The Evening Times

THE TIMES COMPANY.
WALTER STILSON HUTCHINS, President.
PUBLICATION OFFICE.
THE HUTCHINS BUILDING,
CORNER TENTH AND D STS. NORTHWEST.

Subscription Rates.

BY MAIL—ONE YEAR:

Morning, Evening, and Sunday	$6.00
Morning and Sunday	4.00
Evening and Sunday	4.00
Sunday only	1.00

MONTHLY BY CARRIER:

Morning, Evening, and Sunday	Fifty cents
Morning and Sunday	Thirty-five cents
Evening and Sunday	Thirty-five cents

TELEPHONE NUMBERS.

Editorial Rooms	486
Business Office	1640
Circulation Department	265

CIRCULATION STATEMENT.

The circulation of The Times for the week ending January 27, 1900, was as follows:

Sunday, January 21	20,210
Monday, January 22	41,496
Tuesday, January 23	41,725
Wednesday, January 24	42,068
Thursday, January 25	41,920
Friday, January 26	41,716
Saturday, January 27	42,165
Total	271,298
Daily average (Sunday, 20,210, excepted)	41,848

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1900.

The Situation at Frankfort.

Irrespective of what may be the power of ex-Governor Taylor, backed by his horde of drunken and bloodthirsty savages, to prolong a situation of anarchy in Kentucky's capital, the legal action of the Legislature in declaring the election of William Goebel, and inaugurating him, deprives the insurrection against the constitutional authorities of the State of whatever advantage the Republican chief had gained temporarily by his violent and treasonable dispersion of the Legislature, and through the attempted assassination of the de jure Governor of the Commonwealth. The final events of yesterday brand Taylor and his banditti as rebels and outlaws, and though they may be strong enough in men and guns to hold the statehouse as a fortress, and continue the reign of terror in Frankfort for a few days, they will ultimately meet defeat and punishment at the hands of the law they have so wickedly and murderously outraged.

The end should not be long in coming. The plot to murder Governor Goebel, plainly the work of Taylor's immediate mountain following, and for his benefit; and his outrageous usurpation of authority in adjourning the General Assembly of Kentucky, have washed out all shades of difference among the Democrats of the State, and, with the exception of half a dozen hopeless renegades, they will stand together as one man in defence of their laws and constitution. The power which Taylor, as de facto Governor, has exercised over the militia has been taken away from him by the inauguration of Governor Goebel, who has appointed General John B. Castleman as adjutant general and to command the State Guard. It is presumable that his orders will be recognized and obeyed by all military officers and bodies, the mountain bandits enlisted by Taylor alone excepted. If the latter should be induced to hold out against the legal government, they may possibly make one fight, but it will be their last. If the desperation of Taylor and his associates should carry them that far, a terrible lesson is in store for them; but, in case of resistance, it will be one eminently necessary to administer if the integrity of American free institutions is to be vindicated and preserved.

There is some talk today of Federal interference; but we think it safe to assume that Taylor's revolutionary action against the Legislature has put it out of the power of his friends in Washington to help him. President McKinley, we are sure, must regard that act as an act of insurrection and treason. Whether he does or not, the country at large so regards it, and it would be a sad day for the Republican Administration when it should invade Kentucky with national troops, to suppress the constitutional government of the State and maintain the Taylor and Philpot bushwhackers in office. The decent people of Kentucky, without distinction of party, if left to themselves, will see to it that law and order are restored and assassination as a dominant principle eliminated from local Republican politics.

The Man With the Gun.

Recent sanguinary and sensational events in Kentucky may lend vigor to a new agitation in Virginia for the abolition of the pistol-carrying habit. Senator Bruce, of the Old Dominion Legislature, has opened a determined campaign for the enactment of prohibitory measures calculated to discourage the practice, and has framed three bills for the consideration of the law-making body. If these are clothed with the authority of law, they will make it a serious thing not only to carry firearms in the State of Virginia, but to sell revolvers or ammunition therefor. The proposed statutes exempt only officers of the law and soldiers in active service from the prohibition.

Senator Bruce's contention is that pistol-carrying has become so general in the community where he resides that ordinary penalties offer no restrictive influence. The measures he has offered are calculated to be boldly remedial, grading the punishment according to the number of offences. A small fine is to be imposed for the first violation, but the offender is also to be compelled to give a bond of one thousand dollars, which is to be forfeited if he breaks the law a second time.

In justifying his radical measure, Senator Bruce calls attention to the frequent brawls that have occurred in the mining districts of the State, and during which murders have often been committed with firearms while the combatants were in a high state of temper or intoxication. The Virginia Senator claims that the inefficiency of moderate measures has been sufficiently proved, and that they can no longer be depended upon to destroy the practice of carrying firearms with a view to their illegitimate employment in times of emergency. He declares that public safety demands a radical reform, and that such a consummation can only be brought about by heavy penalties.

