ASYLUM ABUSES.

Dr. Hammond Again Criticises the Treatment of the Insane.

A "LUNATIC'S" LETTER.

Interesting Extracts from the Diary of Dr. Spitzka.

CRIB AND CAMISOLE.

The narration of abuses in the management of the insane asylums of this State by Dr. William A. Hammond, published recently in the HERALD, has created a profound sensation throughout the State. The subject has been very generally taken up by the press, and the popular opinion is that the HERALD has given expressions to the severest arraignment ever made of the asylum system in this country. Zealous friends of the superintendents have rushed into print to defend their favorites' methods, and courageous newspaper correspondents have ventured to try the comforts of the "Utica crib" in order to test the Doctor's strictures. A HERALD reporter called on Dr. Hammond for additional particulars in regard to the treatment of the insane in the State. The Doctor prefaced his remarks by saying that he had been accused, in reference to this exposé, with wishing to be superintendent of an asylum himself. He said he was not such a fool as to wish that. He had a much better thing for himself. Moreover, he could not hold office under the State of New York, as he already held an office under the government.

THE FATE OF REFORMERS.

"Everybody who undertakes to reform anything he thinks is bad," continued the Doctor, "will always be abused by those who think it is good. Those who cut live cats in two don't think well of Bergh, and rumsellers don't think well of Dr. Crosby, and so the asylum folks don't think well of me, and I don't want them to, at least the present generation. I see that a HERALD correspondent at Utica, probably an assistant physician of the asylum, has been lying in a 'crib,' and thinks it is a good thing. Well, a crib is a good thing when you want to stay in it, but not so good when you want to get out. What might suit a correspondent might not suit a maniac whose head was full of blood, and who was bruising his face while trying to get out. Nobody contends that a healthy man may not sleep in the crib, but if the Utica correspondent had to stay there he might find it very objectionable. Here is a letter, however, from a party who likes the crib, but did not sign his name:—

Dr. HAMMOND:—If you do not stop your attack on the asylums you will pay for it with your life. You have got to stop abusing —— and ——. I have been a lunatic and can kill you with impunity, as you know. I spent nine years in a crib and I know it is a good thing, so you just let it alone or you will die.

"I fail to see why my recent remarks should seem to be directed especially against the Utica asylum, as some of the newspapers think. But if the cap doesn't fit why is an investigation of alleged abuses in asylum management opposed? It is because they know that an investigation will bring out things they do not wish to have known, not only in regard to treatment of patients, but in regard to the financial management. For instance, it was alleged that Dr. Gray, of the Utica Asylum, had a private cook whom he paid $60 a month out of the State's money. An investigation would show whether that was true. It is charged that the *American Journal of Insanity*, published from the asylum in the interest of Dr. Gray, is paid for by the State. If this is not true an investigation would be the best thing for the asylum. I have no doubt that the superintendents of asylums are humane men, as a rule. They use 'cribs' and restraints of various kinds because they think they are using humane means of controlling patients; but the argument of humanity is the same to-day as it was a hundred years ago, when patients were put on revolving tables that whirled around; were given the 'surprise bath' by plunging them suddenly into cold water, and were exhibited around the country as curiosities. Upward of seventy years ago there was in Bedlam a lunatic named Norris, formerly an officer in the British navy, who was confined for threatening violence to a physician. He was subjected to restraint of such a character that it is a wonder that a humane physician could order it. An iron collar was put around his neck and iron bands about his arms and body. The ankles were also fettered. The collar was connected by a chain with an iron ring sliding up and down a bar fixed in the wall at the head of the bed. It was impossible for the wretch to lie down or stand up. He could simply sit on the bed. In this condition he lived in a stone cell nine years.

HEROIC TREATMENT.

"Dr. Haslam, writing about that time, says that a patient should be kept in a dark room, with his hands and one leg secured, to prevent any violence, and that metallic manacles should be used; and Dr. Cox, also writing at that time, urges that patients should be frightened by 'spectres' appearing before them and by magic lantern views to harrow their imaginations; that 'supernatural sounds' should awaken them from sleep, and pointed sentences should be written on the walls of the cells in phosphorus to play upon their minds. I don't want to create a sensation by referring to these things. To do that it would only be necessary to mention outrages perpetrated in the past few months in the asylums of New York, Ohio, Minnesota and other States. I speak of these matters simply to show that the cry of humanity prevailed then as now. It was claimed that manacles kept patients from injuring themselves. Dr. Haslam condemns Drs. Cullen and Mead for their advocacy of flogging patients, laughs at Dr. Cox for his system of mental torture, but sneers at Dr. Pinnel, who went in advance of his profession and cast off the manacles and chains of the lunatics of Paris. In our own day, in like manner, superintendents do not indorse the systems of these physicians, but, nevertheless, use the camisole and other arrangements for confining patients; and they see in the Utica 'crib' a valuable means of medical treatment. If the crib is such a good thing why is it that some of the asylums do not use it? Why does Dr. Cleveland, of the Poughkeepsie Asylum, dispense with it? He told me that he found patients were quieter without it. Why is it that Dr. Chapin, of the Willard, never had a crib in his institution, one of the largest in the world? Isn't it strange that Dr. Cleveland hasn't used one in two years, while in the Utica, Blackwell's Island and Ward's Island asylums it has been constantly in use? Cribs are used simply to save trouble, as patients confined in them don't need so much watching. Dr. Connolly, one of the greatest alienists that ever lived, says that any contrivance which diminishes the necessity for vigilance proves hurtful to the discipline of an asylum, and physical restraints, as they render vigilance unnecessary, make asylums fall into disuse and innumerable evils of neglect creep in which could not exist where restraints were not permitted. Only two years after the non-restraint system was introduced at Hanwell, London, the resident physician said he believed that all the officers of the asylum who were experienced in both methods of treating the insane had found, or would find, that the liberation of patients from restraint had caused accidents to become less frequent and had diminished the anxiety of those having charge of them. It is contended by those who are active in asylum reforms that Utica cribs, camisoles, mufflers and all other such mechanical appliances diminish the necessity for vigilance on the part of attendants and officers, and are therefore hurtful to the discipline of an asylum and injurious to patients. They keep patients in an excited condition and make them violent.

NOT IN A TOMB.

