THREE NEW PLAYS TRIED,

AND THREE OLD PLAYS INTERESTINGLY REPRODUCED.

Cuba's Rebellion a Theme for a Turbulent Melodrama—Half-Hour Pieces at Two Theatres—John Hare, Ada Rehan, and Julia Marlowe, All in Familiar Roles.

Old plays were interestingly reproduced at three of the Broadway theatres last night. "A Pair of Spectacles" was put on the stage of the Knickerbocker again by John Hare and his London Garrick company in the same manner which commanded considerable favor last winter. The comedy is the smoothly polished work of Sydney Grundy, and the views of human nature which it presents are not sufficiently tinged with satire to render them otherwise than agreeable. The same neatness which characterizes the composition is true of the acting by Mr. Hare and Charles Groves as the somewhat whimsically contrasted brothers. In the present cast, May Harvey is the young wife. A word of emphatic praise is all that need be written about a performance which was reviewed fully only a year ago.

What was done so well with "Romeo and Juliet" last season at Wallack's by Julia Marlowe and her company was done again at the same theatre last night. Miss Marlowe is not a great tragedienne, but she is an accomplished actress, who has not yet lost the potent charm of youth, and whose personality is very winsome. She plays *Juliet* with due but not slavish respect for the conventions, with clearness of meanings, with much pathos, and with touches of genuine dramatic power. She is accompanied admirably by Robert Taber. Hardly ever have *Romeo* and *Juliet* encountered each other in the dance more romantically, or come to a sentimental understanding in the garden more picturesquely, than they are made to do by Mr. Taber and Miss Marlowe. In the tragic episodes, although the demand upon these players is sometimes more strenuous than they can satisfy completely, they fail badly at no points, and are positively successful at most of them.

It was rather disconcerting to see Ada Rehan crawl under a table last night at Daly's Theatre and then poke up her head from behind the folds of the tablecloth. She was acting *Agatha Posket* in a revival of "The Magistrate," and it must have required considerable artistic magnanimity from her to have undertaken this particular episode in the play. When Miss Rehan acted the part first in the midst of a brilliant association which was not about her last night, there was considerably more spirit in her performance. But in this revival she acted in a disinterested, faraway manner that kept her and the rôle very far apart. The opportunities she had were slight. Nothing that she was called upon to do touched the measure of her capabilities at their outside limit. She was only a figure among others in the development of Pinero's farce. Apparently she was satisfied to be no more obtrusive. The play went on and she was carried along with it. But the depths of her own talents were revealed nowhere. There was, indeed, no demand for them, and she deferred to the situation without a struggle.

So far as the acting went last night there was nothing so interesting to the observer as the subservience to Miss Rehan's particular and personal methods which some of the older actors in the play showed. A pretty girl named Pauline French reproduced them with the fidelity of a phonograph. But that is not unusual on the stage at Daly's. It was only in the last act that the spectators rubbed their eyes and wondered. George Leslie, acting very capably as *Cis Farrington*, was speaking his lines with the same curious qualities of accent and enunciation that Miss Rehan has made her own. The effect was very singular. One might almost have thought that Miss Rehan was speaking through the deference the actor paid to the traditional manner of the theatre.

Arthur Pinero's clever farce was played apparently to an audience that had never witnessed it before, now been, moreover, many times of the kind. When the dramatist wrote "The Magistrate" he had no idea beyond the hope of writing a good play. "The Magistrate," with its undisguisedly Gallic formula, is in a way a masterpiece of such farce. The scheme is one that French dramatists still use effectively. But these plays never reach an English form, and retain the sparkling wit and the delightfully extravagant atmosphere that Pinero gave to this farce. He has beaten the Frenchmen on their own ground, even if he did borrow his inspiration.

Before the performance of "A Pair of Spectacles" a short play not previously seen in New York was given. It was called "When George the Fourth Was King," and engaged Charles Groves, Gilbert Hare, Frank Gilmore, and Mona K. Oram. The first-named two were old sailors, who had reared an adopted daughter, the child of a woman whom both had loved in their young manhood, and on her twentieth birthday they were telling her for the first time of the reason that led them to care for her. This they had long ago promised each other to do, and their long formed plan included, besides, finding a husband for her. Her own choice had been made clear in the little play's opening, in her meeting with a young shipbuilder, but on learning what her foster-parents had done for her she determined to devote herself to them, and sent her lover away. Meanwhile the two grizzled old salts were matchmaking with sailor-like directness and with masculine incapacity. They were agreed that the man they picked out should have the maid, whether she would or no, but they could not agree upon the man. In this juncture the discarded man appeared to them, and they made him go in and win their ward, with her consent if possible. Then they withdrew, to return as she was again turning the young chap away, and to issue, one to the other, a round of grog in which to drink the bride's health. The story showed very prettily the loyalty of the two old marines one to the other, and both to their trust, and closed with both sorrowing a bit over the loss of their daughter, but with both satisfied with a duty done. Believing touches of comedy were aplenty in their mutual distaste for telling the story to the girl and in their awkward but positive and well meant attempts to assure her a comfortable future. Their outlining of a campaign of woman-winning was comically full of nautical terms, and their confidence in their right to choose a husband for the girl never failed them for one moment. Altogether they were a lovable pair of old salts, and they made a dainty affair of the little comedy. Its author was Francis W. Moore.

