AMUSEMENTS.

The Lafayette.....Mansfield.
Annual Engagement of
MR. RICHARD
MANSFIELD.
MISS BEATRICE CAMERON
and the
New York Garrick Theater Stock Company,
under the management of Hoyt & McKee.
TONIGHT—A PARISIAN ROMANCE
WED. MAT.—CASTLE SOMBRAS.
(First time here.)
WED. EVE.—KING RICHARD III.
THURSDAY—BEAU BRUMMEL.
FRIDAY—PRINCE KARL.
SAT. MATINEE—BEAU BRUMMEL.
SAT. EVE.—DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE.
REGULAR PRICES.
Next Attraction—E. S. Willard.

LAFAYETTE SQUARE OPERA HOUSE
MONDAY, JAN. 25.
Reappearance after an absence of three years of the famous English actor,
MR. E. S. WILLARD,
who will appear on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, and at a special Wed. matinee as Bailey Prothero, in
"THE ROGUE'S COMEDY,"
by Henry Arthur Jones.
On Thursday evening, the only performance of "THE MIDDLEMAN," by Henry Arthur Jones, Mr. Willard as Cyrus Blackburn. Friday and Saturday evenings and Saturday matinee, Mr. J. M. Barrie's charming play, "THE PROFESSOR'S LOVE STORY," Mr. Willard as Prof. Goodwillie.
Seats on sale Thursday.

COLUMBIA THEATER.
Beginning Wednesday.
Four Nights Only. Bargain Matinee Thursday. Regular Matinee Saturday.
AL. G. FIELD'S COMBINED MINSTRELS
Largest and Best Company in America.
More Comedians, Specialists, Singers, Dancers and more money invested than in any other similar enterprise.
Next Week—THE CHERRY PICKERS.

COLUMBIA THEATER.
January 25, 26, 27 and 29
Matinee Course of Lectures. Each Afternoon at 4:15.
HARRY FURNISS,
The Great London Caricaturist,
Will entertain Washingtonians with his celebrated sketches, entitled:
"THE HUMORS OF PARLIAMENT."
"AMERICA IN A HURRY."
"HARRY FURNISS AT HOME."
"SKETCHES AND STORIES."
Reserved Seats.....50c, 75c and $1.00
Sale opens Thursday.

COLUMBIA THEATER.
The STODDARD LECTURES.
Two Courses of 5, exactly alike, as follows:
Course A—Evenings of February 1, 3, 6, 9, 11
Course B—Evenings of February 2, 4, 8, 10, 12
1—HEROIC AND ROMANTIC SCOTLAND.
2—OLD ENGLAND.
3—THE YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK.
4—OLD AND NEW RUSSIA.
5—ATHENS AND VENICE (a dual subject).
Sale of COURSE TICKETS at Metzerott's on and after THURSDAY, JAN. 21.
Prices, $1.50, $1.50, $1.50, reserved seats.
BURDITT & NORTH, Managers.

Ice Palace, CONVENTION HALL.
REAL ICE SKATING
Every Afternoon at 2. Every Evening at 7:30.
Engagement Extraordinary.
Mr. George A. Meagher,
Champion Figure and Exhibition Skater of the World.
Exhibition Every Evening at 9 o'clock.
SATURDAY AFTERNOON at 3.
Admission, 25c.
Special Morning Classes, 10 to 12:30.

ACADEMY—Prices 25, 50, 75c and $1.00.
Wed. and Sat. Mats 25 and 50c res'd.
Jacob Litt's Enchanting Production,
IN OLD KENTUCKY
GREAT CAST! SUPERB SCENERY! NUMEROUS NOVELTIES! EXCLUSIVE FEATURES!
Next Week { KATE CLAXTON IN THE TWO ORPHANS.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
KERNAN & RIFE, Managers.
Week Commencing JANUARY 18.
Wednesday—MATINEES—Saturday.
SWEET SINGER
CHAS. A. GARDNER
"KARL"
In the Romantic Comedy
FATHERLAND.
DEL S. SMITH, Sole Manager.
Karl Gardner's Latest Songs—"The Lily," "Karl's Invitation," "Bacchus and Wine," "German Swell," "Spinning Wheel," etc.
Popular Prices Maintained—15, 25, 50 & 75c
All Seats Cushioned. NOTE—A good seat on first floor for 25 Cents. Seats in Box, $1.
Next Attraction—THE ENSIGN.