"We want also that lunatics should not enter asylums as if they were tombs and have no communication with the external world. When they write a letter to the Commissioner in Lunacy it should be forwarded. In England every letter addressed to the Commissioner must be forwarded unopened. As to other letters, the medical attendants have power to deal with them as they think proper. In this way the Commissioner can judge whether there is ground for complaint. At present the lunatic may be treated in our asylums in the most inhuman manner and the world may never know of it. In England it is a misdemeanor to stop a letter from a lunatic to a Commissioner in Lunacy. There the Commissioner makes frequent visits to every asylum and sees every portion of the premises. Inquiry is made as to the number of patients under restraint. These visits are made without notice. In this State the superintendents are told when the visits will be made. In England an entry is made in regard to every patient who is placed in seclusion or under restraint, for what period of time and by what means he is restrained. In this country an ignorant, brutal attendant can put a patient under restraint without a physician's knowledge. This is not the case in all the asylums, but it is notably so in those of this city."

"What do you think, Doctor, of the recent report of the Senatorial committee on these alleged abuses?"

"All I have said before is true, word for word. Mr. Goodwin, of the committee, conducted the whole examination, and his manner and attitude throughout were those of counsel for the superintendents, rather than of the disinterested investigator. We had ample evidence to submit, of such character as to warrant an investigation, but the committee decided to hear only what we knew of our own knowledge. I went to Albany with a package of documents, sworn testimony, which the committee would not receive. But I did tell them what I knew of my own knowledge, and in their published report they have garbled it. For instance, I told a Cincinnati reporter about a year ago that a patient in Bloomingdale Asylum had died in a crib. The committee did not ask me a question about that, but asked Dr. Nichols whether it happened during his administration. If I had been asked I should have answered that it took place under Dr. Clymer, before Dr. Nichols went there."

"It is claimed by that committee that some of the signatures to the memorial presented to the Legislature were not *bona fide*," said the reporter.

"Every signature is *bona fide*. President Barnard, of Columbia College, signed it and wrote to Dr. Seguin approving it. Dr. John W. Draper did not sign it, but Dr. John C. Draper did. Only two names that I procured were withdrawn, and both of them at the personal solicitation of superintendents. They tried to get David Dows to withdraw his name, but he wouldn't do it. It is true that some names were withdrawn, but there were enough responsible names appended to the petition to require the committee to investigate the charges made. Mr. Putnam, the publisher; Mr. Darling, proprietor of the Fifth Avenue Hotel; Drs. Willard Parker, Seguin and Sands did not withdraw their names; nor did a dozen other equally well known gentlemen, despite the solicitations of the asylum interest. The report conveys a false impression to the public. It will be fully answered by the Neurological Society, and the public can then see to what straits the asylum people have been driven when they have to resort to misrepresentation and mendacity to support themselves. Mr. Goebel, the chairman of the committee, did not open his mouth during the investigation. Mr. Goodwin, who conducted it, is or was a candidate for the position of manager of the Utica Asylum and the intimate personal friend of the superintendent of that asylum."

NOT WRITTEN BY A LUNATIC.

Dr. E. C. Spitzka, at his residence in Fiftieth street, gave the reporter another budget of abuses at the asylums, but was first questioned in regard to the above letter to Dr. Hammond in reference to the crib which the reporter showed him.

"I think it wasn't written by a lunatic," answered the Doctor, promptly. "A lunatic is not likely to confess his lunacy. A lunatic has not enough reasoning power to write a grammatical letter, and, instead of disguising his handwriting and concealing his name, he would glory in proclaiming his intention in his own handwriting and over his own name. I believe that letter was written by a superintendent, not ten miles from this office."

"What could be the motive that would prompt such a letter?"

"This asylum reform movement began in three different points in this State. It was started by Dr. Wilbur, in 1876, in Syracuse, and by Dr. Tourtelliot in Utica and by myself in New York at the same time, in 1877. Dr. Hammond had nothing to do with it until these three parties had begun the attack, and then he joined, together with the whole Neurological Society. Dr. Hammond being the most prominent man in the movement the weak minded members of the asylum reform ring think that if they can frighten him out of it by threats of murder, like that conveyed in that letter, the movement will stop short. They have made one other attempt to intimidate him, which, however, he disregarded. Shortly after I read my two papers before the Medico-Legal and Neurological societies, which were the origin of the first memorial to the Legislature, about March, 1878, I was informed on excellent authority that three superintendents who met on the stage at the commencement of Bellevue College seriously discussed the feasibility of sandbagging your humble servant. My authority for this was a gentleman of standing and veracity, a member of the Executive Committee of the alumni of Bellevue College. You newspaper men, as a rule, want individual instances of outrages where patients are chopped to pieces or boiled to death, and, while there is no lack of such instances, yet their non-occurrence would not in the slightest degree induce me to believe that the asylums are not mismanaged. While it is very rare that a sane person is incarcerated in an asylum nowadays, yet, considering the superficial character of the examination of patients by the superintendents, such a thing is not an impossibility and might occur any day. You remember the case, recently, of Mrs. Koppel, who came near to being committed as an insane person when she was perfectly sane. She would have been committed, too, but for the fortunate intervention of Drs. Heath and Hadden. The latter informed me, also, that it had been 'fixed' with the officials on Blackwell's Island to send the woman there. Dr. Kingston, who was discharged recently from the asylum on Blackwell's Island, says that the Commissioners tried to get him to carry out the order that no medical man should under any pretext visit or become the guest of any of the medical residents of the asylum. Medical men, of course, would criticise the medical management of the institution. When the nurses on Blackwell's Island are dismissed by the superintendent for rebelliousness or negligence they are reinstated over and over again by politicians who are in with the Commissioners. It has also been stated to me by persons who have facilities for knowing that female friends of ward politicians can always easily obtain the position of nurse on Blackwell's Island. While I have no doubt that a large proportion of the nurses there are respectable married and single women, I have also no doubt that another class is represented there, too. You can imagine what treatment patients receive from the latter as soon as the physician's back is turned."

IN THE CRIB.

"What do you think of John F. Mines' statement, that he could sit up in the crib by actual trial without any difficulty?"

