DR. TALMAGE'S BRETHREN.

LISTENING TO NEW EVIDENCE OF HIS ALLEGED FALSEHOOD.

The Rev. Dr. Van Dyke Disclosing a Secret—A Contract which, it is Claimed, Contradicts Dr. Talmage's Sworn Testimony—Will he be Again Tried by the Presbytery?

The Presbyterian clergymen of Brooklyn are engaged in a movement looking to a retrial of the Rev. T. De Witt Talmage, upon newly formulated charges of falsehood and deceit, and it is probable that Dr. Talmage will very soon be put upon the defensive again. Early last week a letter was addressed to each Presbyterian minister having a church in Brooklyn, requesting him to attend a conference on Wednesday last to consider new evidence obtained against Dr. Talmage. All of the Presbyterian clergymen in the city who have churches attended the conference, except Dr. Talmage and Dr. Ludlow. The former was absent from the city, and Dr. Ludlow wrote to the Rev. Arthur Crosby, who sent out the invitations, that he thought it would be better to have the matter presented to a full meeting of the Presbytery rather than to a partial conference. Mr. Crosby replied tartly to Dr. Ludlow, remarking that there would be force in his suggestion if there were not a precedent for a partial conference in the history of the Presbytery (a reference to the meeting arranged by Dr. Ludlow between the Rev. Dr. Talmage and the Rev. J. W. Hathaway in the course of the last trial, in which a covenant was made between Dr. Talmage and Mr. Hathaway that they would cease to make charges against each other).

Dr. Van Dyke was the controlling spirit of the conference. He said to his fellow Presbyters that he had carried in his own breast for a long time a secret affecting Dr. Talmage, which was of such importance that it must carry with its disclosure and consideration the conviction, to all present, that Dr. Talmage was guilty of perjury. After keeping this secret for some time he at length wrote to the Rev. Dr. Talmage, informing him of the evidence in his (Dr. Van Dyke's) possession, and asking him for an explanation of it in the light of his testimony upon his trial. Dr. Van Dyke read a copy of this letter to the conference, and called attention to his request in it that an answer should be returned in three days. Dr. Van Dyke had documentary evidence prepared which he then submitted. It consisted of excerpts from Dr. Talmage's testimony placed in contrast with recently discovered documents that directly contradicted the testimony.

One of the chief charges against Dr. Talmage upon his trial in 1879 grew out of his connection with the *Christian at Work*. The specification was "that he acted deceitfully and made false statements, which he knew to be false, in the matter of his withdrawal from the editorship of the *Christian at Work*, in the month of October, 1876." The prosecution offered testimony under this specification to show that during a series of years, in various circumstances and in relation to different sets of men, Dr. Talmage had been acting in a deceitful and double-faced manner, and had repeatedly spoken untruthfully in order to gain his ends or to cover his tracks. In the autumn of 1876, it was alleged, Dr. Talmage, when he wished to retire from the editorship of the *Christian at Work* and transfer his services to the *Advance*, instead of making the change in a straightforward and honest manner, went to the office of the former paper in the evening under the cover of darkness, and there, surreptitiously and without the knowledge of his associates or of the proprietors of the paper, caused to be inserted a valedictory which was in reality a puff of the *Advance*; that he inserted also an elaborate advertisement of the *Advance*, which also announced his transfer to that paper; that he then proceeded to the press rooms and gave orders that the presses should be run all night, in order that the edition of the paper containing the deceptive intention of injuring the *Christian at Work* company—might be struck off before the proprietors should know that their property was being tampered with; that in order still further to secure this base and dishonorable end, he made arrangements that copies of the paper, as it was originally prepared before the changes had been made, should be placed on the desks of the secretary and of the managing editor in the morning, by which trick they were deceived into the belief that the paper was being issued in its original, proper, and innocent form; and that all this was done, although he had some months before had signed an agreement that he would not withdraw from the paper without giving thirty days' notice.

Dr. Talmage, in his own defence, claimed that he withdrew from the paper because, as he alleged, it was surreptitiously sold from beneath him. He claimed that he had held some previous negotiations with Gen. C. H. Howard to go to the *Advance*, but he swore that he had not completed any arrangement about the matter before he left the paper. The first memorandum made between Dr. Talmage and Gen. Howard was on Oct. 4. He left the paper, and inserted his valedictory on Oct. 9. He had not intended to leave the paper until the expiration of the thirty days' notice required by his contract with the publishers, but he testified that when he heard that the paper was sold, feeling that he would have no chance opportunity to write his valedictory, he was determined to leave at once. His testimony reiterated at several points that there was no completed arrangement for him to go to the *Advance* until after the revelations which came to him on Oct. 9. Upon page 864 of the printed record of Dr. Talmage's trial occurs the testimony of Dr. Talmage being the witness, and his counsel, the Rev. Dr. Spear, being the examiner:

Q.—Now, this memorandum agreement on the 4th of October, was it a completed arrangement or simply a memorandum? A.—No, no; it was a memorandum that we changed three or four times, and it was not finally concluded until that afternoon on Oct. 9.

