

The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1887.

The Week.

MR. EDWARD ATKINSON, in an interview published by the *Boston Herald*, says that the Inter-State Commerce Act, if it can be enforced, will have the effect to increase the average charge for railway transportation in the country—an effect precisely opposite to that which was intended. One of the examples cited by him is the increased charge on the wool of California, which must pay a much higher rate for carriage to the Eastern manufacturers than before. It is doubtful, indeed, if it can be carried at all by railway. If it cannot be so carried, it must come by water, and the vessel-owners will be able to charge any rate up to that which the Commerce Act compels the railway to charge. Probably the act will have the effect to increase the importation of foreign wool, for, as Mr. Atkinson observes, the low rates on the "long haul" have been brought about not by competition among the railways nor by competition of the railways with water routes, but "by the paramount competition of product with product in the principal markets." It is this and not any choice of their own which has given such low rates to the long haul on the wool and fruits of California, on the wheat of Dakota, the corn of Kansas, and the cotton of Texas. The very phrase "charging what the traffic will bear," Mr. Atkinson shows, grew out of the necessity of lowering the rates to meet this superior, this dominating competition of product with product in the markets, and not out of any supposed desire to raise the rate to the highest figure the merchant or manufacturer could pay.

When the Inter-State Commerce Bill was pending we pointed out the fact that the long and short-haul clauses would operate as an inter-State protective tariff. The Ohio wool-growers have not been slow to perceive its value in this sense. They are said to be preparing a protest against granting the petition of the California wool-growers, who have asked that the clause in question be suspended as to their product, representing that its enforcement would be absolutely ruinous to their industry. The Ohio wool-growers are alive to this fact also, and they are accordingly strenuous in insisting that the law be strictly enforced. The producers of raisins in California have discovered that the Commerce Act serves to nullify the tariff on foreign raisins by increasing the freight charge to Eastern markets to a point equal to the customs duty. The sugar-refiners on the Pacific coast, who have been enabled, by getting their raw sugar from the Hawaiian Islands free of duty, to send their product as far east as St. Louis, have likewise struck the snag of the Commerce Act, and have put in a petition that the long and short-haul clause be suspended as regards sugar, to which the Eastern refiners who pay duties equal to 100 per

cent. ad valorem on raw sugar, have very properly objected. The salmon canneries of the Columbia River will be heard from soon, and it will be in order then for the fishermen on the Atlantic coast to stand up for a strict construction of the law.

The applications of the railway employees and of the travelling salesmen to the Commerce Commission, for a construction of the new law on the subject of free passes and free extra baggage, serve to show what an enormous deal of work the Commission are likely to have before them. The Supreme Court of the United States, with its four years' arrears of undecided and unheard cases, will be a marvel of promptness and activity by comparison with the Commission. The two petitions present eight separate questions, and some of these are divisible into two or three parts. The Commission were enabled to answer all of them in a summary manner by saying that no authority had been given them to decide supposititious cases, but only those which come up in the practical working of the law. Thus the answers to the eight questions, with their variations, are merely deferred. They will all come up again, and must then be answered after more or less argument pro and con. Attention is drawn by the petition of the railway employees to the magnitude of the deadhead tax on the railways. It appears that passes are customarily granted to the employees of the railway and their "immediate families," also more or less to the employees of other railways, also to officers and employees of railways out of employment and seeking situations, also to associations of railway officers and employees travelling to and from their meetings and conventions, also to the immediate families of delegates to such conventions. In fact, it would seem that all railway officers and most railway employees have their "hats chalked" all over the United States. The Commerce Act is very stringent on the subject of discriminations in the transportation of passengers, and it makes no exception in favor of railway employees. The railway companies themselves appear to be nothing loath to observe this clause.

