THE STATE CAPITAL.

Protection for Life Insurance Policy Holders.

A CURE FOR DRUG CLERKS' BLUNDERS.

Proposed $2,000,000 Appropriation in Aid of Railroads.

ALBANY, March 10, 1871.

After a long struggle, during which

THE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES'

representatives have all along fought the measure with a determination worthy of a better cause, the Flagg bill, to protect policy holders, has finally passed in the Assembly by an overwhelming vote—74 to 12. Selkreg and Scribner, the moment the bill was called up to-day, started along, hand-in-hand, to make its advocates have as hard a road to travel as possible, and although they did not gain a single point or convert a solitary member to their way of thinking who had not already made up his mind to vote against the measure, they succeeded in keeping the House in hot water over the thing for nearly an entire hour. Scribner, who has very good reasons to be opposed to anything that would benefit policy holders and at the same time force the companies to act, as though fair dealing had something to do with their way of doing business, did his very best, by violent gesticulation and harsh, shrieking voice, to make the members believe that the bill opened the door to fraud and left the companies at the "mercy of merciless harpies." "As a lawyer," said he, "I assert that it will cut off the plea of forgery." Now this was rather ambiguous; but the meaning the gentleman meant to convey was plain enough to be understood by Mr. Alvord, who, "as a lawyer," replied that the other lawyer's legal knowledge was not "commensurate with the facts," if he was really serious in his assertion. "Why," continued the Giant, "the moment the breath leaves a man's body the companies sniff about fraud, and, on the strength of it refuse to pay over to the widow and children what is their due. They

STEAL THE PREMIUMS

paid upon policies which they lavish upon their officers and clerks. The people demand that some act like this should pass. The companies must be made to take all due precaution against fraud and not be allowed to take their chances, with the certainty that a charge of fraud against the insured party, made after death, will save them from the trouble of not only paying their just dues, but the premiums they desire to steal away." Littlejohn also poured shot and shells into the companies, and sothered the opponents of the bill half to death with all sorts of questions concerning the working of insurance companies, to answer which they had to beat about the bush in a very ridiculous manner. Hayes, of New York, also made a dash at "the rottenness, the rascalities and the villainies" of the companies. The discussion was ended by Mr. Selkreg offering a resolution to have the bill recommitted to the Committee of Insurance, with instructions to put five years instead of three years in that portion of the bill which limits the time during which a plea of fraud can be made against a policy holder. Irving called the yeas and nays on the motion, and the result foreshadowed the fate of the bill. The vote stood 28 yeas to 72 nays, and the bill was finally passed by a vote of 74 to 12, several of the members who had voted on Selkreg's motion having, for reasons of their own, stowed themselves away in the lobbies during the taking of the vote. It may be as well to state, in view of the fact that there are five different life insurance bills now before the House, that this Flagg bill is that which provides that no life insurance company can put in a defence that a policy was obtained by fraudulent representation after it has received three annual payments on the policy—the fact that such payments were received being considered by the law as a sort of silent consent to the fraud, if there was any, on the company's part. The most strenuous efforts were made by the life insurance companies to defeat the bill, and the result of their labors is a pretty sure indication that Mr. Huested's bill making

POLICIES NON-FORFEITABLE

will also pass, notwithstanding their opposition. Many life insurance company officers have had such a high time of it for years, making fortunes and living riotously from the hard earnings of the poor, whom they have robbed and defrauded in ways that have assumed of late the stringency of law without any of its decencies, are at a loss to understand why the Legislature should all of a sudden take them so sharply to task. But many people wonder why should they be at a loss to understand it? Is it not about time that the catchpenny policy system should cease? The companies have had their day; why cannot the people have theirs from this out?

THE BROOKLYN POLICE BILL.

The bibulously inclined officers of the Brooklyn police force, who drank so many people's "health" the other day because the bill, with an amendment fixing their salary at $1,200 per annum, had been ordered to a third reading, will, no doubt, feel very sore over the way it was defeated on its final passage to-day. There was every reason for the advocates of the bill, as amended, to believe that it would go through in the long run, had it not been for the stand taken by Senators Pierce and Murphy against any increase in the salaries. It was the opposition of these two gentlemen, revealed in the caucus of the Kings county delegation last night, that caused Mr. Jacobs to pull down his flag this morning in the House, and surrender with as good a grace as he could under the circumstances. The vote on the original bill, therefore (87 yeas to 2 nays), was a mere formality, and was in no wise indicative of the real sense of the House on the question of the increase. Last year, when Brooklyn was made a separate district, the sergeants were getting $1,600 and the men $1,200, and this they obtained until last January, when, according to the provisions of the act creating the district, the new scale was to be adopted of $1,200 for sergeants and $1,000 for the men. It will thus be seen that the amendments which the Kings county delegation went dead against—7 to 2, exclusive of the two Senators—were really to put the force on

THE OLD FOOTING;

in fact, put it on a par with the New York force. The friends of the policemen—influential politicians at that, who came up here to "work" the thing—are very indignant at the course pursued by the majority of the country delegation, and threaten all kinds of reprisal. The defence these members make is that the rate of taxation is so high in Brooklyn now that it would have been an act of folly for them to have voted for the amendments. Where the bad feeling that at present exists between the friends of the police and the other side will end it would be hard to tell; but I understand that "Boss" McLaughlin sent a telegram to-day to one of the delegation in the lower house who voted against the amendments, which foreshadows the fate of the anti-amendment folks in a way that may not be agreeable to everybody concerned.