NEW NATIONAL THEATER.
Engagement of
OTIS SKINNER.
Tonight and Wednesday Night,
A SOLD'ER OF FORTUNE
Mat. Wed., The Lady of Lyons; Thurs. and Mat. Sat., Romeo and Juliet; Fri., Hamlet; Sat. double bill, Merchant of Venice and Katherine and Petruchio.
Next Week—W. H. CRANE.

COLUMBIA THEATER. January 20
WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON at 4:15.
50th presentation in this city by
Rev. A. G. ROGERS
of his now celebrated lecture,
BEN HUR.
Music by the Columbia Theater Orchestra.
Tickets 25 and 50c—now on sale at box office. ja 15-tf

Willard Hall.
HAVE YOU SEEN IT? WHY NOT?
LUMIERE'S
CINE MAT OGRAPHE,
"The Most Wonderful Thing in the World."
All Earth in Action Brought to Washington.
Full descriptive lectures by Mr. WHITING ALLEN daily at 2:30 p. m., 4:30 p. m. and 8:15 p. m.
Admission, 50c. Children, 25c. No reserved seats.

BIJOU. All This Week.
Monday, Tuesday | 4 MATINEES 4 | Friday, Saturday
The Great Record Breakers,
GILMORE and LEONARD,
—IN—
HOGAN'S ALLEY.
Next Week—Two Old Cronies.

AZALEAS
IN FULL BLOOM.
An elegant and large flowering plant.
50c each—for one week only.
J. LOUIS LOOSE,
12th and F Sts.

TRY OUR ROCK & RYE. 50c FULL PINT.
BORDEAUX WINE CO. 1847 14th st. nw.

Women get plenty of sympathy after they are dead. Tom Hood made a very pathetic picture in his "Bridge of Sighs," but the probabilities are that the woman needed sympathy a great deal more before she died than she did afterwards. Thousands of women are enduring much worse things than death. The most distressing thing about it all is that it is needless.

Uterine troubles are considered well-nigh incurable. Women seem to think that they must go on bearing these things forever. To be sure, some of them make an effort to get well by going to their physicians, but thousands are deterred from this, both because they have seen that it was not likely to do much good, and because they knew that the first thing the physician would insist upon would be the examinations and local treatment so justly abhorrent to every modest woman. These things are generally as unnecessary as they are distasteful. Every woman can be made strong and healthy by the use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It is a most marvelous medicine for all forms of female weakness and disease. It is a wonderful purifier and cleanser. It acts directly on one set of organs, and on no other, but in doing this, it frequently cures troubles that were seemingly of an entirely different character and origin. A disorder of the distinctly feminine organs is likely to cause all sorts of symptoms, and careless doctors frequently doctor women for neuralgia, or dyspepsia, or insomnia, when the real trouble is in the organs distinctly feminine. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription will make any woman well. Sometimes when disease has run on so long that the entire system is debilitated, it is necessary to use in connection with the "Prescription," Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, a general tonic, blood-purifier, and blood-maker, without an equal in the world. There is no case so severe that these two great medicines will not cure it. Thousands of women have frequently testified to this fact.

AMUSEMENTS.

The Annual Charity Ball
For the benefit of the
Children's Hospital
To be given WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, at the National Rifles' Armory. Tickets may be procured from any of the Board of Lady Visitors, from Thompson's drugstore, the prominent hotels and at the door the night of the ball. The supper will be a special feature, being provided and served by the ladies of the board. Everything will be of the very best. The Marine Band will furnish the music.

Supper Tickets . . 50 Cents.

PATRONESSES.

Mrs. Stevenson,	Lady Pauncefote,
Mrs. Olney,	Mme. Patenotre,
Mrs. Lamont,	Baroness Thielmann,
Miss Herbert,	Mme. Dupuy de Lome,
Mrs. Francis,	Mme. Romero,
Mrs. Harmon,	Baron Hengelmuller,
Mrs. Fuller,	Viscountess de Santo Thyrso,
Mrs. Gray,	Mrs. John Hay,
Mrs. Brown,	Mrs. Bagby,
Mrs. Hale,	Mrs. Wallach,
Mrs. Brice,	Mrs. Boardman,
Mrs. Lodge,	Mrs. Richardson,
Mrs. Wetmore,	Mrs. Nott,
Mrs. Cameron,	Mrs. Emory,
Mrs. Elkins,	Mrs. Ward,
Mrs. Draper,	Mrs. Will'd Brownson,
Mrs. McClellan,	Miss Edes,
Mrs. Hearst,	Mrs. Clifford Perin,
Mrs. Harriet Lane Johnston,	Miss Patten,
Mrs. N. L. Anderson,	Mrs. Calderon Carlisle,
Mrs. Townsend,	Mrs. Andrews,
Miss Riggs,	

RECEPTION COMMITTEE.

