THE SOCIAL WORLD.

Resume of Recent Happenings in Society Circles.

Engagement Announcements—Pamelee-Heath Wedding—The Cheney Reception—High School Banquet—Futures.

Social organizations are particularly interested in the springs of social success. One entertainment often fails to "draw," while another succeeds, although their conditions are apparently identical. The success of the fete champetre, held on Saturday at Sutro Heights, for the benefit of the San Francisco Polyclinic, offers what seems a fair object-lesson in the problem. Here was an enterprise of known desert, certainly, and under high patronage. But other enterprises have started out under as fair a flag and come to grief. There were certain elements of novelty, assuredly, in a monster ocean-air fete; and novelty of idea goes for much in attracting. But to counterbalance this the day was unfavorable in aspect and the scene of the festivities was known to be somewhat exposed to the elements. Yet the beautiful gardens of Mr. Sutro were thronged with investors in charity's shares. The solution seems to point one way only. For days previously a display schedule of the attractions to be expected was placed by the ladies of the Polyclinic in the paid-for columns of the press. People read THE CALL and argued that here was an entertainment worth avertising and therefore worth attending. Such inferences are among the curiously natural offspring of the mind, which reasons that business common sense should direct even pleasure in her flight. Yet this inference would seem to be true, and societies and individuals, who have large social ventures in prospect, will not be slow to note the lesson. With the exception of the fete champetre there were few events of general interest during the week. The future will bring its own attractions, several of which are indicated below.

A fete champetre will be given by Mrs. Sidney Cushing at her elegant home in San Rafael next Monday. The affair will be held under the auspices of the ladies of the Habneman Hospital Aid Association, and the proceeds will be devoted to the benefit of that institution.

The officers and ladies of Mare Island gave the first of a series of hops on Wednesday last. The invitations promised a repetition of its pleasures every two weeks from that evening, the hours to be limited from 8 to 11 o'clock.

One of the pleasant affairs of the week was the picnic to Belvidere given by Miss Brush to a number of her young friends on Wednesday last. Miss Brush had as her guests Mis. Herman Oelrichs, Miss Maud O'Connor, Miss Belle Smith, Miss Lillie O'Connor, Miss Minnie Houghton and Miss Nellie Giraffe.

Miss McCombe gives a dancing party today in honor of Mrs. L. S. Tainter, nee Crouch. Mrs. Tainter is now a resident of Wisconsin, but formerly resided in Oakland.

Mrs. J. D. Wheelock will give on behalf of the Ladies' Elsmere Club an ice-cream social at her residence, 325½ Geary street, next Friday evening, for the benefit of the Elsmere Free Kindergarten.

At the elegant home of Colonel and Mrs. L. L. Bromwell, corner of Madison and Ninth streets, Oakland, Miss Bromwell entertained on Thursday evening about thirty young friends, who assembled at her invitation to meet the Misses Little of Cleveland, Ohio.

More than usual interest has been evinced in the farewell concert to be tendered this evening to Miss Gertrude Auld, who is leaving to complete in Europe the culture of her exceptional vocal powers. Every one feels a little proud of this California nightingale and is convinced that she will create a furore in the future. To have some part in developing such a charming native product has a singular attraction. This may be seen in the full house at Irving Hall this evening as well as in the names of the talent kindly assisting Miss Auld. Numbers will be given by a chorus under the direction of Mr. H. B. Pasmore; Miss Katherine Heyman, Mme. Christin de la Mothe, Mr. Nathan Landsberger, Mr. Alfred Wilkie, Mr. H. B. Pasmore.

A most enjoyable party was given by Miss Blix Kenna on Wednesday evening at her handsome home on Thirteenth avenue, Oakland, to a large number of her friends. The evening was devoted to dancing.

Another lecture illustrated by stereopticon views will be given in Calvary Presbyterian church next Thursday evening. The subject will be classic and romantic Italy.

A new club has been organized at North Beach under the title of the "Bachelors" for the purpose of entertaining their friends at social hops to be given quarterly at Bersaglieri Hall, on the corner of Union and Stockton streets. The following will entertain their friends: Bachelor (first degree) J. T. Cashin, Bachelor (second degree) William J. Donovan, Bachelor (recording-keeper) Thomas Mullen, Bachelor (financier) William F. Henricks. The lady guests will be received by the following committee: Messrs. John J. Lynch, E. R. Becker, George Dillon, Ed Botteron, D. G. Antonovich.

A tiddlewinks party was given last Tuesday evening at the residence of Miss Beretta on Fourth avenue, Oakland, and it proved a most enjoyable affair. Mrs. Blake Alverson, Miss Beretta, Mrs. Smith and Miss Lucy Bigler favored the guests with several vocal selections.

Among the pleasant dinners of the week was that given by Mr. Joseph D. Redding at the Bohemian Club. The decorations were white, with an exception in favor of a bowl of pink sweet peas, Mrs. Younger's favorite flower. Mr. Redding's guests were Dr. and Mrs. W. J. Younger, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Maxwell and Mrs. Marie Wyman Williams.

