NEWS OF OPERA IN ITALY.

A BUDGET OF GOSSIP BROUGHT HERE BY HELENE HASTREITER.

Operatic Performances at a Low Level in Italy—Verdi Working Fitfully and Mascagni Trying to Write Another "Cavalleria"—Music and Singers in Italy.

Helene Hastreiter, remembered as one of the principal features of the American opera company that sang at the Academy of Music some years ago, has been for two months in New York on a visit to friends. Her home now is in Genoa. Since she sang here she has appeared from time to time in Europe, principally in Italy, and oftenest as *Orfeo*, the rôle in which her greatest success was made here. So little news about her has come back to her own country that it was supposed she had retired from the stage. But she has sung *Orfeo* forty times in Rome, and is as popular a singer in the Italian cities as she was when New York was admiring her *Ortrud*, *Senta*, and *Orfeo*. Mme. Hastreiter has escaped the customary fate of the prima donna, and flesh has not overtaken her. One of the friends that went to the steamer to meet the singer failed to recognize her, because she had made up her mind that Mme. Hastreiter must be fat by this time. But she retains the graceful, lithe figure that was displayed in the costume of *Orfeo* on the stage of the Academy ten years ago. Judging from appearances, it would be just as becoming to her now.

"There's no great reward for a singer in Italy now," she said to a SUN reporter, "unless she is satisfied with merely going on and singing her own rôle and letting the rest of the opera take care of itself. I have sung a great deal with Sonzogno, and he is making some effort to improve the condition of affairs, but operatic productions have sunk to a dreadfully low level. I became so tired of singing under circumstances which were awful for anybody who had any idea of what an artistic production was that I never make an appearance now unless I am certain that the performance will be properly looked after. Even at La Scala, San Carlo, and the Costanzi Theatre in Rome the productions are wretched. When a new work by Verdi is given, the productions are as good as they ever were, but for the ordinary repertoire there is not the slightest effort made. The choruses are all bad. There are one or two good orchestras. Some of the companies travel from place to place, but, as a general rule, the visiting singers are supported by the local companies. It's the old star system, and as long as audiences come to hear one person the managers don't care what the rest of the company is like. I used to remonstrate with Sonzogno, and he would always answer, 'But as long as the house is full when you sing, what do you care about the rest of the people?' But I did care, and I became so tired of it that I never sing now unless I am sure that I shall not have to bear the whole burden of the production on my shoulders.

"Most of the Italian singers go away as soon as they have made a reputation, because they are more appreciated in other countries and get better salaries. But I don't think that's true only of Italy. It's the case in every country in the world. Why didn't we, for instance, support that American opera company which was struggling to give us an opera of our own? The Italians think that the Metropolitan Opera House is a great institution, and they believe that the Americans are a great nation of music loving people. But there are funny little paragraphs that creep into the newspapers from time to time like this: 'We are pleased to observe that Signor So-and-So, who was never very highly thought of in Italy, has made a profound impression in New York.' Sounds just a little satirical, doesn't it?"

Mme. Hastreiter's husband is a writer, and she has met during her residence in Italy many of the writers and musicians of the country.

"Verdi is not writing an opera on Shakespeare's 'Tempest,' or any other subject," she said. "He lately adapted to the old scale an Ave Maria arranged for four voices, and just before I left Italy I went to his house to hear it sung. It is a remarkable work. From time to time he writes and composes in a fugitive way; but he is not at work on any great undertaking. There is the greatest demand in Italy for operatic novelties. Ricordi owns the copyright of most of the popular works, and Sonzogno is compelled to give new works or the few for which he has the copyrights. But when new works are written there is the greatest difficulty in getting them produced. The morbid operas, such as Samara's 'I Martire,' in which the heroine commits suicide by inhaling charcoal, have made no real success, and managers are afraid of the new works, although they want them.

"There was Mascagni's 'Rateliffe.' Now, I had the greatest confidence in that. He told me that he had commenced work on it and stopped to compose the 'Cavalleria' for the prize. After he had won the Sonzogno prize and made a great deal of money out of 'Cavalleria,' he went back to 'Rateliffe,' and I supposed that he would be able to put his best work into it. But it fared no better than 'Silvano' and 'L'Amico Fritz,' and everybody is wondering whether or not he is ever going to write another 'Cavalleria.'

"'That was a big chance,' he said to me once, 'I staked everything on it and I won.'

"I heard that he had made $80,000 out of the opera, but they are saying in Italy that he lost most of it at Monte Carlo in one week. I saw him a year ago, and he was as modest and unaffected as he never was before he became famous, when he was supporting his wife and six children on his salary as the leader of an orchestra.

"I got a letter from Mme. Mancinelli telling me that her husband was to conduct 'Die Walküre' at Naples on Christmas night. Miss Susie Strong was to be the *Sieglinde*. I could not help smiling when I heard it, for Mme. Mancinelli had written me only a short time before that Lilli was going to spend the winter finishing his opera 'Hero and Leander.' Then the first thing she knew he was off to Milan trying to make arrangements for the performance of 'Die Walküre' at Naples. All that, too, after he had made up his mind to do nothing but devote himself to composition this winter. I have heard that the music of this new opera is remarkably fine. It is the only man in Italy that could have led 'Die Walküre.'