The Cuban rebellion has provided the theme for several dramas, and still another one was performed for the first time at the Star last night. J. J. McCloskey, a noted playwright of the Bowery, was the author, and he had written in the old-time Bowery style. Measured good naturedly by that standard, it was a good thing, and the deeply impressed audience pushed it right along. The title was "Cuba's Vow." The Cuba who made the vow was a young woman bearing the name of her native isle, and her vow was to avenge the massacre of her family by Spanish soldiers. To that end of retributive justice she pursued an evil woman all through the play, and that pursued woman was an incredibly numerous pursuer of everybody who crossed her on a wicked purpose. Thus it came to pass that pistols and stilettos were slinging-handed use by several of Mr. McCloskey's characters, quite aside from the bigger warfare in which they were engaged. The heroine was kept busy defending her American sweetheart, chasing the evil woman, and participating in movements of the rebels. Mr. McCloskey had connected his fiction with history. The hauling down of our flag by students at Barcelona and the mobbing of our sailors there were shown with spirit. The late Gen. Maceo was one of the personages introduced in Cuban battle episodes, and the circumstances of his death were illustrated. He was made to utter many patriotic sentiments in favor of his cause. The brave American hero, a United States naval officer who espoused the Cuban cause, was grandiloquent with buncombe. The aspects of the rebellion, of Spain's policy, and of our country's attitude were brought up to date. In short, Mr. McCloskey's appeal to his audience was direct and forcible. His drama was a success in its way, and, Bowery style, it was acted in a suitable spirit, violently and vociferously. The scenery was new and sightly. In all respects the production was above the average of those intended to catch the fancy of the multitude.

Frederick Paulding's début in vaudeville was effected at the Pleasure Palace last night in a sketch of his own writing entitled "Partners in Misery." It showed the living room of three Bohemians whose ambition was to appear in vaudeville and whose great need was money. Their poverty was evidenced by a larder that furnished one small chop and one large parsnip for dinner and by a wardrobe that compelled two men to stay at home whenever a third fellow went out wearing the family coat and hat. From the nature of the trio's ambition it was easy to introduce music and imitations, which became practice for the aspirants. So there was a duet by Mr. Paulding's assistants, to the accompaniment of a guitar played by one of them. An imitation of the tones of a violoncello and the manner of its player followed, and on the strength of the appearance there was much fun made from the care taken of the one coat and hat, and of the luminous patches on the seat of the trousers the coat hid. Then there was another musical number, in which the graduate from the "legitimate" stage whistled, while his companions attended to a xylophone and to the guitar. Mr. Paulding's other contribution to the specialties was a recitation from "Philip Herne," a stirring and dramatic description of the speaker's winning of a horse race. This was the climax of the sketch, and its hearers greeted it lustily. A letter that one of the penniless trio had left unopened all this while because he thought it was a dun was then read, and it informed him that he was heir to a fortune, so with the announcement that the two friends who had shared his misery should share his good fortune the sketch ended. It was not of deeper purpose than to introduce the three men's individual efforts as entertainers, but did that gracefully enough. The wording of its announcement in the programme attuned it to vaudeville by styling its participators the "Paulding Trio."

GERMAN OPERA SEASON.

Sale of Seats Begun—The Singers and the Operas They Will Sing.

The sale of subscription seats for Walter Damrosch's season of German opera commenced yesterday at the Metropolitan Opera House. The season at the Metropolitan will last for four weeks. A cycle of Wagner operas will be given, commencing with "The Flying Dutchman" and closing with "Die Goetterdaemmerung." "Das Rheingold," which has not been sung in this city for several years, will be given with a scenic outfit which is said to be entirely equal to the exacting demands of the opera in this respect. The Rhine maids in the first act are said to swim with great virtuosity through the assistance of the mechanism used in the Damrosch performances. It is an exact duplicate of the effect at Bayreuth last summer.

The company this year numbers about 200 persons, and includes many singers not with Mr. Damrosch last season. In addition to the Wagner repertoire announced, five nights are as yet unprovided for. The sopranos of the company are Mmes. Lilli Lehmann, Johanna Gadski, Susan Strong, Alma Powell, Augusta Vollmar, Riza Eibenschuetz, and Marie Wittfeld. The tenors are Ernest Krauss, Paul Kalisch, Fritz Ernst, and Paul Lange. Carl Sommer, Gerhard Stehman, Fritz Dersehuch, Wilhelm Mertens, Heinrich Hobbing, and Emil Fischer are the other members of the company. The New York Symphony orchestra will play. It numbers seventy players. Elliott Schenck and Richard Fox are the assistant conductors.