"It's absurd. It would be hard enough for a man to sit up straight in the crib, which is only thirty inches high, even if there were nothing in it; but there is a mattress, of course, which makes the space still smaller. Moreover, the advocates of the crib claim as its chief advantage that the patient has got to lie in a horizontal position. As to the statement that the correspondent felt perfectly comfortable in it, no reasonable person who knows the dimensions of the crib—6½ feet long, 3 feet wide and 30 inches high—will accept it. There is a great difference between a perfectly sane person going in the crib for fifteen minutes and a raving maniac who will either flutter himself to death, like a wild bird in a cage, or fall into a stupor. The stupor will be caused by the combined effects of the horizontal position, which increases the determination of blood to the head, and the exhaustion from struggling. I examined the brains of two persons who died in a crib, one named O'Reilly and another, a negro, whose name now escapes me. I was struck by the extreme engorgement of the entire brain and its membranes. Both had large extravasations of blood. Now, if these extravasations had existed before the patients were put in the crib, they must have been so paralyzed that putting them there was a piece of absurd and inexcusable barbarity. If this clot did not exist before, then death was directly due to the influence of the crib, and the verdict ought to be manslaughter in the fourth degree. I remember, also, a case of paralytic insanity in which I made the post-mortem. The man was named Jobson, and he had a curious history. He was Surgeon Dentist to Queen Victoria and espoused the cause of Lady Flora Hastings in England—you remember the scandal—and afterward ran for Comptroller in this city. I knew him, in the asylum, when he couldn't walk. One day, to my surprise, I learned that he had been confined in a crib. There wasn't the slightest warrant for it, from the very nature of his case. There are to-day patients in the crib on Ward's Island whose condition does not warrant it. Since we began our onslaught on the crib the Poughkeepsie and Flatbush asylums have abandoned it, and at Ward's Island they have taken off the cover, which is really the essential part of it. When Dr. Bucknill came from England to examine American asylums he went to Utica, but when he called the cribs were all locked up and hidden from view, because the authorities were ashamed to show them. The crib is unmedical and uncomfortable, and fully as much a relic of the barbarism of the Middle Ages as the chains and underground dungeons of Bedlam. But we have underground dungeons to-day. Less than a year ago an enterprising reporter found at the Onondaga Poorhouse four holes in the earth, in which naked, dirty, starved and demented creatures were kept for months. And all this happened under the nose of the Commissioner in Lunacy. The pens were constructed of heavy planks, with doors having an aperture in the centre. The stench was sickening and almost stifling. There was no light, no ventilation nor any sanitary convenience.

LIKE DRUNKEN MEN.

"The superintendents of asylums are coming out in a manifesto, stating that this movement is started by insane persons. They are in the same position as drunken men, who think all the world except themselves are intoxicated. Now, as a matter of fact, Dr. Kirkbride, of Philadelphia, was for a long time an inmate of his own asylum, and married one of the patients. Dr. Tilden Brown, of Bloomingdale, a very worthy physician, died insane. One superintendent, not very far from here, a vice president of the Asylum Association, made attempts to commit suicide under the influence of insanity; and another was separated from his wife three days after marriage, cause unknown. In an Arkansas or Missouri asylum recently a Dr. K—— was found guilty of improper intimacy with a patient. In a Pennsylvania asylum about a year ago two patients who were about to become mothers were surreptitiously sent away from the asylum, and two dead and decomposed babes were found under the boards of one of the wards."

"Do such things happen on Blackwell's Island?"

"A physician who visited the Island said to me recently that some of the Workhouse men, who are sent up for ten days for instance, are able to get the keys of the lodge where 300 violent female patients are confined. You can surmise what the moral condition of the men must be. On Ward's Island three-fourths of the men employed there are recommended by ward politicians—and a fine set they are! One of the most frequent causes for dismissal on that Island is drunkenness. The men come to the city and often return drunk. Since the exposures by the HERALD there has been a certain stoppage of all accidents, at least none reach the press. The centralization of asylum authority in one man has been so completely effected that everything goes through his hands. Such a system has advantages, but it has disadvantages also. The physicians in the asylum cease to be physicians and become merely boarding house keepers. They may develop into this and then become superintendents; but they neither know nor care anything for the scientific aspect of insanity. The way the death rate is sometimes diminished is as follows:—A patient in the asylum who had contracted phthisis, and was in the last stages of the disease, I saw taken out of the asylum, put in a wagon and transferred to this city. I was told by Dr. Kiernan, then assistant physician at the asylum, that this sort of thing happened quite frequently. That should have been an 'asylum death,' of course. A patient while being transferred to the city died. During the very cold winter of 1874-5 the patients on Ward's Island had neither shoes nor stockings, and the food was of such a character that it almost provoked nausea. In all your asylums except Willard and Poughkeepsie medical treatment is limited to intercurrent diseases, and the only treatment of mental condition goes to keep patients quiet. Narcotics are the order of the day. I made an autopsy on the body of a patient in an asylum which I can name if necessary. The appearance of the corpse was so suspicious that I stated at the time that the man must have died from narcotic poisoning. I asked about it, and on the physician assuring me that the patient had been given only fifteen minims of conium I let the matter go and did not, as I otherwise would have done, recommend an inquiry by the Coroner or withdraw from the case. It turned out, however, that one of the physicians had left two drachms of quinine—a fatal dose—with an attendant, who left it with the patient, and the patient had taken the whole of it."

IRELAND'S GRIEVANCES.

MEETING OF THE CENTRAL PARNELL UNION—A STIRRING APPEAL TO IRISHMEN.

The second meeting of the Central Parnell Union was held yesterday afternoon in the Hamilton Park Hotel, President J. M. Scully in the chair. Mr. Dowd opened the meeting by stating that he had received some statistics which he would present in proof that Mr. Parnell was the champion of a people who had real and not imaginary grievances. "I have been," said he, "all over Ireland. I was employed by the government to survey the island in order that it might be valued by appraisers. I have had, therefore, opportunities of learning the true condition of the Irish tenant farmer which are available to few. The island contains 20,000,000 acres of the finest soil in Europe. On this reside over five millions of people. The population has hardly any foreign element, and consists of the people who have tilled the land for centuries. There are in Ireland 155,675 mud cabins, tenanted by the very poorest of the people. There are, besides, 351,129 mud cabins of a better class, in which live, by actual calculation, 432,774 families of an average of five persons each. Friends of Ireland, friends of Parnell and liberty, there are at least 650,000 Irish families living in a condition not much better than the hounds of English and Irish landlords. Can you look on and see this go further? In a few days Parnell will be in this country, and we must give him a reception of such a character that he will be received with open arms by all Americans. Be sober and considerate. This is the most critical time in the history of Ireland. When the Normans invaded Ireland they found us a civilized people, holding our soil as an established government. A struggle began between the Norman warriors and the Irish chiefs which has lasted ever since, for we have never been conquered. At the close of the siege of Limerick 40,000 of the Irish nobility marched out to exile. But they went with their banners flying, and the English never gained possession of the soil by conquest.