It would not be surprising if the next Congress should witness a struggle between the commercial classes of the country and the railways, the former seeking to repeal or essentially change the Commerce Act, and the latter to keep it in force. The great virtue of the act to the railways is that it prevents the secret cutting of rates. Such cutting has been the cause of the breaking of all the agreements to maintain rates in the past. It has undermined all the pools. It has driven pool commissioners frantic, and has led railway managers to doubt the very existence of virtue. Competition has been, and is always when freight is scarce, so savage that no dependence could be placed upon the word of anybody who had the authority to issue a way-bill or to make a freight con-

tract. The pools, having no legal character and no standing in court, could not enforce their agreements against their own members. Consequently, they went to pieces almost as fast as they were formed, until Mr. Fink in desperation asked for a law of Congress to legalize and regulate such contracts, and was willing to make concessions in return for it at which railway managers would have stood aghast twenty years ago. The Commerce Act goes far towards supplying what Commissioner Fink wanted. It does not legalize pools. Indeed, it abolishes them. But it gives what no pool ever had before, viz., publicity, together with the power of the Sheriff and the Grand Jury to ascertain the truth and to punish the guilty.

The controversy between the principal Eastern and Western railroads on the question of paying commissions on the sale of passenger tickets undoubtedly has its mainspring in private and personal interests. It is said that at least \$2,000,000 per year is involved in the dispute. This sum is now diverted from the treasuries of the railroads or the pockets of the travelling public to those of the commission men. If the commissions were not paid, the railroads would get the full fare, or they could afford to reduce passenger rates, and probably would do so whenever they should believe that the commission system was dead beyond hope of resurrection. Now, the question is, why do the Western roads fight so stubbornly to maintain the commission system? The Inter-State Commerce Law is flatly against it. If commissions can be paid for passengers, they can be paid for freight also, and to any extent, and the agent or broker can divide his commissions with the shippers in any way he chooses. In other words, the law may be completely nullified by making rebates at the point of shipment and calling them commissions. We cannot conceive of any motive for retaining the commission system in the West in the face of the law and in defiance of the protest of the Eastern roads, unless the commission men themselves are making a "square divide" with somebody.

There was something at once comic and pathetic in the Republican banquet which was served up in Boston on Saturday. Distinguished Republicans from outside the State had been invited, but with remarkable unanimity they all declined to attend. This threw the burden of speechmaking upon Senators Dawes and Hoar, and they improved it to a most wearisome length. We can conceive of no more heartless use of a banquet than to entice several hundred men to it, and then to turn loose upon them two such lugubrious orators as Dawes and Hoar. They both stood up and said at great length the same things that they had been saying with more or less fulness for the past five or ten years. There was not a ray of freshness or a gleam of a new idea in either speech from beginning to end. The quality of Mr. Dawes's speech can be inferred by the following sample from his introductory re-

marks: "The atmosphere we are breathing here to-day is so surcharged with genuine Republicanism that there can be little need of either tonics or stimulants. The spirit of the olden time is upon us again. The cause is again, as of old, paramount, and the individual subordinate. I congratulate the Republican party of Massachusetts, so largely represented here to day, upon the harmony and earnestness everywhere manifest—sure precursors of success."

Mr. Hoar's speech was in the same line, as the following familiar passage will show: "The Democratic party represents and is controlled by the opinions and purposes as they are to-day of the men who, twenty years ago, thought rebellion, secession, and slavery were right; and the Republican party represents and is controlled by the opinions and purposes as they are to-day of the men who, twenty years ago, thought rebellion, secession, and slavery were wrong." After an hour or more of this kind of oratory, other but brief speeches were made, and then Mr. Henry Cabot Lodge, with the late untoward result in Rhode Island in mind, quoted with depressing effect:

"I hold it truth with him who sings
To one clear harp in divers tones,
That men may rise on stepping-stones
Of their dead selves to higher things."

This confession that the party was dead was received in silence, and Mr. Lodge went on to explain that its death was merely seeming, that it has suffered disaster chiefly because of the "petty personal dislike which is shown towards candidates." Mr. Lodge's stepping-stone of the party's dead self is not high principle, but loyalty to the candidate, no matter what his character. He is going to help the party to rise to "higher things" by reflecting Gov. Ames next fall, and by waging unrelenting war upon all Independents and reformers of whatever name or character.

