OF ACTRESSES WHO SING.

JULIE KOPACSY PLAYS A MODEST TRICK WITH A COSTUME.

Lottie Collins Makes a Music Hall Debut at Koster & Bial's—Julie Mackay as a Baritone Balladist—Lizzie MacNichol and Others in the Revival of "Paul Jones."

When Julie Kopacsy reveals herself to *Paris* in "La Belle Hélène" there is a disappointing formality about the affair. The audience has up to that time viewed this *Helen* wrapped in semi-transparent pink drapery drawn tightly about the figure, with no concealment in the outlines. There are plenty of outlines in Frau Kopacsy's figure. So the presentation to *Paris* promises to be interesting. Nothing in the costume has hitherto passed the bounds of propriety, but there is good reason to expect that the removal of the thin pink drapery will be pictorial. That expectancy is what the costume is intended to arouse. But when *Helen* unrolled yards of gauze this feeling gave way to disappointment. Beneath that covering was a discreet green draping, ornamented with artificial flowers. This fabric fell into easy folds. The perfidious *Helen* had deceived not only *Menelaus*, but *Paris* and the Irving Place audience as well. She was lively and attractive, however, with more good spirits than duplicity and more mischievousness than either. If ever she eloped with anybody, there was no harm really meant. She would do it only for a lark.

Offenbach is a stranger to our stage to-day. Probably he will remain so. This is the time of Sousa, and the two composers stand far apart. With all the beauty and fascination of the Frenchman's music, there is little hope that his operas will ever again enjoy general popularity here. Paris hears them frequently in revivals. Berlin has just listened to a cycle that lasted several weeks, and all his successful pieces were given. London heard a cockney version of "The Grand Duchess" the other day, and the wit of the original librettists, strained through the brain of London humorists, was intolerably dull, as might have been expected. But the decline in Offenbach's vogue here is so natural that any expectation of its renewal seems out of the question. The fun of a period is much more subject to change than the serious emotions. The fun of Halévy and Meilhac's librettos is not potent with American audiences. Most of our productions are unsparing mutilations that almost reconcile persons familiar with the originals to their comparative abandonment here. The performance at the Irving Place in the German language is not wholly French in spirit, but it has many merits. Jean Felix is an admirable *Paris*, and the American comic opera stage possesses no man who could sing the music so well and act the part so unobjectionably. The comicality of Seyfertitz is largely his personality, and it varies little, but it is effective now, even if it may pall when he is more familiar. Edmund Hanno as *Calchas* acted with greater unction. Milla Barry is a shapely *Orestes*, just as she was a shapely Russian in "Die Fledermaus." The whole performance is capable in detail, and Edouard Poels directs with vivacity. The opera company of the Irving Place has done some pieces better than the way in which it sings "Die Schöene Helena." But that is an uncommonly good production of Offenbach.

The Castle Square company has returned to operetta, and the achievement is much higher than it was in more serious works. Planquette's "Paul Jones" may not be one of the most inspired of modern musical plays, but it is easy to see why it was selected for performance. Since Agnes Huntington introduced it here, seven years ago, "Paul Jones" had not been once revived. So its music and its story would be almost a novelty to the audiences at the American. The score is lively and generally interesting enough, it does not at any point reach an exceptionally spirited height. The libretto is full of picturesque action and highly colored atmosphere. The serenade in the second act, *Paul Jones's* love song, and the opening chorus of women are agreeable spots in the score. The stage law that contraltos shall play men's rôles places Miss Macnichol in the title part. She is possibly about as good a selection as could be made. There may be excessive weight in this dashing *Paul*, and there may be some reason to believe that when he sang—if he did sing—it was not invariably out of the side of his mouth. That is one of the bad tricks that Miss Macnichol has acquired, and it is not becoming. Joseph Sheehan, who is again in service this week, exhibits the same fault continually. Miss Macnichol acts agreeably, and is not nearly so much worried by the music as she seemed to be in "Mignon." The entire performance is capable. In view of the weekly changes of bill, it is remarkably good. Pictorially the three acts are satisfying. The chorus, which is well dressed and and comely, is the permanently agreeable feature of the company, and sustains its part in the work with almost unvarying credit. The merit of seeming to do its best, which has been praised in the current productions at the American, is no more noticeable in any other department of the organization than in this chorus. Somebody inspires it with esprit and interest. Ruth White is a handsome gypsy, and Raymond Hitchcock is a comedian of excellent methods. He has, moreover, a neatly expressed humor. Arthur Wooley, Oscar Girard, and William Wolff add some comic force to the book which prevents their efforts from seeming anything but conventional. So long as the Castle Square company is equal to such acceptable representations it should not aspire to grand opera. But all the modern operettas have suffered from one thing. The speeches interpolated to remedy the deficiencies in the humor are cheaper than the prices of the Castle Square's own bargain matinées. They are not nearly so new, and do not attract the favor of nearly so many people.

