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DECEMBER CIRCULATION.

W. B. Carr, Business Manager of The St. Louis Republic, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of the daily and Sunday Republic printed during the month of December, 1899, all in regular editions, was as per schedule below:

Date.	Copies.	Date.	Copies.
1	75,210	17 Sunday	81,300
2	76,600	18	74,220
3 Sunday	81,060	19	75,200
4	74,990	20	74,240
5	74,930	21	74,720
6	74,460	22	74,750
7	76,350	23	76,695
8	75,400	24 Sunday	80,959
9	76,075	25	79,510
10 Sunday	80,650	26	74,660
11	75,000	27	74,180
12	74,950	28	74,740
13	76,000	29	73,990
14	77,070	30	76,575
15	76,640	31 Sunday	82,720
16	75,990		

Total for the month	**2,369,465**
Less all copies spoiled in printing, left over or filed	**61,503**
Net number distributed	**2,307,962**
Average daily distribution	**74,450**

And said W. B. Carr further says that the number of copies returned or reported unsold during the month of December was 8.88 per cent.

W. B. CARR.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 3d day of January, 1900.

J. F. FARISH,
Notary Public, City of St. Louis, Mo. My term expires April 26, 1901.

GATHER EVIDENCE.

The outline given through The Republic by Mr. William Brown, St. Louis's Chicago attorney in the drainage case, shows what duty devolves on the city administration. St. Louis must show that her water supply is injured by the opening of Chicago's canal. It requires work of a scientific character to establish the contention, and that work must be continued uninterruptingly at least until the testimony is exhaustive.

St. Louis must establish clearly that her water supply has suffered from the opening of Chicago's big sewer. The Mayor of St. Louis does not need to wait for an appropriation from the Municipal Assembly before infusing energy into the work.

Every head of a department in St. Louis should be anxious to take a part in the effort to reach a true conclusion as to the effect of Chicago's ditch on St. Louis's water supply. The Health Commissioner, the Water Commissioner, the City Counselor and the Mayor should all be vigorous in producing the necessary result.

Chicago has set about such experiments already. She is scanning the Illinois River from Peoria to its mouth and the Mississippi from the mouth of the Illinois to St. Louis, with microscope and reagent. St. Louis must push similar investigations to a satisfactory conclusion.

BRITISH UNITY.

Doctor Conan Doyle is generously justified by the facts in his assertion that President Kruger of the Transvaal Republic, in resisting the aggressive South African policy of the British Government, has done more than any other one man to federate the British Empire.

It must be acknowledged that the bearing of England's colonies in the existing crisis has been of a loyal character which eloquently testifies to their genuine union with the mother country. They have been prompt to furnish their quota of men and money for the prosecution of the war on the Afrikanders, they have manifested a fine spirit of pride in England's glory, and the colonial volunteers now at the front are rendering excellent service as soldiers of the Queen.

There is a very material guarantee of the continued greatness and prestige of the British Empire in this fact of colonial fealty. The sole pity of the development is that it should have been brought about by the demands of a conflict for which there is no justification, a war forced by a stronger people for the subjugation of a weaker, who have a God-given right to their national independence. So true and manful a demonstration of British unity might better have been made in a better cause.

UNDER BRITISH INFLUENCE.

There was considerable significance in the vote by which the pro-Boer resolution, introduced in the lower house of the Iowa State Legislature, was defeated last Monday.

The resolution, declaring sympathy with the South African Dutch in their struggle for independence and self-government under republican forms, was introduced by Representative Carter, a Republican, and was seconded by Representative Kerr, also a Republican. Every Democratic member of the lower house voted for it. But only four Republican votes were added to those of the mover and seconder, fifty-seven Republicans voting against and defeating the resolution. And those few Republicans who favored the resolution represented counties in which there was a large German element.

It is apparent that the same imperial spirit in the Republican organization which urges this Government to abandon its principles of democracy and liberty and embark upon a career of foreign conquest and colonization also causes this approval of the British war for the overthow of the two little South African Republics. This is consistent, of course—robber nations must stand together—but it is a spirit full of the most ominous menace to a free Republic such as ours. It is not strange that truly patriotic Americans should be dismayed that such a spirit is possible to Americans. It is eminently natural that foreign-born citizens, who learned in the Old World the evils of imperialism and militarism, should see the certain malign result of their incorporation as American policies.

The American people must this year make a definite choice between the land-grabbing and liberty-crushing spirit of Great Britain and the genuine Americanism which forbids us to deny liberty to any other people or to govern any race without the consent of the governed. This choice is forced upon the country by the surrender of the Republican party to British influence. It will be amazing if there is any hesitancy on the part of Americans in standing true to those fine principles of liberty and justice upon which their own Government was founded and grew to greatness.

