THE EVENING TIMES

FRANK A. MUNSEY.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1901.

Minister Wu is demonstrating to the world that his English is good for something besides pretty sentiments.

It is stated that the chrysanthemum is going out of fashion. As a model for the human head, let us hope it is.

Representative Grosvenor is in favor of wiping out the war tax, and he will find numerous persons eager to be sponges.

Beetles are said to be eating up a church in Ohio; and the tradition of the Kansas grasshopper is at last overthrown.

The husband of the little Queen of Holland is discovering that a country-in-law is worse than any number of relatives-in-law.

The violinist, Kubelik, is said to be a camera fiend, but the public will forgive him if he will only tell how to pronounce his name.

The "Atchison Globe" laments that we shall never again see the old-fashioned product, soft soap. The "Globe" should get itself elected to Congress.

Secretary Hay says that successful diplomacy does not consist in lying; which would be a good thing for many amateur diplomatists to keep in mind.

The State Entomologist of New Jersey declares that the mosquitoes of that State are not native, but imported. He does not explain how this makes any difference about their bite.

It was inconsiderate of our forefathers to use ink that would fade on so important a document as the Declaration of Independence, but perhaps they were afraid of anything that was fast.

The latest contribution to the Treasury conscience fund was over $18,000. Many people would not object in the least to having surgical operations on their consciences if it would pay at that rate.

Mr. Roosevelt's Innovation.

The President of the United States will today be one of the most interested spectators of a football game—the matching of brawn, muscle, and science by the Army and Navy elevens. It is doubtful if ever before in the history of the country a Chief Magistrate has been found on the sidelines of the chalked battlefield, and the presence of Mr. Roosevelt at Philadelphia will prove an inspiration to the contestants. It is officially stated that he will "root" for both sides, although it is reported semi-officially that the land-fighters are his favorites. This is not over-strange, however, for a nonpartisan at a football game is more than unique.

There may be an inclination in some quarters to look askance at the spectacle of a President at the gridiron; for certain individuals who have never witnessed a game cling to the notion that it is essentially brutal. But the majority of a virile people, whose sons and grandsons strive like Hercules at our great universities for the honor of defending the pigskin, will regard it as simply another evidence of Mr. Roosevelt's determination to act independently and encourage the building of American brawn that may at any time be needed to guard Old Glory.

Tradition and history have it that George Washington was a sturdy and athletic Father of His Country, and we are inclined to believe that, were he alive today, the umpire's whistle would find him an enthusiastic spectator of the Quaker City football game.

And he would probably root for the successors of the heroic Continentals.

Mistaken Philanthropy.

This is a time of year when almost everybody is likely to have a cold, and the persons who are not thus afflicted are around giving advice. There never was a time, in all probability, when the man who knows just how to cure a cold did not exist. The unfortunate individual who has one is assailed with a new remedy every hour. He does not take them all, because he knows that whereas now he is merely ill, if he did all that people are telling him to do he would be dead; and he has a lingering prejudice in favor of life, or at any rate, of his own method of committing suicide. There are easier roads off this mortal stage than that of being dosed to death.

The only really sure way to cure a cold is not to have one, and that is a piece of information which is needed by nobody. It is thought by some scientists that this ailment is a remnant of original sin left to torment mankind and remind everybody that there is a better world. The most brilliant triumph of ambition, the sweetest transports of the honeymoon, are rendered ineffective if conversation has to be carried on without the aid of one's nose. It is an unfortunte fact, moreover, that one's nearest and dearest are most prone to fall into the error of giving advice. This, also, is part of the mystery of original sin.

But there is a way to revenge one's self on those Job's comforters, the physicians who do not cure. Wait until they themselves have colds. Then come around with squills, and temperance toddy, and onions, and other cold-cures, and let them have the full effect.

The Protection of the President.

There is one matter which ought to be brought to the attention of Congress in such a way that it will strike hard; and that is the protection of the President of the United States by the laws of his country. There are several of the States in which murder is not punishable by the death penalty. If President McKinley had been shot in any one of these States the assassin could only have been imprisoned for life. There is no State in the Union in which the mere attempt to kill him, if it had been unsuccessful, could have been punished by anything but imprisonment.

It was pointed out at the time of the assassination that it would be possible, by some juggling with technicalities, to give Czolgosz what would be practically a life imprisonment, for he could have been sentenced for three or four different crimes and given the limit of each sentence. A sixty years' imprisonment is practically a life sentence to a man over twenty.

