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PITTSBURG, TUESDAY, NOV. 19, 1889.

IT SHOULD SUCCEED.

The call for an inter-State convention of the coal miners of the districts supplying the Northwestern markets gives some color to the rumor that an effort will be made to restore the old inter-State scale of mining. It is to be hoped that the movement will be resumed, and that success will attend the effort.

The harmonious action of both miners and operators for the establishment of wages on a uniform basis in all the districts came nearer to a solution of the wages problem than any other arrangement yet resorted to. It stopped the attempt to compete by cutting down wages to a starvation level, and was only defeated by the determination of operators in the Western districts to adhere to that oppressive policy. The strikes and suffering which have resulted in those districts is the best proof of the value of the system which was thus, temporarily at least, rejected.

It is safe to say that the miners and operators of the Pittsburg district will work together for the restoration of the inter-State agreement. May their efforts be attended with success.

DEATH OF A LEADER.

The sudden death of Hon. Lewis C. Cassidy, of Philadelphia, yesterday, will cause wide regrets throughout the State, even among the political opponents of the late leader. Mr. Cassidy has been a prominent figure in the Democratic party for many years; and his long political career has been characterized by decided ability and high qualities. As a member of the Constitutional Convention and as the Attorney General of Governor Pattison's clean and vigorous administration, he made his mark upon public affairs. This was especially the case in the South Penn and Beech Creek cases, where the Attorney General secured a decided declaration from the courts of the supremacy of the Constitution over the corporations. The State cannot well spare men of Attorney General Cassidy's stamp.

DOM PEDRO'S PRICE.

Dom Pedro, who has been Emperor of Brazil for more than half a century, finding his usefulness at an end in that country, has retired very gracefully to Portugal. The inducements offered to him to bow to the will of the people look very handsome on paper. The new Republican government gave him two millions and a half of dollars in cash, and an annuity of four hundred and fifty thousand dollars. At this price Dom Pedro agreed to depart, and did so quietly. Almost any man, we fancy, would leave Brazil on those terms. We would agree to leave better places than Brazil for far less money. Some people would demand as much to lure them to Brazil. Yet, when a man has been Emperor of a country for fifty years, we presume it is kind of hard to give up crown and native land at once. Dom Pedro, moreover, has been an exceptionally decent monarch, and his popularity figured in the bill.

But it is worth while remembering that the dollars of Brazil are not the dollars of the United States. To what extent precisely the money of Brazil is depreciated at this time we do not know, but in considering the big figures of the indemnity paid to the retiring Emperor the difference between a dollar here and a dollar in South America is worth reckoning. Still Dom Pedro ought to feel that he is well paid for abandoning Brazil. He should also feel grateful, as his late subjects may be proud, that the usual bloody characteristics of revolution in South America were almost entirely wanting.

INCREASE OF FURNACE CAPACITY.

The increase in capacity of the blast furnaces, reported by the *Bulletin of the Iron and Steel Association*, is not a new process by any means. It commenced about twenty years ago when the use of iron hot blasts raised the product of furnaces to the then remarkable figure of 500 or 600 tons per week, and has continued ever since until the fire-brick hot blasts have multiplied that possible production two or three times. But the fact that notwithstanding the large excess of furnace capacity over production it has increased by two million tons in the past year, and that twenty-nine new furnaces are building on the present rise are important. They prove that stacks of modern construction and suited to economical production yield a fair return on their cost even at the late close prices; while the capacity that has been standing idle was made up of antiquated or badly located establishments.

AN ILLUSTRATION OF VALUE.

The disclosures which are being made of jobbery in the dock department of the New York City government has some very important lessons. In the first place it shows the danger of placing any branch of public administration in a close corporation without the infusion of new blood and with few checks and balances from the outside. The dock department is a relic of the Tweed days, established on the pretext of realizing General McClellan's magnificent idea of miles of stone docks along the river fronts. It did not realize the docks, but it turns out to have realized a systematic profit from collusive rents of docks to favored individuals and from grants of privileges through which the city lost.

It is worth while to notice in this connection that it is the nearest approach to the ownership of great commercial functions as contemplated by State socialism, that this country has ever known. The advocacy of that idea with reference to railroads is that it is the true remedy for the abuses of discrimination, favoritism and the other means by which great fortunes have been heaped up at the expense of the many. The New York Dock Department was the acceptance of exactly that idea with regard to the control of the docks; and it is instructive to notice that exactly the same evils, in proportion to the magnitude of the interest involved, appeared under Government ownership of the docks, to a greater degree than was known under the regime of private ownership under competition. Discrimination and favoritism were rife, and fortunes have been made at the cost of the people, under a system which exactly realizes the Socialist idea.

