

Amusements.

UNION OPERA HOUSE—2 and 3—Big Fun.
CANTO—2 and 3—Ernie.
DORIS THEATRE—2 and 3—The Taming of the Shrew.

victims of a fight between District Assembly No. 49, Knights of Labor, and District Assembly No. 126. If they do as No. 126 says, No. 49 orders a strike. If they consent to the terms of No. 49, No. 126 goes out. To complicate matters, the General Executive Board have now taken a hand, and are bound to settle the matter in the interest of No. 49—which is, of course, much more in the wrong than No. 126. Meanwhile Higgins & Co. are not making money, nor are they in good spirits. They are entitled to sympathy, but they could command more if they would close their doors both on No. 126 and No. 49, and manage their own business in their own way.

DR. FUNK'S PROPOSITION.

Dr. Funk thinks that the majority ought to submit to the minority on the temperance question. It seems to him quite a sad illustration of human perversity that the hundreds who do not believe Prohibition to be a practical or practicable remedy for the drink evil in large cities should refuse to give up their clear convictions at the solicitation of the tens who are trying to make up in clamor what they lack in numbers. Dr. Funk comes forward with a proposition which he implies can only be rejected by such as do not really desire temperance reform. This proposition is, to proportion the number of saloons permits to the number of votes in each Assembly District in this city and Brooklyn. By fixing the rate at one saloon for each 100 voters he holds that three-fourths of the saloons now doing business would be closed. It is rather odd that Dr. Funk should seem to consider that his proposition does not involve the licensing of saloons. As a matter of fact, a permit is a license. The only distinction is that in the one case the license is paid for, and in the other it is given for nothing. Now Dr. Funk wishes the friends of temperance who do not believe in the practicability of Prohibition as applied to great cities to agree with him that it is in some occult way better morals to give away licenses to run saloons than to take pay for such licenses. We are afraid the Doctor's view will not be fallen in with at all generally.

The whole question of liquor licenses is full of disagreements. Believers in the wisdom and propriety of levying an impost upon the liquor traffic under the designation of licenses will not admit that in so doing any sanction is given to the trade. They say (and the decisions of many courts sustain them) that the so-called license is really a fine imposed upon a business the nature of which justifies this discrimination against it. To license saloons, it is contended, is to restrict them to the extent of the levy; and the higher the license the greater the restriction. But this is not the only view held by the public, and Dr. Funk will do well to remember that in a country where all general issues must finally be settled by the ballot-box, it is necessary to consider and recognize all views, and not confine investigations to one. Another and a very generally entertained view is that a revenue ought to be derived from the liquor traffic. Of course, all who occupy this position hold also that it is impossible to put down drinking by fiat; that its diminution must in any case be a question of time and education; and that meanwhile the liquor-sellers ought to contribute handsomely to the support of the State. Now it is quite certain that there are two people who think thus for every one who thinks like Dr. Funk. Yet the latter expects the majority to be ignored if they are not prepared to surrender their beliefs upon his demand. Surely this is anything but reasonable. It is the less so because Dr. Funk's proposition has no real cogency. It is not practical. It offers no advantages. On the contrary, it involves an altogether useless and unwarrantable sacrifice, under the circumstances. Practical friends of temperance are no less anxious than Dr. Funk and the Prohibitionists and the hair-splitting opponents of "license in any form" to diminish the drink evil. The difference between the two parties is that the practical temperance people recognize the limitations of feasible reform, whereas the friends of Dr. Funk do not, but shut their eyes obstinately to the exigencies of the actual situation, and imagine that they are furthering progress by howling for the impossible and unattainable year in and year out. Practical men see that license is the only means of dealing with this evil in great cities. They cannot be made to admit that unpaid-for licenses are preferable to those which put revenue in the treasury. They know that the rum-sellers will for a long time continue to do mischief, because the people will not for a long time be prepared to give up drinking. And because this is so, those practical temperance people hold that the men who do the mischief should be made to pay for some of it; and that to end the fine laid on their business should be increased. These are some of the reasons why Dr. Funk's proposition cannot be regarded seriously, and why it does not constitute a solution of the problem, or a sane compromise of the difference between the practical and the impractical friends of temperance.

CHAMBERLAIN AND TREVELYAN.

Mr. Chamberlain is imitating the tactics of the Tory Government. He is making speeches in Scotland which irritate and exasperate Irish auditors and readers precisely as the Coercion bill tends to incite crime and revolt in the island. He is closely followed by detectives and ostentatiously proclaims his life to be in danger; and he invites attack by his passionate denunciations of the Irish cause and of the conduct of his former associates in the Liberal Cabinet. So violent was his language at Ayr that he was warned by police in the audience "to take care of himself"—a cry which he instantly interpreted as a menace of assassination. His speeches are characterized by evil passion and malevolent spirit, and cannot fail to exercise a malign influence in the present excited state of public feeling. It is difficult to recognize in the author of these intemperate harangues the great Radical leader who by his practical ability and good sense won a commanding position in English public life. He is making speeches in Scotland that are every whit as violent and incendiary as those of Lord Randolph Churchill in Ulster two years ago.