"FORCED TO BE AN OBSTRUCTIONIST."

"Ever since a land tenure has been imposed upon the unfortunate people which robs them of all but the right of existence. O'Connell tried to induce the British Parliament to consider the matter, but was hooted down as a revolutionist. Parnell, one of the brightest lights in British statesmanship, was compelled to be an obstructionist in the House of Commons in order to maintain his fight for the Irish. Forced from argument by the cruel apathy of his fellow Parliamentarians he has at last appealed to the people and placed himself at their head. God help the Irish, for if they have any fault it is that they are too warm-hearted to find sympathy in such an age as this." Mr. Dowd then introduced the following resolutions as a record of their national creed:—

Whereas for several centuries previous to the Norman invasion of the British Islands the Irish chieftains elected by their respective clans did not claim to own the land of Ireland, said chieftains being owners only in the temporary official sense and governed by the Mosaic land laws;

Resolved, That the feudal system of land tenure introduced and established in Ireland by the successive sovereigns of England, from the time of the Norman invasion to the present, is shown by Irish history to have been and is a most terrible engine of oppression, slow murder by artificially created famines and wholesale exterminations of the inhabitants who are, by the laws of nature and God, the rightful owners of the soil; and as brute force and piracy are the only title deeds of landlords to their Irish estates, the voice of civilized mankind demands the sweeping away of these feudal laws which have been transmitted from barbarous ages, opposed, as they manifestly are, to the growing necessities of the popular intelligence and awakening civilization of this age of material, scientific and mental activity.

Resolved, That we earnestly implore the tenant farmers of Ireland to retain possession of their holdings until an equitable adjustment of their reasonable and just demands is effectually secured to them.

CARRIED WITH CHEERS.

The resolutions were carried amid loud cheers. Mr. Langan then spoke, and said that he believed in force as the only means of bringing the aristocratic Britons to terms, and advised all men to learn to handle a musket. He said that the American press declared that all the money collected for the Irish cause was squandered. Mr. Langan denied this, and affirmed that he knew where muskets were concealed in Irish homes which had been paid for by American money. At this point the president informed the speaker that he was injudicious in giving such information publicly, as this was a time for charity, and not for arms.

Mr. Scully then made a speech and urged his hearers to give their dollars to Parnell—not for bonfires, but for provisions. Talk was of little use now, and prompt action was the only thing which would save the starving tenant farmers of Ireland. He also thanked the HERALD for its advocacy.

On a motion the Union decided to call a mass meeting next Sunday afternoon, at which delegates from all Irish societies and Parnell committees are to be invited. A committee of arrangements was also chosen to attend to the details of the reception, advertising and other matters.

PRELIMINARY MEETING.

A meeting of the "preliminary committee," which has been working to secure the co-operation of the leading Irishmen of the city in a suitable reception to Mr. Charles S. Parnell, was held last evening at the house of Dr. Philip E. Donlin, corner of West Houston and Sullivan streets. A sub-committee, which had been appointed to wait on a number of prominent citizens and procure a suitable place of meeting, reported that they had procured the consent of several well known gentlemen and arranged for a meeting to be called by circular, at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, on next Wednesday evening, when definite shape will be given to the movement. Letters were read from St. Louis and Chicago, giving accounts of the great mass meetings held in those cities, and calling for centralized and combined action on the part of Irishmen throughout the United States in support of the Irish National Land League, and asking for particulars as to Mr. Parnell's intended movements after his arrival, so that suitable arrangements may be made in the West for his reception. A letter from Mr. Michael Davitt, written immediately after his release, was also read expressing approval of the course already taken, and asking that the work should be vigorously pushed here. Mr. Davitt expressed the belief that he would be sentenced to at least one year's imprisonment, but stated that no harm would come to the Land League thereby. Suitable arrangements were made for the meeting on Wednesday evening, after which the committee adjourned.

MYSTERIOUS WOUNDS.

A crowd at the corner of Bridge and Tillary streets, Brooklyn, at midnight on Saturday last, attracted the attention of policemen White and Boylan, of the Washington street police station. They hastened to the spot and found Frank, alias "Brock" Harrington, of No. 94 High street, lying on the sidewalk. Blood was flowing from a severe cut in his leg. The sufferer refused to tell in what manner the wound had been inflicted, but a bystander exclaimed, "There's the man who did it," pointing to Martin Connelly, of No. 160 Prospect street, who was staggering about under the influence of liquor. Connelly also had several severe cuts on his face, from which the blood ran down his neck and completely saturated his clothing. Both Harrington and Connelly were taken to the station, where their injuries were attended to. To Captain Campbell Connelly stated that, while passing through Bridge street, he was assaulted and robbed by Harrington and others. He denied having stabbed Harrington. Several policemen were then directed to arrest Frank (alias "Buck") Walsh and John (alias "Snow") McLaughlin, whom the police thought were with Harrington at the time of the assault. The officers experienced great difficulty in arresting the former, as he made a strong resistance and was aided by a number of his friends. Clubs were drawn by the policemen, who came off victorious and conveyed their prisoner to the station. McLaughlin's arrest was more easily accomplished. Several spots of blood were found upon the latter's hat, while Walsh's hands were completely covered with blood. The police also learned that Joseph Quinn, the assistant janitor at Public School No. 1, had been slightly stabbed in the abdomen. He said he was unable to tell how he had been injured. The prisoners were held for examination.

FATAL FALL FROM A TRAIN.

P. H. McDermott, a brakeman 30 years of age, employed on the Pennsylvania Railroad, while running along the top of a train of freight cars on the trestlework in Jersey City yesterday slipped when the train was near Henderson street and falling to the ground a distance of thirty-five feet was instantly killed. He resided at Marion, Jersey City Heights, and leaves a family. The body was removed to the Morgue.

PLEADED GUILTY.

SPEEDY TERMINATION OF THE TRIAL OF THREE MASKED BURGLARS IN SUSSEX COUNTY, N. J.