The lesson is an important one. It demonstrates the already obvious fact that if our Government has not sufficient integrity to prevent abuses which prejudice popular prosperity in violation of the law, it will not improve matters any to place the wealth which causes the failure of our laws, directly in the hands of the politicians.

THE CONTROL OF THE PARKS.

The speck of disagreement as to the control of the new parks which appears in our local reports, raises a very interesting question. There can be no doubt as to where the control rests under present arrangements; but whether the control may not be modified or altered, is another question.

Mr. Bigelow is entirely correct in saying that the care and improvement of the parks rests in his department. Under the present charter and ordinances it could belong nowhere else than in the Department of Public Works; and it is quite possible that everyone will be satisfied to leave the improvement and beautifying of that valuable property in the energetic and hard-working department of which Mr. Bigelow is chief.

Nevertheless, if a majority of Councils should decide that it is best to follow the policy of other cities, creating an especial organization for the improvement of the parks, it is not likely that there will be any serious dispute as to the power of Councils to do so. Indeed it will probably be necessary for Councils to take some action in the matter. The work is so distinct from that of building sewers, paving streets, or operating water-works, that Councils will probably have to create either a new bureau in the Department of Public Works, or a Commission.

It is not probable that either course will occasion any dispute. Either can be made to provide for the full and artistic improvement of the property, and that is the main object to be gained.

THE RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

The old idea about the recurrence of railway casualties in groups receives a new corroboration by the wreck on the New York Central and the two wrecks on the Pennsylvania Railroad in this vicinity, all within thirty-six hours of each other. Moreover the recurrence of these casualties strengthens the opinion that their happening together is not the result of blind chance, but of causes which naturally produce such disasters. In these cases the general cause is not hard to conjecture. The railways are overtaxed with traffic; their tracks are crowded with trains; and their men, not improbably, are overworked. Such a state of things is almost certain to produce casualties unless the difficult task of increasing the precautions is correspondingly enlarged. It is to be hoped that the warnings which have been received will result in full safe-guards against worse disasters.

ART AND ARCHITECTURE.

The improvement of municipal architecture is certainly a very important subject, and on which the spread of correct ideas is much to be desired. Anything that will contribute to the general beautification of cities and the ornamentation of city houses would be gladly welcomed. But there is such an idea as carrying restheticism to an excessive degree, as is shown by a paper recently read before an Art Congress held at Edinburgh, and the agreement of the *North British Mail* in bewailing the absence of a power to control "the style of architecture or the kind of material."

The idea of a superior power, which says to an intending builder, "If you do not build your house in the Neo-Renaissance style, of granite, you shall not build it at all," strikes the mind as giving a rather extreme supremacy to the principles of high art in building. But it is not more so than the laments of the Scottish cotemperary over the incongruousness of certain structures and the surrounding houses. The assertion of the idea that the style of architecture already established in a street must control the new buildings, leads to a suspicion that the æsthetic soul would be enraptured by the New York, Philadelphia, and, to a certain extent, Pittsburg idea of long blocks of houses identical in every respect down to the front door step and the range in the kitchen.

It will probably have a more satisfactory effect both for material uses and the purposes of art if the popular taste is allowed to produce some variety even at the risk of incongruousness. An æsthetic effect that is not spontaneous will not be likely to amount to much.

We are pained to see that the typographical error has been getting in its fiendish work on our religious cotemporaries. One clerical editor tried to say that a prominent clergyman was the "Barnabas of the Baptists," but the unregenerate compositor made it the "Barrabas;" while another who intended to declare that no Protestant Episcopal Bishop "has any sense of humor," was horrified to find that he had accused those prominent gentlemen of being without "any sense of honor." Under these circumstances the religious editors would be justified in visiting upon the compositors the pains and penalties of excommunication. But the uncomfortable fact remains that the compositors would not care a snap for that.

SENATOR FARWELL is understood to threaten that if he does not have his own way about the Illinois patronage he will resign. Ex-Senator Platt can give the Illinois Senator a pointer on the exceedingly unprofitable nature of such bluffs when they are called down.

NEW YORK is just discovering that Chicago's guarantee fund for the World's Fair is "a big game of bluff;" but has not yet got to the point of putting up the money to call the bluff down.

THE suggestion by a Northern paper that Stanley's march ranks side by side with Sherman's, fires the Southern heart of the Atlanta *Constitution* to fill the bloody chasm by exclaiming that both were plunderers with the torch and sword. Another point of resemblance which our cotemporary omits to mention is that both marches were inimical to human slavery.

THIRTY-EIGHT thousand dollars' penalty will be claimed for bringing glass workers over here in accordance with the argument of the local labor organization. It is the law; and the law must be obeyed until there is intelligence enough to recast it into reasonable shape.

THE statement that a judge at the Paris Exposition tested 80,000 kinds of wine, is calculated to bring the Four Hundred enthusiastically into line for the New York project.

