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LARGEST MORNING CIRCULATION IN KANSAS CITY

Indications.

Washington, March 17.—The following are the weather indications:

For Oklahoma and Indian Territory: Warmer; fair, but with increasing cloudiness; southerly winds.

For Missouri: Fair; warmer; southwest winds.

For Kansas: Fair, but increasing cloudiness; southerly winds; warmer in extreme eastern portion.

GOOD MORNING.

By the way, Mr. McKinley, isn't Georgia rather a queer place to incubate a Republican boom?

All that the people of Missouri now ask of the legislature is to enact a good election law and get out.

Still, we believe that if it had been England instead of Spain, Mr. Gresham's demands would have been much less saucy.

Fortunately for professional showmen the circus season proper doesn't open until after the adjournment of the state legislatures.

The light which Judge Philips threw on the situation last Saturday was not the sort that is manufactured in a bogus dollar gas plant.

The gamblers thoroughly agree with those Kansas papers which assert that the legislature did nothing satisfactory or commendable.

New Orleans is a city which can generally be depended on to keep the peace after the work of bloodshed and violence is completed.

A contemporary is inquisitive to know why the coming woman doesn't come on. Perhaps she is approaching by a bargain counter route.

We observe that Colonel Ed Butler, of St. Louis, met in convention the other day and nominated a Democratic ticket for the spring election.

Tammany may find temporary consolation in the intelligence that Dr. Parkhurst is just now in the throes of learning to ride the bicycle.

Mr. Cleveland, it appears, killed only ninety-one ducks. The report that he had bagged 200 was probably one of Secretary Carlisle's estimates.

"At this writing," remarks a Buffalo contemporary, "the president has nothing worse than calluses on his hands." How about political warts?

Some wicked newspaper will be sure to say that Thomas B. Reed will spend the summer in the woods because he is up a stump on the silver question.

It is said there are still some "Gresham Republicans" in Indiana. A Gresham Republican must be something similar to a Benedict Arnold patriot.

Nothing in the new baseball rules can prevent the "fans" from making it hot for an umpire who robs the home team in the last half of the ninth.

The Kansas papers speak of the Alliance incident as an "Alliance" affair, and show a strong disposition to hold the Populist party responsible.

Let the Democrats not be discouraged. Kentucky is one of the states which hold elections this year, and there is a fighting chance of carrying Kentucky.

There is no law against the organization of new political parties except the law of common sense, and it is not binding on a certain class of politicians.

Before Cuba can ever hope to become an annex to the United States it will have to cure itself of the revolution habit. We have too many fool states already.

The fortune of Herr Krupp is estimated at $2,000,000, made mostly from the manufacture and sale of guns which have never seen service and are never likely to.

The arguments presented by Mr. Choate against the income tax will deeply impress those who have been trying to persuade conscience that the tax ought to be dodged.

The bitter terms in which Colonel Bill Hackney arraigns the Kansas editors shows conclusively that Colonel Bill regards the said editors as secret allies and coadjutors of Great Britain.

While Mr. William C. Whitney doesn't want it thought that he would refuse the Democratic presidential nomination before it is offered, he has no objection to the country giving him credit for sense enough to do so promptly if the occasion should present.

A Virginia man has been sentenced to imprisonment for life for stealing 37 cents' worth of bacon. That is considerably worse than the Kansas City sentence of twelve years for stealing jam. The courts seem to be doing all they can to impress on dishonest persons the necessity of making their thefts as large as possible.

RUSHING TO THE DEFENSE.

It would be better for all parties concerned if the police force of Kansas City were utilized for the purpose of suppressing gambling instead of denying that gambling exists. It does not look well for the chief of police to denounce an article calling attention to violations of the law as a "fake" while one of his detectives warns the men running the lottery shop against a Journal reporter.

This occurred Saturday. At least a Journal reporter openly bought a lottery ticket in a shop on Third street, and when he returned there for another found that a city detective had been there, and found further that he could buy no more tickets there.

The Journal has no fight on Chief Speers or his force, but such occurrences mean one of two things: Either the police force is inefficient or it is protecting the policy gamblers. It will not do for the chief to denounce a reporter, nor will it do for him to say that his men cannot find these gambling houses. The fact remains and can easily be proven that these gambling shops exist and flourish. If the policemen of Kansas City cannot see what any private citizen cannot help seeing, then the force is inefficient or it is badly handled.

It was expected that the organ of crime would rush to the defense of the policy shops, but the action of Chief Speers comes in the nature of a surprise to his friends. If Chief Speers will agree to close up every gambling house pointed out to him, the Journal will furnish him with a list of addresses of poker rooms, crap joints and policy shops that are in full blast and have been running unmolested for weeks and, in some instances, years.

