

ONLY AN ACROBAT.

The first night of the season at the Hippodrome of Monacore de Nations, in that laughter-loving and light-hearted city of Paris.

Well might the proprietor, the genial Artelio Milandri, hum a tune as he contentedly counted the "takings," for there was not a seat to spare.

Paolo, better known to his friends and associates as Bob Sinclair, was a young Englishman—a well set-up, fresh-colored, curly-haired Yorkshire lad.

When Paolo stepped into the ring the public sentiment was in a tumult. It would be only taking up space to describe the "strong man" performance, which is now familiar to everybody.

Though Paolo worked that night as cleverly as usual and without any apparent effort to the eyes of the on-lookers, yet with his cat-like tread, he weighted down by a strange foreboding that something unusual was about to happen, and he felt really relieved when at last his performance was finished.

Scarce had the heavy velvet hangings separating the ring from the "back" of the house fallen behind him when his "dresser" rushed breathlessly up to him, his knees almost smiting together, and terror contorting every feature of his countenance.

"Heaven help us, M'sieur Paolo!" he gasped. "What shall we do? Scipio has got loose from his cage, and is making for the evening, and he is bound to carry us away!"

Scipio was a huge lion, purchased as a cub by Milandri for exhibition to the patrons of his menagerie. Owing to some carelessness in the fastening of his cage door, the beast had managed to escape, and, attracted by the smell of the horses, was now making his way to the arena, on the opposite side of which the stables were situated.

Beads of perspiration stood upon his forehead as he thought of the effects of a sudden stampede amongst that vast concourse. How in their way alarm hundreds of women and children—ay, and strong men, too—would be crushed and trampled to death.

"Where are Francis, Jean, Pierre and the rest?" he asked.

"All down, M'sieur! All escaped!" "Now listen," he said to the attendant, "you are the only one who has shown any pluck, and I won't forget you. Get through my dressing room window, run as fast as your legs can carry you to the barracks at the end of the road, tell the officer on duty what has happened and ask for help. In the meantime, I will do my best for Mr. Scipio."

As the last sound of the man's hurrying feet down the passage proclaimed him well on his way for help Paolo hastily snatched up a small stiletto which had been used in a juggling trick during the evening, and, concealing it in his vest, stepped once more, to the astonishment and delight of the audience, into the arena.

Whispering a few hasty directions to the ear of a clown who was filling

in between the "turns" to stop the next artist from appearing, Paolo made a low bow, and, holding up his hand for silence, announced:

"Ladies and gentlemen, I cannot thank you sufficiently in words for the kindness with which you have received my efforts to-night; so, as deeds speak louder than words, I shall bring before you, for the first time in public, my famous trained lion. He and I will give an exhibition of wrestling. Ah! you hear him, I think, answering my challenge—amongst I roar burst from behind the curtains, and caused a few of the more timid to move uneasily in their seats.

With one magnificent bound the noble beast was through the curtains and in the middle of the ring. There he lay crouching in the odoriferous tan, as though scarce realizing his unwonted freedom and struck by the strangeness of his surroundings, his bloodshot eyes rolling uneasily, and his quick, gasping breath disturbing the dust beneath his dilated nostrils.

Paolo had braced his limbs to give himself a firm position in expectation of Scipio's onrush, his weapon concealed in the hollow of his hand; and as he stood, in all the grace and strength of his magnificent manhood, every symptom of fear vanished, he felt within himself that he almost welcomed the moment that would bring to him victory or death.

Little time for thought, however, had Paolo. With one fell spring the mighty beast was at him, his open jaws dripping forth, his bloodshot eyes blazing with fury. But this time did he grasp his intended prey for quick as thought the practiced eye of the acrobat detected the movement, and, bending forward, head and knees almost touching the ground, he made a rapid shift in the opposite direction, and avoided by almost a hair's breadth being crushed beneath the lion's bulk.

Quick as lightning's flash the lion turned once more, crouching low in the dust, his eye warily seeking some weak spot in the armor of this strange antagonist, whose lithe limbs and sinuous movements puzzled him, and who showed less signs of fear facing him here in open fight than the crowds of frail humanity who had mocked and jeered at him so often from the safe side of his prison bars, but who shrank back affrighted when in his wrath he gave his awful battle roar.