The opera for the opening night, March 8, has not yet been selected. The first opera of the Wagner cycle will be sung on Wednesday. This will be "The Flying Dutchman." On Friday evening "Tannhäuser" will be sung, and at the matinée the opera will be "Fidelio." For the week commencing March 15 "Lohengrin," "Die Meistersinger," and "Tristan und Isolde" are the operas announced. On the following Monday the Niebelungen Tetrology will commence, and will conclude on the following Monday, March 29, with a performance of "Die Goetterdaemmerung." The last performance of the Damrosch season will be given on the afternoon of Saturday, April 3.

The reappearance of Mme. Lehmann in opera will be the most striking incident of the Damrosch season. Mme. Lehmann appeared with great success during the Philadelphia engagements of the company, and her voice is said to retain its great power and beauty. Paul Kalisch, who during his last engagement here was heard only as *Eric*, *Floredan*, *Manrico*, and *Don Ottavio*, will appear as *Tristan* and *Tannhäuser*. Ernest Kraus of Berlin is a young tenor who recently replaced Gudeherr at the Royal Opera there. He had previously sung in Wiesbaden and Mannheim. Fritz Ernst, for a long time one of the tenors at the Berlin Opera House, is another one of the singers who has never before appeared in this country. Carl Sommer, one of the baritones, has long been a member of the Imperial Opera Company at Vienna.

Miss Alma Powell, an American singer who has been successful in Germany, is one of the new members of Mr. Damrosch's company, and so is Miss Susan Strong of Brooklyn. Another singer who was reared in this country, although born in Germany, is Fritz Dersenuch, who came to the United States when a child. He returned to Germany to cultivate his voice, and completed his musical studies in Frankfort. He has sung for several years in Germany. Miss Marie Mattfeld is also an American.

The Rhine daughters will be sung by Mmes. Vollmar, Mattfeld, and Eibenschuetz. Herr Krauss will appear as *Siegfried*, in the first performance of "The Flying Dutchman" Herr Sommer and Frau Gadski will sing the two principal parts, in "Die Walkuere." Mme. Lehmann sings *Brunnhilde*, Miss Strong *Sieglinde*, Herr Kalisch will appear as *Siegmund*, and Herr Fischer as *Wotan*.

GETTING THE BALLROOM READY.

Workmen Begin Preparations at the Waldorf for the Bradley Martin Ball.

An army of workmen descended upon the Waldorf yesterday morning, and they were soon busily engaged in making ready that portion of the mammoth hotel which will be used for the Bradley Martin fancy dress ball on Thursday night. They toiled till late at night, on hands and knees, cleaning, oiling, and polishing. The florists will need every minute of time from now until the hour set for the ball to open. To-day the ground work of foliage will be laid, and to-morrow the choicest flowers will be poured in by the cartload.

Frank Johnson and ten assistants will be in charge of the carriages. The sidewalk awning will be wide enough for the occupants of three carriages to alight simultaneously. All carriages will be required to drive westward from Fifth avenue. There will be a large force of police on hand to enforce this arrangement.

Beyond the fact that the cotillion favors are to be very fine, nothing regarding them has been made public. A bogus list of them was given in a Sunday newspaper, it having been copied from the list of those given at the dance of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sloane.

It was learned yesterday that the third set in the opening dance has been gotten up under the direction of Mrs. Frederic Bronson, who, as far as it lay in her power, has maintained perfect secrecy as to the preparation for it. Evidently this was not quite in accordance with the views of some of the dancers, for THE SUN has already published descriptions of some of their costumes. Mrs. Bronson has not employed the services of the same *maître de ballet* as the patrons who have the other two opening dances under their direction. She has, however, had the efficient aid of a fashionable private dancing teacher. Last night Mrs. Bronson entertained at dinner all those who will dance in her set. Afterward there was a final rehearsal, but the dancers were not in fancy costume. This set is expected to rival the minuet in beauty. It is to be what is known as a Russian Court dance, and is on the mazourka order.

The last rehearsal of Mrs. Astor's quadrille d'honneur took place yesterday afternoon at her residence. The dancers were not in costume, and there will be no dress rehearsal. A number of friends of the dancers were invited, and the occasion was an extremely enjoyable one. The big ballroom, lined with paintings, has been the scene of all the rehearsals, which have afforded a pleasant excuse for gay little afternoon teas.

Mrs. John Jacob Astor, whose beauty makes her a central figure in any large gathering, is not likely to be able to attend the ball. She has been ill for two weeks, the result of her severe illness last autumn. She is said to be recovering, but is not likely to undertake the risk of going to the ball.

