The Washington Times

(EVERY DAY IN THE YEAR)

OWNED AND ISSUED BY

The Washington Times Company

TIMES BUILDING,

SOUTHWEST CORNER PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE AND TENTH STREET.

Telephone—Editorial Rooms, 485. Business Office, 337.

Price, Daily Edition.....One Cent.
Sunday Edition.....Three Cents.
By the month.....Thirty-five Cents.

WASHINGTON, D. C., DECEMBER 20, 1894.

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THE NICARAGUAN SCHEME.

Senator Turpie's speech against the Nicaraguan Canal project was one of the strongest and most masterly arguments ever presented on the floor of the Senate. He showed plainly and convincingly that nature, the elements, and the energy of man made the construction of the canal an impossibility, and that no amount of money would suffice to complete and keep it in working order.

The entire scheme looks more like a proposition in the interests of lobbyists than a genuine attempt to benefit commerce. Every canal project since a waterway across the Isthmus was first talked of has proved a failure. Millions of money and thousands of lives have been sacrificed to the cupidity of financial adventurers, and almost every commercial center in the world has been made to contribute to the costly failures of isthmian ship canals.

Seventy millions of money is too large a sum for this country to bury in a tropical ditch that would only hold water during the immense rain falls incident to that climate. That amount expended in public improvements here at home would give employment to thousands of idle working people, and would also greatly increase opportunities for internal trade and commerce, and then it would not be made to pay toll to a set of lobbyists who are not advocating the construction of the Nicaraguan canal for their health.

In all probability, provided the government indorsed the proposed scheme and became responsibility for the $70,000,000, the canal would never be completed. It would eventually become government property according to the conditions of the bill, and what would we do with it? This government already has a financial elephant on hand in the Central Pacific Railroad, and another of these costly illustrations of American legislation would more surely convince the world that our Congress is at least a susceptible body.

It is a safe policy for Congress to refuse to engage in private speculations of any kind or nature. Let business enterprises take care of themselves and there will be no danger of squandering public money for private gain. Banks, railroads, canal companies, and other business corporations do not deserve legislative protection any more than does any other class of our great public. And if they lobby for it in our halls of Congress it is to enrich themselves at the expense of the people, and not because they need it.

TROUBLE AHEAD FOR SOMEBODY.

The inability of the Joint Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds to agree upon a site for the new Printing Office is exasperating. Day after day information is published that certain Senators are preventing an agreement because the House will not accept the Mahone lot and make an appropriation for its purchase.

Plainly, pointedly, THE TIMES serves notice on these Senators that there is a strong suspicion in the minds of the Washington public that there is something besides friendship for Gen. Mahone that influences their obstructive conduct. In face of the fact that the lives of the employes of the public printing office are in danger there can be but one reason why they persist in preventing an agreement.

Should an accident occur and lives be lost while this controversy is in progress, not one of the Senators who are responsible for it would dare show his face in Washington again. This is a hint that others would be hurt besides the employes buried in the ruins of the present old rickety printing office, and it is worthy of careful consideration.

POTOMAC WATER.

The appearance of the water that has been furnished to consumers for the past few days again brings up the question: Why cannot Washington have a filtering plant as a part of its water works?

About one-half of the time the water which the people of the District are compelled to use is unfit for drinking purposes; at times even for cooking. Under those conditions it presents the appearance of diluted mud, and, as a matter of fact, is but little else. In a bucket of the fluid drawn at those times there is a very considerable deposit of the river bottom and its banks.

True, the analytical chemists have assured us that Potomac water, even in its thickened state, is altogether healthy. Some, of a facetious turn of mind, have even gone so far as to say that Potomac mud added to Potomac water furnishes substantial nourishment to the system. However that may be, there is, we believe, an unreasonable prejudice in favor of taking our aqueous fluid "straight" without any admixture other than the various infusoria, invisible to the naked eye, which nature has placed there for purposes best known to herself.

The subject of a filter for the Washington water works has been discussed more than once, and a variety of more or less wise opinions have been let loose concerning it. Whether it should be gravel, or a bed of charcoal, or something else has been debated back and forth. Upon one point, however, all are agreed—there ought to be a filter. Perhaps it is too much to hope for such an improvement as long as the giving or withholding of it depends upon a Congress that will not even consent to give the District needed school accommodations and adequate police and fire protection.

Nevertheless, a filter there ought to be.

ARBITRATION OF STRIKES.

