AFFAIRS OF THE THEATRE.

A FRENCH PLAY PERFORMED FIRST BY AMERICAN ACTORS.

Elsie de Wolfe Put Forward by Charles Frohman as the Sprightly Young Widow in "The Surprises of Love"—Edna May and Her Companions Just From London.

Paul Bilhaud and Michel Carre wrote "The Surprises of Love" in French, but it received its first hearing on any stage in English at the Lyceum last night. The actors had been engaged by Charles Frohman for their suitability for the parts, the more prominent rôles being intrusted to Elsie de Wolfe and H. Reeves Smith. A play with a wholly original plot is as welcome as it is rare. This farcical comedy starts on its course of fun from a new idea. A young Frenchman finds himself completely out of money and decides to commit suicide. He is saved from the act by a friend, who advises him to live in the form of a human prize, to be won by the holder of the lucky ticket in a lottery. The purchasers are not told beforehand that the Burnett prize is a talented young man, able to sing, dance and make himself otherwise attractive. He is won by a young widow on the verge of marriage with a literary member of the French Academy. She tells him that she will not have him and so he threatens self-destruction. To this end he throws himself into the public fountain that is being dedicated with a grand fete. He is fished out, but is as exhausted as he is soaked. This is where we leave him at the end of the first act. The second finds him in a small cottage in the grounds surrounding the residence of the widow, his owner. He is the centre of attraction of a bevy of gushing girls. They make an idol of him, waiting on his every wish. The widow is jealous of their attentions, for she has fallen in love with her lottery prize, as he has with her. The woman's prospective bridegroom is also under the influence of the green-eyed monster, for he can see in this widow's love that she has not realized herself It is to keep this "prize" from interfering with the wedding, which is to take place on the following day, that the groom-elect locks him in the cottage and takes the key away. Instead of separating the widow and the "prize" he has kept them together, for she was in the house and is therefore detained there for the entire night. This is where the curtain is drawn on the second act. The third is at 10 the next morning, the wedding day, and the man and woman are still locked in together. The intermission has been a time of doubt and conjecture for the audience. Their obvious question is not settled in the last act. We are simply shown the departure of the widow and her "prize" for the altar and the discomfiture of the jilted bridegroom-elect.

This is the general outline of a play, comedy at times and farce at others, that puzzled last night's Lyceum audience. Was it indecent, or was its morality doubted merely because it was of French origin? It is a question hard to settle. Two facts are sure, though. It aroused the audience and it was refreshingly original. Many of the lines were clever in a Frenchy vein of humor and the construction was faultless. The acting, too, was commendable, though all concerned were perceptibly nervous. Elsie de Wolfe was a beautifully costumed widow. She acted her part in an original manner and with unusual efficiency. Her performance was more than ritzy. H. Reeves Smith's impersonation of the "prize." This English comedian was seen here a few years ago in "A Brace of Partridges." In that case he was the saving element of a wretchedly bad farce. Last night he was the central figure in a good one. He acted it in a quiet yet always effective way. He brought out all his points, and was fortunate in having many opportunities, for he had what actors call a fat part. His performance was worthy of E. H. Sothern, and in fact reminded one of that actor. Olive May was the only other player who came in for individual success. She was attractive and amusing in a rather commonplace character of a stage-struck girl. Eric Hope was adequate as the object of her admiration. Margaret Robinson, Helen Keating and Ellen Gail were a beautifully gowned trio of gushing girls. Wallace Erskine, Clayton White, Horace Porter Pell, a late theatrical recruit from the social ranks; Frank Lea Short, Charles Bowser, David McCartney and others made up a cast that will probably do itself more justice at later performances.

The Castle Square Opera Company once more enriched New York's knowledge of modern opera when it gave last night at the American Theatre Nicolas Spinelli's "A Basso Porto," or as it is called there "At the Lower Harbour." Sig. Spinelli is known chiefly as the composer of this work, although his first opera preceded it by several years. "A Basso Porto," after a series of successful performances in Italy, was brought to Germany by a company of Italian singers and later performed in various German cities. It has held no place in the repertoire abroad, in spite of its striking merits, because the story, to which Spinelli's music is wedded, could attract no public for any length of time. It begins in seduction and desertion, and passes through treachery and theft to murder. A mother struggles to keep her former faithless lover from debauching her daughter by an honest man, after he has made a criminal out of her son, is its theme. Revenge is the motive for his conduct and that the mother continues to have an affection for her first lover does not mitigate the general horror of the episodes. Eugenio Checchi, who devised the libretto, has given it an undoubted dramatic force, although it would have been difficult to deal with such emotions and not produce some kind of an effect. The scenes pass in the poor quarters of Naples about the "lower harbor" in which the criminals, conspirators and poorest working classes are supposed to reside. The time of the action is the early sixties.