Additional announcements of costumes to be worn at the ball include the following:

Velasco H. Burr, Colonial gentleman.
Madison Grant, Elizabethan costume.
De Forest Grant, Mephistopheles.
E. Valgy, Trumpeter of Sakingen.
J. L. Sullivan, courier of Francis I.
Bertrand F. Bell, barrister of seventeenth century.
J. D. Wood, George Washington.
F. P. Sands, Louis XV. courtier.
J. L. Parsons, Scotch costume of sixteenth century.
Miss Edith Sands and E. Vail Stebbins, incroyables.
Miss Norrie, *Beatrice*, in "Much Ado About Nothing."
J. W. Appleton, Colonial costume.
Winthrop Rutherford, Henri III.
Gerald L. Hoyt, Velasquez costume.
W. H. Dickson, Louis XV. courtier.
S. D. Babcock, Louis XV. courtier.
Gen. Varnum, colonial costume.
J. C. Mabon, Sir Walter Raleigh.
C. S. Dodge, Dutch costume of sixteenth century.
W. McKim, Van Dyke costume.
Col. Harry B. Chauncey, Garde d'Honneur of Louis XV.
Roger Winthrop, Charles II.
E. L. Bayliss, Louis XV. costume.
Oswald Jackson, Henry II. courtier.
Mr. Satterwaite, toreador.

The Junior Assembly Ball at Sherry's.

The second of the Junior Assembly's balls was given last night at Sherry's. This is the first season of this series of subscription dances. The guests were received by Mrs. Russell H. Hoadley, Jr., Mrs. Robert P. Huntington, Mrs. Robert L. Stevens, Mrs. Frederic Edey, Mrs. Leopold W. Francke, Mrs. Edward A. Le Roy, Jr., Mrs. Nathaniel T. Robb, and Mrs. Walter Curzon, Taylor, who are the patronesses. An elaborate supper was served somewhat before midnight at small tables in the large lower room. Afterward Franklin Hartlett led the cotillion.

A Busy Season at the Cold Spring Fish Hatchery.

The number of fish fry shipped from the State fish hatchery at Cold Spring Harbor, L. I., has been greater this season than ever before. Yesterday morning 2,000,000 tiny tomcods were sent to New Rochelle, where they will be liberated in the waters of Long Island Sound to-day or to-morrow. One million of the same variety were liberated yesterday at Northport, L. I.

MEYER AT CARNEGIE HALL.

THE LONDON PREACHER'S AFTERNOON TALK TO MINISTERS.

Tells His Evening Audience, with an Apology, How He Found Christ Sixteen Years Ago—To Preach Four Days More—Made Many Converts in Boston.

Carnegie Hall was crowded to the doors yesterday afternoon and evening by men and women, who had gathered to hear the Rev. F. B. Meyer, pastor of Christ Church, London, who has been engaged by Evangelist Moody to conduct a series of meetings there.

The Rev. Mr. Meyer came to this country recently with a $10,000 contribution from Mr. Moody's admirers in London. The money was subscribed for the establishing of a chapel at the Northfield Bible School in honor of Mr. Moody's birthday. Mr. Meyer was enthusiastically received in Boston, where he held meetings in Tremont Temple from last Tuesday to Sunday, and, Mr. Moody said, he made many converts. He will preach in Carnegie Hall in the morning and afternoon up to and including Friday. He sails for England on Saturday.

There were a great many clergymen among the audience at both meetings yesterday, and in the afternoon Mr. Meyer addressed most of his remarks to the ministers. He chose for his text First Corinthians ix., 27.

"But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection; lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway."

He said Paul's dread of becoming a castaway had almost driven him to madness.

"Have you ever feared this?" asked Mr. Meyer, and, continuing, he said he had experienced the same dread. He declared, however, that once a union had been formed with God, nothing in heaven or hell, time or eternity, could break it. Paul feared that Christ would say:

"Thou hast served me well, but thou shalt serve me no more. Of late thou hast become indolent, and I have not secured thy entire obedience, so I am compelled to call in some one else to do that that thou mightest have done."

Mr. Meyer said he was referring to men who in early life were fully obedient, but in later years were not giving their entire hearts to God. Lay persons were also amenable to this fault, and he besought all to ask themselves this question.

At last evening's session Mr. Meyer told how he had found Christ, and spoke of the joys of the Pentecostal life.

"There are many among you who are more eloquent than I am," he said. "I come to speak to you simply as the pastor of a London church, understanding something of every man because I know my own soul. The only benefit I can be to other men is to discover the cancers in flaws in them and show them the way to remove them. If you give yourselves up to God he will remove them, and, like the potter, will put you on his wheel and make you over again.

"I met Christ sixteen years ago. Forgive me for saying this, but I think a man who opens his heart to his fellow man on this subject will have his respect and confidence afterward."

Mr. Meyer said that in order to serve God faithfully it was necessary to love him unreservedly. He said he was very anxious to bring all his hearers into the Pentecostal life by Friday night, and he hoped they would pray for it by yielding themselves up to God beforehand. The audience seemed impressed by his discourse.

DIED OF HYDROPHOBIA.

Young Foley Was Bitten by His Own Dog—Might Have Been Saved.

