"ALLESSANDRO STRADELLA"

ANOTHER PLEASING ROLE FOR LEO SLEZAK.

The Audience Was Much Entertained by Flotow's Simple Opera—Alma Gluck's Good Voice Heard to Great Advantage—Goritz and Reiss Are Funny.

"Allessandro Stradella," opera in three acts by Friedrich von Flotow, composer of "Marta," was produced at the Metropolitan Opera House last night. While the incident was not one of profound importance in the present prolific season of music, it certainly was not unwelcome. Perhaps the opera would have been permitted to continue in obscurity were it not for the necessity of offering opportunities to observe Mr. Slezak in new costumes and to hear his resonant voice in unfamiliar tunes, but better operas than this have been kept alive by one singer.

This opera was originally composed as a French lyric drama and as such was produced at the Palais Royal Theatre in 1837. It was rearranged as a grand opera and presented at Hamburg on December 30, 1844. The story appears to have been taken from Bonnet-Bourdelet's "Histoire de la Musique et de ses Effets," published in Paris in 1715.

This veracious history told how *Stradella* eloped with the mistress of a Venetian nobleman, who hired assassins to slay the musician, and how the bravos were melted by the singing of their intended victim. The history narrated that about 1670 the nobleman's plan was finally successful.

In the opera this story is followed fairly well. The heroine is the ward of *Bassi*, who intends to marry her, but she is carried off by *Stradella*. The plot to kill him fails and in the end the guardian gives it up and leaves the loving pair to live happy ever after.

Stradella is one of the mediæval musicians about whom very little is known. He has been celebrated as a composer, a singer, a violinist and a harpist. But in fact his life is buried in obscurity. Nearly 150 of his compositions are extant and these include six oratorios and six dramas. Serious students of musical history know Stradella not as a hero of romance and a bewitching singer, but as a composer who displayed a remarkable skill in the treatment of large choral effects and who at a time when his brethren were devoting all their thought to the cultivation of solo writing bent his fine talent to the construction of oratorios, utilizing all the materials afterward employed by Handel.

In Flotow's opera *Stradella* is so poor a composer and so inaccurate a historian that he introduces in the last scene a cavatina by Bellini, who was not born till nearly a century and a quarter after he died.

However, the story of the opera need not be taken too gravely. It is extremely slight in substance and the text is frankly thin and inartistic. It belongs to that once popular class of librettos in which the words were mere pegs for tunes to hang upon. If Flotow's shallow and facile melodies please the passing fancy of the fickle public the purpose of the impresario in reviving this unimportant work will be accomplished.

The music of "Allessandro Stradella" is of the same school as that of "Marta," but it seldom displays the same amount of freshness and vivacity. The chief object of the score seems to be to provide the tenor with solos to sing so as to melt the hearts of bravos, and this it does well. The comic villains of the good old fashioned sort that used to be seen in so many operas serve their purpose as of old. They proved themselves last night to be worthy preservers of the buffa element which grew so firmly into the texture of Italian opera at a certain period.

As a vehicle for the display of Mr. Slezak's attractions the opera may serve for a time. It is not likely to be taken very seriously. It is simply a light and pleasant entertainment. Mr. Slezak looked handsome and sang excellently. That was all he had to do. Alma Gluck as *Leonora* sang charmingly and with a beauty of tone that is valuable beyond price. She is very innocent in many ways and has much to learn; but fortunately she will not have to learn how to use her voice safely.

Otto Goritz as *Malvolo*, and Albert Reiss as *Barbarino* were very amusing indeed and presented two new characters in their long list. They gave the audience a great deal of entertainment. Mr. Mühlmann was the *Bassi*. Max Bendix conducted the opera in a satisfactory manner.

The opera was followed by a ballet, the wedding scene from "Vienna Waltzes," Ivy Craske and Ottokar Bartik were the principal dancers.

FAUST KILLED.

Police Horse Impaled on Shaft of Ambulance.

The police horse Faust was killed while on duty on Fifth avenue near Forty-third street yesterday afternoon by being impaled on a shaft of an ambulance belonging to the German Hospital.

Policeman Orrin Crosby was in the saddle and the horse was standing still while Crosby directed the passing traffic. The ambulance was on its way down town to get a patient for the hospital. David Kennedy was driving and a surgeon was sitting inside.

Kennedy drove too close to the policeman's horse and a shaft of the ambulance pierced the horse's flank, cutting a large artery. The animal bled to death.

Faust cost the Police Department about $400. He was one of the best looking horses in the department. Faust and his rider were known to many as the "little horse and little rider."

Kennedy was arrested and another driver was obtained for the ambulance, which went on. The prisoner was taken to the Yorkville police court, where a charge of disorderly conduct was made against him. Magistrate Barlow said he wanted the ambulance surgeon in court and adjourned the hearing until to-day. Kennedy was held in $500 bail.

Man Who Tried to Eat Bark in Central Park Sent to Bellevue.