Grand stand plays by the police and denunciations of newspapers on the part of the chief may look well from the standpoint of the organ of crime, but an honest endeavor to rid the city of the political machine which notoriously exists and thrives by the aid of gambling houses would better serve the people.

GIVE US HONEST ELECTIONS.

Senator Dunn, with a flourish of trumpets, announced that he had solved the problem of an election bill, and presented a measure to the senate for its consideration that was immediately hailed as the proper caper. The bill will not stand investigation.

What the people of Missouri desire is honest elections, and the only way to get them is by having bi-partisan boards to select the judges and clerks of elections. If the Democratic leaders in the legislature believe that the masses of Missouri voters are with them in this matter of making one-sided affairs, they will find that they are mistaken.

The people of Missouri are as honest as those of New York, and the people of that state recently threw overboard the machine which had usurped power there so long because the dishonesty became too rank and too bold. The bill proposed by Senator Dunn does not do away with the trouble. It puts too much power in the hands of the recorder of voters.

It is preposterous to give the recorder of voters the right to appoint 600 officers of election in Kansas City, or 1,800 in St. Louis. One man cannot do it without the assistance of his friends, and it stands to reason that the friends called upon by a Democratic recorder of voters will be Democrats.

Another bad feature of the bill, as proposed by Senator Dunn, is that it makes the person objecting to any judge or clerk of the election liable for the costs if the circuit court decides against the objection. This will tend to prevent objections to unfit men.

The Democrats of the general assembly are on trial before the people of the state. If they desire an acquittal they will give us an election law that will insure honest elections. That is all the Republicans ask, and that is all any honest Democrat asks.

THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK.

While there is nothing in the reports of the general business situation for last week to inspire hopes in an early resumption of normal conditions, there is the encouragement that a material improvement is constantly going on, with nothing in sight to indicate a setback. If it could be shown that the purchasing power of the people was increasing with the growing activity in general trade the outlook would be most hopeful, but nothing is said in the reports given of an increase in the numbers of workingmen employed or an appreciation of the wages paid. There are marks of growing confidence on the part of those who have money to use, however, and if this shall but continue until a sufficient amount of the idle money is put in circulation the result cannot but be highly beneficial all round.

In Kansas City the upward tendency of everything is highly encouraging. The movement in real estate denotes a healthful revival, while the building season has opened with something of a dash reminiscent of the best days. Hundreds of laborers and mechanics who have had a hard spell of idleness are now at work and others are under engagement for early resumption. With the money thus put in circulation store bills are being paid, back rental money is going into the hands of landlords, new purchases are being made, and good is being done in every direction.

And the same thing is true throughout the section reached by Kansas City trade. There is a better feeling. The paralysis of extreme hard times is gradually subsiding. New enterprises are developing under the new conditions. Pluck is asserting itself and enterprise is awakening. As the West was the last to succumb to the knockout blow, it is first to give signs of complete recovery. A little tender nursing on the part of those with means to render assistance will do a world of good.

POLITICS IN THE SOUTH.

The transfer of several cotton mills from Massachusetts to the South has started a great deal of talk about the effect the growth of manufacturing interests there will ultimately have upon politics. That the South is rapidly awakening to the importance of encouraging the incoming of industries of all sorts there can be no doubt. The growth of its manufacturing institutions during the past ten years has been so large as to astonish those who are now for the first time informing themselves on the subject.

It has long been known to those who have put themselves in a position to learn the facts that the protection sentiment there, outside strictly political circles, has been increasing right along. A well known Kansas Cityan who has made several extended business visits to Georgia, Alabama and the Carolinas in the last two years, says he was surprised to find how very generally the protection idea exists there. He has no doubt that but for the negro question, which is still kept at the front as the mainstay of Democracy there, a slump from the Democratic party would have taken place before this that would have irretrievably disrupted the sectional solidity that has been maintained so long.

The marked attention being paid to Governor McKinley, who is on a visit to family friends in Georgia, is an evidence of toleration for the policy of protection that is promising of embarrassment to the free trade party. So long as the old element down there controlled everything through prejudices against the North there was no hope for the things which are now in sight for the benefit of the country. The manufacturer is no longer tabooed in Southern "society," but is welcomed as the Moses who is to lead the land out from its bondage to past fallacies. The reorganization of social sentiment that is going on will develop a political revolution that will be quite as productive of new life and new prosperity as anything could possibly be.

THERE ARE TWO SIDES TO IT.

The beginning of "an immense trade abroad" that is still being talked about so much by the free trade press on the strength of Consul Meeker's report from Bradford, England, has very little backing in fact. All it amounts to at present is an order for "one case of assorted black-blue Algerian cloth," with the promise that if the goods came up to the sample large orders might be expected. The whole thing has a fakey appearance, but even at the best there is no warrant for the importance that has been given it.

