

The Week in Astoria Society

Society events have been at a standstill this week. There has been almost nothing in the social line except the opera, "H. M. S. Pinafore," which was given on Thursday and Friday evenings at the Astoria theatre, by Prof. A. J. Robinson. The people acted their parts in a very capable manner. Miss Ross was musical directress and deserves a great deal of praise for her playing during the evening. The scenery and costumes were very pretty and each and every member of the company did their best.

The Degree of Honor gave a very successful entertainment and sale of fancy goods and home cooking at the A. O. U. W. hall last evening. A delightful lunch was served after which the evening was enlivened by music, both vocal and instrumental, and dancing. Many useful articles were sold at auction, realizing a nice sum for the lodge. The ladies are entitled to great praise for their tireless efforts, and the results exceeded their most sanguine expectations.

Basketball was played by the juniors and sophomores vs. the freshmen and seniors of the Astoria High School Friday afternoon. The score was in favor of the juniors and sophomores, being 22 to 5. The line up of the teams was as follows: J. and S. Grace Kennedy, center; Bertha Kennedy, center guard; F. Gregory, M. Ross, forwards; L. Parker and M. Harrison, guards; S. and F. V. Peterson, center; L. McGregor, center guard; B. McGregor, H. Souden, forwards; A. Abercrombie, L. Jeffers, guards.

The young people take great interest in the game. Many people were present to witness the game, and they took great interest in it.

Mrs. Samuel Elmore yesterday gave an elegant luncheon to about 20 invited guests, for the special purpose of making the pleasant announcement of the engagement of her daughter, Miss Floretta Elmore, to Mr. Louis Schrieber, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and of the engagement of Miss Mabel Taylor, of this city, to Mr. Charles Balcom Woolsey, of

Seattle. The dining room was beautifully done in yellows, and the drawing-room in American Beauty roses and white chrysanthemums; the affair and the pleasant news inspiring it, being thoroughly enjoyed by the group called together.

Miss Jessie Jewett, once an Astorian but who of late has been living in the eastern cities, is expected home some time in January and will remain in this city with her mother for about two months. Miss Jewett will bring a valuable bull terrier home with her which is a beauty.

Mrs. Chas. Humphreys delightfully entertained the members of the Thursday Afternoon Euchre Club this week. Six-handed euchre was played, and the prize was won by Mrs. A. M. Smith. Every one present had a most joyable time.

Mrs. J. J. Utzinger entertained the D. M. C. D. Club Tuesday at her beautiful home on Commercial street. A delightful time was enjoyed by those present. Among the topics discussed during the evening was the selection of the date for the leap year dancing party, and December 31 was selected.

Miss Laura Fastabend entertained the members of the Wike Wike Club at a "stunt" party on Monday of this week. All the members of the club wore fancy dresses. Dramatic readings, singing and fancy dancing were the chief features of the evening.

The sale of the First Norwegian Lutheran church given by the Young Ladies' Society of the church was a grand success and the articles sold were very fine. Refreshments were served and there was a large attendance.

The Ladies' Aid Society at Warrenton are making preparations for a sale to be given in that city some time this month.

Mrs. Will Tallant entertained the members of the Monday Afternoon Bridge Club this week.

Miss Lillian Brooks of London, England, has been visiting her aunt Mrs. H. G. Wood, for the past three months. She has been in America for about a year and started for home last Tuesday.

Miss Elsie Elmore and Miss Floretta Elmore entertained the members of the Thursday and Saturday Club and a few others at a luncheon yesterday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Stokes have returned from their honeymoon trip and are now occupying their cozy new home on Thirteenth.

Miss Esther Sundquist, the popular violinist of this city, is going to play at the Elks' memorial services this afternoon. This little lady is winning a great deal of praise from all who have heard her play.

Mr. Nelson Troyer and Mr. John H. Smith celebrated their birthday anniversaries Friday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Troyer on Third street. They entertained the Pioneer Whist Club.

Mrs. George Warren was charmingly entertained on Wednesday evening by Miss Kitty Cullen at Fort Stevens.

Miss Grace Stokes returned this week from Portland after a visit of about a week.

The ladies of the M. E. church held their sale on Friday afternoon and evening and it was a decided success.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sanborn are entertaining Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel Tallant at a week-end house party at the Sanborn residence at Seaside.

Tonight there will be several theatre parties at the Astoria Theatre to witness the play "The Devil" which is better than a sermon.