PARTISAN OBSTRUCTION.

It is unpleasantly apparent that the Globe-Democrat is genuinely apprehensive that the Jefferson Club of St. Louis will follow The Republic's advice and subordinate partisanship to the necessities of a situation which demands an earnest concerted effort to secure good government for the city in which it is located.

Acting under the impulse of this fear, the Globe-Democrat is plainly endeavoring to create beforehand a partisan prejudice which shall tend to make unity of movement impossible. It is deliberately misrepresenting the utterances and aims of The Republic, it is unwarrantably taking for granted that the Jefferson Club will, at the best, attempt a bunko game if it joins the popular movement for municipal reform, its entire attitude is that of partisan obstruction to an endeavor that must, of necessity, unite all important factors of local citizenship if success is to be attained.

The Republic's appeal to the Globe-Democrat and to the Jefferson Club to put aside partisanship and to work for the interests of the community at large was honestly voiced. It cannot with plausibility be used as a means for increasing partisan bitterness and thus strengthening the hold of the Ziegenhein machine on the local government. The public welfare demands the overthrow of this machine and the substitution of a wise and honest business administration in place of any machine, Republican or Democratic. The Globe-Democrat can render valuable assistance in this direction. The Jefferson Club can also be a power for good along the same lines. The Republic's appeal to both was based upon its recognition of this fact.

The Globe-Democrat's fear that the Jefferson Club will be willing to do good work for the people is leading it to commit exactly the sins with which it charges that organization. It is refusing to be anything but partisan in its view of the local situation. It is hostile to the very spirit that can alone bring about better conditions. It fears and misrepresents every effort aiming at municipal reform. It is offering proof in itself of that bitter partisanship which is the greatest obstacle in the way of good government. The Republic again asks the Globe-Democrat to take a broader conception of its duty to the people of St. Louis.

MAKE INDICTMENT SURE.

Circuit Attorney Eggers must make exceptional effort in bringing to the knowledge of the Grand Jury every obtainable fact of bribery in the Municipal Assembly in the case of the obstructed passage of the lighting bills. The guilty parties must be reached and punished.

The preceding attempt in this direction, that by which the corruption attending the passage of the Central Traction bill was brought to the attention of a former Grand Jury, should convince Mr. Eggers of the necessity for more vigorous and conclusive action in the present instance. It was made morally plain to the Grand Jury that bribery was resorted to in influencing votes for the Central Traction bill. It was shown that the sum of $150,000 was drawn from one St. Louis bank in small bills. Deposits were made in other banks, with every indication of improper use. It was plain that the Central Traction bill was a hold-up—its promoters virtually making no pretense of street railway construction work, and selling out, after the passage of the bill, for the fine figure of $1,000,000, a franchise thus gained from the city.

It is imperative that Municipal Assemblymen open to the solicitation of interested promoters shall be unmasked, indicted and punished for their crimes. St. Louis has already suffered the loss of millions of dollars through such methods. Corruption in the Municipal Assembly must be stamped out if it is within the power of an aroused community to stamp it out. Circuit Attorney Eggers stands as the foremost legal representative of the people in this movement. He must leave nothing undone to make certain an indictment of municipal boodlers by the present Grand Jury.

FOR RING BENEFIT.

In his exposure of the "retrenchment" fraud on the people contemplated by the several bills introduced in the City Council by Council President Meier, President McMath of the Board of Public Improvements presents an array of facts that should lead to the prompt defeat of those measures.

Mr. McMath clearly points out that the Meier bills were drawn in the sole and exclusive interest of the City Hall machine. Their passage would take all power from the heads of the various municipal departments who have dared to oppose the will of the City Hall gang, and would place that power instead in the hands of the Mayor, the Machine Boss. The patronage of the city would thus be completely within the control of the ring. The safeguards against ring rule established by the City Charter would be wholly swept away.

The Council will have no excuse for passing these bills save that which it may find for itself in a plea of duty to the machine. The public welfare will be sacrificed to a most alarming extent if ring influence prevails to push the Meier measures through the Municipal Assembly. The people are opposed to such legislation. The gang alone demands it.

The Hodges bill, now awaiting the action of the Council, is an honest attempt at reform and retrenchment in the various municipal departments. It was framed and introduced by a man who is not controlled by the machine, but, on the other hand, is earnest and sincere in his desire to serve the community. This bill, which should be passed, is understood to have been slated for defeat by pigeonholing methods. The Meier ordinances appear to have sidetracked it. The City Council should go slow in work of this nature. The people are awake to the significance of its every move.

