THEATERS AND PLAYERS.

"The Merry Monarch" Ascends the Throne at the Baldwin.

EMMA JUCH AND "PINAFORE."

Mechanical Melodrama—Stockwell's—Last Week of "Blue Jeans"—Byron's New Play—The Morgans' Recital—Recipe for a War Piece—Patti Prattles—Hoyt's New Comedy—Foreign and Domestic Notes.

To-morrow evening a brief season of merriment, melody and spectacle will begin at the Baldwin Theater, where Francis Wilson and his comic opera company from the Broadway Theater, New York, will open an engagement, presenting their successful operetta, "The Merry Monarch." Francis Wilson holds a very unique place on the stage—a position without a precedent, and one which he appears to have created by his own earnest and persistent efforts. There had been plenty of female stars in comic opera before him, but never had there been a comedian in that branch of the dramatic art who had succeeded in maintaining a company of his own under the same conditions. Yet this was hardly what Wilson started out to do. He organized his present company with the intention of establishing a body of players, among whom he would simply take his place as

Francis Wilson.

the comedian, with no stellar rights granted to any one. But the policy proved a dangerous one for him, for at the very first performance ("The Oolah") in New York the opera was pronounced a flat failure, because the public did not see enough of Wilson in it, his part being an inconspicuous one. The verdict was unmistakable, and the suggestion was acted upon at once. Inside of two weeks' time the crowds were flocking to see "The Oolah" in its transformed state—Wilson's fun fairly permeating the whole opera.

HIS NEXT PRODUCTION.

"The Merry Monarch" was in collaboration with Messrs. Cheever Goodwin and Woolson Morse. They built up a very different kind of work, yet the operetta is in no sense a one-part piece; for Mr. Charles Plunkett, Mr. Gilbert Clayton, Miss Laura Moore, Miss Lulu Glaser and Miss Nettie Lyford each bear a liberal share of the honors most worthily. The popularity of Wilson and

Letitia Moore.

his associates need not be dwelt on. The fame of the organization is world-wide and Wilson himself describes his policy: "We strive to be the antithesis of all that is dull, heavy and conventional. We want to hit the medium line between comic opera and high-class burlesque; that is to say, combine in one performance the better qualities of each. And while some of the critics are trying to find a correct name for our form of entertainment we are striving with all our might to make good, wholesome merriment for the public without boasts, without lying advertisements, with clean hands."

Mechanical Melodrama.

"The Fast Mail," a startling mechanical melodrama, written and constructed by Lincoln J. Carter of Chicago, will be given next week—commencing Monday night, at the Bush-street Theater. It promises to be a most remarkable production. The play is constructed on strictly modern lines. The incidents are made doubly thrilling by the mechanical ingenuity and scenic effects that are employed. There is the rattle and

Explosion Scene in "The Fast Mail."

clatter of a patrol-wagon as it comes down the street, the whistle, bells and splashing of the paddle-wheels of a Mississippi River steamer leaving the wharf, moonlight effects on the river, the glowing furnaces of the boat and the explosion and breaking up of the steamer. A gigantic piece of real water scenery is presented in the Niagara Falls scene, where the enormous cataract is represented, with the roar of the water, the seething foam and the heavy clouds of rising mist. A freight-train of 14 cars is run across the stage, the caboose is lighted and the engine carries the engineer and fireman. The freight is sidetracked to allow the right of way to the "Fast Mail," which flies by at a terrific speed, catching up the mailpouch on the patent "grab" and thereby taking a letter which the heroine has sent to her lover, which saves his life. The play is surely sensational enough to suit the taste of all who are looking for something startling. The players who tell the story are clever in their several ways, but if they should happen to forget their lines the fine mechanism of the play would carry them through in good shape.

Last Week of "Blue Jeans."

Pastoral plays have been quite the rage on the American stage for some years. "The Old Homestead" inspired them all. But one at least of the productions of that class is equal to it in natural beauty, strength of plot and development. "Blue Jeans" reminds one of the green fields and sweet flowers. It breathes the pure sweet air of the rural home, and any one who listens to the simple, beautiful story is the better for it. There is in the story a striking moral that cannot fail to impress any one. It is not alone by the intrinsic worth of the piece that the listener is fascinated, but by the novel features that are introduced and that are as thrilling and inspiring as they are unique. The country band is a laughable incident of the portrayal, and the various meetings of the rustic population are quite amusing. There is no more exciting and powerful scene on the stage than the sawmill in active operation in the third act, and no one could conceive of a more intensely dramatic climax than the conclusion of this same act. A fine quartet gives some pretty vocal selections, adding much to the versatile charm of the production. This play is in some sort a mirror of love and hope, sorrow and deceit, misery and happiness. The present week is the last of the engagement. It will be followed by Frank Daniels in his welcome "Little Puck."

"Stockwell's."