Labor Commissioner Carroll D. Wright's bill for national arbitration of strikes, which, though yet in embryonic form, will shortly be introduced in the House, is in the line of the suggestions and recommendations made in the report of the commission directed by the President to investigate the Chicago strike of last summer.

The measure takes cognizance only of common carriers engaged in transportation by railroad and by water. It ignores—whether wisely or not need not be considered at this time—labor disturbances in other fields. Presumably it proceeds upon the theory that the public or the government is not directly inconvenienced by a strike in any industrial establishment, but only by those that interfere with traffic on railways and steamboats.

So far as it goes it represents a just and fair principle—that of equitable dealing between man and man. It also gives the weak protection against the strong, for, while labor may numerically overbalance capital, yet the controlling power of the latter is so much greater, that in a conflict, unaided, as heretofore, by the interposition of a third and detening factor, labor has always been, and would continue to be, the under dog in the fight.

If Mr. Wright's bill is enacted into law substantially on the lines laid down in his draft, the United States government may interpose its authority, either upon the request of one of the parties to a dispute, or upon its own motion, and arbitrate the questions at issue. An important feature is that pending arbitration no employer shall be allowed to discharge an employe, nor may an employe or associations aid or abet a strike or quit work without giving thirty days' notice.

It is understood that the chiefs of the great organizations of railway employes are in favor of the fundamental features of the bill which, it is thought, will pass both Houses without much difficulty.

AN IMPORTANT DECISION.

The decision of Judge Carpenter that the Berliner patents are void, and that the Bell Telephone Company can no longer control the use of a carbon or microphone contact for the transmission of speech, will no doubt be appealed from, and the public will be compelled to submit to the high rates of the Bell Company for at least another year. But the decision is a victory over monopoly and will probably be sustained by the United States court of appeals.

The use of a telephone has become a necessity and its cost should be reduced to the lowest possible limit. Through the use of the Berliner patents the Bell Company expected to prolong its control of the telephone service for another term of years, but the decision of Judge Carpenter interferes with its plans and the public will eventually be relieved from the expense of supporting a burdensome monopoly.

And why should it not? The Bell Company has become immensely wealthy through the patents granted by this government. For years the company has monopolized the entire telephone service and has charged such rates as a lack of competition permitted. Therefore there is no injustice in opening the telephone field to other companies and giving the public the benefit of a lower cost of service. It is to be hoped that Judge Carpenter's decision will be affirmed with as little delay as possible.

IF anti-toxine worked as well on mild lunacy as it does on diphtheria we would have a dearth of financial schemes.

NEW YORK policemen are still hoping that Santa Claus will fill their stockings with a Lexow notice that they may turn State's evidence.

BETHBURTON at last—A Philadelphia baggage-smasher banged a trunk on the end and it went off. It was loaded.

IF there were as much controversy over the location of heaven as there is about the contagious hospital but few would find that haven of rest.

LET it be remembered that gentlemen are wearing deeper pockets this year than usual.

IF PRESIDENT CLEVELAND'S duck hunting expedition should result in his getting a duck in the water the senior Senator from New York would probably offer congratulations.

THE financial scheme of Representative Walker is superior to that of Secretary Carlisle in one respect. No one but Mr. Walker can understand it.

IT should be distinctly understood that Recorder Taylor is not so black as he is painted.

THE whisky trust is again in trouble. Those who put their trust in strong drink generally see things that make life burdensome.

THE international yacht race for the America's cup seems to be off. There was too much wind in the preliminary arrangements.

IT'S a great shame that Pug Griffo does not run up against one of those pugilistic taps that grow angel's wings. He is becoming a drunken nuisance.

It Was a Great Paper.

The most prejudiced newspaper man or citizen cannot but acknowledge that last Sunday's TIMES was in every manner a "great" paper. This outlay of capital, talent and labor will undoubtedly reap its full reward, for in these days of intense competition in every work of life—finance, commerce, religion, art, science and literature, the world has become quickest to recognize true merit, enterprise and ability. The "graveyard of newspapers" (?) is producing a pretty lively corpse in THE WASHINGTON TIMES.—Washington Progress.

Shakespeare and Bacon.

A famous historian, well known personally in Boston, told the following story when he was asked what he thought of the Shakespeare-Bacon controversy: "I was once librarian in a small town, and it was my custom to catalogue books on the real meaning of Daniel, astrology, modern spiritualism, etc., under the general head, 'Insane literature.' When any volume written in support of the Baconian theory appeared I catalogued it under the same head."—Boston Journal.