Eugene Foley, 16 years old, of 1105 Van Alst avenue, Long Island City, died on Sunday afternoon of hydrophobia. He was taken ill Friday morning, but in a short while he became so violent as to require three men to hold him. Foley was bitten last October by his Newfoundland dog "Grover," which he had brought up from a puppy. One morning, when the family came down to breakfast, the dog was found in the front yard suffering from what seemed to be the effects of some acid which had been thrown on its back. Foley went to it, but the dog turned and bit him on the thumb and forefinger. His wounds were cauterized, and as the physician said there was no danger nothing serious was apprehended. A veterinary surgeon pronounced the dog's illness to be distemper, and after three days the dog was shot to relieve its sufferings.

Last Friday the boy returned from school complaining of violent pains in his shoulder and arm. Nothing seemed to relieve it. It at length became impossible for him to swallow. In spite of the efforts of Dr. J. D. Trask, who was called in, the boy grew rapidly worse. Finally his brother and sister, the latter, went to the Pasteur Institute and consulted Dr. Lambadie. He told them it was too late to save the boy's life, and that he would die within two days. The boy became so violent that he made frequent attempts to injure those about him, and it was with the greatest difficulty that he was restrained.

He died in great agony. Dr. Lambadie said yesterday that the dog could not have had distemper, and that the family made a great mistake in killing it so soon. If they had waited it would soon have been seen that the dog had rabies. Dr. Lambadie said that a dog often had the virus in its saliva from three to six days before the disease became pronounced. Had Foley been treated immediately he might possibly been saved.

RUSSELL HELD FOR BLACKMAIL.

The Alleged Reporter Who Is Accused by Lawyer Jenks of Brooklyn.

Edward J. Russell of 10 West Sixty-fourth street, this city, the man who is accused of having tried to blackmail ex-Corporation Counsel Alme F. Jenks of Brooklyn by pretending to have a scandalous story about him which he would suppress for a consideration, was arraigned in the Adams Street Police Court in Brooklyn yesterday morning. Mr. Jenks, and his law partner, Edward M. Grout, were in court together. Two charges, one of blackmail, the other of extortion, were made against the prisoner by Mr. Jenks. Russell, looking very much mussed up after his night in the station house cell, was very defiant. When Justice Walsh informed him that he was charged with blackmail and extortion, he replied, angrily:

"These persons are making a mistake. Let me hear this complaint in full."

After Justice Walsh had read the two complaints he went on:

"I am astonished that Mr. Jenks would swear to such nonsense as this. I am willing to go on trial at once, the sooner the better. I have Mr. Jenks's own letter, asking me to call on him. It is a remarkably foolish move on his part to have me arrested."

Russell wanted to make a statement, but a lawyer he had employed to look after his case, declined to permit him to talk. The lawyer wanted to go right on with the case, and so did Russell, but Mr. Jenks said he had other things to attend to and the case was finally set down for Monday, bail being fixed at $10,000.

The prisoner's wife, a rather pretty woman, expensively dressed, was in the court room and had a long talk with her husband. She wept bitterly when he was led away. Russell told a reporter that he intended to have a copy of the story he showed Mr. Jenks placed on the court record. He refused to talk about it further than to say that it contained references to Bishop Littlejohn, whose daughter was the first Mrs. Jenks. Mr. Jenks declined to talk about the case at all.

NEW CHARTER PRINTED.

Provisions Affecting Salaries in the Fire Department.

The revised charter for the Greater New York has now been printed. Copies will be presented to the members of the commission at their meeting this afternoon, with the request that they read the work carefully, note any errors, and report the same at the meeting to be held on Friday. In the mean time the Corporation Counsel and his associates are going through the revised draft to see that all references to existing laws are correct, and that language which has been adjudicated on has been used in the draft wherever it can be rather than new expressions.

Some provisions of the revised draft affecting the firemen of the greater city which have not been published heretofore are these:

The volunteer firemen of Queens and Richmond counties are to be preferred for appointment in the paid department after consolidation. There are to be four grades of firemen, receiving salary as follows: First grade, $1,400; second, $1,200; third, $1,000; fourth, $800. Firemen must serve a year in each grade before being advanced. The firemen of Brooklyn and Long Island City will enter the department at their present salaries, unless they are paid more than the salary of one grade and less than that of the next higher, when they will go into the higher grade. The salaries of officers in the department are to be equalized within three years by the addition each year to the salaries of officers of the force in Brooklyn and Long Island City of an equal annual sum. If the difference is no more than $50 a year in any case the increase is to be made at once.

Gombossy Held for Trial.

Max Gombossy, proprietor of the concert hall at 55 Bowery, was held in $500 bail by Magistrate Flammer in the Essex Market Police Court yesterday for trial in the General Sessions on a charge of violating a city ordinance requiring the proprietors of concert halls to have a license. Peter Walker, a contortionist, who was on the stage at the time Gombossy was arrested, was held for trial in the Court of Special Sessions.

LIVE TOPICS ABOUT TOWN.