Q.—It took its final completing especially in the afternoon? A.—Yes, sir, in the afternoon. It was a friendly sort of memorandum, so that I remember being in Chicago in December, and we tore up that memorandum and made a new one in December when it was finished.

Upon cross-examination, Dr. Talmage said that the memorandum with Gen. Howard was made on Oct. 4, but "the finality of our arrangement had not been reached, and a change might be made at any time."

Q.—Did you accepted the position that Gen. Howard offered you? A.—There was no definiteness about it, but it was substantively completed, as I have stated.

Q.—You say that your agreement with Gen. Howard was not formally consummated until Oct. 9; what do you mean by formally consummated? A.—Signing the papers, facts, and all the particulars of the arrangements were not complete. On the afternoon of Oct. 9 Gen. Howard came and completed our arrangement. We completed our partnership, as he says, in the afternoon. We had been in the habit of going upon the cars, Nov. 14, I had found that the paper had been surreptitiously sold from beneath me, and I had written my valedictory, and the election of stockholders and trustees, and after that many had been committed I very naturally gave the intimation to Gen. Howard when the memorandum was made out.

After pointing out to the conference of clergymen on Wednesday the sworn testimony of Dr. Talmage that when he determined, on Oct. 9, to leave the *Christian at Work*, it was in consequence of a discovery that the paper had been surreptitiously sold, and not in pursuance of a contract previously made with the proprietors of the *Advance*, Dr. Van Dyke drew from his pocket a copy of a contract signed on Oct. 4, 1876, by Dr. Talmage and C. H. Howard & Co., five days before Dr. Talmage left the paper. Placing the contract in contrast with Dr. Talmage's testimony, he said that the logical conclusion was that Dr. Talmage had told a falsehood when he said that there was no completed arrangement until after he discovered the sale of the paper. This contract was witnessed as to each signature by B. R. Corwin. Its second clause is as follows:

"And party of the second part (Dr. Talmage) will cease to be editor in connection with the *Christian at Work* at the end of the month from Oct. 12, instant, or sooner, and will in the next issue, Oct. 12, or sooner, announce to readers and stay that he is now to become editor of the *Advance*."

This clause, it is claimed, demonstrates all that the prosecution claimed on Dr. Talmage's former trial in support of the charge of falsehood and deceit. The contract also provided that Dr. Talmage should pay all the expenses of the transfer, "and of the *Advance*, including the salaries of the Rev. R. B. Howard, the Rev. Alfred Taylor, the advertising manager and clerks, and should pay one-half the cost of an extra edition of the *Advance* to contain his salutatory, and one-half the cost of another edition to be sent out later. In consideration for the services, personal and procured, he was to receive $1.40 on every new subscription to the *Advance* paid for at $3 a year, and ninety cents on each one paid for at $2.25, and for subscriptions paid for at any other rate he was to receive all over $1.60, the cost of publication. He was also to receive a commission of forty per cent. upon all the advertising secured in the New York office.

This is the essence of a long legal document which is claimed to be what Dr. Talmage designed as "a friendly sort of memorandum."

The contract of Dec. 9, which was the one signed after Dr. Talmage had quitted the editorship of the *Christian at Work*, was signed by Dr. Van Dyke. It refers to the paper of Oct. 4, 1876, as a contract, in eleven different places, and declares itself to be a modification of that former contract. This second contract is unimportant in other respects as affecting the case against Dr. Talmage, but it is presented as additional proof that the agreement made on Oct. 4, before he quitted the *Advance*, was in all respects a legal contract, "signed, witnessed, and delivered."

Dr. Van Dyke also informed the conference of a witness who says that the valedictory, headed "Old Friends," was shown to him by Dr. Talmage on Oct. 9, the day it was written, although Dr. Talmage swore that he wrote it in the afternoon or evening, after he had heard that the paper was sold, and that he had no expectation of writing it when he left home that morning. This witness was not called in the first trial, and it is alleged that he has since been threatened in case he disclosed what he knew.

The unearthed contracts were a surprise to most of the preachers. They were freely discussed, and the common sentiment expressed was that unless the light of Talmage was able to offer a satisfactory explanation of his testimony it would be necessary to formulate new charges against him. Dr. Van Dyke said that Dr. Talmage had paid no attention to his letter. It was voted to send a committee to Dr. Talmage to ask him for an explanation of his sworn testimony in the light of the discovered contracts, which, when they were asked for by the Rev. Mr. Crosby upon the trial, were refused. The committee chosen was the Rev. S. P. Halsey of the Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church and the Rev. Mr. Poole of the Throop avenue church, both of whom voted for the acquittal of the Rev. Dr. Talmage. This committee will give the Tabernacle pastor notice that the Presbytery will put him on trial in the event of his explanation not being satisfactory. The result of the committee's visit will be made known to the clergymen at their next conference. Most of these familiar with the facts believe that a second trial is inevitable.