IT is rather interesting to find, in a New York cotemporary, an article from Mrs. Frank Leslie on the best way for men to "approach" ladies with whom they are not acquainted when traveling on the cars. It seems that Mrs. Leslie is disposed to provide entertainment for herself the next time that she takes a trip alone.

THE prediction of "more rain" by the Signal Service may be a calculation on the perverse nature of the season's weather, or it may be an illustration of the force of habit. At all events the weather prophet will be forgiven should his prediction go unverified.

WE are pleased to hear it stated by one of the proprietors of the Globe Refinery that it is still in the business of refining petroleum for the public, on its own hook.

THE intelligence that the warm Irish heart in this country has promptly come to the relief of Mrs. Delia S. Parnell, and discharged her pecuniary obligations, is good news. It would have been discreditable had a lady of such claims on the Irish-Americans been left to suffer through monetary troubles.

THE news that a local ice company is going into the manufacture of ice, instead of handling it by the old plan, permits the hope that the avoidance of shrinkage while the ice is in transit will produce a proportionate shrinkage in our ice bills.

WITH rival Legislatures, rival United States Senators and rival courts in some counties, Montana is doing its best to beat the record of Louisiana.

THE statement that the daughter of a Standard Oil man is going to marry a German nobleman is calculated to raise a protest. If the Standard extends its field of operations to the cornering of foreign titles, the price of that luxury may be put away beyond the reach of the ordinary American heiress.

BRAZIL gives us three-fourths of our coffee; but any fear that the supply will be interrupted is allayed by the eminently pacific and business-like way in which Brazil and her monarch agree to the revolution.

IF the Brazilians found a republic it is to be hoped that it will not be of the Spanish-American kind, which lapses so easily into dictatorship.

THE suggestion that slowness of the administration in handing out the offices is a plot of Blaine to make the administration of Harrison unpopular, is at once an indication of an acute case of putting everything on Blaine, and a deadly stab at the industry of headsman Clarkson.

ENGLAND is talking about strengthening the fortification of her harbors on the Pacific coast. The United States will rely on the safety of a policy strictly in accordance with the name of that ocean.

TRACTION company meetings show good earnings and increasing business. The cable motor is a go, both financially and physically.

THE presentation of a national bankruptcy bill to the President by the representatives of commercial bodies throughout the country, recalls the fact that Congress has been too busy with politics for the last two sessions to provide for that unquestioned business need of the nation.

PEOPLE OF PROMINENCE.

PRINCE BISMARCK considers Sir Charles Dilke the greatest English statesman.

D. S. PURINTON, of Morgantown, W.Va., has accepted the Presidency of Dennison College, Granville, O.

M. BARTHOLDI will execute the statue of Gambetta which is to be erected at Les Jardies, Ville d'Avray. The statesman's home there has been made State property, and will be preserved intact as a memorial.

MRS. CAMPBELL, wife of the Governor-elect of Ohio, was exceedingly popular in Washington society when her husband was a Representative there. She possesses an uncommon amount of ready tact. She was educated at Vassar College, entering it the very year it was opened.

THE President yesterday afternoon gave a special reception to a number of gentlemen, representing various business interests of the country, who requested that he incorporate in his message to Congress a recommendation for the enactment of an equitable national bankruptcy law.

THE first person to take an apartment in "The Shoreham," Vice President Morton's Washington hotel, was ex-Senator William Pitt Kellogg, of Louisiana. Kellogg and Morton were both born at Shoreham, Vt., after which place the hotel was named. Kellogg asked for first choice of rooms and got it.

THE eldest daughter of Sir Julian Pauncefote, Miss Maud, is about 24. She was born and educated in Dresden. She was presented at the Court of St. James and attracted considerable attention on account of her graceful bearing. She is skilled in sketching and painting, and is a fine equestrienne. She has traveled extensively.

HENRY W. FRANCISCOS, one of the Queen's messengers, is taking a vacation in this country. He has carried dispatches for the English Foreign Office for more than 30 years. He has circumnavigated the globe six or seven times. He began his service when Lord Palmerston was British Minister of Foreign Affairs. He has visited India, China, Japan, Australia, Honolulu and many other remote localities. His daughter sometimes travels with him, and has accompanied him to this country.

ONE of the youngest members of the new Congress is Henry Stockbridge, jr., of Maryland, who succeeds Representative Raynor. When Stockbridge was nominated for Congress he was in Maine. He carries a pocket-piece one side of which he considers lucky and the other unlucky. When he received the dispatch asking him to accept the nomination he took the coin from his pocket, tossed it in the air and saw the lucky side turn up. He at once telegraphed an acceptance, and entered the fight in the conviction that he would win. He had a hard battle, and beat Raynor by only a few votes.

PRESIDENTAL APPOINTMENTS.