Several new plans have been adopted by the architects of this new playhouse on Powell street, which will, in appliances and accommodation, make it distinctive from every other theater in this city. In the foyer will be erected an enormous clock, 12 feet in height and at a cost of $1200, and on the foyer's walls will be hung superb oil paintings, valued at $15,000, from the easels of the best masters. All carpeting and draperies will be of the latest patterns and will harmonize with the ivory and gold colors of the interior. One feature of the auditorium will be the sounding-board, extending 18 feet beyond the proscenium arch and assuring the acoustics. In fact, there will be nothing left of the old misfit "Powell-street" when the architects and builders are through with it.

PRICES OF ADMISSION.

During the Daly engagement, which commences July 7, prices for seats on the main floor will be fixed at $2; thereafter, the regular standard of admission will prevail. Easton & Eldridge will control the auctioneering of the choice of seats and boxes for Daly's opening night, and they are of opinion the premiums realized will amount to a greater sum than was taken at the opening of the New California with the Booth and Barrett engagement. Daly's people will be followed by Jeffreys-Lewis in a new play for four weeks. She will be supported by the Stockwell stock company in a repertoire of strong pieces.

Byron's New Play.

Mr. Oliver Doud Byron will present for the second week of his engagement a starring war piece called "Hero, or the Loves of Mount Shasta." It is called an historical drama because founded on incidents of the Modoc Indian war, the scenes being laid at Mount Shasta, the lava beds and the surrounding territory. During the play a most realistic battle-scene will be produced in which 50 combatants will be engaged. The story of the play deals with love, war and adventure.

THE CAST.

Hero, a Warm Spring Indian, chief of the Warm Spring tribe: General Bassett, U. S. A.: Donald McKay.....Oliver Doud Byron
Nick Shattuck, one-eyed Nick, a stage-driver.....George H. Trader
Leonard McKay, Walter McKay's son.....Francis Powers
Walter McKay, attorney-at-law and guardian of Isabel.....Leo Cooper
Daniel Webster Hartshorn.....Fred Warren
Captain Appleton, U. S. A.....Gerald Hertslet
Montgomery Gloster, a colored servant..Ben Cotton
Isabel Wallace, the Lily, the heiress and captive.....Miss Beatrice Lieb
Sally Lincoln, lady's maid.....Miss Bebe Vining
Soldiers, guests, etc.
Benito Lerdo, a Mexican.....George Osbourne

INDIANS.

Captain Jack, a Modoc chief....Frank Summerfield
John Sconchin, his brother.....Tom Keirns
Cappolas.....Frank Wyman
Long Jim.....Cal Owens
Bogus Charlie.....H. G. Hockey
Scarface Jim.....Harold Vizard
Artine, the Wild Rose, Sconchin's daughter.....Miss Kuhne Beveridge
Missoula, an aged hag of the Warm Spring tribe.....Miss Fanny Young

There will be a special matinee at this theater to-morrow afternoon, Memorial day. Powers' "Fair Well" company follows Byron, and Charles Erin Verner comes on June 20.

Emma Juch and "Pinafore."

The preliminary arrangements for the production of "H. M. S. Pinafore," with a grand opera cast, are nearly complete, and the management have already had two full-dress rehearsals, with orchestra, scenery and properties, and there is no question but what the performance to-morrow night will be the most notable production of this popular opera ever given here. There has been some discussion during the past week as to whether "Pinafore" had ever been sung by grand opera artists before. The best-informed critics agree that there is no record of a production of this kind having been given either in Europe or America. Emma Juch expresses herself as highly delighted with the role of Josephine. She claims that the music is superior in every way to that of the "Bohemian Girl" and to several of the standard or so-called grand operas. She has been very busy throughout the week, superintending the manufacture of the costume she will wear as Josephine, and in perfecting herself in the stage business of the opera, which is principally between Ralph Rackstraw and Josephine. Signor Michelena is quite perfect as Ralph, while Stuart Harold has sung the Captain so many times that it is no novelty to him. Mr. Harold was a member of the original Gilbert and Sullivan production, and has, in connection with William Stevens, been directing the stage rehearsals. The orchestra, under the baton of Conductor Van Den Berg, will be an especial feature, as it will include the members of the old Juch Opera Company orchestra, with many local musicians.

THE STAGE SET

Is nearly complete and differs from the ordinary "Pinafore" set by being arranged fore and aft, instead of across the stage. The audience view the action of the opera in the waist of the ship, with a practical quarter deck and bridge behind and overhead. The masts, yards and standing rigging are all practical and will be manned by the "Pinafore" crew when the business of the opera demands it.

The treasurer reports a large advance sale and there is little reason to doubt that the capacity of the opera-house will be tested to-morrow night. On Thursday evening the performance will be given under the auspices of the San Francisco Yacht Club, when the officers of this organization will attend in uniform, the theater will be decorated with flags and flowers and it will be what the management term a nautical night. Owing to to-morrow being a holiday the box-office will be removed from Sherman, Clay & Co.'s to the Grand Opera-house, where it will be open from 10 till 5 for the convenience of patrons.