The trial of William Fredericks, John Tobin, alias George Johnson, and John Sawyer, the three men indicted in the Sussex county court, at Newton, N. J., for the masked burglary at the house of Mr. Samuel Hough, in Wantage township, on the night of Sunday, November 2, last, came to an abrupt termination on Saturday. The crime of which the prisoners were charged was committed on the night of November 2. The dwelling of Mr. Samuel Hough, on the Deckertown road, was entered by three masked burglars. One of them held Hough and his wife in check with a revolver while the other two bound and gagged Daniel Stoll, the hired man, and his sister, and Mr. Hough's mother. Afterward they ransacked the entire house. From a secretary in the library they took $248 in money, and besides this they carried off nothing but a silk dress and a revolver taken from the hired man. One room, a small sort of closet, in which were Mrs. Hough's jewelry and silver ware, was overlooked. After the departure of the robbers, Stoll went to the barn for the purpose of saddling a horse and alarming the neighbors, but found that the thieves before going into the house had cut up every halter, bridle and piece of harness in the place. He also discovered a sled turned upside down, by standing on which a person could look through the barn window and see everything that went on in the house. When the neighbors were apprised of the robbery pursuit was made, and two of the prisoners were found at the Union House. They were taken into custody, but one broke away and, drawing his revolver, fired several shots at his pursuers. Finding a horse and wagon in the road he sprang into the vehicle and drove off. He eluded pursuit for several days, and was finally captured on the roof of a freight train. The third man was captured on the day following the burglary. After the capture the men were lodged in the County Jail in Newton, a small two story stone structure, but had only been there two days when it was discovered that they had cut out several of the stone blocks in the wall behind their bed.

THE PRISONERS IN COURT.

They pleaded not guilty when arraigned and their trial on the first indictment was set down for Wednesday last. When the case was called the small court room was densely crowded. Judges Anderson, Cole and Eusted occupied the bench. Fredericks asked the Court for an extension of two weeks to allow them to procure counsel and prepare for the trial, but his request was denied, and the Court, after assigning Messrs. Rosenkrans, Shoe and Eusted to defend the prisoners, directed the trial to proceed. The principal witness against the prisoners was Mrs. Jane Hough, whose testimony, in substance, was as follows:—On the night of November 2 she was aroused by a noise in the bedroom, and discovered the three men. One of them, she said, was the prisoner Johnson, whose right name is Tobin, and who formerly worked for her husband. All were masked, and as she cried out Tobin in a very kind voice said to her, "Don't be afraid. All we want is your money, and if you give us that we won't hurt you." She alarmed her husband, who on seeing the intruders was about to spring from the bed, when Tobin pointed the revolver at him and said, "Lie down, old man, or I'll kill you." Her husband fell back in the bed. Presently Stoll, the hired man, appeared in the doorway with a revolver, which he levelled at the robber's head. Her husband urged him not to shoot or they would all be killed, and Stoll went back to his room. The men followed him, and, after taking the revolver from him, bound him to the bed. His sister was also bound, and, with old Mrs. Hough, was brought into the bedroom, where Tobin stood guard over them. Mrs. Hough thought it was about one o'clock when they left. Before going one of the party said:—"If you stir out of here within three hours we will come back and kill all of you; we were obliged to kill old Wilson (a neighbor) and we don't want to do anything like that here." It was four o'clock before Mr. Hough allowed Stoll to leave the house to alarm the neighbors. Besides this evidence the witnesses for the State identified a revolver found with the prisoners and some of the stolen money and some bank notes taken from the secretary were identified by Mr. Hough. The defence attempted to establish an alibi for each of the accused. The case was given to the jury on Friday, and after a brief deliberation a verdict of guilty was found. A motion for a new trial for Fredericks on the ground of insufficient evidence was denied, and the trial on the second indictment was begun. Yesterday after Miss Stoll had concluded her testimony the prisoners held a consultation with their counsel and offered to plead non vult to the remaining indictments. The District Attorney refused to accept, and after another brief consultation the three men pleaded guilty to all the indictments against them. The Court remanded them back to the County Jail, where a strong guard was placed over them. They will probably be sentenced to-day and removed at once to the State Prison at Trenton.

AN UNFAITHFUL NURSE.

SAD FATE OF A FOUNDLING BABE—GIVEN IN CHARGE TO AN INEBRIATE AND ALLOWED TO STARVE TO DEATH.

A policeman summoned from the street by some of the neighbors ascended to the top floor of No. 301 East Forty-second street on Saturday night, where in a room cheerless and bare a little child of three months was lying dead on the floor beside an intoxicated woman. For over a week the wretched creature had, the policeman was told, been passing from one stage of inebriety to another. Her name was Jane McGinness, and only a few months since her husband, Patrick, had been sent to the Lunatic Asylum, crazed by course, like her own and by worriment over his blighted home. Four children were left to the woman to care for, but she succeeded in ridding herself of two of them, who were sent to the Catholic Protectory. A third, James, a little boy seven years old, was left with her to assist about the house. The last was a mere infant. Some time since Mrs. McGinness applied to the Foundling Asylum for a child to nurse, and in consideration of a regular stipend took the tiny child which on Saturday night was found dead. When she was brought into the station it is alleged that she neglected the young nursling altogether. Her own baby would have fared no better had not young James' fraternal feeling manifested itself in feeding the other one milk and soft bread. The other child did not get this sort of nourishment, and at last the poor little creature succumbed. The boy James for the last seven days had been kept engaged running at his mother's lucid intervals in carrying her liquor, and when he was taken along with her to the Yorkville Police Court yesterday he was closely questioned as to whom he purchased it from. Proceedings will probably be had against him when it is disclosed, and the liquor seller will be called to account for disposing of it to a minor. Mrs. McGinness was a sad-looking object when she appeared in court—her eyes bloodshot, her face scorbutic and every nerve unstrung. Stimulants had to be administered in the prison to avert an immediate attack of delirium tremens. She was then locked up to await the result of an investigation by the Coroner, who had been notified of the particulars. Her son, James McGinness, was committed to the Catholic Protectory, and the body of the dead infant was returned to the Foundling Asylum, where its interment will be provided for.

THE AUTOPSY.