Almost all communities, except the wildest and woolliest, have paid more or less earnest attention to this question of pistol-carrying and have provided punishments for those who are found with concealed weapons on their persons. In the District of Columbia, when a man taken into custody is discovered to have a loaded firearm in his possession the law says he shall be fined not less than fifty nor more than two hundred and fifty dollars. If a citizen believes it absolutely essential to his safety or has any legitimate reason for wishing to go about with a revolver in his pocket, he may apply to the judges of the Police Court, who, if they consider his petition a good one, will grant permission, first taking a bond to guarantee that the applicant will not use the weapon for unlawful purposes. The penalty cited applies likewise to persons who carry firearms openly, if the gun or pistol be loaded.

Under ordinary circumstances, the carrying of revolvers or knives with long blades is reprehensible. Unless a man's life has been threatened or he is going on a hunting expedition, there is absolutely no excuse for the practice in time of peace. Candidly, a citizen who habitually goes forth into the community with a loaded pistol in his pocket is an object of suspicion, and the inevitable inference is that he does not intend to do any good with it.

Many men who have committed murder on the impulse of the moment would have been free from the stain of crime had there been no firearm within reach to emphasize their insane fury. Those whose tempers are easily aroused or who indulge in intoxicants ought, in their normal condition, to feel under an obligation to themselves and the community to refrain from carrying any weapon with which, in a frenzy, they would be likely to destroy the life of a fellow-being.

The man with the gun—in a time of peace—is a menace to the whole community as events in the Blue Grass State and other parts of the country have too frequently demonstrated. Anything that can be done in any part of the country to suppress him must receive the endorsement of thoughtful and law-abiding citizens. To disarm him is not only conducive to public safety, but a kindness to the pistol-carrier himself, though he may offer a vociferous protest in the name of personal liberty and other abused privileges.

Unless licensed by due authority, the man with the gun is today as much out of place as would be a feudal baron clad in Bessemer habiliments and poking his way through the crowded streets armed with an ugly lance and in search of his enemies.

Mr. Carnegie's Speech.

Somehow or other there seems to be a tendency among prominent men just at present to explain themselves. They make a speech, or write a book or a poem, and after a short interval make frantic attempts to explain to the public what they meant by that speech, or poem, or book. Some newspapers make a practice of asking authors to give their reasons for writing their latest novel. It begins to look as if no one could make a plain statement without having to follow it with a detailed account of his reasons for making it, the circumstances under which it was given forth, and finally, his sincerity or insincerity in saying such a thing at all.

Here is Edwin Markham, for example, wandering about the country telling "Markham Clubs" what he intended to say when he wrote "The Man with the Hoe." Here is President Hadley driven to explain that he really did not suggest that college professors with salaries of $2,000 a year should ostracise trust magnates who own automobiles and steam yachts. Some enterprising newspaper may send a reporter to Frankfort to find out whether the man who shot Goebel really meant to do it. And if Edward Noyes Westcott were not dead, he would surely be interviewed about his motives for writing "David Harum" and the lesson which it was intended to teach. Finally, Mr. Andrew Carnegie has been reduced to making explanations of his recent statement that it was bad policy to aid the submerged tenth, and much better to help the man who was fighting with his head above water. He really said that if he could have his way, the submerged persons would be fed, sheltered, and supported, but not allowed to marry. This has caused a small commotion among philanthropists, and also among persons fond of discussion on slight ground.

From the ordinary reader's point of view there does not seem to be much mystery about Mr. Carnegie's statement. It is not romantic, but there is considerable hard Scotch sense in it, all the same. Of course, it all depends on what he means by the submerged tenth; and perhaps one-tenth is rather too large a proportion to set apart in this way. But there is no doubt in the world that a great deal of the money spent on the very lowest grade of humanity is practically wasted, because sentimentality and not common sense dictates its use. In the end, common sense is really merciful, and much of the apparent cruelty of Nature is simply what we call "horse sense" carried out to its logical conclusion. The law of the survival of the fittest is an instance of this. Does anyone believe that any good end would be served by the persistent survival of the physically and morally unfit? Is not the whole purpose of civilization to perpetuate the higher qualities of humanity and exterminate the lower? Can anyone read a truthful account of the world as it was four hundred years ago and doubt that this, generally speaking, has been the tendency of human development?

There ought to be no question, in the mind of any sensible person, that persons physically and morally degenerate ought to be prevented, if possible, from perpetuating their kind. Such measures as might be taken to effect this end would be simply merciful to the human race in general. We all know that there are creatures so debased, so sodden in vice, that their children are almost certainly doomed to become criminals, maniacs, or imbeciles. It may not be their fault that they are thus debased; this is not a question of punishment. They should be taken care of, fed, clothed, given work, and all the instruction of which they are in need. But congenital criminals should not be allowed to remain at large and prey on society. A little strict supervision in one generation might so reduce the number of degenerates in the next that some of the poor and deserving people would have a chance to be helped. There is no economy in allowing the children of honest, hard-working parents to become diseased and vicious for want of a little care, while money is being spent to provide homes for physical and moral incurables. That sort of thing is what our grandfathers used to call saving at the spigot and waste at the bung. They also had a shrewd proverb to the effect that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Some modern philanthropists, consumed with a zeal for "rescuing" the toughest subjects, would do well to remember that saying.