"Italian audiences are really fond of 'Lohengrin,' and the other Wagner operas are becoming popular. The managers do more to produce these well than they do for any of the other operas. Even when that isn't much. Before I came away Sonzogno wanted me to sign a contract to sing in 'Samson and Dalila.' But I couldn't be sure of my *Samson*. It would have needed Tamagno, and he has been ill. I thought of my last *Eurydice*, and told Signor Sonzogno I thought I'd rather come over to America and see my friends.

"Poor old Gluck; wouldn't he have turned over in his grave, if there's anything left to turn over, if he had seen his opera cut all to pieces as it was at the Metropolitan last week? Only the skeleton of it left! I felt sorry for the old man personally. He had his troubles in life, but I don't believe any of them would have worried him more than to see his masterpiece cut to pieces like that. I remember when I suggested to Sonzogno that we sing it in Rome.

"'What! That old thing?' he said. Then I went over the score with the man who tries his music, and he would play some of it and say, 'Now listen to that. It will never do.'

"'But listen to it this way,' I would say, and sing it to him. We decided to give it, and I saw to it that the production was a good one. On the night we sang it in Rome, musicians came from all over Italy to hear it, because they said it would never be heard a second time. But I sang it for forty nights in Rome.

"I shouldn't ever advise a girl to go on the stage unless she feels the desire so uncontrollable that she can't do anything else. There are more troubles than joys in every artist's life. But if she feels sure that she is a singer, there's no probability that she will be good for anything else until she has tried it. I should advise her to go to Europe to study. I have studied everywhere and the greatest teacher I ever knew is the venerable Lamperti, if one can understand his methods and follow his instructions. I was not until long after I became a professional and was singing in opera here that I fully realized the value of his method. I studied with his father, too, but found the younger Lamperti the greater teacher of the two. But the Italian who taught his father gave me the best advice I ever had about the use of the voice.

"'You have a voice,' he said, 'and don't let anybody meddle with it now that it has been placed. Use it as you would in talking, coloring its tonality in the same way. Do that and your singing will be all right.' I did it, and it's a safe principle for any young singer.

"One of the most promising young composers of Italy is a young Venetian named Alberti, who had several orchestral pieces played while he was at the Conservatory at Milan. He has written an opera called 'Volsunia,' and the orchestration is not yet completed. It is regarded as a remarkable work by people who have heard it, and if the orchestration is equal to the melodic gifts that the work shows it ought to be a great success. Little Sumara is there, but he will write music that nobody can understand. Lots of them seem to do that now. There, 'La Navarraise,' for instance."

A Tribute to the Late Judge McGrath.

The Hudson County Bar Association held a meeting in the Circuit Court room in Jersey City yesterday to take action concerning the death of Judge John A. McGrath. Ex-Mayor Collins presided. Addresses were delivered by Justice Lippincott, Judge Hoffman, ex-Judge Seymour, James B. Vredenburgh, and William A. Lewis. Appropriate resolutions were adopted, and it was decided to attend the funeral on Monday in a body. The courts will not be in session on Monday until after the funeral.

PRISON INVESTIGATION.

A Meat Dealer Who Put in Low Bids to Drive Babcock Out of the Business.

ALBANY, Dec. 28.—The prison investigation was adjourned at 4 o'clock this afternoon till Jan. 15, 1896. The prosecution ran out of ammunition. Only two witnesses occupied the stand during the day, Charles A. Smith, a meat dealer of Auburn, and Peter F. Van Vranken, a keeper in Auburn prison. While both were called for the prosecution, their testimony did not materially add to the force of the charges they are attempting to substantiate. C. A. Smith was an aggressive witness, and testified to his attempts to get all or a share of the contract to supply the prison with meat. He had talked with Superintendent Lathrop at the Gilsey House in New York, and had been assured that he ought to have an even chance with other meat dealers in Auburn. Warden Stout had also told him that he was bound by an agreement to let Babcock supply the prison for a year, but after that he would give him (Smith) a show.

Mr. Smith admitted, under cross-examination by Senator Brackett, that he and H. W. Babcock were rival meat dealers of Auburn, and that he did not speak to Babcock. He had heard that he could not furnish the prison with meat at any price, and this had influenced him in making the low bids he did. He did not wish to drive any one out of business, but he wanted the prison contract. He might have said that he would drive Babcock out if it cost him $10,000. His bids of from 4 to 4¾ cents per pound, made when Babcock was getting 5½, and which stirred up the whole trouble about meat at Auburn, were made, so the witness said, to put Babcock in a hole. He considered that his bids were made in good faith, although he would not have made a contract to supply the prison for a year for 4¾ or 5¼ cents, or at any of the time for less than 5½ cents, the same price Babcock was getting. He would not have made a contract for a longer term than a month at 4¾ cents, as he told Warden Stout. He made his bid to get the business and he was willing to take the risk for a month. He did not believe he would have made his bids if any one but Babcock had been furnishing the prison. But Babcock was distasteful to him. "He was—well, if there was but one bed in the room with us, either Babcock or I would have slept on the floor."