Mrs. E. B. Crocker has presented her son-in-law, Mr. Harry Gilling, with a yacht, which is expected to prove the scene of many a pleasant entertainment in the Atlantic waters during the summer season.

The German artists of this city are contemplating the organization of a club, to be conducted upon somewhat similar lines to those of the Bohemian Club. An informal meeting will be held to-morrow evening to take the preliminary steps.

Last Tuesday afternoon Miss Maude Younger entertained about fifty young lady friends at a tea given in honor of Miss Vanderpool of New York, who is visiting Mrs. J. Sanders Reed. The young hostess was assisted in receiving by Mrs. Younger, Mrs. J. Downey Harvey and Miss Lillie Stowe. Refreshment were served during the afternoon at small tables in the hall-room.

Engagement Notes.

Mr. and Mrs. Denis Donohoe have sent out invitations to the marriage of their daughter, Miss Rose Maguire Donohoe, to Mr. Montague Hankins, on Tuesday afternoon, June 2d, at 1 o'clock. The marriage will take place at St. Paul's Church, San Rafael.

The engagement is announced of Miss Henrietta W. Tracy, daughter of Mrs. J. H. Hatch, to Mr. John Osgood Herron.

Invitations have been issued for the marriage of Mrs. Lizzie Balmer Williams and Mr. William Barnes. The ceremony will be performed at the First Unitarian Church in this city on Monday afternoon, June 1st, at 2:30 o'clock.

The engagement is announced of Mr. Moses Heller and Miss Adele Walter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. N. Walter. Both the betrothed occupy prominent places in social circles, and Mr. Walter is among our most highly esteemed merchants.

The marriage of Miss Bertha A. Hadsell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hadsell, of Sunol, to Mr. Charles Stallman of San Francisco will take place next Tuesday evening, May 26th, at the Congregational Church, Sunol, Alameda County. None but relatives will be present.

The wedding of Miss Perry, daughter of General Perry of the United States Army, and Mr. Junius S. Morgan will take place in the early part of June.

The engagement of Rev. J. H. Collins of Los Angeles and Miss Alena Weston of San Diego is announced. The wedding will take place about June 1st.

The engagement is announced of Mr. Ignatius J. Koehle of the Pacific Manufacturing Company of Santa Clara and Miss Emma Zipf of Santa Clara. The event will occur in the chapel adjoining the Catholic church at Santa Clara on the 27th inst. The prospective groom is the son of Mr. I. Koehle, a pioneer resident of Santa Clara, and a young man of high standing. His intended, Miss Zipf, is the niece of Mrs. I. Ruth of San Jose.

The engagement is announced of Mr. Bernard Neisser to Miss Annie Sideman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Abe Sideman.

It is announced that Mr. John R. Moore of Los Angeles is to be married to Miss Madie C. Vawter, daughter of Mr. William S. Vawter of Santa Monica, next month.

The engagement is announced of Miss Hannah Frohman to Mr. M. Stern, both of this city.

The marriage engagement of Colonel James L. Howland and Miss Lizzie Rosenfeld, both of Los Angeles, is announced by the parents of the happy couple.

The engagement is announced of Miss Josephine Kaeintz to Mr. Theodor Ledderhos, both of this city. The wedding will take place in the early part of June.

Mr. E. P. Johnson Jr., son of General E. P. Johnson, is to be married in June to the beautiful and accomplished Miss Florence Perry, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Perry of Los Angeles and sister of Mrs. Modini-Wood. Mr. Johnson holds the responsible position of Executive Secretary in Governor H. H. Markham's office at Sacramento.

The Parmelee-Heath Wedding.

On Tuesday evening last Miss Alice Heath, second daughter of Mrs. Caroline Heath, was united in marriage to Mr. Charles A. Parmelee, Secretary of the American Mercantile Union, at Central M. E. Church, by Rev. W. W. Case, D.D.

The church was beautifully decorated by the Ever Ready Circle of the King's Daughters, of which the bride is a member. Suspended prominently in front of the organ was a large silver Maltese cross, emblem of the organization. Instead of the stereotyped marriage-bell, the unique feature of the decorations was a large bunch of syringas from which hung many small silver bells, the whole suspended from a dainty canopy springing from the pulpit and gracefully curving over the altar-rail, draped with white illusion, smilax and ferns and surmounted by a pair of snow-white doves. Forming a background to the canopy, the front of the pulpit was covered with white roses and callas.

Professor Katzenbach presided at the organ, and the bridal party entered to the inspiring strains of the "Lohengrin" bridal chorus, being preceded by two pretty little maidens, Miss Gretta Venton and Miss Hazel Burton, who strew flowers in the pathway as the bridal party departed, to Mendelssohn's "Wedding March."

