Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—8:15—Monte Cristo.
AMERICAN THEATRE—2—8:15—Hands Across the Sea.
BIJOU—8—Madge Smith.
BROADWAY THEATRE—8:10—Foxy Quiller.
CASINO—8:15—Florodora.
CRITERION THEATRE—8—The Gay Lord Quex.
DALY'S THEATRE—8:15—The Man of Forty.
EDEN MUSEE—The World in Wax.
EMPIRE THEATRE—8:20—Richard Carvel.
FOURTEENTH STREET THEATRE—8—Lost River.
GARDEN THEATRE—8—Cyrano de Bergerac.
GARRICK THEATRE—8:15—David Harum.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE—8—The Rebel.
HAMMERSTEIN'S VICTORIA—8:30—Star and Garter.
HARLEM OPERA HOUSE—8—Lord and Lady Algy.
HERALD SQUARE THEATRE—8:20—Arizona.
IRVING PLACE THEATRE—8—Rosenmontag.
KEITH'S—Continuous Performance.
KNICKERBOCKER THEATRE—8—L'Aiglon.
KOSTER & BIAL'S—2—8—Vaudeville.
LYCEUM THEATRE—8:30—A Royal Family.
MADISON SQUARE THEATRE—8:30—Hodge, Podge & Co.
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE—8—Faust.
MURRAY HILL THEATRE—2—8—The Grey Mare.
THEATRE REPUBLIC—8:20—The Sprightly Romance of Marsac.
THE NEW-YORK THEATRE—8—Vaudeville.
PASTOR'S—Day and Night—Continuous Show.
PROCTOR'S—Continuous Performance.
SAVOY—8:20—Mistress Nell.
WALLACK'S THEATRE—8:30—Janice Meredith.
WALDORF-ASTORIA—2—8—Cruise of the Summer Girl.

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CROTON WATER IS UNFIT TO DRINK. Order Carl H. Schultz's Pure Carbonated Waters from factory, 440 1st ave., or of any reliable druggist or grocer.

New-York Daily Tribune.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1900.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—The Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain replied in the House of Commons to the accusation that he is interested in corporations which are benefited by contracts with the British Government; he declared he had never been asked to use his influence for his own benefit or for that of any relation. ═══ The Germans are awakening to the fact that Secretary Hay has achieved a decided victory in moderating the peace terms in China, so that Germany cannot carry out her cherished scheme of imposing humiliating conditions upon the Chinese. ═══ According to English army officers, General De Wet is regarded as the real hero of the war in South Africa, and his antagonists, in recognition of his skill and bravery, would like to join in a reception to him when he is taken to London. ═══ Count von Bülow in the German Reichstag explained that Mr. Krüger was not received by the Kaiser because Germany's former suggestion of arbitration had been frowned upon, and because to take action now would not only be a loss of time, but would probably have disastrous results. ═══ Three thousand tons of steel plates for shipbuilding made by the Carnegie company have reached England, and the price is 10 shilling a ton lower than the English figures.

CONGRESS.—Senate: The Hay-Pauncefote Treaty was considered in executive session, Senators Frye, Morgan and Stewart speaking for ratification and Senators Teller and Money against ratification; Mr. Frye said he was authorized to announce that Secretary Hay will not resign if the treaty is amended; in open session Charles A. Towne was sworn in, and took his seat as the successor of the late Senator Davis, of Minnesota. ═══ House: The Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation bill was passed with less than ten minutes' debate.

DOMESTIC.—Arrangements for the celebration to-morrow of the centennial of the establishment of the seat of Government in Washington have been completed. ═══ John W. Yerkes, of Kentucky, is to be appointed Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Joseph H. Manley, of Maine, having decided not to accept the office. ═══ Argument on the Neely extradition case was begun in the United States Supreme Court. ═══ The habeas corpus proceedings in behalf of former Captain Oberlin M. Carter were dismissed, and he was remanded to serve out his sentence at the Federal Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan. ═══ Conflicting reports were made in regard to the strike of telegraphers on the Santa Fe Railroad system, the company declaring it a fizzle, while the Order of Telegraphers said it was a success. ═══ Five men were killed in a tunnel on the Union Pacific Railroad by an explosion of gas, near Aspen, Wyo. ═══ The entire State of New-York is experiencing cold weather, the thermometer registering below zero at many places.

CITY.—Stocks were strong and higher. ═══ The Tenement House Commission riddled the Tammany Buildings Department of the city government, and showed that certain contractors were allowed to violate all the laws on the East Side. ═══ The Government's cotton crop report, giving 10,100,000 bales for 1900-'01, caused a panic to sell in the market. ═══ A large gift from Andrew Carnegie to the Montefiore Home was announced. ═══ The resignations of five members of the Chamber of Commerce Vice Committee were handed in. ═══ A man jumped or fell in front of an elevated train at the Thirty-third-st. station, in Sixth-ave., and was killed. ═══ A large anti-Tammany meeting was held in Fordham in response to a call by Henry D. Purroy.

THE WEATHER.—Forecast for to-day: Fair. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 30 degrees; lowest, 20 degrees; average, 25¼ degrees.

CONTRACTION BY STARVATION.

