TOPICS OF THE THEATRE.

THE LAST TWO PLAYS WITH FELIX SCHWEIGHOFER IN THEM.

Abundant Comicality Which the German Actor Touches Sparingly With Pathos—A Woman and Some Reptiles in a Stage Show—A Novelty in Vaudeville.

"Mathias Gollinger," in which Felix Schweighofer was seen at the Irving Place on Tuesday, and "People of Education," given last night, are the last two plays of his engagement. They possess the advantage of being plays that might have existed even if the talents of Schweighofer had not. The antiquated farces that he had presented previously could have been designed for no other purpose than to exhibit him. The intention was so obvious that the result was damaging to the effect of his efforts. The audiences had been necessarily thrown on a consideration of his work alone, because there was nothing else to interest and much to irritate. But "Mathias Gollinger" is a modern comedy from the pen of the indefatigable Blumenthal, and it might have been acted without the coöperation of Schweighofer. Its purpose is to show the contrast between the natures of northern and southern Germany, just as "At the White House Tavern," was meant to illustrate the difference between Berlin and Vienna life when the burghers of those two capitals are met on their travels. There is no very deep nor truthful note in the illustrations of the types, but they are effective enough, theatrically under Blumenthal's treatment. It was the natural, spontaneous Munich brewer, removed to the artificial life of Berlin, that Schweighofer was called upon to represent. The comedy has more serious moments of a familiar kind when the northern son-in-law decides that his wife's father is an impossible element in her city life. But the emotional pedal is touched lightly, and throughout the play *Mathias Gollinger* is comic but for this brief scene. Schweighofer was again remarkably facile in the merely technical side of his art, comic in his usual exaggerated fashion, and wonderfully minute in the detail with which he worked out every phase of the character. He neglected no trait in the composition of a character, and this care is unfortunately obvious. In this comedy he was able to control his buffoonery to a more satisfactory extent than usual, which shows that his repertoire is, in a large measure, responsible for his exaggeration.

In "Educated People" Felix Schweighofer appears in different surroundings than heretofore in his American engagement. Nearly all the plays he has used have been farces, some of an extravagant manner. This piece in which he was seen last night is a comedy, with serious and comic moments, but at all times true to life. It is the sort of play seldom seen nowadays in English but the most popular entertainment with Germans. A homely, every-day story is set forth without heroics, but with true sentiment. Why such plays are not given in English is questionable. That they please is shown by the popular success of "Brother Officers" at the Empire. The main story of "Educated People" is so slight that it is hard to realize an interesting play built on it. Two brothers have been estranged for twenty-five years. One is educated, but fortune has been hard on him, and we find him in poverty. His son and eldest daughter work at giving lessons and making translations, but this brings but little help to the family's empty purse. The other brother, an uneducated but hearty man, has been more fortunate and at the end of the twenty-five years of separation finds himself wealthy. It is his money that comes to the aid of his less fortunate relations. And here we have the entire plot of a three-act play that is interesting from start to finish. It is the homely incidents, sometimes comic sometimes sad, that entertained the large audience last night, as they had five years ago when "Educated People" was played at the Irving Place. At that time it was not acted by the same players. Felix Schweighofer is, of course, the centre of interest in the revival. He acted the wealthy but ignorant brother and made a funny person of him. Ada Merito was effective in a part that was a reminder of *Catherine* in the play of that name. It is hard to imagine an audience crying over an overdue rent. These things strike us as sad in real life, but they do not suggest strong dramatic possibilities. Yet the young girl's grief over the demand for money that they did not have was quite as touching as the elaborate woes of *Camille*, which are supposed to hold the record as a tearbringer. Mr. Schweighofer and Miss Merito, however, are not the only ones in "Educated People" deserving of praise. Rarely is such evenly good acting seen as at the Irving Place. There is no playing to the audience, but every one keeps within the picture.

A new thriller for a female burlesque show is current at the Comique. It is the specialty of Paula, who begins in the manner of snake charmers in circuses and museums. After the snakes come two crocodiles for her to lift and maul, and the companion of her climax is an alligator ten feet long. She stands within an enclosure formed by a wire railing, and a box-shaped affair of wicker work is pushed through its gate. She opens the front of the box and two stage hands elevate one end so that the alligator slides out. He immediately becomes quarrelsome, turning his neck quickly to snap viciously at the woman. Then she approaches he proves his ability as a two-ended fighter by swinging for her legs savagely with six feet of tail. Travellers' stories of these creatures seem credible in view of the powerful sweeps the tail makes. The woman's agility in avoidance does not appear to be greater than is necessary for her safety. Her aim is to throw a cloth over the creature's eyes, seize its jaws, hold them together, and then to lift it over the fence to its wicker case. She casts the cloth from a safe distance, and several times the creature's head swings about till the wrapping is removed. Then the tail comes into action, and the specialist takes to waiting tactics. During her respite the huge reptile walks about, his entire body held off the floor, his two feet of mouth open, and making a display to shame the showcases of painless dentistry. With its head blanketed and the jaws held tightly, she lifts the body of the huge lizard from the floor. Next she grabs the tail, her expression disclosing that she is alive to its power. She gives a sharp cry to her assistant outside the rail as a signal that he shall raise the cover, and dumps the wriggling reptile in the case. This assistant, who, after the manner of his kind, is in evening dress and capacious of waistcoat, shows medals that, he says, the woman has received from crowned heads and South African miners. He also voices the proud challenge that the woman will toy with the largest and fiercest alligators in our park waters. The woman's appearance during her exercise is that of one in distressingly bad health.