Sig. Spinelli set for himself the task of composing an adequate musical illustration of these scenes. He has succeeded in accomplishing that and the score of the new work is wonderfully expressive of the story's spirit. It abounds in bizarre orchestral effects and is constructed in a fashion that proclaims him a master of orchestral writing. Its spirit, moreover, is intensely dramatic and every strenuous incident of the story is reflected in the music. It seems wholly lacking in the popular quality in the sense that ambitious works may possess that character. Its cantibile passages are either sentimental to the point of banality or merely commonplace. Two themes in the music allotted to *Maria* in the first act, a serenade and chorus in the second act and a later chorus were more melodious than any other numbers in the opera. But the melodic gift of Sig. Spinelli is plainly not his greatest claim to recognition and it is probable if "At the Lower Harbor" shows his talent at its best that he has rather the skill of the clever musician than the natural gifts of the composer. The performance gave a fair impression of the work. Selma Kronold stood on a higher plane than any of her associates, acted with great intensity and sang the difficult music that falls to the mother's part with considerable skill. The chorus overacted irritatingly and sang woefully. The orchestra was too small to do justice to the score, but Romualdo Sapio, who assumed control of it only two days ago, accomplished more with the means at hand than any of his predecessors ever has.

There was some ado with flowers and extra applause last night at the Casino, where "The Belle of New York" was put forward by the company that was in it toward the end of its long term in London. Edna May was still the Salvation Army girl, but most of her companions were substitutes, some better and some worse, for those who were exported with the extravaganza.

In "Naughty Anthony" last night a tipsy scene was introduced. Blanche Bates from the first had a spell of champagne drinking, but in the new arrangement the Chautauqua professor of moral culture is her companion in the indulgence.

It is said that the Annabelle Whitford announced to dance in the fance dress ball scene of "Sapho" is Annabelle Moore of Seeley dinner notoriety. Olga Nethersole is credited with insisting on the change of name.

Blanche Bates and Mary Mannering are possible stars of next season, though nothing definite to that end has been done as yet in either case.

It is probable that after the prescribed course of modern plays is finished at the Carnegie Lyceum two extra performances will be given. What will be used has not been decided, but Henrik Ibsen's latest drama may be acted for the first time in this country. The management says it will produce an American work if a suitable one can be found, but, if not, "Ghosts" may be revived.

Some of our readers are critical. One writes that in "Ben Hur," for instance, the ancient Romans record their racing bets on paper pads with lead pencils. Another complains that it seems out of place to hear squeaky shoes on the Mount of Olives. A third calls attention to the fact that in "Brother Officers" the sun sets in one act with a rich red glow on the river, and in the next it rises with the reflection in exactly the same place.

Cyril Scott, new in the cast of "Papa's Wife," has a part with few opportunities, but he makes the best of it. In a new song he is surrounded by a bevy of dancing and singing girls in the manner that he was at Daly's.

"The Absent-Minded Beggar" has broken loose here. It was recited in London by Mrs. Langtry, Mrs. Brown-Potter, Mrs. Beerbohm Tree and many of the lesser lights. Nina Farrington spoke it at Koster & Bial's on Sunday night and it was sung in "The Belle of New York" last evening.

The single climax that Mrs. Langtry gets in "The Degenerates" loses its effect because it follows directly on the exit of Miss Milner, whose scene of girlish innocence is roundly applauded. Then Mrs. Langtry has a few words to speak and the curtain comes down. It is pleasant to note that the actress is not displeased by the success of others in her company; or, if she is, she has the good sense not to show it.

Eleanor Moretti appeared for the first time last night in "The Degenerates," taking the place of Ethel Henry. The new actress played the part excellently and the change strengthened the comedy. She will continue in the rôle for the rest of the play's stay in New York. Emmett Corrigan started in the title part of "Ben Hur," as E. J. Morgan has retired from the cast to rehearse for "The Ambassador."

Olga Nethersole has again postponed her opening at Wallack's in "Sapho" owing to her illness. She is still in Washington and telegraphed last night that she may be able to appear on Thursday evening, but not before, and perhaps not then.

LE PROPHETE AT THE OPERA HOUSE.

Probably Its Last Presentation Here This Season.

Meyerbeer's "Le Prophète" was heard again last night at the Metropolitan Opera House, and it seems safe to make the prediction that it will not be sung there another time this season. It is extremely doubtful if vitality could ever be again imparted, so far as use here is concerned, to this opera by any possible means. Certain it is that "Le Prophète" is not likely to receive in these days at the Metropolitan the only kind of treatment that could give it new life. When Meyerbeer and Scribe set out to create their grandiose series of works for the Paris Opera House the magnificence of their purpose demanded every available resource of that institution. If the most elaborate theatrical apparatus was in those days needed to give the indispensable element to their works, how much more necessary is it to-day that the merely spectacular piece of Meyerberian representations should be looked after with the greatest care. Taste has changed since these works were written. To-day only the attempt to do something magnificent is evident in them. The plan was an ambitious one, but its ideal was too low and now these works are accepted for the little that is genuinely great in them along with all that is bad in taste and art that they contain.