Deputy Coroner Cushman made an autopsy on the body of the babe and discovered no marks of violence. The little waif had died from marasmus. From its birth the child was sickly. It was four months old. Sister Irene had the little one christened Anna Smith, but of course its parents are unknown. Sister Irene informed a HERALD reporter that before she put the babe out to nurse with Mrs. McGinness she examined the woman's credentials. Among other testimonials of good character was one from a well known physician of this city. It is said that the unfortunate woman had been until recently a teetotaler.

ELECTRIC LIGHT ON SHIPBOARD.

The Inman steamer City of Berlin, which arrived at this port on Saturday, was lighted during the voyage by electricity. Four lights were placed in the saloon and two in the main cabin, each having a light power of 400 standard candles, the apparatus being driven by a small four-horse power engine. The experiment proved such a success that the delighted passengers presented an address of thanks to the Inman Company, through Captain Kennedy, commander of the vessel.

SEQUEL TO A ROBBERY.

HACKENSACK, N. J., Dec. 14, 1879.

A number of diamonds, valued at $1,200, mysteriously disappeared from one of the sleeping apartments in the residence of Mr. Martin Y. Bunn, of Cherry Hill, near Hackensack, N. J., about three weeks ago. At the time of the robbery a young man named Ernest Wittie, who lived with Mr. Bunn, was accused of the theft and taken into custody. Since that time until Friday last he was forced to remain in jail, when he was released, owing to the fact that the Grand Jury refused to indict him on the evidence offered. Upon regaining his liberty Wittie at once went to Bunn's house and discovered that during his imprisonment a trunk belonging to him had been opened and despoiled of a considerable sum of money. He reported the loss to Mrs. Bunn, who denied knowing anything about the money. Yesterday Wittie appeared before Justice Van Horn and lodged a complaint charging Frank S. Bunn with the theft of his money. The theft of the diamonds, and all the intents bringing the case to a trial, a full and complete solution of what is now a mystery may be expected.

ECHOES FROM ABROAD.

Glimpses of Interesting Events in Europe.

FACTS, FANCIES AND FICTIONS.

Paragraphs About Prominent Personages and Pretty Places.

Theodore Morawski, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the insurrectional government of Poland in 1831, and author of a history of Poland, has just died at Paris, at the age of eighty. Morawski was the last but one of the phalanx of patriots that were sent by the insurgents to the Diet of Warsaw. There remains now only the Poet Bohdan Zaleski, who also lives in France.

The Canadian prohibition against the importation of cattle from the United States is, says an English paper, having a damaging effect on the Dominion export trade. As an instance, a dealer at Belleville, Ont., who recently received an English order for 2,000 prime head of cattle for the Christmas market was compelled to execute it from Boston, Mass., owing to his inability to find suitable stock in Canada.

The *Vitoska*, published at Sofia, states that the Bulgarian government contemplates the establishment of an agricultural school, with a model farm, in the neighborhood of Rustchuk, on an estate known there as the Tetufik de Midhat. The Roumanian government has received another shipment of 20,000 rifles from Witten, in Westphalia. It is intended gradually but speedily to increase the number of Henry-Martini rifles in store until they reach 180,000.

Of Mr. Tennyson's promised play the London *Times* says:—"The piece is founded on the beautiful old legend of 'the Knight and the Falcon,' the best known, perhaps, and the fairest of the hundred tales Boccaccio wrote for the edification of Joanna of Naples.

A stagnant fen,
Grown rank with rushes and with reeds,
Where a white lily, now and then,
Blooms in the midst of noxious weeds.

"This white lily has been already transplanted by Mr. Longfellow into a clearer soil, as all readers of his 'Tales of a Wayside Inn' will remember. Mr. Tennyson's play will be in one act, and in verse, of course. It will employ four characters, but two only of importance—the Knight and the Lady—and these will be presented by Mr. and Mrs. Kendal. It is already in rehearsal and will, if possible, be produced before Christmas."

The Glasgow *News* says a manifest improvement has taken place in the shipbuilding trade on the Clyde within the past month. Several good orders were secured by the principal shipbuilding firms, while not a few vessels were consigned to the care of less important builders. Of the vessels launched during the month of November seven were screw steamers, one schooner, one screw tug and one iron bark, having an aggregate of close on nineteen thousand tons. This was, however, a decrease of about five thousand tons compared with the same period last year.

The special correspondent of the *Cologne Gazette* at Sydney, writing on October 9, sends a long account of the exhibition, and more particularly of the German sections of it. He allows that England, the United States and the British Colonies make the display, but the place next to them he claims for Germany. One of the favorite shows at the palace was a number of South Sea Islanders, chiefly from the Fiji Islands, who gave daily representations of their war dances, &c. The picture gallery would not be ready for opening before the beginning or middle of November.

At the present moment the Parisians are talking a good deal about a poor lady, Mme. O'Connell, whose *salon* was, fifteen years ago, one of the most brilliant in Paris, but who is now lodged among the indigent lunatics in the Ville Evrard Asylum, near Paris. Mme. O'Connell was the daughter of a chocolate maker in Berlin. She had a taste for painting, studied at Brussels, where she married a handsome Irishman, Mr. O'Connell, who passed his life in practising fencing and arranging duels. From Brussels she came to Paris, where her *atelier* and *salon* were frequented by the artistic and literary people of the time. Now that her sad fate is known her old friends, headed by M. de Girardin, are organizing a subscription among themselves to give her some little comfort in her terrible affliction.

Trautz-Bauzonnet, the great bookbinder of modern times, has just died at Paris. He had his shop in the old Rue du Four-Saint-Germain, and worked only for the very first amateurs, Messrs. Cigongne, Quentin-Bauchart, Duc d'Aumale, Comte de Lurde, Comte [illegible], Baron de la Carelle, &c. His finest bindings in mosaic compartments of colored morocco cost terrible prices; 1,000f., 2,000f. and 3,000f. He did not turn out more than a hundred bindings a year. In late years he was almost monopolized by Mr. J. de Rothschild. He used to do his gilding himself, and was only aided in his work by two assistants and his wife. He was decorated with the Legion of Honor in 1869.

The *Parisian*:—"Two new chairs will probably be established at the University of Paris next year, one for the study of Celtic and the other for the study of the history of religions. There are some people who see the Celtic element everywhere. They believe that the Celtic race, which some way or another missed the coach of life, will be enabled to take a fresh start one of these days and to have its 'fling' in the sum total of humanity. The Allobroges, who struggled so valiantly against Rome, were Celts; the Bretons, who were the last to accept the French yoke, and the Vendéans, in the wars of La Vendée, were Celts. It is incontestable that there is much Celtic blood in the veins of the French, who owe their striking originality to a mixture of all the races."