Lottie Collins is new in music hall employment here. Her specialty at Koster & Bial's creates more enthusiasm than anything she has done since she and "Ta-ra-ra-boom-de-ay" first prospered each other. Her present performance necessitates shifts of costume, and the audience likes her best when, dressed in black sombrely trimmed with crêpe, she sings of widows' woes and longings. Little in her behavior as she sings her stanzas is not subdued and in harmony with her garb, but when the chorus is reached there is a change for which the lines have in a measure made preparation. She lifts her skirt to prepare for some capers, discloses that the underskirts are bright red, and in a moment also shows that her mood is as gay as the brilliant hue. Indeed, the warmth of color is outdone by her last verse friskiness. Her two other costumes—for the vocalist limits her songs to three—are exceedingly handsome, the skirts long and the bodices high, which is quite unusual for "quick-change" women. The shifts are made so hurriedly that the singer for a time doubts the integrity of her fastenings. Her second song is about a stage dancer who catches a duke for a husband, and this accompanied by quite as much bounce as short-skirted song birds throw into such ditties, but in her lighter liveliness she makes an admirable pretence of being compelled to unconventionality by high spirits, and it is but natural that music hall listeners at half-past 10 are quickly sympathetic. Miss Collins in making her first selection was daring, and in its rendition she proves her skill more surely than in its successors. It is one of a half dozen songs that were current in vaudeville four or five years ago, telling of experiences amid Parisian gayety. Of the lot it is the most worn, Short-skirted soubrettes have kicked, lunged and gouged at it, and few songs have suffered more from the assailants of melody who emphasize their words with uppercuts, throt swings and half-Nelsons. Yet Miss Collins uses it almost as effectively as if it were new, bringing into almost every line touches of friskiness that its former singers never suggested.

In contrast to this vivacious jollity is the vocalism that Julie Mackay contributes. She is home talent, just returned from scoffing royal accepires abroad, and her voice is in the class of metallic contraltos popularly styled "baritone." Such voices are usually allied in the vaudevilles with sorrowful ballads about weddings stopped by the appearance of a prior another, police court trials of loved ones and the plaints of youthful lost-and-founds. But the returned Miss Mackay is kindly toward her hearers. She starts off with a selection that is sobering, but bloodless, shifts from fleshings to knickerbockers, takes a shy at a sentimental ditty and winds up with a comic song that, if not written by Tony Pastor, should be stopped as an encroachment on his especial domain. Her deep, powerful tones are what give character to the specialty, which is singular enough.

Notes of Music Events.

The programme at the Metropolitan Opera House has been somewhat changed. "Aida" will not be sung at the Saturday matinée. In its place "Romeo et Juliette" will be given for the only time during the present season. Mme. Melba will appear as *Juliette*, supported by Mmes. Toronta and Van Cauteren and MM. Ibos, Boudouresque, Stehmann, Rains and Vanni. On next Monday night "Il Barbiere di Siviglia" will be given with Mme. Melba as *Rosina*, supported by the same artists who sang with her last week. On Sunday night Mme. Nordica and Miss Stein and MM. Rothmühl and Boudouresque will sing Rossini's "Stabat Mater." This will be preceded by a miscellaneous concert.

Albert Lockwood, the pianist, assisted by Anton Seidl and his orchestra, will be heard to-night at the Madison Square Concert Hall.

THE OPERA.

Performance of "The Flying Dutchman" at the Metropolitan.

There are perhaps but few people in the world who would be glad or even willing to plead guilty to the charge of possessing too little imagination or too small an amount of poetic feeling. However, if such there be, who having confessed, would enlarge the boundaries of these endowments, let him quickly study the libretto of "Der Fliegende Holländer," and forthwith hasten to witness a performance of this opera. In fact, any one of Wagner's mystical mythical musical legends would in time accomplish this feat, no matter how difficult the pupil might prove, and Wagner to the inculcation of fancy in the next generation is as potent an influence as the bicycle is to the physical wellbeing of the coming man and woman. There is a dreamy beauty and a subtle evasive charm about the "Flying Dutchman" that, like some of the loveliest wild flowers of the woodland, must be sought out with care and patience in solitude and in silence. Those who study Wagner from a literary standpoint in his character of poet, as one would study Shakespeare, will discover how, in his personages and the events that occur in their lives he typifies the great laws or the chief crises of human life. For instance, both *Elsa* and *Senta* dream prophetic visions of their coming lovers. "Absurd," "unlikely," "impossible," says the matter-of-fact man who ought to go to the opera and doesn't. But no, dear sir—every young girl, yes, and some older ones, too, dream of, and perhaps pray for, the coming of their ideal hero as these two young women show you they did—and would that young men could sometimes therefore model themselves upon the pattern of *Lohengrin*. *The Dutchman* is too apt to give way to low spirits upon slight discouragement. No signal crisis of life exists which Wagner has not in one or other of his dramas most graphically described or illustrated. As a poet alone he stands among the foremost in all the world.