The Microbe Scare.

One of the most amusing things, to the unconscientious observer of human society, is what may be called the germ craze. Of course, strictly speaking, the scientists who have elaborated the theories regarding microbes have done a great work, and it is necessary that the general public should understand something of these theories in order to guard against dangers which were until lately not suspected at all. The comparative freedom from contagious diseases which our own country enjoys is certainly due to these discoveries and their application.

But all the same, the quaking terror which many people have of what they suppose to be the deadly microbe is rather amusing. It is similar to the feeling which mediaeval citizens entertained toward the basilisk. This resemblance was hit upon quite accidentally by the Irish gentleman who undertook to explain the nature of a basilisk. He said:

"It is a rare and didly boog. It is found in all countries and is known by different names in the different countries and nations. It is a pale grane in color and yellow sthripes. The basilisk, mon, is what is called germs in Germany and parasites in Paris, and in Oireland they are called microbes!"

This is just about as near the mark as certain variations of the popular conception regarding the microbe. Fear of the creature is generally confined to the feminine half of society, husbands, brothers, fathers, and sons arguing that they have lived in the same world with microbes for many years, and have not been hurt. But to a certain type of nervous lady the microbe is like original sin, sure to exist in unexpected places. She is never without terror of the animal. She boils the drinking water, disinfects everything, objects to the proximity of perfectly unoffending people, opposes the custom of handshaking, to say nothing of kissing—and it is said that one energetic member of this cult always washes and irons her paper currency and scours her coin. The families of these ladies dream of microbes instead of breathing or swallowing them.

While a certain amount of precaution in these matters is good, one should understand the reason for precaution and the boundary line thereof. It goes without saying that the careful housewife will if possible see that her house is sweet and clean, airy, and full of light, without heavy hangings which cannot be cleaned, or dark corners and holes where unsavory smells may be. She will, if necessary, give up having handsome furniture, that she may command the service necessary to keep her home attractively clean. She will not have complicated menus, but the food will be wholesome and well cooked. She will not have an elaborate table-service but her linen will be plentiful and white. She will take care that hot and cold water abound for the use of the family, and that the laundry bills are not cut down, whatever reductions may take place in other departments. Dust and disorder—of a certain sort—are not dirt; and the sensible housekeeper can distinguish between the two. It is not always possible for a woman of narrow means to keep everything in apple-pie order if she has a family of children, but unsanitary conditions can generally be avoided with a little planning. If the general health of the family is good, and all its members take a proper amount of exercise and eat wholesome food, they will be able to resist the attacks of the common or garden microbe.

The news from South Africa this morning is not important enough to demand extended editorial review. No change is reported in the Tugela situation. There are indications that Lord Kitchener is at work in Northern Cape Colony, and that within a few days there may be developments in that direction. Sir George White, at Ladysmith, is full of pluck, but his condition must be extremely desperate. The London military experts do not appear optimistic as to any chance Buller may have to relieve him. As far as we are able to learn, the Boers have not believed any attack in force on the British right at Cheveley; but there should be fighting at that or some other point on the line without much delay.

The members of the humane society who are making a to-do over the feeding of live chickens to boa-constrictors once in three months, at the zoological gardens, would do well to take a walk along the streets of almost any large city and look at the restaurant signs. They will see the information that lobsters are "broiled alive" at the request of patrons, and in their own kitchens they will find that crabs are dropped alive into boiling water. They will also, by close observation of the family cat, discover that if she is a good active mouser she kills her own meat, and if they watch the chickens in any farmer's garden they will see the fowls busily engaged in scratching up angle-worms and eating the same, without stopping to ask the worm's permission. After pursuing this line of investigation for a little time, they may perhaps conclude that the safest subject for future agitation will be the inhumanity of dehorning hydraulic rams.

The "Atchison Globe" enquires who authorized Rev. Charles M. Sheldon to decide "what Jesus would have done" in a newspaper office, and the enquiry is a pertinent one. Still more to the point is the remark of a correspondent in regard to Mr. Sheldon's action in raising the price of the "Topeka Capital" during the week of his editorship. The subscriber writes to ask if the reverend editor thinks that that is "what Jesus would do."

Nobody need suppose that Pettigrew will feel in the least humiliated under his denunciation as a traitor by Senator Hawley. He is far too impervious to things that men in public or even in private life ordinarily care about. But there is one phase of the situation Pettigrew has created for himself in the Senate which even so pachydermatous a man may well ponder. He is steadily destroying his ability to be useful to his friends. Who they are is not a matter of particular mystery.

The Dread of Draughts.