Recipe for a War Play.

"Write me a play," said the manager.
"And make it good and strong,
Full of muskets shots and red with gore
And let it deal with our Civil War,
And make it four acts long."

"Right you are," quoth the dramatist,
"A war play's just my size;
For I fought and bled with Grant, and I guess
What I don't know of the Wilderness
Ain't known, sir—dash my eyes."

So the noble dramatist went forth
To write his gory play
That should fire again the patriot heart,
And cause old soldiers' eyes to smart
At remembrance of the fray.

He was rocky in his history,
And his spelling, too, was bad;
And he wasn't sure which side had won,
And he'd hardly ever seen a gun,
But that didn't make him sad.

Oh! no, he simply went and hired
Two full-fledged regiments,
A load of the biggest kind of guns,
And of powder something like three tons,
And a regular town of tents.

And when the first night came, the stage
Was so filled with smoke and shot,
And the Northern howl and rebel yell,
That no one in the house could tell
The drift of the author's plot.

And though no one a line had heard
They thought the play intense;
And they called for the author with a shout,
And next day the papers all came out
And voted the play "immense."

E. D. PIERSON.

The Morgans' Recital.

At the Metropolitan Temple on Thursday evening, June 2, Mr. George W. Morgan, organist, and Miss Maud Morgan, harpist, will give their last grand recital in San Francisco. The programme prepared is as follows:

1. Organ, fugue, "St. Ann's".....J. S. Bach
2. Harp, "Danse des Fees".....Alvars
3. Duo, harp and organ, "Romanse"....Oberthur
4. Essay, "The Harp—Its History and Romance."
5. Harp, "Berceuse".....Hasselmans
6. Organ, (a) "Hymn of Nuns".....Wely
   (b) "Offertoire in F".....Batiste
7. Harp, (a) "Spring," from "The Seasons"..... .....Thomas
   (b) "Autumn," from "The Seasons"..... .....Thomas
8. Organ, "War March," from Wagner's "Rienzi".....Edgar S. Kelly. (Dedicated to Mr. G. W. Morgan.)

The Poet's Birthday Anniversary.

Shakespeare's birthday celebrations at Stratford-on-Avon and in London were, according to the London Telegraph, attended with great success. The Memorial Theater in the poet's native place was crowded by pilgrims from all parts of England, as were also those theaters in the metropolis where Shakespearean plays are presented. It is highly satisfactory to find that the existence of the "Dear Son of Memory, Great Heir of Fame" is beginning to permeate the rustic mind even around Stratford-on-Avon. A laborer in a rough felt hat and long smock walked the other day into the Shakespeare library, and, after looking attentively for some time at one of the custodians, went up to him and said: "I say, zur, be you Mr. Shakespeare as I've heern speak on?" The custodian explained to Hodge that he was not the gentleman referred to.

A Success.

Owing to the great success of "The Black Hussar" at the Tivoli it will be continued for the present week. On Monday, June 6, we are to have an elegant production of "Erminie"—which is the old French farce of "Robert Macaire" lyricized—with Miss Belle Thorne in the title role. The version will be the same as that produced at the New York Casino, and which ran so long that people attended the performance as a matter of duty rather than for enjoyment. Belle Thorne is a great favorite with the Tivoli patrons.

Patti Prattles.

The fortunate cantatrice has gone to Europe. She stated before she left that her tour next season will be under the direction of Marcus Mayer, beginning November 15 and closing April 15, 1893, embracing 40 concerts. She said: "I propose to sing ballads only during this tour, avoiding heavy grand opera music altogether. Then I will show people that I can sing something besides 'Home, Sweet Home.'" Speaking of the time between now and her return to America, Mme. Patti said: "I shall go from Liverpool direct to London, where I am to give my first Albert Hall concert June 11. I am to give another in July, but the exact date of that has not been fixed. Then I am to give an annual series of 15 concerts in the English provinces, beginning in October, under the direction of Percy Harrison, the nephew of the man with whom I have given them for 15 years. Think of that! Fifteen years under one manager, and he is to have me for three years more. You hear a good deal of talk about my salary in this country. Would you like to know what I receive for these concerts in England? I get £800 ($4000) for my London concerts and £500 ($2500) for those in the provinces, and at each I only sing a cavatina and two ballads. Considering the hard work I do in America and the voyage to and from, do you think there is such a discrepancy between my salary in England and my salary here? No, I don't mean to do any other professional work than that I have mentioned from now until I return for the next tour of America. I am going to travel in Italy and visit my father's old home in Catania, Sicily, which I have not seen for a long time. Of course I shall spend a good deal of time at my castle, Craig-y-Nos, and I must be there about Christmas or the children would think evil days had fallen upon them."

Hoyt's New Play.