A Number of Western Republicans Receive Their Rewards.

WASHINGTON, November 18.—The President made the following appointments to-day:

William M. Robertson, of Nebraska, to be Register of the Land Office at Neligh, Neb.; John Q. A. Braden, of South Dakota, to be Register of the Land Office at Aberdeen, S. Dak.; Clarence E. Hagar, of Colorado, to be Receiver of Public Moneys at Denver, Col.; Charles J. MacLeod, of South Dakota, to be Receiver of Public Moneys at Aberdeen, S. Dak.; George V. Ayres, of South Dakota, to be Receiver of Public Moneys at Rapid City, S. Dak.

Horace Scudder, of Beatrice, Neb., has been appointed confidential secretary to the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

DEATHS OF A DAY.

Columbus Brown.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

FRANKLIN, November 18.—There died in this city yesterday morning one of the best known pilots that ever navigated the Allegheny and Ohio rivers, Mr. Columbus Brown. It is said of him that he knew every rock in these two rivers from the head-waters of the Allegheny to the Gulf of Mexico, and there was always a big demand for his services among lumbermen. Age had unfitted him for his calling as a riverman for the past few years, and he had made his home in this city, working at his trade as a mason. He was 60 years old. He was an odd character, and his peculiar manners and way of expressing himself had made him known in every prominent town from Franklin to Pittsburg. In the latter place he had many friends, who will learn of his death with regret. His death was caused by rupture.

Ex-Attorney General Cassidy.

PHILADELPHIA, November 18.—Lewis C. Cassidy, one of the most prominent members of the Philadelphia Bar, died suddenly at his residence here this morning. Mr. Cassidy was Attorney-General of the State under Governor Pattison's administration. Mr. Cassidy was born in New York State in 1833. His father was a native of Ireland and a type founder by trade. Young Cassidy was reared in Philadelphia and studied law with Benjamin Harris Brewster. He was an eminent lawyer and acted as counsel in many important cases. He also took a prominent part in politics, and was frequently a delegate to State and National Democratic Conventions. Of late years he has been counsel for some of the largest corporations in Pennsylvania.

James Means.

WEST NEWTON, PA., November 18.—Mr. James Means, a wealthy Quaker, aged 83 years, died at his home in this place this afternoon. The funeral will be at 10 o'clock Thursday. Interment in the Quaker Church, about six miles from this place.

THE TOPICAL TALKER.

Does Writing Plays Pay?—A Case in Point—Drilling Real Soldiers for the Stage—Several Queries Answered—The New Theater Bonnet.

DOES the writing of plays pay? A correspondent propounds this question—which would have been answered in Sunday's paper had not adverse circumstances prevented it—and the answer must be that it depends upon the play in the first place, on the actors who are engaged in the production of the play, and often upon the fame of the author. If a play pays its author at all it is apt to pay very well.

The best way to understand how well a good play pays is to take the case of such a well-known playwright as Mr. Bronson Howard. His latest play, "Shenandoah," which has been very successful, is at present paying the author $1,400 a week in royalties. In a few weeks this sum will be more than trebled, presuming that the two road companies, one starting at Chicago and the other at San Francisco, meet with the success the original production has had at Palmer's Theater, New York. Beside these sources of income from the single play of "Shenandoah," Mr. Howard will exact the same royalty from the English production of the play, for which a representative of the firm owning the play will start this week to arrange in London. When that production is added to the American ones Mr. Howard will have an income from $4,000 to $5,000 from "Shenandoah" alone. He has a number of other plays which are paying almost as handsomely. It can be seen that in this case play writing pays. It is pleasant to think that this fortunate author is an American writing American plays for Americans.

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TALKING of "Shenandoah," I am told that during the rehearsals of that play the gentleman who was cast to play *Captain Thornton*, the Confederate officer, in going through a scene in which he is placed under arrest by two Union soldiers, took occasion to say to the men, who he supposed to be ordinary everyday "supers," that they were to take hold of him so and so, and "now," he said, "be sure when the order of march is given to put forward your right foot." The men made no reply, but a day or so later the actor's breath fell two feet when he was informed that the men who figured with him in the arrest scene were United States regulars, 20 of whom, from the Brooklyn Navy Yards, appear nightly in "Shenandoah." He was not any worse off than the stage manager, who at the first rehearsal gave the regulars a command to run, and was surprised to see them run off the stage into a scene room where they kept jostling each other in the corner, in an apparent vain effort to go through the wall. "Command them to halt," a sergeant suggested. "Halt," called the stage manager, and the soldiers ceased their scrambling. The laugh of course was on the stage manager.

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WHILE theatrical matters are on tap, as it were, another correspondent's query, to which an answer is overdue, may be disposed of. Sol Smith Russell is married. His wife is a daughter of Oliver Optic. This is his second marriage, Mr. Russell's first wife having been Louise Berger, of the well-known Berger family, who died six or seven years ago.