(From the Philadelphia Record.)

A great many people have a dread of draughts, but few of them carry their preventive measures to the extreme practiced by a bookkeeper in one of the large uptown breweries. The opening of a door or window will drive him to distraction, and the slightest current of air in the little box-like office which he sits will cause him to put on his overcoat. He has tacked felt over the cracks in the door, and the chinks in the window frames are stuffed up with paper. The thermometer to him is an object of greater interest than anything else in the world. His chief stroke of genius, and one of which he is very proud, is a feather suspended from the ceiling by a slight, silken thread. When not busy with his books it is his custom to divide his time between consulting the thermometer and watching the feather. Should the latter move in the slightest degree he doesn't rest content until he finds out where the draught comes from.

An Excited Nutmeg Editor.

(From the Hartford Courant.)

In time we may learn just what has occurred at the Chinese capital, and what it portends. The stories now at hand are confused and conflicting. The young figure-head Emperor is dead; he was murdered; he committed suicide; he is living, but has abdicated in favor of a boy of tender years; the fierce old Empress Dowager did it; Russia did it. What is one to make of such a farrago as that? If it is really so that a child Emperor has been put on the throne, and that he is the son of as implacable a hater of the "foreign devils" as the empress dowager herself, the sequels may be serious.

A New Latin Dictionary.

(From the Buffalo Commercial.)

Philologists in Germany have united to bring out a complete Latin dictionary, a "Thesaurus Linguæ Latinæ," and expect to begin printing next fall. The standard is still Forcellini and Facciolati's "Lexicon Totius Latinitatis," compiled 150 years ago, and revised repeatedly by Italian scholars.

Childish Friskiness.

(From the Indianapolis Journal.)

"Scientists say the automobile is still in its infancy."

"Ah, then that explains why it sometimes makes a dash across the street and tries to climb a tree."

IN THE HOTEL CORRIDORS.

Prof. J. G. Schurman, of the Philippine Commission, is at the Arlington, from Ithaca, N. Y.

* * *

Gen. O. O. Howard is at the Ebbitt. He is here on business connected with the War Department, and will remain in the Capital for several days.

* * *

Gen. J. G. Ashloch, of New York, is at the Shoreham with Montagu White, the Transvaal agent. General Ashloch is a prominent Boer sympathizer and was in South Africa during the former Anglo-Boer war. He is familiar with the scene of present operations and holds that the Transvaal burghers will be able to check the British advance on Ladysmith for some time yet. He will remain in the city for several weeks and will be the guest of friends residing here.

* * *

Former State Senator G. A. Owens, of New York, and Assemblyman L. L. Weed, of Brooklyn, are at the Normandie. They are here on a pleasure trip, and will remain about a week.

* * *

"I do not believe that the automobile is doing such an awful lot to force the horse out of business," said W. D. Grand, of New York, a member of the American Horse Exchange, at the Raleigh today. "More horses were sold in ten months in 1899 than in any whole year since 1870, and the only scare I have ever seen has been in newspaper stories. A big firm of horse dealers in Manhattan sold more than 5,000 horses in excess of the previous year, and no dealer has any fears for the near future. The auto-truck is not practical now, and will not be in many years, and there is always room for good horseflesh. When railroads were first introduced in England, everybody made the same prediction as to the passing of the equine, but he is still very much in demand and will be for many years."

* * *

"Do you know that if a half dozen Chicago barbers were to open up business in Washington, their mug racks would resemble the House and Senate postoffices," said J. O. Doerr, of Chicago, at the National today. "They are the most progessive, or nervy, crowd I ever experienced, and the fashion of placing distinguished names on shaving mugs and placing them in conspicuous racks is worked to excess. I have been shaved twice in this city, and have as yet failed to see 'Admiral Dewey,' or 'William McKinley' on a single mug in either of the places I entered. Now, in Chicago, you will find that these two distinguished gentlemen patronize nearly every 'tonsorial parlor' in the city and their private mugs are on exhibition for proof of this. A few of the gaudy places have whole rows of gay mugs bearing the names of generals, statesmen, and high officials. Naturally, I expected to find a regular Congressional directory in the shops in this city, but have been agreeably surprised."

* * *

"I knew Hugh Chisholm, the President of the Paper Trust, which is causing trouble for your newspaper people, when he was a news agent on the Grand Trunk Railroad," said Daniel O. Laporte, of Portland, Me., at Willard's today.

"This was in 1870, when he and his brothers gave the other boys a lesson in forming combinations. He went into the news business on his own hook and in a year had 200 boys working for him. He started a little print shop in Portland and turned out his own books for railroad sale. He worked his way up from $15 per month to $50,000 per year, his present salary. He is a hard worker and if given his own way would soon control half the newspapers in the country."