A middle aged well dressed man was seen trying to bite the bark off some of the trees near the east bridle path in Central Park yesterday. Tree pruners at work chased him away and he went up the bridle path, and when a woman equestrian came along with her escort the stranger tried to stop them.

Mounted Policeman Lalt arrested him and took him to the Yorkville police court. It was learned that he was a Spaniard, but nothing further could be got from him. He was put down as John Doe and sent to Bellevue Hospital for examination as to his mental condition.

George Cohan's Sister-in-Law Gets Divorce

BOSTON, Feb. 4.—Loretta A. Nolan Merrill, well known on the stage, got a divorce to-day from her husband, Frederick C. Merrill, a Brooklyn druggist. Mrs. Merrill was one of seventeen children of John Nolan, a Brookline letter carrier, and is a sister-in-law of George Cohan. The grounds for the divorce were cruel and abusive treatment.

"ELEKTRA" TOO MUCH FOR HER.

Mme. Gerville-Reache Retires as Klytemnestra—Mme. Doria Next.

Jeanne Gerville-Reache has followed the example of Mme. Schumann-Heink and retired from the cast of "Elektra" after one performance. Mme. Heink sang twice in the Dresden production of the opera. Mme. Gerville-Reache's retirement is permanent. Mme. Doria will sing *Klytemnestra* to-night in Philadelphia and will retain the rôle in future performances of Strauss's opera.

"I agree with Mme. Heink in everything she said about the rôle of *Klytemnestra*," Mme. Gerville-Reache told THE SUN reporter yesterday, "and I can only repeat what I said after the first few rehearsals. Such a part is infernal. It is such a strain on the voice that my throat ached after I had finished the opera. The character is hideous, one with which I cannot possibly feel the least sympathy, and I am determined whatever may happen never to appear as *Klytemnestra* again.

"Of course I regret all the time wasted in rehearsals but I promised Mr. Hammerstein to take part in the first performance and I have kept my word. Now I am finished with *Klytemnestra* forever. One thing might have reconciled me to remaining in the part if I had not felt that the music was going to hurt my voice. I felt quite uncertain of making a success in the part myself. It only needed the judgment of the press to convince me that the sooner I retired from 'Elektra' the better."

Mme. Doria is very anxious to appear in the part. Mme. Mazarin, who has in the title rôle more music to sing than the rôles of *Brünnhilde* in "Siegfried" and "Die Walkuere" combined, said yesterday that she felt fully recovered and would be glad to sing *Elektra* a second time.

"I have noticed no special vocal strain," she said yesterday before starting for Philadelphia, "but there is undeniably considerable mental and emotional excitement from singing such a rôle. Half an hour's rest restores me completely, however, and if I had been able to lie down for a quarter of an hour after the first performance on Tuesday I never should have fainted."

BLAZE AT DELMONICO'S.

It Started in an Overturned Pan of Fat and Spoiled a Dinner.

Some one upset a pan of fat on the cooking range in the kitchen of Delmonico's yesterday afternoon and started a smudge.

The Italian chef and his assistants were busy at the time preparing a dinner for the Assembly ball in Brooklyn and there was considerable going on in the kitchen. When the pan of grease fell and flashed up everybody got out of the way.

William Heafy is the chief engineer of the building. He ran upstairs in his regular working clothes and sprinted out on the street in the direction of the nearest fire alarm box. The smoke and smell of the burning fat beat him to the first floor, however, and went right on upstairs. Before Heafy reached the fire alarm box he ran into the arms of Police Inspectors McClusky and Walsh, who were taking a stroll on the avenue. The inspectors shouted to a traffic policeman to turn in an alarm and then returned to Delmonico's with the engineer.

The place was just getting smelly from the smudge downstairs when McClusky entered the restaurant and displaying his shield told the already alarmed lunchers that there was a trifling fire downstairs but that it didn't amount to anything and everything was all right and they might just as well go right on eating. Walsh meanwhile had jumped down to the basement, got a line on the situation there and then went back upstairs to reassure a bridge party given by the ladies' auxiliary of the Polyclinic Hospital.

The telephone girl, Josephine Reidy, telephoned Police Headquarters and in a couple of minutes or so there was not only the usual amount of fire apparatus in the street but also the reserves from the East Fifty-first street station.

As far as the fire itself was concerned Engineer Heafy and his men and Capt. McDonough of Engine 65 and his men didn't fuss long with it. Maybe it did $300 damage to the grease, the Assembly ball's dinner and the kitchen woodwork.

FOR THE BLIND IN NEW JERSEY.

State Secures the Services of Miss Hayes of the Perkins Institute.

MONTCLAIR, N. J., Feb. 4.—The New Jersey State Commission for the Blind after a study of the work in other States has decided to adopt the methods pursued in Massachusetts and to that end has called to the supervision of the work for the blind in New Jersey Miss Lydia Y. Hayes, who for the last eight years has been connected with the Perkins Institute for the Blind in South Boston.