Charles H. Hoyt's new play, "A Man Born in Missouri," which was written for Mrs. Hoyt and Tim Murphy, will be put on the road again next season. This piece is said to have been suggested by Dickens' "American Notes for General Circulation," where a Missourian and a Boston man were boasting on a canal-boat of the respective merits of the Western and New England climates. Said the former, "I'm from the brown woods of Missouri, I am; the sun shines in Missouri, the sun does; the sun don't glimmer in Missouri, the sun don't." Metaphorically driving verbal nails and clinching them till the Boston man was left without a word to say.

Where They Came from.

Annie Pixley in her girlhood days gave concerts in California. Cora Tanner was a ballet-girl. Helen Barry led a march of amazons in pink tights. Rose Coghlan was in Lydia Thompson's crowd of blonde burlesquers. Pauline Hall once drove a circus chariot. Lillian Russell won her first honors at Tony Pastor's. The veteran Mrs. Gilbert, in her prime, was a ballet-dancer; so was Agnes Booth 35 years ago. Mrs. McKee Rankin was a dancer in a Philadelphia concert hall while in her teens. Minnie Maddern's vocalism was often in early years applauded in the vaudeville theaters. Patti Rosa, Mattie Vickers and Jennie Yeamans form a trio of variety theater graduates. Francis Wilson was once a song-and-dance man. Lotta, in her music-hall days, sang, danced and picked a banjo. Nat Goodwin came from the variety theaters; so did Denman Thompson, Neil Burgess, Gus Williams, Dan Sully, Edward Harrigan, Jeff de Angelis, Richard Golden, Frank Daniels and half a hundred others.

Wilson Barrett in Ireland.

Wilson Barrett is making a tour through Ireland and seems to be having a pretty good time. He finds that he can play "Hamlet" there when he is not allowed to do it anywhere else. He says, however: "I do not think that nowadays the bulk of the people will go to hear Shakespeare for the sake of Shakespeare himself, but it will go to see his plays mounted in an attractive way, and to hear an actor or actress who has made a reputation in a particular part. The drama is in a transitory state. All classes of playgoers read more. Literature is cheap and the masses are better educated." This actor will try still another tour in America in the fall.

"Never Despair."

At the Bijou, Market street, on May 30, Jack Lane's new play with the above title will be produced. Those who have read it find merit in the text and situations. In good hands it will no doubt be a success.

Personal and Other Jottings.

William A. Brady left for New York May 23 to arrange the bookings of his various combinations.

Warwick Ganor, a Tivoli tenor, goes to New York under an engagement with Rosenfeld. He says he is to receive $125 per week.

Last Tuesday evening Mr. and Mrs. James Warde, after the performance, by invitation, were present at a banquet given by the Knights of St. Patrick of this city in honor of Editor Ennis, he being a Knight of St. Louis, Mo. During the festivities Mrs. Ward was unanimously elected an honorary member of the order. There is but one other lady of the theatrical profession so honored, and that is Miss Clara Morris.

"Salammbo" was brought out at the Grand Opera-house, Paris, May 16, and was heartily greeted. Mme. Caron achieved a great success as the heroine. It is in five acts. The music is by M. Reyer and the words adopted from a romance by the famous Flaubert.

Charles H. Hoyt is a delegate from New Hampshire to the Minneapolis convention. Hoyt is not the only theatrical man who has political aspirations. Manager Alfred Bouvier is desirous, as we are informed, to go to Congress.

The Gaiety and the Prince of Wales, London, are still crowded nightly. Lottie Collins, with her amusingly popular ditty, "Tara-ra-boom-de-ay," has proved such an attraction at the former house that her engagement at £60 weekly to sing the song has been extended throughout the season. She also continues nightly to favor the auditors at four different music halls with the same refrain, whose phenomenal popularity shows no signs of abatement.

C. W. Couldock is regarded as the dean of the dramatic profession. He is 77 years old and a good actor. Mr. Couldock will have a benefit when he reaches Chicago and is expected to leave the stage next year, but there is no knowing.

Joseph K. Emmet has bought another dog, a St. Bernard, 2½ inches taller than the one owned by his father. The price paid for him was $5000, and he will act a lending part next fall in "Fritz in Ireland."

Mrs. Romualdo Pacheco, author of "Incog," has composed another play called "Nothing but Money."

Miss Jennie Joyce by a vote of 10,107 is declared to be the favorite burlesquer on the American stage. Jennie must have a good many moneyed friends to buy votes for her in this extravagant way.

Music, says Confucius (and the old Chinese pagan said it better than many a Christian could do), is the expression of union of earth and heaven; with music and ceremonies nothing in the empire is difficult. Music acts upon the interior of man and brings it into connection with the spirit. Its principal end is to regulate the passions; it teaches fathers and children, princes and subjects, husband and wives, their reciprocal duties; the sage finds in music the rules of his conduct.

Mrs. Alice Shaw, the whistling prima donna, is off again. She gave a farewell concert in New York last week to a large attendance. Like many tuft-hunters and parasites, Mrs. Shaw is growing rich by lip service.