It is one of Mr. Russell's advantages in his race for fame that his domestic life has been free from those volcanic disturbances which are not unusual in actors' families. Probably there is not an actor in the whole profession who has such desirable friends in every city as Mr. Russell has.

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ONE can very well see by a single glance at the audience in any of our theaters that a very vicious style of bonnet is being very generally worn by adorable woman. It is a structure which comes to a point almost at the top, and is faced with a bird's wing, or enough feathers to make a wing. I counted ten of these abominable obstructions scattered over two or three rows at the Bijou last night.

I should like to hear a wearer of one of these bonnets defend its use at the theater. The pleasure is not likely to be forthcoming.

HELPING THE CAUSE.

A Number Volunteer to Make the Tea Party a Success.

A number of ladies and gentlemen have kindly volunteered their services to assist in making a success of the concert to be given in connection with the tea party at Lafayette Hall to-morrow evening for the benefit of St. Paul's orphans.

The programme prepared is: Overture Brilliant, Gernert Orchestra; trio, "As Fades the Evening Hour," Miss Grace Miller, Miss Rosa Weber and Miss C. Schmertz; recitation, "Sent Back by the Angels," Miss Alice A. McCullough; soprano solo, selected, Miss Rosa Weber; tenor solo, "How Shall I Sing to My Fair One," Mr. H. B. Brockett; soprano solo, "Dear Heart," Miss Grace Miller; recitation, "King Robert of Sicily," Miss Lillian Burkhardt; violin solo, "Old Folks at Home," Mr. John Gernert; baritone solo, "Non E Ver," Mr. Lawrence A. Ricketts; contralto solo, "With All Her Faults I Love Her Still," Miss Mollie Levy; grand finale, Gernert Orchestra; accompanists, Miss Sadie Totten and Mr. Charles Gernert.

Remembered the Pastor.

The ladies of the Welsh Chatham Street Baptist Church took possession of the parsonage last Thursday afternoon, and presented the pastor and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. D. R. Davies, with an elegant armchair and an elaborate dinner service of 130 pieces. Speeches were made by the ladies in which the warmest regards were expressed to and for their pastor and his amiable wife. In return Mr. Davies thanked them for their handsome testimonials of regard, and hoped that nothing would occur in the future to mar the happy relations existing between pastor and people. A delicious repast, prepared by the visitors in advance, was served, and all went merry as a marriage bell.

Favored Chicago.

Chicago will have the World's Fair of 1892, at least so the Young Men's Literary Society of St. Augustine Cathedral Church decided last night after a debate on the question as to the relative merits of that city as against New York. Chicago's side was upheld by F. H. Lohl and A. W. Leibler, and New York's by D. A. Behen and L. P. Blanchard. The discussion lasted for an hour, and was rather warm, but finally was voted in favor of the Western city.

The Press Club Lecture.

The tickets for Herbert Ward's great lecture on "The Cannibals of the Congo," will be put on sale this morning at Klebers' music store on Wood street. Mr. Ward, who but recently parted with Stanley in Africa, is said to furnish a most graphic description of his strange experience in "The Dark Continent." He has a magnificent collection of African curiosities. The lecture will be the first of the Press Club series of entertainments.

Social Chatter.

AN entertainment introducing Mother Goose and her temperance family and a representation of the district school of 40 years ago, will take place at the Soho School Hall next Thursday evening. The proceeds to be devoted to the Central Presbyterian Church Sunday school.

A RECEPTION and entertainment of Birmingham Lodge No. 1,419, Knights and Ladies of Honor, will be held in Odd Fellows Hall, Southside, next Friday. Mr. E. F. Goodman, Grand Secretary of the order, will be the speaker of the evening.

THE marriage of Miss Belle Reed, of this city, and Mr. Charles C. Bye, of Wilmington, Delaware, will take place in Arch Street Presbyterian Church this evening.

MRS. M. W. Watson, of Lincoln avenue, Allegheny, left last evening for New York to be absent two weeks.

MISS FRANCIS CROUCH and Mr. Howard Parker will be united in Calvary Church at 7:30 to-night.

THE great charity concert this evening.

A NOTED AGNOSTIC CONVERTED.

Ivan Panin, the Literateur, Renounces Infidelity and is Baptized.

MINNEAPOLIS, November 18.—Ivan Panin, the Russian literateur, was baptized in the Central Baptist Church last evening. Previous to his renunciation of infidelity, for years Panin has been gradually seeing the truth, as he expressed it, and his confusion has been so great as to lead him to contemplated suicide. All his life, up to the time of his graduation at Harvard, in 1884, Panin was an infidel. He came to Minneapolis a year ago to deliver a few lectures. Since becoming a Christian, the Russian has renounced lecturing on worldly topics, and will henceforth stick to the pulpit.