Miss Miller,	Mrs. Bradley,
Mrs. Sheridan,	Mrs. Huidekoper,
Mrs. McMillan,	Mrs. Johnston,
Mrs. Leiter,	Mrs. Goodloe,
Mrs. McCauley,	Mrs. Glover.
Mrs. Hammond,	

FLOOR COMMITTEE.
GEORGE HOWARD, Chairman.

Dr. Charles Bispham,	W. S. Thompson,
J. Henry Small,	Samuel Maddox,
Edward A. Bowers,	Ralph Jenkins,
Francis Hastings,	Thos. M. Chatard,
Charles C. Glover,	Edward McCauley,
F. Lee Phillips,	George M. Dunn,
Charles Poor,	John H. Magruder,
John C. Poor,	Frank Andrews, jr.,
F. P. H. Sands,	Jack Story, jr.,
Lt. Sidney A. Staunton,	Harris Lindsley,
Dr. T. Richie Stone,	Horace Westcott,
Arthur W. Addison,	Richard Weightman,
John M. Biddle,	Dr. Alexander Magruder, U. S. N.,
Jesse Brown,	Charles A. McKenney,
Frank Michler,	John F. Wilkins,
Charles L. McCauley,	P. B. Snyder, jr.,
Lt. Thos. S. Rodgers,	Arthur Cassels,
Clay May,	John C. Gilmore, jr.,
R. Ross Perry, jr.,	Morton Otis,
W. L. McPherson,	Walter Galt,
Woodbury Blair,	George W. Evans,
W. H. Moses,	Maj. Goodloe,
Alexander Britton,	George Hellen.

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NEW NATIONAL THEATER.
Next Week, Beginning **Monday, Jan. 25**
The American Actor,
WM. H.
CRANE
In his latest great success,
A Fool of Fortune
SEATS READY THURSDAY.

LAFAYETTE.....WILLARD
MONDAY, JAN. 25.
Reappearance after an absence of three years of the famous English actor,
MR. E. S. WILLARD,
Who will appear on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings and Wednesday Matinee, as Bailey Prothero, in
"THE ROGUE'S COMEDY."
By Henry Arthur Jones.
WEDNESDAY MAT. PRICES, SPECIAL.
Orchestra, 75c. Balcony, 50c, (reserved.)
Seats in Mezzanine Boxes only, $1.00.
General Admission, 50c. and 25c.
Thursday evening, (only time),
"THE MIDDLEMAN."
Friday and Saturday evenings and Sat. Mat.,
"THE PROFESSOR'S LOVE STORY."
Seats on sale Thursday morning, 9 o'clock.

KERNAN'S LYCEUM THEATER.
ALL THIS WEEK.
Matinees Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
AL. REEVES' BIG
BURLESQUE CO
25—Whites—25—Blacks—25
Next Week—Weber & Field's Own Show.

EXIT UNDERWEAR
(MEN'S)
Incoming goods have the right of way to push out Underwear. It's a phase of our
MIDWINTER CLEARING SALE.
20 PER CENT OFF.
Knocking 20 per cent off asked prices—with 30 per cent of winter yet to come. Makes that dressy men wear. All qualities save poor qualities. What a chance!
JOSEPH AUERBACH,
For Underwear. - - 623 Pa. Ave.

OUR BOOKS AND PAINTINGS

Librarian Spofford Has a Million Works of Graphic Art.

MAPS AND CHARTS BESIDES

The Legislative Bill as Reported to the Senate Provides That Superintendent Green Shall Remain in Charge of New Building at $5,000 a Year—Paintings Wanted.

Senator Morrill yesterday afternoon presented in the Senate a statement from Librarian Spofford, relative to the needs of the new Library of Congress. It was ordered printed as a document.

He says the new building must accommodate at once 740,000 volumes, 250,000 pamphlets, about 300,000 unbound periodicals, the Smithsonian scientific library of 100,000 volumes, the Towne library of 30,000 volumes and many pamphlets and periodicals, 200,000 copyrighted medical compositions, an extensive collection of works of graphic art, numbering not less than 1,000,000 distinct works, a vast collection of maps of every description, another of charts, illustrating all departments of scientific instruction and requiring much space, and a collection of manuscripts acquired with the historical library of Peter Force and from other sources.