Some of the current series in the motion pictures employ quite different processes from those that furnish pictorial treatment of current events. The latter, when given, as they have been, on the evening following the morning of actual occurrence, are a costly product but the general manner in which they are secured is understood. With some of the newer sort it is difficult to understand how the pictures are taken. Some are projected from imported films. They give sights similar to those that stage magicians present. The late Alexander Herrmann's "black art" contained nothing more singular than do these displays. One that has many showings, for its film is duplicated, is a comic treatment of a man's visit to a spiritualistic medium. During the visit, a room's furniture disappears and reappears at a flash, while the figure of the man gives no hint of a break in the succession of snap shots. He takes his coat off, lays it and his hat on a table and in a very small fraction of a second is expressing his consternation over finding the hat on his head and the garment on his back as before. It appears as if a break had been effected in the film so far as certain objects are concerned, while it is left continuous with others. Local showers of these views profess not to know how the films are made. If they are concealing it merely, they now possess a still more bewildering development of it. This is in a series current at Proctor's Palace and styled a séance in mesmerism. A man, a woman and a little girl are pictured in it. The man makes his mesmeric passes, and the child takes a seat at one side of the picture. Her figure remains in the chair and shows as clear as the others do, yet from the chair there rises another, fainter picture of her. This cloudy picture rises off the floor, walks across a table, descends on the other side and is caressed by the woman. While in front of the man or the woman, its transparency is proven from the fact that the figure of the other can be seen through it. Eventually it passes back to the chair where is the brighter picture of the same child, and in becoming seated the two gradually show as one. It is a sight to madden an amateur photographer, because it suggests strongly that "fogging" has been reduced to an accurate science.

The Sire Brothers, managers of the New York Theatre, announced last night that they would not be able to give the opening performance of "Broadway to Tokio" at the theatre to-morrow night, as had been advertised. A dress rehearsal last night did not move smoothly enough. The initial performance is postponed to Tuesday night. Tickets sold for to-morrow are good for Tuesday or will be cashed.

Feb. 5 was set yesterday as the date for the first American production of John Oliver Hobbes's comedy, "The Ambassador," by Daniel Frohman's stock company at Daly's. This will necessitate a change in no less than two other theatres, where members of the organization are playing. Edward J. Morgan will give up the title part in "Ben Hur" to appear in the new play. He will be followed at the Broadway by Emmett Corrigan. "Wheels Within Wheels," which is being acted at the Madison Square by members of the Daly Company, will be taken off. Its place will be taken by a farce from the French, "Coralie and Company."

Bijou Fernandez, J. G. Saville and Frank Hatch were engaged yesterday for "The Countess Chiffon." It is probable that Wilton Lackaye will also be in the cast when the play is put on at the Fifth Avenue on Feb. 5. William A. Brady is getting together an excellent company for this production, besides these mentioned above, Grace George, John Blair and S. Miller Kent are announced, and he says that the cast is not complete yet.

It is rare that such beautiful, and at the same time, original scenery is shown as that of "Naughty Anthony." The play calls for settings representing merely three different rooms. But character has been given to each one. Thus the first, which is supposed to be a school of moral culture, is entirely in white. On the wall is a picture of Easter lillies, typifying purity, which is lighted up by electricity when a lesson is given. The beautiful boudoir hung in pink silk, which is the scene of the last act, has become famous. Daniel Frohman has held the honors for dressing his stage the most artistically of any in the city. He had better tremble for his laurels.

Boston Symphony Concert.

Cæsar Franck's Symphony in D minor was the principal number at the third evening concert of the Boston Symphony Orchestra given last night at Carnegie Hall. Like most of this composers work, it is not known here and was played yesterday for the first time. Its performances anywhere have been few. The programme noted one at Paris in 1889. Another at Brussels is recorded. But to most of the musical centres the Belgian composer is still a stranger. The first movement in the symphony departs from the regular form and resembles the first movement of Tschaikowsky's "Symphonie Pathetique" in the recurrence of the slow introduction in the body of this first part. The second movement, which is equally unconventional, is a remarkable series of variations all accompanied by the harp and abounds in beautiful harmonic effects. This movement was especially gorgeous in the matter of orchestration and new voices seemed to be speaking among the instruments. The third movement consists of a short theme and the extension and combination of the themes used in the two preceding movements. The fourth movement, necessary usually in a symphony, is lacking, but the treatment throughout the whole composition is symphonic and entitles the work to a place in that class of writing. It proved last night profoundly effective and the second movement in particular abounded in the gloomy beauty and individualism of a kind that Chopin imparted to his serious writings. The work was coldly received by the audience, in spite of a superb performance.