BUFFET STREET CARS.

The plan to be put into operation by the Chicago Union Traction Company of running buffet cars on its lines, in which the passenger can get anything from a cigar to a course meal, may be regarded as a transportation progress, whatever the proprietors of downtown cafes may think of it.

The immediate object of the cars is doubtless for the convenience of street car theater parties, which are thus enabled to take an after-theater luncheon without keeping an eye out for owl cars.

Whether the buffet car could be put to a wider use is a question. Men whose work is chiefly on the street—collectors, messengers, canvassers and newspaper reporters—might find the buffet cars a convenience if they were enthusiastically anxious to save their employers' time. The business man who must go to his home three or four miles, dress and take dinner in time to reach the theater would not welcome the buffet car. Given the choice between going to the theater or taking dinner with his family he would choose the dinner.

The buffet car follows closely on the funeral car. The next step should be a car containing a first-class, bath-equipped barber-shop, where a passenger could be shaved, have his hair trimmed and take his bath, and be ready to slip into his dress suit on his arrival home.

President McMath's discussion of the Meier "retrenchment" bills shows that in his department, although the ordinances authorize salaries amounting to $48,420, the actual pay roll is only $29,100. This department the Meier bills find best adapted to "retrenchment" because its head is opposed to gang methods.

One British Admiral expresses the opinion that if the British Navy only had a chance it would be all up with the Boer war. Great Britain might find it to her advantage to give the Boers a coast line, on the theory of the doctor who could cure nothing but fits.

Iowa's German-American Legislators voted with the Democrats and against their own party in favor of a resolution of sympathy for the Boers. American imperialism is justly dreaded by those who have suffered from European imperialism.

Attorney General Crow will be enabled, between now and April 2, to secure much additional evidence for the plaintiff in the Federal Supreme Court case of the People of the Mississippi Valley versus the Chicago Drainage Canal.

It is certainly a significant comment on existing American conditions that the two South African Republics should receive the glad hand from the American people and the marble heart from an American President.

When the next American census is taken none but broncho-busters should apply for the job of enumerating those 8,000,000 Malays who are to be corralled by conquest and governed by force.

Whatever secret pledges President McKinley may have given to England will be right difficult of fulfillment so long as the people's voice still remains potent in American affairs.

In its fear that the Jefferson Club may rise above party in a desire to insure good government for St. Louis, the Globe-Democrat goes to the other extreme and becomes a machine organ of the bitterest description.

As long as they pay the freight the Trusts know that the Republican party will deliver the goods all right, platform declarations to the contrary notwithstanding.

If Congressman Bartholdt is defeated for renomination by his imperialism he should at least get a McKinley-Chamberlain decoration for devoted service to the cause of the allied land-grabbers.

In laying the facts of Municipal Assembly corruption before the Grand Jury Circuit Attorney Eggers should see to it that none of them escape before being sighted by that body.

Lord Dundonald's cavalry may not yet be in Ladysmith, but it has demonstrated its vast superiority to the rest of the British Army in the important war time knack of "getting there."

President McMath of the Board of Public Improvements probably signs himself "Citizen" because he considers that a higher honor than to be part of such an administration.

Chicago must have the impression that this country is suffering with overpopulation. First she builds her canal and now she offers a reward for dead highwaymen.

St. Louisans are naturally suspicious of a Municipal Assembly movement for "reform" of the city departments on a Wittenberg-Ziegenhein-Meier basis.

"Spring Days That Come In Winter."

Spring days that come in winter,
Sweet hours of stolen bliss,
All charms of joys forbidden
Are in thy truant kiss!
Far better do we love thee
Than thy less reckless kin—
Spring days that come in winter,
So sunny in thy sin!

Spring days that come in winter,
With bajmy breath of song,
Unto our souls we press thee,
Dear vagrants all gone wrong!
Wherever red blood floweth
Thy wiles will welcome win—
Spring days that come in winter,
So sunny in thy sin!

MILEY D. SAUNDERS.

WONDERFUL MAP OF THE HEAVENS.

It Contains Thirty Million Stars and Is Nearing Completion.

THREE YEARS IN THE MAKING.

Some Peculiarities of Paris Coal Merchants Who Also Sell Wine—Victory of a Demi-mondaine.

SPECIAL BY CABLE.

Paris, Tuesday, Jan. 23.—(Copyright, 1900, by James Gordon Bennett.)—Maurice Loewy, manager of the Paris Observatory, has announced to the Academy of Sciences that the map of the heavens is well on the way to completion.

It faithfully represents the heavens, with stars up to the fourteenth magnitude. There are about thirty millions of stars on the cards, which have taken nearly three years to prepare.