The United States has been sending woolen goods to England right along for many years past. In 1887 alone $67,000 worth were shipped there, and larger amounts have been sent in other years, yet there was never a claim on the strength of it that any wonderful opening for American manufactures was being made there. Try as hard as they may to create political capital out of such straws as that picked up by Mr. Meeker, the free trade consular service will find it impossible to revolutionize present public sentiment on the question of protection.

The American workingman knows to his sorrow how much it has cost him to enable a manufacturer to profitably ship even one case of the woolens ordered to the very center of the British woolen industry.

Then if one will study the official statement of foreign trade for the month of February he will learn that there is nothing of encouragement whatever in the figures shown. There was an increase in the export of one important product only—that of mineral oils; but the export of cotton declined over 5 millions. In breadstuffs the decline was 3 millions; in provisions, including cattle and hogs, the total was about the same as one year ago, though a half-million decline appears in the value of cattle shipments. Butter fell off nearly four-fifths and cheese one-half.

The most startling figures, however, relate to the excess of imports over exports, which amount was 91 millions in the last eight months. Comparing this with the corresponding period ending February 28, 1894, under the McKinley act, we find that the excess of exports over imports was $218,051,822. The substance of the hopes of the free traders is that this condition of things will continue to grow worse and worse, and it is in effect this prospect that is giving the Democratic press so much comfort and encouragement.

The people of Kansas City chose Mr. Sloan to be their marshal, and the election returns on their face show the fact clearly. Under the circumstances there is no good reason why the governor should not issue his commission and let him enter upon the discharge of his official duties without further delay.

"Governor Stone, of Missouri, who is a candidate for election to the United States senate," says the Sioux City Journal, "is a stanch friend of President Cleveland and is not a free silverite." This will be highly interesting information in Missouri, and especially to Governor Stone.

From the flagrant way Governor Stone is ignoring the demands of local politicians one is almost forced to conclude that he has determined on the high-handed policy of controlling his own appointments.

It is due Mr. Thurber to say that during the late mortuary season among the Carolina ducks he kept the country going as safely and successfully as if the president himself had been at the helm.

Waite, of Colorado, may be "standing face to face with the country," as he alleges, but the country will have to take his word for it for the reason that he has become too small to be seen.

Rhode Island has ordinarily been regarded as a Democratic state, but there is no reason to doubt that it will give as big a Republican victory next month as its state boundaries will accommodate.

ALL OVER MISSOURI.

Maryville's handsome new M. E. church will be dedicated May 19.

Three cars of coal a day are now shipped from the new mine at Knob Noster.

Mrs. Ida Warren will succeed J. A. Kerr as postmaster at Urich the 1st of April.

They still follow the old fashioned custom of sending round printed funeral notices in Boonville.

The iridescent ex-senator from Kansas is to illumine the intellectual atmosphere of Carthage, March 26.

Out of a total yearly tax of nearly $225,000 for Cass county last year, only about $25,000 remains uncollected.

Knob Noster's carload of contributions for the Nebraska destitute will be shipped the latter part of the week.

Golden City's most recent misfortune is the organization there of a serenading club known as the "Greenie Band."

J. C. Reynolds & Co. are having plans drawn for a 20,000 bushel elevator to be erected in Sarcoxie this spring.

One firm in Sarcoxie has commenced to register berry pickers already for the spring season. It employs 150 hands.

Kirksville Republicans named Thomas J. Dockery at their primaries a few nights ago as the sure winner in the mayoralty race.

Turpitude at Tick Ridge, confessed by the correspondent of the Fayette Advertiser: "People have begun to sow wild oats."

Samuel Miller, one of Nodaway county's most successful stockraisers, sold sixty head of hogs last week that averaged 325 pounds each.

"A regular Dina's barbaque" is the way the Cass News describes a masquerade ball given by the colored folk in Harrisonville the other night.

There shouldn't be any hard times on account of limited "per capiter" in Clinton. A business college there has just placed in circulation $10,000 in beautiful, crisp, new bills, for use in its banking department, and they are good, too—for that purpose.

FROM WASHINGTON.

THE STATE DEPARTMENT STILL BLUNDERING ALONG.

Undue Haste in Dipping Into the Incident Off the Coast of Cuba—Cleveland at Play, Gresham Away and a Clerk or Somebody Else in Charge.

Editorial Correspondence of the Journal.

Washington, March 14, 1895.