THE DRUG CLERK BILL PASSED.

The drug clerk has evidently a strong hold on the Senate. As I announced in my letter yesterday, it was ordered to a third reading yesterday afternoon, and to-day it was passed without a dissenting vote. Irving, the father of the measure, was on the floor of the Senate when the question of its passage came up, and watched things so closely that the druggists in the "third house" who wanted to defeat it did not stand the ghost of a show. There is no doubt but that the Governor will sign it by Monday, as it was placed in his hands this afternoon.

THE EIGHTH AVENUE RAILROAD.

Along other bills introduced to-day was one by Mr. Carey, which will not be relished by the Eighth Avenue Railroad company. It orders the company to remove its side tracks up town with which it has strewn the street, and upon which Carey alleges they keep cars standing at all hours, to the great detriment of carriage travel.

NO LIQUOR FOR EVERYBODY.

Many of the petitions which are daily laid before the Legislature are rather remarkable productions; but about one of the most original was that presented this morning, begging the Assembly to shut down on liquoring. It was signed by twenty-one citizens of a place called Altay, this State, each signature looking for all the world as though its writer had taken a heavy glass of grog before taking his pen in hand. After talking about liquor as a "germ," a "Upas tree" and everything of that sort, it concluded as follows:—

The Emperor of China says he will never sell his coffers through the sin of opium eating. We ask you to make our State as good a sample of Christianity as is that heathen Emperor. As well might we increase our revenue by licensing horse stealing as to do it by building up legalized grog shops. We had rather let antique legislation rob us of our sober horses than to let it send our sons to the drunkard's grave.

The idea of making this State as good a sample of Christianity "as is that heathen Emperor," added to that of the "sober horses," tickled the legislators' fancy immensely.

IS IT A JOB?

The appropriating $2,000,000 to complete certain railroads in this State. One million dollars a year and $10,000 to each company was favorably reported upon to-day by the Ways and Means Committee. Mr. Jacobs, the chairman of the committee, dissented. As the bill does not specify what companies are to be benefited, and gives the distribution of the money and the right to say of its own accord what companies are entitled to it, it looks very much like a big "job." It will be well for taxpayers to keep a sharp lookout for it when it comes up for final passage.

Adjournment of the Legislature till Monday.

ALBANY, March 10, 1871.

Contrary to general expectation, the two Houses adjourned to-day in time to allow the New Yorkers to catch the afternoon express "homeward bound." The Senate had no control whatever in the question of giving Albany the go by for a couple of days; but it looked out, just before the question came up in the lower house that the Gothamites were not unanimous as to the propriety of the thing, and the revolution caused a decided sensation in the ranks of the "I want to go home" party. However, active canvassing won the day for them by a handsome majority. This is the last weekly adjournment either house will take before the final wind up.

NEW YORK LEGISLATURE.

Senate.

ALBANY, March 10, 1871.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Mr. GENET—To lay out a public park between 150th and 151st streets, New York.

By Mr. BANKS—For a bridge over the Hudson, from the foot of Congress street, Troy, to West Troy.

By Mr. MURPHY—Providing for taking testimony in matters relating to State charitable institutions.

By Mr. CALDWELL—To regulate the construction and protection of railway crossings in the county of Westchester.

BILLS REPORTED.

Incorporating the Washington Savings Bank, Brooklyn; amending the act relative to the inspection of gas meters; authorizing the city of Troy to take water from the Hudson river; amending the act establishing a law library in the Eighth Judicial district; extending the charter of the Brooklyn Improvement Company; against the bill fixing the fees of Sheriffs—agreed to; to improve South Broadway, Yonkers; amending the charter of Peekskill.

BILLS PASSED.

Amending the act to incorporate gas companies; changing the name of the Union Home Mission School, Brooklyn; amending the Rural Cemetery act; incorporating the Grand Lodge of Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; amending the act relative to the armory in Rochester; amending the charter of the Oswego County Savings Bank; incorporating the East River and Bushwick Underground Railroad Company; providing for the appointment of a Board of Examiners as to the qualifications of drug clerks in New York; amending the charter of the New York and Long Island Bridge Company; amending the charter of the Lower California Improvement Company; providing redress for words imputing unchastity to women; providing for extending the distribution of Croton water in New York; providing for the improvement and care of the public parks in the city of New York; incorporating the United States Storage Company.

FREE USE OF THE CANALS.

