IT THE BROOKLYN THEATRES.

"The Fencing Master" to Be Presented at the Columbia

Roland Reed at the Park and Many Other Attractions.

"The Fencing Master," which has been delighting audiences at the Amphion during the past week, will move over to the Columbia Theatre on Monday evening. It will be presented by J. M. Hill's company, including Marie Tempest, William Broderick, Hubert Wilke, F. Michelena, Mrs. Pemberton-Hincks, Agnes Sherwood and others. The opera will be costumed by Capt. Alfred Thompson, and the scenery by Ernest Gras.

Roland Reed and his company will present his latest success, "Innocent as a Lamb," at Col. Sinn's Park Theatre on Monday night. Mr. Reed has a congenial character in the role of Tobias Pilkington, a gay old stock-broker, of New York. The play is full of funny incidents, and well calculated to keep an audience in the best of humor. Mr. Reed will be supported by W. C. Andrews, Harry A. Smith, Sheridan Tupper, Julian Reed, H. Reese Davies, Daisy Lovering, Mrs. Mary Meyers and Hattie Harvey.

Stuart Robson, supported by a well-drilled company of players, will occupy the boards at the Amphion during the week, with matinees Wednesday and Saturday. They will give an elaborate revival of Goldsmith's comedy, "She Stoops to Conquer," for which scenery and accesories have been specially provided. The company includes, beside Mr. Robson, the following actors: William Yerance, W. H. Elwood, George S. Woodward, J. J. Farrell, John L. Woodson, J. Jamieson, George Hallton, George D. Macentyre, Joseph Zahner, E. A. Poole, Stephen Leggett, Mrs. Robson, Mrs. Gabriella McKean, Madelane Bouton and Olive May.

"The Silver King" which comes to the Grand Opera-House next week will be one of the strongest attractions that have been given at that theatre this season. The part of Wilfred Denver, the Silver King, will be played by Carl A. Haswine, who has been presenting the play for several seasons. Charles Foster and Samuel H. Verney will fill the parts of Coombs and Jaikes. Little Mabel Walsh, Francis R. Whitcroft, Arthur E. Sprague, Sarah Lascelles and others will also appear.

Vernona Jarbeau, who a few years ago was a great favorite with the "chappies" along Broadway, will reappear in Brooklyn next week, opening at the Bedford Avenue Theatre in "Starlight." Miss Jarbeau has a good voice and can dance gracefully. She will be assisted by a company of clever people.

At Huber & Gebhardt's Casino next week the programme will include these performers: Lizzie Vaidis, in a trapeze act; King Sisters, song and dance; Keating and Ardell, musical comedians; Armine and Graff, vocalists; Maud Harris, song and dance; Mamie Flower, singer, and Miss Minnie Schult, with new songs.

A coming production in which more than a little interest is centred is "A Modern Mephisto." It is to be given at the Grand Opera-House shortly by a cast composed of actors of recognized standing. The play is an American drama with a plot that is calculated to command atention through its originality as well as its dramatic possibilities. In the characterization some interesting types which have for some reason not been dressed into dramatic service heretofore, will be introduced. These will figure mainly in the comedy element. The action begins in the house of a fashionable New York club.

Several days ago Lee Ottolengui, treasurer of the Amphion, and a party of friend accompanied Edgar Selden, author of "A Scandal in High Life" to the Gayety Theatre and saw the scenery which artist De La Harpe is painting for Mr. Selden's play. According to those who saw it the scenery was exceptionally good, and will add materially to the attractiveness of the production.

To-morrow night at the Amphion Garrett P. Serviss will deliver the last of his series of Urania lectures entitled "The Wonders of America." The scenery used in this production is said to surpass that shown in Mr. Serviss's previous lectures.

The entertainment at the Gayety Theatre next week will be provided by the May Howard burlesque company, which includes some clever song and dance people and other specialty actors.

FOUGHT WITH WILD DUCKS.

Sailors Have a Desperate Battle with Birds Blown Out to Sea.

Capt. William T. Bernard and the steam tug Plymouth arrived from Boston at Philadelphia a few days ago with three barges in tow, after one of the roughest passages ever made and more than the elements to contend with during the trip, having been attacked in the Vineyard Sound, during the terrific hurricane of Feb. 19, by a tremendous flock of wild ducks that had been carried from the land by the wind.

They fought desperately against the side of the tug-house and powerful electric light on the masthead, which was the object that first attracted them. Mate Willard went on deck and was knocked flat by one of the infuriated birds, which flew directly at him, striking him on the breast.