This is a very peculiar administration: The incident of a Spanish man-of-war firing on an American packet ship, engaged in a regular well known trade, finds the president in gun and dog toggery away off in unfrequented waters firing his gun at passenger ducks. His secretary, Gresham, is reported sick, and somebody by the name of Uhl, an employe of the state department, is left to represent the nation. Captain Crossman sent on a report of the transaction, and Mr. Uhl at once proceeds, as the custom of his chiefs has been, to make or map out an argument for the Spanish minister. That I am not coloring the thing at all, the matter is given out in the press this morning: That the letter of Captain Crossman is not satisfactory in certain particulars, and the acting secretary wants to know: (1). The exact location of the Alliance when first signaled by the Spanish cruiser. (2). Whether the ship's officers are sure that the shots fired by the Spanish cruiser were directed at the Alliance or across her bows. Then the question is raised whether the American really knows what the true definition of a marine league is, according to our construction of the sixty mile limit about the Pribyloff seal islands—suggesting that there are outlying keys or islands belonging to Spain that may be urged to contradict the statement of Captain Crossman that he was on the high seas, and that if he had been inside the Cuban waters he would have conformed to the custom of nations and laid to for the cruiser to come alongside for information. These questions properly belong to the Spanish minister here to raise in defense of the cruiser's action, but no attorney of Spain could have made a more specious plea than has Mr. Uhl. What are the facts of this case? An American vessel has been reported by her commander as fired upon on the high seas by a Spanish man-of-war. His statements are clear, unequivocal and without any uncertainty whatever. What was the duty of the United States authorities in the case? Simply to give the Spanish government the facts as received and ask for an explanation or redress. It is then the part of Spain to show the American commander was mistaken, if such could be done, or to apologize if the facts were as stated. It is not the province of the state department to discredit its own citizen, who is entitled to protection. Captain Crossman's statement is prima facie by every precedent of law or diplomacy to be taken as true—until contradicted by facts furnished. The fact remains that the American flag was fired upon by the warship of a foreign power, and prompt reparation or explanation should have been demanded. Instead of this the officer carrying our flag is placed on trial like a suspect, and his nautical knowledge or veracity impeached. But it is of a piece with the un-American course of this administration in everything. Our diplomacy it seems is only to help foreign governments make their case against us.

* * *

One of the recent outgivings is that Cleveland is really a candidate for the Democratic nomination next year. Incredible as this may seem to some, yet that it is seriously talked of among those who forecast possibilities is a fact nevertheless. In this direction I find an interview this morning with James Kerr, of Pennsylvania, the clerk of the house of representatives, and a Democratic politician of influence and opportunities for forming an opinion. I give it as in the direction I am speaking. Mr. Kerr says:

"It sounds like the wildest extravagance, but I firmly believe that in the next conventions the Democrats will declare for gold monometallism and the Republicans for silver. And the Republicans will nominate some man like Teller or Cameron. Reed himself, in my opinion, wouldn't need much of a push to send him out for silver. Over on the Democratic side, as things now shape up, the gold influence is bound to control. And the nominee for the presidency will be Cleveland. The fight which would follow would be the biggest bear dance ever witnessed in politics. It would take a month for men to find out on which side they belonged."

One thing about this utterance from the source is the recognition of a change of attitude as to parties and questions in the next presidential battle. The money question has never been the controlling issue in a national election, but will be this time. The tariff is not in a shape to be the paramount issue again. It can be patched in places, and needs it badly in spots, but the great cotton, metal and coal schedules of the present law was acceptable to tariff men—as the vote shows. This time it will be money. Mr. Kerr, being a Democrat and in touch as the clerk of the house with the views of his party leaders, has better means of information that those outside. The gold interests will make a fight to control both conventions—or their nominations—and the outlook for Cleveland looks no worse now than it did this time four years ago. It is almost an open secret that the press and politicians were made to see Cleveland, while the masses were almost solid against him. It may be made so again.

In 1892 both platforms were for silver and the people divided on the tariff. When the word was brought in the gray of the convention morning to William C. Whitney that the opponents of Cleveland had insisted on a minority report as a condition of reporting at all at that time, the crisis had come. Whitney promptly said: "Let them have it; we must get a vote." The man was what was wanted, and events have proved that the platform was considered as mere words to tickle the ears of the masses. That conspiracy having succeeded as mapped out, and as the money power has now complete control of the treasury, they have from their point of view been triumphantly successful, and it is but natural that they should think that, with all the power in their hands, what has been done under far less advantageous conditions may be done again. Hence with Cleveland a candidate they have the contest simplified. Enough money has been made in the sugar and other trusts and in bond deals to create a campaign fund compared to which like things in the past are bagatelles. And Mr. Kerr sees the logical inevitable, that the only way to defeat this is by a silver Republican platform. There is in politics as in physics—a law of gravitation that makes certain things inevitable, and that law of political gravity is making the Republican the silver party. As things are regarded here in Washington and in the political centers of the East, where they think they really control national politics, Cleveland is regarded as a candidate for the Democratic nomination. And he may get it.