Miss Hayes will take a census of the blind and see that the adults are instructed in useful and diverting occupations, that the children of school age have schooling and that the babies and children under 8 years are placed in the Arthur Home and Kindergarten for the Blind at Summit, which has recently been acquired by the International Sunshine Society.

Miss Hayes will make her home in Montclair. She has been blind since early childhood.

TUFTS ALUMNI DINE.

Commissioner Bassett Tells Them of the Ideal Franchise.

The Tufts College alumni had their annual dinner at the Hotel Astor last night. The guests were Edward M. Bassett of the Public Service Commission, the Rev. Dr. Ezra Tipple of Drew Seminary and Prof. Leo R. Lewis of Tufts. About fifty of the alumni attended.

Milton G. Starrett, '86, former chief engineer of the Metropolitan Railway, presided at the dinner. Mr. Bassett, the principal speaker, talked of evils of perpetual and limited time franchises and declared for the indeterminate franchise on the good behavior basis.

"The franchise is granted without term, but with the proviso that the city can terminate it at any time say after ten years," said Mr. Bassett. "The result is that the company has every incentive to give good service and reasonable fares, because otherwise a popular movement may end in the calling of the franchise."

MURDERER FOUND IN PRISON,

Where He Had Been Sent on Conviction for Burglary.

William Nathan, colored, was brought here last night from the State prison at Charlestown, Mass., and locked up at Police Headquarters on a charge of murder.

Nathan was employed as an assistant janitor in 1908 at 77 Second avenue. The janitor was Abraham Reeder. On June 8 of that year Reeder collected the rents from tenants. Nathan saw the money, $190, and the same day was told by the owners of the building that he was discharged. That night he met Reeder in the basement of the building and struck him over the head with an iron bar and killed him. He took the rent money and disappeared.

The police learned recently that Nathan had been sentenced, under the name of Thomas Morris, to three years in the Charlestown prison for a robbery committed in Fall River shortly after he left this city. The Massachusetts authorities commuted the sentence so that the man could be brought here on the murder charge.

MORE POWER TO MRS. TILLMAN

FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS WISHES HER SUCCESS

In Her Legal Battle With the Senator to Recover Her Children—The Resolution Stirred Up a Row in the Meeting—"An Unjust South Carolina Law."

It took every bit of Mrs. Belle De Rivera's persuasive powers and executive ability as well as the full muscular strength of her right arm exercised upon a stout hickory gavel to keep the delegates of the New York City Federation of Women's Clubs, who met yesterday afternoon at the Hotel Astor, in even a semblance of order.

The question as to whether the convention should or should not send a formal protest to the Governor and Legislature of South Carolina regarding the law which gives a father the sole guardianship of his children during the lifetime of the mother created more excitement than even a biennial election. Dozens of women attempted to speak at the same time, while others cheered and clapped and shouted "No" and "Yes" and "That's right."

Mrs. Richard Bent of the Legislative League introduced a resolution setting forth that the federation was grieved and shocked that a father should have the power of taking away a child from an estimable mother. Such a law, the resolution continued, was inhuman and a blot upon the fair escutcheon of South Carolina.

Loud applause followed the reading of the resolution and it received a chorus of seconds. It looked for a moment as if it would be adopted unanimously, but those who thought so had reckoned without Mrs. Edythe Tott McGrath, who founded the New Yorkers and plays Shakespearian rôles in the South and West.

"I spent several weeks in South Carolina this winter," she exclaimed, "and I want to tell you that the women of South Carolina won't thank you for any such protest. They don't believe in divorce and they think that men are supreme, and they are satisfied with their laws.

"That isn't true!" shouted several voices.

A woman in a blue frock who afterward explained that she was from the South, and an authority on negro dialect, said that Mrs. McGrath didn't understand the situation at all. The women of South Carolina didn't perhaps believe in divorce, she explained, but they cared just as much as the women of any other State for their children and would be very grateful for the support of the New York City Federation.

The chorus again had its way with the convention and the president's gavel could be seen but not heard. Then Mrs. Harriette Johnston Wood was allowed to speak alone.

"It seems to me," she said in tones freighted with irony, "that it would be just as well for us of New York State not to butt in when we have such discriminating laws against women in our own State."

The suffragists present applauded rapturously while the antis, headed by Mrs. Julian Heath, sighed and shook their heads indignantly.

Mrs. Heath said that since New York was the banner State in regard to its laws for the protection of women and children she thought it most fitting that the women of New York should express their disapproval of the existence in any State of a law like the one under discussion. Mrs. Lillie Devereux Blake said she agreed with Mrs. Heath and apparently the majority of their hearers were of the same mind, but once again the tables were turned.

Mrs. G. T. Baruch, a prominent member of the Dixie Club, said that she hoped the convention would take no action regarding the case now in the South Carolina courts.