The *Independent*, we are informed, is to contain an editorial note this week identifying "Arthur Richmond," the blackguard contributor of the *North American Review*, with Gail Hamilton, the great "lady Junius" of the Blaineites. It is intimated by a hint in the *Tribune*, that there are two Arthur Richmonds in the field, and, therefore, the *Independent's* discovery will not conflict with the theory that the other "Arthur Richmond," who attacked Mr. Bayard in the *Review*, was Mr. William Henry Hurlbert. If this be true, we must say frankly to all the blackguard writers in the country that they are not treating Mr. Allen Thorndike Rice, the editor, with due consideration. They should not presume too much on his simplicity or his infirmity. The way they are behaving in dumping their rubbish on him, and getting paid for it, reminds us of a story which the late James T. Fields used to tell of a certain storekeeping New England deacon, one of whose friends related, "That he warn't so fore-handed as he used to be, because his eyesight failed him about a year ago, and as soon as they heard tell on 't they began to bring him in the counterfeit money from fur an' near, and unloaded nigh \$200 of the stuff onto him before he found it out."

Iron and steel are again in peril, as we learn from the *Philadelphia Times*, which

in turn learns the fact from the Bulletin of the American Iron and Steel Association. The trouble is not a new one. It broke out some weeks ago, but was thought to have been suppressed by timely action of the producers. It proceeds entirely from an excessive advance in the price of rails, enabling the foreign producer to run his stuff in, despite the existing duty of \$17 per ton, not to mention ocean freights and other charges. American producers are exhorted to hold their appetites in check, and not to charge so much for rails that the foreigner can come in here and crush us. The Bulletin of the Iron and Steel Association "wisely admonishes them that the large volume of importations means an early and unfavorable influence on home prices," although how that effect is to be produced it does not explain. Domestic rails were selling a year or two ago at \$27.50 per ton. They are now quoted at \$41.50, at which price it appears that they can be imported. The advance of \$14 per ton lets in foreign rails. Now, an unfavorable influence on home prices cannot be produced by any amount of importation at \$41.50 per ton, and the presumption is that at any lower price they could not be imported. A hint is thrown out by the Bulletin that there are undervaluations at the New York Custom-house, but it is evident that this suggestion is not much relied upon, because in the same breath the American producers are admonished to "recall the suicidal folly they perpetrated only a few years ago, when the iron trade revived, by advancing prices until they emptied all the surplus iron of Europe upon our markets and bankrupted themselves. Fraud in custom-houses can be readily detected and remedied, but the temptation to inordinate profits for producers is most difficult to restrain." So it would appear.

Within the last few years a change has taken place in the attitude of our Department of State towards American citizens residing abroad. It has, of course, from the first, extended protection to our citizens temporarily residing in foreign countries. But the inclination of the Department for many years was to seize upon any small circumstance as indicating the abandonment of nationality. Indeed, until the present Administration, the only exception which had ever been made to the presumption of such abandonment by long residence abroad was in the case of missionaries. In the cases of all others the rule laid down by Mr. Webster has always been applied. That rule was: "A person found residing in a foreign country is presumed to be there *animo manendi*, or with the purpose of remaining; and to relieve himself of the character which this presumption fixes upon him, he must show that his residence was only temporary, and accompanied all the while with a fixed and definite intention of returning. If in that country he engages in trade and business, he is considered by the law of nations as a merchant of that country." The growth of our commerce has been so great since Webster's day that it is not at all uncommon for a large central firm, situated in New York, for example, to have in

various foreign countries "branch houses" presided over by trusted agents, American-born citizens, who must needs live continuously abroad. It is very much to Mr. Bayard's credit that he has not scrupled to place these in the same class with the missionaries. About a year ago he held that such agents were subject to the laws of the country in which the firm is domiciled, and to that country their domiciliary duties belong. He has had occasion lately to emphasize this, and to add that such agents are not only American citizens, entitled to our protection and subject to our laws, but are exempt from all burdens which are imposed by the laws of the country in which they reside upon its citizens, such as poll taxes, taxes on personalty, militia duty, and the like.