Brahms's "tragic" gesture, which has not been heard for several years, and the second and third movements from Moskowski's first suite in F major, were the other orchestral numbers. The overture was played with admirable solidity and balance. In the two Moskowski numbers was found complete contrast to the seriousness that preponderated on the programme, and while the audience enjoyed the relief, the change was too striking for artistic effect. Mlle. Olitzka took the place of Mme. Schumann-Heink, who is ill, and sang the aria from Mozart's "Titus," and *Mon Cœur S'ouvre a ta Voix* from "Samson et Dalila," in her accustomed fashion.

HER MOOR IS REBELLIOUS.

Throws Craps, Talks Thompson Street and Objects to Red Flannel.

Alma D'Alma, whose press agent sent a lurid tale over here a year ago about her "capture" by brigands in Morocco, confessed in the West Fifty-fourth street police court yesterday that the story was all true. She appeared against Abdel Kader, 12 years old, who, she said, was one of three brave Moorish boys who rescued her. She had been trying to educate him, she said, but he had become unruly. The young Moor wore red flannel knickerbockers, a red flannel jacket heavily braided, a green under coat and a red fez. His hair is kinky, his lips are thick and his nose is flat.

"I took him to an Oriental store with me the other day," said the complainant, "and he fought with a floorwalker and since then he has stolen a pair of my earrings to give to a little colored girl, so I want him punished."

"Was your hair bleached loike that by bein' afraid of the Turks, mum?" asked Policeman Harrigan. But Alma L'Alma hurried away to reprove Abdel Kader who was taking advantage of being left alone a few minutes to chuck dice by himself in the corner, calling the throws in a mumble.

"What does seben an' eleben' mean in Moorish?" asked Halligan, who doesn't believe in the existence of any place on earth outside of Ireland and New York. Alma D Alma made no answer. She made Abdel Kader sit down in a chair by the rail, but had no sooner got him straightened out than he was seen and recognized by little Rastus Johnson, who was sitting outside with his mother. Rastus gets out of school early every Thursday afternoon to go to court with his mother to see if his father can't contribute three dollars a week to her "suffote."

"Hey, Sam! Whar you ben, whar you get dem clo'?" squeaked Rastus from the front seat. Abdel Kader's lips moved as if in reply, but before any one but Halligan could hear, Alma D'Alma pounced upon the Moor again and made him sit in her lap until it was time for him to be arraigned.

"Say," said Halligan, "what does 'go chase yerself, Rastus,' mean in Moroccoish?" But no one ever pays any attention to Mark Halligan.

"Alma D'Alma against Samuel Abdel Kader," shouted the clerk, and the singer and the Moor and a Gerry agent ranged themselves in front of Magistrate Cornell.

"Can the boy talk English?" asked Magistrate Cornell.

"Sure," said Abdel Kader, but Alma D'Alma pinched him and continued the answer herself.

"He is wonderfully bright, your Honor," she said, "and he has picked up a good deal of our language in a very short time.

"Dat's no lie," exclaimed the Moor, as he pushed his way in front of the woman and tried to tell his own story. "Dey licks me," he said.

"Who whips you?" asked the Magistrate.

"Why de man at de madam's house," said Abdel Kader.

"Oh!" sighed Alma D'Alma. "That is the worst trait of the Moorish character, their utter disregard for the truth."

"Why did you fight with the floorwalker in the Oriental store?" asked the Magistrate.

"'Cause," said the Moor, "he was down dere widt de madam wid dese red rags on an' had to stand so still behin' her dat two o'ler women p'inted at me an' one said, 'ain't it a lubly o'nament foah a cosey co'ner? Ah wondah how much it is? It's life size!' Den Ah hit de flo'walkah 'cause he was nea'ah to me dan any one else."

The Magistrate adjourned the case and instructed the Gerry agent to make a careful investigation.

BIG GAME HUNTER KILLED.

Campbell McNab, the Skilled Destroyer of Moose and Porpoises, Murdered.

QUEBEC, Jan. 18.—Sportsmen all over the continent will be startled to learn of the reported murder by Indians of Campbell McNabb, the well-known Canadian hunter, who was present last March at the Sportmen's Exposition in New York and who is known throughout the length and breadth of the United States and Canada as a skilled and successful killer of large forest game, as well as of the porpoises that exist in such large numbers in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The details of the killing have not reached here, but a farmer from St. Fabien has reached Bic with the news, telegraphed thence to Quebec, that McNabb having quarrelled with his Indians they burned his camp, and that in a subsequent encounter with them he was killed.