The operatic field furnishes some news a little out of the beaten path. A letter from London tells that Giulia Valda, the American soprano (Julia Wheelock), is passing through bankruptcy. Well, other professional people are worse off. They never "pass through." It's chronic with them.

Foreigner—Have you any American composers. American (proudly)—Lots of 'em. There's Schlossenwertz, Swelperensciek, Mieklwitz, Ouscaspiel, Sweitzerkaserandt and ever so many more.—New York Weekly.

The New York Concert Company (limited) has mortgaged the Casino to Mr. William R. Arnoux for five years. The amount is $100,000.

The death is announced in Paris at a great age of Mme. Gardoni, widow of the famous tenor. She was a daughter of the eminent barytone, Tamburini.

The son of Tamberlik, the tenor, who is station-master at Pontoise, has just received a medal for bravery from the French Government.

The understudy doesn't necessarily love the prima donna because she is always ready to take her part.—Elmira Gazette.

Some one remarks that Nat Goodwin's hair reminds him of a paper with a waning circulation. It's not red as it used to be.

Oliver Doud Byron, says an Eastern exchange, who has been seriously ill for so long, is almost restored to health. If the paragraphist could see this erstwhile invalid go through Dexter Digit at the Alcazar he would admit that he was completely recovered and that he had not only his right finger in the part, but his whole hand.

Mary Anderson is still living at Tunbridge Wells, England, but a private letter says that she no longer keeps away from the theaters. Tunbridge is celebrated for its chalybeate waters, discovered by Lord North, who is said to have recovered from a deep consumption by drinking of them. Some go to the place on account of the economical living there, to guard against a consumption of the purse, and it is hinted this is "Our Mary's" case.

James O'Neill has decided to leave the stage and permanently settle as a tiller of the soil on his pretty 70-acre farm near Bound Brook, N. J. He is one of the wealthiest actors in the profession, and made the greater part of his money during the last seven or eight years playing "Monte Cristo."

Mr. E. S. Willard will again visit this country next season. His tour will begin in Canada in October, and will take him to Chicago for a month in midwinter, while New York and Boston will be given a generous portion of his time. Several new pieces will be in his repertoire, among them a costume comedy and one or two Shakespearean productions will probably be made. Mr. A. M. Palmer will manage Mr. Willard's interests as formerly.

Editor Fox of the Indicator waxes facetious and remarks: "Mme. Marchesi of Paris will visit Chicago during the summer. It is hoped that the talented lady will place herself under the instruction of one of our excellent voice teachers."

Verdi's new opera, "Falstaff," is to be brought out at the La Scala, Milan, in January, 1893, with Maurel in the title role.

Recently a manager in an interior New York town thumped a spectator for trying to leave the hall before the performance was over. He was arrested. His defense was that the man had paid to see the whole performance, and he, as manager of the house, proposed to see that the contract was completed.

When Mr. Frank Mayo was married, 33 years ago, Mrs. Agnes Perry, now Mrs. Agnes Booth, was bridemaid. Friday, May 20, was the anniversary of the marriage, and in honorable memory of the event Mr. Mayo and his son called upon Mrs. Booth, bearing greetings from Mrs. Mayo, who is in New York.

James A. Montgomery, a well-known theatrical man and opera singer, attempted suicide May 16, at Saville's Hotel, Bowdoin Square, Boston. Drink.

The San Diego Sun locked horns with Richard Mansfield's manager, who refused the critic admission because he spoke adversely of the actor.

Miss Rachel Booth was married May 19, at Rochester, N. Y., to James T. Powers. They left for Europe on the 21st, and will spend the summer there.

And now comes a letter from Birmingham saying that the late Pat Rooney's widow and his 21-year-old son are living in that town, and that Pat was a bad, bold bigamist. Rooney's American widow, whose stage name is Josie Granger, says that if the English widow is looking after money, this is the wrong direction, as Pat didn't leave a dollar, and she had to buy a plat of ground on the installment plan to bury him.

Augustin Daly has bought from Fitzgerald Molloy the rights of a one-act play, called "Saucy Kitty Clive," in which Miss Rehan will play the part of the heroine.

Richard Davey contributes to the forthcoming National Review an article on "The Rise of the American Stage," mostly from rare notes, playbills, etc., which formerly belonged to the famous James Hackett, who made a fortune in America as Falstaff. It will be a very curious article, full of odd details and droll adventures of the pioneer troupes of English players who visited the United States in the eighteenth century.

On the New York Rialto, it is said that Amelia Glover, widely known as "The White Fawn," will become Mrs. John H. Russell. Miss Glover is a sister of Mrs. Henry E. Dixie, and the sunbeams of 21 summers only have played and been reflected in her golden tresses. Mr. and Mrs. Russell sail for Europe after the ceremony on an extended tour. This event has been looked for for a long time.