There will also be required for the proper administration of the new library, according to Mr. Spofford, a copyright record office, a room for thirty copyright clerks, a spacious room for the reception and distribution of the heavy mass of copyright publications coming in daily, a large hall for the gallery of art, another for maps and charts, a room to exhibit early prints of books in glass covers, an exhibition room for early Americana, another for specimens of book binding, a room for Washingtoniana, a catalogue room with adequate space for books of reference, reading rooms each for Senators and Representatives, a committee room for joint committee on library, office for the librarian, packing, stamping, printing, bookbinding, and other rooms, restaurant accommodations, superintendent's office, office for captain of watch, and a special room for researches of government officials. There should also be a largely increased space to accommodate 187 clerks at least, as against 42 at present.

The legislative appropriation bill, as reported to the Senate this afternoon, provides that the present custodian shall become superintendent of the new library building, at a salary equal to that of the librarian, establishes the office of register of copyright, and provides for him a salary of $3,000 a year.

Senator Wetmore made a favorable report this afternoon, from the Library Committee, on the proposed Hawley amendment to the sundry civil bill, appropriating $2,000 to purchase an oil painting of Vice President D. D. Tompkins, painted by Jarvis in 1812, and now owned by Ray Tompkins Gordon, a descendent of the Vice President. He also reported favorably the Gibson proposition to buy Nehlig's painting of "Pocahontas Saving the Life of Capt. John Smith," for $5,000.

THESE WERE INDICTED.

The Charge of Murder Against W. N. Brown Ignored.

The grand jury yesterday returned the following indictments: Charles Newman, Edward Sizer and George Watson, petty larceny; Frank Kay and John Perry, larceny from the person; Danuel Gray, murder; Albert Foster and William A. Lindsey, assault to kill; John Quirk, Michael Downey and Oliver Downey, housebreaking; Elias Ross, rape.

The charge of murder against W. N. Brown was ignored.

A COLORED WAITER'S INJURIES.

Alex Thomas Hit Robert Wilson With a Cuspidor.

Robert Wilson, a colored waiter, living at No. 1135 First street northwest, came to the Emergency Hospital yesterday morning with his face so disfigured by cuts and bruises that it looked like an underdone Hamburg steak.

He explained that he had quarreled with Alex. Thomas, also colored, in a house on Prince street, between First and North Capitol, last night, when the latter picked up a cuspidor and threw it at him. He was unconscious for five minutes after it struck him.

Well Seasoned, But Interesting.

Gen. Grant's knowledge of music was defective if this story, told by Gen. Horace Porter, in the Century Magazine, is true: "A drum corps in passing caught sight of the general, and at once struck up a then popular negro camp-meeting air. Everyone began to laugh, and Rawlins cried, 'Good for the drummers!' 'What's the fun?' inquired the general. 'Why,' was the reply, 'they are playing, "Ain't I Glad to Get out ob de Wilderness."' The general smiled at the ready wit of the musicians, and said: 'Well, with me a musical joke always requires explanation. I only know two tunes; one is "Yankee Doodle," and the other isn't."

What Spain Has Left.

The only possession now left to Spain besides Cuba are Puerto Rico, in the West Indies, and the Philippines, in Oceanica.

The island of Puerto Rico is more populous than Cuba, quite as rich and productive and almost as disaffected. The Spanish government has been obliged to increase its forces there for fear of an outbreak.

There is rebellion also in the Philippine islands; a state of affairs particularly unfortunate for Spain, as these islands, well governed, might be made as valuable possessions as Cuba and Puerto Rico have been in the past.

The Philippine Islands are well situated for commerce with American and Chinese ports, if means of ready communication were established. The principal islands are Luzon, Mindanao, Panay, Zebu, Bohol, Leyte, Samar, Negros, Masbate, Jolo, Solo, and Sulu. The total area is 116,256 square miles, and the population something over 7,000,000. The latitude of the archipelago is slightly lower but the temperature about the same as that of Cuba, with fresh sea breezes. The islands, however, are considered healthy. Cold weather is unknown but terrible hurricanes are of frequent occurrence. Diseases of the digestive organs are prevalent and European residents fall an easy prey to Asiatic cholera.

The Phillippines are high and mountainous with large tracts of virgin forest, and are chiefly remarkable for an enormous variety of natural products. There are ninety-nine different kinds of rice, indigo, Indian corn, cotton, cocoa, tobacco, wheat, coffee, sweet potatoes, honey, black pepper, and other spices, orchil, brimstone, swallow-nests, tortoise shell, mother-of-pearl, wax, tar, logwood, and innumerable kinds of fruit. There are also many precious woods and considerable unexploited mineral wealth.