The President is liable at any time to visit any one of the various States, if there is sufficient reason for the journey. There should be no State in which an attempt on his life will not be punishable by death. This is a thing for Congress to attend to.

Aside from the protection of the Chief Executive, which is reason enough in itself for speedy legislation on the matter, it must be remembered that if the people knew that life imprisonment was the worst that could happen to the assassin, it would be almost impossible to prevent a lynching on the spot, and this would be a blow at the spirit of law and order which should at all costs be averted. It is to be hoped that never again will the nation be called upon to endure such an experience as that of last September; but this is a case in which strong preventive measures should be taken, the sooner the better.

PERSONAL NOTES ABOUT WASHINGTON PEOPLE.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Duvall are located at the Le Grande, and will be at home to their friends after December 1.

Mrs. Edward C. Carrington, of Baltimore, is visiting Mrs. G. H. Wilson on Connecticut Avenue.

Paul G. Fitzpatrick, of this city, is engaged in the practice of law in Duluth, Minn.

Miss Ruth Davis, who resides at No. 216 A Street southeast, will shortly move to Baltimore.

Miss Ella Hawkins, of My Lady's Manor, Baltimore county, Md., is visiting the family of Rev. G. E. Maydwell, 308 A Street northeast.

Dr. F. R. Lane, Director of the Washington High Schools, is spending the Thanksgiving holidays in Baltimore.

Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Rice, accompanied by their daughter Blanche, have arrived in this city from their home in Worcester, Mass. They are staying at the Varnum Hotel, where they will spend the winter.

Misses Agnes and Loraine Jefferson, daughters of Mrs. Agnes Jefferson, of Thirtieth Street, are home from Boston for the Thanksgiving vacation. They will return to their studies tomorrow.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Frank Donaldson will leave some time next week for Florida, to remain throughout the winter on account of the former's health.

Frederick B. Goddard has returned from a business trip to New Orleans.

Samuel F. Mills, jr., will leave for San Francisco in a few days to sail later for Manila, where he has accepted a position in the Government service.

Mr. John F. Bohlen has sold his house on Capitol Hill, where he has resided for a number of years, and, with his family, will go to Baltimore to reside.

Miss Julia Stevens, of C Street southeast, will leave today for Pittsburg, to remain until after Christmas.

The young men living at the Lincoln gave a Thanksgiving dance last evening in the large dining-room of that hotel. The appointments and decorations were on an elaborate scale and converted the temporary ballroom into a beautiful apartment with palm-lined walls and masses of chrysanthemums in the window recesses. A stringed orchestra played behind a wall of palms and supper was served in the adjoining dining-room.

Mrs. Theodore W. Birney has taken an apartment at the Cairo for the winter. Her daughter, Miss Alousita White, left for Charleston Wednesday. While there she will be the guest of Mrs. George Lamb Buist. Miss White will return to Washington before the holidays.

Misses Roselle and Mabel McGill, of K Street, have gone to Philadelphia to attend the football game between the West Point and Annapolis teams this afternoon.

The Conscience Fund.

(Chicago News.)

The penitent person who has just sent $18,699 to the national "conscience fund" probably feels that he was very nearly, if not fully, atoned for his wrongful act, whatever it may have been. Presumably it takes a considerable degree of remorse to bring a man to the point of parting with such a sum voluntarily. The "conscience fund" is a good thing in its way. May it grow until there are no longer any guilty consciences from which it can receive contributions.

Advance in Military Science.

(Philadelphia North American.)

The British War Office is taking the lessons of the Boer war to heart and yielding to the demand of the British public for army reform. An improved pattern for the shoulder straps of field officers has been adopted, and an increase of officers' pay is recommended. England's foes will have cold chills when they hear of this advance in military science.

A Probable Cause.

(Butte Inter-Mountain.)

It is said that a great deal of agitation for tariff revision springs from the practice of inspecting personal baggage at the custom houses. It may be that Mr. Babcock has had his personal effects mussed up by a custom house officer and has been fired with zeal for reform.

An Unpleasant Prospect.

(Chicago Tribune.)

It is a disturbing bit of knowledge—the fact that six men can remain in a submerged boat fifteen hours, with no other air to breathe than that in the boat, and suffer no ill effects from the experience. There will be no ventilation whatever in sleeping cars after this.

A Welcome Interruption.

(St. Louis Globe-Democrat.)

There are some new things under the sun, and one of them is stopping a battle until railway trains can pass. Perhaps the isthmian combatants welcome the locomotive whistle when things get too hot.

Holiday Time.

(Philadelphia Item.)

