

AN IMPORTANT BILL.

Immigrants to America Must Know How to Read and Write.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor.
WASHINGTON, D. C., 16.—The first bill of national importance likely to be passed this session is the Lodge immigration bill.

It is now before the Senate and an agreement has been reached to take a vote on it Thursday afternoon. Senator Gibson of Maryland is offering some opposition, but it does not seem probable that he will secure enough votes to defeat it. The Democrats in the Senate are divided and with a united Republican vote it will go through.

The bill as it passed the House has been amended. When it goes back to the House for conference it is probable that Speaker Reed will name Mr. McCall of Massachusetts as one of the conferees. In that event the bill as amended will go through, as Mr. McCall is known to be in sympathy with the views of Mr. Lodge.

The Lodge bill provides an educational test for all persons over fourteen years of age.

In a general way, every intending immigrant must be able to read and write his own or some other language. The test is to be made at the port of final entry, and is ingenious. The inspection officers are to be furnished with a number of pasted-on slips, on which are printed in various languages five lines of various sections of the Constitution of the United States.

These slips are put into a box and every immigrant must draw a slip from the box holding the slips printed in his native tongue or any other language he may select. In full view of the inspector, the immigrant must draw out a slip, read it correctly and afterward write out the five lines.

The box shall be well shaken up each time after its use, so that there can be no collusion between inspectors and immigrants as to the selection of a special slip, whose contents the immigrants could have committed to memory previously. All immigrants failing to pass this practical examination shall be returned at the expense of the steamship company which brought them over.

Mr. Lodge holds that in the past twenty years the bulk of immigration has changed materially. Until 1880 the mass of immigrants were Germans, English, Irish, French and Dutch, than whom no country ever welcomed more desirable material.

But of later years this class of immigration has been succeeded by the immigration from Italy, Bohemia, Poland and the Slav countries of Russia. Absolutely speaking, the mass of immigration still comes from Germany and Ireland, but relatively the immigration from those countries is rapidly declining in comparison with the immigration from Southern Europe and Asia. It is the frankly avowed purpose of the bill to stop this latter class of immigration.

During the past fourteen years the following figures explain Mr. Lodge's contention: Of 29,162 Italians 18,436, or more than half, were unable to read or write, while out of 23,441 Germans, almost an equal number of immigrants, there were only 636 who were illiterate. Ireland sent nearly 45,000 immigrants, while Russia sent only about half as many, but the per centage of ignorance among the Russians was nearly five times as great as among the Irish.

Robson and Januszek Tomorrow.

Stuart Robson, who has had the longest and most honorable experience of any comedian on the stage of to-day, with the possible exception of Joseph Jefferson, with a humor as breezy, whimsical and eccentric, yet fresh and amusing to all theatregoers now as it was a generation ago, when his peculiar genius was in every sense a novelty, and he was first acquiring fame as a star, will appear tomorrow night at the Academy of Music, in that highly amusing comedy, "Mrs. Ponderbury's Past," and has engaged for the role of Mrs. Ponderbury no less a distinguished person than the great tragedienne, Madame Januszek. In connection with the play, Mr. Robson will also introduce a one act comedy entitled "Mr. Gilman's Wedding," a highly humorous piece which delineates the trials of a young husband, who at the very outset of his honeymoon, finds himself in a dilemma under the accusation of bigamy.

If you miss Evangeline tonight you will miss the greatest attraction that has been here in years.

ATTACKED A CONSUL

Because He Favored the Cubans.

THREE FRIENDS LAND

A Large Cargo of Arms Etc., on the Cuban Soil—General Lee Leaves for Cuba Tonight.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—Gen. Lee is still in the city. He will leave for Cuba tonight.

Key West, Dec. 16.—It is reported that the steamer Three Friends landed a cargo of arms, ammunition, medical supplies and passengers for the South coast of Cuba. The vessel carried 60 men, 2,600 rifles, and two tons of dynamite and two dynamite guns.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The Senate committee on foreign affairs met this morning, but took no action on the Cuban resolutions.