The islands are inhabited almost entirely by native Malays and Chinese, with a sprinkling of half-breeds and whites. The natives work at cabinet-making, hat-plaiting, weaving, embroidery, etc. The principal agricultural product is tobacco

THE POKER'S EFFECTIVE WORK.

Two Colored Women Got in a Fight and One Is Badly Hurt.

Annie Brown and Belle Morman, colored, residents of that district of Georgetown known as "Boston," had an argument last night over their respective claims to a gentleman friend, as a result of which Annie was badly beaten over the head with a poker.

The dispute occurred in front of No. 2723 Poplar street northwest, where the girls were visiting. The Brown girl claimed that her opponent got a poker from the house, knocked her down and sat upon her while she played a tattoo on her head with that unique weapon.

Annie's wounds, which are painful and perhaps dangerous, were treated at the Emergency Hospital at midnight, but she refused to remain in the sick ward, as requested by the physician.

She says she will swear out a warrant for her assailant.

THE DUPONT CIRCLE CASES

The Cabmen Push Their Charges of Conspiracy.

Their Attorney Makes an Appeal for Them in Court and Visits the Chief of Police.

Charles Booker, a cab driver, whose stand is at Dupont circle, was before Judge Kimball yesterday charged with having solicited patronage on Massachusetts avenue northwest last Saturday.

Policeman F. P. Smith testified that he arrested the defendant, who, he said, was in the habit of soliciting fares away from his stand, and at the time of his arrest was loitering on the avenue mentioned in the hope of securing business. The defendant denied the charge.

Capt. Alfred M. Fuller, counsel for Booker, stated to the court that the case was the result of a crusade instituted by Policemen Brennan and Burroughs against the Dupont circle cabbies because one of their number had reported Brennan for using profane language while on duty.

Since Monday a week ago the cabmen who have been arrested at various times are George Snowden, W. H. Payne, Andrew J. Washington, Harvey Scott, David Boyer, Walter Bland, and Charles Booker.

In several cases the men were fined for loitering or "crabbing," the charge preferred against them by the policemen.

Capt. Fuller moved the court to remit the fines in four of the cases. He maintained that the court fined the men through ignorance of the real facts in the premises, and held that if the true facts had been set forth the fines would not have been imposed. He moved that the cases be reopened.

The court advised Capt. Fuller that he was in doubt as to his power to reopen the cases. He said that after a case had left the hands of the court it had passed, in his opinion, beyond the power of his action therein.

In this opinion Prosecuting Attorney Pugh concurred, and objected to remitting the fines.

Capt. Fuller informed the court that he and one of the hackmen had been held up by a policeman and threatened with trouble if they appeared against Brennan and Burroughs, and appealed to the protection of the court in the matter.

The Booker case was dismissed.

Capt. Fuller called upon Major Moore, chief of police, yesterday, and made complaint against Policemen Brennan and Burroughs. He charged them with conspiring against the hackmen, as told in the Morning Times, and asked that the officers be arraigned before the trial board.

Capt. Fuller claims to have ten witnesses against the patrolmen, and he added that Brennan had today intimidated and threatened, in the police court building, himself, as well as certain hackmen.

One Prima Donna's Income.

This is the way a popular soprano footed up her earnings for the year:

Salary, $24,000.

Testimonial for Hop's Fault Distract, $500.

Recommending Sliclase's Contraction Corset, $300.

Magazine article on "How to Be Happy Through Singing," $1,000.

Three recitals for Mrs. Sicherocker, $1,500.

Singing to none except Snickering Piano, $2,000.

Testimonial for Dr. Larink's Voice Purifier, $350.

For living at the Hotel Evryland as an attraction, $500.

Total income from all sources, $30,150.—New York Press.

Couldn't See the Line.

"I think that it is just too horrid for anything," said Maud. "Here I've been looking over the side of the vessel for half an hour and can't see it."

"Can't see what, my dear?" asked Ruby.

"Why, the equator. The captain said we were crossing it."—Tit-Bits.

SENATOR QUAY AT CANTON.

He Did Not Antagonize Mr. Wanamaker Nor Anyone Else.

When Senator Quay was told yesterday morning of the rumor that he and Senator-elect Penrose went to Canton to head off the selection of Mr. Wanamaker for the Postoffice Department, the Senator replied that this was the first he had heard of such a report.