"The custom of trade" is a well-known law term, but "the custom of Paris" would seem to be rather vague. The Seventh Chamber has decided an amusing case on this point.

Prominent coal merchants of Paris commonly sell wine, dividing their little shop into two compartments for this purpose. A coal merchant, finding he had plenty of room, divided his premises into three compartments, taking a cobbler as tenant.

The proprietor swooped down upon and wanted to drive the cobbler out.

"Never!" said the worthy vender of coals, and his grimy hands clutched.

"Leave the premises!" cried the landlord, waving his arms.

Before the magistrate, he cried that the place was leased for the sale of coals, liquors, et cetera.

"I sell the two former and my friend the cobbler, the 'et cetera.' Monsieur le President, if mending boots is not 'et cetera,' I should like to ask the court what is 'et cetera.'"

The audience, as is the case in French courts, nodded their heads in approval, so much were they awed by the Latin, which impressed them as a kind of open sesame of the law. The judge looked wise. The coal merchant, fearing an adverse decision, strained his voice to falsetto.

"It is the custom of Paris," shrieked he, "which always demands cobblers next to coal merchants."

That settled the point, and the victorious couple went home arm in arm to find a procession of neighbors clamoring for coals, wine, "et cetera."

A demimondaine had a maid who shared her utmost confidence, but the servant loved money and seemed to think it perfectly reasonable to take sums confided to her, and with which she was to pay the butcher and the baker, for her own pocket, leaving the tradesmen unpaid. The bonne was impudent and quarreled with the valet who told their mistress. The demimondaine asked the tradesmen if the story was true.

"Yes," was the answer; "but your bonne is so worthy and so devoted, madame; pardon her this time. The lesson will be sufficient."

The bonne continued in the service and so did the thefts. The servant had pressing business and left the country, to rejoice with the friends of her childhood. Then came the indignant tradesmen.

"You owe me 120 francs for bread!"

"You owe me 240 francs for groceries!"

"You owe me 60 francs for poultry!"

"Leave my premises!" retorted the lady of the demimondaine. "You said she was honest before. It is too late now to tell the truth. I won't pay a centime."

The Seventh Chamber decided in favor of the demimondaine on the principle that she had acted in good faith with the tradesmen in the first place.

EXTRAORDINARY DIVORCE CASE.

Former British Officer Granted a Decree in London.

SPECIAL BY CABLE.

London, Tuesday, Jan. 23.—(Copyright, 1900, by James Gordon Bennett.)—An extraordinary case, arising out of the revelations made when a man named Williams, alias Johnson, was convicted of stealing the Duchess of Sutherland's jewels, was heard in the divorce court to-day. A prominent witness then was Maud Richardson, whose real name is Mrs. Louise Andrew. To-day her husband, Harry Andrew, sued for divorce, the man Williams, alias Johnson, being named co-respondent.

Andrew was formerly an officer in one of the Highland regiments. In 1896, in South Africa, he made the acquaintance of Maud Richardson, to whom he became very much attached. Intimate relations ensued and ultimately, in August, 1896, when they were at Aden, the two were married. The marriage was not under the real name, Andrew desiring to keep the secret from his fellow-officers.

Andrew accompanied Mrs. Cavendish and others in the expedition to Central Africa, and when he returned went to Paris. He tried to induce his wife to join him there. She refused.

One day he read a newspaper account of evidence, which his wife had given in Bow Street, that she had made the acquaintance of a man on ticket of leave, who was concerned in the robbery of the Duchess of Sutherland's jewels, and actually had been living with that man.

Proceedings for divorce were instituted and to-day a decree for the plaintiff was given.

STEAMER ARDANDHU LOST.

Went Down in a Collision—Two Men Drowned.

Vineyard Haven, Mass., Jan. 23.—The Glasgow steamer Ardandhu, Captain Dundas, from New London, Conn., for Halifax, Nova Scotia, was sunk in collision with the Metropolitan liner Herman Winter, from Boston for New York, off Robinson's Hole, Vineyard Sound, at 2:40 o'clock this morning, and two of the Ardandhu's crew of thirty-one men were lost. They were:

Chief Engineer James Henderson of Glasgow.

Second Mate Fred Dowe of Boston.

The Herman Winter reached this port this forenoon with her bow gone and reported the accident. She had on board the twenty-nine men who escaped from the Ardandhu.

CIRCUS COMBINE PROPOSED.

Sells Bros., Barnum & Bailey and Cole May Pool Issues.

Columbus, O., Jan. 23.—Two unsatisfactory clauses in the partnership agreement are all that stand in the way of a combination of the greatest circus interests of the United States. This statement is made upon the authority of Peter Sells.