THE SORROWS OF A MUGWUMP.

Taking one consideration with another, the political lot of George William Curtis cannot be a happy one these days. Not if the Cincinnati Enquirer's correctly reports that he thinks himself representative of that party, that he thinks both Mr. Blaine and Mr. Cleveland will be renominated, but does not think that Mr. Cleveland will be re-elected. Of course, oppressed with such a conviction as this, Mr. Curtis must hold that the Nation has a glorious future—behind it. And when one learns why it is that Mr. Curtis believes that the sun of Cleveland is setting, the inference that his lot is not a happy one becomes stronger than ever. Mr. Curtis asserts that Mr. Cleveland is better than his party and expresses the opinion that the Democratic leaders are not Cleveland men. This is sad and may well discourage Mr. Curtis and his fellow Mugwumps as they reflect upon the fruitlessness of their efforts to make a truly good party out of the Democracy. These pious Mugwumps have been assiduous in their efforts to place the Democratic party on high moral ground ever since Mr. Cleveland was nominated. They have given it good advice—the very best—by the ton day and night during all that period, and the public thought that the Mugwumps thought that the Democracy was steadily improving under their ministrations, and would soon move forward to the anxious sea. Yet to-day the leading Mugwump of them all, instead of being permitted to announce the hopeful conversion of the Democracy, makes the mortifying confession that the Democracy is still better than his party and that the Democratic leaders are not even Cleveland's supporters.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

Mayor Whitney has at last appointed a viner inspector for Brooklyn. The inspector's services will be in demand on days when the Bacon Committee meets.

A Western admirer of Governor Hill says that he will soon gather around him a new Democratic party entirely devoted to his interests, to which a distinctive and appropriate name is being given. At once suggested it is called the Hillomitic party.

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The ideal portion of the American press to-day with the possible exception of a few Prohibition organs, is the New York Tribune. It is the only paper that attacks political journals, boasting that it will expose their duplicity and blind partisanship, it exceeds these far in magnitude and in the number of its attacks on those whom it supports, in exaggeration of all that makes for its side and in concealment and suppression of all that makes against it.

George Trevelyan were the two English statesmen who succeeded in the face of formidable obstacles in enforcing the last Crimos act and in punishing criminals. They now stand shoulder to shoulder in opposition to the Tory Government's wanton policy. It is a great gain for Home Rule.

A QUEER BILL OF PARTICULARS.

Commander O'Neil's letter about the Atlanta's guns is a most astonishing performance. It professes to supply the bill of particulars which we demanded of "The Evening Post" when it accused us of "lying" about the vessel's armament. In reality, it does not refute a single one of the charges that were made by us on the authority of naval officers. The three chief points in this controversy relate to the alleged blunders of officers of the Ordnance Bureau, the delay and expense caused by their inexperience and incompetence, and the present condition of the armament. He says that there has been no delay, that there have been no blunders, and that every gun is properly mounted, in good working order and ready for service. To these glittering generalities we reply briefly that the work on the gun-tracks was begun July 19 and is not yet finished; that there has been a remarkable series of blunders; that so far from the armament being in readiness for sea, the 8-inch pivot guns are at this moment blocked up in readiness for removal to-day for requisite repairs; and that there are serious defects in the working of the guns. All these points are argued in detail in another column by the naval officer who supplied us with the original information, Commander O'Neil's bill of particulars is taken up paragraph by paragraph and is completely riddled.

The subject is too technical for extended comment in this place. The two naval officers discuss it in minute detail, and the facts are heavily against Commander O'Neil, who is convicted of inaccuracy and credulity at every turn. In view of the completeness of the expert testimony in support of THE TRIBUNE'S positions, we shall have to decline the Commander's invitation to have the matter settled by a newspaper commission, although we might be willing to accept "The Herald's" arbitration, since it has a keen-eyed reporter who has told the truth about the binding of the guns. The facts speak for themselves, and are not to be controverted by so specious a plea as that made by the Commander. He makes a serious mistake, however, if he supposes that we have any desire to take part in the feud of long standing between the line and the staff. This is not a question of jealousy between branches of the service. The line officers always have controlled the Ordnance Bureau, and they ought in our judgment to continue to do so. Engineers would be out of place there. But while the Bureau should be directed by officers of the line, important work like that of designing guns, carriages and tracks should be entrusted to competent men. Commander O'Neil, we do not believe, was responsible for the blunders made at the Atlanta. The designers were mainly at fault, and much of the trouble was caused by arbitrary orders from the Washington Bureau.