CITY OF MEXICO, Dec. 16.—Reports are circulating here that the Mexican consul at Madrid was attacked by Spaniards on account of his sympathy for the Cubans.

MADRID, Dec. 16.—Dispatches from Havana say the pursuit of the Cuban insurgents is actively pushed in the provinces of Havana and Matanzas.

HAVANA, Dec. 16.—Gen. Weyler publishes a statement regarding the circumstances of Maceo's death. He says the body is buried near Bejuco, near Rincon.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The Senate passed the pension appropriation bill. The Cuban resolutions were not taken up during the routine hour. The committee on foreign affairs in the Senate meets again Friday to take up the Cuban matter.

In the house the army appropriation bill is being considered.

Key West, Dec. 16.—The cruiser Newark returned from a chase after the filibuster. She saw the alleged filibuster, Dauntless, but did not intercept her. The Raleigh has gone up the coast and returns this evening.

J. E. Fellows' Successor.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—Governor Morton will announce this afternoon the appointment of William K. Oleott as a successor to Col. Fellows.

More Troops to the Philippines.

By Cable to the Press-Visitor.

MADRID, Dec. 16.—According to the Herald 15,000 troops will be sent at once to reinforce the Spanish garrisons on the Philippine islands.

The Supreme Court Decides the Assignment Case.

The supreme court has ended a very notable case. Almost a year ago Enrolling Clerk Brown of the legislature was tried and convicted on a charge of fraudulently permitting to be enrolled a bill to regulate assignments, said bill never having passed any readings in either branch of the legislature, but having been unfavorably reported and tabled. Brown appealed to the supreme court, which now unanimously reverses the lower court and finds that there was not the least evidence of fraud on Brown's part. This assignment act, which was enrolled and signed by the speakers of both branches of the legislature, was not discovered until several days after the legislature had adjourned. It is the first case of the kind on record in North Carolina.

Conditions of the Weather Generally.

The storm yesterday central on the South Atlantic coast moved northeastward to New England, causing severe gales from Hatteras northward. Boston reports a maximum wind velocity of 40 miles, New York 70, Philadelphia 34, Norfolk 28. It is snowing this morning from Philadelphia to Boston. Precipitation occurred over the middle and north Atlantic coast, to the east coast region, and southwestward to Montgomery, Ala.; largest amount 1.62 inches at Norfolk.

In the central valley and westward the weather is fair, and is becoming warmer under the influence of a new low area developing in the northwest.

There will be meeting of Knights and Ladies of Honor tomorrow night; the last of the term. It is essential there should be a full attendance.

AMATEUR ONLY IN CAST.

The "Clique Dramatique" Gives a Bang-up Performance—Play and Players.

The chill wind and the rain that fell in a drizzly soak last night kept by their firesides hundreds who under more favorable weather conditions would have gone forth to witness the production by the home amateurs of the old comedy, "Our Boys," at the Academy of Music last evening. As it was, the rising of the curtain disclosed to the players well-nigh empty galleries and a house but half filled.

But when the curtain dropped for the last time, those who were there went out again in the cold pleased at having come. For the play had been given in a style that will place the "Clique Dramatique" in the front rank of amateur organizations in the South, and those who had witnessed it felt as they went away a mingled pride in the young actors and pity for those who had staid away.

"Our Boys," written long enough ago to have been forgotten so thoroughly that it is new to most people, is a bright old comedy, full of sparkling lines and depending for its success upon the wit and merit that is inherent rather than upon the grotesque situations and anti-climatic absurdities which make the modern farse a thing principally of bright scenery and gorgeous costumes. It is a play which requires acting, quick and intelligent rendition of its lines and artistic appreciation of its delicate points of bright repartee. It is a difficult piece to understand from a reading, much more to enact, and the fact that the club produced it so successfully as to thoroughly captivate a most critical audience was truly wonderful.