Among other admirable qualities Mr. Walter Damrosch possesses a keen love and appreciation for the purely romantic in art. From his leading of the opera it would seem that "Der Fliegende Holländer" is a favorite with our young conductor. 'Tis true he allowed the bass drum to boom like a large-sized cannon, when a small one would have answered every purpose, and been far better in regard of consistency and proportion. But it was just such little bursts of enthusiasm that led us to notice Mr. Damrosch's preference for the "Dutchman."

The entrance of the red-sailed ship was splendidly done, with a whirl of dramatic intensity that made the blood tingle or curdle, according to the degree of nervous prostration of the listener. For it is a generally conceded fact that every New Yorker of good birth is more or less under the spell of "Americanitis." At all events this was one of the telling points of last night's opera—a point where music, scenery, a rattling storm, fierce thunder and natural lightning all combined most perfectly to create marvellous effect and illusion. Mme. Gadski was the *Senta*. It is difficult to find fault with Mme. Gadski, for she is an artist of strong and steady poise and of much dignity. She gives the broad outlines of a rôle with correctness always, but one could often wish for more detail as well as for more pliability, also an occasional bit of by-play would relieve the stern monotony to which she compels attention. *Senta's* music is dramatic, and it seemed to tax Gadski's powers even more than either *Elsa* or *Elizabeth*.

Bispham sang the part of the *Dutchman* with much expression, but the music is too low for his voice in some portions of the score. His costume, wig, and make-up were, however, extremely unbecoming, and detracted seriously from the general excellence of his interpretation. Herr Breuer's *Eric* was not a pleasing or satisfactory rendering. His voice is guttural and he is by no means competent to fill a part which, though not a long one, should be sung by a first-class tenor. Van Hoose as the *Steersman* showed a vastly superior voice—one of real beauty.

The performance was good on the whole, showing care in preparation and earnestness of effort from all concerned.

A THEATRICAL SWINDLER CAUGHT.

He Tried the Same Game in Port Jervis That He Successfully Operated in Matteawan.

PORT JERVIS, Feb. 2.—At noon yesterday a well-dressed man came to the Delaware House in this place, gave his name as C. W. Sterling, and said that he was the advance agent of the Minnie Seward Company, which is now playing a week's engagement in Middletown. Proprietor Welch recognized Sterling as the same man who had stopped at his hotel three weeks ago, when he represented an "Uncle Tom's Cabin" company. Sterling asked for rates for twelve people for two weeks, as he said his company was going to reorganize here and rehearse new plays. He presented Mr. Welch with a check for $86.50 on a Fishkill bank to pay their board in advance. Mr. Welch put off the man until after dinner. Meanwhile he telegraphed the First National Bank of Fishkill, asking if the check was good. The answer was:

"Check is no good. Hold the man. Don't let him escape. Officer will go for him."

Officer Mosier of Fishkill Landing arrived in the evening and Sterling was found at 10 P. M. in the Hoffman House concert hall. This morning he was taken to Matteawan and placed in jail, where he pleaded guilty to forgery and defrauding several of the business men of that place under the name of C. W. Stanley. While in Matteawan he had papers on his person proving him to be a G. A. R. man in good standing. He attended a meeting of the G. A. R. at their hall and enlisted the sympathies of the Women's Relief Corps, which agreed to get up an entertainment in his behalf. Twenty plays were placed before him to select from and he suggested "The Two Orphans." The ladies said that this was too sad a piece. He then selected "the Prince of Liars," which they accepted, little dreaming that Stanley would take the leading part in reality. Programmes were printed, on which business men advertised, Stanley collecting the money in advance. He also obtained money on worthless checks from others. On Tuesday Stanley disappeared.

During his stay in Matteawan Stanley got in the good graces of the fair pianist at Dibble's concert hall and went to Jeweller Frank Caldwell, giving him a worthless $50 check as security for three gold rings, which he said would be contested for in drill by local cadets. He gave these rings to the pianist, and intimated to her that he would be in Saratoga in a day or two as proprietor of a first-class show, and if she happened in that city he would engage her as orchestra leader. She threw up her home engagement and left for Saratoga. Before going Stanley gave her a worthless $50 check and took the three rings from her to have his monogram engraved inside. The Chief of Police of Matteawan shadowed the woman to Saratoga to arrest the forger, but he had fled to Port Jervis. When questioned Jeweller Caldwell's rings were found on his person and a stolen meerschaum pipe. Officer Moshier, in leaving town this morning with his prisoner, facetiously remarked that he would return to the ladies of the Relief Corps their "Prince of Liars."

MARION MANOLA'S DAUGHTER.

Adelaide Mould to Quit the Stage and Join Her Father.

ORANGE, N. J., Feb. 2.—"I'm going to leave the stage," said Adelaide Mould, daughter of Marion Manola-Mason, to a reporter for THE SUN this afternoon. "I am just starting for Chicago to join my father there. Mr. Askin will tell you all about it, for I've got to catch the Pennsylvania Railroad limited train at Newark."