The toy advertisements which are dotting the newspapers remind us that Kris Kringle's visit is shortly due, and that the period for which the little folks look forward so longingly will soon be with us.

The Capital Is Big Enough.

(Indianapolis News.)

The American beet-sugar manufacturers are to have a convention in Washington December 10. Puzzle: Why are they to hold the convention in Washington?

OUR NATIONAL LEGISLATORS.

Representative Allan L. McDermott of New Jersey, receiver for the Washington Traction Company, has returned to the city. Some constituent of his in mosquito-ridden Jersey saw something in a newspaper about the Agricultural Department distributing dragon flies, to be used for destroying mosquitoes. After thinking over the matter the constituent wrote Mr. McDermott:

"Please send me, as soon as you get to Washington, about 100,000 dragon flies. We'll guarantee to give them all the mosquitoes they can eat and return them in good order to the Government."

"I went into Galveston," said Representative Kleberg of Texas, "to see the ocean. About the only sailing vessel I had ever seen before was a prairie schooner. I met an old friend there, who began to tell me about the wonderful things that had happened to the Peruvian bark Cincona. Later I found out that it was like the California night boat, and that the people were taking me to see that wonderful ship just like they told me that whales had been captured off the Mallory Line pier."

Representative Charles Curtis of Kansas, who is always returned by his constituents, has Indian blood in his veins, and is proud of it. No Indian who visits the Great Father at the White House feels satisfied unless he has seen and talked with Representative Curtis. They regard him as one of the guardian angels of the Indians in Congress.

With his blue eyes, fresh color, and iron-grey hair, Judge Edgar D. Crumpacker, of the Tenth Indiana district, is undeniably a gentleman of more than ordinary good looks. He created a stir in the last House by seeking to enact a law to cut down the representation of the Southern States in Congress by reason of the denial of the franchise to colored voters in those States. When asked at the Fairfax today if he meant to press the same measure in this Congress, Judge Crumpacker said:

"I can't say positively just now whether I will or not. It depends on certain conditions. At the last session I was willing to accept an adverse report from the committee in charge of the bill, because the work of the census had not progressed sufficiently to give Congress the data needed in the consideration of the measure. At that time, also, the sentiment at the White House toward limiting Congressional representation was unfriendly. The present Administration, so I understand, occupies a neutral attitude, and therefore if the measure is taken up again it will be on its own merits, and free from outside interference."

Among the younger members of the House who are almost sure of promotion to the north end of the Capitol none has a brighter outlook for Senatorial honors than Representative Oscar W. Underwood of Alabama. He comes from Birmingham, and his constituents think so well of him that they will doubtless keep sending him to Washington indefinitely. He is of fine physical proportions, an enthusiastic lover of the bicycle, and good all-round athlete. Mr. Underwood will spend the winter at the Cochran.

The successor of Private John Allen in the House, E. S. Candler, may never make much reputation as a wag, but he has the repuation of being a clear-headed lawyer and able debater. At the Metropolitan last evening, Mr. Candler said: "It is gratifying to me to be able to tell you what giant strides in the road of progress Mississippi has made in the past five years. The State has never until recently been regarded as enterprising and wide-awake as some of her sister States of the South, but of late she has started in on a new career, and in future will be no laggard. In the last four years the taxable wealth of the State has increased $32,000,000, and there has been a large increase in population. We are building a million-dollar capitol, strictly for cash, and I believe it will be completed without the issue of a single bond.

"The development has been largely due to the utilization of our magnificent forests of long-leaf pine in the southeastern part of the State. No, the blacks down our way don't care much for politics, and only a small percentage of them take the trouble to vote. This elimination of the colored man from the political field is for his own good, and as long as such conditions exist there will be no racial troubles of any magnitude."

An Independent Country.

(New Orleans Picayune.)

If the United States were surrounded by a Chinese wall of separation from every part of the world, there is scarcely an article of use for which the people within the wall would suffer, because there is in the entire list of articles of human use, whether it be a raw or a manufactured product of the soil, of the forest, of the mine, or of the water, nothing that could not be produced at home in the greatest abundance and of the best quality.

The time was when the United States was chiefly a producer of crude material, which had to be sent abroad to be manufactured. Now there are few, if any, articles of use which are not only not produced here in the crude form, but they are made into every fabric that can be desired. It may be possible to arrange reciprocity in a few articles, but the greatest care and regard for home labor must be observed in such business.

Exposition's Heaviest Loss.

(Rochester Herald.)