It is becoming evident that the movement for church union finds it dangerous to pass from the region of vague sentiment to that of practical proposals. The resolutions of the Presbytery of New York, in the form of an overture to the General Assembly, treat the Episcopal olive-branch as if it were the traditional chip on the shoulder. Under the guise of hoisting a reciprocal flag of truce, they really throw down the gauntlet for new conflicts, with a curious mixture of benevolence and belligerence, assuring the Episcopal Church that its proposed bases of union will do very well for Episcopalians, but will never answer for Presbyterians. In fact, it would seem that the most probable outcome of the modern talk about the cordial feeling between the denominations and the vanishing away of the old distinctions, as soon as approach is made to any positive action, will be a revival of theological and sectarian controversy. This has certainly been the result in the case of the Presbyterian churches, North and South. As soon as men began to speak above a whisper about the possibility of the two uniting, the old leaders flew to their guns again. The *Independent*, the great champion of organic church union, has undoubtedly reason for its sorrowful conclusion that little if anything can be done in this generation. But why should anything be done? Is any human being harmed by the want of church union?

The notorious Mrs. Howe, the Boston banker, who swindled so many women nine years ago by offering them 90 per cent. per annum on their deposits, has been able to set up her bank again in the same place, and has met with such success that she has actually "skipped" with \$50,000. When she was in business on the former occasion, her operations raised the question whether women were or were not more gullible than men, and a controversy of considerable bitterness broke out between the sexes, in which, if we remember rightly, Gail Hamilton played the part of a giantess and struck heavy blows for woman. We do not believe the discussion had any decided result one way or the other. The illustrations of gullibility which each side was able to produce were very impressive, but, as well as we remember, the balance between them was almost, if not quite, even. Mrs. Howe's ability to open the bank again and do some business on the old principles among her own sex, tells with

some force in favor of the theory that women fall victims to imposture more readily than men. It must be admitted, however, that since the career of the firm of Grant & Ward has been exposed, the men have had but little to say in favor of their superior business perspicacity. The promises made by Ward were as wild as Mrs. Howe ever made to her depositors, and it was not poor spinsters they took in, but men familiar with the operations of business and the ordinary chances of profit.

The condition in which Messrs. George Riddle and Edgar Fawcett have left the once proud city of Boston, is really pitiable. Mr. Fawcett wrote for Mr. Riddle a play which he confidently declared to be his own masterpiece. Mr. Riddle appeared in it. The public declined to attend save in very sparse numbers, and the critics of the newspapers "jumped upon" both play and actor without mercy. Mr. Fawcett, we believe, left town instantly; Mr. Riddle, shortly after the composition of a farewell address to the city, in which he tells its inhabitants in the frankest manner just what he thinks of them. He says he has no grievance, and he asks neither sympathy nor congratulation, regarding the latter as "hollow and insincere." He wishes it to be understood that he is as indifferent to Boston as Boston is to him, and that no matter what other cities may hereafter say of him as an actor, "Boston will never have an opportunity again of sitting in judgment on me, nor of jumping on me with both feet—and the Boston foot is notoriously large." This neat rap at the physical aspect of the abstract Bostonian appears to have made Mr. Riddle very happy, for he concludes: "I am in buoyant spirits, not at all discouraged, and very hopeful of being able to exist without the suffrages of Boston, whose damnation is purely local." Announcement is not yet made of the locality in which Messrs. Fawcett and Riddle will next appear, and every city in the land will be more or less nervous until it is.