The faults might be hidden in the gutter of the spectacle that they are always intended to have. Assuredly it is unessential to "Le Prophète" if it ever was of any opera. But that side of operatic representation receives little attention at the Metropolitan. The only means by which that opera could possibly be resuscitated is not available. The representation last night was practically identical with the first one. It had naturally the ease that came from repetition. To MM. Alvarez, De Reszke, Plançon, Dervies and Bars and Miss Adams and Mme. Schumann-Heinck the principal rôles were again intrusted. Especial improvement was noticeable in the case of M. Alvarez, and Miss Adams has greatly profited by her experience in the rôle of *Bertha*.

MRS. SNELLING'S CONCERT.

A Successful Song Recital at Mendelssohn Hall Yesterday.

Mendelssohn Hall was filled yesterday afternoon to hear Mrs. Grenville Snelling in a song recital of an especially interesting nature. Mrs. Snelling has been heard before on the local concert stage, but she is capable now of making much better use of her powers, and is improved in nearly every respect that increases a singer's excellence. Her numbers included yesterday an aria from Galuppi's "Adriano," English songs by Arthur Foote and Purcell, a group of three French songs by Gabriel Faure, an aria, *"Il M'Aime Espoir Charmant,"* from Maillart's "Les Dragons de Villars," three German songs by Christian Sinding, and a trio of old French songs. M. Longy, the first oboist of the Boston Symphony orchestra, who is a master in his field, contributed variety to the programme by a number of selections as agreeable on account of the comparative novelty of the oboe as a solo instrument in the concert room as from his skilful playing.

Mrs. Snelling possesses a light soprano voice of especially sympathetic and delightful character. She uses it with skill and her singing is marked always by taste and intelligence. There were songs of very varied character yesterday and she interpreted them all in a way that revealed her complete understanding of their significance. Mrs. Snelling seemed to be better equipped than most American vocalists for the task of interpreting French and German songs. One of her achievements yesterday was the singing of the three old French numbers, which her dramatic action most piquantly and charmingly illustrated. The three German songs by Sinding were interesting and the second, "Mir Glaenzen die Augen," proved especially effective. They served to exhibit well a more serious phase of Mrs. Snelling's art.

Calve to Sing on Sunday Evening.

Mlle. Calvé is to sing at the Metropolitan Opera House in concert on next Sunday night for the only time during the season, and prices will be advanced for that evening. As Mlle. Calvé does not usually sing on two nights in succession it will be interesting to observe if she appears on Monday in "Le Nozze di Figaro." She is to sing the part for the first time here if she keeps to her intention.

To-day's Paderewski-Adamowski Recital.

The following is the programme of the Paderewski-Adamowski recital this afternoon:

1. Quartetts for strings, F Major, Op. 10 ..... Roman Statkowski
   Adamowski Quartette.
2. Soli a. Ballade, b. Nocturne, c. Etude ..... Chopin
   d. Cracovienne ..... Paderewski
   e. Rhapsodie ..... Liszt
   Mr. Paderewski.
3. Quartette for piano and strings, E Flat Major, Op. 47 ..... Schumann
   Mr. Paderewski and Adamowski Quartette.

MR. AUSTIN ON THE 21ST FIGHT.

Some Replies to Col. Gruber—A General District Committee Organized.

Former Assemblyman George C. Austin of the Twenty-first district, speaking yesterday of the controversy in that district and the fight to depose Col. Abraham Gruber as leader, said:

"A General District Committee has been organized consisting of five enrolled Republicans in each election district, making 210 in all. Headquarters have been established at the southeast corner of 101st street and Broadway, and will be open every evening, except Sundays, until after the primaries. Any Republican in the district will be welcome there at any time. Meetings will be held in each election district and the canvass conducted vigorously and thoroughly until the primaries are held.

"I am not authorized by the committee to say anything further at the present time in reference to its plans or as to the situation generally, except to deny some of the stories recently published that the election of Mr. Maas to the Election Officers' Committee of the County Committee, and myself as a member of the County Committe, to fill a vacancy, meant that a compromise had been effected and that the contest had been abandoned. The election of Mr. Maas and myself was acquiesced in by Mr. Gruber in order to avoid an official exposure of his own weakness. This is now generally understood in the district.

"Furthermore, regarding Mr. Gruber's constant assertion that this contest is inspired by Mr. Quigg, and his daily effort to make Mr. Quigg an element in our contest, I have been instructed to say that the statements are absolutely untrue, and that Mr. Quigg neither officially nor individually had anything to do with it, either in the first instance or since, and that if Mr. Quigg were to resign as President of the County Committee to-morrow it would have no effect whatever on the situation in the district, as the Republicans in sympathy with the movement are determined to have an opportunity at the March primaries to vote for delegates who will be in entire harmony with the National and State administrations, and thus express their opinions as to Mr. Gruber's conduct and attitude as the official leader of the district. The contest is the natural result of a political situation created solely by Mr. Gruber and for which he must assume the entire responsibility."