"I went to Canton to head off no one," said he. "My visit was confidential in its character, and I do not care to say anything about it except that I have not antagonized anyone. The selection of a Cabinet is a matter in which Mr. McKinley, more than any other person, is concerned, and he will doubtless select such men as he deems best fitted for the place he desires them to occupy."

Senator Quay leaves Washington Thursday next for Florida, and will remain there until March 1.

A GREAT CAVE DISCOVERED

Where Kentucky Moonshiners Carry on a Thriving Business.

It Is a Huge and Remarkable Cavern, Admirably Adapted to Illicit Distilling.

Danville, Ky., Jan. 18.—James C. Wilson, of Harrodsburg, deputy internal revenue collector, who was in Danville last night to report to his chief, tells of an important discovery made by him and Deputy United States Marshals Tom Austin and John Mullins.

On Crooked Creek, in Rockcastle county, on Friday night, they entered what they had been told was a small cavern in the side of a mountain to look for a moonshine distillery said to be in operation there. Having some trouble in finding the alleged still, the three pushed on and suddenly found themselves in an immense underground passage. This they followed through winding roads, sharp turns, narrow passages and huge chambers for fully a mile and three-quarters, finding in that distance two good-sized moonshine distillery plants.

After destroying these the officers concluded to return and prepare for a more thorough investigation. Wilson feels positive a long chain of underground distilleries is to be found there, as a great deal of moonshine whisky has been traced to this neighborhood for years, without the government agents being able to locate the point of manufacture.

The cave discovered is a wonder and will itself bear exploration. There are indications of its having been known to the moonshiners for a long time, as they have put long ladders in places difficult to ascend or descend and have widened narrow passages by hewing out the solid rock.

The place is admirably adapted for the purpose of moonshining and the protection of the outlaws, for at many points in the cavern a single man with a Winchester rifle could defend the territory against the invasion of a very large posse.

THE TRANSVAAL.

The Gold Resources of the Country Are the Largest in the World.

Of his recent extended study of the gold resources of South Africa, Dr. Becker says that the Transvaal republic contains the largest gold deposits in the world. Within fifteen miles of Johannesburg there is an amount of gold, practically in sight, estimated to be worth $3,500,000,000, or nearly as much as the entire volume of gold coin now in the world. The gold is extraordinarily uniform, as uniform as coal in an ordinary deposit, as shown by shafts which have been sunk to a depth of 1,800 feet, and diamond drillings which have gone still further. At present the gold is being taken out at the rate of $90,000,000 a year.

The most surprising news which Dr. Becker brings is the testimony of an American, who was formerly his assistant in the geological survey, and who is now engaged in mining in the Transvaal, where he has made several millions of dollars. The American mining expert says, to his knowledge and belief, the gold deposits, instead of being thirty miles long, the region now in sight, is practically 1,200 miles long, except that in the rest of the region later deposits have come in over the gold. This, however, will not prevent economical mining, but will simply delay it.—Popular Science News.

One Question for Another.

Small Sister—How do you s'pose peoples way up Norf teeps warm in de winter, Bobby?

Small Brother (scornfully)—Why, what does you s'pose de fur-twees is for?—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

Too Obliging.

Reporter—That fellow who wanted his name kept out of the paper called in today. O, he was mad!

Editor—What about?

Reporter—It seems we kept it out.—Roxbury, Mass., Gazette.

Not Puritanical.

There is nothing puritanical about this PURITAN. Puritanism has softened with the centuries. The early Puritan—the Puritan woman—in American history stands for all that is best in our home life. It was she who gave the bent to our national character, she who inspired ambition, and toiled for education and the independence and refinement of the home. There is no more fitting name, then, for a woman's journal than

The Puritan

The Puritan of today is not restricted to New England, but is in every home where the virtues of the old Puritan, now softened and modernized, characterize the home life. And it is to these women—these gentlewomen—the modern Puritans—that this journal is dedicated. The PURITAN can be had from your newsdealer. Ask him for it. If he has sold his supply he can get you a copy, or you can get it direct from the publisher.

FRANK A. MUNSEY, Publisher,
No. 111 Fifth Avenue,
NEW YORK.

MURDER FOLLOWED RICHES

Horrible Crime Committed by Two Brothers.

KILLED AN OLD MAN FOR GOLD

They Went to His House, Bound and Gagged Him and Inflicted Numerous Wounds With a File to Make Him Tell Where His Wealth Was Hidden.

