LONDON TALK.

The Latest Sensations in Operatic Circles.

ENGLAND AND THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

How Londoners Resent Encroachments Upon the Public Commons.

LONDON, March 20, 1878.

Carl Rosa has presented us with a new and charming songstress, though for a brief season only. Mlle Marie Fechter made her first appearance before a London audience on Monday evening last in the *rôle* of Marguerite, in Gounod's "Faust." Mlle. Fechter comes to London on leave of absence from Paris, where she is engaged at the Opéra Comique, and where she enjoys a very high reputation. She achieved at the Adelphi a thorough and emphatic success, notwithstanding that she was exceedingly nervous and did not make the most of her powers until toward the end of the opera. But her audience was very sympathetic, and, apart from any inclination to be indulgent, recognized the very evident fact that after all allowances there was a large margin for legitimate congratulation. There have, no doubt, been more powerful and dramatic impersonators of Marguerite, but a more natural, more charming and sweeter Gretchen has rarely been seen on the English stage. Her intonation and pronunciation of English is pure and unaffected. The critic of the *Daily Telegraph* says:—

Nothing was more obvious throughout her singing of Gounod's music than the manner in which, as by a natural and inevitable process, she reproduced its sentiment. It is easy, perhaps, to simulate the gladness of a young girl who decks herself with unexpected jewels, but when we find an artist equally natural and true throughout the whole gamut of human feeling we know that this can only be the result of qualities which warrant and lend hope to young ambition. In her embodiment of the character Mlle. Fechter, without trying to make "points," succeeded in pleasing. The whole business of the garden scene was delicately managed; an idea of Marguerite's purity and simplicity being conveyed by means which, if artful, were in appearance singularly artless. Throughout the scene of Valentine's death Mlle. Fechter did not exhibit the intense and passionate emotion to which we are accustomed; but in the final act resources became apparent such as previous reticence gave no cause to anticipate. How those resources may be more fully developed on subsequent occasions time will tell. It is enough for the public—and something for Mlle. Fechter, too—that there is a disposition to watch the sequel with interest and to look for a result in harmony with the general hope.

That Mlle. Fechter inherits the histrionic talent of her father is beyond doubt, and it is to be hoped that she can be induced to prolong her stay in the capital upon which, years ago, he burst as a star of the first magnitude. In addition to Mlle. Fechter there will be another débutant for us in Mr. Beckett, well known on your side as a baritone, and who for the past two years has been studying under Signor Delle Sedie, and is expected to take a high position as an oratorio singer.

THE OPERA SEASON.

Messrs. Gye and Mapleson, the two great London impresarii, are making ready for the coming season at their respective houses, Covent Garden and Her Majesty's. The former will bring out a new soprano, Mlle. Emma Ritt, a belle Viennoise, who has been studying in Milan for two years and has sung at the opera there, hitherto in small parts. She will appear before a London audience first as Donna Anna. She is said to have a very strong voice, a recommendation which led to her being selected by Wagner as one of the singers for Baireuth, but she declined the offer. Mr. Mapleson promises us a good list of artists, new, or but little known, to London. Mlle. Hauck, who made her first appearance here under his management when she was only sixteen years old, will reappear at Her Majesty's with a reputation gained during the interval at Berlin, Vienna and most of the other capitals of Europe. The engagement of Eugenie Pappenheim was concluded by cable a few days ago, and she is expected to appear in June as Valentina in the "Huguenots," and in "Fidelio," "Norma" and "Lucrezia." I wish I could also add as Elsa in "Lohengrin" and Senta in the "Flying Dutchman," but the voice of prophecy is silent as regards the music of the future.

JUBILEE.

It is announced too that Gilmore's band will arrive in April and make its first appearance at St. George's Hall, Liverpool, and afterward go to Dublin and Cork. In May there is to be a grand two day fête at the Crystal Palace, during which Mr. Gilmore will conduct a choir of 2,000 voices in conjunction with his band. "It is said," remarks the *Court Journal*, "that the uniform of the Twenty-second regiment of New York, worn by the band, will be the first appearance before a peaceful public on British soil," and, the writer might very well have added, it will be hailed with a hearty welcome.

THE EXHIBITION.

The Prince of Wales is back among the Londoners after his visit to Berlin and Paris. His activity as head of the British Commission in the Paris Exhibition has given great satisfaction and has materially pushed forward the prospects of the enterprise. *The Week* says that England is well in advance, as it was at Philadelphia, and that "the Americans will also be early in the field and their competition must prove formidable to some of our own firms. They will show marked advances in silk goods, and in silverware the best English and French houses will find it no easy matter to hold their own against the distinguished firm of Tiffany & Co. Much of their work is well known to connoisseurs in England and fetches a high price. We must expect also to see the American organs and pianos giving some trouble to our own makers. In cotton goods the Americans will probably take the chief awards. Altogether the competition is likely to be keener and more instructive than that which has attended any of the industrial exhibitions since the first memorable one in 1851."