President Hyde of Bowdoin College, in Maine, who is the youngest college president in America, and was a good base-ball player when he was a student himself a few years ago, has been talking very sensibly on the general subject of college athletics. "Anybody who has had experience with a lot of vigorous young fellows," he says, "knows that they must have some way to dispose of their superfluous energy," and he believes that, if they do not have sports, they will expend it on doors and windows. The proof of this is found in the fact that the new gymnasium at Bowdoin has effected a great saving in the College's expenses for repairs, the general average of such expenses having never before been so low as it was last term. Part of the credit for this, it should be noted, Dr. Hyde gives to the jury system introduced by him a year and a half ago, under which, in case any damage is done by bonfires or smash-ups, the jurors investigate, ascertain who is responsible, and assess the persons who did the mischief. Each student is obliged to work in the gymnasium half-an-hour a day four days in the week,

the gymnasium work being carefully graded according to the strength and ability of the men; and the system is already working a marked improvement in the College physique. Dr. Hyde approves of base-ball and boating as healthful and manly sports, but questions the advantage of intercollegiate base-ball leagues, on account of their tendency to foster gambling and lower the student to the level of the professional player. For this reason the Bowdoin Faculty encourage games between the several classes in preference to participation in the Maine intercollegiate base-ball league, although they do not prohibit the students from entering the league.

The extraordinary speech which Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, made on Thursday last in Scotland seems to indicate either that he has completely got rid of all the political sagacity he ever had, or has finally determined to cut loose from the Liberal party altogether, and enroll himself among the Tories for good and all. Ever since Burke's famous protest against the "indictment of a whole people," the foundation-stone of the Liberal creed has been the assumption that all large bodies or communities are on the whole, if not always wise, at least well-meaning, and desire to be peaceable, and orderly, and respectable. This may not always be true—indeed, it is sometimes far from true; but Liberal politicians in every country in the world feel bound at least to profess to believe it as one of the cardinal articles in the democratic creed. When a country is much ravaged by crime or disorder of a political nature, the Liberal theory is expressed in the words of Sully, that men are never turbulent except through "impatience of suffering," or, in other words, that protracted resistance to or defiance of law is the fault of the Government. It is only high Tories, or German Junkers, or French Legitimists who maintain that a whole community or nation is a pack of thieves or cut-throats, who do wickedness because their nature is corrupt and their desires wholly evil, and that the only way of reducing them to order is by the free use of the dungeon and the scaffold.

Mr. Chamberlain seems to have lost all hold of this central idea of Liberalism. His denunciations of the Irish are worthy of Mr. Chaplin, or the Hon. James Lowther, or any old Tory squire. They are all thieves and assassins together, and they will probably try to assassinate him for denouncing him, but, like a fine old English gentleman that he is, they cannot intimidate him. They may kill him if they please, but they are not going to prevent him and his friends "handing down unimpaired to their children the mighty empire which their forefathers bequeathed to them." When one reads this fustian one can hardly help wondering at the rapidity of his rise from the position of an active and dexterous local politician to that of a leading British statesman. It is, however, doubtless accounted for by his extraordinary skill as an organizer, and his undoubted ability as an executive officer. It is now plain enough; however, that his head was not strong enough for his elevation. Since his re-

volt against Gladstone, to whose recognition of him he owed everything, the number of those who believed in his sincerity or disinterestedness has been rapidly diminishing, and his increasing fury against the Irish is doubtless due to disappointment over the now admitted failure of the Unionist secession. It has not loosened Gladstone's hold on the bulk of the Liberal party, and the old man's health continues to be provokingly good.