* * *

"There will be a grand rush to Cape Nome in the spring," said E. L. Bayard, of Tacoma, Wash., at the Ebbitt today. "About 15,000 men have already engaged passage on the various steamship lines, and the result will be a great race for the wealthy strip on the Behring Sea. About 6,000 miners are now in Tacoma awaiting the first chance to follow the ice and stake up the beach. Thirty steamers, carrying from 300 to 1,000 passengers, are scheduled to sail from Tacoma, Seattle, and San Francisco between May 10 and June 1, and nearly every passage has been engaged. The gold craze is simply wonderful, and everybody on the coast has it."

THE ANNUAL NAVAL REGISTER.

A Father and Son Each Retired as a Rear Admiral.

The first copies of the annual "Naval Register" bearing date of January 1, 1900, were issued by the Navy Department yesterday. In the last calendar year the casualties from all diseases among officers in the naval service numbered 161. Forty-four naval officers, including thirty-five naval cadets resigned.

No Marine Corps officers resigned. The retirements were sixty-three, an unusually large number. Only one, H. L. Howison, had reached the grade of rear admiral, when he went on the retired list. Four officers of the Marine Corps retired, and one naval officer was wholly retired; that is, dropped from the naval list.

Three rear admirals, two of them on the retired list, and forty other officers died during 1899. Two officers died on board ships at sea and one officer died on his ship while it was anchored in Manila Bay. Three officers were killed in action, two in Somoa—Lieuts. Philip V. Monaghan and Lansdale, and Ensign John R. Monaghan, and one naval cadet, Welborn C. Wood, in the Philippines.

In the Spanish-American war only two officers, Ensign Worth Bagley and Assistant Surgeon Gibbs, were killed in action. Three officers died abroad. Of the forty-three officers who died during the year, twenty-four had been retired. The Marine Corps deaths numbered three. A warrant officer and a naval cadet were dismissed and the rating of one warrant officer revoked.

The retired list presents the peculiar feature of having three medical officers and six pay officers credited with the rank of rear admirals. This condition has resulted from the result of the new Personnel act which permits officers to retire with the rank and three-fourths sea pay of the next higher grade if they served in the civil war with creditable records. With the exception of the Paymaster General and Surgeon General the highest active grade in these corps is relatively that of captain.

The retired list is led by the name of Rear Admiral Thomas O. Selfridge, sr., who was retired for age on April 24, 1866. He is now nearly ninety-four years old. No. 25 on the list of retired rear admirals is Thomas O. Selfridge, jr., a son of the first named, who passed from active service on account of age on February 6, 1898. He is nearly sixty-three years old.

Admiral Dewey heads the list of live officers. The senior rear admiral is Frederick McNair, Superintendent of the Naval Academy. The junior officer of the service is Ensign Ernest C. Keenan of the Petrel.

Dining the Oldest Townspeople.

(From the London Echo.)

Mr. G. F. Smith, merchant, Wells, signalized the New Year in a novel fashion by inviting to dinner at his own table half a dozen of the oldest people to be found in Wells. The total age of six guests totaled up to 474 years, giving an average of 79. The three above this age were aged 84, 82 and 80. The old fellows spent a very pleasant time.

Where Cocaine Comes From.

(From the New York Post.)

Peru produces practically all the raw cocaine that the world consumes. It is manufactured from the leaves of the cocoa plant, and to supply the demand in the United States the dry leaves are either shipped direct and the drug manufactured from them, or a coarse native product made from the leaves in Peru is imported and refined by improved processes.

A CONSULAR PENSION CLAIM.

Mrs. Clare M. Ashby's Relief Bill Reported Favorably.

The Committee on Claims of the House of Representatives has favorably reported a bill for the relief of Clare M. Ashby, widow of W. W. Ashby, late United States Consul at Colon. Mr. Ashby was a newspaper correspondent and was well known in Washington. The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to pay to Mrs. Clare M. Ashby the balance of one year's salary due the late consul.

On Sunday afternoon, January 16, Mr. Ashby, accompanied by Dr. F. W. Hafeman, German Consul, and D. G. Mott, Master Mechanic of the Panama Railroad, left Colon in a small boat to visit Mr. Mott's cocoanut plantation, situated on what is known as Toro Point, across the bay from this point. The trip over was made all right, but in returning from the shore, near Point Toro, the boat was capsized and all the occupants were thrown out in the water.

Although a moderate breeze was blowing at the time of the accident, the sea was rough and breaking heavily on the jagged reefs which line the coast, and being unable to secure assistance at the time, all the occupants of the boat except the captain, who was thrown on the reef and badly hurt, were either drowned or killed by being thrown against the coral rocks.

The accident was witnessed by one person only, the assistant keeper of the Punta del Toro lighthouse, who, at the time, was in the lamproom of the tower preparing to light the lamp. Being fully half a mile from the place where the accident occurred, and having no means of rendering assistance, he was forced by circumstanes to see the occupants of the ill-fated boat drown.

In a letter to the committee, Thomas W. Cridler, Third Assistant Secretary of State, said the department does not recall a case where Congress has provided an allowance to the widow of a consul who died while in the public service.