SOCIETY GOSSIP.

The world of fashion was treated to a royal reminder the other day in a notice issued and published by the Lord Chamberlain, who was commanded to declare and pronounce to all that, just as gentlemen are required to appear in uniform or Court dress at Her Majesty's levees, so ladies also must appear in Court dress "with trains and plumes according to regulation—that is, so that the feathers can be clearly seen on approaching the Queen, and with white veils or lappets. Colored feathers are contrary to regulation, but in deep mourning black feathers may be worn." It is not known what was the particular offence against regulations which led to this momentous proclamation, but it would appear that a certain amount of laxity in costume has come under the eye of her Majesty, who is very keenly and jealously observant of etiquette, and never is known to fail in "spotting" any luckless lady who is not attired perfectly *en règle*. I believe that ladies who are too delicate in health to submit to the ridiculous and terrible ordeal of bare necks and shoulders in the March winds and in the draughty halls of the palace may, on application, obtain permission to appear before the Queen in high dresses.

A DANGEROUS INNOVATION.

A story is current that at a recent drawing room reception the Lord Chamberlain insisted on cutting off the "shoulder straps" of a dress worn by one of the ladies upon the ground that no high dresses were allowed. What was the result of the application of the shears to so evidently essential a portion of a dress as the shoulder straps is not stated; if, as is probable, they were necessary to sustain the upper portion of the costume the Lord Chamberlain committed a bold act, indeed, and the Queen can scarcely have thanked him for driving a lady before her in such a condition. He should have remembered:—

Falstaff—Their points being broken—
Poins—Down fell their hose.

While on the subject of dress I may mention that the custom of going into mourning during Lent seems to be increasing among the London ladies, especially those of ritualistic tendencies. The fashionable churches display the outward visible signs of inward spiritual grace in the shape of black bonnets and dresses of a great majority of the fair worshippers.

LITERARY.

Of starting of new journals there is no end. It is rumored that a new paper is about to make its appearance, the feature being that all the articles are to be signed by the authors. Among the contributors are mentioned Anthony Trollope, Charles Reade and E. Jenkins, M. P., author of "Ginx's Baby."

DOWN WITH THE FENCE.

In the Fulham suburban district of London is a little plot of common land known as Eel Brook Common, upon which the Ecclesiastical Commissioners have cast longing eyes. A public meeting of the inhabitants of the district was held last night to discuss the subject. Lord Ranelagh presided, and Sir Charles Dilke was present. The story unfolded at the meeting was that the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who are the lords of the manor, offered to sell the common to the Metropolitan Board of Works, and that while the negotiations were pending they suddenly sold for £3,000 to two solicitors, who are acting as trustees for some party or parties unknown, a strip of the land over which runs a footpath, contending that the land is not common land. This contention was smashed by Sir Charles Dilke, who argued that if so they would not sell so valuable a building frontage for such a price. The land was, however, fenced in, and padlocked gates cut off the footpath.

DILKE ON THE SITUATION.

Sir Charles Dilke addressed the meeting, pointed out the inalienable rights of the parishoners to the land, and advised that, as part of the enclosing barrier crossed a public path it should be pulled down. A shout was immediately raised, "We'll have it down to-night!" but Sir Charles deprecated the removing of the obnoxious gates in a riotous manner, and suggested that it should be formally done by the local surveyor. The meeting, however, seemed to have made up its mind to do the business in its own way, and with a strange unanimity the whole crowd proceeded in one direction after leaving the premises where the discussion was held—straight for Eel Brook Common. The moon was shining brightly as the crowd marched down the road, and immediately upon arriving at the fence—a strong, well made structure, consisting of palings four or five feet high, supported by posts which at every three yards had been fixed three feet deep into the ground—a sharp ripping crash told that the work of demolition had begun. The crowd made short work of the fences. Men and boys, laborers and gentlemen, and even women worked away, swaying length after length of the fence to and fro till it came down with a crash. Scores of people were thus engaged, while several hundreds of all classes looked on and cheered them at their work. In not much longer time than it would take to walk from one end to the other of the strip the whole fence was down. Then a cry of "Bonfire!" was raised, and soon a pile of broken palings was collected and a man thrust into it a lighted newspaper. Half a dozen others thrust yet more paper into the heap, and in a few minutes the wood, which seemed to be as dry as tinder, was blazing away merrily, while ever and anon fresh lengths of fence were dragged to the spot and flung upon the heap.

BEHEMOTH.

Poor Hippo is dead, and London is mourning the loss of a prime favorite known and admired by all who ever visited the Zoological Gardens in Regent's Park. A party of Egyptian hunters captured him while yet a baby on an island in the White Nile in 1849, and in the following year he made his triumphal entry into London per special train. He was named "Obaysch," after the island on which he was caught napping, and in 1872 his mate, "Adeis," presented him with a daughter, still living in the gardens. Obaysch had been showing signs of old age, but his demise, although expected, was sudden. Professor Garrod, F. R. S., and a band of assistants are going to make mince meat of him in behalf of science, and Londoners will miss his good tempered grunt as he raised his colossal form from the water and opened his enormous jaws for the reception of biscuit, of which he could comfortably accommodate a bushel or so before commencing mastication. We shall not see his like again.