All this was corroborative of Superintendent Lathrop's and Warden Stout's answer to the charge relating to the Auburn meat supply.

Keeper Peter F. Van Vranken of Auburn prison, who had assisted in taking inventories in the industrial and other departments, was so deliberative and mysterious in some of his replies that he first created the impression that he might at any moment reveal damaging facts if pressed sufficiently; but he failed to bring out anything beyond the alleged irregularities in the inventories, and he was not certain that they could not be explained. He said that after he took the inventory he was laid off for a month, and during this time sold for H. W. Babcock a job lot of horse collars from the prison. At another time he had been off duty and sold furniture for Babcock. On neither of these occasions was he paid his salary as keeper.

Mr. Van Vranken said he did not approve of the entire method of taking the inventory. He had examined the inventory, and had found that some of the machinery was mentioned in the list, but was not in the prison. This might be explained, he added, by the fact that a company which managed the brass plant was under contract to make the machinery good.

He did not mean to say that the same article appeared twice in one inventory, but that it was inventoried in the wrong place. He had done as he was instructed by Mr. Mills, the purchasing and sales agent of the prison, in making up the inventory, and had made what he considered a wrong report of an inventory.

The Commissioners then adjourned the hearing until 10 A. M. Jan. 15, the prosecution saying that they would require two weeks to close their case.

PHIL MILLIGAN TO RETIRE.

The Well-known Broadway Saloon Keeper Is Going Out of Business.

Phil Milligan, whose saloon and restaurant at 1,259 Broadway has been a celebrated resort for politicians ever since he opened it in 1865 and Tweed and his associates of the old Morning Glory Club met on the second floor, was holding a reception last night and bidding adieu to his friends, for he is about to retire from business, having acquired an ample fortune.

Milligan was born in the County Cavan, Ireland, fifty-seven years ago, and he says that when he was a boy he saw Lepracaugn, an Irish fairy, in the form of a tiny man in a red coat and riding boots, and tried to speak to it, but it ran away. To try to speak to a Lepracaugn is said to bring bad luck, but Phil has never suffered from his apparition. Thirty-one years ago he started in business in this city in the Florence Hotel at Broadway and Walker street. From there he went to the Fifth Avenue Hotel as manager of the restaurant. He went to Parker's in the same capacity in 1862, and remained there until 1865, when he opened the place that has borne his name ever since.

After the fall of Tweed, John Kelly made Milligan's his headquarters, and it was there that the Seneca Club was afterward formed.

Milligan's specialty which made him best known was his cold bottles of champagne. An occasion which is well remembered upon which a great many of these were opened at his expense was when his last son was born. Milligan himself was a seventh son, and this one was his seventh son. There were seven Police Captains at the celebration and a great many sevens of other persons.

Milligan will retire for the present to his country place at Fairfield, Conn. His successor is a man named Moskos, who was formerly connected with the Waldorf Hotel.

Parker—Kidd.

ALBANY, Dec. 28.—Miss Jane Martindale Kidd, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Kidd, and Mr. Amasa J. Parker, Jr., of this city, were married to-day at the country home of the bride's parents near Cooperstown, N. Y. Only the immediate members of the two families were present, owing to the recent death of the bride's grandmother. A special train left Albany this morning with the members of Mr. Parker's family, consisting of Gen. Amasa J. Parker, Mr. Lewis R. Parker, the Misses Parker, Mrs. John V. L. Pruyn, Miss Pruyn, Mrs. William C. Rice, Mrs. Erastus Corning, Miss Corning, Gen. and Mrs. Selden E. Marvin, Col. Selden E. Marvin, Jr., and the Rev. and Mrs. Charles H. Strong of Savannah, Ga. Among others present at the ceremony were Mrs. J. B. Perkins of Rochester, Mr. H. S. Martindale of Rochester, Mr. and Mrs. James Howard Kidd, Miss Kidd, and Mr. Robert T. Kidd of Tivoli-on-the-Hudson. The bride is a granddaughter of the late James Kidd of this city and of the late Gen. J. H. Martindale of Rochester, who was formerly Attorney-General of this State.

These Almonds Too Late for Christmas.

The Hills Bros. Company have obtained an attachment against Hijos de Guilo J. Huelin of Barcelona, Spain, for $4,400 damages, claimed for losses on a consignment of almonds which arrived too late for the Christmas trade. The company allege that they bought 2,000 bags of almonds from the Barcelona merchant early in October, which were to be delivered by the first direct steamer from Barcelona. Such a steamer reached this port on Dec. 5, but the almonds were not on board, and they were not received until Dec. 23. Then the market price was two cents less than on Dec. 5, which is the measure of the damages claimed on 220,000 pounds of almonds.