Mr. LEWIS offered a resolutions to amend the constitution by providing for the free use of the canals. Laid over under the rule.

PRIVATE SALT WELLS.

A bill was reported authorizing persons to sink at their own expense wells upon their own land to manufacture salt by paying the same duties to the State as are paid by persons carrying salt water from the wells and reservoirs of the State.

The Senate adjourned until Monday evening, at half-past seven o'clock.

Assembly.

ALBANY, March 10, 1871.

BILLS REPORTED.

To facilitate the construction of a railroad from the Northern and Western lakes to tide water—for the consideration of the House, as it appropriates $3,000,000; amending the charter of Rochester; improving the roads and bridges in the county of Wayne; for a town hall in Mount Vernon; amending the charter of Lansingburg; amending the act to suppress intemperance and regulate the sale of intoxicating liquors; fixing the size of barrels used for packing fruit and vegetables.

Mr. JACOBS reported the Brooklyn Police act, as amended by the Kings county delegation, which amendment reduces the pay of patrolmen from $1,200 to $1,000. He said he reported the bill under instructions, but would say that the amendment did not meet with his approval. He said that he would vote for the bill, though he was opposed to the reduction of patrolmen's salaries, because the bill was the result of a caucus, and he felt bound to vote thus.

On motion of Mr. WAINWRIGHT the bill was passed.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Mr. D. B. HILL—Amending the Elmira Common School act.

By Mr. CONSELYEA—To improve Tenth street, Brooklyn.

By Mr. AIKEN—To extend Van Brunt street, Brooklyn.

By Mr. ROCHE—Incorporating the South Brooklyn Savings Bank.

By Mr. JACOBS—Providing for punishing persons abandoning their families.

By Mr. HOVER—Requiring the New York Dry Dock Railroad Company to run cars after ten o'clock P. M. until six o'clock A. M.

By Mr. CARY—Regulating passenger fares and freight charges on the Rensselaer and Saratoga Railroad.

By Mr. FIELDS—Amending the charter of the New York Home and Indemnity Company; also to establish a small park in the city of New York between 150th and 151st streets, New York.

By Mr. DECKER—Creating the office of Richmond County Fire Marshal; also to appoint commissioners to make a survey of Richmond county and certain maps therefrom, and to mature and report a plan for laying out Staten Island and for securing a water supply for the inhabitants thereof.

BILLS PASSED.

Amending the charter of the Buffalo Cemetery Association.

In relation to life insurance companies, which provides that when three annual payments have been made on any policy the company shall not, whenever an action is brought, interpose as a defence that the policy was obtained by fraud.

Mr. SELKREG moved to make it five annual payments instead of three.

Debate ensued, which was participated in by Messrs. Selkreg, Alvord, Littlejohn, Scribner and others.

On the suggestion of Mr. FIELD, who said the insurance men wished to be heard, Mr. SELKREG modified his motion to having the bill recommitted to the Insurance Committee, to be reported by Thursday next.

Mr. HAYES at some length showed the great necessity and justice of this bill. It was the practice of these companies to avail themselves of all manner of technicalities and mistakes for the purpose of avoiding the payment of their liabilities.

After further debate Mr. Field moved the previous question on motion to recommit, which was ordered and the motion negatived. The bill was then read and passed—76 to 10.

On motion of Mr. FIELDS the House adjourned until Monday evening at half-past seven o'clock.

THE ERIE FIGHT IN JERSEY.

What Erie Threatens if the Exemption Act be Repealed—The Erie Men Call for Fair Play and No Favor.

NOW that the quarrel in the New Jersey Legislature between the people of Paterson and the Erie Railway has been disposed of in the interest of the latter the Jersey City Board of Aldermen is preparing to open the fight on behalf of Jersey City. The act of last year which exempted the Erie Railway property from taxation is the main issue, and to repeal this every effort will be made. A bill for that purpose is now before the Legislature. As there was a lively debate on this question at the latest meeting of the Board of Aldermen, a HERALD reporter called on Colonel Berthoud, division superintendent of the Erie, yesterday to ascertain his views on the subject.

This gentleman, who acquired considerable experience as a railroad man on the Morris and Essex previous to his connection with the Erie was, very frank and outspoken. The following is an epitome of his statement:—The Erie Railway Company has paid into the treasury of Jersey City tens of thousands of dollars annually in the shape of local taxation, while all the other railway companies were exempt. We went to Trenton last year and we addressed the members of the Legislature as fair-minded men for the purpose of removing this inequality. Gentlemen, we said,

TAX ALL THE RAILWAYS, OR TAX NONE.