JUVENILE RIOTERS.

Frequent complaints have been made to the Jersey City police against about fifty boys, between the ages of twelve and twenty years, who on Sunday line the Pennsylvania Railroad trestle, from Monmouth street to the Bergen cut, and pelt pedestrians with stones and pieces of railroad iron, destroying property and injuring children. Yesterday the boys stoned the members of No. 4 Engine Company and a number of citizens, cutting one of the latter in the head. Officer Sadler procured the assistance of a number of people living in the neighborhood and gave the scamps a chase. He succeeded in arresting only one, a boy of twelve years, who gave his name as Owen Fitzpatrick. The gang followed the officer on his way to the station house, and kept hooting and shouting that they would kill him. Officer Farley arrested Daniel Gilligan, aged twenty, who was flourishing a stick behind the officer. Both prisoners were locked up in the Gregory street police station.

PROSTRATED BY THE WAY.

The unknown man found stupefied at South Ferry, Brooklyn, on Saturday night, was identified at the Long Island College Hospital, yesterday, as Mr. H. Henriques, of No. 163 Monticello avenue, corner of Bellmont, Jersey City Heights. It was learned that Mr. Henriques had gone to a commission house at No. 36 South street, this city, on Saturday afternoon, for the purpose of obtaining some money that his son in South America had sent there for him. Mr. Henriques there met Mr. Enrique Simoupietra, residing at No. 310 Clinton street, Brooklyn, who invited him to his house to take tea. The invitation was accepted and he remained in Mr. Simonpietra's house until ten o'clock. He then started for home and was found at South Ferry, as above stated. The physicians at the hospital said last night that he was suffering from congestion of the brain and was in a very low condition.

A WEAK COMPLAINT.

Alexander Darragh and John M. Asbe were arraigned in the Essex Market Court yesterday charged by Daniel W. Patterson with engaging, together with several others, in a game of faro on the 18th of March at No. 305 Bowery. The complainant alleged he lost $1 on the game and that the accused acted as dealers. When the prisoners were brought forward Mr. Patterson at first said he lost his money during the hours of eleven and two o'clock of the day named, and then asserted it was between six and ten o'clock in the evening. Finally his story became so contradictory that the Judge dismissed the complaint.

DANGEROUS FUN.

Edward Graff, a mere child, was sentenced in the Jefferson Market Court yesterday to one day's imprisonment for placing powder caps on the tracks of the Eighth Avenue Railroad in Hudson street.

ARRESTED ON SUSPICION.

On the corner of Clinton and Stanton streets Roundsman O'Toole yesterday arrested James Wilson, who had five pieces of silk lining for hats in his possession. The arrest was made on the suspicion that the prisoner was taking the goods, which are believed to have been stolen, to a receiver of stolen goods. In the Essex Market Court the prisoner was remanded for further evidence. The silk was valued at $200.

SERIOUS FALLS.

Patrick Reilly, forty years of age, entered his dwelling, No. 210 East Fifty-ninth street, yesterday morning very much intoxicated. He occupied the third floor. He seated himself at the open window and went to sleep and shortly after was discovered in the yard in an unconscious condition, having fallen to the ground. He was taken to Roosevelt Hospital, where his injuries were attended to.

Susan Strotman died in Chambers Street Hospital yesterday from injuries sustained by falling from the fourth story of No. 27 Roosevelt street to the ground.

Catharine Eldridge, residing at No. 68 Newark avenue, Jersey City, fell down stairs yesterday and sustained injuries which, it is believed, will result fatally.

CORONERS' CASES.

Jennie Singer, two years of age, of No. 85 Canal street, died yesterday at her residence from being run over by car No. 3 of the Canal street line on Saturday night.

Mary Brown, of No. 22 Cherry street, who was arrested on Saturday by Detective Heron, of the Tenth precinct, on a charge of causing the death of Frederick Wigand by kicking him in the groin, was taken before Coroner Croker yesterday and temporarily committed to the City Prison, with her son Thomas, aged five years, to await the finding of the inquest.

SEEING THE ANIMALS.

Detective Flock, of the Central Park police, caught three boys in the act of picking the pockets of visitors in the menagerie and took them to the Arsenal, where they gave their names as Thomas Mulhearn, aged sixteen years, of No. 65 Sullivan street; Joseph Scott, aged fifteen years, of No. 210 Mulberry street, and Owen Monahan, aged fourteen years, of No. 140 Mulberry street. On their persons were found a number of silk pocket handkerchiefs, several pocket-books and other small articles, which they admitted having stolen.

SUDDEN DEATHS.

