row,
She could always have a beau,
And I'm sure that we all know
She was shy.
She could laugh and she could prance,
She could play a game of chance,
But she couldn't and she wouldn't
Make a pie.

She could etch and write a book,
She could vanquish with a look;
She could win by hook or crook,
I confess;
She could scold and she could flout,
She could cry and she could pout,
But she couldn't and she wouldn't
Make a dress.

She could talk of church affairs,
But knew naught of household cares;
Still I'm sure that rose compares
With sweet Nan;
Even if she couldn't bake
Bread and pies and angel cake,
She enraptured and she captured
A rich man!

Love's Forever.

From the Boston Courier.

"Then must we really part forever?"
Some rashly spoken word had chilled her,
And scornfully she turned away
From the soft speech whose potent sway
Had evening after evening thrilled her.

Responsive to the plaintive plea
That certified his hearty endeavor,
She glanced at him disdainfully,
And cold as rolls the polar sea
Her voice pronounced the word "Forever!"

A sob! A moan! With leaden feet
From the veranda he descended,
Trod ruefully the mirk street,
Praying to find a winding sheet,
And whatsoever with it blended.

"This woe must cease!" he said, then laid
His hand upon a dagger straightway;
A gasp! a shudder! then the blade
Was pocketed, and tracks were made
Back toward the cruel maiden's gateway.

A form rushed out, four arms did lock
As if they never meant to sever,
A simultaneous initial shock,
And two minutes by the clock
Had marked the bounds of Love's forever.

Ballad to a Bouquet.

From the Judge.

In desolate regions where Olros
Is located forever a stray,
And one at the footstool of mercy,
Whenever I think of the day
At college, when, staring my way,
You left me in silence to quote
From Keats while you made a bouquet
Of roses to pin on my coat.

Cantabile, sonnet, rondeaus, I
Have written, and one canzone,
Exhausting all rhymes on the woes I
Endure while in exile I stray;
This ballad's the latest; I pray
Remember, I cried as I wrote,
And thought of the scented bouquet
Of roses you pinned on my coat.

Between the pink leaves of the poet
We thumbed for the sober and gay,
Turned under a picture; none know it
The roses are treasured away
And often when twilight is gray
The pages are turned, and I date
And ponder above the bouquet
Of roses you pinned on my coat.

L'ENVOI.

The moths and the mildew will prey
And shrivel all treasures; from mote
Minutest I hide the bouquet
Of roses you pinned on my coat.

ALINDA LAURA RICE.

Their Mother.

From Good Housekeeping.

My boy sat looking straight into the coals,
From his stool at my feet he had risen,
And the firelight burnished the curly head
And painted the cheeks with a dash of red,
And brightened his very eyes, as he said,
In his most confidential way,

"Mamma, I think, when I'm a grown-up man,
I shall have just two little boys."
I smiled—he was six!—but he did not see,
And I said, "Why, yes, how nice that will be!
But if one were a girl, it seems to me,
It would add to your household joys."

"Well—yes," reflectively, "that would be nice,
And I'll tell you just what I'll do:
I'll name one Robbie, for me, you know."
Then the bright eyes shone with a deeper glow,
"And there's just the two of us now, and so
I'll name the girl Annie, for you."

"But how would their mother like that?" I asked.
"Do you think that she would agree
For us both to have names, while she had none?"
With the mystified, pained look of one
Wholly befogged, said my logical son,
"Their mother! Why, who is she?"

QUESTIONS BY SUN READERS.

Here is some information, and likewise a suggestion: The song or poem, "The Field of Monterey," inquired about on July 5 by J. T. D., and answered by "Reader" on July 18, as having been seen in a collection of rhymes thirty years ago, is by Charles Fenno Hoffman, the author of "Sparkling and Bright," "Greyslaer," &c., and can be found in an edition of his poems published a few years ago by Porter & Coates of Philadelphia. Mr. Hoffman died in the Harrisburg Insane Asylum several years ago, where he had been an inmate for over thirty-five years. So writes Mr. Reese of this city; and D. G., likewise of this city, writes thus:

"F. R.'s suggestion of 'Palatopharyngeolaryngeal' (24 letters) as the longest word in the English language will not do. It is built up of three Greek words linked one after the other. Here is a word of Latin etymology, built upon the central word 'pennil,' by means of five prefixes and three linked suffixes: 'Unpropreantepenultimateibility' (31 letters). I have not seen it in a dictionary, but have seen it in an etymological work. It meant the impossibility of accenting on the propreantepenult, or on the fifth syllable from the end of the word."