The enemies of expansion have, as they hope, discovered a new way to embarrass the Administration. Having failed to convince the American people in the recent campaign that they did not want to retain the Philippines, they wish to starve the Government into abandoning American sovereignty in those islands. The theory is that if the President could be forced to the alternative of borrowing money to maintain our authority in the Philippines he would soon change his mind about his constitutional duty to hold by force if necessary the territory annexed by the constitutional treaty making power and committed to his care. So a great outcry is made for the reduction of the internal revenue taxes by a sum vastly in excess of the recommendations of the Secretary of the Treasury, for the avowed purpose of cutting down income to the barest living expenses of the Government and compelling the lopping off of war expenses, which the anti-expansionists say have never been sanctioned by the people.

Inasmuch as the Republicans have won emphatic victories in every election since the beginning of the war with Spain, the assumption that the war expenditures have not been sanctioned seems rather extreme. In 1898 the Administration received the tribute remarkable in American politics of a Congress in harmony with it for the second half of its term. At that time the retention of the Philippines was foreshadowed if not officially accomplished. In 1899, after months of fighting with the Filipinos under Aguinaldo, the Republicans won decisive victories, and when the vote was in on November 10 even so thorough an anti-imperialist as "The New-York Evening Post" declared: "The "election of last Tuesday settled the issue of "expansion so far as to show that the Nation "supports the Administration, which staked "everything upon approval of its course during "the last year in the Philippines."

Again this year the war of the Filipinos was an issue; Mr. Bryan said the paramount issue. No candid Republican will pretend it was the only issue. Free silver drove away from Mr. Bryan many Eastern anti-imperialists. Anti-imperialism, on the other hand, drove from Mr. Bryan many Western voters who supported him before. The question of proportion is a difficult one, but certainly the verdict was emphatic for the continuance in power of the Republican party, which avowed its intention to enforce the authority of the United States in the Philippines. If in 1899 the American people voted approval of the war, as "The Evening Post" says, in 1900 they unquestionably voted acquiescence in the continuance of that war. What excuse, then, has any anti-expansionist now for saying the expenditures have never been sanctioned by the people and seeking indirectly to force the Government to a policy repeatedly rejected when directly submitted to the electorate?

It cannot be supposed that anybody outside the ranks of those who would play the marplot with the policy which the American voters have just accepted will be deluded into trying to make an empty Treasury. Democrats would doubtless be glad to have the Republicans legislate themselves into a deficit and choose between borrowing money and surrendering territory of the United States. Either alternative would please the Democrats as a campaign issue. They would shout as loud over a depleted income as over surplus taxation, and they would be as ready to abuse Republicans for giving up what rightfully belonged to this country as they have been to complain of fighting to hold it. It may be safely assumed that the Republican majority in Congress will give them no such satisfaction. Intrusted with power on the plain understanding of their policy of putting down the war in the Philippines, they will not deliberately deprive themselves of the means to do so just to force themselves to the unpopular step of borrowing, and even the most rabidly impracticable member of the Anti-Imperialist League should not cherish the hope that they will or expect to make them odious for failing to do so. This country will not be starved out of the Philippines by its own rulers. It does not contract in that way.

LOOKING FOR AN ENGAGEMENT.

Having heard that there was a pretty general desire in this town to get rid of Tammany as a source of power and recipient of plunder, and that the prevailing sentiment was likely to take effect in practical action at the proper time, the Hon David Bennett Hill embraced the occasion to come hither on a professional errand last week and look the situation over. The names of the gentlemen in whose company he made his preliminary survey have been divulged, but a rather unusual reticence has been maintained as to the nature of their discoveries, notwithstanding disinterested inquiries on the part of the newspapers. There is a sort of feeling in the air, however, that Mr. Hill experienced some slight discouragement in consequence of intimations that the moment was not thought to have arrived for putting him at the head of an anti-Tammany movement. Possibly this accounts for the circumstance that instead of returning immediately to Wolfert's Roost Mr. Hill proceeded to Washington, where opportunities to discuss problems involving the future of Tammany Hall may be procured at this season of the year by persons presenting the proper credentials. However that may be, we are pleased to learn that he has come back this way and resumed the investigation which he began during his former visit to the metropolis.

The motto "I am a Democrat," by which Mr. Hill has been identified of late years, has become somewhat frayed at the edges, and it is not surprising that he should take under consideration the advantage of withdrawing it for repairs and temporarily replacing it with "I am a Reformer." Nor should he be unduly depressed if he has encountered unexpected obstacles at the outset. He ought to be frank and generous enough to acknowledge that once or twice in the course of his active career he was so unfortunate as to incur a suspicion that his conduct was not absolutely disinterested and magnanimous. It is remarkable how long it sometimes takes to live down the memory of such a little inadvertence, for example, as the substitution of a Democratic for a Republican majority in a legislative body. There are persons who never forget even a trifling thing like that. Of course, it is a dreadful nuisance to have them continually popping up when great affairs are under discussion, but there appears to be no way of avoiding them. They are sure to insist at the present juncture that, whereas Mr. Hill's personal habits are above reproach and his heart beats warmly for his native land, his political principles and methods leave pretty much everything to be desired, and he must be patient with them.