James McGarrahan, forty years of age, dropped dead in the yard of his residence, No. 513 Warren street, Brooklyn, last night.

A prisoner named Madden dropped dead in the Hudson County Jail, between eleven and twelve o'clock last night. At midnight the Coroner was summoned by telegraph

A SUNDAY QUARREL.

James Ford and John Digman, residing at No. 21 South Bridge street, Newark, quarrelled early yesterday morning over a petty matter, and Ford struck Digman several blows on the head with a screw driver, inflicting severe but not dangerous wounds. Both men were arrested.

NOT A PARRICIDE.

James Abbott, the Newarker who was stabbed at his home on Saturday evening by his stepson in the course of a family quarrel, is likely to recover.

A CHILD BURNED.

A little daughter of Captain Harry Crocker, of Patchogue, L. I., five years old, was playing near a fire, kindled in an open field on Friday, when her clothing caught, and she was so badly burned that she will probably die.

TELEGRAPH OFFICE BURNED.

A fire broke out last evening in the telegraph station at the east end of the Bergen cut on the Pennsylvania Railroad, in Jersey City, and the structure was completely gutted. The loss on the building and telegraphic apparatus is $1,500.

ASSAULT WITH AN AXE.

William Burke, of No. 595 Greenwich street, assaulted his wife yesterday with an axe, inflicting a wound on her head.

LITERATURE.

FANTASY AND PASSION.

The publication of a young poet's first productions is always an interesting event in the literary world, and it is, therefore, with much interest that we open a volume entitled, "Fantasy and Passion," containing the first collected edition of Mr. Edgar Fawcett's songs and sonnets (Roberts Brothers, Boston). Mr. Fawcett is pleasantly known to the reading public by frequent contributions to the various magazines, so that the verses comprised in this newly published volume will be familiar to many eyes. Not a few of them are quite pleasing, while others suffer somewhat from over-ornamentation and artificiality. Indeed, the difficulty with a large number is a lack of poetic simplicity. They abound in images and conceits, which almost destroy the effect of occasional lines of tender thought and graceful diction. In most of the poems there seems to be a straining after effective epithets, striking, descriptive adjectives. A few quotations will serve to illustrate this peculiarity, which is the chief superficial fault of this young poet—"meagre moments," "its blackness of darkness," "mellow minglement," "poignant air," "august, unnavigable air," "dull, disfeaturing leprosy of drouth," "the annulling snow," "illimited love," "fervidest language," "haphazard hybrid," "a man of easeful air," "with hair and beard one tangle of red neglect." Sometimes a line or even a whole verse is made up of such affectations as the following:—"Catch the fleet hour by back flung robes or tresses, And plunge a long strong look in her sweet eyes!" "loverwise, I sank on her deep bosom with deep sighs," "The dark, ubiquitous commonplace of death," "and thrill to blander gleams your luminous breast."

One of the longest poems in the book is "Violante." The main incident was treated by Boccacio "in a comic manner," which Mr. Fawcett explains is "quite opposite to the one here employed." In truth, it is treated in a most tragic manner, but so overstrained, so amenable to the censure quoted in the first verse of another poem in this volume, entitled "Criticism," that the effect is almost ludicrous.

The poems are divided into three general classes, under the heads "Minor Chords," "Voices and Visions," "Sonnets." The minor chords are decidedly the best of all, being poems of Nature, mainly descriptive of flowers, plants and birds. Of these the most poetical are "Wild Roses," "A Tuberose," "Ivy" and "Moss." There are only a few humorous poems, among which may be mentioned "Pipes and Beer," "A Barn Yard Eclogue" and "Vesta." Mr. Fawcett's first volume of verses would run a greater chance of becoming popular if all of the "Voices and Visions" were stricken out. The proofs of the work have been carelessly read, the punctuation being deficient and some words being spelt differently in different places.

MR. GHIM'S DREAM.

"Mr. Ghim's Dream" is the title of a curious volume just issued by G. W. Carleton & Co. It is an extravaganza in the form of a dream that haunted the sleep of one Ghim. He dreamed that he had a project that required the aid of millions of dollars to carry it out. To raise these millions he interviewed Vanderbilt, Jay Gould and other millionnaires, and finally succeeded in securing the necessary funds. He describes his visits to these capitalists and their manner of receiving him and his plan. The plan is more extravagant than any hatched out in Colonel Sellers' fertile brain, and after reading some two hundred pages of a long drawn-out dream that becomes a nightmare to the reader we discover that the project was to build a sort of floating island called a Toto, with streets, houses and hotels upon it, that would be navigable and could be used as a means of transportation between this country and Europe. The great point of the Toto was that its easy motion prevented sea sickness, which unpleasant malady is described with disgusting minuteness in page 97. If the book had been boiled down into a chapter it might have proved readable; as it is the little wit it contains is laid on so thin as to be almost imperceptible.

"THE HONORABLE MISS FERRARD."