CALLISHER, Jeweler, 425 Pennsylvania avenue southeast.

CLOAKROOM AND GALLERY.

The friends of Judge Ricks, of Ohio, who have been a little nervous over the attempt to impeach him, conclude that there is little probability of definite action in that line. It is now apparent that the matter will not be touched until after the holidays, and with only about fifty days of possible legislative business before it Congress seems unlikely to enter upon an impeachment proceeding, especially one likely to occupy as much time and require the examination of such a large record as would be the case in this one.

The members of Congress, who know Josiah Quincy and remember his peculiarities when Assistant Secretary of State, are doubling themselves up with "ghoulish glee" over a story published by the Boston Herald, which indicates that Mr. Quincy's extreme exclusiveness at an evening party to which he had been invited, attracted the attention of the host and hostess, who, by some mischance, failed to recognize their distinguished guest, who stood apart from the gay throng, and assumed by his air and attitude that he was a society reporter merely looking on to get notes for publication. The lady of the house, according to the Herald story, immediately proceeded to "fire" Mr. Quincy by sidling up to him and remarking in an undertone "this is a very quiet house; we are very quiet people, and do not care to have any notice of our reception for the newspapers."

"Representative Cochran," said a member of the New York delegation, "is going to establish a somewhat unique and doubtless very successful line of law work in New York after his term of service ends. He will make a specialty of trying big cases for other lawyers, appearing as leading counsel in the case, doing the prominent work in court and before judge and jury under direction of the pleaders who have dug out the facts, but will rely upon him to present them in his successful way. There have been few men in New York who have done this line of business, for it takes a high order of ability to do it, but Mr. Cochran, I believe, will be successful."

Talks with members of the House indicate that there is little probability of passage of the Carlisle currency bill. Scarcely a member is satisfied with it as it stands, and with the avowed hostility of many Democrats and the entire Republican party the chances of its passing seem to grow less every day. The change of sentiment in the House since the members of that body saw a disposition to try to force it upon them has been marked. The national bank interest opposes it, the silver interest is against it, the Southern members generally have no use for it except the State bank feature, and thus nobody is satisfied with the bill as an entirety. It is probable that a caucus will be held early in January, though if the dissatisfaction with the bill continues to grow as it has in the past two days, it may be too dead to even consider it in caucus by that time.

Time honored "Senatorial courtesy" seems to have taken a vacation in the Senate yesterday. Senator Turpie, who had been talking two days on the Nicaraguan Canal bill, was requested to give way to let Senator Perkins deliver a half hour's speech on the bill, as he was to leave for home to-night. In view of the fact that California is solid for the bill and Mr. Perkins is a candidate for re-election, the request seemed only a reasonable one, and Mr. Turpie consented.

"But," said he, "I want it understood that at the end of the half hour I shall claim the floor."

As the minute hand on the clock reached the thirty minute limit Mr. Turpie rose and demanded the floor.

"I hope," said Senator Morgan, "that the Senator from California will be permitted to finish his speech. It will occupy but a few minutes more."

But Senator Turpie was obdurate, and assuming an oratorical attitude, indicated that he proposed to demand his right and go on with his two days' speech.

"The Senator from Indiana will remember," said Senator Morgan, with some asperbity in his manner, "that I consented last night to a postponement to accommodate him, when I should have demanded a vote. I must say that this a most ungracious act."

Mr. Turpie put on his glasses, and without replying to Mr. Morgan, proceeded with his speech as though not a word had been spoken by the Alabama Senator, while the Senate looked on aghast.

JUST CHANGING ABOUT.

Pension Office Clerks to Be Transferred to the Interior Department's Roll.

The Secretary of the Interior has sent the Appropriations Committee a request for an increase of the force called for in his estimates by adding six clerks of class 4, two clerks of class 3, six clerks of class 2, eleven clerks of class 1, three copyists, five messengers, and one assistant messenger. He adds:

"In explanation of this recommendation, I would say: (1) The number of employes of the several classes named above are now on duty in the Secretary's office by detail from the Pension Office, in accordance with a custom which is authorized by law and has prevailed almost since the creation of the department. The Secretary's office being in a sense a clearing house for the business of the several bureaus, it is proper that employes should be drawn from them in cases of need to dispatch the business which must be transacted in the central office. But the gradual and continued increase of work in the Secretary's office has rendered these details practically permanent, most of them having stood for many years.