Mayor Hart Surprises Boston Politicians.

BOSTON, Jan. 22.—Mayor Hart surprised the politicians late this afternoon by naming Bertrand T. Wheeler as Superintendent of Streets, to succeed Superintendent Wells. Wheeler held the place under Mayor Curtis. The prophets all thought the nominee would be George N. Swallow, chairman of the Republican City Committee.

THE BROOKLYN REVIVAL.

DR. BROUGHTON'S QUAINT AND STIRRING APPEALS TO SINNERS.

Audience in Central Baptist Church Last Night Deeply Moved—An Estimate of the Results of the Movement Last Week—Broughton Takes a Fling at De Costa.

The second week of the big evangelistic movement in Brooklyn, which the Rev. Dr. Len G. Broughton of Atlanta, Ga., is conducting, assisted by many local clergymen began yesterday. The first day closed with a service in the Central Baptist Church last night, which in attendance and enthusiasm outstripped anything that the evangelists who are trying to reduce the appalling total of 600,000 non-churchgoing persons in the borough have yet succeeded in accomplishing. For the first week they claim about three hundred converts, and about three times that number set to thinking, who will come forward in good time and avow their belief. They are more than satisfied with these results and say that the signs are that Brooklyn will be shaken up as it never was before.

So many of the Brooklyn churches are clamoring for the services of Dr. Broughton that those in charge of the revival have decided to assign him to three or four churches at once, the pastors and people of which are to select the church in which services are to be held and are to coöperate in making the meetings successful. For this week Dr. Broughton is helping the Central Baptist Church, the Simpson Methodist Episcopal Church, the Cumberland Street Presbyterian Church and the North Reformed Church, and services will be held every night in the Central Baptist Church on Adelphi street near Myrtle avenue. There was a large illuminated sign in front of the church last night informing passersby that "Len G. Broughton will speak here to-night," and the church was crowded to the doors at 8 o'clock.

In opening the meeting the Rev. Albert Bacon Sears said that some three hundred persons had been brought to Christ in five days last week, and that he hoped an even greater total could be shown at the end of the present week. He then introduced Dr. Broughton, who offered prayer and delivered a characteristic revival address. He said in part:

"In beginning a work such as we are starting to-night in this district I always feel that the absolutely necessary thing to do is to lay the proper foundation. If I'm a crank about one thing, it is about making my foundations sure, and I wish all of those who want to be Christians would bear this in mind. We must not try to get to the top without starting at the bottom. If there's one fault that I've found in my experience, it is that people are not careful enough about the foundations of their Christianity. Our great fault is our insatiable desire to go ahead. Why right in my own church, where I thought that the foundation had been properly laid, if it was in any church in the country, I discovered a short time ago that two of my deacons hadn't been speaking to each other for three months. It just proved to me that, careful as I had been, I had not been careful enough, and so I say to you all to-night, look to the security of your foundations before you try to go ahead.

"I believe the Lord has given me a message to you, and that that message is to warn you to look to the basis of your love for Christ. Christ had been prophesied for 4,000 years, and John the Baptist came as a forerunner. 'Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.' Brethren, the Lord doesn't like a crooked path and He won't travel by one. Put that in your note book to-night. The Lord is not coming to your church by any zig-zag route. You must make the path a straight one for him. I ask you to look to your paths and see if they're straight, so that Jesus may come to you.

"Before Jesus Christ can come to your heart and make you happy, before you can rejoice in His love, your heart must beright in His sight; and there can be no half-way business about it. If God, looking into your heart to-night, said that it was not right, I tell you, you would be in danger of His blessing. Make your heart right in God's sight, sisters and brothers, and do it now. I was delighted to hear your pastor call for prayers to-night. Prayer is the all-powerful thing, and we cannot have too much of it. But let me tell you that unless your heart is right, there is no power in your prayers and you pray in vain. Many persons say that their prayers are not answered. They want to know why. It's because there is sin in the heart, and although man doesn't see it, it cannot be hidden from God, and God shuts His ears and will not listen. God closes His ears to the man and woman in whose hearts there is iniquity and He always will.

"Now, brothers and sisters, if you want revivals in your individual hearts the thing to do is to clean out your hearts and make your lives clean, so that there will be something substantial to base them on. We may all have clean hearts. Nothing is easier. God is just waiting to give to every man and woman a perfect tidal wave of salvation. Set yourself and your church right in the sight of God and your individual revival and our revival will be all right.

"Now, I say to each one of you. How is your heart? Are you willing to abandon sin and let God take possession? Will you do this? If so, you're all right. Now, what is the next step?

"We must see how we stand toward each other, for if we should stand right in the sight of God, we must first stand right in the sight of man. I don't hesitate to say that if your hearts are harboring bitterness toward others the gates of Heaven are barred to you. How under the sun can you get into Heaven with your hearts full of unforgiveness. Oh, you say, you really haven't anything against anybody, you say, well, it must be the fault or his fault. Of course it was. It's always somebody else's fault. Brother, in seeking sin, the hardest work in the world is to find the guilty man. It's always somebody else's fault.