We should like to have chapter and verse for that word; it seems to be good as far as it goes, and it goes a good way. Years ago, however, it was said that "beleaguer" was the longest English word, because between its first and its last letters there was three miles.

I have received by messenger's hand from time to time for the past two or three years communications enclosed in envelopes with my name endorsed and underneath the name the word "addressed." I don't know what is meant by the word used in that way. Long ago the endorsement was "present," and although I grew accustomed to it and did myself write present on envelopes to be delivered by messenger, &c., I distinctly remember I regarded it as inappropriate. What do these words mean? A. F.

If you send your letters by messenger boy, why not write "at rest" instead of "addressed"? We think that addressed is used in the sense of "at hand," as Shakespeare uses it in Midsummer Night's Dream: "So please you, sir, the prologue is address'—is at hand. So a person to whom a letter is sent by messenger is, theoretically at all events, at hand, near by. As to "present," that is used, we think, in the sense of "at once"—"presently," Shakespeare says, while Chaucer used the actual word. A letter to be carried by a messenger is supposed to require despatch.

1. What amount of money was involved in the failure of Bishop Fersell of Ohio? 2. What is the Roman Catholic population of the United States? W. McG.

1. By "Bishop Fersell" we take it you mean Archbishop Purcell of Cincinnati, who failed in 1879 for nearly $4,000,000. 2. The "Catholic Directory" puts it at 6,277,038, remarking, however, that "the real Catholic population must exceed ten millions."

1. What exploring party has come nearest to the North Pole? 2. What was the course of the Vega, under Nordenskjold? J. N.

1. Lieut. Lockwood and Sergeant Brainard of the Greely expedition attained the point nearest to the North Pole—83° 24' north, 44° 5' west—on May 13, 1882. Lockwood died before the relief expedition arrived. Brainard is now a Lieutenant in the Second United States Cavalry. 2. Easterly along the northern coast of Russia. The Vega sailed from Gothenburg July 4, 1878, and entered Behring Strait July 20, 1879.

Was Dickens's "Mystery of Edwin Drood" ever finished? If so, by whom? J. S.

Wilkie Collins, whose own unfinished story was finished by Walter Besant.

1. What is the difference between a question of privilege and a privileged question in the House of Representatives? 2. Who is the recognized Congressional authority on parliamentary usages? W. P. T.

1. A question of privilege is a matter relating to a member's right under the Constitution to be free from questioning by outsiders for acts done within the House. A newspaper comments on a certain member's vote; he rises to a question of privilege, saying that his right as a member has been infringed upon, and his motion is referred to the Committee on Privileges, which smoothes him down without much trouble. Privileged questions are motions to adjourn, motions relating to the rights of members, motions for the orders of the day, and reports from certain committees within two weeks or so of the adjournment of Congress. 2. We don't know. T. B. Reed was for the Fifty-first Congress; perhaps May's book on Parliamentary Practise and Cushing's Manual may be restored to their old rank in the Fifty-second Congress. Time will show.

Will you inform me who was the last President of the United States elected under the three-day election law in New York state. J. H.

The law under which elections lasted for three days was repealed by the act of April 5, 1842; so William Henry Harrison, elected in 1840, was the last President elected under it.

I read of a person who lives a Bohemian life. What does that mean? H. L.

The first gypsies who reached Paris 500 years ago or so came from Bohemia, and were thought to be Bohemians. They wandered around without settled residences, and in time any man or woman who seemed to have no regular way of living was called a Bohemian. A Bohemian nowadays is a person who doesn't do things the way every one else does them. For instance, the man who eats many 50-cent table d'hôte dinners is considered a Bohemian; a woman who smokes a cigarette is dreadfully Bohemian; all newspaper men are Bohemians, because they never get to bed until daylight, and take breakfast in the afternoon. And, furthermore, no Bohemian calls himself so, any more than a newspaper man calls himself a journalist.

Was the Macedonian captured by Commodore Decatur? What vessels did Decatur command? T. F. A.