Little Lottie Loeffler, Policy Agent.

The raids which the Hoboken police have begun on policy dealers in that city resulted yesterday in the arrest of twelve-year-old Lottie Loeffler of 40 Willow terrace, who was found with a number of policy slips in her possession. She is a daughter of Charles Loeffler, who was arrested a short time ago charged with dealing in policy. Loeffler is now out on bail. Lottie's brother, Charles, who is two years her junior, was arrested for policy dealing about two weeks ago. When she was arraigned before Recorder McDonough Lottie cried, and said that her mother, brother, and sister were starving at home. She was held for examination.

Church Dedication in Hoboken.

The new building of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Holy Innocents at Willow avenue and Sixth street, Hoboken, was dedicated yesterday morning by Bishop Thomas A. Starkey of the Newark diocese. The Rev. Dr. Morgan Dix of this city preached the sermon, and the vested choir of St. Mark's Church, Jersey City, sang the service. Holy Innocents' Church was founded by the Stevens family of Castle Point in 1872 as a memorial to Mrs. E. A. Stevens's infant daughter, Julia Augustus Stevens, who died in Rome on Dec. 28, 1870. The cost of the present structure was $60,000.

Blind Billy's Victim Dead.

Conrad Bober died at St. Vincent's Hospital yesterday from a stab wound inflicted by W. H. Kenny, "Blind Billy," last Thursday night, at a lodging house at 114 Elizabeth street. Blind Billy was brought before the Coroner and was committed to the Tombs without bail until an inquest can be held. The prisoner went latterly, and said that Bober came into his room drunk and stabbed him in the hand. He thrust out his own knife in self-defence. As he is totally blind he could not tell how badly he had hurt his antagonist.

THEATREGOING IN PARIS.

A PASTIME INVOLVING MANY FEES AND MUCH DISCOMFORT.

Ordeal Through Which the Playgoer Has to Pass—The Power of the Usher—Use of the Foyer—Seats Badly Arranged—Artistic Playbills a Redeeming Feature.

The Paris theatre is a peculiar institution. It is adored by all true Parisians, but even they cannot claim that it is perfect. When they get out into the foyer between the acts they stretch their cramped legs with a sigh of relief and they draw long breaths of the comparatively fresh air; but when they go back to their seats again they do it with an expression which plainly says: "With all her faults we love her still."

The entire machinery of theatregoing is different in Paris from what it is in the United States. So much the better for the United States. Sometimes, when one has suffered more than usual from the shortcomings of life in the French capital, one is tempted to reverse the old saying and declare that bad Americans, when they die, will go to Paris—and get their deserts, too. It would at least be hard to conjure up a worse purgatory than days spent in chasing Paris omnibuses and nights spent in the second balcony of a Paris theatre. Our managers go play-hunting across the water, but they are kind enough not to carry their grudge any further, and give us French theatres as well as French theatricals.

The difference between theatregoing in Paris and in New York begins at the very beginning, the knowing what there is to be seen. Wholesale advertising is not a French fault or virtue, according to the point of view. The popular method of advertising the theatres is by means of the sandwich man, or, better still, the ambulator. The ambulator pulls a two-wheeled cart, surmounted by a tent-like roof, covered with flaming posters. These men perambulate the boulevards, but they advertise, as a general thing, only the music halls; you are still in the dark as to the theatres. At almost every corner, however, you have an opportunity to enlighten your ignorance, for the theatre kiosques are many and not far between.

These kiosques are circular towers perhaps 4 feet in diameter and 12 feet high, completely covered with announcements for the theatres and music halls. Each place of amusement has its own particular panel, and the posters are changed once or twice a week. It is a convenient way of finding out the various bills, but is decidedly hard on the newspapers, which are thus cut down to the merest mention of coming plays.

Having decided on the theatre you want to visit, you can next buy your ticket—if you choose. A great many people choose otherwise for reasons of economy. A seat reserved in advance costs from one to five francs more than you would have to pay if you buy it just before going into the play. In the latter case, however, you do not receive a check for any particular seat, but you are admitted to the section of the house where you belong, and the usher, who has a list of the unreserved seats in her section, gives you whichever one she pleases.

This usher is always a woman; not a young and pretty one, as the uninitiated would be likely to expect, but a middle-aged or elderly female, every whit as homely as the average French woman becomes when she is past her youth. The ushers receive no salaries. In fact, they often pay a bonus to the theatre for their places. It does not take much calculation to find out who supplies this bonus and the missing salary as well. It is the theatregoer.

His chance to contribute to this deficit comes early and often. If he has bought his ticket at the door instead of in advance, the location of his seat depends pretty much on the temper of the usher. If he placates her with a kindly greeting and a gentle tip, the world is his so far as the usher has it in her power to bestow. But the world is not yet. The usher takes his seat and hat and gives him a check for it. This proceeding is not supposed to be obligatory, but the construction of the average Paris theatre renders it so. The seats are so narrow and the rows so close together that there is barely room to squeeze into them without having a mass of heavy wraps in the way. Consequently the usher holds out her hand for your coat and hat, as a matter of course, and she gets them. She gets another tip, too, at the end of the play, or just before the last act, when you present your check at the *vestiaire* or else have her bring your things to you in your place.