Hall's "Leisure Hour Series," which has a way of absorbing all the charming stories and new authors that one never heard of until introduced in this manner, has added "The Honorable Miss Ferrard" to its list. This volume is in no degree behind its predecessors. Indeed, we think it quite ahead of some of them. The scene of the story is laid in Ireland, and Miss Ferrard, though an honorable, is poor and a tom-boy. She lived in a broken down castle with her father, a broken down lord, and her three brothers. Nothing more desperate than their poverty could be imagined. When the wood pile gave out they tore up the floors of the castle, and their principal diet was fish caught by the boys. The name of the Honorable Miss Ferrard was Helena, but she was called Hel for short, being spelled with one "l" it probably did not suggest profanity to the good people of Darraghstown. The story in many respects is like the conventional Irish story in plot. A rich aunt longs to tame poor niece, but the taming process is only partially successful. Handsome young English gentleman loves wild Irish girl; wild Irish girl prefers a wild Irishman. It is hard for us in America to imagine anything so reckless as the way of life of the Ferrard family—that is, among gentle folks. We can imagine a miner's family in the far West living with the same lawlessness, but not people with blue blood in their veins. But all this wildness adds to the fascination of the book, which is thoroughly charming from beginning to end.

LITERARY CHIT CHAT.

D. Appleton & Co. will shortly publish "The Armies of Asia and Europe, from Official Reports," by Emory Upton, Brevet Major General United States Army. 1 vol. sm. 8vo.

Porter & Coates, Philadelphia, will publish new and cheap editions of Wilson and Bonaparte's American Ornithology, with 500 figures of birds.

The engraving of the "Sortie from Plevna," which appeared in the *Illustrated London News* lately, was printed from a block containing two hundred pieces of wood, and a multitude of artists were simultaneously busied in engraving the different sections of the picture.

A venturesome Englishman named J. Bull has written the life of Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes.

A volume calculated to create a great deal of excitement in certain circles will soon be published in Florence. It has a large number of documents tending to prove that Pius IX. desired to carry out liberal ideas, but was prevented by the influence of the reactionary Powers. The work is the inedited memoirs of Cardinal Pentini, intimate friend of the late Pope.

Dr. E. Faber has published at Silberfeld a translation of the works of the ancient Chinese philosopher Licius, who came one hundred years after Confucius, in the fifth century B. C., and was a Pantheist.

In India the number of journals published in 1877 was 706, about two-thirds of which were in Hindoostani, and the remaining one-third in various European languages.

A new book on the great commercial panic of 1866 is in press in London.

The *Alpine Journal* for February has a lively and masterly article on the "Gran Sasso d'Italia," describing an ascent of this king of the Appenines by D. W. Freshfield, the editor.

The literature of the Talmud has been further illuminated by Mr. Charles Taylor's book, "Sayings from the Jewish Fathers," fresh from the Cambridge University press.

The "Travels of the Baron Münchhausen," long out of print, will be republished in handsome form by Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.

Mr. Luigi Monti's book, "A Consul Abroad," describes the interesting and the ludicrous experiences of consular life at Palermo, and will soon appear from Lee & Shepard's press.

The British Newspaper Press Directory for 1878 exhibits 1,744 newspapers published in the United Kingdom. In the United States in 1877 there were 8,079 newspapers and periodicals. Of British newspapers 158 are daily, while of the American 709 are daily.

A learned legal work, entitled "Lumley's Essay on Bylaws," has been published in London, and covers new ground.

The London *Saturday Review* contrasts the Rev. Adirondack Murray's description of American scenery with Fenimore Cooper's, and says:—

Descriptions of scenery abound more than ever in the new generation, but the scenery that is now described belongs neither to the heavens above nor to the earth beneath, nor to the waters under the earth. In this generation Mr. Murray deserves to hold a high place. He has evidently made a very careful study of the art of writing nonsense, and has learned how to use the finest and most meaningless of phrases in describing the changes of the weather or the appearance of a country.

Mr. J. W. Bouton has a copy of the Bulmer Shakespeare, in nine volumes, folio, extended to forty volumes, with original drawings, etchings, mezzotints and line engravings inserted. It cost the owner, a well known bibliomaniac, $18,000 to complete the work. Mr. Bouton also has Bulmer's Milton, extended in the same manner.

Mrs. Mary Mapes Dodge, editor of *St. Nicholas*, has gone to California for a visit to her sister.

T. B. Peterson & Brothers are publishing a new and cheap edition of Dickens.

The April *Scribner* contains an article on the Thousand Islands. Among its illustrations is a picture of "Bonnie Castle," Dr. Holland's summer home.