Yes, on Oct. 25, 1812. Decatur's first command was the Norfolk, in 1802; later he commanded the Enterprise. In 1804 he commanded the intrepid in destroying the Philadelphia in the harbor of Tripoli. In September, 1804, he commanded the Constitution, and later the Congress; and in 1809 commanded the Chesapeake. In 1810 he took command of the United States, frigate. In 1814 he commanded the President, frigate, which he had to surrender to four British vessels. In 1815 Decatur commanded a squadron in the Mediterranean, and humbled Algiers, Tunis, and Tripoli, and returned home in 1816 to become a member of the Board of Navy Commissioners. He never went to sea again, and was killed in a duel March 22, 1820.

K. Schlesinger—Mr. Robert Bonner is supposed to have paid $60,000 for Maud S.

G. H. S.—Gramercy Park is private property, owned by the surrounding landowners.

W. A. T.—In the back of Webster's Dictionary you'll find all the signs used in proof reading set out, used, and explained.

Owen & Nathan.—In the back of the Directory you'll find a list of clubs, among which are the names of several French clubs.

W. E.—Great goodness! What should a poker hand consist of, if not of five cards? What do you want? A whist hand? A euchre hand?

Samuel Prince.—The President had not left the chair so he still was in control of the meeting. As to the fining, it must be determined by your by-laws.

Stranger.—(*Samuel W.*)—Most consumptives go to St. Augustine and Jacksonville when they go to Florida; there are good physicians there, and hospitals, too.

James White.—The Spanish pronunciation of "Don Quixote" is Don Kee-ho-tee; the English is Don Quixot. We have the adjective quixotic from the name of Cervantes's knight.

W. A. G.—During last autumn, winter, and spring there were evening law schools at 147 West Twenty-third street and 111 West Thirty-eighth street. They may intend to open in the fall.

Stenographer.—In writing a letter, put the superscription, "Gentlemen," "Dear Sir," &c., on one line; on the line below, a little to the right of the last letter of the superscription, begin the letter.

Student Reader.—We think there are evening classes in civil engineering at the Young Men's Institute, 232 Bowery; not free to outsiders, but free to members. Trigonometry is not taught in the Metropolitan Museum Art School.

J. E. Loomis.—Ybarra's Spanish grammar is good ($1.50); Ahn's French grammar is good ($5 cents); Gesenius's Hebrew grammar ($2.50) is perhaps the best; Liddell and Scott's Greek-English lexicon is the best ($10, or abridged $2); Robinson's Gesenius's Hebrew-Greek ($6) lexicon is the best.

R. A. H.—We don't consider red hair any obstacle to your making a success at the bar. You might be a successful office lawyer and never go to court, or you might succeed as a Special Term lawyer, never addressing a jury; but we don't see why you shouldn't address even a jury. Some of the most famous jury lawyers of this city are strikingly peculiar in appearance, yet they are successful.

D. H. U.—1. We regret to be obliged to tell you to "write to the War Department" if you want to know what Congressmen in New York or Brooklyn will have cadetships to dispose of. We do not know; and if the War Department can't or won't tell you, we presume it can't or won't tell us. 2. To get as good an education in military matters as West Point gives you must enter the Military Academy; but you can acquire a fair military education by enlisting in the army, becoming a non-commissioned officer, and studying for promotion to the rank of Second Lieutenant.

Accounted For.

Noodles—I say, Bangle, that's a pretty rocky suit of clothes you have on.

Bangle—It cost me $75.

Noodles—When it was new?

Bangle—No; just as it is.

Noodles—How on earth did that happen?

Bangle—I didn't pay for it until I had had it eighteen months.

By the Zebra's Cage.

From Puck.

First Kid—Say, Billy! Look at the horse in the zebra! What d'ye spose he's up for, say?

Second Kid—Dunno, Jimmy; I guess he's lost his fer being on Barnum's union.

RUSSIAN NEWS AND VIEWS.