"This is a question of State rights," she continued, "and I do not think that we have any right to interfere. Let the women of South Carolina look out for their own rights it is not our business."

"Hurrah!" yelled sympathizers from all parts of the room.

"The men of South Carolina have gone into this question more deeply than we have," she went on. "What right have a small group of women to criticise laws that they haven't studied, especially the laws of another State where the conditions are very different from those in the part of the country where they live?"

"That's right," chorused the fickle delegates.

"I move that this resolution be referred back to the committee on resolutions," said a woman in the front seat.

It was so ordered, but the convention was not rid of it, because the committee reported it again before the close of the session. The sentiment regarding it was so kaleidoscopic in its changes that the president finally suggested that a resolution of sympathy be sent to Mrs. Tillman, with an expression of hope that the Supreme Court of the State of South Carolina would finally give her the custody of her children.

Mrs. Harriette Johnston Wood then read her famous list of the laws of New York State which give a husband advantage over his wife in regard to financial matters. She had added one or two since the last convention that specially horrified her listeners.

"How many of you know," she asked, "that if a married woman keeps boarders or takes care of sick persons in her own house the money belongs to her husband? How many of you know that the question has not yet been decided as to whether a husband and wife may enter into a legal partnership? My husband and I have been in partnership for five years, but if a rupture should come I am not at all sure what would happen to the firm property. You'd better be careful how you go into partnership with your husbands unless you have a certain proportion of the earnings registered in your own name."

Resolutions were passed demanding that the Public Service Commission take steps for the protection of women ticket sellers on the stations of the Brooklyn elevated railway, and requesting that the Board of Education appoint a district superintendent to fill the existing vacancy who should be in sympathy with the majority of teachers in the district.

The suffrage and anti-suffrage committees both reported progress, and a growing public sentiment in favor of their respective tenets.

Mrs. Gabrielle Stewart Mulliner submitted an ordinance dealing with the protection of workers in factories which the federation hopes the Board of Aldermen will regard with favor.

After a protest against the women's departments in periodicals and newspapers, which the delegates agreed were beneath their intellectual consideration, the convention adjourned.

REMARRIAGE COSTS ALIMONY.

Appellate Court Says Mrs. Cromwell Macy Can't Collect $12 a Week.

Mrs. Nellie J. Macy, wife of Cromwell G. Macy, Sr., a lawyer at 257 Broadway, cannot collect $12 a week alimony from her former husband, Andrew Mowbray, under a ruling of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court yesterday. Mrs. Macy got her divorce from Mowbray in 1905 and at that time the order for alimony was included in the decree. Mrs. Mowbray became Mrs. Macy in December, 1908, and last December Mowbray moved to strike out the alimony provision from the decree. The motion was denied and he appealed.

Justice McLaughlin, writing the higher court's opinion, says that the motion should have been granted because the statute is imperative on that point.

AUTOS AND CARRIAGE TRADE.

Motor Cars Haven't Hurt Cheap Vehicle Building, Says Studebaker.

John M. Studebaker, who is at the Waldorf, is the head of a company that turned out last year 180,000 vehicles of various kinds. Mr. Studebaker said yesterday that he had started out in life with a capital of 50 cents.

To look at Mr. Studebaker you would be apt to size him up as a farmer. He wears long gray whiskers and no mustache. He does not affect a London tailor. Yet his concern employs in its works at South Bend, Ind., 4,000 men, and has branches all over the country. Mr. Studebaker says he is 77 years old, "though," he added, "my wife always gets after me when I tell my real age. You see, the secret of long life and good health is hard work. I have always worked hard.

"Two of my brothers had a little blacksmith shop in South Bend, but I decided in 1852, while I was working for a wagon maker there, that I wanted to go out to California to seek my fortune. So I built a wagon body that winter and my brother did the iron work for me. There was a company going west the next spring, and I turned my wagon over to them to pay for my share of the expenses. We had a drove of horses with us, and the Indians chased us all the way. Almost every night they would try to steal our horses. They didn't have rifles in those days, so they did not do much attacking.

"It took us five months and eight days to get across to California, and when I landed there I had only 50 cents on which to begin life. I took to prospecting, but I kept at it only three months. Then I decided to make use of my trade, and I started in making wheelbarrows and picks. After four years I had had enough of it and returned to South Bend in the winter of 1857.

"My two brothers were still in business, and I bought the elder out, and we went into wagon building. There wasn't any marvellous growth—just natural. The business spread, and the day before I left South Bend we received orders for 11,000 vehicles of various kinds. We sell a good deal to Europe, though not much to England. South America is our biggest foreign customer, and the Argentine Republic is the chief part of that. A friend who just got back to-day from the other side was telling me a little while ago that he hired a carriage at Jerusalem and found it was one of our make. We turn out 400 different kinds of vehicles.

"What has been the effect of the automobile on the carriage business?" Mr. Studebaker was asked.

"Well, it has practically killed the fine vehicle, but it has increased the output of the medium class article."