New Orleans, Jan. 18.—New Orleans has been treated this week to the last chapter in a very thrilling "yellow back" story of murder. The murder itself was a confessed plagiarism from a very popular book among juvenile criminal literature, "The Life of Jesse James," but it had variations of its own.

In April last Martin Begneaud was found dead in his bed in the little town of Scott, La., some 150 miles from New Orleans, on the Southern Pacific Railroad. Begneaud was the richest man in that section, a Frenchman who had made a fortune as a merchant and storekeeper. He was an old man, jolly and good-natured, very charitable and very popular, and without an enemy in the world. One day, when his failure to appear about the house had aroused suspicion, the place was broken into and Mr. Begneaud was found bound hand and foot and bandaged up with pieces of calico. When the calico was removed it disclosed fifty-seven wounds, inflicted with a poniard or other sharp weapon.

A majority of the wounds had evidently been inflicted, not with any intention of killing the old man, for they were not in vital parts, but for purposes of torture. He had been prodded in the neck, chest and sides, and through the tongue, in order, by torture, to extract from him the hiding place of his keys or the combination of his safe; and when he had surrendered, in his agony, for the open safe told that part of the story, the murderer had searched for his heart with the dagger, and after two or three ineffectual blows near it had completed his work. The torture must have lasted some time, for the dead man's face showed suffering in every feature, and his neck and arms had been badly cut by the ropes in his struggles.

It took the detectives little time to understand that he had been first tortured for his money and then killed, and that the murderers had been concealed about the premises. Begneaud, who was a bachelor, had had a card party on the night of the murder, and his brother, Simeon Begneaud, as he had bidden him good-night, had seen him lock up the store and house, for like most storekeepers in Southern Louisiana, he lived behind his shop.

The murder had been perpetrated for robbery. There stood the safe, open and empty, and two large bags were missing from the store, in which the murderers had evidently carried off their plunder.

The people were deeply aroused by the crime, and nearly every one contributed to the reward offered for the capture of the murderers. The finest pack of bloodhounds in Louisiana was put upon the trail, but failed to track the criminals.

There was not the slightest clue to the murderers, and it was felt that it was a case which justified rather extreme measures in the matter of arrests. It was a bad time, that spring, for tramps traveling along the line of the Southern Pacific Railroad in Louisiana, for every person against whom the slightest suspicion pointed, every one who could not explain where he had been on the night of April 23, was liable to arrest.

One man was arrested for no other reason than that he was the owner of a three-edged stiletto that fitted the wounds in Begneaud's body exactly, and a quack doctor and strolling mountebank was jailed because he had left the parish a couple of days after the murder, and it was fortunate for both that they had alibis ready, or it would have gone hard with them.

During all this time the two real murderers passed Begneaud's store daily and were present at the funeral without the slightest suspicion resting on them, for who could have suspected that this brutal crime had been committed by two boys, one of them a delicate little fellow with an angelic face and pleasant manner? Yet the crime had been planned and carried out by Ernest and Alexis Blanc, both under eighteen years of age; and not only had the idea of the murder been suggested to them by "The Life of Jesse James," but the details in that story had been accurately and carefully carried out.

The two boys were brothers. They were born in Paris, France, and their mother was a seamstress. They were bright boys, profoundly interested in Gaboriau and in stories of crime and adventure. Regarding even Paris as humdrum, they came to America a year ago to go out West and grow up with the Indians and cowboys. They spent some time in New York, but, not finding it wild enough, started further west and got to southwest Louisiana.

The fact that a majority of the population spoke French, their mother tongue, induced them to remain some months here. They worked on Col. Dransin Boudreaux's place, a mile from Scott. They were popular boys and well thought of by all, and every one who could lent them books, for they seemed to have a well-developed taste for literature, both English and French, but mainly of the lurid order. "The Life of Jesse James" attracted them most, and they secretly resolved to become brigands and highwaymen. As, however, the opportunities for highway robbery were not good, they concluded to try simple murder first. For three weeks they talked over their plan, being determined to arrange all the details in advance, and go about it in a systematic, business-like, yet dramatic, way.

After discussing the relative merits of various wealthy men in the neighborhood, they finally fixed on Martin Begneaud as their victim, because he was an old man and was reported to keep a large amount of money in his store. It took them fully two weeks to arrange the details of his murder. They even picked out the place where the money was to be buried after they had killed their victim and taken it, and prepared the whole for it. They bought revolvers and sharpened a file to make a poniard.

When, however, the day came for the murder and the boys went to Begneaud's house, their courage weakened. They slunk home and accused each other of being cowards and not up to the Jesse James standard. They determined to try it again, and went to Begneaud's on the evening of April 23, determined to prove to each other that they were men and heroes.