McNab left his home in River du Loup early in December with three weeks provisions, took train to Bic, and was thence driven to the last concession of the parish of St. Fabien, where he put his belongings on a sled and plunged into the woods for the Squattock reserves, where the Malasite and Abenaquis Indians were hunting. He was due to return to Bic for provisions and additional men whom he had engaged about the end of December, but nothing more was heard of him until the news came of his untimely death.

McNab had a checkered career. Well born and educated and possessed of some means, his all-absorbing passion was his fondness for hunting and life in the woods. Once he had a narrow escape from being killed by a bear upon which he inadvertently trod while stepping over a log. Bruin closed with him, but after an exciting hand-to-hand contest, MacNab despatched him with his hunting knife. He spent a good part of last winter moose hunting in Kamouraska county with Miss Onslow, a niece of Lord Onslow, who came specially from England for the sport, and who gained considerable renown in sporting circles by killing one of her moose with an accurate shot while the wounded animal was furiously charging her.

MacNab attained considerable notoriety by devising a patent net for the killing of porpoises, and while enjoying the sport of killing these animals that work so much destruction to salmon, has made a good deal of money out of the product of this chase. As a hunter of big game he had no equal in Canada. He was 55 years old and unmarried.

RAPID TRANSIT CONTRACT.

COMPTROLLER COLER TELLS WHY IT WAS GIVEN TO M'DONALD.

If the Other Bid Had Been Accepted the Contractor Could Abandon the Tunnel After It Was Built, Forfeit Bond and Deposit and Still Make a Big Profit.

Contractor John B. McDonald, who is to build the $35,000,000 underground rapid transit railroad, was busy yesterday getting ready to make the $1,000,000 deposit, which is to be his guarantee for executing the conditions of the fifty-year lease of the road, and to execute the $5,000,000 bond and contract for construction. The preparation of a $5,000,000 bond is not a matter to be lightly undertaken and before such a bond is executed every provision of it must be carefully looked into by the lawyers for the contractor, the Rapid Transit Railroad Commission, the city's representatives and the surety companies, or others who sign it. Until the contractor has completed the work of construction, this and his $1,000,000 deposit are the city's only guarantee that he will not lie down on the job and leave it to be completed at the city's cost.

Under some circumstances a contractor might be able to abandon the work when the tunnel and its connections were complete and before he put in the power, equipment and rolling stock, and still make money, even if he gave up the $1,000,000 and paid the $500,000 bond. It came out yesterday that the Comptroller and others had made some figures on this which had an influence upon the award of the contract to Mr. McDonald. No one suspected that Mr. Onderdonk was intending to do anything except to carry out his offer, but the city has to be on the safe side.

"It is not to be supposed," said Comptroller Coler, "that Mr. McDonald would undertake the work except at figures which would pay at least a contractor's profit of 10 per cent. At that rate the real cost may be considered about $31,500,000. If the contractor were to get $35,000,000 for building the road, he might abandon it before equipping it, let his $1,000,000 go, pay the $5,000,000 bond and still have a profit of $2,800,000. The personal equation had something to do with the choosing of Mr. McDonald's offer. He has done much work for the city and neither myself nor any of my predecessors in office has ever had a dispute with him over a bill."

Comptroller Coler declared that the awarding of the contract would undoubtedly lead at once to the building of additions, with a tunnel to South Brooklyn, and that this would probably be extended before long to Staten Island by a tunnel under the Narrows, and, perhaps, others to Queens. Such extensions, he said, would not only add greatly to the convenience of the public, but would add a special value to the trunk road, because traffic would meet and pass in the downtown district and help to furnish passengers, night and morning, in the trains which would otherwise go back nearly empty.

The abandonment of the old route up Broadway from the City Hall has taken out nearly all the serious engineering difficulties which threatened to swamp any contractor. In building the section of the road that goes below tidewater level at Canal street, the contractor will have full liberty to open New Elm street practically as he pleases. The only other place where engineers have testified that serious troubles from underground waters were to be met was on Fourth avenue for short distances where old streams were buried.

Besides such pieces of private property as may be needed for stations and terminals, the road will require bits where it curves from Astor Place to Fourth avenue, at Eighth and Ninth streets, at 103d street, where the East Side line curves into 104th street, from 142d street and Lenox avenue, where it makes a turn to dive under the Harlem River, and from 190th street and Eleventh avenue to Kingsbridge Road.

The terms under which the excavations are to be made and the amount of inconvenience which the persons living or doing business along the routes may be forced to endure are a subject of interest for them. Some of these terms are specified and others are not. Where the City Hall loop is to be carried around the Post Office, from Chambers street through Park row and Broadway, the contractor is required to take such precautions as the engineer of the board may require. The general plan of construction from Chambers street to Broadway and Sixtieth street, along Centre street, Lafayette place, Fourth avenue, Forty-second street and Broadway will be to permit contractor to open trenches half across the street and not more than 400 feet long, and cover these over and restore the pavement as fast as half sections of the tunnel are completed. No two openings are to be less than 500 feet apart and bridges are to be maintained over each trench wherever cross streets exist. No trench is to be kept open more than thirty days in front of any one piece of property without the consent of the owner. Above Sixtieth street, the contractor will have full liberty to work as he pleases, except that he must obey any reasonable regulations of the board's engineer. On that part of Broadway recently known as the Boulevard, the contractor may build the tunnel like the Park avenue tunnel of the Harlem road, with openings for light and ventilation. These openings are limited to twenty feet in width and fifty feet in length, and not more than two to a block. Each is to be surrounded by an ornamental fence. Wherever there are four feet of soil left over the tunnel trees must be replaced, and if any are taken out in crossing under the corner of Central Park, others must also be planted there.