The witness spoken of by Dr. Van Dyke as having seen the valedictory printed in the *Christian at Work* before it was put in type is said to be ready to testify now that he saw the manuscript of the article at 8 A. M. Dr. Talmage testified that he had made the subject of his troubles with the paper a matter of prayer before leaving his house on Monday, Oct. 9, because he felt impressed that something important was to happen that day; but he swore that he did not then know what it was.

CONCERNING PRAYER MEETINGS.

Brothers who Pray Loudly and Brothers who Sing Through the Nose.

At the Baptist ministers' meeting yesterday, the Rev. Dr. W. H. Parmly of the First Baptist Church, in Jersey City, read an essay on the "Conduct of Prayer Meetings." "The success of a prayer meeting," he said, "depends a good deal on the ability of the leader of the meeting. If the leader shuffles the leaves of the Bible for twenty minutes before he finds his place, or if he excuses himself from saying anything to the brethren to start them off, because he had not had time to prepare for the prayer meeting, or, on the other hand, if he takes up two-thirds of the meeting himself, then the meeting is pretty sure to be a failure. The objects of a prayer meeting can be defeated, too, by holding it in a cold and dimly lighted room. Look," said the essayist, "at the attractive entrances to saloons on street corners, and behold the blazing lights there. The children of this world are wiser in their generation than the children of light. Then, too, three minutes is enough for a prayer or a speech in prayer meeting. Sometimes a bore has to be repressed by starting a song, or cut off by asking some one else to lead in prayer. The minister should never scold because so few are present."

The Rev. Dr. Wayland Hoyt of Brooklyn said that his custom was to write letters to his church members and ask them to speak in prayer meeting on a selected subject. The result was that the meetings were lively.

The Rev. Dr. Henry Miller of Greenpoint said that he was a decided protestant against any other prayer meeting on the continent.

"That's right, Brother Miller, stand up for your prayer meeting," interrupted Dr. Hoyt.

"Well, it's so, and there isn't any buncombe about it," rejoined Dr. Miller.

"Brother Miller," said the Rev. Dr. W. W. Evarts of Jersey City Heights, "you had better silence the reporters as to your having the best prayer meeting on the continent."

"I meant Baptist prayer meetings, of course," said Dr. Miller, as he sat down.

The Rev. Mr. Motley, colored, said that he appointed now a brother and now a sister to lead the prayer meetings. Some of his brethren prayed a good deal louder than others, and the trouble was that the loudest prayer seemed to carry the meeting. [Laughter.] If the loud prayer was offered first it put a sort of a damper on the meeting afterward, for the brethren and sisters thought that they couldn't come up to it. [Long-continued laughter.]

The Rev. Christopher Rhodes of Brooklyn said that he was not troubled with bores in prayer meeting, but he was troubled the other way; for the young folks wouldn't come out unless there was something to offer that in style, in language, and in matter was up to what had been said before. He felt that the meetings were too stiff, and the cause might be in himself and his temperament.

The Rev. Dr. Yerkes said that there was too much scheming to bind the people together by means of fairs and other affairs. What was needed was the Holy Spirit.

The Rev. J. C. Allen of Newark said that the Holy Spirit helps those who help themselves.

The Rev. Mr. Brinkerhoff had preached for many years for the colored people in the South. Once a venerable colored brother got down on his knees before the communion table and while praying he crept round and round the table. He stamped with his knees as he went, and when he came to the climax of his prayer he said: "On, Lord, let Thy Spirit sweep down on us as Sherman's army did." [Laughter.]

The Rev. Dr. Eddy said that when he first went to Syracuse his first prayer meeting was a peculiar one. The first song was struck up by an old man who threw his head back on his shoulders, shut his eyes and drawled through his nose. Dr. Eddy rapped sharply on his desk, and said: "For heaven's sake, brother, if you will sing, don't sing through your nose." [Laughter.] "If a man strikes up a song in prayer meeting and sings through his nose, stop him. [Laughter.] Don't hesitate to go and put him on the track and give him instruction. If he is a Christian he won't feel a bit hurt about it."

TROUBLES IN THE BUSINESS WORLD.

The Arrest of Theodore E. Allen—Another Attachment Against Bowie Dash & Co.

Theodore E. Allen, senior partner of Allen & Co., wholesale dealers in tobacco and cigars at Chambers and Greenwich streets, who failed two weeks ago with liabilities of over $116,000, has been arrested by the Sheriff on a warrant issued in a civil suit brought by one of his creditors, D. C. Mayo, as agent of the Adams Tobacco Company of Montreal. Bail was fixed at $4,000, which was furnished. It is alleged in the affidavit that the plaintiffs sold 250 boxes of tobacco to Allen & Co. for $3,293, which has never been paid; that Mayo was introduced to Allen & Co. by F. H. Johnson, who was in the latter's employ, and who had a suit against the Adams Tobacco Company for damages for an alleged breach of contract by reason of their having dismissed him from their employ; that Johnson gave Mayo a written stipulation that he would not interfere with the shipment of the tobacco, and Allen also promised that there would be no interference with the tobacco or proceeds by reason of Johnson's suit; that the tobacco was accordingly sold to Allen & Co. on sixty days' time, but when the note became due payment was refused by Allen on the ground that he was the holder of Johnson's claim against the Adams Tobacco Company, which amounted to more than the bill for the tobacco, and he would offset it against that. Suit was brought by the Adams Tobacco Company against Allen, and judgment was obtained in the former's favor, with leave for him to answer before Dec. 13. The answer was not put in, and Allen & Co. assigned on Dec. 6.