The sale of Pan-American Exposition buildings which cost $4,596,000 for a paltry $93,000 ought to open the eyes of future exposition managers to the chief source of loss in these affairs. Here is a loss of $4,500,000 at one stroke—greater than the entire net loss of the exposition. It seems tolerably clear that no exposition which makes such an investment in plant—practically all of which is to be sunk—can hope in a single short season to come out even.

Wu Must Promise.

(Cincinnati Enquirer.)

It is suggested that a new Chinese Exclusion law should be elastic enough to admit Mr. Wu Ting-fang, whether he comes in official life or as an emigrant. That will be all right if Mr. Wu will not start a laundry or in any other way underbid American workingmen.

An Insurgnt Prima Donna.

(Atlanta Journal.)

Uncle Sam and John Bull, with their Philippine and South African problems, are not the only ones who have troubles. Just think of how it must feel to be Maurice Grau and have an insurgent prima donna like Mme. Calve on your hands.

Proud Foster Parents.

(Detroit Free Press.)

The sensational newspapers in New York seem to be a great deal more delighted over the arrival of the Vanderbilt baby than the family possibly could be.

ALONG THE SKIRMISH LINE.

The Metamorphosis of the Grub.

There was once a man who had dwelt for some twenty years in Grub Street. He did not dwell there from choice. It was because he had to. He wore hand-me-down clothes, ate in hash restaurants, and patronized the free lunch counter when he needed a drink. But because he did not put up any great front about being hard worked and ill-paid and having responsibilities on his hands, people had an idea he was enjoying himself saving money.

By and by there came a time when his income swelled and his responsibilities dropped off, and he began to think it was time for him to have some fun. He went to a tailor and ordered the nobbiest suit of clothes in the establishment, and he began to go to theatres and on excursions, and he changed his boarding place. All his acquaintances were aghast at the change in his behavior, not because it cost them anything, but because they were interested in him and wanted to be his friends. They could not conceive a reason for his eccentric actions.

According to their ideas he should have gone on into a peaceful old age, with the superintendency of the Sunday school as his only recreation and the foreign mission society his only extravagance; and at his death a fat bank account should have gladdened the hearts of his numerous relatives. Finally they arrived at the conclusion that he was going to get married. They connected his name with those of various eligible ladies until one would have thought he was about to emigrate for Salt Lake. But none of the ladies knew anything of any such intention. The man went on having a good time, for he did not care. And he had a good time, all by himself, until he died.

Moral: There is not always a woman in the case.

"How did Jenkins get that great bump on his forehead?"

"I don't know, unless it was that his head grew so big that it hit the roof."

Some of the people who make all the fuss that they do over popular musicians ought to be instructed that a musical ear is not necessarily half a yard long.

"They say he is a man of marked talent."

"In my opinion it would have to be marked if he wanted anyone to see it."

Time thrown away is liable to sprout unpleasant weeds where it lands.

There once was an Amiable Ant,
Who was quite free from envy or cant;
She did all the work
Of the ants who would shirk,
Nor grieved them by saying, "I shan't!"

Cleanliness may be next to godliness, but the man who is trying to run his own furnace cannot keep much of either on hand.

The proverb says that a barking dog is safe; and he is, so long as he keeps out of sight.

The great ambition of the medical student is to be called "Doc," and a few years later his great ambition is not to be.

"The horseless carriage would be all right," soliloquized the disconsolate young man, "if I could have taken it out with a flirtless girl. But as it was, my attention was distracted and then the machine went distracted too."

"I am a woman with a history," she began tragically.

The man at the desk pushed back his chair and looked apprehensive but curious.

"A history of our martyred Presidents, which——"

Slam went the door. The man at the desk had fled.

"I have come," announced the tragedy queen, weight 160, "to throw myself on your mercy."

And that was the time the quality of mercy was strained.

"What did you do when on earth?" queried St. Peter.

"I lived in Washington," began the luckless one.

"That's not much to your credit. Go on."

"And I never had any time to attend to my soul, because a young lady next door used to begin practicing at 5 o'clock in the morning——"

"That's enough. Your application is accepted. Your harp isn't likely to trouble the neighbors."

SLOW PROGRESS AT MEXICO.

Pan-American Conference Still Disposing of the Preliminaries.

CITY OF MEXICO, Nov. 30.—The session of the Pan-American Conference yesterday was an hour late, because everybody attended the ball Thursday night. The Chilean proposition regarding the practice of the learned professions was read and referred to the proper committee.

Mr. Buchanan's proposition recommends a careful revision and completion, under the direction of the customs divisions of each Government, of the commercial nomenclature dictionary prepared after the first conference by the Bureau of American Republics, and also the compilation and publication by the bureau of a revised work.