The road will be carried under the Harlem River through two circular tunnels, each protected with cast iron. The contract specifies that the whole length of the road is to be waterproofed with asphalt and felt so that no moisture whatever can enter it from ground or river, and that it shall be lighted throughout and ventilated, as may be required by the board. In general, the construction, where the roof lies near the street surfaces, will be with concrete walls and iron or steel roof girders resting on steel columns set in the walls.

Trains must be run more than fifteen minutes apart between 1 and 5 A. M., and not more than ten minutes apart between the hours of 11 P. M. and 1 A. M. and from 5 to 6 A. M. The contract also allows the lessee to carry freight.

Russell Sage said yesterday that the rapid transit tunnel was experimental and that its success was doubtful. At any rate, he was sure it would not injure materially the business of the Manhattan Elevated Railroad Company.

"I never favored the tunnel," said Mr. Sage. "I don't think we have arrived at that stage where a tunnel is necessary, but as a good citizen I will acquiesce in it. I don't think people are going to ride in a tunnel when they can ride on the elevated lines. They will prefer to ride in the open air on account of both pleasure and safety. The interests of the Manhattan Company will not be seriously affected."

TOADS AND FROGS.

Some of the Superstitions Concerning Them in Various Places.

From the Baltimore Sun.

Some traits of "The Mediaeval Toad" were recounted in a paper written by Mrs. Frances M. Butler of Snow Hill, Md., and read by Mrs. John C. Wrenshall at the monthly meeting of the Baltimore Folklore Society. In the time of Shakespeare, it stated, the toad was credited with secreting a poisonous venom while in hiding which it spat out indiscriminately at man and beast. The cattle plague in England and many mysterious human deaths were attributed to the work of the toad. The spider was supposed to equal the toad in venom, but in these days toads eat spiders with apparent impunity.

The American toad Mrs. Butler stated, is larger, not so dark, and more agile than its English brother. Toads are imported into England from Austria, packed in moss, and sold at £3 or £4 a hundred.

In physic the toad, or part of it, has been credited with great powers. For instance, the right eye of a frog wrapped in russet cloth and hung around the neck was supposed to cure the right eye of the wearer of bleariness. The same was true of the left eye of the frog for the left eye of the wearer. A toad, dead or alive, placed at the back of the neck was supposed to stop nose bleed. Dried and powdered, the frog was supposed to be an irresistable love philter.

It is related of the American Indians that they believed that a council of the gods was held for producing light at night. The whippoorwill made the moon out of a large frog, and the coldness of the moon is attributed to the frogs' natural coldness.

Another tradition related of savage tribes is that the toad quarrelled with the woodpecker and caused the Deluge. It is said that they disputed over honey which the toad was induced to climb a tree in order to obtain. Then the woodpecker knocked the toad out of the tree, and in revenge the toad drank up all the water on earth, leaving the birds dry and thirsty. In a subsequent quarrel the toad incautiously danced about, burst, and the water covered the earth in a flood.

In Maryland the bite of the toad is considered poisonous, if not deadly. An old superstition is that handling toads will cause warts to grow on the hands.

Planning a Welcome Home for Hadley.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Jan. 18.—There is talk on the Yale campus to-night in favor of giving President Hadley a reception upon his return from his Western trip. He is expected home on Saturday evening of this week. It has been suggested by some of the undergraduates that President Hadley be met at the railroad station on his arrival and escorted to his home by a procession of students.

MRS. BELLINGER SETTLES.

Sued for a Dressmaking Bill—Mrs. Ullman Says Her Gown Didn't Fit.

Haas Brothers, ladies' tailors, served a summons in a suit for $80 on Mrs. Anna Bellinger, of 349 West Seventy-fifth street, the boarding-house keeper at whose house Blanche Chesborough lived before and after her marriage to Roland B. Molineux. The action was to recover a balance of $372 which the defendant owed the plaintiff for dresses. The case was set down for trial in the Yorkville municipal court yesterday, but a settlement was reached and the case did not go to trial.

Haas Brothers also had a suit in the same court for $200, the price of a pink silk gown, trimmed with lace and velvet, against Mrs. E. S. Ullman of 179 West Seventy-ninth street. Several women employed by the plaintiff testified about the defendant purchasing the gown, which had been imported and had been marked down from $375 to $200. The dress did not exactly fit her and some alterations were made at her suggestion. She called several times and had the garment fitted on. Mlle. Bernotte, a waist fitter, started in to describe the alterations, the trimmings, how the garment appeared with point d'esprit and how much chiffon improved it, and had got warmed up in her description, when Justice Joseph stopped her.