"It is by no means certain," says the London *Times*, "that St. Mark's has been saved by the pious, well-meant remonstrances of English artists and men of letters. But it is pretty clear that we have lost—it is to be hoped only for a very short time—something almost as precious, and that is the good opinion of the Italian press. [illegible] When the lovers of art met in the Sheldonian Theatre at Oxford, and passed resolutions full of kindly solicitude and good advice as to the way in which the Italians should deal with one of their most glorious monuments, there was not a doubt as to whether the latter would quietly submit to this lecturing, administered, no doubt, with the best intentions in the world, but liable, as all forms of lecturing are, to be misunderstood and resented by those who are to be benefited. The apprehension turns out to be only too well-founded."

"Mr. George Grison recently published," says the *Parisian*, "some interesting notes concerning the condition of the working men in the French capital. The workmen are the masons' laborers, who carry bricks and make mortar, get 4f. a day; the masons who do the rougher work, 5f. 50c., and the more skilled masons, 6f. 50c. a day. This is the official tariff, but some contractors give higher wages. [illegible] The plumbers and workers in zinc get on an average 8f. a day, and the bronze workers from 8f. to 12f., according to their skill. All these workmen have recently demanded an increase, and, as Mr. Grison remarks, they are now handsomely remunerated as compared with the salaries paid to the *bourgeois*, to clerks in the public offices and large concerns. In the ministerial departments clerks commence at 3f. 33c., and if they have patronage and good luck they get 4f., less 10c. deducted. In the large railway companies it is even worse. There a clerk may have to serve five years and not get more than 160f. a year. And the *bourgeois* has many expenses which the workingman need not incur, especially in the way of dress. The workingman, too, is free. If he dislikes his employer he can pack up his tools and go away. He is never long out of work. With a clerk it is a different case. It is a very serious matter for him to resign, for it means a long struggle before he finds fresh employment. Mr. Grison then compares the pay of the workingman to that of the officer in the army covered with gold lace, and finds that the sub-lieutenant of the Garde de Paris gets the same pay as the underman and the plumber. The sub-lieutenant of a marching regiment [illegible]."

THE DISTRESS IN IRELAND.

The following pastoral letter from Cardinal Manning was read in the Roman Catholic places of worship in his diocese at all the masses and other services on Sunday, the 30th of November:—"The early and severe cold is a sign that we are threatened with much suffering this winter among our own poor in London. Nevertheless we invite you also to think of others at a distance, who are already suffering severely, and who, as the winter draws on, will be exposed to utter want of food, fuel and clothing. [illegible] We have received private letters from well informed and responsible persons in Ireland full of anxiety for the next six months. They describe what is day by day before their eyes. In some parts in the West of Ireland such hunger, poverty and want have not been known since the fatal famine of 1847. Fever has already shown itself. [illegible] the school children. The dioceses which are already suffering most are Ross, Kerry, Galway and Tuam. It may be little that you can send; but [illegible] the sympathy and love of your hearts [illegible] suffering brethren in Ireland. We therefore affectionately and earnestly call upon you to give promptly and generously, as far as you are able, for their relief, and in thanksgiving to our Divine Master for all the blessings we enjoy, to give your offerings for this object in all our churches on Sunday next, December 7." A Dublin correspondent of an English journal is of opinion that [illegible] the more serious matter comes up of how the people are to be employed and fed, [illegible] where there is deep poverty, but likewise in towns. There will be during December a great scarcity of labor, and, though many of the difficulties will be somewhat mitigated by the Board of Works loans, the number of those so relieved will be [illegible] hope that [illegible] borrowings and consequent [illegible] Unfortunately [illegible] further intervention may be, it is possible enough that a more direct use of public money will become, in exceptional cases, necessary, and the public mind should be turned to the nature of the operation which in this sense may yet be engaged in.

SARDOU'S NEW PLAY.

"Some time in the months of January, February or March a comedy in five acts, by M. Victorien Sardou, will," says *The Parisian*, "be brought out at the Comédie-Française. The event is still distant, and much water will pass under the Pont-Neuf before it takes place, but, such is the thirst of the public for anticipating and taking the edge off novelties, that, although we think it absurd and unfair to the writer to describe his play before it has been produced, still, as journalists, it is our duty not to allow ourselves to be left behind by our contemporaries, and to try and leave them behind as often as we can. This is our only excuse for publishing, two or three months beforehand, the plot of M. Sardou's comedy. The idea, we must confess, seems to us to be false, and we fail to divine how scenic effects are to be obtained from its development. That, however, is one of the disadvantages of this helter-skelter chase after unripe news. Daniel Rochat is a Deputy of great talent and reputation, who has gone to Switzerland on the occasion of the centenary of Voltaire, in order to deliver a grand speech. In the course of his journey he meets with an American family named Henderson, and falls in love with one of the daughters, Léa. But Miss Léa is a Protestant, and the French orator has chosen the glorification of free thought as the subject of his harangue. What will the young girl, who will be among the audience, think of this negation of all belief on the part of the man whom she is beginning to love? Daniel Rochat asks himself this question, and an intense conflict takes place between the lover and the public man. He determines to soften his expressions, so as not to shock the young girl. Vain resolution! When once in the presence of the public he gives rein to his tongue and comes down from the tribune amid the enthusiastic applause of the audience, but in despair at the effect that he will have produced on Léa. But his eloquence has done wonders. The charm of his words has made the doctrine pass unperceived. Léa is full of admiration, and allows herself to make a confession of her love in the enthusiasm of her words. So far, so good. The two engage themselves to each other, and a marriage is agreed upon. Daniel is, at this moment, called back to Paris immediately, in order to take part in an important debate. Must they then separate, just when they were about to be united forever? Doctor Bidache arrives to arrange matters. It appears that Swiss law does not require the same delays and formalities for marriage as the French law. An impromptu civil union can be formed before the local authorities, and made regular afterward in France. Why not take advantage of it? So Léa becomes Mme. Rochat, almost, for a pastor, the Rev. Septimus Clarke, presents himself to bless the pair in the name of religion. Daniel refuses to be blessed; he could not give the lie to the opinions of his whole life. Léa, on her side, declares that, in spite of her affection, she cannot sacrifice her conscience. She will not be the wife of her husband until the Church shall have consecrated their union. The drama pivots on the struggle between the two spouses on the question of religious marriage. During three acts they each exhaust all the arguments that are suggested on one side by love, and on the other by conviction. It is a psychological duel. At one moment Daniel is on the point of yielding, but his friend, Dr. Bidache, restrains him by relating the history of his own life. He was the happiest of husbands. One day his child fell ill; the malady grew worse and worse, and, in spite of despair, the mother ran to the church and brought a priest to the bedside. By a brusque effort of nature the child was saved; the mother believed in a miracle and became a blindly devout person. 'Since that day,' says Bidache, 'I have had no wife, I have had no child! * * * that is where religious marriage would lead you.' This narrative, which suggests the history of the marriage of the Deputy, Mr. Alfred Naquet, the great partisan of divorce, prevents Daniel Rochat from yielding. A supreme interview takes place between the two half wedded spouses. [illegible] In a passionate scene Daniel adjures his wife to resist to the end the sacrifice of their happiness to the superstition of a vain ceremony. Léa refuses. Daniel then offers a concession. They will go to the church in the mystery of the night and receive the pastor's benediction, but the mystery shall remain, forever, between themselves. And the world shall know nothing of it. Léa rejects this subterfuge and the spouses separate forever.