It will, we think, be universally conceded that there are points of view from which the frustration of Mr. Hill's desire to revise his creed and project himself into the anti-Tammany movement would be a serious loss. As a Reformer he would be one of the most interesting images which the magic lantern of politics has ever thrown upon the screen. With such a show as that going on in this town it would be entirely safe and reasonable to raise the price of admission, and we can scarcely bear to think that he may not succeed in getting an engagement.

THE IRISH NATIONAL CONVENTION.

Mr. William O'Brien is at the fore to-day at Dublin. The Irish "National Convention" meets and he is the moving spirit of it. A fortnight or more ago Mr. O'Brien proposed to the "Provisional Directory" of the United Irish League a resolution declaring, among other things, that Irish Members of Parliament should not participate in "the proceedings of the British criminals" at Westminster, but instead should perfect their own organization with a view to effective action at the regular session of Parliament next year. This resolution was unanimously adopted, with the result that the Irish benches in the House of Commons were almost empty at the opening of Parliament on Monday and have so remained ever since. We say almost empty, not entirely, for we believe at least one Irish Member was present at the opening, and later in the week Mr. Timothy Healy made his presence conspicuously manifest. So much for the first part of Mr. O'Brien's plan. The second part will be realized to-day in the convention at Dublin.

It is interesting to observe that while Mr. Healy so flagrantly disregarded the mandate against co-operating with "the British criminals," one of the prime objects of the Convention is to subject him to the most serious discipline possible. He is, indeed, probably to be expelled from the Irish Parliamentary party and henceforth excluded from all participation in its proceedings. Upon that Mr. O'Brien is said to be intent, and it is added that he has prevailed upon Mr. Redmond to co-operate with him in effecting it. The plan may succeed, for Mr. Redmond is chairman of the Convention and Mr. O'Brien is the shrewdest political manager in the party, so that whatever they are agreed upon is likely to be done. It will not be done, however, without strong opposition, for Mr. Patrick O'Brien and Mr. Timothy Harrington have already announced their unwillingness to see Mr. Healy thus ostracized. And there is room for grave doubts of the wisdom of such action. Mr. Healy may be somewhat irritating: the British Unionists have found him so, and he may be insubordinate. But, after all, he is far too clever a politician and parliamentarian to be treated as a negligible quantity. Mr. Parnell used to say that Mr. Healy was the only man in Ireland besides himself who understood the "Irish question." It would not seem to be auspicious of harmony to begin with a fight, even against a sometimes disturbing factor, and it would surely not be a promise of effective action to deprive the party of the services of its most efficient member.

"Howsoe'er these things may be," the Dublin Convention will doubtless formulate and adopt a "plan of campaign" for execution when Parliament meets in February next, and it will be most interesting to see what that plan is. In all probability it will be a somewhat truculent one, corresponding with the mood in which Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Redmond now appear to be. We may expect it to be a pretty vigorous repudiation of the idea that the process of "killing discontent with kindness" is succeeding. For some years the British Government has been making concessions and granting favors to Ireland at a great rate, and the idea has arisen that thus Ireland has been made content to remain a member of the United Kingdom, and thus far there has been no organized denial of it. Such denial will now be made. Moreover, it will be made by the Irish party alone, since the former allies of Home Rule in Great Britain have now entirely deserted that cause. But the Irishmen alone, with or without Mr. Healy, will doubtless be able to make a considerable stir at St. Stephen's, so that as a result of to-day's Convention at Dublin the opening months of the twentieth century at Westminster bid fair to be enlivened with something—for the first time in some years—much like an "Irish session."

THE GROWTH OF ANGLO-SAXONDOM.

Mr. J. H. Schooling has recently devoted—in "The Pall Mall Magazine"—one of his statistical and analytical articles to the subject of the growth of the British Empire in the nineteenth century. The showing which he makes is a highly impressive one. The territorial increase has been, in the colonies, from sixteen times to ninety-six times the area of the United Kingdom, or from 2,000,000 to 12,000,000 square miles, and this has been made in all parts of the world—America, Asia, Africa and Australasia. Comparable with this has been the increase of population. In 1800 the population of the British Empire, outside of the United Kingdom, was about 100,000,000, only 2,000,000 being white. In 1900 the total is 349,000,000, and 12,000,000 are white. These figures, of course, vastly surpass those of any other European nation. We have said that British colonies, etc., are now ninety-six times the area of Great Britain. Those of Germany are only five times the area of Germany. True, German colonization is of recent date. But France has been colonizing as long as England, and her colonies to-day are only eighteen times her own area. At the same time that Great Britain has thus been planting great colonies her domestic population has increased much more rapidly than that of either of her great rivals. The population of the United Kingdom has increased during the century from 15,000,000 to 41,000,000, or 173 per cent, while that of Germany has increased from 21,000,000 to 55,000,000 or 162 per cent, and that of France from 27,000,000 to 39,000,000, or only 45 per cent. In these figures are shown the tremendous vitality of the British stock and one of the secrets of the unrivalled growth of the British Empire.