* * *

I see by this morning's dispatches that you are having a blizzard again, and that zero is to be reached in the middle of March—a very extraordinary thing, but it is better than in April, when the peaches are so full of promise. It is to be hoped that it will cool down the temperature of some of Kansas City's mercurial people on the Stone question. I don't remember in all the experience of the past when the peace of mind of our good people has been so disturbed by so thin a thing. To see Turner hall filled the day after election by indignant citizens protesting against the unspeakable crimes against honest elections, to see how liberally they subscribed their money and how good men forgot party in the common cause of honesty, was one of the most inspiring spectacles that good men could look at. The one man who seconded them by a frank and manly co-operation was Governor Stone, who refused to commission two of the crime-elected officials, by knowledge obtained from personal examination, leaving the capital and coming to Kansas City to examine for himself. And now to see many of those same people caught in the crusade made against him by the very men he thwarted, is one of the strange things popular excitement leads to—when people don't think. All the crimes of the recorder's office could have been defeated had the police power of the city been on the side of honest elections. It has been the bulwark of all the frauds and made them possible by immunity. A false issue has been raised by injecting the chief of police into the case, when it was the board of commissioners where the hurt was felt. The police are subject to orders and the chief is as much so as any one—it was the board that had the power and gave the orders. Put a board in power that will issue orders and be in earnest in seeing to a fair election, and the police will obey the orders. Chief Speers may feel gratified at the expression of opinion in his favor, but no one knows better than he that it is a diversion from the real object, and in effect is used to cover the real power that he obeyed from responsibility. Without a board to do the gang's bidding Governor Stone would not have been called on to find out forgery and other crimes against the ballot by his own personal examination. It is time the sober second thought of our citizens should be at work. The organs and abettors of the frauds committed are not the proper people to lead in a crusade against the governor for putting his foot upon crime—and that, too, on a false pretext. V. H.

PEOPLE AND THINGS.

The chief organizer of the first Abolitionist society in New York, John F. Temple, died a few days ago in Chicago at the age of 80 years.

Charles Sprague Pearce, the artist, has been awarded the gold medal of the Midwinter fair, San Francisco, for his painting in the recent exhibition.

The Hanson Methodist church, of Brooklyn, Rev. Louis Albert Banks, pastor, claims to have the largest membership of any M. E. church in the world—2,069 full members and 255 probationers.

Associate Justice Brown, of the United States supreme court, will deliver the annual oration at the commencement exercises of the law department at Yale this year. Justice Brown was a member of the class of '56.

Dr. Rainsford, the well known athletic rector of one of the most prominent Episcopal churches in New York city, and who has attracted considerable attention to himself recently by his ardent advocacy of open saloons on Sunday, has just been chosen president of the New York Cricket Association.

The origin of the so-called Matrimonial Tontine Mutual Benefit Associations that are springing up numerously all over the country is said to be attributable to the suggestion contained in Robert Grant's story, in the December Scribner, wherein he elaborated his plan for the protection of bachelors.

"It has been discovered in Kansas City," says the Syracuse Post, "that if the manager appears before the curtain and politely asks the ladies to take off their hats, the whole question is settled. Anyone might know that this method would be better than to try to legislate feminine theatergoers into politeness."

Count Tolstoi refused a large sum offered to him by an American publisher for his last story, The Neva, a Russian illustrated weekly, then offered him $50 a page for the exclusive right to publish it as a serial. This, too, he refused, and made a free gift of the manuscript to the Severney Vestnik, a Russian monthly magazine.

In France the heirs of a deceased literary worker enjoy their rights in his productions fifty years after the date of his death. It is now proposed there to compel, by legislation, the publishers of classical works to pay a tax to the government for the support of impecunious authors on the expiration of the fifty years' copyright.

According to the Belgian Blue Book on the subject of the purchase of the Congo Free State, it appears that Henry M. Stanley receives from the king of Belgium £2,000 a year when on duty in Africa and £1,000 when in Europe. While in the service he must neither publish a book nor deliver a lecture without the king's permission.

The omniscient Washington correspondent of the New York Herald says that the third of the Cleveland children to expected to arrive somewhat before the usual time for the summer outing at Gray Gables. For obvious reasons a much admired name that was tentatively considered, a couple of years or so ago, is still available.

His many friends on both sides of the state line will be pleased to hear that Rev. George C. Booth, the eminent colored divine, who was for several years in charge of one of the prominent African congregations in Kansas City, Kas., has been appointed chaplain of the Ninth regiment of United States cavalry. Mr. Booth graduated with the class of '77 at the Yale Divinity school. Since leaving Kansas he has been in charge of a church at Evanston, Ill.