One year after its publication each Government is to adopt this nomenclature for use in the customs schedules and laws. Publication expenses are to be borne jointly. This was referred to the committee on commerce and reciprocity.

The reports of the committee on Pan-American bank were read and ordered printed for distribution. This report has been ready a week, and it is likely to be another week befeore final action is taken, although it is quite unopposed.

This is an indication of what rapidity of action may be expected from the conference.

The Costa Rican proposition for an exchange of all official publications and recommending free postal service in such exchange was also distributed. The Pan-American railway report was read and ordered printed for distribution.

Senor Merou, Argentine Minister to the United States and Mexico, starts for Washington tomorrow.

The Mexican, Guatemalan and Chilean delegations have agreed on an appropriation for the establishment of a court of claims, which is a compromise between the three separate plans they had submitted.

Never Thoroughly Tested.

(Philadelphia Item.)

An American Admiral reports that he has little faith in submarine boats, and states that while it has been proved that they can stay under water their service as effective fighters has not been demonstrated. This is true, but every invention does not meet expectation at once. The submarine boat is a dangerous enemy, and its possibilities have never been thoroughly tested. It may be the means of entirely revolutionizing naval warfare.

THE PLAYER FOLK.

The scramble for New York dates goes merrily on among road managers. Joseph Buckley, with his big production, starring Otis Skinner in "Fracesca di Rimini," a wonderful money-getter throughout the country, is after a Broadway opening, not because it is necessary to his prosperity, but because he desires to establish his star as a regular visitor to the metropolis. Buckley maintains that Skinner is the best romantic actor in America, and found thousands to agree with him last year during his engagement at Wallack's Theatre.

Kyrle Bellew, in "A Gentleman of France," is another important attraction that has just secured "time" at a New York Theatre — Wallack's — and "The Chaperon," Frank Perley's musical production, is angling after an opening in Gotham. This latter piece has lately been turned over to George Lederer for revision and reconstruction, and it is expected to show such improvement that its presentation on Broadway will be justified.

In addition to these are innumerable plays which managers are holding in abeyance until they can command New York stages for their presentation. There is no city in the world in which so many pretentious stage productions are offered each year as in New York. London and Paris combined do not equal Gotham in quantity or quality.

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R. A. Barnet, the Boston librettist, who wrote "Miss Simplicity," which Frank Daniels has found the best musical piece he has ever had, is hard at work on the next Cadet production. The new piece is called "The Cap of Fortune," and will be done for a week in Boston after the holidays.

Barnet has been the means of enriching the Boston Cadets. Through his pieces they have built and wholly paid for one of the finest armories in the country, and they naturally regard the clever author as their guide, philosopher, and friend. In all these productions Barnet writes the books, superintends the writing of music, directs the making of scenery and costumes, and personally stages the whole piece. To rehearse 100 amateurs in a hurricane comedy performance year after year with unvarying success, and conmmand the admiration and respect of every one of them, argues that Barnet is one in a thousand—which can scarcely be doubted.

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It is doubtful if E. H. Sothern would leave New York for months but for the fact that the attraction booked to follow him at the Garden Theatre next week is his wife, Virginia Harned, in "Alice of Old Vincennes."

Mr. Sothern has the hit of his career in "If I Were King," but even to prolong his metropolitan run—which is the first desire of all stars—he will not consider the postponement of his wife's stellar debut on Broadway. Reports agree that Miss Harned, in "Alice of Old Vincennes," has scored a gratifying success.

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Kirke La Shelle expects to break ground for his new Colonial Theatre, New York, soon after the holidays. This theatre would have been in commission at the present time but for the caprice of a woman who had sold to La Shelle one of the five pieces of ground which, combined, make his theatre plot. This woman, finding that the price she asked and been given was less than that paid another woman a few doors away, refused to deliver title as per contract, and La Shelle had to bring suit to compel her to do so.

This suit is about to come to trial, and La Shelle is so confident of its outcome that he has made contracts with builders for the erection of his theatre.

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Daniel Frohman's stock company, recently seen at the National Theatre, this city, will soon present at Daly's Theatre, New York, a new romantic melodrama by Paul M. Potter.

It is founded on the most celebrated of Victor Hugo's romances, "Notre Dame de Paris." Mr. Potter's work will be original in character and treatment. He will use the principal personages of Hugo's romance, and, while retaining the atmosphere, he has altered much of the story to suit modern dramatic requirements.