Gill's "Life of Poe," which was noticed at some length in these columns at the time of its publication, a few months since, seems to have met with quite a popular success, three editions having been already exhausted, while a fourth has just made its appearance. This last edition has been revised and considerably enlarged, and contains some allusions to the criticisms made upon the first edition. The dedication has been changed from "Neilson Poe," the poet's cousin and heir at law, to "The University of Virginia," his Alma Mater. Then, additional reminiscences are given of Poe's childhood and of his school days at Stoke Newington, England. There are a number of fac-simile letters; one from Poe to his cousin, Washington Poe; another from the friend of his latter days, Mrs. Susan Archer Weiss, whose reminiscences of the poet appeared in the March number of *Scribner's Monthly*, and one from Poe's aunt and stepmother, Maria Clemm. Some new engravings are given, one of Poe's adopted father's (Mr. Allan) house in Richmond and another of the University of Virginia. There is an appendix of nearly thirty pages of notes. The new volume is bound in a handsomer cover than that which enclosed the first edition.

Dr. Barclay's new book, "The Talmud," published by Murray, in London, is full of errors and deficiencies, according to the *Athenæum*.

Captain Kennedy is about to put forth a new book of travel entitled "To the Arctic Regions and Back In Six Weeks—A Summer Tour to Lapland and Norway, with Notes on Sport and Natural History."

M. Louis Vian has issued his "Histoire de Montesquieu, Sa Vie et Ses Œuvres."

Mr. H A. J. Munro, whose edition and translation of "Lucretius" gave him a splendid reputation, has out a new book on the Latin poet Catullus, which is equally deserving of attention.

Arnold de Woelmont has published in Paris "My Wandering Life in the Rocky Mountains."

NEW BOOKS RECEIVED.

By Celia's Arbor. A Tale of Portsmouth Town. By Walter Besant and James Rice. With illustrations. Harper & Brothers, publishers.

By Proxy. A Novel. By James Payn. Harper & Brothers, New York.

The Contemporary Review for March. From the Willmer & Rogers News Company, New York.

Platonis Dialogi VI. Ex recensione. C. F. Hermanni. Harper & Brothers, publishers.

The Forces of Nature: a Popular Introduction to the Study of Physical Phenomena. By Amedee Guillemin. Illustrated. Macmillan & Co., publishers, New York.

Harper's Half-Hour Series. David's Little Lad. By L T. Meade; and Romance Period, by Eugene Lawrence.

Punch, Brothers, Punch! and other Sketches. By Mark Twain. Published by Slote, Woodman & Co., New York.

Concessions of "Liberalism" to Orthodoxy. By Daniel Dorchester, D. D. From Lothrop & Co., Boston.

Patents and the Useful Arts. B. Howson. From the Times Printing House, 608 and 610 Chestnut street, Philadelphia.

Armenia and the Campaign of 1877. By C. B. Norman, late special correspondent of the *Times* at the seat of war, with specially prepared maps and plans. Published by Cassell, Petter & Galpin, London, Paris and New York.

Mme. Gosselin. By Louis Ulbach. Published by D. Appleton & Co., New York.

Rambles in Wonderland, or Up the Yellowstone and Among the Geysers and Other Curiosities of the National Park. By Edwin J. Stanley. With illustrations. From D. Appleton & Co., New York.

The New Rocky Mountain Tourist, Arkansas Valley and San Juan Guide. By J. G. Pangborn. Published by Knight & Leonard, Chicago.

Superstition in All Ages. By John Mestier, a Roman Catholic priest, who after a pastoral service of thirty years abjured religious dogmas and left as his last will and testament, to be published after his death, several pages entitled Common Sense. Translated from the French original by Miss Anna Knoop, and for sale by the New York Publishing Company.

Trial of Thomas C. Anderson in New Orleans. By T. Wharton Collins, Jr., shorthand reporter. Published by Clark & Hofeline, New Orleans.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE TROUBLE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

In your article of yesterday headed "Closing of the National Theatre" you have been led into error as to the cause of closing and what occurred after the closing. After the curtain was rung up Mr. Grant informed the stage manager that he would not go on, and in spite of expostulation and entreaties he still refused to go on. The stage manager then came before the curtain and informed the audience that there would be no performance. The audience then went to the box office, where their money was refunded. And that part of the statement is utterly false and untrue which says that the audience were offered tickets for Monday evening's performance of "Uncle Tom's Cabin." There were several who asked for tickets for Monday evening, but they were informed that they could buy them on Monday, and their money was accordingly returned. As to the statement that the company that were rehearsing are amateurs it is utterly untrue. It embraces J. B. Ashton, H. A. Ellis, Clara Cole, Dora Stuart, Miss E. La Tour and others who are equally well known. Mr. Grant's ground for not playing was that he had heard that "Uncle Tom's Cabin" was to be performed on Monday. Acting upon this supposition he refused to go on. There certainly was no ground for such a belief, as "Uncle Tom's Cabin" was not to be produced until April 27, and the company were simply rehearsing for that date. There are no tickets, no posters, no bills, nor any printing whatsoever to the effect that "Uncle Tom's Cabin" would be produced on Monday. To show Mr. Wallace Grant's popularity as a star, we refer to the following receipts of the performances given during his engagement:—Monday, 25th, $28 25; Tuesday, 26th, $33 20; Wednesday matinée, $13 75; Wednesday night, $19 65; Thursday, $23 10.