Harry Askin, manager of the defunct "Friend Fritz" company, said that a remittance arrived to-day from Henry Mould, Miss Mould's father, who had previously stipulated that if he sent money it was upon the express condition that his daughter should leave the stage. Mr. Mould lives in Pittsburg, but was in Chicago when his daughter's request for money reached him.

Marion Manola-Mason and her husband, Jack Mason, were left in Savannah when Manager Askin, his wife, and Miss Mould abandoned the tour and came to New York.

REV. MR. JEFFERSON CALLED.

The Broadway Tabernacle Wants Him to Be Its Pastor.

The congregation of the Broadway Tabernacle held a meeting last night to consider the selection of a pastor. This church, the largest Congregational church in the city, has been without a regular pastor since the resignation Dr. Henry A. Stimson, in April, 1896. Dr. William H. Thomson, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, reported that it unanimously presented the name of the Rev. Charles Jefferson, at present pastor of the First Congregational Church of Chelsea, Mass.

After several members of the congregation had spoken of Mr. Jefferson's qualifications for the new pulpit, the question was put, and by a vote of 106 to 1 it was moved to extend a call to him. After the vote of the church the vote of the society, made up of those who are pewholders, was cast unanimously for Mr. Jefferson. It is understood that he has expressed his willingness to accept the call.

He is a graduate of Ohio College, and ten years ago became pastor at Chelsea, which has been his only charge. He is 38 years old and married. The salary offered by the Tabernacle is $10,000 a year, with a holiday of two months each year.

ALTRUISM OLD AND NEW.

THE RAINY DAY CLUB TACKLES A FAIR-SIZED SUBJECT.

Various Views Sturdily Set Forth by Various Members, Including Mrs. Bell, Who Changed Her Argument Within an Hour on the Telegraphed Appeal of the Chairman.

Yesterday's meeting of the Rainy Day Club was held in the Industrial building, Lexington avenue and Forty-third street, and was the first since the election of officers. Mrs. A. M. Palmer, the new President, was in the chair. She wore a natty rainy day suit made of black storm serge, which looked uncommonly well on her girlish figure. The members said that her appearance did the club proud. Several turned out in short skirts, and others who dragged yards and yards of silk, satin, velvet, and so on through the erstwhile beautiful snow wished that they had done likewise.

The club has been reforming itself recently by making various changes in the constitution and appointing as many committees as Mugwump politicians appoint in campaign times. Mrs. Palmer called on the Chairmen of these committees to report what they had done or hoped to do. Mrs. Arnold Schramm of the Membership Committee spoke first. She said that in looking over the membership list she found the names of many who do not attend the regular meetings of the club, and that the committee would make it a business to bring these recreants into the fold and to increase the membership. She asked that all women who wished to become members should send their names, with those of their vouchers, to her address, 615 West 158th street.

Mrs. O'Connor Irwin of the Reception Committee, Miss Pipply of the Helpful Committee, Mrs. Lucia C. Balcom of the Magazine Committee, Miss E. Marguerite Lindley of the Programme Committee, and Mrs. Ida Trafford Bell of the Press Committee all made reports.

Mrs. Palmer then welcomed Mrs. Emma Beckwith, the former President, back after a serious illness. Mrs. Beckwith, in responding, called attention to a Stormy Day Club that has formed in Somerville, Mass., and told some interesting things about it. She also said that she had received a letter from the President of the Syracuse Rainy Day Club, asking what the Gothamite Daisies did to hold themselves together. Of course she meant the club. Taken the other way the question would have been too personal even for the Metropolitan short-skirted sisterhood. Mrs. Palmer said, speaking of Mrs. Beckwith's remarks.

"People so often ask, 'What do you people do in the Rainy Day Club?' We are going to broaden out this year. We have another object besides wearing short skirts. We want to induce other women to follow our example, and we are going to bring sanitary reform to our homes. We want to see women wear moderately short skirts every day, fair or foul. Don't sweep the streets. There would not be half the misery in the tenements if the women there did not take disease germs into their homes in their skirts. Those women are not going to shorten their skirts unless you, who have fashionable dressmakers, set them the example. No dress that is immodest or conspicuous will be tolerated by this club, but we do want to see every woman wearing modestly short skirts. These little loops of black and blue ribbon attached to our badges are meant to give moral courage. I think that you all can see that we have an object."

Mrs. Irwin read a letter from Mrs. Bertha Welby, in which she resigned her office as Corresponding Secretary, giving as her reason a prolonged absence from town. Mrs. Welby is the founder and organizer of the club. Her resolution was not acted upon, but Mrs. Palmer intimated that there was no chance of its being accepted.

Mrs. Beckwith said that inasmuch as the Rainy Day Club was a health protective club in a way, she felt that the members should indorse the action of the Health Protective Association and aid it in trying to stop the spitting nuisance in cars, public buildings and on the elevated steps. Her suggestion met with such favor that she put it in the form of a motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mrs. Palmer announced that the Committee on Programme had decided on a discussion the subject, "Altruism in Home, Organization, and Society," and that Mrs. William C. Fales was speaker of the day. Mrs. Fales went into the definitions of the word "altruism," saying that it was a new word and a new fact. In conclusion she said:

"When endeavoring to give the benefit of what you have to those who have it not, rest assured you will get something back. The real spirit of altruism is spiritual love."