"(2) This practice, though it cannot be avoided, is regarded by the Commissioner of Pensions as an injustice to his bureau, since it merely amounts to appropriating year after year for thirty odd employes and charging them to the Pension Office, while in fact they ought to be charged to the Secretary's office, where their services are rendered. It is deemed highly expedient that these employes should be transferred to the rolls and should be in every way under the control of the Secretary's office.

"(3). Taken in connection with the estimates already submitted for this department the above modification is not in the line of an increase, since in those estimates I have recommended a reduction of the Pension Office force to the extent of 165 positions. I now modify that estimate by recommending that, in lieu of the 165 positions dropped from the Pension Office, thirty-four positions be added to the roll of the Secretary's office."

PIG IRON IN GERMANY.

That Country Will Soon Stand Second Only to the United States.

According to a report to the State Department from United States Consul Stephen at Annaberg, Germany last year produced 4,953,148 tons of pig iron, which is "the barometer of industrial life."

Germany alone presents a steady increase in this production, and although England is as yet producing as much pig iron as Germany and France together, her output has taken a downward course, warranting the belief that Germany will reach her level in a few years and soon after stand second to the United States alone as an iron producer.

The consul attributes the success of the Germans to their untiring efforts to find new markets. The good organization of export associations, the government aid through the department of commerce, and above all the intelligence of the mercantile classes crown these efforts with success.

MRS. DENT GIVEN A DIVORCE.

Her Husband, Now a New York Salesman, Made No Defense Against the Suit.

Judge Cox yesterday granted Rebecca J. Dent, a clerk, of No. 1312 F street, a divorce from Milton C. Dent. The bill was filed May 7 last, and the case referred to Frank L. Williams, as examiner, on October 4.

Mrs. Dent says in the bill that they were married here on February 12, 1879, at Ascension Church, by the Rev. John H. Elliott, of the P. E. Church. In November, 1887, he deserted her, and, she believes, went to New York city, where he has remained away from her since.

She is informed that he is a traveling salesman. They have three children, Josephine, Helen, and Louis, who have lived with her, and she has supported them. The decree gives her permanent custody of them. Mr. Dent's answer to the bill merely denies that he deserted her, as charged. He made no defense.

Real Economy.

Another marriage after a courtship through the medium of the mails. It saved fuel and gas.—Boston Herald.

COMING TO THE THEATERS.

"Shore Acres," accounted the greatest of all American plays, will be given a superb scenic production at Albaugh's Grand Opera House on Monday evening next by the original New York company, with the author, James A. Herne, in his original creation of Nathaniel Berry. "Shore Acres" has certainly achieved a most remarkable success and many look upon it as an epochal work.

Some writers have compared its naturalness to the works of Henrik Ibsen, and its realism to the writings of Emile Zola, but with this difference, that Mr. Herne has sought out the beautiful and poetic in nature, and not the immoral and sensual. "Shore Acres" tells a simple every-day story of current events, does not aim to preach any moral, but to entertain and also teach the truth. Its personages are real human beings and under Mr. Herne's direction the people engaged to portray them give them life and local color.

It is said in praise of this production, that there is no acting in the play, no mock heroics, and no villain. There is a love story, but the lovers are human beings and they are made to give the audience that impression. Although Mr. Herne is the star in his company he avoids the old-time methods of proclaiming this fact. The engagement is for one week, with matinees on Christmas Day and Saturday.

Rice's "1492" has not only continued, but increases its popularity. John Peachey, the English tenor who plays Columbus, has a voice as luscious as his name and acts with grace and dignity. Richard Harlow's extraordinary impersonation of Queen Isabella is said to delight the ladies as much as it amuses the men. Theresa Vaughn is repeatedly encored for her street songs.

All the specialties are clever, but those of Walter Jones in the strongly contrasted parts of King Ferdinand and Charles Tatters leads the laughter and applause. The extravaganza is so varied in its attractions that everybody finds something amusing and interesting. It passes from grave to gay, from spectacle to burlesque, from poetry to fun, from pretty music to pretty pictures, from ballads to ballets, from Spain to New York, from ancient history to newsboys, from the Atlantic to the Chicago Fair, and is always bright, pleasant, and up to the latest date. The originator of this style of extravaganza, Mr. Rice, has surpassed himself, as he had previously all competitors, in the organization of his Surprise Party, which is full of enjoyable surprises. The original gems of Kilany's living pictures will be introduced at every performance during the engagement at the National next week.