The letter of Parnell about the Phoenix Park murders, of which the London *Times* has printed what purports to be a facsimile, would, of course, be damaging to the last degree if authenticated. But the presumptions are all against its authenticity. The *Times* has been publishing a series of long articles entitled "Parnellism and Crime," trying to show the connection or the sympathy of the leading members of the Land League and National League with the various crimes and outrages committed or proposed by Irish Nationalists during the past seven years, both in Ireland, England, and America. The articles were got up, in the well-known journalistic way, by putting together all sorts of damaging and suspicious facts, pressing all possible presumptions into support of the charge, ignoring everything that makes against it, and giving to all careless or ambiguous phrases the worst possible meaning. The articles have, however, owing to their savage animus, fallen very flat. Neither the Liberals nor the Parnellites have taken the least notice of them. The silence of the Parnellites has been apparently very exasperating to the editor, for he keeps calling their attention to them, and challenging them to take legal proceedings against him. It was in this extremity that he announced that he had something stunning in reserve, which he would produce on some future day. This something appears to be the letter in question.

The principal internal evidence against the authenticity of the letter is that it covers the case far too completely. It is just such a letter as the *Times* would get Parnell to write if he agreed to help it to damage him seriously. In this it closely resembles the campaign stories and letters that "workers" get out in this country a day or two before election. He is a very close-mouthed and cautious man, and yet, merely to satisfy a dissatisfied murderer, he writes a most explicit letter, in plain English, without suppressing a single name or resorting to any sign or cipher, and then signs it, like a man, with his own name in full on another page, so that his correspondent, the *Times* suggests, might tear it off if he chose; but also, it might be added, if he did not so choose, that he might sell it to the Tory press. If his signature be genuine, its appearance on the other page looks as if it was obtained as an autograph. The *Times* has fortified the letter in a very amusing way by declaring in advance that Parnell's denial will be of no use in demolishing it. It will probably turn out to be a clumsy forgery like the Morey letter, and its appearance is made doubly suspicious by the fact that it appeared on the very day on which a division was expected on the second reading of the Coercion Bill.

SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S NEWS.

[WEDNESDAY, April 13, to TUESDAY, April 19, 1887, inclusive.]

DOMESTIC.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND has appointed William J. Allen of Springfield, Ill., to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of that State; Col. Wesley Merritt of the Fifth Cavalry, now Superintendent at West Point, to be a brigadier-general; and Sigourney Butler of Boston to be Second Comptroller of the Treasury, in place of Judge Maynard, promoted to the Assistant Secretaryship of the Treasury.

On April 16 the President appointed Alexander R. Lawton of Georgia to be United States Minister to Austria. Mr. Lawton was appointed United States Minister to Russia in 1885, but his name was withdrawn on account of a discussion of his political disabilities, which were removed by the last Congress. Newton W. McConnell of Tennessee has been appointed Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Montana, and George S. Peters of Ohio United States District Attorney for Utah.

Secretary Whitney has awarded to the Bethlehem Iron Works Company of Pennsylvania the contracts for furnishing steel-gun forgings and steel-armor plates for new war ships at a total cost of \$4,512,938.29.

Gen. Greeley, the new head of the Government Weather Bureau, has had prepared, from the records of the last fifteen years, a table of mean temperature, rainfall, etc., on every day of the year. The figures of any current date, by comparison with the mean figures of the last fifteen years on a corresponding date, show how far the temperature, rainfall, etc., of the current date exceed or fall below the normal line; and the mean records of a part of any season, compared with the mean records of the whole of the corresponding season for fifteen years, furnish a basis on which it is reasonably safe to predict the general character of the remaining part. Gen. Greeley hopes thus to send to the produce exchanges periodical reports that will be of the highest service in changing their transactions from a purely speculative basis to one of reasonable assurance.

For the first quarter of this year the revenues of the Post-office Department foot up not far from \$12,500,000, which is an increase of 9 per cent. over the revenues of the corresponding quarter of last year, and is the largest quarter's business ever done by the Department.