Brown & Brother, wholesale dealers in dry goods in Vicksburg, Miss., have made a statement showing liabilities, $94,831.46, and nominal assets of $132,009.40. The attorney for the firm stated in a meeting of creditors at the St. Nicholas Hotel that they had expected to ask an extension only, but as creditors had attached the stock for over $40,000 they were forced to ask a compromise. He could not make any definite offer. The creditors appointed M. F. Wood, L. Cohen, and J. Lamman to investigate.

Despatches have been received in this city announcing the failure of Myers & Morgendoller, manufacturers of cigars in Syracuse. They have made an assignment to John Jacobs, giving preferences for $12,869.95. Their liabilities are reported at $25,000, and assets small. Among the creditors reported in this city are M. & E. Solomon, $5,200; secured for $4,500.

Samuel L. Johnson and Alfred L. Johnson, composing the firm of S. L. Johnson & Co., manufacturers of paper bags and printers under the style of the American Paper Bag and Printing Company, at 78 Warren street, made an assignment yesterday to Luther H. Cummings, giving preferences amounting to $5,166.66.

Kleinwort, Cohen & Co., through their New York agents, Winter, De Visser & Co., have obtained an attachment against Bowie Dash & Co. from Judge Daniels of the Supreme Court for $49,602.34. The affidavits allege improper business conduct on the part of that firm.

In Sterling Robinson's assignment for the benefit of creditors to J. C. Egerton, the assignee's schedules give the liabilities as aggregating $36,696.59; nominal assets, $38,677.08; actual assets, $26,188.03.

Two Murderers Reprieved.

HARRISBURG, Dec. 20.—Gov. Hoyt to-day reprieved George Smith and Catharine Miller, convicted in Lycoming County of the murder of Andrew Miller, the woman's husband, who were to be hanged on Jan. 6, and on Feb. 3, to enable the case to be heard at the next meeting of the Board of Pardons, an application having been filed recently for Executive clemency. The Board will meet and consider the case on Jan. 18. Smith was a lover of Mrs. Miller, and the two conspired to kill Miller. Last spring Smith murdered Miller, and afterward hung him in a barn to create the impression that he had committed suicide. Mrs. Miller furnished the rope by which Miller was suspended. Both have confessed the crime.

Fatal Railroad Collision in Chicago.

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—A freight train of four cars and a switch engine came in collision last night at the Harrison street crossing of the Pittsburgh and Fort Wayne Railroad. Frederick Dwyer, engineer of the switch engine, was caught between the boiler and the tender of his engine, and his hip smashed and leg broken. He is in great pain, and his injuries being so severe he cannot be removed. His injuries are fatal. John Byrr, the fireman, had his foot smashed and leg broken. Frederick Thomas, brakeman on the freight train, fell fifteen feet on a pile of bricks and received fatal injuries. The switch engine was demolished and the train ditched.

UNDER THE ELECTRIC ARC.

THE FIRST TRIAL OF THE NEW LIGHT IN NEW YORK STREETS.

The Brush Company Successfully Illuminating Fourteen Blocks of Broadway—The Men in the Enterprise and their Plans.

The first three-quarters of a mile of New York streets to be lighted by electricity was that part of Broadway between Fourteenth street and Twenty-sixth street. Counting the cross streets along which the light made the gas jets cast shadows for a long distance, the territory was considerably greater. There were 10,000 feet of wire, along which the current travelled last night to fifteen lamps.

There was no excitement in crowded Broadway as the lights blazed up along the line, for nobody could take in the entire view at one time. Nor was there any particular ceremony observed by the officers of the Brush Electric Light Company, under whose direction the illumination was. The hour announced for the turning of the current was 5½ P. M. exactly. But at 5:27¼ o'clock P. M. Mr. A. A. Hayes, Jr., the Secretary and Treasurer of the company, who was overseeing the final preparations in the station, 133 West Twenty-fifth street, gave directions to start up the engine. Simultaneously with the starting of the machinery an assistant turned on the current, through a misapprehension of the order, and the thing was done.

The Corliss engine that runs the generators is of 125 horse power. For the fifteen lamps in the street and the one in the station only fourteen horse power was used last night. Another engine is to be put in the station, and ultimately 500 horse power will be generated there.