JOHN TIMONY, Business Manager.

NEW YORK, March 30, 1878.

RAIDING A DANCE HOUSE.

Officers Kelly and Myers, of the Fourth precinct, last evening raided an alleged dance house, No. 71 Park street, and arrested the proprietor, John Raphael, and nine male inmates. No females were found there. The prisoners were locked up in the Oak street station house.

RESCUED FROM DROWNING.

William Hamilton, of No. 30 Greenwich street, fell into the river foot of Leroy street yesterday. He was rescued by Edward O'Grady, of No. 60 Leroy street.

William Johnson, of No. 235 Mulberry street, fell into the East River last night at the foot of Twenty-third street. He was rescued in an exhausted condition by Officer Falby, of the Eighteenth precinct, who had him removed to Bellevue Hospital.

SHIPPING NEWS

OCEAN STEAMERS.

DATES OF DEPARTURE FROM NEW YORK FOR THE MONTH APRIL.

Steamer.	Sails.	Destination.	Office.
Idaho	April 2	Liverpool	29 Broadway
Abyssinia	April 3	Liverpool	4 Bowling Green
Greece	April 3	London	69 Broadway
Canada	April 3	Havre	55 Broadway
City of Brussels	April 4	Liverpool	15 Broadway
Frisia	April 4	Hamburg	61 Broadway
Erin	April 6	Liverpool	69 Broadway
Germanic	April 6	Liverpool	37 Broadway
Gen Werder	April 6	Bremen	2 Bowling Green
Wyoming	April 9	Liverpool	29 Broadway
Bothnia	April 10	Liverpool	4 Bowling Green
Baltic	April 11	Liverpool	37 Broadway
Italy	April 11	London	69 Broadway
Friesland	April 11	Rotterdam	55 Broadway
Holsatia	April 11	Hamburg	61 Broadway
State of Nevada	April 11	Glasgow	72 Broadway
City of Richmond	April 13	Liverpool	15 Broadway
Helvetia	April 13	Liverpool	69 Broadway
Hermann	April 13	Bremen	2 Bowling Green
Algeria	April 17	Liverpool	4 Bowling Green
Pereire	April 17	Havre	55 Broadway
Lessing	April 18	Hamburg	61 Broadway
State of Virginia	April 18	Glasgow	72 Broadway
Adriatic	April 18	Liverpool	37 Broadway
Egypt	April 20	Liverpool	69 Broadway
Mosel	April 20	Bremen	2 Bowling Green
City of Chester	April 20	Liverpool	15 Broadway
Montana	April 20	Liverpool	29 Broadway
Russia	April 24	Live'pool	4 Bowling Green
Scandam	April 24	Rotterdam	55 Broadway
Wieland	April 25	Hamburg	61 Broadway
State of Indiana	April 25	Glasgow	72 Broadway
Oder	April 27	Bremen	2 Bowling Green
Nevada	April 30	Liverpool	29 Broadway

☞ NOTICE TO CAPTAINS OF VESSELS ENTERING THE PORT OF NEW YORK AT NIGHT.—The NEW YORK HERALD has adopted a distinguishing Coston night signal for use on board the HERALD steam yacht, showing white burning the colors red, green, red, changing from one to the other in succession, and can be seen several miles distant. Captains of vessels, upon seeing this signal, will oblige us by preparing any marine news they may have for the Ship News Department of the HERALD.

☞ Persons desirous of communicating with vessels arriving at New York can do so by addressing to such vessels, care of HERALD news yacht, pier No. 1 East River, New York. Letters received from all parts of the world and promptly delivered. Duplicates are required.

☞ NOTICE TO CAPTAINS OF VESSELS IN THE COASTING AND FOREIGN TRADE.—Captains or officers of vessels engaged in the coasting and foreign trade observing the displacement or removal of sea buoys are requested to communicate the fact to the HERALD, so that it may be brought publicly to the attention of the proper authorities. A letter addressed "To the editor of the HERALD, New York city," giving as accurately as possible the number and position of displaced buoys or the cause of their removal, will suffice in all cases observed along the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of the American Continent. When they are observed on the coast of European countries or in the Mediterranean it is requested that information be sent either by telegraph or letter to the London office of the NEW YORK HERALD, 46 Fleet street, London, or to the Paris office, 61 Avenue de l'Opera, Paris. Where the telegraph is used despatches may be addressed "Bennett, 46 Fleet street, London," or "Bennett, 61 Avenue de l'Opera, Paris." Where cases of displacement are observed in the waters of countries beyond the reach of the telegraph, as in Asia or Africa, captains may communicate with us upon reaching the first convenient port. This information will be cabled, free of charge, to the HERALD and published.

ALMANAC FOR NEW YORK—THIS DAY.