In his address he said that three years ago, when struggling with his conscience and with thoughts of suicide constantly in his mind, he went to a world-famous preacher for relief. Instead of receiving bread the minister gave a stone, arguing with him upon the subject of suicide. Although no name was mentioned he is thought to refer to the Rev. Phillips Brooks.

AT THE THEATERS.

Clover's Success—Kajanka—Other Plays and Players.

It is decidedly lucky to find the four-leafed "Clover" at the Bijou theater this week. The comic opera by Franz Von Suppe which Colonel McCaull's company played for the first time in Pittsburg last night is endowed with more than the average amount of really refreshing music; not ambitious music, but pretty little songs, duets and a chorus or two. The libretto is not worth talking about at all and the plot is of the very thinnest texture and as small as the law of comic opera allows. It is possible to give the whole story in two or three lines. *Rudolf*, the hero of the play, on the eve of his wedding day is given by his bride to be a year's leave to make a tour of the world, with a view to trying his love. He accepts the vacation, and in succession dissipates in Paris, fights in Sweden and masquerades in Venice. In several disguises his lady love watches over him always, and is rewarded after many trials by her lover's fidelity. The story allows no less than four changes of locality in the scenery, and the opportunity for change is well used by Mlle Cottrelly in the costumes. The scenery is pretty and the dresses of the chorus are well chosen in most instances.

But the real strength of this production of "Clover" lies rather in the cast than anywhere else. The graceful Marion Manolo, brings her voice of even power and sweet expression, and her familiar charms of person to the role of the heroine *Stella*. De Wolf Hopper is the principal comedian, and as a matter of course we find the buoyant and pert Annie Myers close beside him. The idea of Hopper's immense length in comic opera without Miss Myers plump comeliness as an annotation thereupon brings dismay with it. Hopper's humor is more elephantine than ever; he dances all over the stage with his old-time vim, and sings a topical song, "Things 'Twere Better Not to Dwell On," with extravagant fun. His part is a bad one,—a servant who has no thought of anything above his stomach—but by dint of extraordinary work he manages to keep the audience laughing madly at him all the while he is on the stage. His duets with Annie Myers are the most comic things in this rather serious opera. Indeed, for a comic opera "Clover" has a vast deal of doleful sentiment in it. The tenor is kept wailing almost all the time, and Marion Manola's delightful voice is too often attuned to a minor key. Eugene Oudin, the tenor, has a handsome face and a welcome manliness not often the perquisite of a tenor, but his voice seems rather torn and weakened by rough usage. He sang "In My Dreams" with great spirit and good taste, and another song, with a similar name, the refrain of which is heard often in the opera, was beautifully rendered by Marion Manola. In point of effectiveness the solemn finale at the end of the second act is the best choral work of the piece, and the chorus, which is deficient in its feminine voices, also achieved a triumph in this number. The chorus is well-trained and its only defect is in the sopranos. The clever sketch of a bombastic Spaniard and his sister in the last act, wherein is a captivating castanet dance, showed the agility and humor of De Angelis and the mastery of the graceful in the dance for which Mlle Cottrelly is famous. The last act is also noteworthy of the prettiest music in the piece. Marion Manola's song of the gondola, and a ridiculous burlesque serenade by Hopper with an immense horn and M. Oudin. Taking the opera as a whole it is certainly well worth seeing, though it may not be the best we have seen here since, as Hopper says in his song, "thousands of years ago, when they began the building of the postoffice here."

Grand Opera House.

"Kajanka," which is billed as a "great Parisian spectacle," opened last night at the Grand. The play is of a "Black Crook" variety, and the little plot it contains is taken from Ansley's ingenious novel, "The Fallen Idol," where a malicious imp, *Sar nello*, the son of *Beelzebub* destroys the idols of two contending sects of Buddhists and raises merry hob generally until he and his mother are finally routed by the good fairy, *Electra*. The scenery carried by this company is very pretty and in some instances gorgeous, and the rapid changes made without dropping the curtain was a welcome relief from the wearisome waits which generally characterize a performance of this nature. The chorus, while not quite so large as advertised, is composed generally of young and, in some instances, pretty women, and their costumes are handsome and effective. The features of the evening were the papilion dancers, Misses Rose and Alice Batchelor, Nellie Sennett and Edith Machlin, and the six Donasettes, acrobats. The former are very clever dancers, and the latter did some remarkable tumbling. Edith Craske, in her transformation dances, won considerable deserved applause. William Ruge, who took the role of *Zarnello*, the imp, is a wonderful contortionist, and George D. Melville made a very fair clown. The other roles were filled about as well as they usually are in shows of this character, and a packed house appeared very well satisfied with the performance as a whole.