Those interested in the proposed combination are the Sells Brothers of this city; James A. Bailey, now in Europe with the Barnum & Bailey Circus, and W. W. Cole of New York City.

The objectionable features provide that the winter quarters of the show shall be in Bridgeport, Conn., and that the agreement shall take effect and be in force in 1901.

Peter Sells said he would never consent to leaving Columbus.

NAVAL PARADE PROPOSED.

Sanitary Canal Will Be Used for the Dewey Celebration.

Chicago, Jan. 23.—At a meeting to-day of the Reception Committee having in charge the arrangements for Admiral Dewey's visit to Chicago on the anniversary of the battle of Manila Bay, May 1, it was decided to proceed immediately with preparations for a naval parade upon the sanitary canal between this city and Lockport, Ill. The proposition to make the canal a part of a waterway from the lakes to the Gulf of Mexico will be given prominence in the arrangements. It is proposed to have a fleet of several vessels, the number to be the same as that which Dewey commanded at Manila, heading the procession, these to be followed by a great number of steam yachts and river craft.

LIEPMAN-STERNBERG WEDDING—SOCIAL EVENTS.

The wedding of Miss Irene M. Sternberg of No. 457 McPherson avenue and Mr. Leslie M. Liepman of Fort Scott, Kas., will take place this evening at 6 o'clock at the home of the bride. Doctor S. Sale will perform the ceremony. Only the immediate families and intimate friends of the couple have been invited to be present at the ceremony and the supper that will follow.

The bride will be attended by her sister, Miss Sadie Sternberg. Mr. Frank Rodecker of Fort Scott, Kas., will officiate as best man. The bride will wear a gown of white duchess satin, with a bertha of point lace and transparent yoke and sleeves of white chiffon ruffled. The skirt is made en traine. The bridal veil will be fastened to her coiffure with a diamond ornament, which is the bridegroom's gift. She will carry a bouquet of lilies of the valley and hyacinths. Miss Sadie Sternberg, the maid of honor, will wear a gown of white organdie over white taffeta silk. It is decollete and

Photograph by Strauss.

MISS IRENE M. STERNBERG,

of No. 457 McPherson, Who Will Become Mrs. Leslie M. Liepman of Fort Scott, Kas., this evening.

the waist is of Renaissance insertion and shirred ribbons. She will carry a bouquet of pink roses. Little Miss Florence Sternberg, dressed in pink silk, trimmed with pink mousseline de soie and pink forget-me-nots, will act as ringbearer. Master Raymond Schudds, in a wee full dress suit, and Miss Rosalind Sternberg, dressed in pale blue, garnished with silk shirred ribbon, will act as pages.

The bride's mother, Mrs. S. Sternberg, will wear a gown of black peau de sole, with duchesse lace and garniture of cut jet. The yoke is made of chiffon silk. She will wear a diamond sunburst in her hair. The bridegroom's mother, Mrs. M. Liepman, will be gowned in black peau de sole with point jet trimmings and she will wear diamond ornaments.

The ceremony will be performed in the drawing-room of the Sternberg residence under a canopy of pink and white carnations and roses and smilax. These floral decorations will be disposed throughout the house in effective groupings, and the staircase will be wreathed in smilax. The table will be ornamented with pink and white flowers. An orchestra will play during the ceremony.

After the wedding there will be a supper for the guests, and later the bridal couple will depart for a short tour, the destination of which they will not divulge. Mr. and Mrs. Liepman will be at home after February 15 in Fort Scott, Kas. Some of the guests will be Mr. and Mrs. M. Liepman of Fort Scott, Kas., Mr. and Mrs. Schubels of Chicago, Mrs. Harriet Cahn of Kansas City, Mr. Julius Liepman of Pittsburg, Kas., Mr. Max Pfeiffer of Dallas, Tex., Mrs. D. Mayer of Kansas City, Mo., Mr. and Mrs. L. Pfeiffer, L. Wolf, Ichriner, I. A. Rosenthal, Gustav Helendal and Baum.

Miss Geraldine Dillon of No. 217 North Boyle avenue gave a card party yesterday afternoon in honor of Miss McNaught, who is visiting Mrs. Van Blarcom of Westmoreland place. The function was particularly interesting, as Miss Dillon's engagement to Mr. Richard Tournillon Bond of New Orleans, La., was announced by Mrs. Valle Reyburn, the young lady's aunt.

A number of invitations were issued for the entertainment, and there were many visitors. The Dillon home was decorated entirely with pink carnations and smilax. Mrs. Reyburn and Miss Virginia Sanford assisted Miss Dillon in discharging her duties as hostess. The first prize was won by Miss O'Neill, the second by Miss Lydia Stadlbourne and the third by Mrs. James Green.