Now a moment with the players, wigged and powdered and painted behind the scenes. First, that stiff old English lord, Sir Geoffry Champneys, otherwise Mr. Thos. Bush, stiff and proud aristocratic to a degree, in his make-up of iron-gray hair and beard, and English checks; then that "jolly old fireworks," Mr. Perkyn Middlewick (No Boyden), fat, red whiskered, prosperous, "H-less," a jocky, from your heart, that's one pair. But they are up against two pair in the play, with a sentimentally sympathetic old spinster of an aunt thrown in on the side. These are Jacques Busbee and Dr. Hubert Royster, "Our Boys," Misses Julia Dewey and Amelia Pearce, "Their Girls," with "Aunt Clarissa," (Miss Anne Busbee) aiding them in their love, which is so crossed and opposed by Sir Geoffry and Middlewick that it is bound to be true, if only on account of the in-born obstinacy of human nature.

In the plot "Our Boys," Talbot Champney's and Charles Middlewick (Messrs Royster and Busbee) return after finishing their education abroad to the homes of their respective parents. Sir Geoffry, Talbot's father, has planned for him to marry the heiress, Violet Melrose (Miss Pearce) who is visiting him with her poor cousin, Mary Melrose (Miss Dewey). Charles Middlewick, however, has met and won the heiress while abroad, and she having offended the vulgar Middlewick, he is disowned by his father when he announces their engagement. Talbot, in the meantime, who is the penniless cousin, Mary, and is in turn kicked out by his aristocratic parent. The last set discovers the two young men in a garret in London, working against starvation. They are visited there by Sir Geoffry and Middlewick, Aunt Clarissa and Violet and Mary, and after some amusing complications resulting from mutual misunderstanding, all ends happily, as it should.

To pick a "star" from among those who played would be indeed a doubtful experiment. One thing, however, is certain: from all the ranks of professional stage beauties, you could not have picked two lovelier representatives of "Mary" and "Violet" than Miss Dewey and Miss Pearce. The sight of these two warmed the audience into spontaneous applause, and the heart-catching vivacity of the one, the perfect self-composure and ability of the other, kept it delighted and amused as long as they kept the stage.

Dr. Hubert Royster, who had the "heavy" love part of the play, rendered his lines with expression and acted well, while his companion, Talbot Champneys, conducted his with the ease of a heart, in a style that with the artistic aid of his "most admissible" of your sex, made the scene one of the decided hits of the evening.

"The always trying role" of bloody

ENGLISH" WAS ABLY DONE BY SIR

Geoffry whose conversations with that pompous mixture of pride, vulgarity and kind-heartedness, Middlewick, were a feature. Aunt Clarissa who figured prominently throughout the play left nothing to be desired from her part, and though an ungovernable defect of nature prevented her from looking the age of her role, she well merited the hearty applause she won.

The garret scene introduced to the audience a character that has been seldom equalled here, Miss Ethel Bagley, as Belinda, a lodging house working-girl. The ability she displayed in making her humble part possibly the most talked about after the play was wonderful—and passes description.

In addition to these "characters" were two "subs"—Bob Gray and Wat Roberts—as Kempster, a footman, and Poodles, a butler. They naturally had little to say, but they looked their parts so well that few of the audience recognized them.

All in all, the "Clique Dramatique" surpassed the great expectations that were held of it. It is to be hoped that "Our Boys" will be repeated. It would be bad for the people to be cheated finally by a weeping sky of a real treat.

THE SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES

Sheriff Jones today completed his appointment of deputy sheriffs in the various townships. The new Sheriff has his office in good working order, though as yet he has had little to do. In January Sheriff Jones will begin the collection of purchase tax under schedule B.

Below is the list of appointments of deputy sheriffs:

- Barton's Creek Township—Geo B Allen, Rogers' Store; Buckhorn, Henry C. Lashley, New Hill; Cary, Paschal G Spence, Cary; Cedar Fork, W H Carpenter, Morrisville; House's Creek, Jas W Pollard, Method; Little River, J R Perry, Hartsville; Mark's Creek, Charles R Todd, Eagle Rock; Middle Creek, W Edward Sexton, Varina; Neuse River, Jos Norwood, Neuse; New Light, Wiley F Perry, New Light; Oak Grove, Willis D Peed, Rogers' Store; Panther Branch, Arnold Parrish, Myatt's Mills; St. Mary's, John W Honeycutt, Auburn; St. Matthews, Chas R Todd, Eagle Rock; Swift Creek, John W Upchurch, Raleigh; White Oak, W E Johnson, Ewing.