Mrs. Fannie T. Gaffney was the next speaker. "Altruism always has been since God made man," she said in her usage. "I do not agree with the writer of the paper. The spirit of altruism dates back to the creation of man. I believe that Noah showed some of it and took it into the ark with him, or else that flood could not drown it, and the dove that went out and brought back the olive branch wouldn't from the tree of altruism, and so gave it back to man. The answer that the street gamin gave to the missionary fits us all when it comes to altruism. The missionary asked, 'Is your father a Christian?' The boy hesitated, but thinking there might be a few pennies in it he answered, 'Oh, he used to be, when he was a boy, but he isn't working very hard at it now.' No one of us ought to shift the responsibility of doing our individual part."

Miss Lindley heartily condemned the emotional altruism to which mothers are given in doing things for their children which servants could do just as well. She also spoke of emotional altruism in charity.

"One speaker said that altruism always existed," spoke up Mrs. Ellen Bryant. "I go a step further and seek it in nature. Are we not when ill likely to get well? Isn't there a tendency to get well? Why, a doctor actually confessed to me that 80 out of every 100 patients could be cured without medicine."

Mrs. Palmer next called on Mrs. Ida Trafford Bell. Mrs. Bell got up with a twinkle in her eye and a telegram in her hand. This she read, as follows: "Please help this afternoon on negative. Chairman of Committee."

"This message reached me at 1 o'clock," she said, "and found me before the mirror practicing the affirmative. I had one hour in which to knock down the theory I had spent days in building up. There are two sides to altruism, as there are two sides to everything else—the beautiful, the spiritual, the Christlike, which resolves itself into one word, Charity, and that covers all. Altruism is a good deal like Platonic love, 'best practiced,' as THE NEW YORK SUN once said in reply to the question of an ardent young man, 'upon an object no less ancient than his grandmother.' So with altruism. We practice it on a sort of 'when the devil was sick the devil a saint would be; but when the devil got well the devil a saint was he' plan. When we are lacking in desire, or satiated, then we turn our defects into virtues and are willing to accede all and everything to others. But when we are young, strong, full of life, health and human nature, we are constantly on the defensive. If I might go into this question from a scientific standpoint, I could convince you that from the very first instant of our conception it is a survival of the fittest, and while such conditions exist, while human nature is human nature, it will be, figuratively speaking, 'war to the knife.'

"Think of the age of the world and think how little real progress we have made in that direction. How many steps has woman made upward that she has not spent long years in fighting for? We are far from being charitable; we are not even kind. We are afraid. We do not want to become conspicuous for advocating a something with which our friends and the public may not agree. We are afraid of the harsh, often brutal, and in many cases just criticism which is sure to fall upon the head of her or him who steps from the beaten path. Indeed, I have grave doubts as to whether we would be happy, and I am quite sure we would not in our present earthly state under truly altruistic conditions. 'Variety is the spice of life,' and as spice is to food so is criticism and variety of opinion to healthy, natural, and genuine progress.

"Scientists tell us that there are millions of brain cells in the human head yet undeveloped, and you can be quite sure that we shall not attain that highest plane of perfection, altruism, while a single one of those millions of cells remains undeveloped.

"I heard one sentence here that I never let pass without criticising," said Mrs. Celia B. Whitehead. "One speaker said: 'The poor ye shall have with you.' I don't know what warrant she had for making that statement, for the Bible says: 'The poor ye have with you.' It doesn't say that we shall always have poor people. I believe in the abolition of poverty. Machinery has developed production to such an extent that there is no need of poverty now. I protest against being everlastingly torn by the cry that we shall always have the poor with us. It isn't true.

Mrs. Trimble of the Montclair Altruistic Society said that she was struck with the fact that no one had given the credit of the altruistic spirit where it belongs.

"The first altruistic teacher," she went on, "was Jesus of Nazareth. Others taught the spirit before him, perhaps, but it did not make any great impression on the world. Altruistic work is largely carried on by people who will not acknowledge that they owe it to Christianity.

"Our next subject for discussion," announced Mrs. Palmer at the close of the meeting, "is 'Prudence and Extravagance of American Women.'"

Afternoon tea was served, and everybody went away in high good humor with herself, the new officers, the club, everybody, and everything.

Open Sale at Wool Exchange Postponed.

The open sale at the Wool Exchange, which was to have taken place yesterday, was postponed until Feb. 9, because the storm had prevented many buyers from reaching the city in time to be present.

ELOPED WITH AUSTRIAN HUSSAR.

He Stole the Erring Wife's Trunk and Married Another When They Got Here.