Miss Hilda Spong will play La Esmeralda, and in the company Arthur Forrest, Robert Loraine, Jameson Lee Finney, William F. Owen, Grant Stewart, Charles F. Gotthold, Mrs. Whiffen, Beatrice Morgan, Gertrude Bennett, Margaret Illington, and others will appear. The production will be one of considerable magnitude. The play has been copyrighted under the title of "Notre Dame."

There is more than appears on the surface in the announcement of this forthcoming melodrama. For one thing it it shows clearly that there is likely to be change in the class of plays which will be presented at Daly's hereafter. For Daniel Frohman's stock company to present an out-and-out melodrama is rather an innovation in itself. But it is rather a good thing for any company which has been devoting itself to society drama to take a dash into heroics now and then. It clears away a lot of the dry rot to begin with. However, Mr. Daly proved years ago that Daly's Theatre, more than any other playhouse in New York, demands a big attraction.

If Mr. Potter is only half as successful with "Notre Dame" as he was with "Trilby," Daly's should be crowded for all season.

Among the other attractions which Mr. Frohman is rumored to be holding in reserve is a society drama, by Mrs. Robert Osbcurne and Norma Munro.

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The Washington branch of the Fraternal Order of Eagles will have a benefit and sacred concert at the National Theatre on Sunday night, February 2. A splendid programme is being arranged by G. Hector Clemes, who will have charge of the entertainment.

It is proposed to present a programme that will include some of the very ablest talent obtainable, and the local Eagles are enthusiastic in declaring that their first benefit will surpass anything of the kind that has even been given in this city.

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"The Toreador," the latest of the successful musical pieces to be brought to this country from London, will be given its first production on this side of the Atlantic at the Columbia Theatre, this city, December 30. Nixon & Zimmerman, who control the rights to "The Toreador" for the United States, have engaged Francis Wilson to create the role of Sammy Gigg, a Cockney "tiger," who gets into any number of complications while in Spain, where he is mistaken for a bullfighter, and forced to don the garb of the toreador.

Wilson will continue with "The Strollers" for two weeks. His place will be taken in the latter piece by Eddie Foy, and R. L. Don will succeed to Foy's original role.

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N. C. Goodwin has cabled to Klaw and Erlanger, requesting them to arrange a route for him and Maxine Elliott, to open January 20. They will begin their tour in Brooklyn on that date, and will present "When We Were Twenty-one."

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From New York comes the report that Marie Wilson, the Washington girl, who during the time she was a member of the original "Florodora" sextette, won three-quarters of a million in Wall Street, wants to have an opera company of her own, and has been in consultation with Sydney Rosenfeld and Ludwig Englander regarding a piece.

Every Day Stories of the Workings and Workers of the Departments.

G. B. Maynardier, chief of section 12, Population Division of the Census Office, is confined to his bed with an attack of malaria fever.

George W. Pollock, the principal examiner at the General Land Office, is a lover of fine horses. He lives at Boyds, Md., and owns one of the fastest teams in that locality.

Capt. George E. Pickett, of the Pay Corps, U. S. A., paid a visit to his old friends in the Interior Department yesterday. Captain Pickett is a son of General Pickett, who commanded one of General Lee's army brigades and led the terrible assault known as "Pickett's charge" at the Battle of Gettysburg. Captain Pickett was for many years a clerk in the Indian Office in the Interior Department. At the outbreak of the late war he entered the volunteer army with the rank of major. He saw service in both Cuba and the Philippines. At the close of the war he was appointed to a captaincy in the regular army.

A delegaton of five Indians of the Uintah tribe, who have a reservation in Utah, called on Commissioner Wililam A. Jones, of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, yesterday. The red men of the plains came to air no grievance, but following the custom of our aboriginal wards dropped in to have a chat with the "Little Father," as they call Mr. Jones.

Theodore F. Swayze, who, nearly a year ago, resigned his position as Chief Clerk of the Treasury Department on account of sickness, may regain the position vacated by him. It was said that he was in consultation with Secretary Gage in regard to the matter, and that the trend of the interview seemed to be entirely satisfactory to Mr. Swayze, who at present is employed in the Customs Division of the department.

W. T. Wannell has been transferred from the Ninth to the First precinct and assigned to duty as doorman, vice McNamara, deceased.

Governor Jenkins, of Oklahoma, called to see Secretary Hitchcock at the Interior Department yesterday morning, but was unable to obtain an interview, as Secretary Hitchcock was in attendance at the Cabinet meeting. Governor Jenkins has not given up the hope of retaining his gubernatorial position and is making a determined fight to that end. The President, however, is understood as favoring Zachary Mulhall as Chief Executive of Oklahoma to succeed Jenkins. President Roosevelt has stated that Governor Jenkins' nomination will not be sent to the Senate.