Mr. Cridler cited the following precedents to show the action of Congress in similar instances where diplomatic officers have died abroad in the service.

The appropriation act approved March 3, 1879, gave to Mrs. Taylor, widow of Bayard Taylor, who died while minister to Germany, the sum of $7,000 to compensate his estate for the extraordinary expenses and losses incurred by it in consequence of his death so soon after reaching his post.

The joint resolution approved July 28, 1882, gave to Mrs. Hurlbut, widow of General Hurlburt, he having died while Minister to Peru, one year's salary and legal allowances, after necessary deductions of salary paid.

The joint resolution also approved July 28, 1882, gave to Mrs. Kilpatrick, widow of General Kilpatrick, who died while Minister to Chile, one year's salary and legal allowances, after making proper salary deductions.

The joint resolution approved August 1, 1882, gave to Mrs. Garnet, widow of the Rev. Henry Highland Garnet, who died while Minister to Liberia, one year's salary and legal allowances, after deducting the amount received up to death. Mr. Garnet had only been in Liberia a few weeks.

The deficiency bill approved March 2, 1883, gave to Mrs. Marsh, widow of George P. Marsh, who died while Minister to Italy, the balance of one year's salary, reckoned from June 23, 1882.

The act approved December 23, 1884, gave to Mrs. Jane Venable, widow of William E. Venable, who died as Minister to Guatemala, the sum of $5,636.87, being the balance of one year's salary. In this case Mr. Venable was commissioned March 14, 1877, and died at Guatemala August 22 of that year, before presenting his credentials. Consequently the action of Congress dates twenty-seven years after the minister's death.

The deficiency bill approved March 5, 1885, gave to Mrs. Wing, widow of E. Rumsey Wing, who died while Minister to Ecuador, and to Mrs. Hunt, widow of William H. Hunt, who died while Minister to Russia, a sum equal to six months' salary in each case. Mr. Wing was commissioned minister-resident November 16, 1869. Shortly afterward Congress discontinued the mission to Ecuador.

AID FOR MRS. STURGIS.

A Senate Committee Recommends That She Be Granted a Pension.

The Committee on Pensions of the Senat has recommended the passage of a bill granting a pension of $50 a month to Jerusha Sturgis, widow of Gen. Samuel D. Sturgis, who was killed in the Custer massacre. The committee, in its report, says:

"From the evidence submitted in this case it appears to be one of very great and exceptional merit. Gen. Samuel D. Sturgis had a brilliant record as an officer in the army, extending over a period of more than forty years. His record discloses service in two wars—that with Mexico and the late war of the rebellion. He was four times brevetted during the late war for gallant and meritorious services in battle.

"His widow, the claimant under the present bill, is now advanced in years, and in feeble health, and has a daughter dependent upon her. The case presents one feature of peculiar sadness in that a son, upon whom she might have depended upon for support in her declining years, lost his life in the battle of Little Big Horn, known in history as the "Custer massacre," he being at that time an officer in the United States army, and serving with his regiment in that unfortunate battle."

A NOVEL ILLUMINATION.

The Preparation by Buffalo for New Electrical Effects.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Feb. 1.—In the external features of the Pan-American Exposition, to be held on the Niagara frontier, at Buffalo, in 1901, the primary object of which is to illustrate the material progress of the New World during the nineteenth century, many prominent elements of novelty will be introduced.

The attractiveness of the buildings and grounds at night will be enhanced by the extent, brilliancy, and novelty of the electrical illuminations.

The main buildings of the Exposition will be grouped around a court of fountains, with an esplanade and sunken gardens of tropical flowers. This court, which will be 1,700 feet long and cover an area of 850,000 square feet, will be brilliantly illuminated by over one hundred thousand incandescenet lamps of 8 and 16-candle power, which will be so distributed as to diffuse a soft but glowing light over the whole.

At the north end of the court will be located an electrical tower of symmetrical design, 200 feet high. From a niche arranged at the side of this tower facing the court, within a space of seventy feet in height and thirty feet wide, will descend a waterfall, the streams of which will be scattered in jets, bubbles, and spray, which under the powerful electric illumination will present the appearance of the downward flight of myriads of scintillating jewels, in which will mingle prismatically all the hues of the rainbow.

The electric tower will be surrounded by a water basin, with an area of 80,000 square feet. Into this basin from the front of the niche already described, will descend an illuminated cascade, flowing around allegorical statues, about which will play fountains of novel design and remarkable effectiveness. The interior courts of the building will also be illuminated by electric fountains and a lavish use of incandescent lamps, and the electrical illumination will be extended along the grand canal, which will encircle a large portion of the grounds.

The Force of Habit.

(From the Philadelphia Record.)

Prison Visitor—Is there anything that you think might be improved here?

Prisoner (formerly labor leader)—Well, yes; the hours here are too long, for one thing.

THINGS THEATRICAL.

Lafayette—"Scarlet Snow" and "Sairoku."