Archdeacon Farrar, in a recent address in Westminster Abbey, quoted as authority in support of his arguments selections from speeches of Disraeli and Gladstone, and then remarked that he would add one more confirmatory statement, and read an extract from a speech of "a great orator of international fame, though not a countryman, Chauncey M. Depew, of the United States." It is said that no American ever received similar public mention in Westminster Abbey before.

Dr. Parkhurst is enthusiastically backing Mayor Strong in his efforts to carry out his ante-election pledges and give New York a non-partisan, business administration. The doctor remarked, in a talk on municipal reform, a few nights ago: "There is no Democrat or Republican in the Ten Commandments or in business. The present mayor in New York has made some clean sweeps in politics and politicians, and he will keep it up. There is no partisanship in the decalogue, be it Protestantism, Catholicism or Judaism. When the slates were made up by the bosses last summer, the fall came and the people called them down, and the new mayor is running New York in the interest of decency and the stockholder."

Washington Post: There was an interesting meeting of the Suffrage Association at Wimodaughsis to take leave of Mrs. Davis, wife of Representative Davis, of Kansas, who has been president of the association for the past year and has been actively identified with the society since her residence in the city. Mrs. Davis, in a timely paper, reviewed the work of the association from its beginning, and expressed her regret at leaving Washington and consequent resignation. This paper was very nicely supplemented by a short speech from Mrs. Havens, in which she began by saying, "We part with pleasure from the grip, grasshoppers and the Fifty-third congress," but this feeling could not be said to enter into the discussion of the prettiest question. An eloquent farewell then followed.

AT THE THEATERS.

Considerable interest attaches to the engagement of Mr. John Griffith, in "Faust," at the Ninth Street opera house this week. Mr. Griffith is a young man and a good deal younger actor. He is but 26 years of age, yet he comes forward and challenges fortune in one of the greatest of classic characters. Such endeavor by so young a man, if it be accompanied by intelligence and adaptability, commands respectful consideration.

Ever since Henry Irving impressed the American public with his wonderful production of this work, and with his masterly embodiment and expression of Mephisto, it has been made more or less familiar to the general theatergoing people through the efforts of several American actors. Mr. Griffith is presenting a version somewhat different from any other that has been given, and yet there are few essential points of variance. Like every other version made for actual production it is not satisfactory to the votaries of Goethe's splendid poem, because of the necessary curtailments and interpolations, but more because of the elaboration of Mephisto at the expense of Faust and the consequent elimination of much of the ethical significance of the original poem.

Mr. Griffith evinces much power and considerable art in his delineation of Mephisto. He caters less to the comedy temptations of the part than would be expected in a young man passing through the early processes of reputation building, but while his diction is more dignified than that of Mr. Morrison, for example, he has a mincing step and a restless manner that rob the character of innate strength, and leave scarcely a suggestion of the majesty from which this angel has fallen. But with continued service will come impressive repose, and more subtlety in the unimpassioned and less extravagance in the impassioned scenes. Even now, with such crudities as one could not but expect in such an undertaking as this, Mr. Griffith's Mephisto is a magnetic and vivid embodiment that commands and rewards attention.

In the supporting company first mention belongs to Mrs. Henry Vandenhoff, who has raised Martha quite out of the conventional line of caricature to which she has been condemned by persistent succession. This Martha has all the susceptibility that Goethe intended, but none of the absurdity that stage tradition has burdened her with.

Mr. George D. Baker's Faust is not satisfactory. He lacks the romantic spirit, the passionate fervor and the dramatic directness that are necessary to round out an ideal of the central character of Goethe's imagining. The Marguerite of of Miss Beatrice Dauncourt is better. It is a simple, but appealing impersonation, especially delightful in the jewel scene, but is marred by a provincial and somewhat pedantic reading which this clever young woman should hasten to eradicate. Mr. Lionel Lawrence's Valentine is commendable, and Miss Seaton's Elsie deserves mention.

The production is an elaborate one. The Nuremburg and Brocken scenes are well set, and the picturesqueness will satisfy those who have seen the work presented by others.