Mr. William Valentine and Mr. William Abbott were the ushers. They were followed by Miss Stella Burton and Mr. Thomas Hodge, Miss Mattie Heath (sister of the bride) and Mr. J. H. R. Franklin. Then came the bride and groom.

The bride was attired in a rich white satin gown en train. A spray of orange blossoms held in place the flowing veil. The first bridesmaid was attired in dove color and the second in pink.

Following the ceremony a reception was held at the residence of the bride's mother, 130A Twelfth street.

Among the guests present were: Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Heath, Mrs. Lucian Heath of Santa Cruz, Mrs. C. Hinkle, Mrs. E. Knickerbocker, Dr. and Mrs. W. W. Case, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Mackay, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Barton, Mr. and Mrs. William Abbott, Mrs. Foster, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Case, Mr. and Mrs. H. Z. Jones, Mrs. L. J. Watt, Mrs. A. Hillman, Mrs. G. W. Gaskin, Miss Susie Nicol, Miss Stella Burton, Miss Millie Frank, Miss Rosie Raisch, Miss Katie Raisch, Miss Nellie Dudley, Miss Carrie Abbott, Miss Susie Hert, Miss Marian Bray, Miss Susie Burton, Miss Elsie Moore, Miss Maggie Stewart, Miss Annie Northrup, Miss Lillie Northrup, Miss M. C. Sandquist, Miss Ida A. Green; Messrs. Thomas Hodge, J. H. R. Franklin, J. J. Morris, Andrew Stark, F. Fetter, Dr. E. E. Kelly, Dr. Nat T. Coulson, William Valentine, William Abbott, C. W. Gibson, E. M. Bixby, C. E. Burton and others.

The bride and groom were the recipients of numerous and elegant presents. After the bridal supper the bride and groom departed, amid a shower of rice, with the best wishes of their friends, and after a short trip to the Geysers will take up their residence at 119½ Fillmore street.

The Cheney Reception.

After a particularly enjoyable piano recital given by the pupils of Mrs. John Vance Cheney on Saturday evening at the Century Club-rooms, before a select audience of between 300 and 400 of our society people, the participants in the programme, with their escorts and a few friends to the number of about fifty young people, were agreeably entertained at Mrs. Cheney's residence on O'Farrell street.

Very charming, indeed, was the floral decoration of the parlors, with its light wreathings of glossy smilax tendrils, gemmed with clustering roses. Queen among these was the Duchess of Albany, the fashionable variety of the hour. In the dining-room, too, was found another delightful floral curiosity in the form of a mosaic of sweet peas. No less than twelve different shades, from a claret that was almost a mulberry to a delicate shrimp-pink, were represented in the fragrant table garniture. There was also one immense white tiger lily that won special admiration, and dazzling alignments of fairy lamps, nestling in greenery, were to be noted among other dainty decorative conceits, making up an ensemble of total ensemble.

Chatting over the recent musical triumphs a delicious supper was discussed before the friends bade adieu to their kindly hostess.

A School Farewell Banquet.

The lately graduated scientific senior class of the Boys' High School enjoyed a farewell banquet last Tuesday evening at the Maison Riche. Every member of the class, and also Mr. J. L. Crittenden, their class-teacher, were present.

After all had united in the class song the boys sat down to an elaborate menu. There were toasts to '91, the class officers, Mr. Crittenden and the "Gento," and a number of excellent speeche were made, particularly one entitled "Study" by N. Kedroliwansky. The class history and class prophecy were read by William W. Symmes, assisted by many of the boys, who described the funniest of their experiences. The college songs were sung in an energetic manner, and after the dinner there were piano, zither, banjo and vocal solos. Several flash-light photographs were taken. All felt that the evening was the happiest in their school life and that it closed in fitting manner their high-school days.

Those present were: J. Robert Wilson, Class President; C. M. Cross, Vice-President; J. E. Strachan, Secretary; W. R. Eckart Jr., Treasurer; W. W. Symmes, Class Historian; G. B. Edgar, M. O. Brosh, George Jost, N. Kedroliwansky, F. E. Magee, H. Mano, S. Misaki, C. R. Nerney, S. W. Ottenheimer, C. W. Tyler, H. Ukai, K. Yamagishi, H. S. Foote Jr., F. E. Leviston, J. S. Brooks and Mr. J. L. Crittenden, class teacher.

The Au Fait Club Party.

The first installation party and dance of the Au Fait Literary and Social Club was given last Friday evening at Mission Opera Hall. The hall was beautifully decorated for the occasion by the young ladies of the club.

The music was furnished by Blum's orchestra, and dancing kept up until 12 o'clock, when the guests departed well pleased with their evening's entertainment. The feature of the evening was a vocal solo entitled "Carissima" by Miss Nina Lyons, a vocalist who has a very promising future.