Harris' Theater.

Among the thousands of patrons of this popular house there is a majority of lovers of melodrama, and this week they have a feast. George O. Morris' "A Legal Wrong" is the bill, and it is a melodrama pure and simple. The company supporting Mr. Morris is well balanced and fully equal to its task. While some are particularly brilliant, all work hard to make the play go, and it does go. Perhaps there is nothing that makes it a go more than the scenery and mechanical effects, all carried by the company. Next to Mr. Morris in the role of the persecuted hero, *Clarence Gray*, James F. Green as *Murty McNally*, with songs and dances, is most worthy of mention. There is no doubt but the audiences this week will be like those of yesterday, which completely filled every inch of standing room in the house.

Harry Williams' Academy.

Lilly Clay's Gaiety Company is another of those standard attractions which Manager Williams secures to fill his theater and which always succeeds in doing so. Long before the curtain rose last evening the house was packed. The programme presented is divided into two parts; "Beauty in Dreamland" and "The Devil's Frolic," during which a number of bright specialties are introduced, among them being Lilly Clay's Metropolitan Quartet in songs, dances, etc., Miss Laura Ashby, Mlle DeGranville, the iron-jawed lady, May Clark and ten assistants in graceful posturing, Keating and Flynn, the well-known knockabouts, and a well-drilled Amazonian band in a series of perplexing evolutions. The burlesque is in good hands, Alice Townsend leading in it, assisted by a number of pretty girls with gorgeous costumes.

AN APPETIZING SANDWICH.

A Dainty Tidbit That Has Made a New York Chef Popular.

[From the New York Sun.]

A famous institution of the Union Club at Fifth avenue and Twenty-first street is what the epicures of the club have proudly christened "the Union Club sandwich." It differs essentially from any other sandwich made in the town, and is a particular hobby of the club chef and of club men who like a good thing after the theater or just before their final nightcap. Heretofore the composition of this sandwich has been a mystery to the outside world.

The club chef toasts well two slices of Graham bread cut thin, and between them places a layer of chicken or turkey and ham, and serves the sandwich warm. An outsider who tasted one of the sandwiches for the first time on Saturday night pronounced the combination "delicious." That is just what everybody else says to whom the sandwich is served as a novelty.

A NONOGENARIAN ORATOR.

Rev. Mr. Wakefield Still a Good Preacher, Though 92 Years Old.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

GREENVILLE, November 18.—Rev. Samuel Wakefield, who is 92 years old, preached yesterday morning in the Presbyterian Church, of this place. The church was crowded, but even those in the rear pews of the large auditorium could plainly hear every word he said.

He preached without notes and with a vigor and learning that would have done credit to a man in the prime of life.

A Slight Mistake Corrected.

[From the Detroit Free Press.]

It was charged that a Brooklyn alderman was an escaped State prison bird, but the paper making it has been compelled to apologize. As a matter of fact, he served out both his terms, which is different, you know. He feels that his record is pure and spotless.

The Champion Globe-Trotter.

[From the Boston Herald.]

Nellie Bly promises to prove that truth is stranger than fiction. She is going to put a girdle round the earth in less time than Phineas Fogg did. All the same, William Shakespeare's Puck, who did it in 40 minutes, is probably destined to hold the championship.

Hasn't Had the Practice.

[From the Philadelphia Times.]

The debates in the recent W. C. T. U. Convention indicate that lovely woman can nail a campaign lie with quite as much asperity as her trousered companion.

ALONG THE YUKON.

One of the Government Exploring Party Describes Alaska—The Natives and Their Peculiar Customs—The Settlers Poor, but Brave and Generous—Game and Fish Abundant.

ST. LOUIS, November 18.—The first news in months, and the last for at least a year, from the Government expedition for the survey of Alaska, reached this city yesterday. It came in a letter to Mr. Patrick McGrath, father of Mr. John E. McGrath, one of the chiefs of the exploring party. As the expedition was organized by the United States Government in order that a reliable survey of its most northern territory, and especially its unexplored parts, might be obtained, information of the welfare and work of the party is of national interest. That part of the expedition which Mr. McGrath commands has now navigated the Yukon river farther than any steamer ever went before, and will, during the winter, travel through an unexplored land. The Turner party has already pierced into an unexplored part of the country. Mr. McGrath's letter was written as his journey progressed after leaving St. Michael's. He writes:

We have been steaming up Yukon for 11 days and are now 200 miles beyond that point on the river which is half way between St. Michael's and where I expect to go. We are making on an average of five miles per hour, and expect to fall behind, even at this rate. This is a great river. Near its mouth it is almost 25 miles wide, taking in the various channels through which it reaches the sea. It much resembles the Mississippi. Our boat is small, and we are compelled to stop frequently for wood, much of which we are compelled to cut. Another cause, retarding progress, is the muddy water which necessitates frequent cleaning of the boiler.