"The stenographer can only take 200 words a minute, madame. I see that he is getting excited in trying to keep up with you, so please talk a little slower."

The witnesses for the plaintiff said they had altered the garment according to the defendant's instructions and sent it to her house Dec. 18, and that it was returned the following day with a note saying she would not accept it.

Emanuel Ullman, the defendant's husband, got in the witness chair and inspected the gown which was in dispute. He said he thought it had been improved since his wife sent it back.

"It was not fresh-looking then as it is now," he said.

"So that the older a garment is, the fresher it looks, you think?" the Justice observed.

"I'm not much of an expert on dresses," the witness replied. "When the gown was sent to my home my wife put it on in the sitting room and said, 'How do you like my new dress, Manny?' I looked at it and said, 'You're a regular fright with that on, Lily. You may wear it if you want to, but if you do you can't go out with me.' It might do for Grand street, but not for uptown. The seams showed like black thread."

"How is it different from what it was when your wife returned it?" counsel for the other side asked.

"Well—er, these things were not on it then," he answered, as he held up the waist.

"What things?"

"These little curly-gews; I don't know what you'd call 'em."

"That's point d'esprit trimming," one of the dressmakers remarked.

Mrs. Ullman said that she would not accept the garment because it would not fit her when it was delivered. Justice Joseph reserved his decision.

STATE TRUST COMPANY LOANS.

President Johnston Contradicts Assailants—Deposits Not Affected.

A list purporting to show the collateral held by the State Trust Company against some of the loans made by it was published by a newspaper yesterday. The publication resulted in the following statement by President Johnston of the trust company:

"Of course, my attention has been called to the astonishing performance in a morning paper of publishing the private business of the clients of this institution.

"It is to be noted that the values of the collateral to the loans were not given, and intentionally so, for they would have shown that the loans were all amply secured, as the Superintendent of Banks has already certified.

"The name of one of our directors is paraded as being the real party to these transactions. It is enough to say that any such statement is false as to each and every one of these loans. The loans were all made in the regular course of the company's business.

"It is a remarkable circumstance that from Albany we hear that the official reports are confidential, and doubtless are treated so by the officials, but all the same the proceedings against this institution have been conducted in such a way that there has come into the possession of persons anxious to use them to our injury records which instead of being treated as confidential, are daily distorted for the morning press with false imputations and reflections.

"Meanwhile, the company has not called a loan since this proceeding begun; its deposits have not been affected and its cash balances are larger than at any time within three months."

It was said by another representative of the State Trust Company yesterday that a statement had been sent to Albany a few days ago which showed that at that time the collateral held against all the outstanding loans of the company showed an average margin of more than 40 per cent.

CAUGHT STEALING PASTE GEMS.

Harlem Boys Thought They Saw Wealth in 39-Cent Diamond Rings.

Fifteen-year old Max Kornick of 2636 Eighth avenue and twelve-year old Robert Kyle of 612 St. Nicholas avenue decided yesterday afternoon that they needed some money in their business, the nature of which they didn't disclose. They went downtown and seeing what they supposed were some diamonds in the show window of a department store in West Fourteenth street, went inside to secure some. Pretending to look over the diamonds each picked out a big shining ring and tried to smuggle it out. The store detective nabbed them and on the order of a member the firm turned the boys over to a policeman from the Mercer street station. They were arrested on the charge of petit larceny. The store detective said that the rings were worth thirty-nine cents each.

Young Kyle was shipped off to the Gerry society, where also young Kornick would have gone if he hasn't complained of sore eyes. He was taken to Bellevue Hospital, where it was found that he was suffering from "pink-eye." He was put in one of the sick wards, a six-foot policeman watching over him to prevent him escaping.

ELOPED; SUES FOR DIVORCE.

American Girl Proceeds Here Against the German Officer She Married.

Anna von Bradsky, who is suing Ottokar von Bradsky, an officer in the German Army, for an absolute divorce, obtained an order from Justice Fitzgerald of the Supreme Court yesterday to take evidence on commission at Dresden, Germany. United States Consul Hernando de Soto at Dresden is appointed commissioner. The wife is an American, but has resided with her family at Dresden for several years. She met the defendant abroad in 1896 while he was a lieutenant in the German Army. She eloped with him to this city in May, 1897, and they were married here on June 6, 1897. The pair returned to Dresden soon after and her parents forgave her flight and marriage. She says he has been living with another woman at Frankfort-on-the-Main.

Strike at the Rockefeller House Averted.

The trouble at the house of John D. Rockefeller at Fifty-fourth street and Fifth avenue on account of the employment of painters to do the work of varnishers was settled yesterday without a strike. The trouble started when the Building Trades Council forced the discharge of union varnishers in order that the painters affiliated with it could get the varnishing to do. The Board of Walking Delegates then took up the fight on behalf of the varnishers and a strike of other trades was threatened to force their reinstatement. A committee of the board finally had a conference with Baumgarten & Co., the general contractors, resulting in an order for the reinstatement of the varnisher.