"Now, brother, have you had any church rackets? Been any row in the ladies' circle? or a busted-up in the choir? Laughter. You laugh as though there had. If you have, jab into your hearts to-night, turn up the soil and let God's sun shine on it for a while. I know a church down in Richmond that was the worst mongrel congregation I ever saw. It was made up of people who got into fights in other churches and demanded their letters and, of course, when they got into the other church they got into trouble there, because such was their way. I preached for forgiveness there and succeeded in stirring that congregation so that before I left I had publicly settled forty-seven grudges that the members held against one another.

"I tell you that until your church is ready to square itself in the line of forgiveness, there is no blessing in store for it. In the name of God, and for the sake of your homes, your happiness and your church, I beg you, I pray you, if there's any trouble in your hearts to-night, go and straighten it up.

"There was a time once when members of orders and societies at home, kept asking me to preach to them. I kept refusing, until one time the idea came to me to accept the next invitation and I did it. The man who asked me was pleased and said: 'If you'll come I'll send you a lot of our literature so you'll be posted on what to say.' That's just the way the Devil is being served in some pulpits, where the advertisement of fraternal orders is regarded as a higher work than the saving of sinners. When I preached to that society I never mentioned the literature they had sent me, but I mentioned some other things, and I was never asked again to preach a sermon to a secret order in that place.

"Brothers, we want personal work. You have a wide territory here and a splendid field for work, but you must lose no time. I believe that the Holy Spirit has struck New York as sure as I believe in the Holy Ghost. That we want here is a real old-fashioned Holy Ghost revival, the kind that will make all the little scentics stand up and say, 'Now, really, what does this all mean?' God has something for all of you, as much for one as for another, and he who says He has favorites slanders God."

Dr. Broughton's noon-day service in the Young Men's Christian Association Hall was not so largely attended as last week's meetings, but there was a considerable audience. Dr. Broughton said that not only Brooklyn but cities all over the country were waking up and showing evidence of getting better. Referring to Dr. De Costa's reason for going over to the Roman Catholic Church, "that Protestantism is falling to pieces; that Catholicism is the purest gem, and will endure forever," Dr. Broughton said:

"A man who would make such a statement as that doesn't know much; he hasn't been around much. He may have read a great deal, but he doesn't know what he is talking about. This is the gladdest day for Protestantism that we have ever had.

"We need faith and fidelity to do anything in this world. Peter walked out on the water to meet Christ all right until a big wave came along. Then, he said: 'Oh my, ain't that a breaker,' lost faith and sank. He would have sunk to the bottom of the sea if he hadn't turned his eyes to Jesus again. Some of you say that God can't save New York. That's because you haven't faith. We can save it all right with God's help, and will do it.

GEORGIA REVIVALISTS IN MANHATTAN.

The Rev. Dr. Broughton Asks That the Churches Come Down to the People.

About a thousand women and two hundred men were attracted to the Marble Collegiate Church at Fifth avenue and Twenty-ninth street yesterday afternoon by the announcement that the religious revival begun in Brooklyn by the Georgia revivalist, the Rev. L. G. Broughton, would be continued in Manhattan. The Fiske Jubilee singers opened the services by singing hymns set to plantation melodies, and then the Rev. A. C. Dixon introduced Dr. Broughton, who spoke for three hours on "How We May Win Souls." Pastors who were attached to churches which were not soul-winning churches ought to get out, he said, and preach in theatres, or go over to a Bowery mission, where they could have at least a dozen converts.

"In one city I visited recently," he continued, "there were four leading churches of our denomination possessing splendid buildings and splendid pastors, but in sixteen months only sixteen persons had been converted in these churches. In another city I visited I found that seven churches brought in only seventeen converts. The question arises, 'Are we saving souls by the profession of faith?' We need persons with clean hearts to go out and win souls."

Countess Schimmelman is to tell her life story at services in the church next Monday afternoon.

DEATH OF A STRANGE MAN.

He Had Seven Wives Before He Was Twenty—Prayed for Death for Thirty Years.

COLDWATER, Mich., Jan. 22.—For thirty years Nathan S. Reed has been an inmate of the Branch County poorhouse and every day he has been praying for death. He died yesterday. He was born in New York eighty-three years ago of parents who had small affection for him, and when a mere child he cut adrift from home and went to live with a neighbor. At the age of ten he had grown a full beard and was frequently mistaken for a man of twenty. His physique was large and commanding. At the age of eleven he was credited with being the best dancer in the neighborhood. A year later he won the hand of a neighbor's daughter and married her in defiance of her parents. The irate father-in-law kidnapped the wife on her wedding day and Reed did not see her again for years and then she was the wife of another.