This time, with cat-like tread, he slowly advanced upon his adversary, striving, as though conscious of his power and strength, to drive him back and pen him helplessly and without chance of escape against the side of the ring, and then to seize him at his leisure.

Paolo was also thinking. When would the soldiers come? Could he survive to carry on the unequal struggle till they arrived? But while thinking not a muscle relaxed.

Seeing the lion's tactics, he gradually managed to skidish towards the ring, though by so doing he passed within a few feet of his nose.

"Come on, Scipio," he said aloud, with a gay bravado, "this is not how lions fight." And he made a slight feint, as though playfully to touch his adversary at the head.

With a deep, hollow roar of anger Scipio reared aloft on his hind legs, and, throwing all prudence to the winds, and realizing that the momentous struggle had come at last, Paolo rushed madly at him, man and beast closing in a terrible death grapple, the lion continuing erect as though wishing to wrestle on equal terms with his brave biped.

In the swift onrush Paolo dropped his dagger, and now, weaponless but frenzied with rage and despair, he exerted every atom of his marvelous strength, and with one giant upheaval overthrew the wild beast.

But Scipio's mighty claws were busy,

TODAY WE COMMENCE THE CLOSING OUT OF A LARGE MIXED STOCK OF MERCHANDISE! WE LIST A FEW OF THEM.

- 25c Men's Lightweight Working Over-shirts for 10c.
51 White Crochet Spreads in neat designs, patterns made in the weaving; full size, 10-4; an extra good value, 55c.
15c Heavy Duck in cream color, pink and light blue, hair-line stripes, closing at 9c yard.
8c Fancy Striped Flannel, 28 inches wide, 4 1/2c yard.
15c Jacquard Suitings, dark grounds, with zig-zag figures of white, green, garnet, yellow; has a glossy finish in imitation of silk; closing for 8c yard.
10c Fancy Striped and Figured Cretons in dark and bright colors, 25 inches wide, for 5c per yard.
12 1/2c CRASHES. Heavy All-Linear English Crash, 15 inches wide; a superior quality, 6c yard.
Heavy All-Linear English Crash, narrow fancy border, 17 inches wide, 7c.
12 1/2c CRASHES. Heavy All-Linear English Crash, narrow fancy border, 17 inches wide, 7c.
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THE RED HOUSE CO., J Street, between Seventh and Eighth.

of court can only be considered in so far as they contradict or tend to contradict the testimony of the said witness given in court, and not as proof of the truth of such declarations made out of court.

SKYSCRAPERS SAFE. A Scientist Shows That Their Vibrations Are Far From Dangerous.

Nothing terrifies the average person so much as one of the higher stories of a modern skyscraper more than to feel the building tremble beneath him. It is comforting to know that Professor Wilhelm Ritter of Zurich has demonstrated that there is no danger at all, and that the architect's theory to that effect is absolutely true. It has been shown that the greatest actual vibration which takes place is one-thirty-second of an inch.

WHELS, WHEELS. Ere woman took to writing books. She followed man's direction; She didn't think of gowns and looks, Nor talk of 'text subscription.' But that, you know, was long ago, And yet she didn't cease to sew And woman, trampled under heel, Toiled on before the plowing wheel.

SUPREME COURT DECISIONS. SYLLABI. (L. A., No. 157.—In Bank—Filed April 27, 1897.)

Mary E. Wills, respondent; A. Pauly, appellant. Conveyance and accounting of rents and profits affirmed. Section 1449, C. P., does not provide for any sale of the property of the deceased. It merely provides that the whole estate shall be set apart to the widow and children, subject only to the expenses of last sickness, administration, etc. If there is to be any sale of the real property of some of the children, such sale must be conducted under the provisions of Title IX. of the code, where alone the power to make and the method of such sale are to be found.

Article IV. of Chapter VII. of Title IX. of the code, providing for the sale of the property of a deceased person when such sale is for any purpose necessary, and no sale is valid where there has not been at least a substantial compliance with that article of the code. The court gave judgment in favor of such sale, subject to compliance with those provisions of the code, the very first of which is a verified petition.