One Union Trying to Kill Another.

The Artificial Marble Workers' Union complained yesterday that the Plasterers' Union is trying to wipe it out of existence in order that the plasterers may get the work of the artificial marble workers for its own members. The plasterers succeeded in getting the Building Trades Section of the Central Federated Union to reject an application of the Artificial Marble Workers' Union for representation. The Artificial Marble Workers say that theirs is a separate trade from that of the plasterers and that no one can do the work except men who have learned the business. They will appeal to the Central Federated Union on Sunday against the action of the Building Trades Section.

Leaders of Mine Workers' Union Ignored.

SCRANTON, Pa., Jan. 18.—The coal operators of the Lackawanna and Wyoming valleys have again ignored the demand made upon them by Branch No. 1, United Mine Workers of America, for a conference over certain grievances of the miners. These complaints relate to dockage, two weeks' pay, price of powder, and other items. Not a superintendent appeared at the adjourned conference of the miners' delegates in session here to-day and the result is an indignant feeling among the 300 men present and who represent all told over 30,000 anthracite workmen in these valleys.

CO-EDS MUST BE DISCREET.

PRESIDENT ROGERS OF NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY SCOLDS HIS GIRLS.

They Mustn't Go Driving With Young Men in Closed Cabs—He Is Also "Pained to Note" That Some of the Girls Cast Shy Glances at the Boys in the Classrooms.

CHICAGO, Jan. 18.—The co-eds at Northwestern University hereafter must not drive in cabs with young men if they wish to remain co-eds. President Henry Wade Rogers had his eye on the cabs and the young women of late, and made up his mind as a result of his observations that the combination was dangerous. On Monday he addressed a circular to representatives of the various women's societies connected with the university, asking them to meet him at his residence last night and intimating that matters of most serious imporance would be discussed. When they were all gathered and the door closed, President Rogers bluntly announced that the young women of the school were devoting too much of their time to flirting with the young men of the university and others, and that something must be done to stop it. He had noticed and deeply regretted, he said, the frequency with which cabs of late were being driven to the ladies' halls and dormitories, either to get or to put down young women. Sometimes there would be a procession of cabs. He had also noticed that each cab invariably had a young man in it. This led him to believe the young women had been driving with the young men in the cabs, which were of the old-fashioned closed variety. He pointed out dangers the young women ran and appealed to them to use their personal influence and the influence of the societies they represented to discourage the cab-driving habit. He does not object to having the young men and women walk together, with some elderly person or any third person along to play propriety, but the closed cabs must go.

The question of indiscriminate flirting was gone into. President Rogers had been "pained to note" that many of the young women are falling behind in their class standing, and investigation had shown that these young women were those most given to "casting sly glances at the young men of their classes." He said the cooperation of the older women in discouraging this reprehensible practice as well as that of cab riding.

The question of cabs has often perplexed the Dean of Woman's Hall. The livery stables have been at a disadvantage, for almost invariably the young men call for a single cab and the supply is limited. Dr. Rogers said that in most cases it would be preferable for the couple to walk.

The criticism has aroused a storm of protest among the young women. Dr. Rogers said that the young women were rushed into pledging themselves to a society so soon that their entire college course was made unhappy. The societies represented at the meeting were Alpha Phi, Delta Gamma, Kappa Alpha Theta, Kappa Kappa Gamma, Gamma Phi Beta, Delta Delta Delta, Pi Beta Psi, Zeta Phi Eta and Alpha Chi Omega. Another meeting will be held when the representatives have reported to their chapters.

SHE TIRED OF A FLOATING HOME.

Canaller Sues His Wife for Separation—Proverb That Isn't Solomon's.

Jacob H. Pike, who owns two canal boats which have plied between here and the St. Lawrence, was before justice Lawrence of the Supreme Court yesterday, asking for a limited divorce from his wife Carrie, whom he married in 1871. For years she had been the cook aboard his boat. They raised several children, all of whom are married, except a boy of 10 years of age. She forsook the water in 1897 and went to live with her married children, saying she desired to educate her youngest child ashore. Pike installed Minnie Bennett as cook aboard. An action of Mrs. Pike for a divorce on allegations of her husband's relations with Minnie Bennett, tried in Brooklyn, went against her last June.

Subsequently, Mrs. Pike had her husband brought before a police magistrate for support, but when Pike explained that he still had quarters for his wife aboard his boat the case was dismissed. To lay the foundation for his present suit Pike sent a letter to his wife last July saying that his boat, with living quarters, was off Brooklyn, and inviting her aboard. She did not accept the invitation at first, but caught up with the boat at Wilkes-Barre, where one of her children resides. When she attempted to go aboard, she says, her husband pushed her back. He says that when she saw Minnie Bennett on the boat she turned landward. He declared that he intended to compel Minnie Bennett to seek another berth just as soon as his wife got aboard with her belongings.