Two years later, when he was fourteen, Reed married another girl of his native town with the consent of her parents. After the wedding ceremony he started to take his bride home in a buggy but on the way the horse became frightened the buggy was overturned and the bride of two hours was thrown out and killed instantly. In a few weeks he married again but his wife did not meet his expectations. He put her away on his own ipse dixit and took another. The fourth wife was a termagant and he left her. Then he married three more women in rapid succession. He was not yet 20 years old, but he had been the husband of seven wives. When he tried to put away the last one she rebelled and filing information against him had him taken into court and sent to prison. He got out of prison and lived a moderately respectable life, but he was the victim of sunstroke and the results were that he became a physical wreck. For many years he worked about the livery stables of this village and in that occupation became widely known to the commercial travelers as "Uncle Nate." Thirty years ago he became entirely incapacitated and was committed to the county house, where he lived for three decades, every night praying God for death. It came unexpectedly after his regular morning devotions.

COST OF THE MAZET COMMITTEE.

It Will Aggregate About $75,000—Moss and Clarke to Get $10,000 Each.

ALBANY, Jan. 22.—Much interest has been manifested among the members of the Legislature regarding the expenses of the Mazet Committee, which spent the greater part of last year in investigating the New York city administration. It was learned to-night that these expenses will aggregate about $75,000. The last Legislature appropriated $50,000 for the expenses of the committee, of which about $40,000 have already been expended. The counsel to the committee are to get $25,000. Mr. Frank Moss and Mr. John Proctor Clarke each will get $10,000, and Mr. Frank J. Laimbeer $5,000. Mr. Moss wanted $20,000, but the committee thought $10,000 was enough for him. The committee, of course, recognizes that Mr. Moss worked hard as its counsel, but several of the members of the committee believe that Mr. Moss did a lot of unnecessary work and that services in such cases should be judged by results.

Mr. Clarke is revising the testimony taken by the committee and preparing it for the printer. He is cutting out all extraneous and unimportant testimony and the long speeches delivered by Mr. Moss during the progress of the investigation. The money to pay the counsel to the committee will be provided for in the annual Supply bill.

Dance at Mr. and Mrs. Ogden Mills's.

Mr. and Mrs. Ogden Mills gave a dance last night at their residence at Fifth avenue and Sixty-ninth street. There was no set floral decoration, but the hall and salons were embellished with flowers from the Mills country place at Hyde Park. Mrs. Mills wore a costume of pale gray tulle. The cotillon was led by Worthington Whitehouse dancing with Mrs. Mills. The favors included a variety of silver trinkets from Paris, which had not been opened until late yesterday afternoon.

Among the 200 guests were Mr. and Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish, Miss Mary Crocker, Miss Sands, Gen. and Mrs. Lloyd Bryce, the Misses Morton, Lispenard Stewart, Creighton Webb, the Misses Gerry, Craig Wadsworth, Alfonso de Navarro, Mr. and Mrs. M. Orme Wilson, R. T. Wilson, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Elisha Dyer Jr., Miss Daisy Post, Mr. and Mrs. W. Starr Miller, Miss Evelyn Burden, Miss Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. George B. De Forest, Barclay Kountze, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Harriman, Jr., Mrs. Burke-Roche, Miss Wormeley, D. O. Mills, Miss Beatrice Bend, De Peyster Livingston, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Oakley Rhinelander, Cambridge Livingston, Mr. and Mrs. John R. Drexel, Mr. and Mrs. P. Lorillard Ronalds, Jr., Miss Cameron, R. P. Van Cortlandt, Schuyler Schieffelin, Henry R. Winthrop, Miss Marie Winthrop, Mr. and Mrs. Edmund L. Bayles, the Messrs. d'Hauteville, Mrs. Herman Oelrichs, Mr. and Mrs. Whitelaw Reid, and Mr. and Mrs. Stanford White.

Cassatt—Fell.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 22.—Miss Minnie Drexel Fell, daughter of Mrs. Alexander Van Rensselaer, and Robert Kelso Cassatt, son of Alexander J. Cassatt, President of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, were married at noon to-day in St. Thomas's Episcopal Church at Camp Hill by the rector, the Rev. Samuel Snelling, assisted by the Rev. Henry Ingersoll Meigs. As the last words of the final prayer were uttered the choir sang the anthem, "Perfect Love." Mendelssohn's wedding march followed and the newly wedded pair passed down the aisle and into their carriage, in which they were taken to the country home of Mrs. Van Rensselaer, where a reception was held.

The bride did not wear any jewelry. Her dress was of white point d'Alencon, a veil of white tulle was fastened to her hair by a single white rose and in her left hand she carried a white prayer book. The flower girls wore dresses of white chiffon. The bridemaids wore white panne velvet, with pleated chiffon trains. Their hats were of white chiffon, with white ostrich plumes, and they carried immense bunches of lilies. Mrs. Van Rensselaer wore a gown of dark blue velvet and blue and white hat.