A new comedy entitled "Two Colonels" will be seen at the Academy next Monday. The author is William Richard Goodall, a native of this city. The play deals with a domestic story, the scenes of which are laid in Vermont and Virginia, and the title arises from the fact that the two stellar characters were representative officers of the above named states, who, thirty years ago, went out to fight and became fast friends.

Colonel Sloane and Colonel Whittaker are in fairly prosperous circumstances; the first named has a daughter and the latter a son, who, despite sectionalism, believe in "E Pluribus Unum." The old folks at this period think that way themselves, but a little complication arises which for a time topples the proposed alliance into a continental hat. Of course old soldiers who have taken part in the difficulties of nations do not propose to let a domestic breach get away with them, and the Virginian sails in to preserve the union. Of course he is successful and the pretty little drama ends with music and orange blossoms. Mr. Goodall has for some years devoted himself to literature and done some excellent work. If this play is as good as his poems success is assured.

"The Stowaway" will be at Butler's Bijou Theater next week. "Spike" Hennessey, who operates successfully upon a strong safe nightly in that very successful melodrama, and with the aid of his partner, "Kid" McCoy, shows how easy it is to crack a safe, is a well-informed ex-burglar and in his day was doubtless a credit to his profession. The story of his early life is shrouded in mystery, for it is the one subject that he will not discuss, even with his intimates. He is a fluent talker, has read a great deal and is an authority on burglar lore. Like Claude Duval, the celebrated highwayman, he is extremely fastidious about the cut and color of his costume.

Manager Kernan's gain attraction for next week will be Weber and Field's Own Company. This organization is undoubtedly the most complete and refined aggregation of variety "stars" on the road; every member is an artist. Since their last appearance here the company has been materially strengthened by those well-known Ethiopian comedians, McIntyre and Heath. Others in the company are Lottie Gilson, the little magnet; James Hoey, better known as Young Mulé, a brother of Old Hoss; Castillet and Hall, the clever sketch artists; John F. Drew, dancer and comedian; Falke and Semons, the musical monarchs, and Weber and Fields, the inimitable dialect comedians. During this engagement there will be matinees daily.

STILL DRAWING OLD WAGES.

Time Schedule of the Metropolitan Railroad Has Not Been Completed.

Pending the completion of the twelve-hour schedule, the drivers and conductors of the Metropolitan Railroad will continue to be paid at the old rate of $2.03 per day of thirteen hours. General Superintendent Lowry is working on the new schedule every day, and hopes to have it ready to go into effect in a few days, when the men's salaries will be reduced to $1.75 per day of twelve hours, according to their compromise agreement with President Phillips.

As has been previously stated in THE TIMES, Mr. Phillips expected the schedule would be completed so that the new rate would take effect yesterday morning. When a TIMES reporter called at the company's offices yesterday afternoon the president was not in and Superintendent Lowry was in charge of affairs. In reply to questions Mr. Lowry said he had been working on the new schedule since the day preceding the strike.

"But my other work takes up so much of my time that I do not have much chance to work on the time table," he continued. "It requires a good deal of careful figuring and when completed will have to be revised in order to avoid any mistakes."

In answer to further questions, Mr. Lowry said the schedule was more than half finished, but he could not judge from the amount of work already done how much time would be necessary to complete it. He denied the statement that owing to public sentiment and sympathy with the employes of the railroad the company had decided to continue paying the men the wages they are now receiving.

ALL ISHERWOOD INVOLVED.

Trustees for the Heirs of Ann Bartlett Sue to Eject Christian Heurich.

Peck and Simmons, trustees for the heirs of Ann Bartlett, who died in 1876, are trying to get possession of a part of the suburb Isherwood, northeast of this city. The tract consists of forty-six acres, and the trustees contend that none of the present holders has a good title.

They assert that Ann Bartlett acquired a title in 1828 and neither she nor any one with legal right for her has ever conveyed the property.

Their suit in ejectment against Christian Heurich, the brewer, is now on trial before before Judge McComas. The property immediately in question is said to be worth $100,000, and some twenty more suits of the same kind have been filed. The attorneys are A. A. Birney and F. H. Mackey for the plaintiff and William F. Mattingly, J. H. Gordon, Woodward & Gould, D. O'C. Callaghan, Leon Tobriner, D. W. Glassie, and others.

The defense claim that Mrs. Bartlett gave a power of attorney in 1832 to J. Watterston, and under this conveyance was made under which they hold. They also hold that champerty and maintenance taint the present suit and make recovery by it impossible under the laws forbidding such actions. The statutes of Henry VIII and other old laws on this point were under discussion by counsel yesterday.