The names of Charles W. Brooke and Col. John R. Fellows were for many years associated in the practice of law in this city, and Mr. Brooke's death on Sunday occurred only a few weeks after that of his old associate. They had many traits in common, and that was one of the reasons that Mr. Brooke gave for their dissolution of partnership. He frequently told of the difficulty that they had in keeping their office accounts straight, and how each partner would try to get to the office earlier than the other that he might go through the mail and sort out the checks for his own use. "Findings were keepings" in those days, and although both men were able lawyers and skilful pleaders, their partnership was not financially successful. Their office ran itself. Although their partnership was dissolved by mutual consent, their friendship was unbroken to the end. Whenever they were opposing each other in court the spectators were sure of good entertainment. They quarrelled as bitterly before a Judge as if they were mortal enemies. Each had a satirical vein, and people who did not know them frequently expressed the fear that they might come to blows after some lively tilt. Instead, they usually went out to lunch together. Mr. Brooke was for several years a star member of the Clover Club of Philadelphia. At the Clover Club dinners Mr. Brooke was at his best. He was quick, and witty in retorting, and age did not impair his relish for this kind of amusement. Mr. Brooke occasionally lamented the fact that he could not weep in court as easily as did Col. Fellows. "If Fellows can't save a man in any other way," Brooke said, "he will float him out of the dock on a flood of tears. His nature is more sympathetic than mine."

An engineer in the Department of Docks thinks that he has discovered the old drawing board on which Ericsson drew the plans for his famous Monitor. The wood is stained by age, and it is filled with holes from the thumb tacks that have been driven into it. Ericsson was employed by the Delamater Iron Works when he designed the Monitor. This company built a derrick for the city a few years later, and at that time the old drawing board was taken from their office and placed in the derrick. It was kicked around carelessly for several years, and finally landed in the offices of the Dock Department, where it has seen much service. The board is about three and a half by six feet, and so well constructed that it is difficult to find the joints. It's blemish seems to be well established, and now its historical value is known it will be handled carefully.

David Bispham, the singer, in a letter to a newspaper, says that he, among thousands of others, is a "sufferer from the most injurious of our American customs—ice water and appendicitis are nothing to it—namely, artificial heat and a consequent incapacitating cold." Mr. Bispham says that he was nearly put off an elevated railroad car several days ago for daring to protest because the door was kept closed, though the day was warm and the car was not ventilated. A sleeping car porter assured him that 84 degrees was the proper temperature for the car. Mr. Bispham says: "Every one cries out against the system of overheating. Much illness is the result of it, and yet people do not seem to comprehend that they would not catch cold unless they caught hot first." Very much the same complaint was made by a lot of passengers who rode down in a Lenox avenue cable car several nights ago, and were transferred to a Columbus avenue car. Soon after they had taken their seats the occupants of the car began to move around uneasily. The seats on each side of the car were so warm that one could not sit on them without discomfort. Several of the passengers stood up and clung to the straps. When they were dumped into a Columbus avenue car they found the other extreme. The car was not heated at all, and it was chilly.

Young Bronislaw Huberman will return to Vienna in a short time and there will doubtless be a great deal written about his prosperity in this country. As a matter of fact, his season has had nothing like the success that his managers predicted. Ever since little Josef Hofmann became a furore here several years ago gifted child musicians have been coming over from Europe in the hope of duplicating that fortunate career. But none of them has succeeded. Boys as well as girls have played the piano and fiddled in vain. The public has refused to respond with the same enthusiasm it showed in the case of little Hofmann. Young Huberman has probably come nearer to that mark than any of his immediate predecessors, but the results of his visit to this country were very disappointing to his managers. He was praised for his work, and he was able to get engagements, but no particular outbursts of enthusiasm disturbed the calm popularity he acquired. The public refused to become excited, so there was nothing like the boom which the young violinists managers had expected. It looked for a while as though Huberman was most likely to renew the Hofmann furore, but he did not, and it is not probable that any of the youngsters in Europe can come over here and awaken enthusiasm similar to that which greeted Hofmann aroused. Musicians believe that there is at present a reaction following the great Paderewski craze, which will prevent the repetition of anything of the kind for several years to come. It will probably not be revived until Paderewski himself returns again to this country, and there is some curiosity among observers of these matters to discover if even then a success so unprecedentedly sensational will be repeated.