Some of the guests were:

Mesdames—
J. L. P. Morrison, J. Van Blarcom, Clark Carr, Alfred Carr, Robert Kern, Von Schroeder, John Harrison, Randolph Hutchison, Sanford, Andrew Scanlan, Theodore Benoist, Alfred Booth, James Green.

Misses—
Blanche Ford, Edith Francisco, Marie Tracy, Ramsey, Bertnold, Virginia Sanford, Alice Watson, Louise Espenschied, Alma Berthold, Von Phul.

Miss Belle Lewis of Clifton Heights and Mr. Thomas Grogan of No. 1809 Dolman street made the ever popular and never tedious trip to Clayton last Saturday and were married by Justice Greensfelder. The fact that Mrs. Grogan is not yet 18 was the only reason for the elopement. Her parents desired a postponement of the ceremony, but the young people were impatient and a license could not be obtained in St. Louis. Mr. and Mrs. Grogan will be at home on Tuesdays at No. 1409 Dolman street.

Mrs. Michael Rosentraeter of No. 4125 Delmar boulevard entertained twenty-four ladies with a progressive luncheon and whist party yesterday afternoon, in honor of Mrs. M. Strasburger of Washington, D. C. The honoree is the guest of the Mrs. Alexander Emerson. Mrs. Rosentraeter and Mrs. Emerson, with their guest, Mrs. Strasburger, entertained. Mrs. Strasburger wore a white tailor-made broadcloth gown. Mrs. Emerson wore a creation of white silk and point lace, cut decollete. Mrs. Rosentraeter's gown was a white liberty satin, with much lace.

There were six tables, each decorated in a different color tone. One was done entirely with American beauties and the furnishings were in accord with the floral ornaments. The other was of pale blue, with a centerpiece of pale blue flowers. Another was decorated in pink and there were two in white and lavender and another in yellow. Ten courses were served and at each course the guests progressed from table to table. After the luncheon there was a progressive whist.

Mrs. Strasburger will remain in St. Louis for three weeks and many entertainments in her honor have been arranged. Some of the guests of yesterday were:

Mesdames—
M. J. Wheler, Jacob A. Mahler, Van Studer, Max Seltzer, Nannie Meyer, A. Bern, S. Sale, Ben Hirschfield, D. Bernd, Bowman, Schroeder, Schede, Ross, Lieber, Wieler, Stifter, Solomon.

Miss Edith Corwin of No. 3552 Clemens avenue will give a progressive euchre party this evening to a number of her friends.

Mr. and Mrs. William J. S. Bryan will give a reception in honor of the High School graduates next Saturday afternoon, from 3 to 6 at their residence, No. 2736 Windsor place.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Lieber of No. 612 West Belle place will receive their friends on January 27, in honor of their daughter, Miss Sunshine Lieber, who will be graduated from the High School January 26.

Miss Ella Race of Decatur, Ill., is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Udell for a few days, en route to California.

Miss Marie Hayes entertained with a luncheon yesterday afternoon, for her guest, Miss Bleakie of Boston. The decorations were in red, with a centerpiece of red begonias. Covers were laid for ten—Miss Bleakie, Miss Sallie Walsh, Miss Marie Walsh, Miss Scullin, Miss Euston, Miss Pierce, Miss Mabel Filley and Mrs. Duthied Calhane.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis P. Aloe announce the engagement of Mrs. Aloe's sister, Miss Nola Rosenblatt, to Mr. Marcus A. Hirsch. The young couple will receive their friends on February 4 and 11, at No. 4531 Maryland avenue, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Aloe.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Block have issued invitations for the wedding reception of their daughter, Nina, and Mr. Ben M. Sarason, on Tuesday evening, February 6, from 8 to 10 o'clock, at No. 1915 Dillon street.

The Morning Choral Club has sent out invitations for its first recital of the season, on Tuesday evening, February 6, at half past 8 o'clock, at the Odeon. The club will be assisted by Mrs. Seabury Ford, soprano, and Mr. H. Charles Humphrey, tenor.

MRS. PEATTIE'S LECTURE ON "RUDYARD KIPLING."

Mrs. Ella S. Peattie of Chicago lectured on "Rudyard Kipling" yesterday afternoon before the Alumnae Association of Mary Institute. She was introduced by Mrs. James A. Waterworth, president of the association. Mrs. Peattie is a story writer and contributor to the magazines, and is connected with many of the women's clubs of Chicago and the Northwest. Early in the winter she was the guest of Mrs. George H. Shields of this city, and at that time she gave an afternoon of readings from her published stories.