To substantiate this strange story told to a Press reporter, Capt. Bernard saved twelve of the birds that fell exhausted from their struggles on the decks, and they are now in his home.

The Plymouth, after passing Chatham just before sundown on Feb. 19, experienced heavy rains. Soon the wind veered to the northwest and blew a hurricane accompanied by blinding snow squalls.

At 9 o'clock at night Capt. Bernard and Mate Willard were both in the pilot-house, when a fluttering noise was heard to windward. With the aid of the marine glasses they could discern a huge dark formation moving directly towards them, and soon a flock of fully 300 ducks made for the vessel.

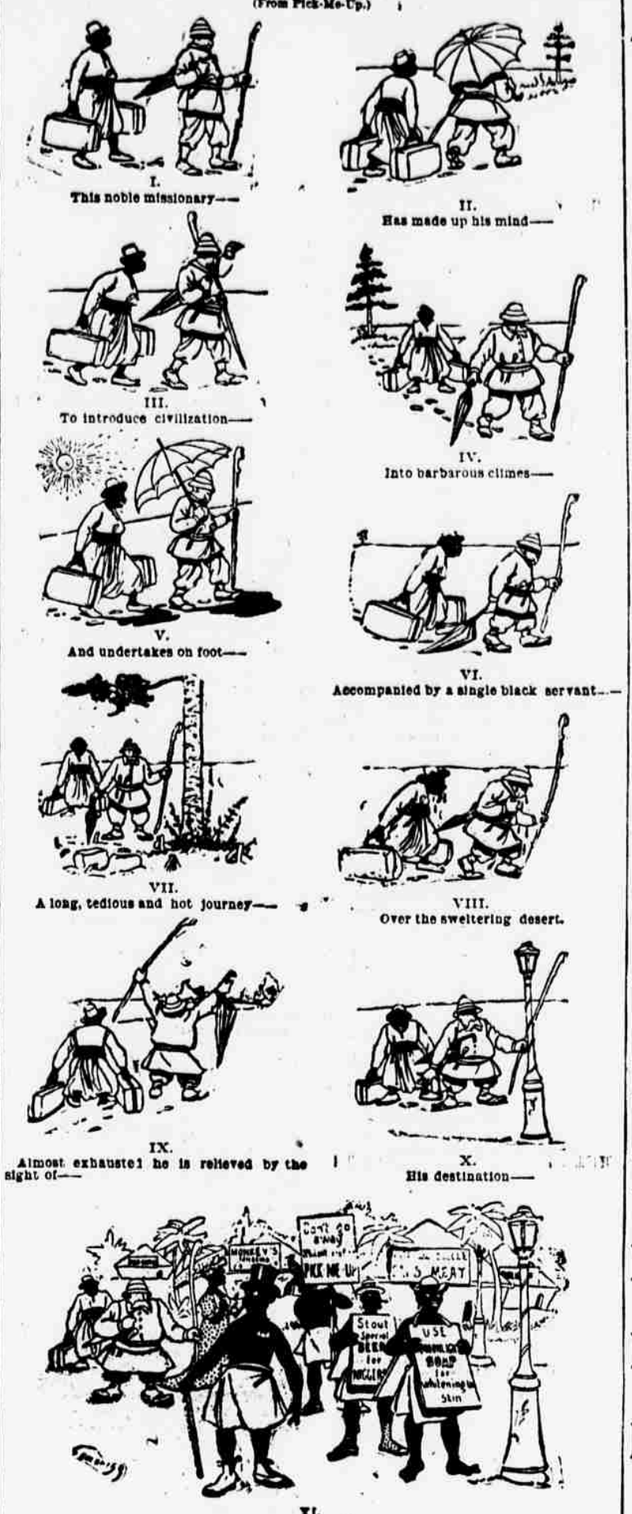
They flew directly towards the electric masthead light and in striking the pole fell by the dozen to the deck. Some of the sailors were terrified at first by the fluttering noise, but on being convinced what it was went on deck and caught fully fifty of them and stowed them away in the fore peak.

The birds were ravenously hungry, having been carried miles from the land in the teeth of the heavy gale. They could not fly back, such was the force of the wind, and those that failed to light on the Plymouth were carried off to sea and no doubt perished.

For fully an hour the birds kept things in a state of excitement on board the tug, and Capt. Bernard confessed it was one of the most remarkable experiences he had ever seen or heard of in upward of a quarter of a century of sea life.

CONVERTING THE HEATHEN; OR, CARRYING COALS TO NEWCASTLE.

(From Pick-Me-Up.)