NO LONGER LOYAL

To Tom Watson—Butlers Paper Says He is All Sorts of a Fool.

The Okucasian, Senator Butler's paper, makes no reply to Tom Watson's vicious attack on Senator Butler last week. A significant paragraph, which is not the least bit complimentary, expresses the Senator's high regard for the late populist-educational candidate.

"And now it is announced that Hon. Thomas E. Watson will contest the seat of Black from the tenth Georgia district. We have strained ourselves right much to be loyal to Watson since his nomination for the Vice-Presidency, but our strength is now exhausted, and we give up the job of loyalty to him with a conviction that he is more sorts of a damned fool than Elliot F. Shepherd ever was."

Mr. Moore Explains Defeat.

Mr. Walter E. Moore of Jackson county, the Democratic candidate for the legislature, who received a tie vote November third and at the called election yesterday, was in Charlotte yesterday. Mr. Moore said to the News:

"Most of the Populists who voted cast their ballots for the Republican," though many of them voted for me. Maj. Guthrie and Senator Butler both strongly favored my election, but the Populists of the other stripe favored the election of the Republican.

"What defeated me, though, was simply the use of money. I have been informed by the most reliable persons that at least \$3,000 in cash was spent in the county. The owners of several mines in the county threatened their employes with the loss of their situations if they voted for me, and that had its effect.

"Where the heeled could not influence a man to vote the Republican ticket they paid him to stay at home.

The Wanderers' Reunion.

Invitations have been issued to the Wanderers' re-union to be held at Southern Pines December 22nd and 23rd. This is to be a gathering of Southern people who have settled in the North and they will be there from every Southern State.

PRITCHARD NEEDED.

The Senate Must Have a Republican to Secure the Passage of a Tariff Bill.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—In an interview on the senatorial situation in North Carolina Senator Thurston, of Nebraska, a member of the national Republican committee, said: "The Republicans seem certain of forty-two seats in the next Senate. If Mr. Mantle, of Montana, should act with us, as I hope he will, at least on tariff matters, we will have forty-three. We would then need at least two more votes, together with the vote of the vice-president, to secure the passage of a tariff act. We hope to secure those two votes from Kentucky and North Carolina. The members of the national committee, so far as I know their sentiments, are very anxious that a Republican tariff measure should become operative at the beginning of the next fiscal year—July 1st. It seems almost evident that no tariff legislation of a satisfactory character can pass Congress and become law this session. The expectation is that such a law can be passed at an extraordinary session called soon after the fourth of March.

"For myself, I feel that all proposed financial legislation can be and ought to be postponed until this country has a chance to test the effects of the new protective tariff. We are, therefore, not interested very much now about money issues. But it is of the greatest importance to have Senators enough thoroughly committed to the protective policy to secure the passage of a tariff bill."

The Senator then goes on to say that Senator Pritchard is known to be a strong protectionist.

TODAY'S MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.

Market quotations furnished by E. B. Cuthbert & Co., 30 Broad street, New York, and 305 Wilmington street, Raleigh, N. C., over their special wire:

MONTHS.	OPENING.	HIGH.	LOW.	CLOSING.
January	8 83	8 88	8 79	8 81-
February	6 90	6 93	6 87	6 89-
March	6 99	7 03	6 96	6 98-
April	7 07	7 09	7 02	7 04-
May	7 14	7 16	7 09	7 12-
June	7 14	7 19	7 14	7 16-
July	7 23	7 24	7 18	7 20
August	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sept./mbr.	.....	.....	.....	.....
October	.....	.....	.....	.....
November	.....	.....	.....	.....
December	6 79	6 79	6 75	6 79-

Closed steady; sales 162,400 bales.

The following were the closing quotations on the New York Stock Exchange today:

New York Stock Market.	
Sugar	1114
American Tobacco	754
Burlington and Quincy	734
Chicago Gas	73
Des. and Ct. Feed	.....
General Electric	314
Louisville and Nashville	494
Manhattan	92
Rock Island	98
Southern Preferred	27
St. Paul	214
Tennessee Coal and Iron	254
Western Union	854

Chicago Grain and Provision Market.