His Platform.

"We don't," shouted the impassioned orator, "we don't want nothing else but the English language spoke in this country, and don't you forget it!"

And the hearers promised themselves to remember what he had spoken.—Indianapolis Journal.

CALLISHER, Solid Silver Watches, $4.50.

SOCIAL SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

Dr. J. Ramsay Nevitt, the hero of the recent smallpox episode, who for the sake of science and the suffering humanity that might otherwise have perished, exiled himself for weeks in the smallpox hospital, was married last evening at 7:30 o'clock to Miss Mary Christmas Hine, daughter of ex-Commissioner and Mrs. Hine. The ceremony took place in the First Presbyterian Church, where there was gathered not only the company invited to witness the ceremony, but a large concourse of others, who, interested in the happy culmination of the heroic physician's romance, had desired to witness his marriage. The church was crowded to the very doors.

The decorations about the platform at the head of the aisle were of palms and bridal roses in profusion. Miss Mildred Johnston,

MISS MARY C. HINE.

as friend of the bride, rendered the wedding march from Lohengrin, when the bridal party, having passed down the aisle, met the bride at the entrance door. Rev. Dr. Sunderland, assisted by Rev. Dr. James S. Ramsay, of New York, the latter an uncle of the groom, officiated.

The bride entered leaning on the arm of her father, the groom at the same time entering from the doorway at the head of the church, attended by Mr. J. E. Jones, as best man, and awaited her coming at the end of the aisle.

Promptly at 7:30 o'clock the wedding party entered the church from the doorway of the pastor's study, with two beautifully dressed children, little Maggie Mertz, the seven-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Mertz, niece of the bride, and Master John Hardy Morgan, grandson of Senator Morgan. The little maid wore a frock of white swiss muslin over white satin made in Kate Greenaway fashion and carried a basket of La France roses. Master Morgan was dressed in a Fauntleroy suit of black velvet. As the two children passed down the aisle they stretched white ribbons down either side, thus insuring to the bride sufficient space in which to walk with her attendants and ushers.

The bride's sister, Miss Blanche Hine, as maid of honor, wore a gown of white chrysanthemum crepe with collar and sash ribbons in pink and carried a bouquet of La France roses tied with white ribbons. The bridesmaids, Miss Mary Temple and Miss Bessie Hine, sister of the bride, wore gowns of pink chrysanthemum crepe and carried bouquets of Puritan roses tied with pink ribbons.

These attendants preceded by the ushers Mr. Henry Karr, Mr. William E. Horton, Mr. Charles O'Neill and Mr. Oliver Hine, brother of the bride, after walking the length of the aisle, met the bride at the entrance door and then preceded her down the aisle.

The wedding gown was of white satin, trimmed with pearl passementeries, made high in the neck, and with large sleeves. The tulle veil was fastened with diamonds and the bride wore on the front of her corsage a large pin of diamonds and pearls, given her by the groom. The bouquet carried was of lilies of the valley and orchids.

After the service at the church a large reception followed at the residence of the bride's parents on Prospect Hill, Eckington. The parlor in which the bride and groom stood to receive congratulations was decorated with palms and pink roses. The lights and large ornamental lamps burned under pink shades.

Mrs. Hine, mother of the bride, wore a black velvet gown with collar of Russian lace, and Mrs. Edward P. Mertz, sister of the bride, wore a gown of white satin. About 400 guests attended the reception.

The going-away gown was of tan tweed, with dark trimmings and hat to match. After a trip North Dr. and Mrs. Nevitt will return to Washington to make their home at No. 328 Indiana avenue.

The number of presents received was very large and made a handsome array. Conspicuous in this list was a beautiful cut-glass bowl, presented the groom by the police surgeons, and a handsome silver ladle sent the bride by the High School class of '86, of which she was a member.

During the long weeks when Dr. Nevitt was self-incarcerated in the smallpox hospital his bride could communicate with him only by telephone, as the letters she wrote to enliven his dangerous and often most distasteful task could not be answered by him. Occasionally Miss Hine drove to the hospital grounds, where, at a distance of twenty feet, she had the pleasure of looking at and conversing with her fiance. For long weeks this was the only means the lovers had of meeting or speaking with each other.

Miss Elizabeth Brewer, third daughter of Justice and Mrs. Brewer, was the debutante of the afternoon yesterday, whose formal entry into society was the signal for the gathering of all the leading representatives of the great body of society. A pretty idea, carried out in all the decorations of the house, was to dispense with the customary floral arrangements for such occasions and have the mantels banked with maidenhair ferns. The mirrors were framed with the same feathery green that gave a most artistic look to the room and formed an appropriate background for the handsome costumes of the company. In the tearoom the decorations were also of maidenhair ferns. The collation was served by waiters.