After she has taken your wraps, she brings you a programme, and that means another dive into your pocket. The amount of the other contributions is to a certain extent optional, but the programmes are printed at a fixed price of from two to five cents each. Change, however, is had only on request.

Finally, if you are accompanied by a lady, the usher appears with a little wooden stool upon which Madame may place her feet, Madame being supposed to have her feet always short and stout, either that is the way of French women. This calls for another mark of appreciation, of course, but, this finished, you may at last settle yourself to an enjoyment of the play.

It won't do to say settle yourself comfortably, because the chances are that you won't be able to do so, no matter how hard you may try. You are cramped and crowded. The entire auditorium is shut up tightly by solid walls back of the boxes and galleries, and during the play the doors are scrupulously closed. As a consequence the air is almost unendurable. But you would put up with all this if you could see the stage. Almost every Paris theatre is constructed on a plan which seems to have no other excuse for its existence except that of antiquity. The Théâtre Français and the Odéon, the two greatest French theatres, are the most tantalizing from the average spectator's point of view, and they seem to have been the model for all the rest. The auditorium is a horseshoe in shape, and a more diabolical invention of an architect never existed. Of course the seats on the floor of the house, the part we would call the orchestra or parquet, face the stage, and, although there is very little difference of elevation, one can have a comparatively good view of the play. In the Théâtre Français, however, this part of the house is reserved exclusively for men unaccompanied by ladies. No woman is ever admitted to the "fauteuils d'orchestre."

As for the tiers of boxes and the balconies above them, if one is fortunate enough to have a place directly opposite the stage, one can see very well, though the distance is sometimes an objection. But unless one is the third in the row one absolutely loses sight of the stage. Even in the front row one cannot see without leaning forward, while the unhappy occupants of seats in the other rows or of the back chairs in the boxes are compelled to stand in order to see the stage at all.

It is no wonder that the Parisians are so fond of their promenade between the acts. Cramped and tired and suffocated, this opportunity to stretch themselves and get a breath of fresh air is a privilege never despised. But the practical American mind is very quick to think how much better it would be if the builders had not economized so in the space for the auditorium, even at some sacrifice of the roomy foyer.

Americans are so comfortable in their places at the theatres that, in spite of all the jokes about going out between the acts, the proportion of the audience which does so is comparatively small. In Paris there is a general exodus. The foyer, which is on a level with the main tier of boxes, is invaded from all directions. The blase critics from the orchestra, the gorgeous and ugly dames from the boxes; an occasional beauty, radiant under the hundred regards so near her, and attended by a crowd of her admirers; fat and comfortable, from the first balcony; even to the small shopkeepers and workmen and students of the gallery—they all join the double stream which circles about the long hall brilliant with gilding and flashing chandeliers.

When one is in the foyer one cannot make up one's mind to spare it from the *ensemble* of the theatre; but when one is trying to answer the conundrum of how to get into a seat in the balcony, the glories of the foyer fade a good deal.

After all, perhaps the brightest souvenir which one brings away from the Paris theatre is the programme. These are literally brilliant, especially those of the music halls; and looking at their gay covers, with their rollicking sprites, one forgets one's cramped knees and the crick in the neck one got in looking over the balcony railing, and is ready to swear that the Parisians are right in adoring their theatre.

Companies Incorporated.

ALBANY, Dec. 28.—The following companies were incorporated to-day.

The American Lithographic Company of New York city, to conduct a general lithographic business. The capital is $4,000,000, and the company will begin business with $10,000. The directors are Erastus D. Ryder of Plainfield, N. J., W. H. Cammeyer, Harvey N. Fisk, A. G. Hoover, Archibald Fullarton, and Robert E. Chubbuck of Brooklyn, Emanuel G. Bullard, Charles Scribner, A. C. Zeller, and Frederick W. Smith of New York city, Howard O. Smith of Montclair, N. J., and George P. Ericsson of Mariner's Harbor, S. I.

The Weyl Manufacturing Company of New York city, to manufacture check perforators and general office supplies. Capital, $10,000. Directors: Charles E. Quigley and Wesley M. Noble of New York city, and George A. Russell of Brooklyn.

The Railroad Watch Company, to manufacture watches and to deal in jewelry in New York city. Capital $10,000. Directors: Joseph J. Mercrane and M. F. Weldon of Long Island City, John A. Hill of East Orange, and S. G. Hacomus of Columbia, O.

Leroy W. Yale and Co., to manufacture good paper and all material cases. Capital, $7,000. Directors: Leroy W. Yale of Orange, N. J., Harry F. Fairchild and James O'Marchild of New York city.