Mrs. Peattie had something to say of Kipling's predecessors who told stories of the common people and who took such melancholy views of their lives; and declared that while Thomas Hardy gave his ideas on the subject of a pure woman; while Richard Watson Gilder unceasingly sang his sonnets; while Sarah Orne Jewett was untiring in her story writing about uninteresting elderly people; Rudyard Kipling sat at the gate and spun his tales, and all the people ran out to hear. Not the cultured few alone; but the workingman in his greasy apron, the philosopher, the poet, the little child, and the eager young who are nothing, but who walk with eyes fixed on the stars.

Kipling, she said, has strengthened the opinion that "a thing worth doing is worth doing well," and the workers, listening, rediscover the pleasures of their toil. He tells of men and women, not of conditions and theories; and this, she said, is why he appeals to all classes of people.

The lecturer quoted Kipling's statement that "there are but forty stories in the world, and thirty-nine of these you cannot tell to ladies," and gave a short summary of his early struggles to obtain recognition for his "Plain Tales From the Hills." She reviewed the author as a poet and as a fictionist, stating that his methods are the same in both labors. He makes no more attempt to be elevating in poetry than he does when telling an Indian story. If an idea seems complete to Kipling, there is silence. The reader may guess the rest. His terse and suggestive ending "That's another story," has become proverbial. One of his strongest characteristics is that which runs beneath the tale—a something greater than the tale.

Kipling has two marked attributes of story-writing. The short bits of poetry at the heads of his stories, that purport to come from obscure sources, but are obviously written by himself, and the fact that he makes his story only incidental, giving the impression that he could tell much more that was interesting if he only would. He is not always pretty reading, according to Mrs. Peattie, for he says himself that "Lo! I have wrought in rude clay, uncouth figures!" Kipling never plays with one eye on the gallery, a sure fatality wherever good work is to continue. At the time of the Queen's Jubilee, when every writer of note almost in the age was crowded into London, working and hurrying about, and speeding copy to the ends of the earth via cable and telegraph, Kipling walked slowly about, smoking, and apparently in careless reflection on what he saw.

After everybody else had exhausted himself, Kipling sat down and wrote "The Recessional," which will live until even the faintest memory of other people's productions at that time have passed into perfect oblivion. Mrs. Peattie quotes this as Richard Harding's observation, and adds Davis ought to know, for he wrote as much as anybody at that time.

Kipling's infinite pains to inform himself whenever writing a story was made the subject of an important part of Mrs. Peattie's talk. He writes his tales of Northern snow-bound countries, with Smithsonian Institute reports as authority. He studied the most minute details about railroading before he produced the sketch of a railroad flight across the continent—a mother going to her dying son. Kipling included all peoples in his thought; he embraces the globe, which is perhaps one secret of the great affection with which all peoples regard him.

Henry Fuller, the American writer, has often declared in Mrs. Peattie's hearing that he cannot find topics to write about. Kipling is never so bothered. He takes his plots from every person whom he meets, if he has a mind to use them. Burns set the speech of commoners into the golden framework of verse; Bret Harte has glorified the rough vernacular of the West; but Kipling is more reckless and uses with a lavish hand the varied dialects of varied lands.

The "Gift of the Sea" was read to illustrate Kipling's tenderness, in which he is often declared to women to be lacking; and the "Song of the Banjo," to show his richness of illustration and expression.

Mrs. Peattie closed her remarks with the quotation: "And the words that had no honor till he came, Lo! He raised them into honor over all," which she declared would be the most fitting epitaph that Kipling could ever have.

Mary Institute Alumnae and Wednesday Club women were numerous in the audience yesterday afternoon.

Among them were:

Mesdames—
James A. Waterworth, McCall, Charles Harris, Edwin Harrison, I. W. Morton, Abeles, Whitman, Hughes, W. B. Dean, E. H. Semple, Jones of Columbia, Mo., Alex. Niedringhaus, Alfred Hebard, Andy Knapp, Nicholas Wall, W. A. Stickney,

Misses—
Charlotte Taussig, Bella Taussig, Frances Allison, Harrison, Semple, Emma Taussig, Iona Huse, Stevenson, Smith, Kirk.

STORIES AND COMMENT ON LOCAL STAGE TOPICS.

Mr. Savage has sent no less than six really excellent singers to Music Hall this season. This statement is not meant to convey the idea that he has not sent more than six capable performers to us—on the contrary, the number is closer to sixty; of these, however, there are six who are almost great as interpreters of standard opera in English. One of the six came to us for the first time last night—that is to say, for the first time since his appearance here several seasons back, as a not-too-prominent member of another organization. His name is Barron Berthold, tenor.