A nobleman of the Government of Minsk, by name Y. O. Narkotchin-Todko, has recently established a meteorological station in his country seat in the village of Pesotchnoe. Another nobleman, M. Savitch-Zabiotsky, of the Government of Mohliev, whom the Russian papers describe as "a man of culture who has travelled extensively in Europe, Asia, and Africa, and who takes great interest in scientific studies," conceived a desire to examine it. He wrote the owner about his wish, and received an answer that the new institution would be shown to him with pleasure, and that he would be a welcome guest of its owner. He immediately set out on his "trip of scientific observation." He stopped in the city of Minsk for a day, and proceeded directly to the village of Pesotchnoe, which is but fifteen versts from the city. Arriving at his destination, M. Savitch-Zabiotsky did not find the proprietor of the meteorological station at home. He was expected the next day. Meantime the police Captain of the district demanded the newcomer's passport. The latter told him that, stopping at Minsk, in the Novo-Moskovsky Hotel, he had deposited his papers with the authorities in the city. He was arrested. He begged the officer to telegraph to Minsk for his papers at his expense. But the officer refused. The nobleman was entirely helpless. He was kept imprisoned over night in an isolated hovel, and then despatched afoot under police convoy to his home in Mohliev, a distance of 120 versts. On the road he was treated as a common prisoner. He was brought to his native place June 14, at 2 o'clock. At the police headquarters there he begged his guards to call the police Superintendent, or any other official who knew him personally. But his request was not complied with, and he was sent to the common prison, where he arrived exhausted from the heat and the long march. Fortunately the foreman of the district nobility happened to come into the prison, recognized the unfortunate man, and effected his release. Otherwise he might have been held for several days awaiting examination. This case, which even the Russian papers characterize as "most aggravating," illustrates the pleasures of travelling in the Czar's land.

The Minister of Imperial Property has sent out a circular to the Government agents under his control ordering them to allow the peasants of the districts where the crops are bad to pasture their cattle and cut grass in the meadows belonging to the Government, also to gather berries, mushrooms, nuts, and other fruits in the Government forests.

In the Communal Assembly of St. Petersburg it is proposed to impose a tax on all factories in which children of a minor age are employed. The money realized is to be used for the establishing and maintenance of night schools and Sunday schools for those minors.

The Health Society of St. Petersburg has recently appointed a committee to investigate the sanitary condition of those who are employed in the rag business. The committee was ordered to pay special attention to the places at the outskirts of the city where the garbage is deposited in large heaps, and whence the rag-pickers obtain most of their supplies. On July 10 the committee submitted its report, denouncing the rag business as highly injurious to the health of those engaged in it. The rags are picked from dunghills by children, over 75 per cent of whom suffer with contagious diseases, and less than half attain a mature age. When the society begins its regular sessions in the autumn it will seriously consider what means should be employed to protect the health and the life of the ragpickers.

The price of alcoholic drinks has risen very high in the Government of Kharkov. The authorities have issued orders to stop the distilling of brandy altogether until the autumn, and the export of spirituous liquors from Kharkov to other Governments of the empire.

The Ministries of Finance and of Imperial Property propose to establish a line of steamers between St. Petersburg and Havre, with a view of promoting direct trade between Russia and France.

In 1893 a convention of archæologists will be held in Vilna. *Vlodomosti* of Moscow advocates energetically and persistently that that convention should make it its object to restore the ancient Russian reminiscences of Poland, Lithuania and the German provinces on the Baltic Sea. It insists that all the cities of that region should be called by the names by which they were known to the ancient slavs and not by their present names, which are of Polish, Lithuanian or German origin. *Novoje Vremya*, however, is opposed to such excessive Pan-Slavism. It says that changing the names of the cities would involve a great deal of work upon the Government, and the latter has enough of important work on hand without that. It continues: "Even our capital, the residence of the White Czar, bears a German name, and we do not know that the latter detracts anything from its thoroughly Russian character and constitution."

The reports of the Government agents and communal assemblies about the "bread provisions" for the people reveal an appalling state of affairs. One example will suffice to illustrate the situation. In the district of Kazan, which counts among the most productive in the empire and is divided into twenty boroughs, there are four boroughs entirely destitute of provisions. In the other sixteen there are 60,000 peasants without bread and without cattle. Of 58,906 de-syatins of land (a desyatin is three acres) seed will be wanting for winter grain for 34,291. The communal assembly of that district has determined to buy 280,000 poods of grain for seed, and to provide every destitute peasant with 180 pounds of rye for food for six months. A subscription among the nobility and the public officers of the district is to be raised for the purpose and the Government to be petitioned for funds that may still be wanting. The Government will also be petitioned to stop collecting taxes from the peasants and to prohibit the manufacture of spirituous drinks until next summer. The local Government will prohibit the exportation of all kinds of food from the district.