"The trouble is," said Lawyer Peter S. Carter, counsel for Pike, "that my client was too kind to his wife throughout their married career, but, as the Scripture says, 'It is never too late to mend.'"

"That's not Scripture," said Justice Lawrence. "It is the title of a novel by Charles Reade."

The Court reserved decision.

DEAD WITH THE GAS TURNED ON.

Woman Known as Florence Blume Found Asphyxiated in a Raines Law Hotel.

A man and woman registered as "Mr. and Mrs. Conroy" at the Raines Law hotel, 369 Bowery, at 7 o'clock yesterday morning. The man left the resort almost immediately. In the afternoon the odor of gas was noticed and traced to the room assigned the couple. Emanuel Buck, the proprietor of the place, picked the lock and found the woman's dead body on the bed. She had been asphyxiated. The business card of a Third avenue restaurant was found on the woman, and there it was said she was known as Florence Blume.

$780 IN DEAD WOMAN'S PURSE.

Old Mrs. Salud Had Also $10,000 in Various Banks When She Expired, Unknown.

An old woman dropped dead yesterday morning at 34 East Third street. The policeman who was called into the house found $500 in bills and $80 in gold in her pocketbook and five bank books calling for deposits of $10,000 in all. The body was taken to the Fifth street police station and thence to the Morgue.

Late last night Mrs. Emma Sigmund of 1291 First avenue called at the Morgue and identified the body as that of her mother, Josephine Salud, a widow, 70 years old, who had lived with her and her husband. The bankbooks and the money were turned over to the Coroner's office by the police.

New Bookbuilders' Club.

Some of the younger men in the publishing trade have organized a club to succeed the old Aldine Club, which grew into the Uptown Association. They call themselves The Bookbuilders. They meet daily at luncheon and have already given two formal luncheons. The organization has its home in the house of the old Aldine Club and has dining rooms in the Hotel Kensington. There is already a membership of about sixty. The second luncheon was a Franklin feast, held on Benjamin Franklin's birthday, last Wednesday. It is proposed, after a time to issue some books, as the Grolier Club does, and the project is under way to establish The Bookbuilders' Shop, where the publications may be accomplished.

Author Bankrupt.

William J. Roe, author, residing at 169 West Twelfth street, has filed a petition in bankruptcy with liabilities $30,961, and assets nominal. There are 48 creditors, many of whom are in Newburgh. The liabilities are chiefly for loans, merchandise, rent and legal services. Among the creditors are the Highland National Bank of Newburgh, $7,000; Anna L. Roe, $6,500; Emily M. Roe, $2,050; Thomas Hazard Roe, $1,050, Nancy Hayden, $2,053, all of Newburgh and John O. Stevens of this city, $4,001. Mr. Roe's assets consist of three suits of clothes, a gold ring, several copyrights and plates, one book, MS. works on sociology, &c., about twenty books of reference, and script certificates of the M. and H. Ship Canal Company.

Dying of Blood Poisoning.

Eugene Sullivan, 23 years old, of Jersey avenue and Tenth streets, Jersey City, is dying at his home of blood poisoning. A horse stepped on the great toe of his right foot on Dec. 23 last. He paid little attention to the injury at first and continued at his work. On Dec. 28 he began to suffer intense pain in his toe. His foot and leg swelled and the swelling has extended to the lower part of his trunk. His temperature range between 100 and 105 degrees. His family physician and a specialist from this city are doing all they can to save his life, but they have very little hope of success.

Frozen to Death in a Barn.

LYONS, N. Y., Jan. 18.—Philip Clausse, a West Lyons farmer, this afternoon found a strange man in his tenant barn, lying on a pile of cornstalks, frozen stiff. Coroner Thatcher thought he had been dead two weeks. There is no clue to his identity. He was rather too well dressed for a tramp.

The Expression of Contentment

worn by a SUN reader may be traced to two things—first, to the fact that he reads that paper; second, to the prosperity he enjoys through association with reputable advertisers who use its columns.—*Ads.*

NEW YORK VS. JERSEY CARPENTERS.

Allegations That the Former Are Endeavoring to Freeze Out the Latter.

The Building Trades Council of Hudson county, N. J., at its meeting in Jersey City on Wednesday night discussed a difficulty which has arisen between the New York and New Jersey carpenters and tile setters, and the statement was openly made that the New York mechanics are endeavoring to freeze out the Jerseymen. The trouble originated about four weeks ago at a large building which is being erected at 102d street and the Boulevard, this city. A Newark firm is erecting the building and it sent some union tile setters of that city at work. The New York tile setters struck and the carpenters' delegate ordered a sympathetic strike against foreign labor. The carpenters' places were filled by carpenters from Jersey City and then there was more trouble. Council Delegate Murphy of the New York tile setters and Blatchford and Murray of the carpenters attended Wednesday night's meeting and protested against Jerseymen taking the places of their men. Blatchford and