THE SEAGOERS.

An Unusually Large February Exodus on Ten Liners.

There will be another unusual winter exodus by sea to-day, more than 1,800 passengers departing by ten liners. The North German Lloyd steamship Grosser Kurfuerst, chartered by Frank C. Clark, is taking 550 excursionists on a cruise to the Mediterranean and the Orient that will last until April 19. Among the voyagers are sixteen clergymen, sixteen physicians, several Colonels, a few Captains and lots of plain citizens. Among the Colonels are Robert H. Dwyer of Denver and John Davidson Letcher of Norfolk. Others aboard are the Rev. Dr. Isaac M. Patterson, William B. Plunkett, the Rev. Dr. Charles H. Bohner, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Willard and the Rev. Dr. John F. Shepherd.

Passengers by the Cunarder Saxonia, for the Mediterranean and the Adriatic:

Mr. and Mrs. H. G. B. Alexander, Mrs. L. Peckham Waring, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Russell, W. C. Peckham, Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Park, Mrs. H. R. James, Mr. and Mrs. James W. Fuller, the Rev. and Mrs. E. G. Fullerton, Capt. and Mrs. H. A. Burrowe, Frederick L. Beecher, Dr. J. M. Baldwin and Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Deyo.

By the White Star liner Laurentic, for Queenstown and Liverpool:

F. A. Prime, H. D. Van Sant, American Consul at Dunfermline, and Mrs. Van Sant; Norman Wilkinson, O. V. Forbes, J. W. Bird, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Blunt, Mrs. Daniel F. Cohalan, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. de Villaverde and Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Whyte.

Sailing by the American liner New York, for Plymouth, Cherbourg and Southampton:

R. C. Coates, Thomas A. Cantrell, E. O. Dalzell, Ogden B. Gillmor, Dr. T. M. T. McKennan, J. Lawrence Wetherill, James M. Hyde and N. E. Vinton.

Passengers by the Hamburg-American liner President Grant, for Cherbourg and Hamburg:

William G. Hegeman, Mrs. Mary Turner Foote, Mrs. Franklyn Gaylord, Mrs. William S. Gage, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Shaw, F. D. Asche and Benjamin Overton.

By the Anchor liner Caledonia, for Glasgow:

Allan S. Bain, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Davidson, Col. and Mrs. William C. Hunter and Mrs. James A. Russell.

Passengers by the Atlantic Transport liner Minnetonka, for London:

Mr. and Mrs. James M. Harding, L. H. Nelson, A. B. Lovett, M. J. Burns and Thomas Eakin.

Sailing by the Hamburg-American liner Prinz Sigismund, for the West Indies and South America:

Thomas H. Mather, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Woodruff, Mrs. J. W. Herbert, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Gage and A. A. Sargent.

By the Quebec Line steamship Oceana, for Bermuda:

Mr. and Mrs. Carlton Macy, D. M. Philbin, Col. Thomas Talbot, Dr. and Mrs. V. G. Hamill, Dr. A. N. Collier and Mr. and Mrs. Roland D. Armstrong.

BANK SHORT $550,000.

Southbridge Savings Depositors Stand to Lose About 15 Per Cent.

BOSTON, Feb. 4.—The examination of the affairs of the Southbridge Savings Bank has been completed, and in a few days a detailed report of the condition of the bank will be available. From a source that is reliable it is learned that the shortage is about $550,000.

The loss to the depositors, however, will not be as large as this would seem to indicate, for the surplus amounts to about $177,000, and assets of John A. Hall, the treasurer, amounting to about $15,000, have been turned over to the bank. The net shortage therefore will be in the vicinity of $350,000, which would mean that the depositors may lose about 15 per cent. of their deposits.

This is based on not getting anything from the trustees. If the trustees can be held for negligence then about $110,000 of this $350,000 may be recovered. The trustees are not liable for negligence beyond a period of six years, according to the statute of limitations.

Massenet's "Grisélidis" Again at the Manhattan Opera House.

Massenet's "Grisélidis," was presented before a large and demonstrative audience at the Manhattan Opera House last night. The score, with its Provençal songs, seems to improve on acquaintance and the production found great favor.

The appearance of the ballet in the second act and the love scene between *Alain*, the shepherd, and *Grisélidis*, were especially well received last night. The chorus singing off stage was well done and proved very effective.

The cast was the same as that which appeared on the opening night. Mary Garden sang *Grisélidis*. M. Huberdeau, as the *Devil*, came in for a large share of the applause. M. Dalmores sang the rôle of *Alain*, the shepherd, and Hector Dufranne was the *Marquis*. The minor parts were taken by Mme. Walter-Villa, as *Fiamina*, the *Devil's* wife; M. Scott as *Gondebaud*, M. Villa as the *Prior* and Mme. Duchene as *Bertrade*. Mr. de la Fuente conducted.

RECEPTION TO 1,400 GIRLS

WASHINGTON IRVING HIGH'S GET TOGETHER DAY.