The other great branch of the Anglo-Saxon race, or of the English speaking race, shows during the same century a growth only a little less impressive in some respects than that of the British Empire, and decidedly more impressive in other respects. At the beginning of the century the area of the United States and its possessions was something less than 828,000 square miles. At the close of the century, by virtue of successive processes of expansion, that area is approximately 3,700,000 square miles, in both hemispheres and in three of the globe's five zones. The population has in the same space of time increased from less than 6,000,000 to about 90,000,000, the overwhelming majority being, of course, white, and speaking the English language as their native tongue. While the territorial growth of the United States has been therefore less than that of the British Empire, the growth in population has been proportionately much larger. If we should enter into statistics of increase in manufactures, commerce and wealth we should find the United States to have surpassed the British Empire and all the rest of the world so far as to be beyond all comparison with them. It is, indeed, no mere brag or spread eagleism to say that, beginning the nineteenth century as one of the minor countries of the world, at the end of the same century

> Earth's Biggest Country's gut her soul
> An' risen up Earth's Greatest Nation!

These two great Powers, then, easily outrank all others in growth and present magnitude. They do so, each of them, taken separately. Taken together, in a classification of the world according to languages, they have a most impressive supremacy. At the beginning of the century the English language was, in point of numbers, one of the minor tongues. It was used by perhaps 21,000,000 people, and was considerably surpassed by the French, German and Spanish languages, and probably also by the Italian. To-day it is the language of about 130,000,000, or of nearly twice as many as any of the others mentioned, German coming next with about 65,000,000, Spanish with 55,000,000, French with 45,000,000 and Italian with 35,000,000. Even Russian, which is scarcely ranked among the cultivated languages, is not used by as many as is English, nor is it at all certain that any one of the various distinct languages used in China and India surpasses English in the number of its users. We shall not incur the reproach of extravagance, then, if we reckon that the English language is to-day used by more people than any other language in the world. When we consider from what a small beginning this fact has been developed in these hundred years, the expectation of a practically universal language within the next century seems by no means overstrained, and when we bear in mind the enormous ethical, social, commercial and political influence of language the future promise of the English speaking race expands beyond all measurement.

THEY GO WITH A RUSH.

A Frenchman named Jean Gougoltz reeled off the first mile of the six days' contest now in progress in Madison Square Garden in less than two minutes and a half. That is a notable dash, since he will be whirling over the course for twelve hours out of each twenty-four up to the close of the contest on Saturday night. What a hurried and impetuous end of the century this is! People are talking about steamboats plying on the Hudson River at a speed superior to thirty miles an hour. The rush of these days is violent enough to keep the doctors busy with cases of heart disease. So tremendous a pace is kept up in almost every line of activity that it is sometimes hard for the average mortal to catch his breath.

Not many years ago the riders of the best wheels known would have fallen in a fit if it had been suggested to them that it was possible to force a bicycle in two minutes and a half over the distance of a mile, not straightaway and not over a fast course, but around an oval with sharp curves, a course of many laps and with the heart breaking prospect of riding the wheel at high speed for one-half of each of six days to follow. This Frenchman Gougoltz is enterprising enough to have been born in America. Can he be persuaded to take out his first papers this week? He has a celerity and a pluck that Americans are always glad to applaud. This country is never slow, and it is intensely enthusiastic in its admiration of animals and men that waste no time in motion. Fast horses, fast express trains and fast steamships do not now in their various ways bewilder thought with so startling triumphs as fast wheels and fast wheelers are doing. What is left for the next century to set before us in the annihilation of time and space?

Sir Thomas Lipton calls Herreshoff "that magician." And well he may.

Don't pinch your friend's arm to attract his attention; don't slap him on the arm just for fun, or as an earnest of good will; don't grab him by the arm and force him to enter the elevator before you. Your friend dislikes this form of familiarity at any time, but particularly now, for he has been vaccinated—and "it took."

It is predicted that in his forthcoming message to the Legislature Governor-elect Odell, who will be Governor next month, will recommend the abolition of useless State commissions and the stopping of the costly practice of employing special counsel in State cases which it is practicable for the Attorney-General's office to handle. These will be helpful and wholesome suggestions. As The Tribune has said in the past, there are too many expensive State commissions whose achievements are more decorative than essential. Moreover, it is evident that special counsel have been engaged too frequently in State affairs and at too large outlay when the Attorney-General and his staff could do all that was really necessary.

The Shah of Persia has been travelling through his dominions upon an automobile. The Ahkoond of Swat is "next," and then it will be up to the Grand Llama of Thibet.

In every circus and place of amusement in this State the law requires that nets must be stretched under trapezes, in order that the upper air performances may go on without serious danger to life or limb. The fatal accident to Joseph B. Stark in a local armory on Saturday was disgraceful to every one responsible for such a perilous exploit. He rode a bicycle down a steep scaffolding and then made a hazardous dive from the wheel into a tank. It was an outrage to allow such a thing to be done without proper precautions, and criminal prosecutions ought to follow the loss of Stark's life.

Thomas Lawson, of Boston, is determined to build a yacht to rival the Cup candidate which Sir Thomas Lipton, of Britain, is building. Boston against Britain, Thomas against Thomas, Lawson against Lipton.

PERSONAL.

Archbishop Martinelli, the Papal delegate in this country, will be present at the dedication of the Polish Catholic Church of St. Josephat, in Milwaukee, on April 14.