The following constituted the management: Officers—Will Hagear, President; Miss May Dalton, Vice-President; James McCollough, Secretary; Benjamin C. Dalton, Treasurer; C. B. Johnson Sr., Marshal; Committee of Arrangements—Miss May Dalton, Miss Flossie Emerson, Will Carr, H. Stone, O. Dunbar, C. B. Johnson Jr.

Parties to Take Place.

The Teutonia, one of our oldest German beneficial and social societies, will celebrate their twenty-fifth anniversary at their elegant and commodious hall on Monday evening, June 1st. The affair will be entirely complimentary.

The Sheridan Dramatic Club will produce Mr. Frank Mayo's latest success, "Davy Crockett," at Saratoga Hall Friday evening, July 10th.

Excelsior Lodge, No. 1252, will give their monthly hop at Union-square Hall on Thursday evening, the 4th prox.

The Coronados have issued invitations for their fourth hop to take place at Union-square Hall on the evening of the 10th prox.

The Directors of the Tuolumne Reunion Association have decided to hold their annual reunion on Saturday, June 20th.

Minerva Parlor, No. 2, N. D. G. W., will give an entertainment and clothes-pin party at Mission Opera Hall, 2131 Mission street, on Friday evening, June 5th.

The Companions of the Forest will hold a special excursion on the water on the 21st prox., the eighth anniversary of the order. California Drill Corps will give a special excursion and picnic on the 14th prox.

The San Francisco Scottish Thistle Club will hold their regular quarterly social at B'nai B'rith Hall Friday evening, June 19th.

The Sports have given their last party this season. They will open their next season at Odd Fellows' Hall, on the 21st of August.

The North Beach Bachelors will entertain their friends at Bersaglieri Hall on the 10th prox.

South San Francisco Parlor, No. 157, N. S. G. W., dance June 20th in South San Francisco Opera Hall.

The Buffaloes' farewell party for the season will take place on June 19th.

The celebration of the twelfth anniversary of the Order of Chosen Friends will take place at Odd Fellows' Hall on Thursday evening next. The features will be a literary entertainment and dance.

Orinda Parlor, No. 56, N. D. G. W., will give a ball at Odd Fellows' Hall on Friday evening next. The drill corps of El Dorado Parlor, N. S. G. W., has kindly volunteered to assist and during the evening will give an exhibition drill. The successful entertainments given in the past by Orinda Parlor will insure a large attendance.

Young Ladies' Institute No. 4 will give an entertainment and bon-bon social at Cambrian Hall, 1133 Mission street, on Wednesday evening next.

The eighth anniversary of Golden Rule Lodge, No. 660, K. and L. of H., will be celebrated by an entertainment and ball at Union-square Hall on Thursday next, when the Lyceum Comedy Company will produce the farce of "Slasher and Crasher," in one act.

The seventh invitation hop of the Commercial Alumni Association will take place on Tuesday evening next at Odd Fellows' Hall.

The Racquet Club will give a domino party at the club-rooms on Alabama street, near Twenty-fourth, next Friday evening.

The pupils of Love's Academy will give a dance next Friday evening at 814 Geary street.

A fan party will be given by the pupils of Carrel's Academy at Ross Hall, corner of Geary and Leavenworth streets, on Thursday evening next.

The Children's Progressive Lyceum, which meets each Sunday morning at 909½ Market street, will give their usual monthly entertainment in that building on next Sunday evening.

The Eola Club will give a grab-bag party at Teutonia Hall on Saturday evening next.

Society Personals.

Mrs. Henry T. Scott and Miss Champion will leave for England about the 31st inst. They will be accompanied by Miss Laura McKinstry and Miss Whitney of Oakland.

Mr. James D. Phelan will leave for New York in about a fortnight to attend Miss Duval's wedding.

Mrs. General Custer expects to go abroad soon and spend six weeks in London.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Pixley and party will start next Friday on a trip through Yosemite Valley.

Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Newhall are enjoying a visit to Del Coronado.

Mr. Fred Leadbetter is at the Marechal Niel.

Dr. and Mrs. Washington Dodge, of this city, have purchased a villa site at Larkspur, Marin county, where they will erect a beautiful residence and make it their summer home.

Mr. M. J. Ward and family have taken a cottage in San Rafael for the summer.

Mr. J. Lewis is stopping at the Marechal Niel Hotel.

Mrs. L. S. Anderson, director of the choir of Simpson Memorial Church of this city, accompanied by her daughter, Miss Nellie Anderson, late teacher of music in Mills Seminary, leaves during the first week in June on a two months' visit to relatives and friends in the East.

TARDY ATONEMENT.

An Innocent Man Imprisoned a Year for a Woman's Crime.

John Gassaway, the Allegheny druggist, who suffered imprisonment in the Ohio penitentiary for a year for a crime he did not commit, has been vindicated. It was in 1874 that he was arrested and convicted of stealing a watch from the residence of William Conger in Cleveland, says the Pittsburg Dispatch. Now comes forward the real culprit. It is a woman, and she confesses that she stole the watch, and that as she is dying she wants to make what restitution is in her power. Mr. Gassaway was sent to the penitentiary for two years, but was released after having served half of the sentence.