The Sixty-ninth Regiment Armory Scene of a Lively Gathering—Principal McAndrew Made to Understand That He's There by Courtesy Only.

'Tis a way they have at the Washington Irving Girls High School, and a mighty pleasant way it is too, of initiating the freshmen—or freshwomen—by having a "get together party." Yesterday was "get together" day for the midwinter incoming class, and the Sixty-ninth Regiment Armory was none too large to accommodate the welcomers and the welcomed, for the midwinter Washington Irving High freshmen have broken the record for incoming classes with a registration of 1,407.

Probably you think that the function was a stiff affair where the teachers presented Miss Blank, freshman, to Miss Blank, senior, and then left them stranded on the social shoals. As a matter of fact the teachers didn't have a thing to do with it, and so skilful are the older girls of Washington Irving High that there wasn't a sign of a stranded freshman anywhere.

Principal McAndrew came in to look on at the function and so far forgot himself as to wander out on the floor where the older girls who had paired off with the newcomers were swinging about to the rhythm of a two step. He had forgotten that no men and no teachers were allowed, but he was quickly reminded by one of the older girls, who led him back to the space reserved for chance spectators and pinned on his coat the large red heart which all newcomers were supposed to wear. He might be entertained, you see, but the entertaining must remain entirely in the hands of the very capable committees of girls who were in charge.

Every freshman had pinned to her dress a similar heart, and on each heart was written in large letters the freshman's name, so that formal introductions were unnecessary. Each of the older girls wore a large red arrow with her name on it. The idea was that the arrow of friendship was to pierce the sometimes timid heart of the newcomer.

After Principal McAndrews had been warned off the dancing floor a girl whose perfect poise and easy knowledge of convention made her a charming hostess pointed out to the visitor "the only man allowed on the floor." This demure young person was much pleased with the success of her joke in indicating as a favored one a "dummy" in khaki which stood with military stiffness near the door.

It was noticed that the khaki figure had lost his head—and no wonder, for it is not often that one sees 3,400 girls all flushed with happiness and success.

Perhaps it was the phalanx of mascots that decapitated the poor chap in khaki. There were thirty of them, and each mascot had wonderful red hair. Their function is always to cross their fingers whenever the new building for Washington Irving High is mentioned and to knock wood vigorously to break the spell which has kept the site for the school at Irving place and Seventeenth street unoccupied for eight years. The Board of Education may not know it, but each of the thirty is doing her best to cast the particular kind of spell that goes with her particular shade of red hair to hasten the building of the school.

At present the 3,000 and odd girls are housed in scattered buildings, most of them anything but fitted to the purpose, and for this reason their "get together" party had a special significance.

After waltzing and twostepping until everybody felt really acquainted with every one else the older girls entertained the newcomers with folk dances and solo dances before every one joined in the grand march. Sarah Heimovitz, chairman of the floor committee; Esther Beiswanger, president of the Students Association, and Minnie Green and Mary Pecora, who led the grand march, had the task of seeing that the dancers came on in the regular order and that everything went smoothly.

There were spirited folk dances by different contingents and graceful solo dances by two of the girls and then everybody got in line—new comers and old—for the grand march, which wound about the big armory building in intricate formations. When it was finished Principal McAndrews megaphoned his approval from the gallery.

The only rift in the lute of perfect enjoyment for the Washington Irving High girls was that they didn't quite do it all themselves. They had to hire an orchestra and it is the Washington Irving spirit to do everything for yourself. If only somebody would present the school with a set of instruments as some one did for that lucky school 62, they say that the next reception wouldn't have to employ one single bit of outside talent.

On March 4 Washington Irving High is to hold a reception for Mrs. Gaynor and those thirty mascots are to be presented to the Mayor's wife.

NEW JERSEY MAYORS ORGANIZE

Adopt Gov. Fort's Suggestion to Make Their Influence Felt in Legislation.

TRENTON, N. J., Feb. 4.—The Mayors of New Jersey, on the initiative of Gov. Fort, are going to take an ative part hereafter in connection with legislation affecting municipalities. The executives of about seventy municipalities of the State, who had been invited by Gov Fort, met in conference in the Assembly Chamber to-day, and after listening to an address by the Governor decided to effect a permanent organization and meet at least annually. For the present more frequent meetings will be held, and the next session will be on February 19.

Gov. Fort in his opening address to the conference discussed the five topics which he had referred to in his invitations as worthy of special consideration. He advocated the passage of a law which would place a limit upon the bonded indebtedness of municipalities and suggested that the limit for counties be 2 per cent. of the ratables, for cities 7 per cent. and for other municipalities 10 per cent.

A permanent organization was effected, and Mayor Charles J. Fisk of Plainfield was made chairman, with Assemblyman Poole, who is Mayor of West Long Branch, as secretary. After Mayor Fisk took the chair a number of resolutions were introduced, chief among which was one which asked the committee on legislation to prepare an amendment to the existing Bishops law relative to the sale of liquor.