Stephen Mescula, an Austrian hussar, when stationed at Kaposvar, Hungary, captivated several months ago Mary Baugh, the wife of one of the Post Office officials of Kaposvar. She abandoned her husband and Mescula deserted from the army. They came to New York together and went to live at 207 East Third street.

Mescula was a prisoner in the Essex Market Court yesterday on a charge of larceny. His accuser was the woman who had given up home and family to join her fortunes with his in a strange land.

At Mescula's side, when Mrs. Baugh told her story to Magistrate Crane, was a young and pretty woman whom Mescula had married last Sunday. Mrs. Baugh is 40 years old. Mescula and his new wife are each 24 years old. Mrs. Baugh, through an interpreter, said that Mescula was the handsomest soldier in the barracks at Kaposvar, and that the girls of the town vied with each other in trying to win him. He paid her constant attention, and when he proposed eloping to this country she was unable to resist his appeal, and ran away without leaving a word behind for her husband or friends. The couple arrived in New York about ten weeks ago, she said. Mescula was unable to obtain work, so she got a situation as cook. She earned enough to support both.

On Jan. 19, she continued, Mescula disappeared, taking with him her trunk containing a number of trinkets and $14. She began a search, and finally located him in a tenement at 131 East Third street. When she entered his flat on Tuesday, Mescula said to her:

"You are no more to me now. You are too old and homely. I have found a girl whom I love better. Allow me to introduce to you my wife, Lena."

The wife stepped forward, and Mrs. Baugh fled from the room. She went to the Essex Market Court and got a warrant for Mescula's arrest on a charge of stealing her trunk.

Mescula admitted her statements, but told Magistrate Crane that the trunk was as much his property as hers.

"I think you played a low-down trick on this woman," said Magistrate Crane. "You took this poor creature away from her home, and then deserted her in a strange city. It is very poor satisfaction for her even if she does get the trunk back, and you had better give it to her."

Mescula said he did not want to return the trunk.

"Then I will try and bring you to time," said the Magistrate. "I will hold you in $300 bail for examination until to-morrow. In the meantime you can think it over."

Mescula was locked up in default of bail.

FOR NOTHING BUT EARNEST WORK.

The New York Council of Women Effects Permanent Organization.

The New York City Council of Women held its third and final session in the Industrial building, Forty-third street and Lexington avenue, yesterday at noon. Only four women were present, but a permanent organization was effected. The council is no longer a theory, but a fact. Mrs. Eliza Newcomb Alexander was in the chair. She was empowered to appoint a Central Committee for the council, and to call a meeting at her earliest possible convenience.

"The inner circle or Governing Board," explained Mrs. Alexander, "is to be composed of nine wise women, members of various women's organizations. I have six of these selected, and they have agreed to serve. The names will be given to the public when we have decided upon the other three. Each club in the circle will have a committee of three who are members of the council, and these committees will form the council at large, and will act as a link between their respective clubs and the inner council."

"What kind of things will the circle do?" asked one of the women.

"Oh, if a lot of people were thrown on the city in distress," answered the presiding officer rather vaguely, "we should help them, or if a bill should come up before the Legislature detrimental to the interests of women we would try to stop its passage, and so on."

"I should think you'd try to save the Palisades," suggested some one. "I have a friend who has actually been made ill by watching their defacement."

Everybody agreed that this would be a grand work, and all talked a lot about how the council should go about it. Mrs. Alexander said, before adjourning, that the council had been organized to do earnest work and nothing else, and that she was determined to make it a body strictly for business.

THAT JERSEY MARRIAGE LAW.

It May Be Amended So That Only Non-Resident Couples Will Require Licenses.

TRENTON, N. J., Feb. 2.—In the House to-day Mr. Holdrum introduced an amendment to the Marriage License law. The amendment provides that licenses must be procured only when both parties seeking matrimony are non-residents of New Jersey. That was the intent of last year's law, but there were conflicting sections which the Attorney-General construed to require a license where one of the parties is a non-resident.

The House passed Mr. Henny's bill authorizing Bayonne to issue $100,000 in bonds for the purpose of erecting schoolhouses. In the Senate, bills were passed authorizing the governing body of any municipality to allow a rebate or discount for the payment of taxes before a specified date; authorizing the appointment of an Assistant Prosecutor in Hudson county, and providing for the appointment by the Governor of one or more commissions to codify the laws of the State. The Legislature at noon adjourned for the week.

HUNTING UP MR. PARSONS.

The Picture of a Man Supposed to Be the Wife Deserter Sent to the Mayor.

Mayor Van Wyck received a letter yesterday from Mayor Ziegenhein of St. Louis, asking assistance to find one George H. Parsons, who deserted his wife in New York five years ago. Mrs. Parsons wrote to Mayor Ziegenhein about the matter recently from this city, but she failed to give her address. Mayor Ziegenhein told Mayor Van Wyck that there were several persons in St. Louis interested in the case. He inclosed a photograph of a fine looking man of 40, and he asked that if Mrs. Parsons called and identified it as the likeness of her husband the fact be wired to him at once, as it was of vital importance to several residents of St. Louis. The letter and photograph were sent to Police Headquarters.