New York has within the last three or four years provided itself with ample opportunities for Sunday evening diversion, and this changed condition of affairs is very noticeable to anybody who recalls with what difficulty a place of public amusement was formerly found in the city. A number of the music halls give so-called concerts, there is scarcely a Sunday night without its benefits for various purposes, and the big Metropolitan always draws several thousand people into its capacious interior when the popular concerts are given. It is not probable that there will be any increase in this direction, as the supply is now about equal to the demand. The curious result of one benefit on Sunday night showed that there is a limit to the demand for Sunday evening diversion. Yvette Guilbert had probably never faced so small an audience during her entire career as that which heard her sing for her manager's benefit on last Sunday. The rent of the theatre was so much that his share of the proceeds was only $8.40. The audience was small, surprisingly small in view of Yvette's reputation. It would have been interesting to hear her opinion of the affair. The unfortunate manager who had to hand over almost the entire receipts told his opinion of the occurrence with the greatest frankness. Herr Van Biene's refusal to play his 'cello at another benefit on that same night was the result of a terrible slight to his artistic dignity. Somebody connected with the affair wrote him to send around "the band parts." This technical term described the music for the orchestra which was expected to accompany him. Now, Herr Van Biene plays with the piano only, and this appalling ignorance of so important a fact was an affront to the musician's dignity. Send around his "band parts," indeed! Such an outrage to the artistic feelings had to be rebuked, and Herr Van Biene refused to play. Even the persuasive diplomacy of Max Hirsch was unequal to the task of calming his wounded feelings. That unlucky reference to his "band parts" was too much for any truly artistic nature. It added another to Herr Van Biene's woes, and the audience did not hear him on Sunday night.

"It takes a fancy dress ball," said a skeptical man, "to bring into view the vanities of people with unerring clearness. Doubtless two-thirds of the people who will go to Mrs. Bradley Martin's dance have cherished for a long time the desire to appear in the characters they will represent there. That accounts in a measure for the accumulation of Marie Antoinettes and other well-known and familiar personalities. It is only on such occasions that there is an opportunity to indulge the unsatisfied desires which most people carry around with them to appear as some historical personage in a costume which they think perfectly suits will be becoming. At a fancy dress ball all these ambitions can be gratified. They are very interesting in their revelation of humanity, and it is fairly safe to say that so soon as anybody gets an invitation to appear at such a ball his mind is already made up as to the character which he will assume. There may be a little uncertainty sometimes, when it comes to choosing between two or three ideals. But in the majority of cases the matter is generally decided beforehand."

Whatever the comment of the English newspapers on American social affairs may be, there must have been a great increase in the interest that Londoners take in the matter. The Seeley dinner, as well as Mrs. Martin's approaching dance and other subjects not so much discussed, are reported at great length in some of the London newspapers, and one of the leading London journals has frequent cablegrams reporting the social doings of New York. This is a very recent innovation in English journalism. This particular phase of foreign life does not attract nearly so much attention here. But London is receiving now very frequent and particular reports of, what is done in New York society.

NEW CITY PRISON PLANS.

A BUILDING COSTING $720,000 TO REPLACE THE TOMBS.

It Will Contain Cells for 320 Male Prisoners and All the Accessories of the Most Modern Institutions of Its Kind—The Old Prison Also Is to Be Enlarged.

The plans for the new city prison on the site of the Tombs were discussed again at yesterday's meeting of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment. Architect Withers of the firm of Withers & Dickson argued for a brick structure, because it would cost $100,000 less than a granite building. George B. Post, the consulting architect, spoke in favor of a granite structure with a marble portal, ornamented by statuary. The board finally decided to ask for separate bids for a granite and a limestone building, but the matter of the style of portal was held over. It was also decided to let the contract for the piling separately.

The plans as approved by the Board of Estimate call for a building 186x45, facing on Centre street and standing back eight feet from the building line. There is to be a rear wing, five stories high, for the kitchen and chapel. The main entrance on Centre street will lead into a wide hall extending the depth of the building. Near the end of the main hall will be two small rooms, one for searching visitors before they are allowed to see prisoners, and the other for the use of prisoners when consulting counsel. In the rear of the second room all packages and bundles intended for prisoners will be opened and inspected before being delivered. The second floor of the building, which will be the first floor of the prison proper, will contain accommodations for 100 prisoners in separate cells and a room for the keepers employed on that floor.

The cells will be in four tiers of forty, one on top of the other. These tiers will be bisected by a central hallway from which will lead the stairs to the upper sections, and upon which the doors of the cells will open. Immediately opposite to the entrance there will be a small room in which the prisoners, when permitted, will see their friends. The third floor of the building will also contain 100 cells arranged like those on the second floor. The cells, of course, will be erected in the middle of the floors, with a wide passage between them and the outer side walls, and an inclosed passage in the rear five feet in width in which will be placed the steam, gas, and ventilating pipes.

The cells, which will be of steel, with sliding doors, will be 8 feet long, 6 feet wide, and 8½ feet high. The rear wing, besides containing the kitchen and chapel, will have a dining room for the keeper. There will be two chapels, one on the fourth floor for Roman Catholics, and the other on the fifth floor for Protestants, both of which will be accessible to the prison by a stairway and an elevator in the hall adjoining. The kitchen will be on the fifth floor, and directly below it will be a restaurant, from which meals can be ordered by prisoners willing to pay for them. On the ground floor of the wing there will be a laundry and large drying room, connecting with the women's prison.

The women's prison will remain where it is, but the matron's room and the dining room for the workhouse women will have to be removed from the basement. For this purpose it is probable that two additional stories will be built on the present building.