In the Actors' Fund Fair contest to decide upon the most popular actor, Charles Dickson received the most votes, with Edwin Booth as second choice. The splendid race made by Mr. Booth indicates that he will be heard from some of these days, though hitherto almost unknown, says the Dramatic News.

The Milanese journals speak in severe terms respecting the opera season at La Scala just finished, the general conclusion being that trenchant reforms are required to restore the prestige of this historic house.

Margaret Mather and Otis Skinner have agreed to separate, as everybody expected they would sooner or later. It is just possible that the fiasco of "The Egyptian," a dreadful jumble of scraps from a great novel, hastened the rupture.

They have hissed another naughty play off the stage in Paris. If this sort of thing goes on much longer the French capital will lose all of its attractiveness for English church deacons and moral M. P.'s.

Many strange parts I have played in my day,
Comic and tragic and sad,
With burly old stagers and amateurs gay,
Earnest-faring jays and damsels passe,
Maidens who wanted to be the whole play,
Experiences many I've had.

With Rankin I've howled in The Danites of old,
Screamed through The Romany Rye,
Stood in Two Orphans, the snow and the cold,
Played Monte Cristo immense, I am told,
Daniel Rochat was about my best hold;
There's where I made 'em all cry.

I've played with the strangest old freaks you could get,
Stars that were given to jaw;
But never before in my life, you can bet,
Have I had such a horrible task for me set,
For I'm cast to play Romeo, while Juliet,
Alas! is my mother-in-law.

—The Stage.

John L. Sullivan and Duncan B. Harrison are about to "break away." Sullivan will be sole proprietor as well as sole star of his dramatic company.

E. E. Rice is on his way back from Australia with money cabled from this country.

President Moore of the Forrest Home advocates the removal of Edwin Forrest's remains from St. Paul's churchyard in Philadelphia to the grounds in the home and the erection there of a suitable monument. The Forrest fund invested amounts to $250,000, which fully supports the institution.

Nat Goodwin has agreed to pay his wife a lump sum of $15,000 in lieu of the alimony awarded with the decree of limited divorce just granted her by Judge Truax of the Supreme Court.

It is said Mr. William A. Brady may take the New Park Theater, New York.

Mr. Alfred Kayne, a young Columbian College student whom Miss Attalie Claire (Lillian Russell's rival) will wed, is the son of a railroad contractor recently deceased, and is said to have a yearly income of something like $60,000.

European Musical Items.

Translated from the Gazzetta Musicale of Milan.

The inauguration of the musical exposition in Vienna took place on the 7th of this month. The Emperor and Empress of Austria were present.

Marie Joachim, the daughter of the famous virtuoso, made a decided success at her first appearance in opera in Munich, singing in "Der Walkure."

Verdi's "Requiem" was given at the Grand Hotel in Paris under the direction of Elena Sanz, one of the most famous singers during the empire.

Handel's "Messiah" was given by the Royal Choral Society at Albert Hall, London, under the direction of Barnby. Miss Nordica was much applauded in the soprano part.

"Me-na-ka," a new operetta by Gaston Serpette, was successfully given at the Nouveautes in Paris. The scene is laid in Japan, and the music is bright and sparkling.

"Lohengrin," with Vignas in the title role and Mme. Arkel as Elsa, was enthusiastically applauded in Palermo.

The "Requiem," by Berlioz, was successfully given in Dusseldorf.

Rossini's "Petite Messe" was sung at the Marcello Lyceum, in Venice, to celebrate the centenary of its composer. The Duke and Duchess of Genoa were present.

"Alaric," a cantata by Arthur Fieger and George Pierling, obtained a success in Gotha.

Basserman, one of the leading actors of Carlsruhe, possesses an excellent tenor voice, which he will cultivate and then appear in operatic roles.

Tofano, the Bolognese pianist, appeared in Genoa with brilliant success, playing from Schumann, Grieg and Liszt.

A theater will be erected in Stockholm for the special representation of Wagner's operas.

A statue will be erected in Strasburg to the memory of Victor Nessler, the composer of the "Trumpeter of Sakkingen."

"Dyamileh," an opera in one act by Bizet, will be produced in Berlin.

"Hertha," a new opera by Curti, the only Swiss composer, was given in Riga with much success.

Verdi's "Otello" was given in Verona with great success.

A tablet will be placed on the house in the Piazza of Paris where Meyerbeer lived from 1848 to 1863, by special order of the Mayor of Berlin.

Ondricek, the violinist, obtained an enthusiastic success in Rome. He is compared favorably with Joachim.

Thomas' "Hamlet" was sung at Dal Verme with Maurel in the title role.

Fabozzi, who is totally blind from birth, made a successful appearance as a pianist in Rome, playing a sonata by Brahms, capriccio by Brahms, and andante and scherzo from the symphonic concerto by Litolff.