We have no objection to bear our just share of this burden, provided our case is not the exception. Why make the distinction against the Erie? Our monthly payroll in Jersey City is from $85,000 to $100,000 a month, or more than that of all the other railways that run into the city combined. You recollect when the strike occurred in our Jersey City workshops how the Seventh ward was on the verge of pauperism. And yet the people of Jersey City seem not to take this question into account. Now, I say, if we are to be taxed while all other railways are exempt, it will be to our advantage to remove our workshops to Port Jervis. This very matter was under consideration last year. Port Jervis is an intermediate point, better adapted as a location for our machine shops than Jersey City, and thither we will certainly remove as soon as

SPECIAL LEGISLATION

be brought to bear against us. In fact, the change, once effected, would be beneficial to us, though it would entail temporary inconvenience.

Mr. Sisson, one of the directors of the Erie Railway, entered during the conversation, and spoke in strong and more emphatic terms still on this subject. Jersey City will not attempt to tax Camden and Amboy. It allows the Central to go scot free, and has nothing to say about the Morris and Essex. Erie submitted for a long time to the exceptional burden, "But," said the old veteran, bringing down his clenched fist, "it will not do so again."

ANOTHER PLEA FOR THE FOUNDLING ASYLUM.

Infanticide, Mutilation and Abandonment.

A case of infanticide, mutilation and abandonment was brought to the notice of Coroner Schirmer yesterday morning, at the City Hall. The night previous Julius Bier, a young man, in passing the house No. 121 Eldridge street discovered lying on a cart in front of the premises the remains of a full grown male child. The body was taken to the Tenth precinct police station, where Dr. Cushman subsequently made a post-mortem examination. He found that the child had been born alive, and, in his opinion, had lived for several days. From all appearance the body evidently had been in the hands of medical students for scientific purposes, as one of the legs of the infant had been cut off, and other marks of the surgeon's knife were still visible on the body. After finishing their work, and having no further use for the body, the students abandoned it to the tender mercies of the authorities, and the remains were accordingly sent to the Morgue for further investigation. Of course no clue to the parentage of the child could be learned.

THE CANALS.

BUFFALO, March 10, 1871.

An enthusiastic meeting of citizens interested in free canals was held on 'Change to-day, Charles G. Curtiss, President of the Board of Trade, in the chair. The meeting was addressed by E. G. Spaulding and Israel T. Hatch. Resolutions were adopted endorsing the recent action of the Chamber of Commerce and Produce Exchange of New York city, recommending similar action by all boards of trade in the State and authorizing a copy of the resolutions to be forwarded to the Legislature.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

THE EUTERPE SOCIETY have a grand matinée concert at Association Hall to-day.

GRAFULLA will wield the baton at the Seventh regiment concert to-night at the Armory.

HARRY WATKINS and his wife have been received with great favor by the Augustans, Ga.

FOX & DENIER'S celebrated pantomime troupe play in Newark to-night in the pantomime of "Blind Mice."

MISS MARIE KREBS gives her ninth piano recital at Steinway Hall this afternoon. She will be assisted by her mother, Mme. Krebs, Signor Randolfi and Louis Dachauer.

MRS. CLARA JENNINGS, a true artist and genuine favorite, made her first appearance in some years on Thursday, at Wallack's, as the Widow Delmaine in "The Serious Family." She was received with a hearty welcome and showed that there was no falling off in her acting.

MATINEES TO-DAY will be given at the following theatres:—Wallack's, "Ours;" Fifth Avenue, "Saratoga;" Booth's, "Much Ado;" Lina Edwin's "David Garrick" and the Lingards; "Niblo's, "Black Crook;" Olympic, "Richelieu;" Grand Opera House, "Les Georgiennes;" Wood's, "Dead Heart;" Bowery, "Pomp;" Globe, "After the War;" New York Circus, Comique, Bryants, Tony Pastor's, Park, Brooklyn.

POLIGI.—The editor of the Zanesville (Ohio) *Times* heard Nilsson at Columbus. The following is an extract from his criticism:—"She can go up to fever heat or down fifty degrees below zero, with as much ease as water runs off a goose's back, and her voice fascinates wherever it reaches. She flats and sharps with an accuracy of the pianoforte, and her voice dies away like the echo of the voice of mercy."

ECHOES FROM ABROAD.

THE MAPLESON-TIETJENS Italian operatic party are in Scotland.

TERESA CARENO, the handsome Spanish *pianiste*, is in London.

AUGUSTE MEY, the *chef* of the Jardin Mabille, has been engaged for Cremorne, London.

MR. BYRON'S new comedy "Wait and Hope" was produced at the Gaiety, London, February 22.

A FAT SINECURE.—Signor Giuseppe Romano is appointed teacher of music to his Royal Highness Prince Arthur.

MOLIKE ON MUSIC.—There are upwards of thirty musicians, refugees, from Paris, including Germans, Dutchmen, Italians and French, now in London.

PLAYING ANOTHER TUNE.—M. Jules Lefort has arrived in London. This artist and M. Pasdeloup have both shouldered the musket and seen severe service on the ramparts of Paris.

JAELL has definitively refused the professorship of the piano at Leipsic, held formerly by the deceased Moscheles, and will leave Geneva for London next month.

JAMES RICHARDS, the present manager of the Garrick theatre, Whitechapel, on February 21, while playing in the last scene of "The Idle Apprentice," fell down some steps and broke one of his legs.