An old legal paper has been unearthed in the Prothonotary's office in Wilkesbarre, Penn. It was an affidavit of defence prepared by the late Jay Gould, in his handwriting, and bears date of 1855. Gould was then in the tanning business at Gouldsboro, this State, and he had difficulty with his creditors. In his defence he claimed he had built the largest tannery in the world, and instead of being hounded by his creditors he thought he should receive encouragement for developing the resources of the country.

At a meeting of the Bath (Me.) City Council on Wednesday evening a letter was read from Harold M. and William E. Sewall, stating that they would like to present to the city of Bath $15,000 in testimony of the affection of the late Arthur Sewall. It is their wish that $10,000 be invested in interest bearing bonds, and the remaining $5,000 be used for the endowment of a perpetual free bed in the Maine General Hospital at Portland. Their offer was accepted.

Ex-Congressman Jerry Simpson has sold his ranch in Barber County, Kan., and will buy one in the Far West. Barber County was becoming too crowded for him. Next year he will travel for a Kansas City commission house, in which he is interested.

The statue of his late father, which the German Emperor has ordered to be erected in front of the Brandenburg Gate, between the Thiergarten and Unter den Linden, is already in the course of execution. Professor Adolph Bruett designed the model. Carrara marble has been chosen for the monument, which represents the late Emperor as wearing a cuirassier uniform, with the mantle thrown back so as to show the insignia of the Order of the Black Eagle, which he is wearing on his breast.

Charlotte, N. C., Dec. 10.—Attorney-General John W. Griggs is spending some time hunting birds in Carabus County, N. C., as the guest of Shakespeare Harris, a farmer.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

The handsome bronze tablet, 12 feet by 5, which the State of New-Hampshire presented to the battleship Alabama, is giving the officers a good deal of trouble. It was intended to occupy a position on the exterior of the forward turret, directly under and between the two 12-inch guns. Figureheads having become obsolete, that portion of a man-of-was is used nowadays to receive the ship's escutcheon. But the workmen find it impossible to bore holes in the Harveyized steel in order to rivet it, and it may have to occupy a less conspicuous position.

Amenities.—Mrs. Bragg—Of course, you knew we had moved out of your section of the city.
Mrs. Snagg—Oh, yes.
Mrs. Bragg—The neighborhood we're in now is much better.
Mrs. Snagg—Strange! That's what everybody is saying now about the neighborhood you left.—(Philadelphia Press.

A secret society called the Home Makers has a large membership among the foreigners in the mining districts of Pennsylvania. The purpose of the organization is to provide and maintain pleasant homes for its members and those dependent upon them, and as gossipy, careless wives and mothers are held by them to be the cause of a majority of the unhappy, illkept homes and neglected children, the society believes its members have a right to use every possible means to see that their homes are not neglected. A member who corrects his wife by beating her must do so only after all other means to induce her to do her duty have failed. The society pays for the defence of its members when arrested for wife beating, and in case of conviction pays the fine.

There was a pathetic look of habitual weariness in the face of the old Tennessee mountaineer.
We spoke of this.
"Yep," sighed the man, "I'm gittin' old. I've raised fifteen darters, an' ev'ry dinged one on 'em has married intew a fam'bly of ten tew eighteen boys! Stranger, I've been feudin' fourteen hours a day ev'ry day 'cept Sunday fer the last twenty year, an' I ain't ketched up yit! 'Low I ain't never goin' tew git ketched up!"
We now observed that his dialect was far from faultless, eloquent proof that he had indeed lost interest in life.—(Detroit Journal.

Colonel J. H. Estill, the Editor of "The Savannah News," says that a buzzard once flew from New-York to Charleston, S. C., in four hours. "There had been a lot of talk about the time which would be required for one of these flyers to get home, and it was agreed one day to box up a fine looking specimen and ship it to New-York. There was a great deal of interest in this test of speed, and the man who received the swift bird of the air was instructed to release it at a certain hour and to telegraph the moment the buzzard sniffed the free air. The message came here that the bird, all properly marked for identification, had been released from its box, and watchers were stationed in Market-st. to time the moment of arrival. Various time allowances had been suggested by the interested crowd of watchers, and the prevailing idea was that the buzzard could not get back home for a day, if at all. But this is where the people were wrong, for, as I remember it, the buzzard poked its nose toward Charleston as soon as it was set free, and the trip to Charleston was made in four hours. The old bird appeared to be very much the worse for wear when it got in, but a record had been made, and all the pools made on the flying time were upset."

Towne—Subbubs has bought a house boat.
Browne—The idea! I don't see how he can afford a luxury like that.
Towne—Luxury? It's a necessity. He has to use it very frequently to get from the house to the station.—(Philadelphia Press.

THE DRAMA.

"CYRANO DE BERGERAC" IN FRENCH.

COQUELIN AND BERNHARDT.