For a number of years he has kept a drug-store at the corner of North avenue and Federal street, in Alleghany. Several days ago he received a letter from James Shratt, the Postmaster at Steubenville, Ohio, stating that the latter had a confession from a woman who claimed that she was the person who had stolen the watch from the Conger residence. Mr. Gassaway went to Steubenville on Tuesday and returned last night. He said that in the letter the woman, who gave her name as Mrs. Margaret Lane, stated that she knew that she was going to die and wanted to do a simple act of justice.

She then in the letter went on to tell that in 1874 she was a book-canvasser in Cleveland; that she went to a house, and finding the door open went in, and seeing a gold watch on the dresser seized it and immediately left. When she saw the account of the arrest of a young man for the theft her conscience reproached her, for she had seen him in the yard at the time she entered the house. She says she went back to restore the watch but was rebuffed by the servant girl. Mrs. Lane says she hid the watch in the chimney of her room, and during an illness which followed, when fires had been lighted, it must have been burned. Mr. Gassaway says he has no wish to prosecute the woman and will not do so.

SOMETHING TO LAUGH AT.

I dreamed that she an angel was
And told her so. What it presaged
She wondered much, then gayly asked:
"Pray, to what saint was I engaged?"
—N. Y. Herald.

* * *

Too many checks.—Frank—Stella's face is her fortune! Tom—Yes, but she's given too many certified checks to Time!—N. Y. Herald.

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"Where did you get your dictatorial ways, anyhow?" asked Henpeck. "From you, while I was your type-writer," retorted Mrs. H.—Puck.

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"If marriage is a failure," said Binks, "what on earth is an engagement?" "Only a temporary embarrassment," said Maude. —N. Y. Herald.

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It is sad to see family relics sold at auction, but the most painful thing under the hammer is generally your thumb-nail.—Texas Siftings.

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Dander—What a chilly May! Head (with thoughts looking backward)—Chilly! I should say so. She promised to be my sister last night.—Chicago Times.

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Beware.—Guns that will shoot five miles have been invented. We mention this fact only to emphasize to spring poets the advisability of sending in all their contributions by mail.—Texas Siftings.

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Instead of nymphs and pipes of Pan
In sylvan glades to charm and thrill us
We moderns find in cool retreats
The gnat, mosquito and bacillus.
—N. Y. Herald.

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Sleeping-car Porter—Half-dollah more, sah, if you please. The Hon. D. B. Hill—What! Porter—Yes, sah; 50 cents fur de Guvner and 50 cents fur de Senator—Chicago Tribune.

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"Mercy me!" said Miss Passee; "I sincerely hope they will not pass the law making a day of eight hours." "Why not?" "Just think how rapidly we shall age! Just three times as fast."—Harper's Bazar.

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Unsophisticated Parent — Hello there, nurse, what's the baby yelling that way for? I can't read at all. Nurse—He's cutting his teeth, sir. U. P.—Well, see that he doesn't do it any more, or you lose your place.—Life.

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Fine Distinctions.—How are you all at home, Mrs. Brownston? Mrs. Brownston—Not well at all. My daughter has la grippe, my country cousin has the influenza, and my servant girl has a cold in the head.—N. Y. Weekly.

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Delightful Experience.—"This is the first time I ever acted as a street-car conductor," remarked Dolly, as he placed on Mabel's finger the glittering pledge of their troth. "A street-car conductor?" "Yes; I am ringing the fair."—Epoch.

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"What beautiful cake Mrs. Brown makes! Why, the frosting on the cake we had this evening was so clear and glossy you could actually see your face in it." "That is what one night call food for reflection, I suppose."—Boston Transcript.

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His name was Earlscourt Henderson
De Tudor Perkins Rudd.
But when he went to college he
Was chiefly known as Mud.
—N. Y. World.

His Presentiment Was Correct.

Thomas Rodbard, aged 81 years, who was well-known in Germantown, died Monday at his residence, 118 Haines street, Germantown, of paralysis of the heart. He had a presentiment of when he would die, and expired at that hour. He told his daughter-in-law that he would draw his last breath at 11 o'clock. Ten minutes previous to that hour he reminded her of his statement, and as the hour drew nigh he grew weaker and quietly passed away.—Philadelphia Record.

DRESS SUITS for hire, suitable for balls, parties or weddings, at reasonable rates. Original Misfit Clothing Parlors, northwest corner of Post and Dupont streets.

Dubuque, Iowa, has a man who has a penchant for kissing married women on the street. Girls are unmolested by him. So far he has escaped capture.

Blind Man's Buff.

I can tell her, though 'tis night,
And my eyes are bandaged tight,
By the merry laugh that slips
From her rosy-tinted lips.

I can tell her by her hand,
Soft as finest lily-wand.
I can tell her by the sound
Of her light step on the ground.