The bridemaids were Miss May Fell, sister of the bride, Miss Ellen Drexel Paul, Miss Katherine Cassatt, Miss Elsie Cassatt, Miss Rhoda Howe, Miss Lillie Rhodes, and Miss Pauline Biddle of this city; Miss Mary McCormick of Chicago, and Miss Grey of Albany. The bridegroom was attended by Murray Ford of Boston as best man. The ushers were George McFadden, Samuel K. Reed, George L. Harrison, Thomas Ridgway, Livingstone L. Biddle, F. W. Rawle and Samuel Chew of this city; S. A. Lawton of New York and C. W. Hanford of Pittsburg. The flower girls were Miss Frances Fell and Miss Mary Astor Paul. The bride was given away by her stepfather Mr. Van Rensselaer.

A Paris Wedding of Interest Here.

The wedding to-day at Paris of Miss Marion Munroe and M. Henri Hottinguer at the American Episcopal Church, in the Avenue Alma, is of interest here, where the bride is well known to society. Gen. Horace Porter, United States Ambassador; John Munroe, the bride's brother, who is a Paris banker; Francis Hottinguer and Baron de Bethman are to be the groomsmen. Five hundred bridal gifts have been displayed at the bride's home. These included a tiara of diamonds from the bridegroom, three diamond necklaces, two pearl necklaces, and several silver table sets.

Baumann—Englander.

The wedding of Miss Lillie Baumann and Max Englander was celebrated last night at Sherry's. The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Baumann of 51 West Eighty-ninth street.

If You Are Pressed for Time

"Want" advertisements for THE SUN may be left at any American District or Postal Telegraph Messenger office. Charges the same as at THE SUN office.—*Adv.*

HOW THE WHEELS DID WHIRL!

WHEN THE GET TOGETHER CLUB TURNED THE CRANKS.

There Was G. Fred, Who Gave Up His Respectability to Be "Free," and Prof. Herron, Who Revolutionizes Even the English Grammar—One Sane Man Got in and, Strange to Say, They Liked Him.

The Get Together Club got together at the Hotel St. George in Brooklyn last night an assortment of gentlemen rather severely afflicted with theories, each of whom expounded his own particular theory with vehemence. Only one man of facts spoke, and he wasn't on the programme as originally devised. Nevertheless, J. H. Patterson, who is at the head of a large manufacturing plant in Dayton, Ohio, made the hit of the evening. G. Fred Williams presided and opened up by declaring that there was extant a huge social conspiracy to suppress freedom of thought and speech, but that he had attained to a condition of independence by sacrificing his respectability. He then introduced Prof. George D Herron as "a man who attacks the existing order of things, who deprecates practically all of the existing conditions."

Prof. Herron recently resigned the professorship of applied Christianity in Iowa University, giving as his reason that his economic beliefs didn't agree with the present teachings of Christianity. If his chair had been that of grammar, it is conceivable that his departure might have been for another reason, as he evinced a firm conviction that the pronoun "I" should be used as the object of both verb and preposition. Prof. Herron started right in to deprecate, and deprecated everything now existent, but declared his unfailing belief in what he termed the "few cher." His subject was "Economic Justice," but there would be no such thing, he said, as justice in the good time coming because justice was founded on the meum and tuum principle, and when the "tiger philosophy" of the Now gave way to the "spiritual philosophy" of the Then there would be no meum and tuum.

"You're a miserable lot of slaves here to-night," he said, with cheerful frankness, "only you daren't admit it. But, all this will change. We have reached that stage where the practical man is going to be called to the bar of justice. If there's any man who lacks ordinary economic sense, it is the so-called practical man who is being ground to powder in his own machine to-day. There is nothing truly practical except some part of the ideal. This world of competition, where millions of souls are slain in the deadly warfare for bread, is totally impractical. The bulk of mankind in what we call Christendom is being slowly starved to death in a world that could support a thousand times the number. Nothing can prevent the coming of a new epoch; a socialistic epoch. Eventually I look for something infinitely more radical and liberating than socialism. I'm not using the word socialism in a sectarian sense, but as the new basis of world building. Socialism isn't coming by the ordinary evolutionist programme. You think it is, but most everything you think isn't so. [Laughter.] It's too late for that. This nation is hard up against the day of judgment, and the present order of things is doomed. There remains only the opportunity for social revolution. You have only the choice between the moral revolution and the wild revolt of the oppressed classes with despotism staring them in the face.

"Already America is absolutely governed by a capitalist class. Capitalism pure and simple is enthroned in state, church, the press and the colleges; it controls the whole mechanism of society. We pray in church 'Thy kingdom come,' but I suppose nothing could create so great a panic as the possibility of its coming. Nine-tenths of human effort is wasted. The bulk of genius never appears. Not one-thousandth part of the potential production of the earth is used. That world-change coming is calling for you and I to take some sort of an attitude on the question. Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is a hand."