The Orchestral Society of Milan gave its first concert at La Scala, Milan, under the direction of Martucca, playing overtures from "Medea" by Cherubini, Second Symphony by Beethoven, Scotch Symphony by Mendelssohn, Symphony by Piccinni, gavotte by Gluck and march from the "Dusk of the Gods" by Wagner.

THE RECORDER'S REPLY.

He Says There Is a Surplus in His Office. A Queer Letter.

Auditor Smiley is in receipt of a long communication from Recorder Reed, showing that the Recorder's office shows a surplus for the present fiscal year, instead of a deficit, as has been stated by a morning paper. Last year, the report says, the department showed an estimated surplus of $8750, the estimated receipts being $54,000 and expenditures $45,250. The report of actual receipts for 11 months of this year and estimated receipts for the month of June show the amount of $62,383 95, and expenditures on the same proposition $43,550 17, making a surplus of $18,833 78.

While the expenses were $1700 less than estimated, the receipts have been increased over $8000, making a total increase of about $10,000 over and above the estimate. Last year Reed asked for $30,000 for copyists' salaries, but the Board of Supervisors only allowed $20,000, "thus making," says Mr. Reed's report, which, to say the least, is not the clearest in the world, "an apparent shortage of $10,000 in this department, when there is a surplus of $18,000."

On this showing the Recorder asks for $32,000 for copyists' salaries for the ensuing fiscal year, as the business is increasing, "and the said amount will be necessary to prevent the statement that there will be a shortage, and you can expect an increased surplus."

Superintendent Fragley of the House of Correction filed his estimate of expenses for the ensuing year with Auditor Smiley yesterday. He asks for salaries $15,600, ration account $25,900, harness and leather $400, feed for stock $5500, wagon and blacksmithing $1000, lumber $1500, hardware $1000, and other items bring the amount up to $51,200.

City Physician Brown asks for the Pesthouse $5379 24.

FOREST FIRES.

The Investigation Made by the Chief Forester of the State.

Allen Kelly, Chief Forester of the State, returned yesterday from a tour of investigation into the causes of the forest fires in the vicinity of Bear Mountain, Calaveras County. In explaining what he did he said:

"My purpose in visiting Calaveras this time was to look into the causes of the big fires in the mountains last fall. The one on Bear Mountain extended over 10 miles. It destroyed the younger growth, although it did no serious damage to the heavier timber. The result of the thing is that the mountain this year is about the best feeding ground stock could desire.

"The fire was entirely the result of an accident. A Frenchman living there was out to kill a hawk that created trouble among his chickens. He nailed the hawk all right, but the wadding from his gun started the fire. It was no fault of his that it spread so rapidly, because he worked hard to prevent its extension.

"The other fire, in Tuolumne, covered an area of 25 miles by 10. It was caused by the discharged wadding of a gun and was purely accidental. These are things that you can hardly fight against."

Music in the Park To-Day.

The following is the programme of music that will be performed in Golden Gate Park by the military band this afternoon:

1. "Turner's Joy March".....J. T. Lindtner
2. Overture, "Ungarische Lustspiel"..Keler Bela
3. Gavotte, "I Can Never Forget Thee" (by request).....L. Preufer
4. Pot-pourri, "Der Music Enthusiast".. Stetefeld
5. Grand fantasia for French horn (performed by E. Schlott).....Strauss
6. "Cocoanut Dance" (descriptive, first time) .....Hermann
7. Overture, "Giovanna d'Arco"..... ...Verdi
8. Concert polonaise.....Vidal
9. Grand selection, "Tone" (by request)..Petrella
10. Waltz, "Wiener Blut".....Strauss
11. Descriptive fantasia, "A Trip to Coney Island".....Tobani
    "Rush to the Boat," "All Aboard Whistle," "Life on the Ocean Wave," imitation of an Italian band on board steamer, "Whistle, All Ashore," street band entering West Brighton Hotel, the greatest living cornetist is heard "Thunder Storm," Gilmore's band playing the "Anvil Chorus," "Signals for Payne's Fireworks," "Good-night."
12. Galop, "Rotten Row".....Keler Bela

Decoration Day to Be Observed.

To-morrow being Decoration day the Custom-house and all the other Federal departments will be closed.

Vessels on the water front will be allowed to discharge as usual and between the hours of 9 and 10 o'clock in the morning the Custom-house will be open for clearances.

The Postoffice will make one delivery only and will be open for business from 8 to 10 A. M., and from 2 to 3 P. M.

All the Federal courts adjourned yesterday until Tuesday morning.

Naval Personals.

Passed Assistant Paymaster Arthur Peterson, detached from duty at the New York Navy-yard, has been ordered to the Monocacy on the Asiatic station, and will leave by the steamer on the 14th. He will relieve Otis C. Tiffany, who has been ordered home. Captain J. C. Watson is under orders to hold himself in readiness to command the San Francisco at Honolulu, relieving Captain W. T. Sampson.

Herzog "Squared" the Case.