The following were the closing quotations on the Chicago Grain and Provision market today:

- Wheat—December, 764; May, 794.
- Corn—December, 224; May, 264.
- Oats—December 164; May 20.
- Pork—January, 7.65; May, 7.95.
- Lard—January 3.85; May, 4.05.
- Clear Rib Sides—January 3.87; May 4.02.

Liverpool Cotton Market.

December	3.59
December-January	3.56 b
January-February	3.56
February-March	3.58
March-April	3.56 b
April-May	3.57
May-June	3.58 b

Closed barely steady, sales 15,000 bales.

Cordon Jolly Dead.

Cordon, the six-year-old son of Mr. B. R. Jolly, died last night after an illness of two months. Cordon was a bright young fellow of much promise. He was stricken with typhoid fever. Mr. and Mrs. Jolly's many friends extend sympathy.

A Beautiful Window.

Messrs. Tucker & Co. have one of the handsomest displays in their big show window that ever ornamented Fayetteville street. The eye of the passer-by is irresistibly thrown that way. At nearly all times of the day groups of admirers can be seen in front of the display. The elaborate display is in keeping with the handsome establishment, which has made the firm of Tucker & Co. famous.

SHORT STATEMENTS.

Minor Matter Manipulated for the Many.

AROUND THE CITY.

Pot-Pouri of the News Pictured on Paper—Points and People's Pertinents Picked and Pithily Put in Print.

Evangeline was enthusiastically received at its production in Richmond.

Two convicts from Craven and six from Halifax were placed in the pen yesterday.

The trains from Henderson, Durham, Wake Forest and Louisburg brought in a number of people during the day who came to see Evangeline.

There will be a called meeting of importance at the headquarters of W. C. T. U. Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock. A full attendance desired.

The executive committee of the board of directors of the penitentiary was in session this morning at the Treasurer's office, examining the penitentiary records.

Prof. Meserve went to New York yesterday to confer with Mr. Shaw and others about the University. A free dispensary will likely be connected with the Leonard Medical School.

H. C. McNair of Maxton and W. S. Murdock of Asheville play for the chess championship in Asheville on the twenty-eighth. Delegates from Asheville, Charlotte and Wilmington will witness the contest.

There are two things a man never likes to lend: his gun or his watch. If you want a gun for a hunt don't bother your neighbor, but go to Brockwell. He has a fine line of guns for rent. See ad.

See the new announcement on the second page of the Raleigh Stationery Company and call and take a look at their elegant and beautiful holiday stock. You can not fall to find something attractive for a Christmas present.

The Grade school vouchers are being turned over to the sheriff for payment, but Sheriff Page has no funds on hand. Unless the people of Raleigh township pay their taxes promptly there is a possibility that the schools will have to close up.

Our progressive druggist Mr. J. Hal Bobbitt has out a calendar for 1897 which is a beauty and no mistake. It is adorned with a luscious basket of strawberries in rich colors and is most attractive in every detail.

At 11 o'clock tomorrow morning Miss Anna Crow will be married to Mr. J. T. Alderman at Miss Crow's home on Halifax street. Relatives and friends from a distance have been invited to meet at Miss Crow's home tonight.

Messrs. Thomas & Campbell announce today that they are ready for the Christmas trade with a most attractive line of rockers and everything in the furniture line suitable for Christmas presents. They offer a nice rattan rocker for 90 cents and many other attractive bargains.

The committee appointed by the last Legislature to examine the accounts of the Auditor and State Treasurer is in session here. The following compose the committee, all of whom are present: A. F. Hileman, of Cabarrus; C. W. Mitchell, of Bertie; W. R. Ellis, of Davie; D. R. Julian, of Rowan, and W. H. Farthing, of Watauga.

We make our acknowledgments to Mr. C. Ironmonger, advertising agent of the Seaboard Air Line, for a beautiful and handsomely designed colored circular announcing Christmas excursions and holiday rates. Tickets will be sold for distances of 300 miles and under at 2 cents per mile. Tickets will be put on sale December 22nd and the final limit will be January 4th.