The Hallen and Hart engagement started off at the Grand yesterday afternoon with indications of a big week. The attendance was large and the bill, although an old one, has been enlivened with so many new specialties that it was very diverting and was correspondingly well received. It was "Later On" that brought these farce comedy stars into profitable distinction, and they are perhaps wise, for business considerations at least, to revive the play. It presents both comedians in an agreeable manner, giving opportunity for both dashing and fantastic dress. The company is a strong one, including Mark Murphy, himself a farce comedy star, and Molly Fuller and Carrie DeMar, both taking farce comedienes. The specialties are numerous, and they are the chief new features in which the public will be interested. Among the best are a capital duet, "Keep the Golden Gate Wide Open," sung by Hart and DeMar; a dancing duet by Hallen and Fuller; "The Village Blacksmiths," by four members of the company; "Three Sports," Hallen, Hart and DeMar; "No—Yes—Really!" Hallen and Hart; "Don't Leave Me, Honey," Carrie DeMar; serenade, Mollie Fuller; dances and contortions by Miss Francis and Miss Murphy; monologue and dance by Murphy; and "The Vivandieres," a trio. The entertainment is a very bright one of its class. Mark Murphy is a strong feature, and was particularly well received by his old admirers yesterday. The company is a good looking one and is especially strong in ensemble music, and the costumes are picturesque.

The entertainment offered this week at the Gilliss by Owens' Georgia colored minstrels is one of uneven merit. It has some very clever specialties, but comparatively little comedy attraction. It opens with a picnic scene in which there are characteristic diversions, including songs and dances. Then follows a musical farce, called "Two Serenaders," in which six members of the company participate. The strong feature is the whistling of J. W. Fields, which is really wonderful. Other good specialties are the singing of the Eclipse quartette; the gun juggling of Charles Clark and the trombone solos of Professor Day.

Ellen Beach Yaw and her concert company are at the Midland. Miss Yaw was seen last evening and expressed herself as delighted to return to Kansas City. She is looking better than when she sang here about a year ago, and with her several days' rest will doubtless be in fine voice this evening, when she will sing at the Auditorium.

"I have the most delightful remembrances of our first concert here," she said. "I have never been more effectually advertised nor more pleasingly presented to a new public than here in Kansas City, and the audience was delightfully discriminating and appreciative. I shall feel at home when I come before Kansas City people again. I always feel the skeptical element when I sing in a new place. Naturally the claims made for me can hardly be credited, and I always work against considerable odds for the first two numbers; but in that time I feel that I have my audience."

Miss Yaw is in demand. She has just had a letter from Mr. Grau, of Abbey & Grau, offering to present her in a series of concerts in New York and to take her to London; but she has declined, because she prefers to study another year in Paris before singing in New York, and believes that it will be to her interest to sing in Paris and London before making a formal trial in the American metropolis. She will go to Paris at the close of this season.

Her fame has brought her many more offers than she can consider, particularly in the line of dates for concerts, and her prices have gone up accordingly. Her manager yesterday showed a contract by which the singer gets $1,000 for a single concert soon to be given in Toronto, Canada. Although scarcely a year before the public she is now one of the most prosperous concert singers in America.

The engagement of "1492," which will open at the Coates this evening, promises to be a good one. The advance sale has been very large, and as there has been no advance in prices it should continue to increase during the week, if the attraction is as strong as there is every reason to believe that it is.

Razors Made by Machinery.

New York Sun: The manufacture of razors by machinery has now become a fixed fact in Germany, and the quality of the article is said to compare favorably with the best Sheffield product, the process being also applicable to scissors making. A die bearing the impress of a razor blade and tongue, or of a scissor blade and bow, as the case may be, is screwed into the bottom of a drop hammer, which is worked by hand over a pulley, a corresponding die being placed on the anvil upon which the hammer falls, the end of the steel bar or ramrod having been heated to a red heat is laid across the anvil die, and the hammer, falling with a weight of about 3,000 pounds, or less, according to the size of the article to be produced, forces the metal into the mould, this, when withdrawn, appearing in the shape of a perfect razor or scissors blank, but surrounded with a fray or fringe, which is afterward pared with the striping tools as waste. This operation is repeated indefinitely, according to the extent of the order in hand, the tools being then changed on to another size of blade or scissors. Repeated blows of the hammer are required to forge some of the blanks, regulated by their size and shape.

Assisting the Boy.

Detroit Free Press: The landlady's small boy was playing ball around the dining room with a wad of dough, while the boarder was engaged on his matutinal beefsteak.

"I say, Johnnie," remarked the boarder, "do you want a real nice bouncey ball?"

"You bet I do," replied Johnnie, suspending operations and coming over to the table.

"Have you any yarn to make it with?"

"Yes, sir; mamma gave me an old stocking this morning and I have it upstairs now."

Johnnie's mother frowned at him, but he was intent upon the new boarder and the new ball.

"All right," said the boarder cheerfully, "you just take this piece of steak and wrap the yarn around it and when you have done you'd better tie a long string to it, or it will bounce clear over the house and you'll never find it again."

My love, good night! Though far away,
And thy sweet face concealed from sight,
Canst thou not hear—as angels may—
"My love, good night!"
When now the slowly fading light
Shuts darkly in the close of day,
And the last sunbeam takes its flight,
To thee I let my fancy stray:
And once again the world is bright
As when I clasped thee close to say
"My love, good night!"
—Pall Mall Gazette.