AVENGED THE MAN SHE LOVED.

Italian Girl Attacks His Rival, Who Had Him Arrested, with a Razor.

Leo Pilligrani of 402 East 100th street had Pietro Pispina of 350 East 112th street arrested on Tuesday night for threatening to shoot him because of the love they both had for a girl named Nina. After a consultation with Pispina in the East 104th street station Signorina Nina went to the grocery at 309 East 109th street, where Pilligrani was employed, and cut his face from ear to chin with a razor. She escaped, and Pilligrani was taken to Harlem Hospital. Pispina was held in $1,000 bail in the Harlem Court yesterday.

Mrs. Gerry's Cotillion.

Commodore and Mrs. Elbridge T. Gerry gave a cotillion last night at their residence, 2 East Sixty-first street. Mrs. Gerry received the guests in the large salon on the Fifth avenue side of the house. The rooms were embellished with exotics and roses. An orchestra was stationed in the balcony of the picture gallery, which, with the adjoining library, was the scene of the dance. An elaborate supper, prepared by the Gerry chefs, was served after midnight. The cotillion which followed was led by the Messrs. Worthington Whitehouse and Craig Wadsworth.

Fighting the Western Union Contract.

SAN ANTONIO, Feb. 2.—The railroads of Mexico have filed a strong protest with the Mexican Government against the contract recently entered into between the Western Union and the Federal Telegraph Company and the Federal Government giving the Western Union exclusive control of the international commercial telegraph business of that country.

The railroads say that this contract is a violation of their respective concessions. The Western Union service in Mexico was to begin on Jan. 5, but is postponed pending a decision from the Government.

Count Festetics Recovers Damages.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 2.—Count Festetics, whose wife is now in New York, has recovered at Hiogo $2,000 from the owners of the German steamer Maria Rickmers. The steamer carried away the yacht's bowsprit and inflicted other damage. The Count offered to settle for $1,000, but the steamer owners tendered $500. Then he brought suit and the case has just been compromised for $2,000.

Gen. Butterfield's Dinner to Gen. Merritt.

Gen. and Mrs. Daniel F. Butterfield of 616 Fifth avenue gave a dinner last night in honor of Major-Gen. Merritt. The twenty-four guests were seated at an oblong table magnificently decorated with roses. Gen. O. O. Howard, Bishop Farley, and Seth Low were among those present.

REVENGED ON DR. KELSEY.

POST-GRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL DISMISSES HIM.

As Secretary of the Board of Directors He Had Protested Against President D. B. St. John Roosa's Representations in Asking for an Appropriation from the City.

Dr. Charles B. Kelsey, one of the directors of the Post-Graduate Medical School and Hospital, has been peremptorily dismissed from the faculty and the chair of surgery has been declared vacant by the Board of Directors. The meeting of the board at which this action was taken was held last Friday. Dr. Kelsey was not informed that his dismissal was contemplated, as charges which had previously been filed by members of the faculty had been withdrawn. Dr. Kelsey's dismissal was made without trial or examination of any charges, and was urged by the President of the board, Dr. D. B. St. John Roosa.

The trouble between Dr. Kelsey and Dr. Roosa began last December, when the Post-Graduate Hospital presented its claims to the old Board of Estimate for $30,000 for the care of indigent patients and $6,000 for the gratuitous treatment of babies. Dr. Kelsey, who is Secretary of the Board of Directors and Secretary of the faculty, and under whose name the annual reports of the hospital work were submitted to the Board of Estimate, demanded that the reports be amended so as to correctly represent the charitable work of the institution. At meetings of the Board of Directors held prior to the time of the claim being presented to the Board of Estimate, Dr. Kelsey called attention to the fact that all reports had been compiled and printed by Dr. Roosa; that as Secretary he had not been allowed to assist; that the management of all the affairs of the hospital had been given to the President rather than the Board of Directors, and that the reports of charitable work done during the last year were grossly exaggerated. No attention was paid to his declarations, President Roosa inducing the board to allow him to proceed as he deemed most advantageous to the interests of the hospital. When Dr. Roosa appeared before the Board of Estimate and asked for an appropriation of $36,000, this letter of protest was presented by Dr. Kelsey:

"As one whose name is quite prominently connected with the Post-Graduate Hospital as a director, I beg to be considered as protesting against certain statements presented before your honorable board by that institution as a basis for the appropriation of funds.

"I believe that the reports of the number of babies treated, for which we received 38 cents per diem, by special act of the Legislature, are misleading.

"I believe that the statement in our last annual report that 40,252 free days of hospital care were furnished by the hospital is an error, and I wish to decline all responsibility for both."

Dr. Kelsey refused to enter into the discussion of the justice of the request by the hospital, and eventually $25,000 was granted by the Board of Estimate after Dr. Roosa had admitted a clerical error of 10,000 free days of hospital care.