Tairo Yamon	Mr. Kawakami
Commodore Perry	Mr. Yamamoto
Band of Exclusion Party	Mr. Fujikawa, Mr. Tsusaka, and Mr. Takanami.
Sairoku	Mr. Kawakami
Ando Nisuke	Mr. Watanabe
Lord Matsumaye	Mr. Fujikawa
Buddhist priest	Mr. Wada
Omitsu	Mr. Mikami
Osode	Sada Yacco

Otojiro Kawakami and his associates completely changed their bill yesterday afternoon at the Lafayette. Two compositions of the "star" were presented, "Scarlet Snow" and "Sairoku," the latter piece purporting to be a Japanese version of "The Merchant of Venice." A small audience witnessed the performance, which brought out features of the company's talent, which have been made the subject of critical comment before. In the evening "The Geisha and the Knight" was repeated, and "A Loyal Wife" will be the bill tonight.

Willie Collier, the well-known comedian, who by his unique methods has made thousands laugh, comes to the Columbia Theatre next week in a farce of his own writing, entitled "Mr. Smooth." The piece is said to be excellently fitted to the star's requirements. Naturally, in the character of its principal personage, there are traits common to the perplexed hero of "The Man From Mexico," in which work Mr. Collier was seen here a year ago. The incidents, however, are entirely distinct—so the press agent declares—and mirth-provoking enough to be simply irresistible. The comedian himself is averred to be more amusing than at any prior time in his life, and there is a probability that the audiences attracted will be the largest before which he has appeared in Washington.

"How Smith Met Jones," a farce which is being played through the Western country, and which, if report may be believed, left an excellent impression behind it, will be offered next week at the Lafayette Square Opera House by a company of what seems to be considerable merit. It is said that though funny in the extreme, the piece never approaches the mark of vulgarity or of horsiness—a promise that will be highly regarded by persons who witnessed either "The Cuckoo" or "The Girl From Maxim's." The critics of the cities in which "How Smith Met Jones" has been presented are quoted as having written all sorts of nice things about the production. Seats for the local engagement were placed on sale this morning.

There will be several bona fide headliners on next week's bill at the Grand—headliners who, in earlier programmes, have been given positions distinctly above those of the remaining entertainers booked. George Wilson, Patrice and Manning, and Weston all are said to have been claimants to big type at Manager Chase's theatre. Certainly, combined in one performance, the four should provide ample entertainment for the most captious. In addition to these individuals, however, the roster announced bears the names of Filson and Erroll, sketchists, whose vehicle is entitled "A Tip on the Derby;" the Ariel Austins and Mlle. Aimee, acrobats; Lavender Richardson, mental phenomenon, and others. Seats have been selling since morning.

The feature of the bill to be offered by the "Tammany Tigers" next week at Kernan's is Mlle. Paula, who calls herself "Conqueror of Saurians," and whose control over her tank of alligators is said to be marvelous. The olio announced will be contributed also by Kitty Bingham, vocalists; Kelly and Adams, comedians; Hines and Alton, grotesque acrobats; Valmore and Dane, singers and dancers; Emerson and Omega, sketchists, and J. W. Bingham, ventriloquist. There will be presented burlesques on "Zaza" and "The King of the Opium Ring," these under the titles of "Sassy" and "The King of the Hobo Ring." The performance, in brief, promises to be entertaining and it probably will draw well.

NAVAL OFFICERS DISAGREE.

A Division of Opinion With Respect to Sheathing Battleships.

The report of the majority of the Naval Board on Construction recommending that the provision requiring sheathing and coppering of the six armored vessels authorized by the act of March 3, 1899, be stricken out, has been handed to the Secretary of the Navy. The report is signed by Admirals O'Neil, Melville, and Bradford, and Commander Clover. Admiral Hichborn, Chief Constructor, presented a minority report.

The board says that after careful consideration of the subject, it has modified its previous judgment and now believes that it will be more advantageous not to undertake the sheathing of such very large and costly vessels.

Rear Admiral Hichborn, in his minority report, denies the assertions of the majority that more coal will be required to drive a copper bottom battleship and the statement of the board that sheathing is in the experimental stage. He holds that long leaf Georgia pine is as good as teak for the purpose.

CONVICTED OF DRUNKENNESS.

A Refusal to Extend Clemency to Lieutenant Hourigan.

The Secretary of the Navy yesterday approved the sentence imposed by court-martial on Lieut. Patrick W. Hourigan, navigator of the United States cruiser Prairie, convicted of drunkenness on duty, but declined to follow the court's unanimous recommendation that clemency be extended. Lieutenant Hourigan was sentenced to be reduced five numbers in his grade. The offence with which he was charged occurred at Havre, France, while the Prairie was there unloading her cargo of United States Government exhibits for the Paris Exposition, and the court-martial was convened at the New York navy yard immediately after the Prairie's return to this country.