Prof. Patrick Geddes, secretary of the Paris International Assembly, spoke on "The Interpretation of World Expositions," and was followed by Edward Pomeroy, secretary of the National Direct Legislation League, who gave his theories of "The Ethics of Democracy." Edwin Markham, who has sprung into prominence as the author of "The Man With the Hoe," was next introduced to speak on "Brotherhood." Mr. Markham spoke of the teachings of Christ as being founded on brotherhood. Then Mr. Patterson was introduced, the chairman remarking that he was a man who believed that matters could be made right under the present system. Mr. Patterson got up and spoke offhand, but very much as if he meant it.

"It's all very well," he said, "to talk about the great future, and what will happen 500 years from now. But a great many of us are likely to be dead by that time, and our business at present is to see what we can do to better conditions while we are alive. Here in this city you ought to be the leaders of progress, for you've got the material, mental and moral. Here is where the changes and improvements ought to begin.

"There are five great powers that can do anything in the line of reform, and each of them begins with the letter P. There's the Proprietor. Whether he runs a corner grocery or a vast industrial plant let him treat his employees with honesty, justice, and some regard for their interests as human beings. There's the Pedagogue. Let him educate our children until they are 15 years old to be honest and intelligent citizens, and disease and crime will disappear and nobody will die except of accident or old age. There's the Preacher. Let him work for the uplifting of humanity and not egg folks on to save their own little individual souls and let the rest go. There's the Politician. Let him forget the dollar and make a stand for good schools and economy. There's the Press, and most influential of all, there's the Press. Now who are those that are behind our springs of action; who clear-sighted and unafraid pull the wires that move us?"

"The women?" said somebody.

"The women, of course. Applause.] Let them get into a movement, heart and soul, and see how it prospers. If they aren't interested we must get them interested. Once they're organized they can bring about anything, and you'll find them standing always for the better and cleaner side of any question. But we mustn't go too fast. We must make up our minds what we want before we start an upheaval. Don't let us have again here such an upheaval as under the name of reform brought about a revolution in the city government and scattered vice broadcast through the city. Know what you want first, then go ahead. When the women are organized for any purpose let them work through the press. The papers will print what they do; they'll be glad to print it. And that's a better use for energy than starting settlements, though the settlements are good in their way. What I want to be understood to say is that we don't need to wait for 500 years and a general change before starting in to organize and make things go better."

Although the meeting had begun to break up before Mr. Patterson began to talk, the members who had started out remained standing where they were until he had finished and applauded him heartily when he sat down.

ELECTION DAY IN THE THIRTY-FIRST.

Slater's Return to the Assembly Is Confidently Expected.

The Republican workers in the Thirty-first Assembly district worked hard all day yesterday under the direction of Silas C. Croft, the leader. They made a house-to-house canvass and saw a great many Republican voters. They were well satisfied with the result of their labors last night, and declared that the only thing that would prevent the reëlection of Samuel S. Slater to the Assembly at the special election to-day would be either an as yet undiscovered apathy on the part of the Republican voters or a feeling of over-confidence.

A number of them said last night that they had received promises from many Tammany voters to cast their ballots for Slater. It is known that the schoolteachers have been working for him all through the campaign preceding this special election because it was Slater who introduced the Ahearn bill in the Assembly and worked for it until he secured its passage.

Mr. Croft said last night that he was positive that Slater would win, and that if the vote came in at all slow to-morrow the workers would go the rounds again and bring the voters to the polls.

In the Hands of a Receiver.

ROCHESTER, Jan. 22.—The Eddy & Webster Company of State street, manufacturers of fine shoes, went into the hands of a receiver to-day. An order to that effect was signed by Justice Davy of the Supreme Court. The reason given is the serious illness of Col. S. S. Eddy, the largest stockholder of the concern. By the terms of the receivership Gustavus H Stein, who has been connected with the company for twelve years, assumes charge and Mr. Eddy withdraws. The debts amount to about $300,000 and the assets are about the same.

Dead With the Gas Turned On.

A man supposed to be Thomas Duffy was found dead in a room in Marty McDonald's Baines law hotel, Coney Island, yesterday. The gas was turned on and he had been dead for several hours.

ACCUSES A BLIND PHYSICIAN.

14-Year-Old Boy Complains of a Beating by Dr. Thalberg of the Waldorf-Astoria.

Dr. John Thalberg, a blind physician, who lives at the Waldorf-Astoria and whose office is at 26 West Thirty-fourth street, was escorted to the West Fifty-fourth street police court by his attendant, Dr. Sargent, yesterday morning, and was arraigned on the charge of assaulting Arthur Magnet, 14 years old of 317 West Thirtieth street. A warrant had been issued for the physician and given to Gerry Agent Thomas H. Agnew to serve, but Dr. Thalberg was not arrested. "When I went to the Waldorf-Astoria last night to make the arrest," said Agnew, "I learned that the doctor was blind so I didn't care to lock him up. He promised to come to court voluntarily this morning."

When the case was called counsel for the physician said that he was not prepared for an examination and asked for an adjournment. The case was then set down for a hearing to-morrow and the prisoner was paroled in the custody of his lawyer.