SUN AND MOON.		HIGH WATER.	
Sun rises	5 43	Sandy Hook	eve 7 03
Sun sets	6 25	Gov. Island	eve 7 48
Moon rises	morn 5 06	Hell Gate	eve 9 33

PORT OF NEW YORK, MARCH 31, 1878.

ARRIVALS.

REPORTED BY THE HERALD STEAM YACHTS AND HERALD WHITESTONE TELEGRAPH LINE.

Steamer Othello (Br), Mitchell, Hull March 7, Southampton 10th, and Boston 30th, with mdse and passengers to C L Wright & Co.

Steamer Cornwall (Br), Williams, Bristol March 18, with mdse and 16 passengers to W D Morgan. Had fresh westerly gales the entire passage. March 20, lat 51 40, lon 17, passed bark Jennie Cohn (of Rostock), bound —.

Steamer General Werder (Ger), Hoffman, Bremen March 17, and Southampton 20th, with mdse and 540 passengers to Oelrichs & Co. Had variable but generally fine weather; March 23d, lat 48 38, lon 28 33, passed steamer Oder (Ger), hence for Bremen; 24th, lat 47 28, lon 35 24, a schooner rigged steamer bound E; 26th, lat 45 37, lon 42 49, a State line steamer bound do; same day, lat 44 56, lon 45 43, an English bark rigged steamer bound do; 30th, 9:25 P M, off Shinnecock, steamers Donau (Ger), from New York for Bremen, and Victoria (Br), do for Glasgow.

Steamer F Caland (Dutch), Deddes, Rotterdam March 16, and Vlissingen 18th, with mdse and passengers to Funch, Edye & Co. March 30, 430 miles E of Sandy Hook, passed 4 steamers bound E; 31st, 40 miles do of do a German ship bound W, showing signals KMSV.

Steamer Hermann Livingston, Daggett, Savannah 4 days, with mdse to Murray, Forris & Co.

Ship Romsdal (of Glasgow), Jarman, Liverpool 39 days, with mdse to Henderson Bros. Had strong westerly gales the entire passage.

Ship Bessie Crosby (Br), Trefry, Liverpool 58 days, in ballast, to J W Elwell & Co.

Bark Moderato (Ital), Mancino, Liverpool 50 days, in ballast, to F Dassori.

Bark Vanse (Nor), Tellesen, Liverpool 51 days, in ballast, to Beckmann, Oerlein & Co. Had variable weather.

Bark Lavarello Suocero (Ital), Passiacina, Hull 54 days, in ballast, to F Dassori.

Bark Wave Queen (of Londonderry), Wilson, Hull 58 days, in ballast, to D R De Wolf.

Bark Pro Domo (Nor), Jacobsen, Gloucester 39 days, in ballast, to Funch, Edye & Co.

Bark August Leffler (Nor), Olsen, West Hartlepool 56 days, with coal to Beckmann, Oerlein & Co.

Bark Tri Sina (Aus), Pauer, Dundee 56 days, in ballast, to order.

Bark Alessandro Danovaro (Ital), Lazzaro, Belfast 60 days, in ballast, to Funch, Edye & Co.

Bark Armonia (Ital), Cafiero, Messina 56 days, with fruit to Lawrence, Giles & Co; vessel to James Henry. Passed Gibraltar Feb 21.

Bark Unione (Ital), Corraro, Palermo 61 days, with fruit to Scobel & Day; vessel to J C Seager. Passed Gibraltar Feb 14.

Bark Yru Chulo et Sebastian (Sp), Campa, San Sebastian 62 days, with wines to Latasa & Co.

Brig Charlotte Buck, Smith, La una 30 days, with logwood to H F Metcalf & Co

Brig Flora of St John, NB), Cameron, Cardenas 11 days, with melado to J H Winchester & Co.

Brig Julia F Carney (of Boston), Collins, Cardenas 9 days, with sugar to Moses Taylor; vessel to master. Had northerly winds to Cape May; March 29, off Cape May, had a NW gale, lasting 24 hours; 30th, off Barnegat, had a heavy fall of snow for 2 hours.

PASSED THROUGH HELL GATE.

BOUND SOUTH.

Steamer General Whitney, Hallett, Boston for New York, with merchandise and passengers to H F Dimock.

Steamer City of New Bedford, Fish, New Bedford for New York, with merchandise and passengers to Barling & Davis.

Steamer Doris, Shirley, Providence for New York, with merchandise and passengers to Isaac Odell.

Steamer Albatross, Williams, Fall River for New York.

Schr J D Ingraham, Smith, New Haven for Virginia.

Schr Maria L Hall, Lawrence, Portland, Ct, for New York.

BOUND EAST.

Bark Zulma (of Barbados), Peterson, Pauce, PR, via New York for New Haven, in tow of the Union.

Schr Island Belle, West, New York for Eastport.

Schr J J Lindsley, New York for Rockland.

Schr Chanc