But most surely I can tell
Her whose charms I know so well,
By her balmy, fragrant breath,
"I use SOZODONT," it saith.

Breezes in the Spice Islands

Are not laden with more fragrance than a breath rendered pure and aromatic with SOZODONT, which restores whiteness to yellow teeth and soundness to defective ones. Neither man nor woman can hope to carry any point by the force of persuasion with a mouthful of unclean, discolored teeth and an unpleasant breath. SOZODONT remedies both these repulsive physical traits, and is PRE-EMINENTLY HEALTHFUL as well as EFFECTIVE.

A-MAYING.

Deep in the colgnes of forest and wildwood,
Under the shade of the wide-spreading trees—
Oh, the wild joy that is thrilling my pulses
With rapturous swell to the summer's low breeze!
Naiads and elfins to-day are here dancing,
Satyrs and fauns and the nymphs are at play—
Friends, do you know me? I once dwelt among you,
Blithe, like the zephyrs, as boundless and gay.
How my cheeks glow with this deep sense of pleasure,
How my heart leaps with a passionate glee!
Give me your hands, for again I am with you,
Vanished my sorrow—to-day I am free.
NELLIE TALBOT KINKEAD in Youth's Companion.

A HEAD OF DEATH.

BY SIDNEY LUSKA.

This is a story that Dr. Clarke Forster told us after dinner. I had had a busy morning—some twenty patients, one on the heels of another—and now that the last had departed and noon was long past I began to think hungrily of my luncheon. But just as I got up to leave my consulting-room my servant entered and handed me a visiting-card upon which was engraved the name "Mr. Alexander Carathwaite." "There can be but one Alexander Carathwaite," thought I, "and he is Alexander Carathwaite, the famous iron king and millionaire."

"Show him in," I said to my servant.

The person who presently seated himself opposite me struck me as a singularly healthy looking invalid, tall, robust, with a clear, ruddy skin and a bright gray eye. However, "What is the trouble?" I asked.

"Well," he answered, "it's a queer case, but, to put it briefly, I'm afraid the trouble's here," and he tapped his forehead.

"Let me hear your symptoms."

"It's a long story," said he, "and I must begin it at the beginning."

Thereupon he plunged his hand into an interior pocket of his coat and brought forth a small tissue-paper parcel. "This," he explained as he unwound the paper, "is rather a valuable antique. It came as a present to my wife the other day from the Earl of Salchester, whom we entertained when he was in America a year or so ago. As you see, it's a mirror. The glass is believed to be a specimen of medieval Venetian work, and the frame is unquestionably a magnificent bit of cinque-cento."

The whole affair was no bigger than a lady's hand. The glass, unusually thick and fluted round the edge, was veined and spotted and bleared over with a fine bluish mist, like the eye of an aged man. The frame was indeed magnificent. Oval in shape and evidently of pure gold, so soft, at any rate, that you could have indented it with your finger-nail—it was sculptured with no fewer than five exquisite nude female figures, disporting themselves in fantastic but graceful attitudes amid a profusion of delicately chiseled fruits and leaves. Three of these figures reclined upon tiny golden couches, in each of which was set a lustrous ruby; the other two rode upon conventionalized lions, and each lion held a pearl between his teeth. At the base a pair of dolphins twisted their tails together, and formed the handle. Upon a scroll at the handle end were incised the date, 1561, and the initials E. D.

"It is a beautiful piece of work," said I, laying it aside, "and I envy you the possession of it. But what has it got to do with your visit here?"

"Everything," he returned. "It's this way." He paused for a moment; then he went on. "Last night, after dinner, I picked that little mirror up, and I said jokingly to my wife, 'This, my dear, is a magical glass. If I hold it over my waistcoat, thus, and you look in, you will see straight through, into my heart, and behold the face of the woman I love.' So Mrs. Carathwaite laughed and looked, and of course she saw her own face. Then to carry on the farce, I said, 'Now let me see whether it will show me the face of the man you love.' And, always laughing, I held it over her breast, and looked in."

"Yes," I prompted, as he paused again.

"Well, doctor, instead of my own face what I saw reflected in that glass was a grinning death's-head—a skull. I saw it just as plainly as I see you now. I looked at it steadily, without moving, for—I should think—three minutes. I never varied. A human skull in absolute details, eye-sockets, nose, teeth, even the very seams between the bones, perfectly distinct. I'm not a superstitious man, but I confess the sight gave me gooseflesh. If I were superstitious I don't know what I might think. I'm not a drinking man either, or else I should believe it was a touch of delirium tremens. As it is, I'm at an utter loss to account for it in any way, except on the theory that it's the beginning of mental disease." He spoke nervously and looked at me anxiously when he had done. He was plainly in a "white funk."

"Humph! You say you saw it steadily for two or three minutes?" I inquired.

"Yes."

"Then did it disappear?"