STILL THEY COME.—An exceedingly beautiful violin, by Antonius Stradivarius, of Cremona, of his great period (early in last century), was sold in Glasgow last month for the handsome sum of £250. Those violins are as plenty as Cardiff giants or war relics.

Mr. BATEMAN, father of Miss Kate Josephine Bateman, will be lessee of the Lyceum theatre for five years from the 1st of next September.

REICE has written for the Olympic, London, a new fairy burlesque, which he calls "Perfect Love; or, the Oberon of Truth." The piece will be produced in a most gorgeous manner. The cast will embrace the principal members of the company, Mrs. Liston appearing as Oberon.

A NEW PIANO.—There is a novelty in the piano line on exhibition in London, by which the pitch can be altered at will by mechanism. The method is as follows:—The key frame is made in duplicate, and on it is screwed, by means of ordinary thumb-screws, the action making it perfectly rigid. At each extreme end of the keys the block of wood called the "key-block" is also attached to the key-frame, and thus rendered movable. These blocks are pierced with holes exactly a semi-tone apart, in which small pegs of wood are inserted. When it is required to alter the piano to a higher or lower pitch the pegs are taken out, and the key-board can then be moved with the smallest possible power up or down the scale. To meet the hammers, when used either way, there are extra strings, so as to enable the performer to have a full compass instrument always to play upon, and sufficient length is allowed to make it available for transposition into any key.

AUBER, the veteran composer, it appears, during the siege never quitted Paris. He has had the mortification of seeing one of his pet hacks seized for the supply of food. The Maison Erard had two of their fine horses consigned to the abattoir.

AN INNOVATION IN ROME.—A new play has been introduced at the Valle theatre, Rome, called "Sor Teresa," which excites a good deal of admiration and comment. The interior of a convent is represented on the stage, and the principal characters are—nuns. There is not a word of disrespect to Church or religion, but the enormity of forcing young girls to take the veil for family convenience is forcibly represented. The *surpleure* of the convent is one of Madame Ristori's parts, but that great actress does not appear on the Roman stage this season. It is, however, very well acted by the Signora Aliprundi, who, with two of her nuns, was called and recalled at least ten times the first night to receive the applause of the audience.

WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE.

Weekly Meeting of the Strong Minded Women.

The meeting of the New York Woman's Suffrage Society yesterday was unusually interesting, everybody being in the brightest mood and ready with the spiciest criticisms upon the "tyrant." The reason of this unwonted brilliancy might have been found in the presence of a specimen "tyrant," who appeared in the shape of a very nice young man, armed with a paper upon the "Rise and Progress of the Woman Movement." Now a nice young man, perfectly *comme il faut* from his boots to his dainty curled mustache, with tube roses and violets in his buttonhole, and an argument for women's rights in his hand, is not a common sight, and one can easily understand how eyes accustomed to the

LONG HAIRED, RANTING TYPE

of male sympathizers would brighten at the presence of such support. It is the misfortune of all reformers that they must move with a crowd of ineligibles clogging the wheels; therefore when the lecture committee triumphantly produced Dr. Fuller Walker, of the *Globe*, the tide of enthusiasm, which has been at low water mark for several weeks, perceptibly rose.

Dr. WALKER commenced by saying that he was deeply interested in woman. Nobody being inclined to doubt this assertion he went on to say, encouragingly, that if it took two hundred years to make citizens of colored Americans we must not be disheartened if justice is not done to women immediately. A good cause only needs vigorous opposition to insure success. The petition sent by sundry ladies to the Senate protesting against woman suffrage will only

LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO GO TO ITS OWN FUNERAL.

What is the prospect before the mothers and wives of this country if, for any reason, they are thrown upon their own resources? Most girls are brought up to think that work is degrading; that they must cultivate the graces for the sake of securing a husband, and this idea produces the most deplorable results. The idea is absurd that a woman is robbed of sentiment and grace when she is useful. There has been some progress made in the last ten years. Women have learned something of their physical necessities, and thick boots, warm flannels, comfortable clothing, skating and other outdoor exercises are now the fashion. Some men, like Vassar, Cooper and Stewart, are taking pity on women, and have given them colleges, art schools and homes. Women have clubs and associations of their own. Horace Greeley advises

POOR WOMEN TO GO TO FARMING.

We say to Mr. Greeley that if women are capable of managing a farm they are capable of understanding a political question and voting upon it. If a woman is left to her own support there is usually a cambric needle between her and eternity; or, perhaps, a piano keeps her from starvation. If she is shipwrecked she never knows what kind of craft will pick her up—it may be a man-of-war and it may be a Chinese junk. Vexed at their position many women are hurried into bad marriages. This is the only way to account for the choice of dissolute men by good and sweet women.

THE FAST YOUNG MEN

who ride on the Harlem road with Lucille Western on one side and Lydia Thompson on the other are men who keep the opinion afloat that it is unwomanly for a woman to work.