PERSONAL.

Mrs. Louise Chandler Moulton and Mr. W. D. Howells to take part in the next and final authors' readings in Boston for the benefit of the Kindergarten for the Blind. The building, by the way, is to be dedicated next Tuesday.

The Rev. O. A. Glassbrook has withdrawn his acceptance of the call to Holy Trinity P. E. Church, Hartford, as the Rev. Dr. Bodine, president of Kenyon College, has been chosen in his stead. It is confidently expected that he will accept.

General W. W. Averell, the cavalry officer in the National Army, and Governor Gordon, of Georgia, a conspicuous rebel officer, are both to attend and take conspicuous part in the Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence at Staunton, Va., on June 9.

The Hon. Joshua L. Chamberlain, who has been absent from Maine for a year or more, will spend most of the coming summer in that State.

Mrs. Isiah Mulock Crank thinks that women united to bid husband's good-byes, which only enables the bad men to make other women unhappy, but of judicial separation.

Cardinal Gibbons has sent from Rome a valuable card and contribution to a church fair soon to be held in Baltimore.

Senator-elect Quay has returned from Florida, quite ready to talk about the 140 pound tarpon and other fishes he caught, but silent as ever on politics.

Every one joins with Germany and England in wishing long life to the Kaiser and the Queen; but the longest life will end, and when those two die, if the Kaiser's state is not better, it will be a good thing for the Kaiser's three Princes of Europe will be reigned over by brothers-in-law.

A peasant in the Gironde, France, not long ago sent to the Lord Mayor of London a consular seal of his own, and begged that he would be allowed to keep it; and the Registrar-General had actually presented the seal to the Lord Mayor on terms most advantageously to the Frenchman.

The late John T. Raymond and his wife were once engaged to open the season at Lafayette, Indiana, and a company from Chicago was to support them. When the night came, the company did not come, but the house was crowded and the manager was nearly crazy. Something must be done, but there was no one to do it but Mr. and Mrs. Raymond. "I went out before the curtain," said that general comedian, telling of it in after years, "and frankly told the audience what was the matter. They were going to be disappointed, and I was going to put up with anything. What do you think we did? Boys, my wife and I played five farces for the next three days, and the performance began at 9 o'clock and lasted till after 2 o'clock. I never slept, I was wide awake, and the performance was a success, and my wife, she was the greatest dramatic artist on earth then."

According to "The San Francisco Call" the thought of bequeathing money for a monument to Francis S. Key first occurred to James Lick while he was in the theatrical performance in that city. It was in the early days of the rebellion, when public sentiment in California was divided between the North and South. The orchestra began to play "The Star Spangled Banner," and the stirring melody was almost unheard for a short time in the midst of a portion of the audience. The loud portion of the spectators began to sing, and the music was played, and predominated to such an extent as to drown out all of the singing. This episode made a deep and lasting impression upon James Lick, and he determined to erect a monument to the hero of the Pacific Coast in a manner in which his native State, Maryland, and her principal city, Baltimore, had done and have since failed to do.

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It therefore contains no "dust" at all, unless the dust of ages should accumulate thereon.—(Montgomery Advertiser.)

A credulous merchant in Melbourne, Australia, recently allowed himself to be deceived by a large sum of money by a pious fraud who called himself a prophet. The merchant entered the transaction in his books as "Propbet and Loser."

When the English speak of "shop," Americans say "store," and where the former speak of "lifts" we speak of "elevators." To be consistent we should use of unconsidered trifles as "shoplifters," and use instead the more elegant appellation of "store elevators."

There is a suspicion about now that William Kinsman is the man who struck "Billy" Patterson. There is no charge for this clue to enterprising newspaper.

"What a deuce of a rickety little chap that young Piper is. Yet I never see him drinking, either. He doesn't. But he goes to the 'W' o'clocks and takes a walk whenever the girls hand it round."—(Town Topics.)

Mr. Russell Cox, of Holderness, N. H., who is ninety years of age is suffering from a severe attack of whooping cough. His mother, who died recently, had the whooping cough when she was 101 years of age.

Two newspaper men have purchased "an entire town in California." Some towns in California consist of three saloons, a blacksmith shop and a dwelling house, but we can't say for how many newspapers they should want a blacksmith shop.—(Norristown Herald.)

The Mayflower goes across the foam. With English yachts to have a bout. And she will bring the Queen's cup home With her when she returns, no doubt.

Across the Atlantic comes the Thistle. To take our breath in danger and in peril. Because our yachts ain't built that way.