Wreck on the N. C. Railroad.

There was an accident on the North Carolina railroad early this morning at Gibsonville, a station this side of Greensboro. A caboose and box car broke loose from a freight train just as it was pulling in at Gibsonville and ran back down grade for some distance. Another train came around a curve and struck the runaway, demolishing the front part of the engine and wrecking the caboose, which subsequently took fire and burned. No one was in the caboose.

AT A RIPE OLD AGE

Dr. T. D. Martin Received Yesterday on the Occasion of His 81st Birthday.

The elegant residence of Dr. and Mrs. T. D. Martin on Hillsboro street was thrown open yesterday afternoon, and many were the guests who came and went from four to seven.

The occasion was the celebration of the Doctor's 81st birthday, an age ripe and mellow, far beyond the allotted three score years and ten, but one, we hope, not for many years to come ready for the plucking.

In the most tastefully arranged reception room Dr. and Mrs. Martin received their guests, assisted by Mr. A. Q. Holladay, Capt. S. A. Ashe and Mrs. Rosa Ashe. Many pleasant toasts were drunk to the doctor for a continued long life. The illumination of this room was most beautiful and complete. In the center of the room, banked by evergreens, rose a gilded pyramid, from which eighty-one vari-colored wax candles threw their dazzling light into every corner, making it appear as most brilliant day.

From here it was an easy step to the punch room, where the punch bowl was most gracefully presided over by Miss Mary Johnson—and for those who chosing a milder refreshment Miss Kate Belvin offered the charm of her presence at the coffee table.

Finally the guests were ushered into the refreshment room, where they were assisted to all manner of tempting delicacies by Misses Willie and Lizzie Ashe, Lydia Hoke, Susie Marshall and Nellie Skinner. Then, taking leave of the good doctor and wife, the guests vied in pronouncing it the most pleasant affair of the season. As for ourselves we can only repeat the good wishes of the others—a long life and a happy one.

DELEGATES ELECTED

By the Chamber of Commerce to Attend the Indianapolis Convention.

The chamber of commerce held a special meeting in the Mayor's office at noon today for the purpose of electing two delegates to the monetary convention which meets in Indianapolis January 12th.

President Pogue presided and Secretary George Allen read a letter from Mr. H. H. Hanna, the chairman of the executive committee of the convention, inviting the chamber of commerce to send two representative business men as delegates. President Pogue expressed the opinion that the move was a very wise and patriotic one and a movement in which all the trades unions and business exchanges should be interested.

On motion of Mr. W. E. Ashley it was decided to send two delegates from the chamber of commerce. Secretary Allen stated that the citizens of Cincinnati would entertain the delegates after their arrival.

Mr. J. G. Brown, cashier of the Citizens' Bank, was elected a delegate, though he is undecided whether he will be able to attend. Capt. S. A. Ashe, Mayor Russ, Mr. J. E. Pogue, Mr. J. C. Dreyer and Mr. C. B. Barbee were nominated as delegates, but they all stated that it would be impossible to attend the convention.

Capt. J. J. Thomas was elected a delegate.

The chamber then adjourned.

EVANGELINE TONIGHT.

The Great Musical Extravaganza Arrived in the City This Afternoon.

The Evangeline company with their complement of fifty six people arrived in the city this afternoon from Norfolk where the performance was enthusiastically received last evening. This musical extravaganza is one of the largest productions ever in the South.

Evangeline is a musical burlesque on Longfellow's poem and one of the greatest theatrical successes of modern times. Every body has heard of the Lone Fisherman and his extraordinarily pretty girls. This unique attraction, girls and all with the exquisite music and fresh, up-to-date jokes, full of dynamite and caramels, is to fill the Academy of Music tonight.

Reserved seats on sale at King's drug store. The gallery is only fifty cents.

New York in a Blizzard.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor.
NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—The city is in the center of a blizzard. The wind is blowing seventy miles an hour. Six inches of snow have fallen and it is still snowing hard.