Caucasia constitutes a veritable mine of archæological curiosities, but most of the treasures become the property of foreigners, who transport them to their respective countries. The natives, knowing the liberality of foreign tourists, willingly show them the places where curiosities can be found and help them dig out the treasures. An American named William Johnson has recently procured in Vladikavkaz a collection of 1,425 archæological curiosities, among which are ornaments, weapons, tools, and pottery of the bronze, iron, and granite ages, and human skulls of prehistoric ages. The Government officers of Bakoo have recently stopped the exportation of several boxes filled with such treasures. The Russian press now advocates that special measures be enacted against the removal of such treasures by foreigners.

A young lady desirous to pursue a course of study in the high school of St. Petersburg must present with her petition the following documents: A paper in which the place of her birth, her age, and the class of society she belongs to are officially attested; a certificate from the institution in which she has finished the middle course of studies; a certificate of good character, properly endorsed; a certificate from her parents or guardians that they have no objection to her scholarly pursuits; the declaration of responsible persons that she has sufficient means to live upon during the time of her studies, and, finally, two photographs of herself, with her signature, endorsed by two men of good standing who know her personally. The women's high school of St. Petersburg can accommodate 400 students, and no more than 150 new pupils can be admitted every year.

Velocipede service is to be formally introduced into every regiment. It will be used to facilitate the delivery of messages from headquarters to the officers of the various companies when the regiment is stationed in the field.

Life in the summer resorts in the neighborhood of St. Petersburg is unusually quiet and monotonous this season. In order to relieve their *ennui* the young men have organized private theatricals in various places. But the police has made it more lively for them than they had anticipated, raiding their places of amusement and arresting the actors for giving public entertainments without the permission of the authorities.

A philanthropic lady of the Government of Tambov who owns several villages has caused all the liquor stores in her villages to be closed, and established in their stead tea houses, where peasants can get meat, rolls, and all the tea they can drink for a mere nominal sum. On Sundays she and her husband spend the afternoon in these tea houses, reading useful books and extracts from newspapers to the guests. The peasants are greatly pleased with this innovation. The tea houses are patronized and drunkenness is almost unknown in these villages where they are established. As the scheme was a suggestion of the novelist Tolstoi, the church authorities at once established a supervision over them, with the special object of preventing the benevolent lady and her husband from reading Tolstoi's works or any heretical books to the peasants on Sunday. But the philanthropic couple do not mind this, and continue their good work undisturbed.

A Laborious Toilet.

"Where's the Buttons?" asked the tenant.

"He isn't down yet," replied the janitor.

"Why, it's half-past nine now."

"Well, what do you expect of the boy? He has 110 buttons on his clothes and half of 'em have buttonholes. He can't dress in a minute."

His Little Dodge.

From Puck.

Cutely—Here comes Cynicus. See me get a cigar from him. (lights a cigarette.)

Cynicus (as Cutely puffs the smoke in his face)—Whew! How can you smoke those things? Here, take this cigar and throw that away!

No Danger.

From Brooklyn Life.

Mother—Tommy, you mustn't go fishing with Freddy Meeks. He is just coming over the meadow.

Tommy—There won't be any danger, ma. I never catch anything when I'm fishing.

FOREIGN ARMY NOTES.

Three Bosnian battalions will take part this year in the manœuvres of the Austrian army at Bruck. Among them are 150 Mohammedans, for whom a special chapel for worship is being built, and a special kitchen to prepare their food according to the ordinances of the Koran.

Recent tests of lances by the Belgian cavalry have resulted in favor of the English weapon. Each lance is about 9 feet 2 inches long. The German lance is of hollow steel and weighs about 4 2-3 pounds. The English lance is of bamboo and weighs fully three-quarters of a pound less. The German lance was found too heavy and poorly balanced for use in battle. The only disadvantage of the English lance was thought to be its weakness, and steps have been taken to find a stouter material in India or the Congo State.

France's general staff is considering the advisability of organizing a new army corps. The plan is to divide the Sixth Corps, increase the separated half, and call it the Twentieth Corps. The Twentieth Corps, like the Sixth, would remain in the east, and the new arrangement would greatly facilitate the rapidity of a mobilization against Germany. German military authorities say that the French general staff has already decided to execute this plan, and point for corroboration to the fact that on last May 1 France had on her eastern frontier between Rocroi and Montbéliard 73 infantry battalions, 11 battalions of chasseurs, 22 cavalry regiments, and 55 batteries of field artillery, and that in the fall 17 more battalions will be added to this frontier force; altogether, almost enough for four army corps, although now included in Corps 6 and 7.

"The dead march of Erfurt" is the phrase used by German dailies to describe the terr