Dr. Roosa was very much exercised over the charges preferred by Dr. Kelsey, and, according to the latter's story, prevailed upon the faculty to prefer counter charges on the ground that Dr. Kelsey had been disloyal to the interests of the institution. The date of the trial was fixed for Jan. 31. Dr. Kelsey placed the matter in the hands of his lawyers, Rollins & Rollins, and prepared the defence. Shortly after this he appealed to several members of the faculty to withdraw the charges in order to prevent a scandal and told them what the defence would be. The charges were withdrawn, and it was thought that the matter had been settled. On Jan. 28 a meeting of the board was called, and Dr. Kelsey was dismissed from the faculty and the chair of surgery declared vacant. Dr. Kelsey voted in the negative, but made no protest.

"The impression that I declared that the Post-Graduate Hospital was not in need of money is erroneous," said Dr. Kelsey yesterday, "but I was opposed to the idea of requesting more than the institution was entitled to. The statement that we were doing a great charitable work, that 40,250 free days of hospital care had been given, and that we were entitled to $6,000 for charitable treatment of babies, was an unpardonable exaggeration. As a matter of fact, Dr. Roosa has had the sole management of the hospital and college. He took the responsibility of making the annual reports, and they were inaccurate. I had nothing to do with it. Under his management $85,000 of the endowments has been expended in meeting current expenses within the last four months, and in order to keep the Sheriff from the door, it was proposed to falsely represent to the Board of Estimate the amount of charitable work done at the hospital and college.

"In addition to the padding of the number of days of free treatment and the number of babies treated gratuitously, the expense of many of those receiving charitable assistance should be met by the endowments. In the annual reports it is stated that $200 will endow a bed in the ladies' ward or orthopedic wards for a year, and $3,000 one in perpetuity, and $300 will endow a bed in the woman's or other wards for a year, and $5,000 in perpetuity. Included in the report asking an appropriation of 38 cents per diem for babies' treatment were fifty beds which had been endowed.

"The same condition obtained in the other wards of the hospital. This money, however, or a large part of it, which had been given to endow beds, had been used up in meeting current expenses. I have been rather careful of my name and I refused to become a party to the taking of public funds for purposes they were not intended for. I made every effort to satisfactorily arrange the reports before public action should involve the college and hospital in a controversy, but having failed I could only announce that I was not responsible for such a questionable policy.

"When the charges were preferred I even went so far as to tell several members of the faculty what my defence would be, impressing upon them the futility of pressing their allegations and the undesirability of a public scandal. When the charges were withdrawn I thought the trouble was over until the meeting of the directors, when I was dismissed from my chair as professor of surgery. I made no protest beyond a negative vote, as I knew that the action was illegal. The charges were withdrawn after my defence was made known, because Dr. Roosa would be the last person who would want to figure in the trial."

Dr. Kelsey refused to say whether he contemplated an appeal to the courts, but admitted that the matter was in the hands of his attorneys. Dr. Roosa, when told by a SUN reporter of Dr. Kelsey's charge of false representation to the Board of Estimate and misdirection of endowment funds, said that he would make no statement.

NEVER APPLIED FOR A PENSION.

Veteran Who Was Wounded Thrice Saved from Freezing by Being Locked Up.

Charles McGovern, 70 years old, who says he was wounded three times while serving in the Federal Army in the civil war, and ultimately rendered unable to work, but has never applied for a pension, sought shelter in a doorway at Ninth avenue and Forty-second street early yesterday. He might have been frozen to death had not a policeman taken compassion on him and locked him up.

When he was arraigned in the West Fifty-fourth Street Police Court Magistrate Pool sent him to the Grand Army headquarters with a recommendation that he be cared for at a Soldiers' Home. The Magistrate received a letter in the afternoon from the Grand Army office to the effect that McGovern would be provided for.

Officers of the Genealogical Society.

At a meeting of the new Board of Trustees of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, held at the society's rooms, 226 West Fifty-eighth street, on Tuesday, the following officers were elected: Gen. James Grant Wilson, President; Dr. S. S. Purple, First Vice-President; Cornelius Vanderbilt, Second Vice-President; Henry R. Stiles, M. D., Recording Secretary; Fred D. Thompson, Corresponding Secretary; Bowen W. Pierson, Treasurer; Hiram Calkins, Jr., Librarian; William G. Ver Planck, Registrar of Pedigrees; Dr. Henry R. Stiles, Necrologist, and Thomas G. Evans, Chairman of Executive Committee.

Ritter—Divine.

Miss Gertrude Divine of Ann Arbor, Mich., and William McClellan Ritter were married yesterday afternoon in St. Thomas's Church. The Rev. J. Wesley Brown, the rector, performed the ceremony at 3 o'clock. The bride, who walked up the aisle alone, was given away by her mother, Mrs. R. L. Divine. Miss Keith Boyce was the maid of honor. James L. Hamill was the best man, and the Messrs. Charles A. Divine and James J. Divine, brothers of the bride; A. C. Needles, and Edwin Mann were the ushers.

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