(L. A., No. 139.—Department Two—Filed April 27, 1897.) John B. Thiele, respondent; Albert Hafden et al., defendants. The Barona Company et al., appellants. Foreclosure. Affirmed.

The words, "Let judgment and decree be entered accordingly," added to the findings of fact, must be held to be a sufficient statement of the conclusions of law arrived at by the court. The court will disregard any error or defect in the pleadings or proceedings which does not affect the substantial rights of the parties, and no judgment shall be reversed or affected by reason of such error or defect.

The Government authorities do not survey and subdivide lands within a Mexican grant, and there is and can be no Government section of land until it has been located by an actual survey and establishment of the lines, under the authority of the United States.

Not Particular. "I suppose," she said acridly, "that you would turn up your nose at cold victuals?"

"No, m'am," replied Meandering Mike. "You'd be surprised to see how good-natured I'd take it if you was to offer me a Roman punch or champagne frappe."—Washington Star.

A Mystery. Potts—The thing that mystifies me about this Turkish-Grecian fight is— "Mots—The Powers?"

Potts—Bosh! No. But rather the way people here who haven't seen the inside of a church in forty years go wild with sympathy because the Greeks are Christians.—Truth.

BANKING HOUSES. NATIONAL BANK OF D. O. MILLS & CO. Sacramento, Cal.—Founded 1850. DIRECTORS: EDGAR MILLS, D. O. MILLS, S. PRENTISS SMITH, FRANK MILLER, President, CHARLES F. DILLMAN, Cashier.

CALIFORNIA STATE BANK, SACRAMENTO. Does a General Banking Business. SAFE DEPOSIT VAULTS. OFFICERS: FREDERICK COX, President, W. E. GERBER, Vice-President, C. E. BURKHAM, Assistant Cashier.

SACRAMENTO BANK. THE OLDEST SAVINGS BANK IN THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO. Capital and Surplus, \$600,000. THE OLDEST SAVINGS BANK IN THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO. Capital and Surplus, \$600,000.

FARMERS AND MECHANICS SAVINGS BANK. Fourth and J Streets, Sacramento, Cal. LOANS MADE ON REAL ESTATE. Interest paid semi-annually on Term and Ordinary Deposits.

PEOPLES SAVINGS BANK. Sacramento, Cal. Paid up capital and surplus, \$320,000. DIRECTORS: Wm. Beckman, J. L. Hutton, Wm. Johnston, E. J. Croly, Geo. M. Hayes.

CROCKER-WOOLWORTH NATIONAL BANK. Crocker Building, Market and Post Streets, San Francisco. PAID UP CAPITAL, \$1,000,000. SURPLUS, \$363,035.

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS AND FRUIT GROWERS. WAKELEE'S SQUIRREL AND GOPHER EXTERMINATOR—the original, oldest and best prepared poison—the most effective and economical. Price reduced to 30 cents a can.

COMMERCIAL. WHEAT UNCHANGED, BUT THE MARKET EASIER. Barley Quiet and Rather Weak—Very Little Trading in Oats and Corn.

Produce Quotations. FLOUR—Net cash prices for Family Extras, \$4 25/4 35; Bakers Extras, \$4 00/4 15; Superfine, \$4 10/4 25 per barrel.

Trade Continues Dull, With Little Signs of Improvement. Trade continues dull in local produce markets, with little signs of improvement. Strawberries are coming in freely, and retail at 15c per basket.

SACRAMENTO MARKET. Trade continues dull, with little signs of improvement. Following are the retail prices for the various articles mentioned: FLOUR—Family Extras, \$4 25 per 100 lbs.