If the polls are not fit for a woman to go to it is time they were made so. It is as suitable for a woman to go to the polls as to the races of the American Jockey Club, or to the Mall at Central Park. We do not expect suffrage to be a panacea for all our troubles, but we demand it as a right and as a stepping stone to better things.

MRS. BLAKE TOLD A STORY

of a minister of the Presbyterian persuasion, who in theory believed that women should do nothing but trim the vines and plant the flowers of life, but in practice availed himself of his wife's help to put down his study carpet.

Mrs. HALLOCK thought that boys should be trained to be husbands, as well as girls to be wives. She considered the *Tribune* a means of grace to her, as it stirred her up at least twice a week to a state of righteous indignation. Men were not willing that women should go to the polls, but they thought it quite the thing for the angelic sex to go among the vilest scenes in the character of missionaries. They were sent among the lowest, a friend of her's having been sent for to minister to the negro who was hung yesterday. Mrs. Hallock wished, however, to reconsider the epithet lowest as applied to those who get hung, believing that in the main

THE GREATEST ROGUES

are those who are smart enough to escape that undesirable fate. Women must take a decided stand, take every bull by the horns and make him walk straight.

Dr. WALKER spoke of Miss Miedy Morgan as an illustration of what a woman can do. When she obtained her position on the *Times*, through the influence of Mr. Bigelow, he said she wouldn't keep it two weeks. She had kept it two years. Somebody proposes that the

TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND OLD MAIDS

in New England should go West and buy farms. This proposition was commented upon and the opinion given that if they should there would be fifty thousand men after them. No doubt the fair and faded New Englanders would immediately go to farming if they really thought such would be the joyful result.

PLYMOUTH LECTURE ROOM.

Mr. Beecher Reviews the Signs of the Times—He Expects to Meet the Pope in Heaven—Encouraging Prospects.

Mr. Beecher was in a jubilant mood last night, and in an eloquent "talk" to his large lecture room congregation gave his reasons for his faith in the progress of this much maligned old world. He said that in many respects religion seemed to be losing ground. Many people think that there is coming through science a better revelation. When there is anything better presented to the world than Christianity he was willing to accept it; but to throw away what we have before getting anything in its place would be like throwing over a ship's provisions in the middle of the Atlantic in the hope of getting something more desirable. He believed that there was never a time when Christianity was such a power as now, or when Christians were so large and sweet and true and sympathetic.

IN THE OLDEN TIMES

there were single saints, but no such bodies of Christians. Christianity was more intense in the propagating times, but not so pervasive. There was never a time when the distinctive feature of Christianity (which is Christ in us the hope of glory, Christ to lean on as very God to us) was so much a power in the hearts of men. There was never a time when there was so much scholarship employed in illustrating Christianity as to-day. Within the last twenty-five years there have been a hundred lives of Christ written. Secondly, there is the great element of sympathy. There never was so much literature directed towards helping the needy and the weak as now. When novels and philosophies and so many varieties of literature are based upon the central fact that

THE STRONG MUST HELP THE WEAK,

that the rich are God's almoners to the poor, it is a strong reason for believing that there is an intense light somewhere of which this is the reflection. There never was so much organized Christian action, so much co-operative Christian force. One of the best signs of the times is the scare of the hierarchies. The Pope of Rome sits up nights over the wane, not of Christianity, but of Rome. I am glad of it; and I have only

GOOD WISHES FOR THE POPE.

I expect to meet him in Heaven, if I get there. The hierarchies are like beech trees. You know the beech tree don't shed its leaves in winter, but there is not a drop of sap in them. The spring comes, the sap climbs to the branches, and with the new life the old leaves fall. What is all this flurry in the high bred churches? Spring is beginning to dawn. All denominations are beginning to get nearer to each other. Did you ever see four of my

STRANGE DOGS GET TOGETHER,

each putting on doggish dignity, and walking about in canine circumspection? Well, they are a type of live sects, each trying to give the other a nip. But Christians are beginning to love each other, and this is the best test of the increasing power of Christianity. So when men begin to whine I say that, if they choose to go to the graveyard to gauge the growth of a large city it is not my fault; I don't go to such places for my proofs of prosperity.

The present attitude of nations is remarkable. The United States and Canada are in the hands of evangelical Christians, not excluding Roman Catholics, for though the Roman church is encumbered with enormous baggage I believe that God has thousands and hundreds of thousands of dear, precious souls in that old

LUMBERING BAGGAGE WAGON.

England is evangelical. Every drop of the water is not pure, but the force is Christian; and whatever men may say of the decadence of England she is not dry in heart or brain or pocket, and these measure power now, and not brute force. On the Continent, Austria has almost a Protestant Premier; the priests are in open antagonism to Rome. Italy is nominally Catholic; but is emancipating herself and is beginning to have

FREE SCHOOLS, FREE SPEECH AND A FREE PRESS.