Otto H. Herzog has sued Mrs. Tannian to recover $76 15, which he says he expended for medical services and medicine in curing himself of the wound inflicted on the 29th ult. by her son, J. Tannian. Mrs. Herzog declares that she agreed on the 2d inst. to pay this sum in consideration of his allowing her son to plead guilty in the Police Court to a charge of battery.

Lezinsky Vindicated.

With the verdict in his behalf George Lezinsky, the attorney, considers himself vindicated of the charges made against him in his suit against D. M. Delmas, to recover $5000 for services rendered in various cases while a clerk in the defendant's office. The verdict was for $750 and was returned in Judge Slack's department.

CASTORIA

for Infants and Children.

"Castoria is so well adapted to children that I recommend it as superior to any prescription known to me." H. A. ARCHER, M. D., 111 So. Oxford St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

"The use of 'Castoria' is so universal and its merits so well known that it seems a work of supererogation to endorse it. Few are the intelligent families who do not keep Castoria within easy reach." CARLOS MARTYN, D. D., New York City. Late Pastor Bloomingdale Reformed Church.

Castoria cures Colic, Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhœa, Eructation, Kills Worms, gives sleep, and promotes digestion, Without injurious medication.

"For several years I have recommended your 'Castoria,' and shall always continue to do so as it has invariably produced beneficial results." EDWIN F. PARDEE, M. D., "The Winthrop," 125th Street and 7th Ave., New York City.

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, 77 MURRAY STREET, NEW YORK.

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DRY GOODS.

HALE BROTHERS

Monday--Decoration Day--Our Stores Will Be Closed the Entire Day.

SOME FACTS WHICH YOU MAY AS WELL KNOW.

Almost a month in business in this community.

Trade in full swing and increasing day by day. Merit alone is making our success. The right goods at the right prices and uniform treatment without misrepresentation or deception to all who come to us!

Competitors know the power of our prices. Moreover, they feel them!

It can't be otherwise. The dry-goods merchant of this city does business at high pressure. The credit system and dressmakers' discount handicap him, but he has only himself to blame. The latter custom has almost become a law. The merchant calmly regards it as a necessary evil and coolly chalks up the prices to cover the difference.

It—the concession—seems to be all right, but at bottom it is all wrong.

You—the buyer—engage the dressmaker to do your work and pay the full price. If she advises you in the selection of the materials or directs you where to buy them, she has a pecuniary interest in doing so. It is only natural that she should. The 10 per cent discount she receives is the merchant's big for her favor. The more you buy the better are both of them pleased.

Nor does the evil end there. She turns over the discount to a host of relatives and particular friends, but the rank and file of the public are the people who do the paying.

We are opposed to the system, always have been. It is unjust and unfair to the consumer and not founded in the spirit of equity. Moreover our low prices wont allow it. We are building our business on firmer principles:

1st—Cash—Both Ways.

2d—One Price—The Lowest.

3d—No Dressmaker's Discounts.

4th—Handling Large Quantities.

5th—Telling the Truth.

Not by favor do we ask your trade, but by merit. You favor yourself by trading at a house that has no favorites. That's as true as gospel.

BIG ATTRACTIONS IN DRESS GOODS AND SILKS.

Touch our prices anywhere if you can! Money-saving opportunities jostle each other all over the store! Fail not to see the following:

At 12½c.
DOUBLE-FOLD SEASIDE SUITINGS, in Stripes and Plaids, usual price 25c, and worth it.

At 25c.
ALL-WOOL PLAIDS AND CHECKS, of extra strength and very neat, just the thing for mountain or seashore. Worth double.
36-INCH TWO-TONED CHEVRONS, in stylish shades of nile, tan, steel, browns, etc. Would be cheap at 50c.

At 29c.
A pretty novelty in a MOTTLED CHEVIOT, striped with fluffy bands of Angora, in contrasting shades, 38 inches wide, eight styles, extra value for 50c.

At 30c.
A charming CHEVRON with disappearing stripes of lumpy effects, all wool, 40 inches wide, and 10 new shades. A bargain worth seeing and worth getting.

At 50c.
ALL-WOOL CREPONS in exquisite shades of cream, canary, nile, pearl, medium gray, blues and browns, never sold for less than 75c, width 38 inches.
42-INCH ALL-WOOL WAVY CHEVRONS, and extremely stylish, in dainty tans, grays, blues and browns, worth 75c.
44-INCH BLACK ALPACA, the iron-frame weave, and commonly sold for 75c.
31-INCH INDIA SILKS, in black and colors, and of superior quality, regular value 75c.

At 63c.
A striking bargain in 44-INCH FRENCH SERGE, all wool, in navy, cardinal, tan, mode, pearl, marine, admiral blue and slate. Compare it with any that's cost you $1.

At 70c.
A 48-INCH SCOTCH CHEVIOT in those fantastic lumpy effects now so popular, 10 patterns, worth $1.

At 75c.
19-INCH FAILLE SILK, all silk and heavy quality, the kind that don't slip, the