A certificate of the lease of the Eighth Avenue Railroad Company of New York city to the Metropolitan Street Railway was filed to-day.

Catholic Club to Give a Reception.

The Catholic Club will give a reception at the club house, 120 West Fifty-ninth street, on Wednesday evening, Jan. 8. There will be dancing in the ballroom and foyer from 9 until 1 o'clock. Supper will be served in the restaurant and billiard room from 11 o'clock.

THE OPIUM SITUATION.

Ottoman Banks Have Advanced Their Rates of 2 Per Cent. to Speculators.

Cablegrams received by the jobbing drug trade yesterday reported that fully two-thirds of the last opium crop had been received at trading points from the interior, and that while receipts at Constantinople, Smyrna, and Salonica had been comparatively heavy, the crop itself was not up to the early estimates. The syndicate has control of stocks in the markets named, and is waiting for orders instead of forcing sales and advancing prices at the same time.

The very latest mails from Turkey report financial stringency in the interior and at trade centres in that country. Some letters state that the Ottoman banks have raised their rate of interest 2 per cent. on goods under advances as well as on new loans. In certain quarters this report is not credited. However, there is no denying that the market is extraordinarily strong.

Yesterday cases lots of opium in this market advanced to $2 and in smaller quantities to $2.05@$2.15, and stocks were given out at those prices. On stock due to arrive in the near future, contracts have been laid down at $2 per pound. The foreign markets continued bullish. Powdered opium continued firm at $2.55@$2.75 for ordinary grades and $3@$3.15 for the high grades. Morphine is beginning to show the effects of the smallness of the stocks of opium and has advanced from $1.35@$1.40.

Wanted—Females.

ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS.—Rose and piquet makers wanted; steady work; old hands please call. H. HOFHEIMER & CO., 597 Broadway. Apply 170 Mercer street.

EIGHT DOLLARS a week, steady work, for experienced feeder on Stonemetz point machine. GREEN, top floor, 326 Pearl st.

EXPERT COVERERS wanted in bindery. BUCKLEY & WOOD, 220 William st.

JAN. 1.—Intelligent lady to learn stenography in court reporter's offices, where she will be assured permanent position when proficient. Room 72, World building.

OPERATORS.—After Jan. 1, experienced hands only on ladies' dresses and fine lawn blouses. KRAUSKOPF, 6th av. and 20th st.

OSTRICH FEATHERS.—Preparers, sewers, curlers, and packers wanted. LOWENSTEIN & CO., 12 Clinton place.

WANTED—Experienced girls as book folders. Apply at GARDINER Binding and Mailing Company, No. 216 William st.

Wanted—Males—Mechanics, &c.

ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS.—Wanted, an experienced young man as stock clerk; must have good references. Apply to BLUMENTHAL & STINER, 598 Broadway.

PROOF READER WANTED.—A first class man familiar with medical and the higher class of book work can secure a steady position at first-class wages, nine hours per day. Apply at the PUBLISHERS' PRINTING CO., 132 136 West 14th st.

WANTED—Lead burner for chemical works; one who understands pipe fitting and can make himself generally useful. Address by letter, stating experience, reference, and wages expected, P. O. box 216, Newark, N. J.

WANTED—A practical machinist, familiar also with rough framing, carpentering, and brickwork, as master mechanic of a factory in the vicinity of New York. Answer to P. O. box 2,024, New York.

WANTED—A good pattern maker. Apply JAS. R. TOPPING, 262 Main st., Hartford, Conn.

WANTED—First class wood worker; carriage and wagon work. 526 17th st., Brooklyn.

YOUNG MAN wanted; one familiar with cardboard or paper business preferred; state age and salary expected. Address A., box 151, Sun office.

Wanted—Males—Miscellaneous.

A—$20 MEN'S OVERCOATS and Suits, $6.40. Original CAMERON, 209 Flatbush av., Brooklyn. Notice—Our only store, 209.

SALESMEN WANTED to sell our goods to the wholesale and retail trade. Our goods sell on sight. Liberal salary or commission paid. Position permanent. For particulars address Centennial Manf'g Co., Atlanta, Ga. Factory, Milwaukee, Wis.

WANTED—A special representative in every State to travel. $75.00 to $100.00 salary and commission to energetic young man. Excellent chance for teachers and students. Business pleasant and permanent. Splendid opportunity to make money. Our new plan takes like wild fire. Address National Library Association, 221 Monroe st., Chicago.

WANTED—On board the U. S. S. Columbia, a ward-room steward; pay, $50. Address, with references, F. J. MOSES, U. S. S. Columbia, Fortress Monroe, Va. Write address on envelope, so that letter can be returned if ship has sailed.

WANTED—A young and experienced male teacher for English subjects in a technical school for boys in New York city; must be a good disciplinarian. Apply by letter to INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE, 36 Stuyvesant st.

WE POSITIVELY GUARANTEE a good income to any one; $5 per day made; no capital required, only references; on receipt of $1 by mail we will send you the addresses of 200 dealers in novelties, &c., with full instructions how to proceed; try it and be independent. Address CHARLES WEST & CO., box 26, Detroit, Mich.