The nations that muzzled Christianity are either reorganizing or going under. Germany is the dominant nation, and its government, institutions and polity are all in favor of liberty of thought and conscience. Thus every sign is not of decadence, but of renaissance. Mr. Beecher closed his remarks with a splendid eulogy of the English language and a prophecy that it will finally be the universal language.

NEW YORK CITY.

The following record will show the changes in the temperature for the past twenty-four hours in comparison with the corresponding day of last year, as indicated by the thermometer at Hudnut's Pharmacy, HERALD Building, corner of Ann street:—

	1870.	1871.		1870.	1871.
3 A. M.	29	55	3 P. M.	40	65
6 A. M.	32	55	6 P. M.	43½	65
9 A. M.	37	54	9 P. M.	42	58
12 M.	42	57	12 P. M.	42	56

Average temperature yesterday 56⅞
Average temperature for corresponding date last year 39⅞

Mr. Charles Lanier, treasurer of the fund for the relief of the suffering population of France, acknowledges receipt of the following subscriptions to March 9:—Total amount received by the Chamber of Commerce Committee, $102,447 87; by Produce Exchange Committee, $15,905. Grand total, $118,352 87.

The female teachers in the public schools are contemplating making a demand for increase of salary. They held a preliminary meeting yesterday at Miss Esmond's school, in West Twenty-eighth street, at which Miss Simons addressed them, urging them to unite in the demand. The ladies do the needed work, and certainly should have the pay. They resolved to call a mass meeting for an early day, and then adjourned.

The William M. Tweed Club, of the Seventh ward, met at their rooms in East Broadway last evening. A large and enthusiastic gathering of the most respectable democrats in the old Seventh were present, who took the greatest interest in the proceedings and desired to make it the banner organization of the city. It numbers now over 100 members, and applications for membership are continually pouring in. This is due in great part to the activity and energy of the president, Mr. Thomas Shells, who has been untiring in his efforts to make the club a model one in every particular.

At an early hour yesterday morning, while Herman Spruyten, of 353 Second avenue, and Otto Pabst, both watchmen at pier No. 3 North river, were standing on the pier a revolver in Pabst's hand suddenly went off, the ball entering Spruyten's cheek, coming out behind the ear. The injured man was taken to the Centre Street Hospital, where he was taken charge of by Dr. Amallie, who had previously been summoned to attend him. Pabst was arrested, and was yesterday taken to the hospital and confronted with Spruyten, who said he had no hard feelings against him, the injury sustained having been purely accidental. Spruyten is in a fair way toward recovery.

Mr. J. W. Girard, Jr., treasurer of the testimonial fund in behalf of the family of the late engineer E. H. Simmons, acknowledges the following additional sums received. The widow of Simmons and two little children are left by his decease in very humble circumstances. It is desired to raise the fund to at least $500, to be deposited for their benefit in some savings bank:—P. R. Strong, $5; W. M. Pritchard, $5; Mary Bradhurst, $5; Jackson Riker, $5; D. Campbell, $5; H. Suydam, $10; S. J. T., $20; Schenectady Locomotive Works (per J. C. Ellis, president), $50; A Family, $50; "...," $5; R. C. Hutchings, $5; F. Prime, $5; Van Cort Bishop, $5; R. Kirkland, $5; O. D. J., $5; I. T. W., $5; J. F. Daly, $5; A Widow, $2. Total, $274.

FACTS, INCIDENTS AND PERSONALIA FROM OUR CONTINENTAL EUROPEAN FILES.

The "Athenians of the Spree," as the good cits of Berlin have sometimes been styled, are delighted with the following rebus, the fun of which consists in giving the French pronunciation to the letters ranged opposite to the various sentences:—

The French people are D. C. D.—decédé—(deceased).
Their strongholds are O. Q. P.—occupé—(occupied).
Six departments will be C. D.—cédé—(given up).
Their government is not M. E.—aimé—(loved).
The republicans are A. I.—haï—(hated).
The diplomats are E. B. T.—hebété—(dumbfounded).
The public debt has O. C—haussé—(augmented).
Their credit has B. C.—baissé—(fallen).
The laws are L. U. D.—eludé—(evaded).
The liberty of the press is O. T.—ôté—(taken away).
Peace will be dearly H. T.—acheté—(purchased).

Count Bismarck is represented by some of the German papers to have used the following words to M. Jules Favre at their recent conference:—"I am happy, sir, to do homage to your personal character. In the midst of the reverses that have fallen upon your country, you have always had patriotic words to utter and very natural hopes and illusions to entertain. I now cherish but one wish, viz.:—that Germany and France, forgetting the past, may become reconciled forever; since upon the union of these two nations depend the tranquility and prosperity of Europe." Better late than never!

Le Nord, of Brussels, which for years has been recognized as a Russian organ, raises the cry of alarm in a letter from St. Petersburg, which affirms that the determined disposition of Prussia to get possession of Alsace and Lorraine with the impenetrable Vosges frontier and the great quadrilateral made up of the four fortified centres—Metz, Thionville, Strasbourg and Belfort—is for the purpose of securing her rear against any attack from France, while she pursues her designs to the detriment of Russia in an easterly direction.