Mrs. Brewer, who is one of the most attractive women of the judiciary circle, received in a gown of black satin brocaded in old rose with collar of the plain color in satin. The debutante stood next to her mother and looked, in her exquisite gown of white satin-striped silk, as though she had just stepped from the frame of some ancestral picture. The neck of the gown was made low with the curve of the shoulders just showing through the full arrangement of white tulle that gathered about the neck and was finished with a soft collar of the satin-striped silk. The bodice was cut quite short and made with very bouffant sleeves. In her hand Miss Elizabeth Brewer carried a large bouquet of La France roses tied with a profusion of narrow white ribbons. Miss Brewer's gown was of light blue and white silk brocade trimmed with turquoise blue velvet.

The young ladies of the receiving party were Miss Hoge, in blue silk with yoke and fall of white lace on the corsage; Miss Mannix, in white satin and black lace, and Miss Roisinger, in white and blue silk with blue velvet trimmings.

Among the guests were Chief Justice and Mrs. Fuller, Mrs. Audrey, Justice and Mrs. Field, Justice and Mrs. Brown, Mrs Lamont, Mrs. Carlisle, Mrs. Bissell, Mrs. Olney, the British Ambassador and Lady Pauncefote, the Mexican Minister and Madam Romero, the Argentine Minister and Madam Zeballos, the Chinese Minister and suite, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Whittemore, Miss Wilcox, Gen. and Mrs. John Moore, Mrs. L. Q. C. Lamar, Miss Lester, Representative and Mrs. Washington, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fleming, Col. and Mrs. John Wilson, Gen., Mrs., and the Misses Sutherland, Miss Vezey, Mrs. Walton, Judge, Mrs., and the Misses Maury, Mrs. Morrill, Miss Swann, Mr. James Morrill, Mr. Paul Johnson, Mrs. and Miss Bynum, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Cissell, Mrs. John Roche, Mrs. and Miss Murphy, Mrs. Stanley Matthews, United States Treasurer Morgan, Col. and Mrs. Gilmore, Gen. Card, Mrs. John S. Billings, Miss Billings, Senator, Mrs., and Miss Call, Miss Voorhees, Justice, Mrs. and the Misses Harlan, Dr. and Mrs. Hamlin, Mrs. and Miss Kelly, Mr. De Mendonca, Mrs. Frye, the Misses Hamlin, Mrs. and Miss Lucile Blackburn, Mrs. Maxwell, Mr. and Mrs. James Hopkins, Gen. William Smith, Miss Katherine Smith, Mrs. Dalzell, Commander Reisinger, Lieut. and Miss Winterhalter, and Mrs. and Miss Breckinridge.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Waggaman gave a small reception to about 100 guests last evening at their home in Georgetown in honor of the Japanese minister. The entertainment was by no means the large affair that had been previously stated, as Mr. and Mrs. Waggaman desired to gather about them their personal friends in the official and resident society, and on that account the invitations were limited, as already stated.

The hostess received in a gown of Nile green silk, trimmed with point lace. The large art gallery was thrown open for the enjoyment of the company, and in the conservatory at the rear were stationed the musicians, who played throughout the evening.

Mrs. James K. Kelly and Miss Kelly have issued cards for a tea, from 4 to 7 o'clock, on the afternoon of the 27th instant, at their home, No. 1919 N street.

Mrs. R. F. Fleming has issued cards for an afternoon tea on the 3d of January, from 4 to 7 o'clock, at her residence, No. 1720 I street.

Mrs. Norman G. Lieber, wife of Judge Advocate General Lieber, gave a luncheon yesterday, at which the company entertained represented exclusively the army element and at which the decorations were in pink. The guests were Mrs. Schofield, Mrs. Breckinridge, Mrs. Ruggles, Mrs. Closson, Mrs. O'Reilly, Mrs. Cummins, Mrs. Ennis, Mrs. Townsley, Mrs. Poole, Mrs. Chase, and Mrs. Lancaster.

Mr. and Mrs. Jackson A. Winner, of Washington, who are spending their wedding trip in Williamsport, Pa., were yesterday afternoon tendered a reception and dinner by the groom's sister, Mrs. Hurr, at her residence, No. 1666 Andrews place. The reception began shortly after 12 o'clock. The spacious parlors were beautifully decorated with a profusion of palms and other flowers. The bride was attired in her wedding dress, and stood with the groom in the front parlor. The guests were introduced by Mrs. Hurr.