They hid in the grass near the Begneaud store, and slipped in as Martin Begneaud was bidding his brother Simeon good night. Even when the old man saw the two lads he was not frightened, for he knew them well and had been kind to them.

They pretended they wanted some sardines, and as he bent over to get a box the two boys were on him, and with their pistols to his forehead. The crime was easy after that. Their blood was up, and they became like fiends. The old man was bound, gagged and bandaged and carried to his bedroom. Then Ernest stood guard over him and began the torture which was to force him to surrender his fortune. At the first stab from the sharpened file he agreed to surrender the key of the safe.

Alexis opened it and found $1,200 in greenbacks. He knew that this was only a part of Begneaud's savings, and that with the Frenchman's love for coin, the bulk of the money was in gold, and, besides, there were two compartments in the safe he could not open. Not until the file had descended again and again into his chest and he was suffering intense torture did Begneaud surrender his gold and silver. When he gave the boys the keys to these compartments a few well-directed blows silenced him forever. His surrender of his fortune had not saved his life.

There were a hundred pounds of gold and silver coins, as much as the boys could carry between them. They found two large sacks in the store, filled them with the money, swung them over their backs, and, locking the door and throwing the key under the house, marched to their little cabin on the Boudreaux place, where the money was buried under a neighboring tree and grass planted over it.

The boys were shrewd enough to know that if they left at once suspicion would point to them, so they worked on as if nothing had happened until the first excitement was over. When it had quieted down they showed Col. Boudreaux, their employer, a letter from a man in New Orleans who had offered them better work in his store on Toulouse street.

The colonel thought it a good advance for the boys and they went away, openly and above board, with the good wishes of all their friends, and without the slightest suspicion attaching to them, but with Begneaud's gold in their little hair trunk.

It was after their departure that the letter they pretended to have received from New Orleans fell into the sheriff's hand. They had left it forgetfully, or perhaps ostentatiously, on the mantelpiece of their cabin. An inquiry at the postoffice showed that neither of the boys had received a letter at the time they pretended. When the sheriff came to New Orleans he looked them up at the Toulouse street store for an explanation of the letter matter. They had never been there.

These facts gave rise to serious suspicion that the boys knew something about the murder, but it was quite another matter to find them. They had apparently disappeared from the face of the earth. Thousands of people must have met the two boys during the last nine months, and have wondered at two youngsters traveling around the world alone and spending money so lavishly and recklessly, and it seems strange that they should never have been the subject of police suspicion and arrest.

This was probably due to the fact that they went only to the big cities. They took a trip around the world; they visited New York, Brussels, London, Paris, Mexico, San Francisco and half a dozen other great cities, and at all they splurged and lived like princes.

On Monday last two very ragged boys, showing all the signs of suffering poverty, presented themselves at Col. Boudreaux's plantation and asked the colonel to take them back to work.

They were Ernest and Alexis Blanc, and they explained that they had lost their place in New Orleans, had gone to St. Louis, and had tramped all the way from that city to Lafayette parish, to get back to their little cabin again. Sheriff Bromsard had confided his suspicions of the two boys to Col. Boudreaux, and the latter, while doubting their guilt, informed the sheriff of their return. The climax came earlier than was expected, and it required but a simple effort on the part of the sheriff to induce both boys to tell the entire story of the murder and of their wanderings since.

Why they came back to the scene of their crime, to a hard life of labor, is a psychic problem. No one ever expected to see them again, and the sheriff had practically given up the chase. To him the return to Scott, where they must have been aware that there was danger, seemed inexplicable.

"You came back to murder Simeon Begneaud," he said to them, "and get his money."

"Oh, no," said Alexis, in a tone which left no doubt that he was telling the truth; "the other man the would speak of his victim in no other way save as "the other man") was with us all the time, wherever we went, whatever we did. We could not have killed his brother."

As soon as Sheriff Bromsard got the confession from the boys he hurried them to New Orleans—he would take no chance of a lynching, for he knew how wrought up the people of Lafayette were over the Begneaud murder. They are safe here, but their return to Lafayette means death, either by Judge Lynch or the law, unless Alexis' innocent appearance fills a mob or a jury with pity for him.

Beyond all question, the idea of the murder came to him and his brother as an inspiration from the yellow-back literature; and the thought of the murder has haunted him ever since, sleeping or waking, and all the pleasures which Begneaud's money brought.—New York Sun.

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