The light that blazed from the top of the twenty-feet poles is of that whiteness and intensity that characterize all the electric lights exhibited in the city. Beside it the gas jets were of a sickly yellow tint, and where the white rays did not reach there was dark shadow. The strongest light was cast obliquely at an angle of about forty-five degrees. For a radius of ten or fifteen feet from the tall posts there was also a deep shadow in which a man could hardly see to read print. Of course the placing of the lamps at closer intervals would do away with the shadows.

The carbon points which emit the light are totally unlike the thread-like loops of Edison's lamp. The Brush carbon is a round stick, like a sharpened lead pencil, about a third of an inch thick. It is made of a composition known only to its inventor, which is enclosed in a copper tube. It takes two carbons to make a lamp. They stand perpendicularly, the one above the other, with their pencil-like points almost touching. The light is made by the arc formed by the passing of the current from one carbon to the other. As each lamp consumes from 1½ to 2 inches of carbon every hour, the tips would recede from each other without some means of moving them up. Mr. Brush has met this trouble by an ingenious device. The lower carbon is stationary. The upper one moves down automatically as fast as it is needed. The same mysterious electric current that furnishes the light is the motive power of the automatic regulator. Attached to every lamp, too, is an electric shunt or switch, through which the current passes and goes along down the line to the next lamp in case any particular lamp does not burn properly. There is a disk in the station, something like a hotel annunciator, that indicates the going out or turning out of any lamp. Each lamp can thus be controlled independently of every other.

The lamps thus far erected are of a simple pattern. The glass is a plain globe, with two inches of the lower part ground so as to mitigate the brightness of the light. The frame is iron, fluted at the base and with projections from the upper section for the feet of the men who will climb up daily to put in new carbons.

That the light was strong and steady was apparent to all before it had burned an hour. The question that everybody asked, and that could only be answered by a thorough practical test was, What does it cost? The experiments made in Cleveland, along the mile and a half of river front in Montreal, and in other places on a large scale, afforded a basis for an estimate that one of the Broadway lamps of 2,000 candle power would cost about 12½ cents an hour, or 40 cents for the 3 hours that the city gas lamps are now kept burning. To-night the company will light up exactly on the schedule time for lighting the gas, and an account will be kept of the expenditures. The city officials will decide how much nearer together they want the lamps to be placed, and the Brush Company will be invited to send in a bid for lighting a square mile of territory. Mr. Brush, the inventor, will be in the city within a few days to look after the working of the light.

The wires have already been laid to Thirty-fourth street, and the current will be sent through there in a few days. From the Twenty-fifth street station, the company expects to furnish light for a mile east and west. Other stations will be built when the resources of that one are fully taxed.

The experiment was regarded as eminently satisfactory by the gentlemen of the company, who watched the lights until a late hour from the offices at Eighteenth street and Broadway. A champagne lunch was served to the friends of the stockholders who called to congratulate them on their enterprise.

The Brush Electric Light Company of New York was incorporated in September by Josiah M. Fiske, David L. Einstein, W. L. Strong, A. D. Juilliard, A. G. Paine, W. L. Pomeroy, Thomas Dolan of Philadelphia, A. A. Hayes, Jr., C. W. Griswold, S. M. Schafer, and C. M. Rowley, with a capital stock of $100,000. The company holds the right to manufacture and sell the light on Manhattan Island. The officers are: President, W. L. Strong; Vice-President, A. D. Juilliard; Secretary and Treasurer, A. A. Hayes, Jr.; General Manager, C. M. Rowley. It is a separate and distinct corporation from the Brush Company of Cleveland, Ohio, the holder of the original patents. The inventor, C. E. Brush, who lives in that city, is a man of 34 or 35 years, who from boyhood has devoted his time to scientific investigation and experiment. He has amassed a handsome fortune from his inventions. His aim has not been to get a self-winding clock for household use, such as Edison is trying to perfect, but to furnish a practicable and economical means of illuminating streets, stores, factories, churches, theatres, public halls, &c. Two years ago he lighted Monument Park, a square in Cleveland, with lamps similar to those now erected on Broadway. The experiment was so satisfactory that the City Council ordered twelve of the lamps, which now burn steadily the year round. San Francisco, Chicago, St. Louis, Detroit, Grand Rapids, and other cities have used the light to greater or less extent for some time, and the company that bought the right for England specially are now contracts to light the Houses of Parliament, St. Paul's Churchyard, Blackfriar's Bridge, Charing Cross station, and other conspicuous places. Wabash, Ind., a town of 10,000 inhabitants, boasts that she leads all American cities in adopting the light of the future. Four big lights of 3,000 candle power each on the Court House dome light up every corner of the city.

The Brush Company of New York selected a district in the heart of the city for the beginning of its business. The district extended from Fourteenth street up Broadway to Thirty-fourth street, and included in its boundaries thirteen hotels, five club houses, half a dozen theatres, and as many restaurants. The Gilsey, Sturtevant, and Brunswick hotels, Dorlon & Schuler's and Koster & Bial's, Brentano's, the Park Theatre, and Steinway Hall are to be furnished with the electric current in a short time.