At a reception to ex-Speaker Carlisle at Covington, Ky., April 13, he expressed the opinion that "there has never been a time since 1876 when the majority of the people were not in favor of the principles of the Democratic party"; and he said: "This country is full of vagaries on the powers of Government. Some want it to become a great eleemosynary institution for the care of everybody; some want it to purchase the railroads and telegraph lines; some want it to interfere with the people's private business; some want it to loan money to indigent people. It is impossible to enumerate the schemes to rob the taxpayers for the benefit of somebody else. We must overcome the Socialistic theories abroad in the land. We must stand everywhere for the protection of both capital and labor. We must stand everywhere for the rights of men to do business with their own money in their own way. If the Democratic party does not do this, it might as well cease to exist."

After the defeat of the Prohibition amendment in Michigan, fifty Republican members of the Legislature, in caucus, decided to prepare a bill for high license and local option. Drug stores wishing to sell liquors are to pay the same tax as saloons. The limit of the license was fixed for cities of 10,000 inhabitants and over, \$700; for cities under 10,000, \$500; for incorporated villages, \$100; for townships, \$300. A High-License Bill has been introduced in the Massachusetts Legislature, which fixes the price of a first-class license at \$1,000,

second and third class at \$750, fourth class at \$500, and fifth class at \$150.

Three proposed amendments to the Constitution of California failed of adoption at the polls on April 12. The first provided that the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court should be elected by the judges instead of by the people; the second, that the salaries of certain Superior Court judges should be increased, as well as the salary of the Supreme Court judges from \$6,000 to \$7,500; and the third, that cities of more than 10,000 population should make their own charters.

Investigation of the recent effort to kill a member of the Illinois Legislature, named Bailey, of which the friends of the condemned Anarchists in Chicago are suspected, has led to the suspicion of an oath-bound organization of Socialists to wreak vengeance (in case hope of saving the condemned Anarchists is lost) on all who have aided in their prosecution.

The Ohio State Centennial Commission, of which Gov. Foraker is Chairman, is making preparations for the exposition to be held at Columbus next year in commemoration of the first settlement of the Northwest Territory.

A very destructive cyclone swept through Belmont County, O., April 14. At St. Clairsville nearly every house was damaged. The churches, banks, court-house, newspaper offices, and hotels were demolished or so badly shattered as to be useless, and many people were hurt. At Martin's Ferry 80 to 100 houses were swept away, and almost 100 families made homeless. Twenty-five people were more or less seriously wounded.

On April 13 Columbia College celebrated its centennial anniversary. There were present many distinguished visitors from other institutions of learning, and honorary degrees were conferred on the following: Degree of Doctor of Letters—Andrew Dickinson White, Merrill Edwards Gates, Francis Andrew March, Richard Salter Storrs, John De Witt, Horace Howard Furness, James Albert Harrison, William Milligan Sloane, Charles Waldstein, William Copley Winslow, Henry Barnard, George William Curtis, Alice Elvira Freeman, President of Wellesley College; George Lansing Taylor, Martin Brewer Anderson, James Hammond Trumbull, Nathaniel Henry Rhodes Dawson, Isaac Hollister Hall, Moses Coit Tyler, George Bancroft, Francis James Child, William Dwight Whitney, Amelia Blandford Edwards, Secretary Egyptian Exploration Fund. Degree of Doctor of Laws—Abram Stevens Hewitt, Julius Hawley Seelye, Benjamin Apthorp Gould, James Burrill Angell, John Call Dalton, Charles Andrews, John Barbee Minor, Simon Newcomb, Charles A. Rapallo, Robert Earl, Maria Mitchell, Director of Observatory, Vassar College; John Chandler Bancroft Davis, Frederic René Coudert, Charles Augustus Young, William Watson Goodwin, Daniel Coit Gilman, Francis Amasa Walker, Morrison Remick Waite, William Crawford Ruger, John Tyndall, Lewis Morris Rutherford, Eugene Waldemar Hilgard, Emile Lavasseur, Hermann Ludwig von Helmholtz, John William Dawson, Daniel Manning, Edward Singleton Holden, Moritz Steinschneider. Degree of Doctor of Divinity—Frederick Dan Huntington, George Williamson Smith, Eugene Augustus Hoffman, Robert Brinckerhoff Fairbairn, Albert Zabriske Gray, Henry Augustus Coit, Phillips Brooks, John Richard McGrath. Frederic R. Coudert of this city, an alumnus of the College, delivered the oration.