"It did not disappear till I moved. As soon as I moved, the death's-head disappeared and I saw the reflection of my own face."

"Have you ever had any similar experience before? Ever fancied you saw an object just before you that in reality had no existence?"

"Never in my life."

"Is your digestive apparatus in good shape?"

"In such perfect shape that I'm never conscious of possessing such a thing."

"And your general health—"

"Superb."

"Let me feel your pulse." His pulse was firm, regular and proper in time. "Show me your tongue." His tongue was pink and clean. "Open your eyes wide and look toward the light." His eyes were steady in their gaze, the pupils contracted readily, and the lid dropped spontaneously upon approaching my finger.

"Did you tell your wife what you had seen?" I asked.

"No, I didn't want to alarm her. She noticed that I stared at the thing in rather a startled manner, but I laughed it off."

I was silent for a while, toying with the mirror, and wondering what the case might mean.

"Well, what do you make it out to be?" he inquired.

"Oh," I replied, "I can't say as yet. I haven't sufficient data. The trouble may be in your optic nerve, it may be in your liver, and it may be elsewhere still. I should have to put you through a lengthy examination, and just at this moment I am too tired and too hungry to begin one. If you will give me time to eat some luncheon I'll be in better trim."

"Oh, certainly, certainly. Only, can't you tell me at once whether you think I am going to lose my reason?"

"I hardly think you are going to lose your reason," I replied. "And now, if you will excuse me for a little, I'll go downstairs and take a bite. Perhaps you would like a chop and a glass of wine yourself?"

"Oh, no thank you, no thank you. I shan't be able to eat with any appetite until this fear is off my mind."

While I swallowed my hasty luncheon I thought the matter over. It puzzled me a good deal, but suddenly, as I was folding up my napkin, an idea struck me which I hoped may clear the whole matter up.

Rejoining Mr. Carathwaite in my office I said to him, "I have come to the conclusion that this is a case for a specialist. If you like I will go to a specialist with you."

"I am quite at your orders," he responded. "Do you think it's the brain or the eye?"

"I hope it's neither; but the specialist will tell us."

We entered my carriage and were driven downtown to a famous curiosity shop in Seventeenth street, just west of Union square, the proprietor of which, Mr. Maverick, is esteemed, as everybody knows, one of the most learned authorities in antique curios in America.

"Here we are," said I, getting out of the carriage. "Will you come?"

"But what are we going in here for?" questioned Carathwaite.

"To consult our specialist," said I.

My patient looked mystified, but he followed me into the shop.

I presented my card, and asked to see Mr. Maverick. In another minute we were closeted with him in his private office.

"Will you hand Mr. Maverick your mirror?" I demanded of Carathwaite.

Maverick took the mirror and looked it over. He studied the frame through a magnifying glass. "This is a bit of work from the hand of Etienne Delaulne," he announced presently; "one of the most skillful goldsmiths of the sixteenth century. I don't know where you got hold of it, but I may tell you that it is infinitely valuable. I have never seen a finer specimen of Delaulne's handicraft, nor one in a better state of preservation."

"And the glass?" I queried. "We are especially interested in the glass."

"The glass," said Maverick, "is probably Venetian. I must examine it a little."

He went to the window and began to scrutinize the glass, twisting it about and peering at it from various angles. "Ah, yes, I thought so!" he exclaimed all at once. "Come here, gentlemen," he called to us.

He held the glass off at a certain oblique angle, and inquired: "Now, when I hold it like that, what do you see?"

Carathwaite simply uttered a long, low "Ah-h-h!"

"Why, I see a human skull," I said. "A most perfect image of a human skull. I would swear it was the genuine reflection of a real one. How it gets there I can't for my life imagine."

"Ah, that was the art of the Venetian glass-workers," said Maverick.

He crossed the room and took from a book-case a volume entitled "Manual Arts of Medieval Italy." He ran over a few pages, found his place, and read aloud, "Venetian looking-glasses of the sixteenth century were often ornamented with grotesque designs—serpents, skeletons, skulls, sometimes crucifixes—produced in the coating of quicksilver in such a way as to be visible only at one angle of vision, and then to give the effect of a reflection of some exterior object."

"Well, doctor," said Carathwaite, smiling rather sheepishly, when we had regained the street, "you have effected a speedy cure. What's your fee?"

"I can hardly ask you a fee since your trouble was all in the mirror," I said. "I will take it out in telling the story."

The gratitude of millionaires is very like that of kings. I have never seen nor heard from Mr. Alexander Carathwaite again. When he needs medical attendance or advice he calls upon that notorious humbug Blank.

A SACRED TRIO.

Some Curious Legends Concerning the Palm, Oak and Ash Trees.

The palm, the oak, and the ash are, according to a timely and interesting article in a recent number of the Deutche Rundschau, the three trees which, since time immemorial, were held to be sacred. The first among them which figures on the oldest monuments and pictures of the Egyptians and Assyrians is the date palm hometan.