The English Eaglet continues to twitter, but the French Eaglet has flown to its nest. Rostand's earlier and more vital and various but less imaginative drama, "Cyrano de Bergerac," was presented in the Garden Theatre last night, Coquelin acting Cyrano, and Bernhardt acting Roxane, and the numerous admirers of this romantic fabric can now behold it, and rejoice over it, in its original form. It is not, dramatically, better in that form than it is in the English translation, with which the local stage has been for some time familiar, but the literary quality of it,—the occasional felicity of the French verse,—is more obvious, and this grace will doubtless be appreciated. The play is a flamboyant melodrama, ingeniously contrived to illustrate, under exceptional circumstances, an eccentric man's infatuation for a pretty and silly woman, and to provide for the prominent display—almost in monology—of a remarkable character. Ample description and analysis of this structure have been given in this place: "Cyrano de Bergerac" was first made known on our stage October 3, 1898: and it is not needful now to traverse that old ground. Few plays in our time have been so greatly overrated as this one was, when first acted in France and heralded for America. It is not nearly so interesting as "The Count of Monte Cristo," and, dramatically, it is not comparable with "The Duke's Motto." It seems probable, however, that the public has, by this time, ascertained its true value,—that of a theatrical bore, which has few equals and no superior, among works of equal pretension.

Coquelin's excellence as an actor was long ago clearly defined, and it has been abundantly recognized. His professional reputation rests upon forty years of labor and achievement, and, at threescore, his fame is established. With him, as with other actors, however, the limitations are as obvious as the merits. He has never conquered in the highest realm of the dramatic art, and he never can conquer there. Technically speaking, Coquelin is a low comedian, and in this field he is preeminent. His presentations of eccentric and seriocomic character are perfect and admirable. His Mascarille, for example, is a gem. But his acting has not evinced imagination or poetic sensibility, and, in characters and situations that involve the elements of romance, pathos, noble passion, tragic power, or weird, haunted atmosphere, his personality becomes inappropriate, and his proceedings are tiresome. As Don Cæsar de Bazan he was commonplace, and as Mathias, in "The Bells," he was wooden and dull. These facts, and others like them, possess a far-reaching significance. Bottom is exactly the man for Pyramus, but he must not also play Thisbe, and he must not play the lion. "Nature is above art, in that."

The French, as actors, achieve their best success in the photographic part of acting. Their transcript of the surface of things is, generally, accurate, and sometimes it is wonderfully effective. They do not touch the deeps. Their peculiar field is that of manners and intrigue De Quincey somewhere maintains, and with truth, that the French drama is essentially inferior to the English, because it has grown out of a radically lower nature, and he declares that in all the dramatic literature of France there is not one case of the antinomies of passion, where the mind says one thing and the impassioned soul says another. Delsarte long since declared that England, cold, formal, and undemonstrative though its people ordinarily are, has produced the greatest actors that the world ever saw—for the racial reason that the English nature, careless of the surface of things, rises, under strong impulse, to a tremendous altitude of emotional excitement and expression. In other words, French acting is superb when dealing with trifles, but it becomes practically powerless when confronted with situations of spiritual conflict, tempestuous passion, sublimity, and grandeur; and that is why, with every disposition to admire it, the observer remains cold in its presence. A French Joseph Surface is conceivable: a French Othello or a French Macbeth is a radical impossibility. No better illustration of these truths could readily be found than is afforded in the acting of Constant Coquelin, alongside of whom such an actor as the late Charles Coghlan would tower into positive greatness.

The best interpretation that can be placed upon Rostand's ideal of his long nosed Gascon hero is that he was intended to be the incarnation of tenderness, romantic idolatry, passionate fidelity and eternally patient sorrow, hidden and controlled beneath an assumed demeanor of blatant pugnacity, jocose humor and nonchalant indifference. In that way it was portrayed by Richard Mansfield,—an actor more remarkable for intellect, irony, wild force and mordant humor than for either pathos or sweetness,—and Mansfield's performance of it was far more brilliant and interesting and far nobler than that given by Coquelin. Mansfield put his heart into the character, while Coquelin with almost unmatchable loquacity, and a great show of being in earnest, though not above "mugging," evinces an ordinary personality, the dexterity of an old stager, and something very much like the ardor of a clam. Nothing could be more elaborate and correct than his makeup; no simulation of the aggressive, insolent, combative bully could be more true. In the opening scenes he was thoroughly competent; but as a lover and a vicarious wooer he was like Fourthly in a Scotch sermon. The pitiable incongruity between a repulsive physical aspect and a beatific grand passion was indeed made clearly manifest; but surely there should be a richer result than this; surely, when a transparency is to be employed in acting there should be something visible through it—the warmth of a deep heart, the splendor of a great mind, the wealth of a noble soul, the nameless, triumphant quality of charm, and not simply the proficiency of trained talent. In his scene with Guiche, under the balcony, his identity would have been detected in an instant. In this, too, the absurdity of making a woman capitulate because of a long speech of tumid rhetoric became more than ever conspicuous.

Sarah Bernhardt gave a thoroughly intelligent and conscientious performance of Roxane, and that is all that could be rationally expected of a strong woman constricting herself within the limits of a pygmy doll. There is nothing in Roxane. She even lacks the attribute of perception that no woman was ever known to lack—the instinct to know when a man is in love with her. She is a shallow, capricious, lovely dunce, as bright as an icicle—and as brittle. So Bernhardt presented her—and with much saccharine sizzle of middle-aged sentiment. Both these eminent actors were greeted with a tumult of popular joy and rewarded with an abundant manifestation of public homage. W. W.