The dormitories for workhouse men and women will be at either end on the ground floor of the new prison building. In the rear of the men's prison there will be two brick-inclosed, heavily padded cells, in which it is proposed to confine for the time prisoners who suddenly become insane. The cellars are set apart for the boilers, dynamos, and machinery. The chimney belonging to the boiler, which will be erected in the rear yard, will be 125 feet high. On the top floor of the new prison building, ninety feet above the sidewalk, there will probably be two open courts, protected by iron gratings, for the benefit of the prisoners who wish to exercise. The building will be thoroughly fireproof, and its cost is estimated at $720,000. When it is completed it is proposed to make additions to the old prisons which will accommodate 208 more prisoners.

HARRY WISE SUED BY HIS WIFE.

Is Is the Stepson of Jerome Stivers; She a Niece of Gen. Sickles.

NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y., Feb. 8.—Harry M. S. Wise, the stepson of Jerome Stivers, the well-known carriage manufacturer, who lives on Fifth avenue, this village, is held under $200 bonds furnished by Edward E. Lamden and Julie C. Stivers to answer to a charge of abandoning his wife and child. The warrant for Wise's arrest was issued by Justice Walter L. Thompson last Thursday and placed in the hands of a constable. The constable failed to serve it until Saturday, when Wise surrendered himself. The complaint sworn to by Mrs. Wise alleges that the defendant left his home in January, 1896, and has failed to provide for the support of her and their child, now one year old, leaving them in danger of becoming a burden upon the public.

Mr. and Mrs. Wise are each about 18 years of age. Mrs. Wise's maiden name was Elizabeth Romer Sawyer. She is a niece of Gen. Daniel Sickles, and her father is well known in real estate circles. Harry Wise's mother was Julie Shandley, a music-hall singer well known in New York, and now the wife of Jerome Stivers. Harry Stivers, as Wise was commonly known, and Lizzie Sawyer were schoolmates in Trinity school here, and fell in love with each other. Their parents objected to the court-ship, but one day in December, 1895, Wise and Miss Sawyer were absent from their homes for several days, and on January 10 they arrived in the father's business house in New York. Miss Sawyer was with him. They said that they had not been married, and it was afterward learned that on Jan. 6, 1896, they were married by Mayor Strong. The witnesses were Anthony J. Griffin, the girl's guardian, and Jerome Stivers. The young couple returned to New Rochelle, and for a time lived in the Stivers home.

Mrs. Wise said to-day: "When I was ill and unable to leave my room last summer I was served with papers the meaning of which I did not understand at the time but afterward learned to be notices of a divorce proceeding. Even now I am unable to leave the house. I want the possession of my child and proper support for both of us. My guardian, Alfred J. Griffin, of 220 Broadway, has employed counsel and the matter will be settled in the courts."

Wise could not be found this afternoon. The trial will take place to-morrow afternoon at the office of Justice Thompson.

MRS. SANDERS'S GOLD WATCH.

She Lost It at the Matinee, and the Finder Was Arrested.

Mrs. L. W. Sanders of 65 Cranberry street visited the Columbia Theatre in Brooklyn last Wednesday afternoon, and on her return home discovered that her gold watch was missing. Believing she lost it in the theatre, she called there the next day and was told the watch had not been found. She then advertised, promising a reward to the finder. Jerome U. Randall, aged 18 years, of 99 Duffield street, visited the theatre yesterday morning and said he found the watch there on Wednesday and pawned it for $10 on the Bowery. He wanted a reward for the ticket. He was told to call last night, and when he did was arrested on the charge of larceny and locked up in the Adams street station.

Professional Bondsmen Not Wanted in a Jersey City Court.

George Vick of Hoboken was arraigned in the General Sessions Court in Jersey City yesterday to plead to an indictment for assault and battery. Ernest Wolf of Hoboken presented himself as bondsman. Judge Hudspeth looked at him sternly and said: "Didn't I tell you, Wolf, the last time you were here no more again to present yourself as bondsman in this court? If you come here any more you will find yourself in trouble. We have no use for professional bondsmen, and the Court will not tolerate them." Wolf hurried out of court. Judge Hudspeth has set his face against professional bondsmen. They used to be a number of them, but they have been nearly all weeded out.

His Life Contract Void.

The action of Sydney H. Carney, M. D., at one time medical director of the New York Life Insurance Company, to recover $168,000 from the company for breach of contract was dismissed in the Supreme Court yesterday by Justice Gildersleeve.

The plaintiff was appointed a medical examiner in 1869, and the company increased his salary from time to time until 1894, when he received $12,000 a year. He was discharged from the company's employ in 1895. Dr. Carney pleaded a life contract with the defendant.

Justice Gildersleeve said that in dismissing the case he was following the decision of the General Term, that a life contract was void.

New Big Cargo Steamship Milwaukee.

Another big freight and cattle carrier, the Milwaukee, may be seen in this port within a few months. She is not quite as big as the White Star line freighter Georgic, which was built in Ireland, but it is said that she is the largest cargo steamship ever launched in England. She was built by C. S. Swan & Hunter of Wallsend-on-Tyne for Elder, Demp