Tradition of a later period says that when Adam left Paradise he was allowed to take with him three things—a myrtle, because it was the most lovely and most scented flower on the earth; a wheat ear, because it had the most nourishment; and a date, because it was the most glorious fruit of the earth. The date from Paradise was in some marvelous way brought to the Dejaz. From it have come all the date-palms in the world, and Allah destined it to be the food of all true believers, who shall conquer every country where the date-palm grows.

The oak was always considered a holy tree by our own ancestors and, above all, by the nations of the north of Europe. When Winifred of Devonshire (680-754 A. D.) went forth on his wanderings through Germany to preach the Gospel, one of his first actions was to cut down the giant oak in Saxony, which was dedicated to Thor, and worshiped by the people from far and near. But when he had nearly felled the oak, and while the people were cursing and threatening the saint a supernatural storm swept over it, seized the summit, broke every branch and dashed it quasi superni, motus solaris, with a tremendous crash to the ground. The heathens acknowledged the marvel and many of them were converted there and then. But the saint built a chapel of the wood of this very oak and dedicated it to St. Peter.

The Celts, and Germans, and Scandinavians, again, worshiped the mountain ash, and it is especially in the religious myths of the latter that the "Askr Yggdrasil" plays a prominent part. To them it was the holiest among trees, the "world tree," which, eternally young and dewy, represented heaven, earth and hell. According to the Edda the ash yggdrasil was an evergreen tree. A specimen of it, says Saxo of Bremen, grew at Upsala, in front of the great temple, and another in Dithmarschen, carefully guarded by a railing, for it was in a mythical way connected with the fate of the country. When Dithmarschen lost its liberty the tree withered, but a magpie, one of the best prophesying birds of the north, came and built its nest on the withered tree and hatched five little ones, all perfectly white, as a sign that at some future time the country would regain its former liberty.

THE THAMES TUNNEL.

Its Construction Was Suggested by the Labors of an Insect.

It has been said that the operations of the spider suggested the art of spinning and weaving to man. That may be doubtful, but it is quite certain that to a hint from an insect was due the invention of a machine instrumental in accomplishing one of the most stupendous works of modern times—the excavation of the Thames tunnel.

Mark Isambard Brunel, the great engineer, was standing one day about three-quarters of a century ago in a ship-yard watching the movements of an animal known as the teredo navales—in English the naval wood worm—when a brilliant thought suddenly occurred to him, says the New York Weekly. He saw that this creature bored its way into the heart of wood upon which it was operating by means of a very extraordinary mechanical apparatus. Looking at the animal attentively through a microscope he found that it was covered in front with a pair of valvular shells; that, with its foot as a purchase, it communicated a rotary motion and a forward impulse to the valves, which, acting upon the wood like a gimlet, penetrated its substance, and that, as the particles of wood were loosened, they passed through the body of the borer to its mouth, where they were expelled.

"Here," said Brunel to himself, "is the sort of thing I want. Can I reproduce it in an artificial form?" He forthwith set to work, and the final result of his labors, after many failures, was the famous boring-shield, with which the Thames Tunnel was excavated.

This story was told by Brunel himself, and there is no reason to doubt its truth. The keen observer can draw useful lessons from the humblest of the works of God.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

INTERNATIONAL HOTEL.

V Gaut, Hanford | T Gillen, Portland
Mrs M Piantt, Chicago | H Golden, Denver
C K Esrom, Sausalito | M Johnson, Tacoma
J W Wright, Napa | J C Sides, Fresno
C E Holmes, Maple Hill | H Rovald, Ventura
T P Campbell, Chicago | A Skinner, Sausalito
G W Muggins, Hanford | W E Robinson, Los Ang
J J White, Petaluma | G W Handling, Los Ang
C H Shroud, Oakland | E Carberry, Los Angeles
E Murphy, Oakland | S E Le Cross, Modesto
G H Redman, Baltimore | W Graves, Lathrop
W Fairbanks, Colfax | E C Worrell, Lathrop
S Bingham, Colfax | J R Walker, Los Ang
B Mason, Truckee | G Phillips, Ireland
C D Wilson, Victoria | J R Jones & w, Stockton
J Taylor, Chicago | T Holland, Boston
H Hrevenr, Chicago | R R Gray, Vermont
C Goshcen, Truckee | J Phelan, Tulare
F W Stevenson, Truckee | J Dempsey, Tulare
C Shephard, Bay Side | S M Shinn & w, Glen Ellen
A G Hale, Oregon | R Fitzsimmons, San Diego
W A Alexander, Stockton | C G Mimmins, San Diego

GRAND HOTEL.

Geo G Robinson, Mich | Miss F Hines, Solano
A Greenwood, Humboldt | Miss E A Spencer, Cal
M Bonner, Livermore | Miss J M Rule, Cal
R H McDonald & wf, Portland | Mrs B L Leach, Eureka
L H Wilson & wf, Salin