MARY MANNERING AT WALLACK'S.

Miss Mannering made her re-entrance on the local stage,—where she long since became a favorite,—last night, at Wallack's Theatre, playing Janice Meredith, in a military and patriotic drama, by Messrs. Paul Leicester Ford and Edward E. Rose. The house was crowded and the actress was warmly welcomed. The play tells a story of the American revolt against the British Crown, and illustrates the vicissitudes and perilous adventures that befell a Continental captain, who penetrated the Hessian lines in quest of information for General Washington, and who was saved, at a moment of supreme peril, by the intrepid, sagacious, and expeditious conduct of the girl whom he loved. The purpose of the piece is "a thrilling situation," and this is accomplished, after a fashion, by the usual theatrical expedients employed in such cases, and by a total disregard for probability. Miss Mannering has to represent the heroic girl who is equal to all emergencies, and this task she fulfilled in such a way as to give much pleasure.

CAST OF "JANICE MEREDITH."

Charles Fownes (afterward John Brereton)	Robert Drouet
Philemon Hennion	Burr McIntosh
Lord Clowes	A. S. Lipman
Lieutenant Mowbray	George Backus
Squire Meredith	Charles M. Collins
Squire Hennion	Martin J. Cody
Colonel Rahl	Carl Ahrendt
Joe Bagby	Aubrey Beattie
Lieutenant Piel	John D. O'Hara
Private Buger	R. R. Niell
Trooper Roscomb	C. W. Haskins
Messenger	Sydney Mansfield
Lieutenant Bunthin	John W. Mitchell
Mrs. Meredith	Helen Tracy
Tabitha Drinker	Amy Ricard
Sukey	Vivian Bernard
Janice Meredith	Mary Mannering

THEATRICAL EVENTS LAST NIGHT.

Constant Coquelin and Sarah Bernhardt, at the Garden Theatre, acted in "Cyrano de Bergerac." ......Mary Mannering appeared at Wallack's Theatre, in a play based on Paul Leicester Ford's novel of "Janice Meredith."......The well known drama of "Hands Across the Sea" was presented at the American Theatre......Mary Sanders, who has been acting in Boston, reappeared here, at the Fourteenth Street Theatre, giving her spirited, sincere, and charming performance of Ora, in "Lost River." ......The comic play of "The Grey Mare" was acted at the Murray Hill Theatre, where Mr. Donnelly's competent stock company,—including William Redmund, Mrs. Barry, Dorothy Donnelly, Laura Crews, Walter Allen, and other players,—is presenting, in a careful and creditable manner, a series of plays of tried and proved merit......May Irwin, at the Bijou Theatre, acted in her new farce, "Madge Smith, Attorney."......Richard Mansfield, as Henry V, appeared at the Walnut Street Theatre, Philadelphia......Andrew Mack, the favorite Irish actor, appeared at the Grand Opera House, in "The Rebel."......The Empire Theatre Stock Company, at the Harlem Opera House, presented "Lord and Lady Algy."

THEATRICAL EVENTS AT HAND.

Sarah Bernhardt will devote the fourth week of her engagement, at the Garden Theatre, December 17-22, to "La Tosca" and "La Dame aux Camélias"; on Christmas Eve she will attempt to play Hamlet......Olga Nethersole, performing in the disreputable and offensive play of "Sapho," now visible at Providence, will administer that dose to Harlem on December 17......Julia Marlowe will succeed John Hare, at the Criterion Theatre, on January 14, 1901, appearing in the new drama clumsily entitled "When Knighthood Was in Flower."......The evening of December 31, 1900, bids fair to be exceptionally lively in the little world of the local stage. Ada Rehan, as Nell Gwyn, will appear at the Knickerbocker Theatre: Viola Allen will appear at the Theatre Republic: and E. S. Willard will appear at the Garden. Loie Fuller will dance at the Koster & Bial Music Hall......Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's new play, "Mrs. Dane's Defence"—another case of a harlot found out—will be presented at the Empire Theatre.

VARIETY ENTERTAINMENTS.

A novelty was presented yesterday at Proctor's Fifth Avenue Theatre. It was the Jean Marcel production of living pictures, statuary and bassreliefs imported by Mr. Proctor from Europe. Others in the long programme were Milton and Dolly Noble, in "Why Walker Reformed"; the Russell brothers, Alice Pierce, Charles Coburn, the "Juggling Johnsons," Lew Sully and the three Yoscarys.

Della Fox is in her final week of vaudeville at Proctor's Twenty-third Street Theatre. John W. Albaugh, jr., assisted by his stock company, presented yesterday a dramatic sketch entitled "Trenton." The specialties were by George Evans, Les Dumonds, Louise Gunning, the Review Comedy Four, Coakley and Huested and a dozen others.

McIntyre and Heath appeared yesterday at Proctor's Palace. The long bill also included Mark Sullivan, Elizabeth Murray, Ed Latell, Frances Keppler, Conway and Leland, Charles Ulrick, Mr. and Mrs. Augustin Neuville and Maxwell and Dudley.