The accused pleaded guilty to the charge but on account of his excellent record in the naval service, clemency was asked by every member of the court. Capt. S. C. Lemly, the Judge Advocate General of the Navy, recommended that the sentence be approved, but no clemency be extended.

Secretary Long approved the recommendation "for the reason," as he says in his endorsement, "that the punishment adjudged is not deemed adequate to the nature of the offence of which Mr. Hourigan has been found guilty. Had the court, however, awarded such adequate sentence as was its duty under the provisions of article 51 of the articles for the government of the navy, the department would, in view of the previous good record of this officer, without condoning the offence, have given consideration to its recommendation for clemency."

CURRENT HUMOR.

Our Funeral Poets.

(From the Atlanta Constitution.)

The depth of the ridiculous in obituary verse is reached in the following, which we find in a state exchange:

"At a quarter to eleven
He took the road to heaven.
And at twelve o'clock they whispered, 'He is there!'"

Possibly.

(From the Chicago Tribune.)

Bleecker street—They say 2,000 people have mysteriously disappeared in Philadelphia during the last year.

Roscommon—Perhaps their friends have neglected to wake them up.

Heartfelt Sorrow.

(From Puck.)

Mrs. McGorry—How did yez fale phwin the dintist was pullin' yure tathe?

McGorry—How did I fale, is it? Bedad! Oi regretted wid all me hear-r-rt thot Oi wasn't born a hen!

NOTES OF THE DAY.

The cauliflower is a patrician among vegetables, and was taken from its Cypress home to England in the reign of Elizabeth.

Kid boots are going up in price in England. The reason given is that too many young animals have been killed to provide them.

So great is the demand for pie in Chicago that piemakers have been forced to work overtime, and threaten to strike for shorter hours.

It is estimated that the various theatres and opera houses in Germany receive subventions to the amount of about $500,000 a year.

Among the 1,550 Cubans who took the census of the island were many women, and they received the regular remuneration of $5 a day.

There were but two alarms of fire in the city of Spencer, Iowa, a city of 3,000 inhabitants, during last year, and one of them was a false one.

Forty-one lives were lost in the Colorado coal mines in 1899, one for each 173 miners employed. There were also recorded 97 accidents without fatal result.

The Salvation Army for the second time has failed to get a foothold in Mexico. Mexican laws forbid all religious processions in the streets of cities.

The natives of the Philippines manufacture a very gauzy, transparent fabric for ladies' dresses from the fibres of the pineapple leaf. It is called pina cloth.

Connecticut figures from its recent State school census that it has 29 per cent more inhabitants than it had in 1890. The population of the country on this basis is 75,150,000.

There is a movement on foot among foreign powers to do away with the limitation of age of of ambassadors, making the tenure of office depend solely upon a man's capabilities.

Users of gas and electric lights will soon be able to put in a little knick-knack by which the gas or electric light can be put out at a predetermined time by fixing the apparatus.

Water is the hardest of all substances to heat, with the single exception of hydrogen gas. The easiest two are mercury and lead, which stand in this respect on nearly the same footing.

One of the oldest hostelries in England is the new inn at Gloucester, but in spite of the centuries which have rolled by since it was built its once appropriate description still clings to it.

The Kansas State Historical Library contains 22,171 bound volumes of newspaper files, 87,500 books and pamphlets, 22,555 manuscripts, and 14,500 maps, atlases, pictures, and museum subjects.

The American and British Governments are bidding against each other in the bean market. Beans are prominent in the diet of soldiers and sailors, and an abundant supply of them is considered essential.

Even at this late date, a number of the men of Alsace and Loraine oppose service in the German army. In the thirty-nine districts of Metz 89 persons on January 1 were before the court on this account.

As the Government of France could not be persuaded to vote $1,000,000 for the purpose, a syndicate is being formed to lay a net of wires that will connect telephonically all of the 36,000 communities of France.

The population of British Guiana is heterogeneous, including 114,485 East Indians, 11,614 Portuguese, 4,302 other Europeans, 2,980 Chinese, and 6,815 aborigines, the remaining 145,000 being composed of mixed races.

Nearly 100 persons lost their lives on the Great Lakes during the past season. Fifty-six were drowned by the foundering of ships, and thirty-two were lost overboard. No lives were lost on any of the regular lines.

A special service for the detection of gambling has been organized by the police in Vienna. The police seek for offenders not only in cafes, but in clubs, and even enter private apartments in the hope of surprising poker players.

There are no fewer than 86 translations of Milton's "Paradise Lost" in the British Museum. Apart from the great languages of the world these translations are in Danish, Polish, Manx, Armenian, Icelandic, and Bohemian.

The French Government has just ordered ten locomotives from this country. The government has stipulated that they shall be ready in time for the extraordinary passenger traffic expected during the coming Paris Exposition.

An ice company which has just been incorporated at New Haven, Conn., has announced that it intends to use automobiles for the delivery of ice next summer. It also proposes to put large freight cars on the local