YOUNG MEN to prepare for the examination for clerks and carriers to be held in this city in February; high grade makes appointment sure. Valuable information free. of NAT. CORRESPONDENCE INST., Washington, D. C. Write to-day.

Situations Wanted—Females.

JANITRESS.—Respectable, married woman in needy circumstances would like position to take care of one or more flats or private dwellings, or can do office cleaning; can furnish first-class references. Call or address J. R. F., 52 High st., Brooklyn.

UMBRELLAS.—A competent forewoman, understanding her business thoroughly, desires situation. Address UMBRELLAS, box 157, Sun office.

Situations Wanted—Males.

ADVERTISING SOLICITOR would like position with reliable medium; understands newspaper work, and can secure contracts in New York daily; can furnish good reference; would not object to leaving the city. Address COMPETENT, box 135, Sun office.

A MAN of education and good habits desires a position as night clerk in a city hotel; has five years' experience and can give good references. Address J. R. R., care of Mr. Torre, 116 East 52d st., city.

EXPERT ACCOUNTANT and bookkeeper would like to obtain employment; is sober and steady; A1 references given. Call or address Mr. F., 52 High st., Brooklyn.

FIRST-CLASS PAPER RULER would like a situation; can take charge of a blank book bindery and a pamphlet bindery; can give good references. H. O. V., 48 Burrough st., Bridgeport, Conn.

HATTER.

Position to take charge of forming mill, by one with experience on all kinds of work. Address A. L., 449 Belmont av., Brooklyn, N. Y.

SMART MAN wishes a situation as janitor or watchman; understands dynamos and steam heating; can give bonds if required. Address CHARLES SMITH, 64 Court st., Brooklyn.

UMBRELLAS.—A practical foreman who has managed factory for years is open for an engagement; first-class references. Address FOREMAN, box 161, Sun office.

Select Board.

East Side.

11TH ST., 214 EAST.—Single and double rooms, well heated; good board; early breakfast; $5 up.

11TH ST., 214 EAST.—Single and double rooms, well heated; good board; early breakfast.

36TH ST., 146 EAST.—Desirable rooms, separate or en suite; improvements; sanitary plumbing; neighborhood, table, first class; transients; references.

37TH ST., 143 EAST.—Newly furnished elegant rooms, desirable location; first class board; reasonable terms.

55TH ST., 155 EAST.—Sincely furnished back parlor; also hall room; board optional; private family.

75TH ST., 24 EAST.—Handsome rooms; fourth floor; steam heat; running water; large closets; elevator; excellent cuisine.

West Side.

20TH ST., 135 WEST.—Heated, handsome parlor and small rooms; first-class French board; $5 to $12.

23D ST., 453 WEST.—Parlor floor, three rooms, handsomely furnished; suit doctor or dentist; board optional.

24TH ST., 250 WEST.—Handsomely furnished parlor floor; other sunny rooms; board optional; plentiful table; table board.

32D ST., 18 WEST.—Splendid location, between Broadway and 5th av.; elegant parlor suite; also small room; excellent table; strictly first class; exclusive.

43D ST., 141 WEST.—Handsomely furnished back room; superior table.

50TH ST., 325 WEST.—Two well furnished hall rooms; warm, comfortable house; good board; references.

52D ST., 234 WEST.—Handsome back parlor; suit physician or dentist; other rooms; board optional; references.

65TH ST., 160 WEST.—Large front room, also smaller one; heated; first-class board; moderate.

82D ST., 54 WEST.—Elegant rooms; single and suites; parlor dining room; excellent board; moderate prices.

Select Board—Brooklyn.

PINEAPPLE ST., 93.—Cheerful rooms, front and rear, with excellent table; near bridge; $5 to $6.

Furnished Rooms & Apartments to Let

East Side.

BACHELOR QUARTERS—En suite, single; heat; hotel attendance; convenient to principal hotels, Clubs. 12 20th st., bet. 5th and Madison avs.

ELEGANT APARTMENTS, consisting of parlor, bedroom and bath; elevator and hall service. Apply HARDMAN, PEAK & CO., 148 5th av.

LEXINGTON AV., 93, near 27th.—Handsomely furnished rooms; warm house; every convenience; references required.

LARGE PARLOR, bath, private bath, suitable bachelor or couple, $6 to $8 week; single rooms, gas, running water, $3 week. McDonald House, 1,446 Broadway.

28TH ST., 46, near Broadway.—Choice, clean, heated, newly furnished rooms; also baths; 75c. daily; $3.50 upward, weekly.

Furnished Rooms & Apartments to Let

East Side.

39TH ST., 231 EAST.—Large furnished room for couple or single; all conveniences; in private house.

51TH ST., 144 EAST.—Alcove rooms; back parlor; suitable gentlemen or married couples; light housekeeping if desired.