I. This noble missionary——
II. Has made up his mind——
III. To introduce civilization——
IV. Into barbarous climes——
V. And undertakes on foot——
VI. Accompanied by a single black servant——
VII. A long, tedious and hot journey——
VIII. Over the sweltering desert.
IX. Almost exhausted he is relieved by the sight of——
X. His destination——
XI. Only to find all the modern improvements adopted!

KISSES SENT BY MAIL.

Every Breach of Promise Suit Has Its Interesting Features.

That was good, wholesome advice Boucicault gave to the world of lovers when he said to a friend: "My boy, never kiss a lady through an ink bottle." But it is advice to which little heed is paid by lovesick swains. Every breach-of-promise suit brings to light a batch of letters containing a full complement of written kisses, says the Chicago News, and infrequently his osculation on paper is indicated by mysterious dots and dashes on the letter's margin like remarques on an etching—symbols understood by the initiated and known technically among lawyers as "amorous crosses." In a suit tried recently before Judge Lawrence, of the Queen's Bench, in England, ninety-nine letters from the defendant, a youth named Britton, were filled with such marks. In the famous Arbuckle-Campbell suit the defendant ended most of his correspondence with the formula, "I must close with H's and K's until I see you," the Hs and Ks meaning "hugs and kisses;" and in one moment of supreme affection he wrote: "I send you a bouquet of kisses, with a fond embrace for a central flower."

Dr. Linn, whose suit was recently on trial in Chicago, used to seal his letters with a "kiss, kiss, kiss, kiss from your own darling doctor." Mr. Harry Poole, of Folkestone, England, whom Marion Alexander brought into court for $500 damage done her heart, was accustomed to write: "I am longing for to see you and that pretty face, to impart once more a kiss to those ruby lips."

But it is not solely this barren paper kissing that is brought to light by breach-of-promise suits. In Miss Carslake's suit against Dr. Mozart Jenkins the testimony showed that he "hugged and kissed his sweetheart, as all lovers do," which is indefinite but interesting; and Miss Margaret Miller alleged that her recreant lover, James Holland, "used to kiss her good-night, but never put his arm around her." On the other hand, Clemens Miller, whom Miss Cammerer sued, was chary of his kisses, but his demeanor was otherwise undoubedly affectionate, for a witness who had observed several episodes in the courtship testified that "she judged the defendant was hugging the plaintiff all the time when he wasn't eating or sleeping." Ida Clerk related that Frank Grimshaw was so eager to kiss her that he tried to do so in a hallway a short time after he met her. She became indignant, but finally forgave the offender, and took walks and rides with him. Very much out of the ordinary was the testimony of Mrs. Eliza Dolliver in her suit against Capt. Atkins of Provincetown, that "the defendant had kissed her but once during an extended courtship and had written her but one letter," while in one suit in Ireland, where breach-of-promise cases are most rare, Mary Gilmurray testified that she had never kissed the plaintiff during their engagement.

Terms of endearment are far more numerous than kisses in the correspondence that finds its way into the breach-of-promise courts, but the lovers exhibit a distressing lack of invention. The Arbuckle-Campbell "Baby Bunting" was good enough to be embalmed in the popular memory, but the "Dear Pet Bunny" of the letters is only the old Roman poet's "dear little rabbit" over again. Tillie Ingersoll used to address Mr. Richard Willis Stewart affectionately as "Mm Bub," and Herr Miller called Miss Cammerer "liebchen," the regular German word for "loved one;" but usually it is "my pet," "my dear," "little girl," &c., over and over again without change.

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Getting the Best of Him.

(From Puck.)

Officer—Ha! What's the matter?
Joyous Person—Why—that cab-driver—thought I was intoxicated—took my watch and diamond pin—and then drove off.
Officer—That doesn't seem funny.
Joyous Person—Yes—but you see—oh, ha! ha! ha! he forgot to collect his fare!

Marked Differences.

(From Harlem Life.)

Taddells—There is a great difference between Samwell's two children.

Wiffles—I suppose so. One's a son and the other's a daughter.

Taddells—There's more difference than that. The son is a backward boy and the daughter is a forward girl.

A Missionary.

(From Puck.)

Ethel (radiantly)—You know that dear Mr Bussey? He promised to join the Y. M. C. A if I would let him kiss me.

Maude (enviously)—Well?

Ethel—Well—er—he's just taken a five-year membership?

A Misfortune to Him.

(From Puck.)

Upson Downes—Do you know that Miss Dukkets is a victim of the missing word craze?

Rowne de Bout—Is she?

Upson Downes—Yes; I asked her to marry me, but she couldn't think of the word "yes."

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