Among the resolutions adopted by the conference was one affecting the principle of municipal home rule and another declaring that all local officers except Mayors and members of Common Councils should be appointed instead of elected and that all appointments should be made by Mayors subject to approval by Common Councils. Another resolution declared in favor of the election of local officers on separate tickets without party designation. These as well as other resolutions were referred to the committee on legislation, which is expected to draft bills for admission first to the conference to be held two weeks hence and after adoption by the conference to be presented to the Legislature.

Max Fiedler to Stay in Boston.

BOSTON, Feb. 4.—Max Fiedler, conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra during the last two seasons, to-day signed a contract to continue in that position during the seasons of 1910 and 1911.

Brill Clothes

It's the little blot of ink that mars the carefully written page; the crumpled cravat, the darkening glove, the not-quite-right waistcoat that mars the otherwise well-groomed man.

For Evening Wear:

Evening Dress Coats, $17 and $20.
Dinner Coats, $15 and $18.
Dress Trousers, $4.50 and $9.
Black Dress Waistcoats, $3.50 and $6.
Pique Dress Waistcoats, $3 and $3.50.
Silk Waistcoats, white or gray, $5 and $7.
Silk Dress Ties, gray, 50c and $1.
White Lawn Dress Ties, 25c and 50c.
Black Ties, 25c, 50c and $1.
Fownes' Dress Gloves, $2.
Brill Dress Gloves, $1 and $1.50.

All four stores open this evening.

Brill Brothers
CLOTHIERS 4 CONVENIENT STORES
279 BROADWAY, nr. Chambers St. 125th STREET, cor. 3d Avenue.
UNION SQUARE, 14th St., nr. B'way. 47 CORTLANDT ST., nr. Greenwich.

THE POETRY OF GAMBLING

SHOWING MORE USES THAN ONE FOR A CLASSIC.

Also That Predestination Overcometh Prudence—But Tom Lem, Seller of Chestnuts, Is Glad the Late Chung Shee Dong Didn't Catch His Pigeons.

"Predestination Overcometh Prudence" is the motto over the door of the shop at 22 Pell street where Tom Lem sells ginger and soy and water chestnuts to the chop suey houses of Chinatown. Last night Tom took a big bale of paper prayers to the temple and praised his joss that he was caught with those lottery slips in the alien jurisdiction of Magistrate Butts rather than in that of the late Chung Shee Dong, Governor of Canton.

For Quan Yik Nam, one of Chinatown's traders, told the Magistrate in the Tombs court yesterday that Chung Shee Dong not long ago chopped off the heads of two men who were caught as Tom Lem was last Sunday by Policemen Flynn and Kiernan of the Elizabeth street station.

"They call this pigeon lottery in China," said Quan as he examined ten little square pieces of paper that Flynn testified he had found next to Tom's underclothing as Tom was about to enter 20 Pell street where the police suspected there is a lottery shop.

"You see," he went on, "Chung Shee Dong said they mustn't play lottery, so from the headquarters of the game they sent out homing pigeons every day to the players. The players tied their play to the pigeons and then the pigeons flew back."

"And so you charge that Tom Lem was playing pigeon," said the Magistrate to Flynn.

Quan qualified further as a lottery expert, saying that he had played himself. He explained that the smudges over certain characters on the papers indicated the play and the scratches in the corners the names of the players. He was sure the slip had been used.

Dr. Joseph Thoms, a Chinese physician, who called on behalf of Tom Lem, looked at the slips and said he saw nothing illicit.

"This Chinese printing is a poem from one of the Chinese classics," said Dr. Thoms. "It is found in the 'One Thousand Character Primer' and is the first work studied by Chinese children."

Dr. Thoms said that this little four by six poem dealt with nature, dynasties, history, physics and political economy.

His translation began with an autumnal prelude:

Frigidity has dispelled the heat;
Autumn ends, ushering in the winter.
Heaven and earth are yellow and sere,
And swift clouds prophesy the rain.

Magistrate Butts stayed the further reading of the poem, saying there was every reason to believe that the Chinese had been playing heaven against earth and clouds against rain, and he thought $1,000 bonds for General Sessions would about hold Tom Lem.

While Lem was getting bail Dr. Thoms lamented that the Magistrate had not allowed him to finish the poem, which he said was very fine and contained much useful information.

"It says, for instance," said he, "that 'the universe is a limitless expanse,' 'nature's law is immutable.' Why, it's fine. It says: 'Liquid which is congealed becomes ice,' 'The strongest condiments of vegetation are ginger and mustard.' 'Fish exist in the water, while birds fly in the air.' It's really a very fine poem."

Temporary Colleague to Dr. Bradford.