56TH ST., 201 EAST.—Nicely furnished sunny rooms; all conveniences; with or without board; terms reasonable.

West Side.

PLEASANT, sunny rooms for invalids near Riverside Drive; resident physician. J., box 126, Sun uptown office, 1,265 Broadway.

20TH ST., 137 WEST.—Large square front room; also hall room; reasonable price. OWNER.

22D ST., 336 WEST.—Well furnished front parlor; must be seen to be appreciated; suit couple or two gentlemen.

23D ST., 407 WEST.—Furnished rooms, everything new, heated throughout; baths and every convenience; moderate prices.

27TH ST., 45 WEST.—The Wilton; cosey and homelike; steam heated; rooms, $2 per week upward.

33D ST., 10 WEST.—Large room, new and prettily furnished; also hall room; gentlemen; breakfast optional; reference.

44TH ST., 120 WEST.—Back parlor for physician or musician; large alcove room; square room; conveniences.

44TH ST., 142 WEST.—Handsomely furnished parlor floor; grate fire, hot and cold water; ensuite or singly.

45TH ST., 148 WEST.—Well-furnished rooms, large and small; references exchanged.

52D ST., 237 WEST.—Handsomely furnished, large rooms; every appointment; moderate prices; references.

89TH ST., WEST, near Amsterdam av.—Ground floor parlor, one or two bedrooms; steam heated; bath; outside windows; two or four gentlemen or adults; home board if desired; quiet and exclusive; piano. HOME, Box 173, Sun office.

129TH ST., 145 WEST.—Nicely furnished room; terms moderate.

Furnished Flats To Let.

FOR furnished flats go to headquarters; over 100 to select from; any location; no delay. Renting department, 429 8th av., between 31st and 32d sts.

Flats and Apartments To Let.

33 WEST 12TH ST.

New fire-proof apartment house, 36 feet wide, one apartment each floor; elevator and all modern improvements; exposed plumbing; seven large rooms and bath, all light; southerly exposure to sun and air; no well holes; unsurpassed in finish and conveniences by any in the city.

Apply to office of

JAMES A. HEARN & SON, West 14th st.

JUST ONE

Left in Scarboro, 176 West 86th st., corner of Amsterdam av.; 7 rooms and bath; all light rooms; $35; estate lease; seldom a vacancy. POWER, 85th st., corner Columbus av.; open Sundays.

APARTMENTS in the improved dwelling, 364 East 72d st., of two, three, and four rooms, all light with bath, laundry, hot and cold water, and halls heated; rent $6.25 and $14. FOLSOM BROS., 826 Broadway, cor. 12th st.

COLUMBUS AV., 621, corner of 90th st.—Five lovely rooms, $18.

FLATS AND APARTMENTS, unfurnished and furnished, in desirable locations, rent $540 to $3,000. FOLSOM BROTHERS, 826 Broadway, cor. 12th st.

"VICTORIA FLATS," 11th st., bet. 5th and 6th avs.—Five rooms and bath; halls redecorated; low rents; janitor attendance. W. DOWNES, 154 6th av.

$16 JANUARY FREE.

130th st., 14 West.—Five splendid rooms; bath; outside ground flat; halls heated; references; see janitor.

15TH ST., 235 WEST.—Apartments; 6 rooms, with bath; all light; low rents to small families. OWNER.

18TH ST., 229 WEST, between 7th and 8th avs.—Elegant flats, 4 light rooms; improvements; all decorated; new building, just opened; $18 and $19. Janitor.

46TH ST., 204 WEST.—No air shafts, second flat, seven sunny rooms, $55; family or bachelor.

88TH ST., 52 AND 54 EAST.—Attractive flats; 4 rooms, bath, range, and private halls; rents reasonable.

102D ST., 113 EAST.—Beautiful flat, 5 rooms and bath; all improvements; top flat, $15.

106TH ST., 106 WEST.—Steam heated, four rooms and bath; all light; top floor; newly decorated; $17.

115TH ST., 69 EAST.—Five large, light rooms; improvements; rent $15 to $18.

125TH ST., 248 EAST.—Apartments of three and four rooms; all light rooms; cheap rent.

Unfurnished Rooms Wanted.

GENTLEMAN wants unfurnished room; housekeeping; $5 month or less. 112 West 17th st., Basement.

Dwelling Houses to Let—City.

DESIRABLE HOUSES, furnished and unfurnished, in desirable locations; rent $1,200 to $6,000. FOLSOM BROTHERS, 826 Broadway, cor. 12th st.

Unfurnished Houses To Let.

ONLY ONE LEFT.

In West 87th st., 161, a splendid 4-story house, built by day's work; estate rentals, $1,700 3 years. Apply at once. POWER, 85th st., corner Columbus av. Open Sundays.

To Let for Business Purposes.

BUILDINGS, stores, lofts, offices, and studios to let in desirable locations. FOLSOM BROTHERS, 826 Broadway, cor 12th st.

ELEGANT first and second lofts, either singly or together; 39 West 14th st