"The *rôles* are distributed as follows:—Daniel Rochat, Delaunay; Dr. Bidache, Thiron; Rev. Septimus Clarke, Sylvain; Léa, Mlle. Bartet."

VERSAILLES AND PARIS.

THE FRENCH PARLIAMENT AND PRETTY WOMEN—HOW THE LADIES ARE SEATED IN THE PALAIS BOURBON.

[From London Truth, Dec. 4.]

Coquettish Susannahs are finding out that, from their point of view, it was better for the Parliament to sit at Versailles than on the Quai d'Orsay. Serious legislative work having been impossible when the Chambers met in the department of the Seine-et-Oise legislators often applied their hearts to amusement. The journey to the Chamber and the journey back took, with the half hour passed in loitering and gossiping at the St. Lazare terminus, the best part of the afternoon. Hardly had Deputies got to their destination and settled down to their places, before it was time to start off Parisward. In running to and fro they contracted a vagabond and adventurous humor. There were agreeable *rencontres* in the railway trains with the fair dames who adorned the tribunes. For these representative French ladies everything was for the best in the Versaillist *régime*. Women are never so happy as when the unforeseen is always disturbing the daily course of their lives. And what a fine part the unforeseen played in those express Deputies' trains, and what delightful incidents cropped up suddenly! The most trifling circumstance might be a hinge on which everything turned. A parliamentary session meant a Parliament with a numerous female following continually on the wing. This vagrancy induced bustle, activity and brisk excitement, and rid the fashionable world of Paris of the languid, *blasé* style of beauty. The stage which was allowed to fashionable women between the parliamentary "meet" at St. Lazare and the return home in the evening was the most ample, public and never overcrowded. There was room and to spare for all. On the eve of great debates there were at certain dressmaking houses private exhibitions of the costumes which leading belles who habitually graced the tribunes were to wear. Newspaper chroniclers were invited to attend the shows. Forewomen went round to prompt descriptions, and to enable scribes in their pocket jottings on the morrow to render full justice to the robes no less than to the wit and beauty of their wearers. [illegible] were interspersed with chitchat, which was set down in note books and worked into reports of the debate on the following morning for Boulevard journals. The house which took the initiative in this kind of exhibition was soon able to give its forewoman a salary of 100,000f. a year.

AT THE PALAIS BOURBON.

There is no such field at the Palais Bourbon. The Parliamentary belle drives there, and is shown to her place without loss of time. The sitting over, she hurries down a narrow staircase and out to the Quai, where her brougham awaits her. As Deputies congregate in rooms [illegible] reporters enter in by the Rue de Bourgogne, there is little to be won by a coquettish Susannah in promenading in the Salle de la Paix, which is but a lobby, between writhing Laocoön and stern Minerva. A country cousin may here see Gambetta proceeding from his residence to take the chair. He is escorted by a picket of infantry and by a fine-looking colonel—Riu—and a lieutenant in command of the detachment of soldiers who walk, holding their swords bare, beside him. He carries his crush hat in his hand. The picket keeps off place hunters and intemperate admirers. Ministers also pass from the Petit Bourbon through this lobby. The great postal reformer Cochery, who will turn up in a new Cabinet if Waddington is defeated next winter, breakfasted on the opening day at the Presidential Palace, where he met Lepère, General Farre, de Freycinet and Henri Brisson, for whom Grévy may be said to keep open house. At Versailles, both in the Senate House and the Chamber of Deputies, the public tribunes were admirably disposed to show off the busts and bonnets of the ladies. The first tier was a wide *balcon*, and the Parliamentary belles contrived to keep possession of the front seats. Skirts and pretty feet were displayed in the walk across the cobblestone pavement of the Place d'Armes. In the Palais Bourbon there is no *balcon*. The first tier is disposed like the dress circle of a London opera house. No unbroken line of delicious bonnets and charming faces will rejoice the eye of M. Gambetta as he sits in the chair. Pillars and partitions cause solutions of continuity which may make the luminous transmission from one extremity to the other of the semi-circular gallery of electric glances such as are lavished upon an eloquent speaker impossible.

THE PRESS AND THE LADIES.

The press, which is lodged in the second, or topmost, gallery, resents being placed on a less favored footing than a lot of idle women. A member of the bureau, on whom a grumbler called to expostulate, refused point blank to give the reporters' gallery by turning ladies out. He thought it was for the interest of the Republic for the latter to come to the Chamber. [illegible] the Bureau of the Chamber shows a wise discretion in [illegible] The fate of Cabinets is often decided in boudoirs and *salons*. Chief among the dispensers of official patronage are ladies. A Parliamentary Ulysses with whom I have lately talked over the matter [illegible] is to be regretted. French women, he said, did not make a corrupt use of their power to give away places, but [illegible] by an amiable wish to please, or to avenge some trifling wrongs. It is a mistake to think the coquette sways Parliamentary things. She is too unstable in her ideas to be a directing mind. Nor is the rapacious, handsome woman a power. [illegible] they have all arrived at the time of life when women enjoy doing kind actions. Vanity, no doubt, was one of their ruling passions.