Mrs. F. F. Brix entertained the members of the Ladies' Aid Society of the Lutheran church on Thursday and a delightful time was had by all who were there.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Eaken and Miss Barbara Eaken spent a few days in Portland this week.

BATTLE OF THE NILE.

Where "the Boy Stood on the Burning Deck."

CASABIANCA AND HIS FATE.

The Facts About the Little Hero of Mrs. Hemans' Famous Poem, His Father and the Tragedy of the Doomed French Flagship, the Orient.

That was a lucky child who in the latter part of the last century escaped the ordeal of standing up before a circle of relatives and friends—outwardly enthusiastic and admiring, inwardly often greatly bored—to repeat those well known if somewhat inaccurate lines that tell us how "the boy stood on the burning deck." Whether, nine times out of ten, the infant reciter or, for that matter, any of the members of the applauding family circle could have given the date and place of the occurrence may be doubtful. The forty lines of Mrs. Hemans gave them all the history that they craved, and when the parrot-like performance closed with "faithful heart" a sentimental maiden aunt would sigh, a liberal uncle bestow largesse to the extent of half a crown, and that was all.

It was in 1798 that young Casabianca, the ten-year-old son of the commodore of the French flagship Orient, stood amid the awful devastation of the battle of the Nile. Bonaparte had himself sailed in the ill fated Orient from Toulon in the previous May, taking with him a good stock of burghundy and also that famous "cabinet library" of cabinet editions, including forty volumes of English novels, in which the Bible and the Koran were classed under the head of "politics." More important still for those who love the picturesque details of history and great men, he was accompanied by his then private secretary, Louis Antoine Fauvelet de Bourrienne, from whose always entertaining if not invariably accurate pen we have a capital account of the voyage to Egypt.

Much of the time was passed by Napoleon lying in his berth while Bourrienne read to him and in promoting discussions on various questions among the scientific and other distinguished men who accompanied the expedition. The flagship carried a population of more than 2,000 souls, and the cry of "Man overboard!" was not infrequent. On these occasions Bonaparte displayed a side of his character to which full justice is not always done. Bourrienne describes his agitation till a rescue was effected as extreme. On one occasion a false alarm was raised during the darkness of night, and the supposed "man" proved to be the quarter of a bullock which had dropped from the rigging, but Napoleon rewarded the rescuers even more liberally than usual, pointing out that their exertion had been for what they believed a human life.

The fleet arrived off the coast of Africa on July 1, and here Bourrienne and his "Memoirs" leave the squadron to accompany the army and his chief on land. Brueys, the French admiral, had during the voyage expressed forebodings as to the result of an encounter with the British fleet. Nelson, who sailed from Syracuse on July 25, was confident, but well knew the price he might be called upon to pay. When Captain Berry said, "If we succeed, what will the world say?" Nelson replied: "There is no if in the case. That we shall succeed is certain. Who may live to tell the story is a very different question." For himself he made that famous anticipation, "A peerage or Westminster abbey."

The battle began at 6:30 o'clock, half an hour before nightfall. Nelson, on board the Vanguard, flew his colors in six places lest they should be shot away. In a few minutes after the ship had gone into action the crews of the first six guns were swept away by the terrible fire of the French fleet, and twice again during the fight were fresh crews called for. The shot which struck Nelson on the head tore from his forehead a piece of skin which, falling over his one useful eye, rendered him for the time being totally blind. Carried to the cockpit, he insisted on taking his proper turn among the wounded for the surgeon's attention. Soon after 9 o'clock at night, while he was still below, a cry arose that the Orient was on fire. Unheeded and unnoticed in the confusion, Nelson made his way up, and presently from the quarterdeck his voice was heard shouting orders that the boats should be lowered to go to the assistance of the Orient's crew.

The doomed French flagship had but just been painted, and quantities of oil and inflammable material littered her deck. Brueys, the admiral, was dead, but Louis Casabianca and his little son were still on deck. At 10 o'clock the ship blew up. "There came a burst of terrific sound" and, although the commode was not at the time lying "unconscious of his son," as the poetess has it, for both were seen clinging to a quarter mast after the explosion, neither father nor son was among the seventy members of the crew who were saved by the British boats.

From the mainmast and ironwork of the Orient Captain Hollowell of the Swiftsure had a coffin made, which "memento mori" he presented to the admiral that he might at the close of his career of glory be buried in one of his own trophies. Nelson received this offering in the spirit of the giver and even kept it set up on end in his cabin till the remonstrance of his favorite servant brought about its banishment.—London Globe.

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