Poverty and Filth Everywhere.

When we left St. Michael's we were given a flattering farewell, with flags flying and cannon booming. Every 15 or 20 miles we come upon an Indian settlement. More desolate hovels you cannot find anywhere. The sexes of the natives are distinguished in their dress only by the length of their fur coats. The women wear their coats long behind, and the men's are cut off equal length all around. When you get close to them the women have another distinguishing feature—they have three straight lines tattooed on their chins. A man can take as many wives as he can support, and each one has to work as hard as possible. Further up the river the state of affairs is different. There a woman may have two or three husbands. The furniture in the native hut is very sparse, a few birch bark baskets, some spoons of ivory, wooden dishes, arrows, spears, maybe a gun, straw mat and furs. Everything smells worse than a soap factory.

The people are literally covered with vermin. They are miserably poor. They get very little for the game and fish they have to sell. Both are so plentiful that we have shot tired of ducks, geese and salmon. As I am working there are some mountains in sight. They remind me of the first range of the Rockies in Colorado. In the woods there are lots of wild roses, and the hillsides are as green as any lawn in spring.

Lots of Frost in Summer.

It is difficult to believe that this is an Arctic land, when you observe the luxuriant forests, the growing grass, the flowers and mark how warm the days are. But dig down ten inches anywhere and you will find the ground frozen hard. At Mulato, they have dug 25 feet to get water and the ground was frozen all the way down. In spite of this the weather is so warm that every man is going around in his shirt sleeves. Mosquitoes are plentiful and ferocious. We reached Fort Yukon on July 2, and our parties separated. Turner and his party went up the Porcupine river, and I am making my way slowly up to the boundary. Turner is the first man to take a steamer up the Porcupine. The river is a regular mountainous stream, rising with every rain and falls afterward. Turner struck it at a low stage and progressed but 40 miles. Fort Yukon is but a name now. There is not a stick of one of its houses left.

Moose are plentiful and cheap, but people eat anything they can get up here, which will not poison them. The miners are miserably poor. The storekeeper at Forty-Mile Creek, had $15,000 worth of bad debts in his books this spring and still, I am told, the man who comes into his store without a dollar, gets as good treatment as the one who has the cash to pay for what he gets. He gets his money if the miners can make it, and if they don't, he loses it.

Poor but Generous Frontiersmen.

These frontiersmen stand together and help each other through thick and thin. Last year a solitary miner was killed by an Indian over at Koejubuk river. He was the first one ever touched. A big band of miners traveled nearly 1,600 miles and hanged the Indian murderer, losing a whole season's work by their trip.

This letter was mailed August 19, 1889. A second letter bearing date of August 21, 1889, among other things, says:

"We are four or five miles outside the United States line, and are now squatting on Her British Majesty's possessions, but I do not think there will be any complaint of the trespass. The times have been dreadfully hard with the miners this year and a great many of them have lost heart. It has rained nearly the whole spring and summer in this vicinity, and in consequence the mountain streams have become torrents, washing out water wheels, sluices, sluice boxes, etc., and preventing the miners from doing anything. Wages are high, $80, when you work, but they work so little they would prefer $50 per month and grub. I don't expect to get any more letters out this year, nor in the spring. I have no dogs, and, therefore, no way to send them."

BEN WILL CONSIDER IT.

The Advocates of a Bankruptcy Bill Wait Upon the President.

WASHINGTON, November 18.—President Harrison was visited to-day by a committee of the National Convention of Commercial Bodies, headed by Colonel James O. Broadhead, of Missouri, as chairman, and accompanied by Colonel Jay L. Torrey, the author of the Torrey bankrupt bill. The committee laid before the President a copy of the proceedings of the convention, embodying the bill, and urged him to recommend in his message to Congress the enactment by that body of a uniform, equitable bankrupt law in the form submitted.

Addresses were delivered by Colonel Broadhead, John M. Bartlett, of Minneapolis; Hon. Louis Bush, President New Orleans Board of Trade; Judge John H. Doyle, of Toledo, O.; the President of the Board of Trade, Jersey City; William J. McManigal, of Orbiston, O.; Edward C. Rogers, of Springfield, Mass., President of the American Paper Manufacturers' Association of the United States, and Hon. William G. Whipple, Mayor of Little Rock, Ark. There were present in addition Justus Goebel, of Cincinnati, and Walter P. Warren, of Troy, N. Y.

The addresses were followed by a general discussion, in the course of which the President said he had always thought that there ought to be permanent legislation upon the subject of bankruptcy, instead of a temporary law to simply relieve certain unfortunates who had been affected by a panic. He promised the committee that he would consider the question of recommending legislation upon that subject to Congress in his message.

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