The French soldiers call the Bavarians "the blue devils." France has been much afflicted by them of late.

The Bavarian wounded are said to be very sensitive to pain, frequently uttering frightful cries where a single word from an officer would keep the mangled Prussian as silent as death.

A Swiss traveller narrates what, he says, seems to be considered a fine joke at Berlin. The joker places his hand about twelve inches from the ground and says:—"That deep of Frenchmen buried around Paris." Then raising it another foot, "That deep of Prussians." Lifting his hands above his head, "That high with Saxons," he says, "and, as for Bavarians, there ain't soil enough to cover them."

The Swiss journals give heartrending accounts of that portion of the French Army of the East that took refuge in Switzerland. The want of shoes did them more harm than the attacks of the Prussians. Officers were seen in slippers, the guides in wooden shoes, the cavalry in footed pantaloons, and the men nearly barefoot amid the most terrible frost and snow drifts. Their horses would slip on the ice-covered roads, and the heavy cannon would come plunging down upon them, crushing whole teams to death.

The war was, here and there, a joyous episode. At Epernay and the adjacent stations, for instance, troops of children and young girls watch for the German military trains coming westward, and offer wine, coffee and fruit for sale, with loud clamor, in bad German, "*Ein flasch weint Kostet, kost sie akt sous. Kes, ser kutes kes!*" "A bottle of wine, good wine; cost you eight sous. Cheese, very good cheese." The Teutons laugh and correct their childish lingo. One pretty damsel says to a correspondent, "Come, buy this half bottle of champagne. The rest give me thirty sous, but you're such a charming gentleman, you'll give me forty, won't you?"

An uneasy, disturbed feeling is noticed throughout the whole centre and south of Europe. The working classes are in evident fermentation. The prospects, in a business way, of the approaching spring are unprecedentedly sombre, and the future seems veiled in most portentous clouds.

JOHN BULL ON HERALD WIT.

[From the Western Daily Mercury, Plymouth, England, Feb. 17.]

American wit makes sad havoc with our Old World definitions. How can we frame a definition that shall include figure-spelling, and phonetic writing, and a full use of slang, and a "plentiful lack" of truth? The thing may be possible, but the definition would have to be continued in monthly parts, for every batch of literature from the West would need to be described. Let not the reader imagine, however, that we have intended to surprise him with our own pocket definition. We give up American wit as something that may be properly dealt with in a hundred years hence. We know it very well when we read and hear it, but, as St. Austin said of Time, the moment when any one asks us what it is, we are bewildered. The last thing in wit and sensationalism—the latter being, so far as the newspapers are concerned, a kind of wit of the very indefinite sort—is to be found in the NEW YORK HERALD, and it is too original of its kind to be passed over unnoticed. When a screamingly sensational narrative is given, instead of dividing it under sub-headings, as English newspapers do long narratives, so as to catch the reader's eye, some of the actual words of the report are made to do duty for headlines, and thus a sort of deception is practised on the unsophisticated reader. To give some illustrations of what may be common to the American press for aught we know, though confining our quotations to the NEW YORK HERALD, A champion cocklight between New York and Albany is described in the number for February 2. The reporter notes that many persons were present "whose faces are better known in churches and operas than where the notes of the rowdy rooster is the only music heard." The words "churches and operas" are put in small capitals, and the sentence reads thus:—"Many men of note and respectability, and many whose faces are better known in

CHURCHES AND OPERAS

than where the notes of the rowdy rooster," &c. Thus, attention is drawn, half satirically, to the character of the gathering, and the reader looks, but in vain, for further remarks as to "Churches and Operas." If we read down these sub-headings we have:—"Churches and Operas—The Agreement—Picture of Hogarth's—Solitaire Diamonds—A Canine Look—The Fighting." But the best specimen of this sensational wit is to be found in an account of "The Toilers on the Erie," and their distress and sore condition. The lines are produced in exactly the same way, and they read as follows:—"Network of Iron Rails—Watchful as a Hawk—The Neighborhood of Two Dollars a Day—Haven't Been Paid Since November 1—It's a D——d Shame—Jimmy Doraymus—Tick from the Dutchman—The Man with the Dhudeen—Working Since November 31—Women, Wine, Horses and Opera Houses—One Loaf of Bread Between Five Persons—Pay Us What He Owes Us—Families Being Starved—Borrow a Dollar—My God! Isn't it a Pity—A Pitcher that Went to the Well—Great Hardship." The whole narrative does not occupy a column, and poor Fisk is supposed to be hit very hard, as no doubt he is, by one or two allusions. If any of our readers imagine we have made our own difficulty, and they are ready to patent a definition, including the wit of the HERALD, we shall be happy to hear from them, though we can promise them no "advantage" beyond that which must accrue to