Progressive card parties have given way to another form of progressive entertainment at tables, namely progressive dinners. These "movable feasts"—though, strictly speaking, it is the feasters who move—are not by any means new, but favor among a certain set of young people, but they are the abhorrence of the professional diner-out and the gourmet, who declare it would be difficult to devise a method better calculated to disturb the digestive functions as well as destroy the social pleasure of the occasion. Progressive dinners are managed as follows: Say the dinner party numbers twenty; five small tables are provided, at each of which two men and two ladies are seated. Just four regular courses must be served, and with each new course the men rise and change to the next table, so that when the coffee is reached they find themselves back where their oysters were served, and each with the lady who was then opposite him.

New York World: Mrs. Manhattan—"How long is it customary for a widow to wear mourning for her husband in Chicago?"

Mrs. Wabash Weeds—"There is no fixed rule about it. It depends upon how well acquainted you are. I am generally pretty lucky."

THE FAIR LANGTRY.

Indianapolis Journal: "What should a fellow say," asked the young man anxiously, "when his wife asks him if he would marry again if she were to die?"

"Say nothing, of course," answered the elderly adviser. "If he says he would she'll think he doesn't like her. If he announces his intention of staying single she will have the idea that he is tired of matrimony."

The immense bows which women wear on their necks always suggest the unfortunate kittens who lost their mittens or the hardly less celebrated Frisky Speckums and Charcoals of the "Cat's Arabian Nights," who showed such talent for vocal music. Women have worn bows at the back of the neck and on the side and now they have got around to the front again. They must be made of something soft and fluffy, like gauze or mousseline de soie and then they may be as large as you please. Kittens are said to measure the space through which they can crawl by their whiskers, if the whole tickle pussy crawls back. Women of the past season have regulated the space necessary for them to occupy by the size of their sleeves. Now it will probably be the bow which will gauge a woman's breathing space.

An odd idea is the introduction of a bunch of black beaded wheat, rising as an algrette, out of a cluster of yellow and black velvet buttercups on a bonnet. This has in front a rosette of roses in several shades of red and a bunch of dark purple velvet violets opposite the black and yellow. The bonnet is made of black lace straw, jetted, and has at the back two rosettes of green tulle, and velvet ties to match, the same velvet showing in a twist just inside the bonnet, which is bent up between the flowers in two shells on each side and at the back. This is a fair illustration of the combinations permitted.

New York World: "My dear," queried Miss Van Fifthave, "how is it we don't hear of any 'Trilby' craze in Chicago. Didn't it like the book?"

"Oh, my, yes," replied Miss Lakeside, "and we're just on the verge of getting the craze in its worst Eastern form, when some one fortunately discovered that the apotheosis of Trilby's feet must have been intended by Du Maurier as a studied insult to Chicago women—in short, the novel was writen for that purpose. Luckily, we've escaped being the laughing stock of the world."

A beautiful opera cloak has recently been evolved from an ermine cape of old date, and a similar garment of the same fur, formerly known as a Victorine, both miraculously preserved by an economical woman. The cape, deep, but too narrow for the present fashion, was slit up at intervals and gores cut from the Victorine inserted, making it the modish rippling shape and wide enough to wear over the enormous sleeves of the period. A band of Hudson bay sable made from a muff and cuffs, also an old possession, was placed as a border around the collar, and on the edge of the cape and below the lower band a full flounce of rich white lace, eighteen inches deep, was sewn. The lining was taken from the skirt of an old ball dress of pink satin brocade, which had been trimmed with the lace flounce, and the economical woman is now the possessor of a regal wrap with no outlay except the making.

She—"Thank you, oh, so much, for the diamond ring, but—I feel that I must tell you I am a woman with a past."

He (rising)—"Is that so?" Then you don't need any presents. I'm dealing in futures.—New York World.

There is some talk of shortening the skirts of gowns to the ankle, an idea, that, after the lengths (?) to which daring bicyclists have gone in discarding skirts altogether, may not perhaps be voted down. While awaiting this consummation devoutly to be wished, an admirable little "grip" for skirts has been invented. It takes the form of a brooch, in oxydized metal, with two bent fish-hook pins at each side. The lower two are caught into the material at any desired point, and grip it securely, then the other two are inserted higher up, and the dress held out of the mud. As the weight is not all on one place, as with a single pin, the material is not liable to be torn, and a couple of these at most satisfactory are leaving pedestrians a hand free. For dress collars, too, where hooks are likely to come unfastened, these grips are better than any brooch.

For soiled carpets at the time of spring cleaning salt is a wonderful restorer of faded color; the coarsest kind is the best and should be spread without stint. Let it l