RESCUING TWO CREWS.

The Good Work of the Steamship Bristol City on her Last Trip Over.

The steamship Bristol City, from Bristol to this port, arrived yesterday morning after a stormy and eventful passage. Her commander, Capt. Arthur B. Peters, a thorough blue-water sailor, said the Bristol City left Bristol on Nov. 29. On Dec. 1, when eighty miles west of Fastnet, she was signalled by the bark Mindora of Liverpool, which was waterlogged and had lost spars and rudder. A heavy gale was blowing and a tremendous sea running. A lifeboat was lowered, and two warps were passed to the bark, and a mate and six seamen were sent aboard her to assist the half-frozen and exhausted crew. Stores were also sent aboard. Then the Bristol City put her helm hard down and turned about for Queenstown. As the bark had lost her rudder, she could not be steered. The Bristol City towed her most of the way into Queenstown broadside on and almost wholly submerged. At times on the steamer it was thought the bark must sink. From two to two and a half knots an hour was all that could be made, and the small crew left on the Bristol City were exhausted when Queenstown harbor was reached.

The Bristol City sailed again on Dec. 5. Heavy southerly gales were experienced to Sable Island and westerly gales afterward. On Dec. 18, about 320 miles from Sandy Hook, the schooner Union Flag of Portland was sighted. She had been dismasted, and fierce seas were making a clean breach over her. A signal of distress fluttered from a jury mast. Capt. Peters manned a lifeboat and rescued the whole crew, six in number, bringing them into this port. Notwithstanding these delays the Bristol City made an average passage.

A Skating Challenge.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I, G. C. Walton, do hereby challenge Geo. D. Philips to a twenty-five-mile skating race for a gold medal and the amateur championship of America. The value of the medal to be $25. G. C. WALTON.

A Great Life Preserver.

Cilliffe's Tasteless Cod Liver Oil, with Lime and Wild Cherry. Sold by druggists. Depot, 6 Bowery.—*Adv.*

Oh, why will you let that invalid friend suffer that Hop Bitters will so certainly cure?—*Adv.*

AMUSEMENTS.

Mr. Lawrence Barrett in "Yorick's Love."

Mr. W. D. Howells, the accomplished editor of the *Atlantic Monthly*, has adapted a drama from a Spanish source for Mr. Lawrence Barrett, who has played in it in Boston and elsewhere with marked success. Mr. Howells has entitled it "Yorick's Love," and Mr. Barrett presented it to a very large and critical audience last evening in the Park Theatre. There were a number of Boston visitors in the audience, all of them of the profession of letters; and with them was the eminent Connecticut humorist, Mr. Mark Twain. They came by reason of their respect for Mr. Howells and their affection for Mr. Barrett, who is a great favorite in Boston, and because these two motives determined them that the audience that should greet the first presentation in New York of Mr. Howells's adaptation should not lack a becoming and æsthetic tone. But even without this esteemed leaven the audience was of excellent quality, and when Mr. Barrett entered he was given a warm and hearty welcome.

"Yorick's Love" is a drama in three acts; of the time of Shakespeare; written in seventeenth century English; quaint and sententious of phrase; elegant of style, and in treatment wholly poetical. It is strong in its matter and construction, quick in its action, and full of interest. To read it should be most agreeable; to act it is unquestionably most difficult.

Its persons are *Yorick*, an actor; *Mistress Alice*, an actress, his wife; *Edmund*, his foster son, and *Master Walton*, also actors; *Master Haywood*, manager of the theatre; *Master Woodford*, an author, and subordinates. *Edmund* loves *Alice*, and his passion is returned. A declaration of this passion has been the limit of their fault. *Walton* and *Haywood* know of this guilty love. The latter tries to save the lovers; the former is *Yorick's* rival, and reveals to him the fatal secret. In the method by which this is brought about and accomplished lies the constructive interest of the drama. The four characters are cast in a new play which presents a parallel situation; the mimic revelation that is made to *Yorick* is a fearful reality, and he and *Edmund* draw their swords in earnest and the latter is killed.

It is a very strong play, but it lacks stagecraft in its construction. While it presents passages of great force and beauty, and situations of great effect, and possesses a rare narrative interest, it is indifferently adapted to stage presentation. The best that there is in it is not gotten out of it.

Mr. Barrett acts with great spirit and intelligence, and the polish and refinement of method that denote deep and careful study. He was applauded with the utmost enthusiasm, called out over and over again; and, indeed, the entire presentation of the drama was such as to commend it unreservedly. There is great taste in the mounting, an admirably arranged stage, and costumes that are picturesque, tasteful, and correct. The company is strong and well trained, and every part is capably and artistically acted.

Mary Anderson in Knowles's Play of "Love."