Among those present at the dinner which followed were: Mr. and Mrs. Hurr and family, Mrs. Elizabeth Winner, mother of the groom; Mr. and Mrs. Warren Winner and Miss Winner, Mr. and Mrs. Silas Winner and daughters, Mrs. Jane Covert and Miss Covert, Mr. and Mrs. John Weaver, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Calvert, Mr. and Mrs. John B. Fritz, Herbert Fritz, Miss Nora Fritz, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Jones, and many others.

Mrs. Parker, wife of Major Parker, U. S. A., gave a luncheon yesterday at her residence in the Soldiers' Home in honor of the artist and sculptor, Miss Blanche Nevins, who is at present the guest of Mrs. J. B. Doe. Miss Nevins' statue of Muhlenburg, made for the State of Pennsylvania, now adorns Statuary Hall. The guests asked to meet Miss Nevins were Mme. Romero, Mrs. J. B. Doe, Mrs. J. W. Foster, Mrs. Uhl, Mrs. George B. Williams, Mrs. John M. Wilson, Mrs. William Smith, Mrs. Hornsby, Mrs. Beach, and Mrs. Burr.

Mrs. John G. Carlisle gave a handsome luncheon yesterday at which the color and floral decorations were in heliotrope. Down the center of the table was a scarf of heliotrope silk with a large cut glass bowl in the center filled with heliotrope, as were smaller cut glass vases at either end of the table. The candelabra were capped in heliotrope shades.

The guests were Mrs. Fuller, Mrs. Gresham, Mrs. Lamont, Mrs. Bissell, Miss Maria Love, of Buffalo, the latter's guest; Mrs. Crook, Mrs. Reed, Mrs. Herndon of Mobile, Mrs. Harriet Lane Johnston, Mrs. Stanley Matthews, Mrs. Bowler, Miss Hamlin, and Miss Draper.

The French Ambassador and Madam Patenotre gave a dinner party last evening. The guests were Secretary of State and Mrs. Gresham, Secretary of War and Mrs. Lamont, Attorney General and Mrs. Olney, Justice and Mrs. Gray, Assistant Secretary of State and Mrs. Uhl, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Barney, and Mr. Benjamin Constant, the guest of the embassy.

Col. and Mrs. John Hay have issued cards for a tea on the afternoon of the 28th instant in honor of the debut of their daughter, Miss Helen Hay.

American Council, No. 2, Order of Chosen Friends, held a pleasant social gathering at Oppenheimer's Hall, No. 514 Ninth street, Tuesday evening. Supreme Treasurer Newton presided, and in his opening remarks gave some information of the aims and objects of the order. He then introduced Mr. Joseph Harris, of Baltimore Council, who had completed his seventy-fifth year and fifteen years a member of the order. The literary and musical part of the programme and the ice cream and cake that followed were highly enjoyed. Among those who participated in the former were Miss Edna Brenner, Miss Lillie Stewart, Mrs. Houghton, and Howard Young, vocal solos; recitations by T. M. Hardy, Nellie Bishop, A. J. Kimball, Smith, Mr. Harrison, and the performance of little Edna Brenner was so far beyond the ordinary that it deserves special mention. Much credit is due the committee in charge—Miss Gertrude Stewart, Mrs. G. L. Thompson, I. Fearing, J. I. Thompson, L. A. Callan, and G. W. Callahan.

The sixth regular meeting of the Amateur Mask Club was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Power, No. 22 Eighth street northeast, last evening. A very enjoyable time was spent with music, cards and dances. Mr. Bert McKeldin, Miss Grace Stailey and Miss Ella Gordon rendered some very pretty music during the evening. A game of progressive euchre was played, Mr. Werden and Miss Madge Stailey receiving the first prizes at the "King's table," and Mr. C. P. B. Stailey and Miss Ella Gordon the "booby" prizes. After the dancing the members repaired to the dining-room where a bountiful supper was served. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Power, Mr. and Mrs. Baber, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. B. Stailey, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Crabbe, the Messrs. Tasker, Edmonds, Bert McKeldin, George Edmunds, L. McWhorter, J. C. Werden, Misses Ella Kowitz, Grace Lisle, Madge Stailey, Anna Hutchinson, Grace Stailey, Hattie Stewart, Ella