The District Commissioners have directed Charles N. Church, Inspector of Cast Iron Water Pipe, to proceed from Vineland, N. J., to Phillipsburg, N. J., on duty connected with the work of inspecting cast iron water pipe now being manufactured by the Warren Foundry and Machine Company for the Water Department.

By order of the District Commissioners, Charles H. Fearing is appointed messenger in the Engineer Department at $480 per year, to take effect November 29, 1901.

Justice Harry M. Clabaugh, of the Supreme Court of the District, who spent Thanksgiving Day in Philadelphia, will return to the city today. He will hear motions in Circuit Court, No. 2, to which he is assigned.

The resignation of Thomas F. McCauley, a watchman, employed at the Department of the Interior, has been accepted. Mr. McCauley was relieved from duty on November 22 instant.

W. E. Brady, assistant in charge of tabulating at the Census Bureau, is on a two days' leave of absence. He will return to work Monday morning.

Edward McCauley, Chief Clerk of the Census Office, will attend the Army-Navy football game today at Philadelphia.

Herr Brefeld, former Minister of the Kingdom of Prussia, accompanied by Count A. Montgellas, Secretary of the German Embassy, were callers at the Census Office a few days ago. Director Merriam showed his two visitors over the building, explaining the intricate workings of the office, and how the Census is taken.

William B. Ridgely, Comptroller of the Currency, left this morning for Philadelphia on official business. He is expected to return Monday morning. In his absence Thomas Kane, the Assistant Comptroller, will act in Mr. Ridgely's place.

An accountant of singular ability is L. E. Gannon, of the Indian Division of the Office of the Auditor for the Interior, Treasury Department. One of his "settlement sheets" would constitute a model in a school of bookkeeping and accounting. His work is the examining of the quarterly accounts rendered by the various Indian agents and disbursing officers located at Indian reservations throughout the country, balancing the accounts with the proper tribal appropriations and funds on deposit in the Treasury, a class of service in which he has become extraordinarily proficient.

Mr. Gannon possesses the rare combination of an artistic temperament and fine business ability, for Washington best knows him in his capacity of a wielder of the baton in church choirs. For years he was familiar to worshipers at old St. Matthew's as a director of a choir that was famed for its vocal accomplishments. Moreover, his robust baritone voice was long heard in the now deserted old edifice on the corner of Fifteenth and H Streets. He is also a fine organist, plays the violin and a couple of other instruments, writes and composes sacred music with great facility. The adaptation of vocal scores is his specialty, though he shines best with the director's stick.

George P. Roberts, Director of the United States Mint, easily ranks as the best-informed man in the country on the question of coinage and the production of the precious metals. When not engaged at his desk at the Mint Bureau wrestling with the absorbing problem of the conversion of bullion into money and the direction of the various United States mints, his mind is devoted to the interests of his particular hobby, the "Fort Dodge (Iowa) Gazette," of which he is the editor and proprietor. His newspaper is Republican and is no small factor in the political contests of his native State.

Few men who accept Governmental positions of trust and responsibility ever become as familiar with the various details of their offices as has W. S. Shallenberger, Second Assistant Postmaster General. Mr. Shallenberger is a thorough business man, and conversant with public affairs.

To his office is assigned the business of arranging the mail service and placing the same under contract, embracing all correspondence and proceedings respecting the frequency of trips, mode of conveyance, and times of departures and arrivals on all the routes; the course of the mails between the different sections of the country, the points of mail distribution, and the regulations for the Government of the domestic mail service of the United States.

Mr. Shallenberger is one of the most approachable men holding a public office. He is always to be found at his desk laboring ceaselessly, but not too busy to lay aside his work and give his visitor a greeting that never fails to make the latter feel fully at ease.

William Luskey, Foreman of Engine Company No. 10, is in New York to meet his son, Elvon M. Luskey, who is returning from the Philippines. The younger Luskey was a soldier in Cuba, and upon his return to Washington enlisted in the regular army, in Company E, Seventeenth Regiment. He has served in all the campaigning of his regiment without seeing a sick day. Foreman Luskey has keenly felt the absence of his son, and has seen anxious days when the expected letter from Manila did not arrive. As the time of his boy's arrival approached he found it difficult to resist the inclination to hurry on to New York and welcome the returning soldier. The other day he had a short conference with the Chief Engineer, and was granted a few days' leave to satisfy a parent's desire. During Foreman Luskey's absence engine company No. 10 is in charge of Assistant Foreman James Rossiter.