"Love" is a drama of passion; character is only so far developed as the passion requires, and action there is little; everything tends to the main purpose of exhibiting the influence of love on human nature as exemplified by the principal persons. These are the *Countess Eppenstein*, daughter of the *Duke of Carinthia*, and her secretary, *Huon*, her father's serf, between whom a mutual affection, unrecognized by either, has sprung up. In the struggle between love and pride in the breast of the *Countess* and between love and duty on the part of the serf is the source of the interest. The serious interest is relieved by a pleasant little underplot wherein the every-day aspect of the tender passion is depicted. Such materials as these, happily blending the lively and pathetic, promise a beautiful drama in Knowles's hands, and such it is up to the end of the third act, but the last two acts drag their slow length along, weakening the interest, owing to defect in construction. To make out five acts where three would have sufficed, the dialogue is expanded where it should have been compressed.

In spite of this defect, the inherent power of the writing is so strong that not only is admiration compelled, but sympathy is enlisted, by the passionate earnestness of the dialogue. You feel that the author's heart is in his work, and nature's voice speaks in the language of the characters, though the occasion is arbitrary and gratuitous. The dialogue is so terse in truth and so rich in just thoughts well expressed and aptly introduced, that they have the charm of novelty as well as the force of truth, though not strictly original. In one particular this play seems superior to many of the other productions of Mr. Knowles, and that is the purpose of the speeches. These are not pretty flowers of poesy or showy declamation stuck in to garnish the scene, but solid matter, good and to the point.

Miss Anderson is at her best as the proud and haughty *Countess*, who, in her secretly rival love with the serf *Huon*, but publicly freezes him with an icy demeanor, *Huon* loves her, but doesn't tell her so, nor declare that distinctions of rank are all nonsense, because that would divert the story from the old familiar course. He is even disposed to think that a countess ought to love a serf if she tried, and he has an idea that this *Countess* is disposed to try. Lightning strikes him one day, and while he is insensible she reveals her feeling to bystanders, but he comes to his senses none the wiser. The *Duke*, her stern father, gives *Huon* the alternative of death or marriage to a lady of the court. He chooses death, but changes his mind when the *Countess* implores him to, and deserts the bride immediately after the ceremony, without seeing her face. The *Duke* dies, and leaves the hand of his daughter to the victor in a tournament. *Huon* becomes that victor, of course, and then learns that the *Countess* was herself the lady whom he married. Miss Anderson met all the requirements charmingly, and it should not be inferred that the artificial nature of her part was destructive of illusion or repelled the sympathies of the audience. The people may have despised the abject serf through Mr. Atkins Lawrence made him as worthy a fellow as possible; but for the fair lady in distress they had some tears, and enough applause to bring her before the curtain several times at the end of every act.

Miss Anderson showed unmistakably the progress which she has made in her art since her previous engagement here. Then she could only declaim; now she can express love and grief effectively in ordinary tones, and save the full power of her magnificent voice for passionate climaxes. She has good reason to be proud of the improvement she has made, and no reason for ceasing her efforts. Her financial encouragement is ample, for last week's receipts at the Fifth Avenue were greater than during the first week of Mr. McCullough's preceding remarkable engagement. The genuine enthusiasm last evening proved how great a popular favorite she has become.

The company played with care and smoothness, if not brilliantly. The costumes were new and fine, and the scenery was well arranged, but the hawk wouldn't perch on the *Countess's* finger, as he does in the familiar photograph of the store windows, and ought to be discharged in disgrace.

Handel's Acis and Galatea.

The Harlem Mendelssohn Union shows that it is earnest in its work, and sets for itself a high artistic standard, by taking up such a work as Handel's pastoral cantata, Acis and Galatea, and giving to it the diligent study it requires. The result as shown last evening at Chickering Hall is most creditable and encouraging to this spirited organization.

Handel's Serenata, as he calls this work, and which word came to have an entirely different signification from serenade, and was applied to works of the largest orchestral form, came in point of time between some of Handel's most successful Italian operas and his first oratorio. Whoever is familiar with this master's operatic airs, so many of which Robert Franz has made available to the world, will find in the music of Acis and Galatea a continuation of the spirit that inspired them and a prophecy of what soon was to be done in the direction of greater and nobler music. If only Franz had given to this work the same loving care that he has bestowed on others not more deserving, we might have had last evening something more sustaining than the meagre pianoforte accompaniment, though that, such as it was, was played last evening by Mr. Rutenber with a musicianly skill, tact, and intelligence as delightful as it is rare.

Gay, the librettist of Handel's day, the author of the famous Beggars' Opera, and the yet more famous "Black-Eyed Susan" and many a fine song besides, furnished the words, taking his story from Ovid and certain stanzas belting out of Dryden.

The work is full of the marks of Handel's genius, and yet the absence of adequate accompaniment the organ might certainly have been added with effect in the first part of the chorus, "Wretched Lovers," and in other portions of the work), together with the prolixity of the composition, and the sameness of monotonous in spite of its manifold beauties. Handel was so great that he was arbitrary—a law to himself. If he wanted to repeat a musical phrase a hundred and fifty times in one aria he did it.

