MELPOMENE --- TERPSICHORE --- MOMUS.

## LA COTERIE CARNIVAL.

THE GRAND BAL MASQUE

AT THE

## ACADEMY OF MUSIC LAST NIGHT

The Dequise Distingue—Some of the Most Magnificent Toilettee Described—The Beauty, Merriment, and Incidents—The Internal Adornments of the Academy—The Music— The Supper—The Dancing.

Rte., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc.

The Carnival, or Fastnacht, as it is termed, eriginated during the sixth century, and was continued under Pope Gregory, who originated the season of Lent. By degrees the Carnival was introduced into Southern Germany, while by the season generally it was denounced as an entrageous custom, because the first Christians during those days conducted themselves in a violent and turbulent manner. They would put masks on their faces, and dress as demons and ghosts. They wor-hipped Bacchus and Venus, and indulged in every kind of excess. The Carnival season lasted from Epiphany to the close of Lent; but the principal festivities were only held during cleft days, and in some places only during three days. At the present day the Carnival is still celebrated with a great deal of prominence at Rome and Venice.

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At the latter place the Carnival begins shortly after Christmas, and consists of a series of burlesque performances, bals masques, processions on the plaza, and, when princes are in attendance, by regattas and races. Formerly a second Carnival was celebrated at Venice in connection with the ceremony of uniting the Doge of Venice with the Adriatic. The Carnival at Rome lasts eight days, and consists principally of a series of masquerades and races. In Germany the Carnival is still prominently in vogue among people inhabiting the lands on the Rhine, especially at Cologne. The term carnival is derived from the Latin words carne vate,

nival is derived from the Latin words carne vale, because it prohibits the consumption of meats.

The Carnival resulted from the saturnalias of the Romans, who commenced their feasts in December, and were introduced by them among the Christians. From Italy these Christian saturnalias were introduced in all European countries, and especially in Germany. From the mummeries of the Germans during the Carnival season originated the drams. At Nurrburg the first Fastancht plays were presented by the "Master Singers" (Meister Saenger). The Fastancht plays resembled the original farces among the French and the masks of the English.

Bals Masques—Their Origin.

Bals Masques are of ancient origin, dating jurther back than the Carnival. The court and society balls for centuries past have been arranged en masque in Europe. The combination of the Carnival and Bal Masque occurred at the Paris balls tirst about fifteen years ago, and since that time the Carnival Bal Masque has grown into such favor that it will probably never be discarded again.

The Carnival Bals Masques in Paris This Season.

The first of the masquerades at Paris this winter was given on Christmas eve. Notwith-standing that the worst things in the world are said of this pandemonium, almost everybody makes a point of attending it, either openly or clandestinely. It is in the interior of the boxes where the greatest interest is centred in an unknown visitor; and it is there where mystery reigns. If it were permitted to remove the masks, certain personages would be met there whose presence would cause no small amount of astonishment to individuals of both sexes. The assembly at these gatherings is this year as motley as usual. Simpletons and grown-up babes, in what the French call "summary magle with Persians and Chinese. Bythe-way, the latter are especially sought after. the opinion being that persons who have made long voyages for the purpose of gaining instruc-tion must be the most agreeable talkers. Toe Montezumas were dull and heavy—Guatimosia was not to be seen. Veritable Turks in black dress coats crowded to see the fictitious Turks in the turban. The Egyptian walked with a solemn step amidst the crowd, through which he with difficulty made his way. There was a time when the most elite of Parisian society were more extensive patrons of this 'masking and mumming;" but then there were fewer of those magnificent masked gatherings which are now given every year at the Tuileries at some of the Ministries, and at private hotels. The polite world who have access to these balls may be pardoned for neglecting the peculiar may be pardoned for neglecting the peculiar male and female society which go to the grand opera on Saturday nights. The shop boys and travelling strangers, and young ladies who are not accompanied by their mammas, can only deck themselves out with the dingy, faded finery which they hire at the costame shop of one of the children of the tribes. This costumed mob, who hire their gay attire at a comparatively small cost, cannot, of course, be compared with the wealthy polite world, who sport historically correct dresses, at the cost of many hundreds of francs. Nevertheless, the public masked balls im Paris, owing to the immense number of strangers, especially Americans, are this year very numerously attended, and the restaurants in the neighborhood of the Grand Opera and other places of masked festivity are crowded with people who do not hesitate to expend large sums of money on luxurious suppers, The Grand Carnival Bal Masque Last