In the lobby, after the matinee. "Those Boston boys who sat in front of us were half bad, eh, old man?" "Quite true, I'm sure. But how do you know they're from Boston?" "I don't know that they did all their talking in French?" "Exactly. And such French, too!" "Exactly."—(Town Topics.)

At the Metropolitan Opera House. Mrs. Smith (in a 210 seat, rapturously)—What a dear little creature, in fact, he is little else. Mr. Smith (distracted, fervently)—Yes, indeed.—(Town Topics.)

If that materialistic railway company should succeed in getting a tunnel under Boston Common, the place will be holy ground in more senses than one.

WE ALL CAN WEAR 'EM NOW. Spring flannels her banners in the air. The but on the top of the head. Where erst the earth was black and bare. The springing grass we seek.

His sweetest note is the bird's trill. To greet the rising sun. The morning brooks and rippling rills. Make music as the birds do.

The merry lamkin plays; The poorest of us now may wear our buttonhole bouquets.

MADAME PATTIN "FAUST."

All the roles which Madame Patti retains in her active list, that of the heroine in Gounod's "Faust" is one with which it is most easy to be out of sympathy. Her "Margherita" is not a pretentious creature, but a passionate creature. In fact, she is little else.

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LICENSE OR PROHIBITION?

MR. GRAHAM AND DR. FUNK HAVE A DEBATE.

THE ARGUMENTS ON BOTH SIDES SET FORTH—FACTS AND FIGURES.

Robert Graham, secretary of the New York Temperance Society, and Dr. F. C. Funk, the editor of the Prohibition organ, "The Voice," have met on the subject of the high license question that they call each other cranks now with the most refreshing frankness. And such has no hesitation about admitting that his opponent is a crank, and that he is the only thing to be expected any longer from so depraved a nature. It is all done good-humoredly enough, however, and up to date no bones have been broken.

A rather mild-mannered old gentleman, who confessed himself a Democrat, acted as a buffer between them, just opposite the Cooper Union, known popularly as Annex Hall. The contestants, Mr. Graham in a dress coat, and Dr. Funk in a frock, had seats at opposite ends of the big lecture platform. The mild-mannered old Democrat, who couldn't quite make out just what business he had anyway at such a meeting, kept the different rounds of the debate.

Mr. Graham, as usual, opened the discussion gallantly. He was not even down a bit by the defeat of the Crosby bill. He had been beaten three times before by the same unholy alliance of professional temperance agitators and the New York press. He had down four propositions to start from: (1.) That the sale of intoxicating liquors was not a crime; (2.) That the excessive sale of liquor was not a crime; (3.) That it was not a crime to sell liquor to a minor; (4.) That the excessive use of liquor was not a sin. On these grounds—treating liquor-selling as any other trade in dangerous and temperate liquor—the high license temperance in the use of anything else—he could discover no sensible method of keeping the traffic down to safe limits other than the high license plan. From the time that the high license plan was introduced in 1884, and would not be had for thirty years or so.

The particular point in discussion was high license or prohibition as applied to New York city. Prohibition as applied, could not be enforced in large cities. It was against any reasonable theory of human nature to hope to enforce it among a population like this city's. It was against the common sense of New York with a low license of \$75 there, and with liquor shops to every 100 inhabitants in St. Louis, with a \$500 license, one to every 200; in Kansas city, with a \$450 license, one to every 300; and in Omaha with a \$1,000 license, one to every 400. In Boston, with a \$500 license, one to every 200; in Portland last year there were 182 arrests for drunkenness. In Providence there were 100 arrests for drunkenness. In New York city there were 1,400 arrests for drunkenness during the six months ending December, 1885, there were 2,400 arrests.

The next High License bill, Mr. Graham said, would probably apply to the whole State and a license, local option, or no license. The last bill was as good as a law, as could be got through this session. The part of the bill in its defeat was a strong signal to the Prohibitionists to get up a new bill. It was a signal to the man most hated by the liquor-sellers of New York, was fast being an object of scorn and contempt on the part of the Prohibitionists. It was a signal to the man most hated by the liquor-sellers of New York, was fast being an object of scorn and contempt on the part of the Prohibitionists. It was a signal to the man most hated by the liquor-sellers of New York, was fast being an object of scorn and contempt on the part of the Prohibitionists.

Dr. Funk smiled as he went up to speak at the other end of the platform. He was evidently thinking of his success as a lobbyist and he looked frankly that he wanted the High License bill out of the way. It was a hindrance to a strong bill, and he was a Prohibitionist. The Methodist church was opposed to high license; so were the God Templars and the Sons of Temperance, and since the death of all the professional temperance agitators, the Prohibitionists had proposed simple restriction in New York—the limiting of the number of liquor-shops to one to every 500 inhabitants. It was a signal to the man most hated by the liquor-sellers of New York, was fast being an object of scorn and contempt on the part of the Prohibitionists.

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