Like Beethoven, who, when some musician said to him "that progression is counter to all the laws of harmony, and Albrechtsberger says them down," responded, "Very well, then I, Beethoven, make a new law of harmony and that progression is right;" so Handel did as it suited him, and for those days, when they had plenty of time, it was all well. But certainly the repetitions of phrases in some parts of the work seem never ending, and we cannot help thinking that Dr. Damrosch might have sacrificed a little of the respect that withholds the hand from the work of so great a master, and shortened some of the arias to the advantage of the work itself.

The chorus showed careful study and able drill. It is a little curious that Harlem should have to come down to introduce so important a work to the lower wards. In Boston it has been given with much success, but not so far as we remember in New York, though it is quite likely that in the days of George Loder, who did almost everything, this was among the accomplishments of his society. But in later days certainly it has not been sung.

The solos were rendered by Messrs. Woodruff and King, tenors; Miss Mitchell, soprano; and Mr. George Henschel, the baritone. All were well done, but of course the solos of Mr. Henschel were notably in advance of the others. His singing of the love song of Polyphemus, "I rage, I melt, I burn," and its succeeding charming allegro, "O rudder than the cherry," recalled the days when Santley used to carry his audiences by storm with the celebrated air which he was so fond of singing.

Italian Opera—La Sonnambula.

The operatic season seems destined to close with a brilliancy equal to that with which it began. Another immense house attended the performance of Sonnambula last evening, Mme. Gerster was in superb voice, and acted and sang with all the sweetness, grace, and charm which makes this welcome work ever fresh and interesting, exciting the greatest enthusiasm, and being finely sustained by Campanini and Del Puente.

Amusement Notes.

"A Child of the State" was the attraction at the Brooklyn Park Theatre last evening.

Mr. John McCullough gave an unusually powerful and interesting portrait of "Virginius" at Haverly's Brooklyn Theatre last evening.

The 600th consecutive concert at Koster & Bial's will be given this evening. Wilhelmj will play a concerto by Max Bruch and a polonaise de concert by V. Laub.

"Monte Cristo," with Mr. J. B. Studley and Miss Ida Vernon in the principal roles, was given in a highly commendable manner to the audience assembled at the Williamsburgh Novelty Theatre last evening.

Haverly's Niblo's Garden Theatre was well filled last night with an appreciative audience. Moffitt and Fraser, in their pantomime of "Humpty Dumpty," drew tears of laughter. The Tyrolean warblers met with general approbation. Miss Belle Gabrielle executed some charming airs on the crystallophone. The Davenport troupe, acrobats, were encored several times. Albert Vulbain, the Egyptian juggler, performed some extraordinary tricks, and Prof. Bonhardt drew the house in bewilderment with his trained pigeons, and the Marinetti family and the wonderful Zazel held the house in suspense in their extraordinary performances as gymnasts and trapeze flyers.

"Volume Seventh" of the "Mulligan Guard" was produced last night at the Theatre Comique by Harrigan and Hart with marked success. The theatre was almost uncomfortably thronged, and repeated calls were heard for the performers. The part of *Dan Mulligan* was taken, as usual, by Edward Harrigan, and Tony Hart seconded him ably in the laughable negro character of *Rebecca Allup*. The music, dancing and comic mannerisms of the Mulligan Guard were worthy of all the applause they received, and the mountings of the piece were exceptionally good. The last scene showed the main cabin of an Albany boat, and was summarily closed by a grand blow up, which littered the stage with fragments of the shattered steamer.

A new programme, which delighted the youngsters, was presented last night by John H. Murray's circus at the Aquarium, and will run through the week. In addition to the usual features was a contertion act by William Alfred, a clever young man, who performs on a single trapeze balancing by Miss Lottie Wambold, and the very amusing twin comiques, Messrs. Carroll and Jaffray, in their specialties, which elicited much laughter. Miss Ellen Cook in pad riding earned applause. In addition to his usual bareback act, Frank Melville performed some difficult bareback feats on the trotting mare Bessie. Miss Kate Hughes elicited a storm of applause by her celebrated bareback riding as did the wild hurricane hurdle act of William Morgan, which closed the performance.

HOLIDAY NOTICES.

Wines and Liquors—H. B. Kirk & Co.

For more than thirty years H. B. Kirk & Co. have supplied many of the better class of New York's wine and liquor drinkers from a stock which, from being small and select in the beginning, has grown to be one of the largest and best in the country. Their old house, 69 Fulton street, became so overcrowded that a branch was opened at 706 Broadway for the convenience of customers living uptown. Good wines. A full line of goods of young, medium, and old age are constantly in stock, and they are the only house importing a natural vintage wine. They own all the old Cross-Hine sherry there is in existence, as well as a large stock of Sunnyside's rye, which can be found nowhere else in the country, and make a specialty of clarets and sherries, in which they claim to undersell all other firms in the city.

Keyes.

Go early in the week and early in the day to Keyes's popular store in Eighth avenue if you wish to purchase any holiday goods in his line. The throngs are already so great around the doors and windows of Ke