Dr. C. W. Bennett of Evanston, Ill., acting for a donor whose name has not been made public, has purchased the Ranke library at Berlin for the Syracuse (N. Y.) University. Mr. V. H. R. Carey of this city, a post-graduate student of Harvard, has given \$25,000 to aid in building the swimming bath for the gymnasium. The bath will be 100 feet by 60, and will contain a thousand lockers and a racquet court. An anonymous gift of \$25,000 has been made to the Law Department of Yale

College, to be used for the furtherance of the study of contracts and commercial law. The fund is to be known as the Phelps Fund, in honor of Prof. Phelps, now United States Minister to England, who was one of the Faculty of the Law Department.

A dinner was given in this city April 14 in behalf of the American School at Athens, to which many distinguished scholars sat down. Mr. George William Curtis presided and delivered the opening address, and speeches were made by Mr. James Russell Lowell and Dr. Waldstein.

Walt Whitman read his lecture in the Madison Square Theatre on "Abraham Lincoln" April 14, which was the twenty-second anniversary of Lincoln's assassination. In the box at the left of the stage sat Mr. James Russell Lowell and Prof. Charles Eliot Norton, and on the right Mr. E. C. Stedman.

The anniversary of Jefferson's birth, April 13, was celebrated by the alumni of the University of Virginia who live in New Orleans. The orator was William M. Burwell, whose father was private secretary to President Jefferson. Though advanced in years, he is an active journalist, and at the last election was the Republican candidate for Congress in the First City District.

The remains of Lincoln were privately taken from their hiding place April 14, and interred in the north vault of the Lincoln monument in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, Ill. The Lincoln Guard of Honor had kept them concealed since the effort to steal them in 1876. The features were easily recognizable.

Mrs. M. M. Dickey, one of the six surviving pensioners of the Revolutionary war, died on April 12, at Towanda, Pa., aged ninety-six. Her husband died at the age of ninety-six in 1844. James S. Delano, an employee of the Treasury Department at Washington since 1862 until recently, died April 14. He began as a clerk, and rose through the different grades until he became Deputy Second Comptroller. The Rev. Francis W. Tustin, Professor of Greek in Bucknell University, Pennsylvania, died on the same day. The Right Rev. Monsignor William Quinn, Vicar-General of the Archdiocese of New York, died in Paris on April 15. In 1875 he was made Vicar-General and rector of the Mott Street Cathedral, and the labor of building the new Cathedral fell almost entirely on his shoulders, because of the illness of Cardinal McCloskey. In 1879 the Pope made him one of his domestic prelates, conferring upon him the rank of Monsignor. Other deaths are those of John L. Hayes, Secretary of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers, April 18; Chief Justice David K. Cartter of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, April 16; ex-Congressman A. J. Weaver of Nebraska, and Alexander Mitchell, President of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad Company, April 19.

FOREIGN.

Mr. Chamberlain made a speech at Ayr, April 14, which greatly excited all parties, and so inflamed the Irish against him that he received many threatening letters. In the course of his speech he said: "The opponents of the Crimes Bill have made an outcry against the repression of liberty. Liberty to do what? To commit theft, to ruin industrious men, to outrage women?" When he was hissed he continued: "This is the spirit of the parties in the Irish Convention in Chicago. That Convention, besides being attended by delegates honestly in sympathy with Ireland, had apostles of outrage and murder, who have paid the outrage-mongers of England. Mr. Redmond, the delegate of the Irish Parliamentary party, explicitly declared that it was the aim of that party to effect the entire separation of Ireland from England, and that their policy was to make the government of Ireland by England impossible." In the House of Commons Mr. Redmond made a personal explanation with reference to his speech at the Chicago Conven-