MONTCLAIR, N. J., Feb. 4.—The Rev. Dr. Hugh Black of the Union Theological Seminary, whose home is in Upper Montclair, has been appointed permanent supply for the First Congregational Church, Montclair. Dr. Black will also act as counsellor and adviser in the affairs of the church until such time as the church society decides on a minister to fill the place of colleague to the Rev. Dr. Amory Howe Bradford, the pastor, who is to retire from active charge on account of ill health. The Rev. Dr. Black came here from Edinburgh, Scotland, several years ago.

Statue of Engineer Peary for the Natural History Museum.

MONTCLAIR, N. J., Feb. 4.—William Couper, the sculptor, of 105 Upper Mountain avenue, has been commissioned by the Museum of Natural History in New York city to model a statue of Commander Robert E. Peary, which will be placed in the museum. Mr. Couper will begin the work next week and he expects to finish it within a year. A clay model will be presented to the directors of the museum for their consideration. The statue is to be life size and of marble. It will cost between $15,000 and $20,000.

New Public School for Harlem's "Little Italy."

C. B. J. Snyder, chief architect of the Department of Education, filed plans yesterday with Building Superintendent Miller for a new five story school building to be erected on 113th street just east of Second avenue, in Harlem's "Little Italy" colony. It is to be of brick finished with terra cotta and limestone, with a frontage of 220 feet, and will have three wings. It is to cost $339,000 and will be known as Public School 102.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Only One "BROMO QUININE," that is Laxative Bromo Quinine
Cures a Cold in One Day, Grip in 2 Days
E. W. Grove on every box. 25c.

STOLE FROM HIS SISTER.

To Make Presents to His Wife, Who Now Charges Him With Bigamy.

William Drescher, 21 years old, was a prisoner at Police Headquarters last night charged with grand larceny and bigamy. He works in The Bronx as a butcher and lives with his father at 1342 Stebbens avenue. His father is a retired butcher and well to do.

Drescher has been keeping company for some time with a girl known to the Drescher family as Lottie Greer, who lives at 1463 Amsterdam avenue. Lottie Greer, it was found by detectives yesterday, is Mrs. William Drescher, the two having been married on January 23, 1908. She makes the bigamy charge, while Drescher's sister, Minna, is the complainant on the grand larceny charge.

Minna Drescher missed a fifty dollar bearskin coat and hat recently and the matter was reported to the police. Detectives Meyers and Wagner learned from the family that Drescher had been talking of presenting Miss Greer with a hat and coat. The detectives went to see her yesterday and learned that she was Drescher's wife. Then they went back and talked to Drescher and he admitted finally that he had taken the coat and hat to give his wife so that she might wear them to a ball. They were found in a suitcase in the Drescher home.

Drescher was taken to Police Headquarters and his sister was sent for. The police said last night that she signed a complaint against him charging him with grand larceny. This Miss Drescher denied last night. She said:

"The police told me they had the thief and to come and sign for my hat and coat and that's what I thought I was signing. They didn't say it was a complaint and I didn't know it."

Lottie Greer Drescher also went to Headquarters last night and made a formal complaint of bigamy against her husband. She charged in her complaint that in October, 1907, he had married a girl by the name of Helen Clemens, whose address she does not know.

THOMAS P. DANIELS ARRESTED.

He Is Alleged to Have Used the Mails to Defraud Bond Buyers.

PITTSBURG, Feb. 4.—Thomas P. Daniels, head of the Fidelity Investment Company, was arrested in Cleveland to-day and brought here for trial on a charge of using the mails to defraud.

Some months ago Daniels fled from Pittsburg after a fraud order had been issued against his Bankers Bond Company by the postal authorities and warrants had been issued for his arrest.

Since then he has been chased through most large cities of the United States.

Daniels is alleged to have swindled people of Pittsburg out of about $50,000. He dealt in bonds.

Before locating in Pittsburg Daniels is alleged by the Federal authorities to have done some clever swindling in St. Louis, Chicago, Milwaukee and Detroit.

Comstock After Brooklyn Tailor.

United States Commissioner Benedict in Brooklyn has held Joseph Harowitz, a tailor of 8 Myrtle avenue, in $1,500 bail for examination on a charge of having sent questionable postcards through the mails. Anthony Comstock is the complainant.

Hunyadi János
Natural Laxative Water
Recommended by Physicians.
Refuse Substitutes.
If you have never used it before, try it NOW for
CONSTIPATION

"CONCLUDING SESSION"
AMERICAN ART GALLERIES
MADISON SQUARE SOUTH NEW YORK CITY
This (Sat.) Afternoon at 2:30
"The Property of a Private Collector"
Rare Tapestries
Remarkable Italian Renaissance Vestments
Beautiful Old Embroideries
An Extraordinary Collection of
Ecclesiastical Statuettes
Old Italian, Gothic, and Chippendale Furniture
Also a Number of
Antique Artistic Objects
Belonging to the Estate of
The Late Stanford White
The sale will be conducted by Mr. THOMAS E. KIRBY, of the AMERICAN ART ASSO