SAN FRANCISCO STOCK MARKET. Attention Session—Potato, 55¢/56¢; Confidence, \$1 10; Justice, 4c; Union, 2c; Alta, 6c; Challenge, 2c; N. G. & C. Co. Closing Quotations—Alfa, 3c; Alpha, 7c; Andes, 3c; Belcher, 3c; B. & B. 7c; Bullion, 1c; Point, 3c; Julia, 4c; Mexican, 4c; Imperial, 1c; Con N. Y. 2c; Con. Point, 3c; Eschbacher, 3c; G. & C. 2c; H. & N. 8c; Julia, 3c; Justice, 4c; Kentuck, 4c; Mexican, 4c; Occidental, 1c; Ophir, 1c; Orono, 5c; Potomac, 3c; Savage, 2c; Sierra, Nevada, 5c; Silver Hill, 1c; Union, 2c; Utah, 6c; Y. Jacket, 2c.



What Manly Power Does.

It makes your life happy, because it makes you feel that the greatest of Nature's gifts has been preserved by you. It makes you nervous strong and gives you the sensation of true manhood. It makes you a power among men, because they recognize in you a superior type of man.

DR. SANDEN'S ELECTRIC BELT.

Made and perfected for the cure of weak men. In this it brings health and happiness to all men who have wasted the force of manly energy. "Electricity is Life" to such men, and this famous Belt is the spring from which all men may drink new power.

Manly Strength Restored.

"I had varicocele and lumbago for six years. I had to wear a supporter all the time. Now I have none for one. Your Belt has cured my varicocele completely, and I have not had an ache or a pain since." P. BUNKER, 2021 San Antonio avenue, Alameda, Cal.

Dr. Sanden's Electric Belt is not an experiment. Cures like the above have been reported daily for years. It is a positive cure for all nervous troubles, whatever the cause. Why do you not save the money you pay the doctors for three months' treatment and try something new? Drugs are old and have proven useless for such troubles.

HAVE YOU SEEN IT?

If not, call and examine this wonderful Belt. Test the powerful current it gives and see how easily regulated it is. Don't be ignorant of a remedy which may correct all the past mistakes and assure you future happiness. Don't delay; act now. Get the book, "Three Causes of Men."

DR. SANDEN IS HERE.

Until May 6th he can be found at the Capital Hotel, rooms 25 and 30. He invites you to call and see and test his wonderful Electric Belt and to get his book, "Three Causes of Men," which he gives away free to all.

HALE BROS. & CO. THE BUSY SHOE DEPARTMENT. NEWEST STYLES, BEST QUALITIES, LOWEST PRICES.

From the many remarks heard daily complimenting the shoe stock, one can readily conclude that it has made a lasting impression on the trade of this city.

Ladies' Oxfords. Ladies' Fine Vici Kid Lace Oxfords, black, cloth top, made over a very handsome long drawn out oin or needle toe last; soft, flexible soles; very stylish patent tip; any width or size, at \$1 50 pair.

Ladies' Ties. Ladies' Fine Chrome Kid Southern Ties in black or to match; long needle point to match.

Ladies' Ties. Ladies' Extra Fine Chrome Kid Southern Ties, long narrow pointed toe, with or without French heels, in black or dark chocolate brown shades; sizes 24 to 7 1/2, Price, \$2 50.

Baby Shoes. Infants' Soft Kid Button Shoes, dark brown or oxford color; soft, flexible sole; sizes 2 to 5 1/2, at 50c pair.

A STRONG SHOE VALUE. The sale of those Ladies' and Misses' Shoes will continue for balance of this week. The lot is a very large one. Shoes worth \$3 and \$3 50 on sale at \$1 15 Pair.

Hale Bros. & Co., 825 to 835 K Street.

RAILROAD TIME TABLE. SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY (PACIFIC SYSTEM) FEBRUARY 15, 1897. Trains Leave and are Due to Arrive at Sacramento:

Table with columns: LEAVE TRAINS RUN DAILY, ARRIVE (FROM). Rows include Ashland and Portland, Deming, El Paso & East, Atlantic Express, etc.

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HO! FOR THE LAKES! When you make your arrangements for your summer's outing, do not forget where to secure the best FISHING TACKLE—Rods, Lines, Hooks, Trout Baskets, etc. Call and see our stock.

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Whistler's latest evidence of versatility has been in designing a book cover. The book is the "Book of Scoundrels" and the principal motive of the design is a sailing ship the letters of the title around it and the death's head and cross-bones below.