The programme yesterday at Proctor's One-hundred-and-twenty-fifth Street Theatre included Idalene Cotton and Nick Long, Walter Leroy and Florence Clayton, the three Lukens brothers, Fisher and Carroll, Horace Goldin, Reed's bull terriers, Billy Link, Adele Purvis Onri, Edwards, Kernell and Williams and many more.

New moving pictures were shown at the Eden Musée yesterday. Elaborate wax groups are in preparation, and will be placed on exhibition in a few days.

Miss Violet Friend made her first appearance in this country last night at the New-York Theatre and sang songs of her own composition, which were received with much favor by a large audience. The operetta "Sweet Jessamine," with Miss Louise Beaudet in the leading part, was continued. So also was the ballet, "The Meeting of the Allies." Among others in the programme were Emma Carus, Los Dumonts, Pat Rooney and Mayme Gehrue.

Miss Beatrice Moreland appeared at Tony Pastor's Theatre yesterday in a one act farce entitled "Poppy," which is amusingly contrived, and was the occasion of much merriment to the audience. Among others on the programme were Lavender and Thompson, James Richmond Glenroy, Dan and Dolly Mann, the Willett-Thorne farceurs, Glorine, in electrical dances; Drawee, juggler; Williams and Melburn, the Craigs, Collins and Hardt, Joe Colling, Massee and Massee, jugglers; Myra Deane and the vitagraph.

The new bill at Koster & Bial's yesterday afternoon was headed by Ezra Kendall, with a new monologue. Pauline Hall has been held over for another week. Jennie Joyce, Gussie McKee, assisted by a chorus: Genaro and Bailey, the Potter Family of aerial gymnasts and Ward and Curran were other features retained. Newcomers were Carmencelli, Tim Cronin, the Brothers La Nole, bar gymnasts; Lawrence and Harrington, Sharp and Flatt, comic musicians; Juan Calcedo, high wire acrobat, and Herbert's dogs.

J. E. Dodson acted the part of Richelieu at Keith's Union Square Theatre yesterday in his one act play "Richelieu's Stratagem." Others on the bill were the Rossow Midgets, Jess Dandy, McAvoy and May, Frederick V. Bowers, Linton and McIntyre and Mme. Marie Duma.

NOTES OF THE STAGE.

The usual Christmas festival for the children of the stage will take place this year at Tony Pastor's Theatre. Mrs. Louisa Eldridge, who was the founder of this feast, in 1888, and has been president of the committee in charge of it ever since, has resigned her place, much to the regret of all concerned in it. It is now a firmly established custom, however, and all the arrangements will be carried out as usual by the other members of the committee.

Miss Mary Sanders last night returned to her place in the cast of "Lost River," at the Fourteenth Street Theatre. She has been playing in the same piece in Boston.

"The House That Jack Built," George H. Broadhurst's latest farce, will have its first presentment at the Madison Square Theatre on Monday evening, December 24

Announcement was made yesterday that Judge Butler, of the District Court of Colorado, had handed down a decision making permanent the temporary injunction in favor of F. E. Carstarphen against the Denver Theatre Company, in the matter of the appearance of Mrs. Minnie Maddern Fiske in that theatre. Mrs. Fiske had been booked in the Denver Theatre and afterward an attempt was made to prevent her appearance there. Mrs. Fiske will appear in that city during the week of January 7.

RABBI HARRISON NOT FOR EMANU-EL.

HE WILL REMAIN WITH TEMPLE ISRAEL IN ST. LOUIS. AT ITS REQUEST.

Rabbi Leon Harrison, of Temple Israel, of St. Louis, has declined a call to the Temple Emanu-El. A member of the firm of J. & W. Seligman & Co., at No. 21 Broad-st., when asked why Rabbi Harrison had not accepted the call, said:

The Rabbi is much attached to the congregation of the Temple Israel, at St. Louis, and has yielded to the pressure which has been brought to bear upon him to remain. It is to be regretted that he cannot come here. We have several others under consideration, but have reached no decision as yet.

TRANSATLANTIC TRAVELLERS.

Among those who will sail for England on the White Star Line steamer Germanic to-morrow are the Rev. the Hon. W. H. Freemantle, Dean Ripon, Canon Dixon and Captain and Mrs. Montague.

Some of those who have booked to sail on the American Line steamer New-York to-morrow are Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. M. H. De Young and family, Alexander Dow, Frederick Greenwood and Mrs. George L. Peabody.

OSWALD OTTENDORFER IMPROVING.

At the office of the "Staats-Zeitung" yesterday afternoon it was said that the proprietor, Oswald Ottendorfer, was rallying from the shock of the surgical operation which he recently underwent, with satisfactory speed, and that the surgeons held out hopes of his complete recovery.

CZAR'S TEMPERATURE IS NORMAL.

Livadia, European Russia, Dec. 10.—The Czar's physicians issued the following bulletin this morning

The Czar's sleep and appetite are very good. His temperature and pulse are normal.

THE HAY-PAUNCEFOTE TREATY.

[BY CABLE TO THE TRIBUNE.]

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In "The London Times" of December 8 the New-York correspondent stated that the President knew last winter that England would decline to ratify the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, if amended, and that unless Lord Salisbury has changed his mind the Senate knows that England would decline now.

London, Dec. 10, 1900. CARROLL BRYCE.