A quiet man sits to the left of his chief in the secretary's office at the District Building. In the expression of his comrades, indicative of his great industry, the Index Clerk just "keeps quiet and saws wood." This is William F. Meyers, charged with the work of indexing the records of the secretary's office and keeping tab on all official action of the Commissioners. The compiling of the laws of Congress having reference to the District falls to the lot of Mr. Meyers, as well as the publication of the annual report of the Commissioners. The post requires not only hard work, but a genius for indexing as well. The services of Mr. Meyers are also brought into requisition many times daily to find such information as may be required in the progress of business. Mr. Meyers rides the bicycle, as he says, to take the kinks out of his brain after the exhausting labors of the day.

One of the best-known employes of the District of Columbia is Capt. H. N. Moss, Superintendent of Streets. He is the right-hand man of the Computing Engineer, and has personal charge of the field work in laying pavements, curb, and sidewalks. In the paving of alleys the work is done by day labor, and Captain Moss is charged with the hiring of the men and their general supervision. The other work is done under contract and he has charge of the inspectors, who report to him each day. Captain Moss' office is on the fourth floor of the District Building, and he spends several hours every day with his inspectors, giving orders and receiving detailed reports of the paving going on, sometimes in twenty different parts of the city at one time. Captain Moss has been heard to say that he sometimes "smells asphalt in his dreams."

Simon Wolf, of the firm of Wolf & Cohen, who is a member of the Board of Charities, is almost a daily visitor at the District Building. His business there relates mostly to public charitable work, though sometimes to legal questions in the looking up of records. Mr. Wolf takes great interest in matters pertaining to the District charities, being connected with several of the societies and associations of that nature. Mr. Wolf is a member of the standing committee of the Board of Charities having charge of the child-caring institutions of the District, and of the committee having supervision over miscellaneous institutions, such as the Washington Asylum.

"Policy Bob" is the familiar name by which Detective Watson is known to his friends at Police Headquarters. Detective Watson for several years has been detailed to follow up those persons who are suspected of promoting policy. There is practically nothing about the game and its followers that he does not know. He can tell stories by the hour regarding his experience in his present work.

"Although few people are aware of it," he said, the other day, "the game was introduced in this country by the Chinese, and today some of the most prominent Chinamen in the country are its devotees. An enterprising American saw the money that was being made by the promoters of the game in Chinatown, San Francisco, secured a small backing, and embarked in the business. It was but a short time before the passion for the game had spread throughout the country, and the observant promoter had amassed a fortune."

Detective Charles F. Proctor, of the Police Department, is the officer specially detailed to see to the enforcement of the laws pertaining to the practice of medicine and the dispensing of drugs, and in his official capacity is personally acquainted with all of the 1,300 physicians who are upon the register. "Dr." Proctor is rather a quiet and sedate man, and his friends can hardly believe the story which was recently circulated regarding him. It was to the effect that in a certain case where it was essential for him to secure a list of the patrons of a suspected establishment he was one evening seen going over a rear fence with his coat-tails extended in a most undignified manner. Whatever the facts may have been, it is certain that he secured a conviction when the case was brought to trial.

Sergeant Doyle, of the Eighth precinct, who has been sick at his home for several days, has reported for duty. The sergeant was suffering from a severe cold in the chest, and was on leave for several days as a result.

Of the score of desk sergeants in the Police Department, Sergt. John E. Garner, stationed at the Sixth precinct, has a record unexcelled in length of service. Sergeant Garner became a policeman twenty-six years ago. For fifteen years he has held his present position. Acting Sergeant Sylvester Murphy is night stationkeeper during the absence of Sergeant Garner, who has joined his wife in Maryland.

Policeman John A. McDonald, formerly attached to the Detective Bureau, is taking the place of Robert Burns, now confined to his home on account of illness. Policeman McDonald, at this particular time, assists Sergeant Carter, Night Inspector of Police. It has been over a year since McDonald was a detective. Illness played its grim part in taking him from among the sleuths. He is a sufferer from lung trouble. McDonald was appointed on the police force in 1895. He is attached to the Tenth precinct station.

Mrs. Mary O'Dea, mother of Detective O'Dea, of No. 6 station, is critically ill at Providence Hospital. Two months ago Mrs. O'Dea became ill, and her malady seems to have grown slowly yet steadily worse. She was removed from her home, 120 G Street northeast, to the hospital Tuesday night last.