Mr. Berthold, like most other singers, great and small, once sang at Uhrig's Cave. At that time he was so lame in his English that he was not a popular member of the company, for that reason alone. Cave patrons were not accustomed to an accent when they heard "Mascotte" and "Pinafore." Worse than this, Mr. Berthold's voice was not pleasing in quality, although its quantity asserted itself from Twenty-third street to Lellingwell avenue. Leaving St. Louis, Mr. Berthold sang in the East. One night in Boston, when dressed for the part of Romeo, in the self-same Castle Square company, he received a call from Mr. Walter Damrosch, whose organization was then getting ready for "Lohengrin" at another theater. At the last moment Mr. Damrosch's tenor had failed him. The house was full of people, and the singers were dressed for the performance. It was at this point that some one remembered that Mr. Barron Berthold, a young German, knew "Lohengrin" from end to end. So Damrosch jumped into a cab and sought him out. The manager agreed that the tenor might be secured as a loan, whereupon Mr. Damrosch made his suggestion to Berthold.

"It is almost a o'clock now," said the manager, "and this undertaking is a big one."

"Are you willing to risk me?" Mr. Berthold asked.

"I suppose I've got to," said Mr. Damrosch, now made doubtful by the tenor's coolness. The two rushed back to the waiting German opera, where at 8:30 the curtain went up, the son of the great Damrosch sitting tremulously in the director's chair.

"Before Berthold was on two minutes," said he, in telling the story afterward, "I knew that everything was all right. The performance was one of the most successful we ever gave."

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After this story, one can readily understand that such a capable man would push aside the difficulties of pronunciation and the unfinished methods of the old Cave days and make an artist of himself. So it was no great surprise, therefore, when he came forward on the Music Hall stage last night as one of the best figures yet offered by Mr. Savage. His voice, big and satisfying as of old, is rounded and well managed. His acting shows the grace of Delamotta. He has the firm confidence that intelligently applied experience brings. His height is of the commanding sort so often lacking in our tenor heroes. Last night he did a thing accomplished here by no tenor since Prevost—he carried a sustained high note about the stage with the ease one generally finds in "smart" conversation by a matinee favorite.

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Miss Yvonne De Treville, who is almost cute in her dainty graces, was a charming and vocally excellent Juliet. Miss De Treville's doll-like features and captivating qualities of pose and person command only diminutiveness when one searches about for adjectives to apply to her. She is quite unlike the conventional prima donna in all of the devices of her acting art. The velvet of her voice is there quite as much as it has ever been evidenced, in spite of a singer's statement that "hard work is telling on it."

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Viewed as a spectacle, "The Sunken Bell" is a desirable theatrical entertainment. Considered as a literary product for consideration by average minds, it falls of any good purpose. Hauptmann, who wrote the concept, does not venture an explanation of the idea underlying it. Mr. Meltzer, the New Yorker who translated it for Mr. Sothern, ventures his own opinion as an answer to the puzzle but, in the same paragraph, admits that other folks have still other views on the subject. Meanwhile, we find a stage filled with symbols, both in persons and speech—symbols that mean nothing to 75 per cent of the average audience. Indeed, the ordinary, money-paying crowd doesn't know and—let us be thankful—doesn't care a rap about the literary form that employs the figurative idea in its working out. Nordau, driven to the extreme of writing a book of several hundred pages on this phase of modern tendencies, will, in all probability, come forth with a supplement if the Maeterlincks, Hauptmanns and Sudermanns continue to produce.

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Several years ago, in Savannah, Ga., a young actress with big, black eyes, raven hair and a head full of great thoughts found herself stranded. The company disbanded after a tempestuous tour and Savannah was "a long, long walk from the gay Rialto in New York."

In the town there lived a young actor of some renown. He had played with Booth and Barrett, and now, after a long line of successes for one so young, he was home again on a visit to his mother. The young woman appealed to him, was speedily assisted and in a few days she was at work again on Broadway.

Only the other day the young man left a hospital here in St. Louis, restored in health and out of an engagement. The young actress, now quite famous, is wealthy into the bargain. Last Saturday she telegraphed from Chicago, where she is playing, and asked the young actor to come to see her. The next day he was engaged to play Romeo and Orlando to the lady's Juliet and Rosalind. The man is Lawrence Hanley and the woman is Julia Arthur. This spoils the story, of course, for in order to have it come out right, Miss Arthur should be married and the young man should be poor and proud.

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One of the Castle Square singers was standing before the big bill boards in front of Music Hall yesterday afternoon.

"That's funny