This was decidedly the best ball of the kind we have ever witnessed, and was far superior to any entertainment that has ever been given by those noted caterers, Mesars, Abel & Risley, who have regularly furnished the Terpsichorean amusement each year with a success that has been really remarkable.

The Directory.

Managers—John C. Risley, Peter E. Abel, and

Managers—John C. Riviey, Peter E. Abel, and Harry C. Risley, Figor Director—Mr. Charles W. Smith. Directeur Dansante—Professor L. G. Marini, Musical Director—Professor Adolph Birgfeld.

As usual, the parquette of the Academy was floored over, so that, with the stage, an extensive dancing floor is formed. This floor was covered with an imitation of tessellated tiling, diamond-shaped, of white and blue parchment—the whole pasted to the flooring. In the centre was a vast red ball, surrounded by borders of white and blue. In the centre of this ball the figures

appeared as the only device of this beautiful arrangement. This was much admired by all, and was executed in the highest style of modern Parisian art. Mr. W. H. Matlack was the artist who designed and laid the tessellated tile. He was employed during the whole of yesterday in completing his portionof the work, assisted by twelve auxiliary artists.

The stage setting and scenery were under the

The stage setting and scenery were under the care of Mr. Charles Higbee, the scene-wright of the Academy. In the rear of the stage was placed the "Canal of Venice" scene, from Lucretia Borgia, representing the palace of the Doge—the canal in front with a magnificent gomdola, lit up, floating in the canal. The side sets were the ball-room arras from Les Vepres Richtenws, very neatly arranged.

Sicilien:ws, very neatly arranged.

The stage was well lighted by eight additional chandeliers, which produced upon the whole

come a novel, brilliant, and very pleasing effect.

The immense auditorium chandeller was elevated above the family circle, so that all in that part of the house could have a full view of the

Carnival beneath them.

Around the balcony were hung one hundred beautifu cages, in each of which was imprisoned a canary bird, and from the hundred throats of these the most delightful music floated for hours, which was only drowned by the louder notes of the two grand bands.

was under the direction of the well-known chef d'orchestre, Adolph Birgfeld, and consisted of two bands—one on the right of the stare for marching and concert muse, and one on the left for quadrille and dancing music. These bands comprised one hundred accomplished nusicians, and, as usual, rendered the most perfect satisfaction. The programme selected

The Music

perfect satisfaction. The programme selected was full and varied, embracing att of the dances—in all thirty-two selections. The music care was as follows:—

Programme of Dances.

A. Birgfeld, thet d'Orchestre. Promenade music by the Satter.ee Military Band, Professor Higman Leader.

I. Carnival March. 2. Valse, plain—"Mabel." 3. Promenade. 4. Quadrille. p ain—"A exandra" 5. Promenade. 6. Galop—"Coterie Carnival" 7. Valse Schottsche—"Biow and Easy." 8. Promenade. 6. Lancers—"Parepa" 19. Promenade. 11. Valse polka—"d'or." 12. Valse, Deux Temps—"Provincials." 13. Fromenade. 14. Quadrille. p ain—"L'Aricaine." 15. Promenade. 16. Ga.cp—"Needle-gun"—(Descriptive). 17. Redown—"Dornenroeschen" 18. Fromenade. 18. Lancers—"18.h New York." 20. Fromenade. 21. Valse polain—"Nur Leben." 22. Valse polka—"Qui pre quo." 23. Promenade. 24. Quadrille, p ain— Huntsman's, "25. Promenade. 24. Quadrille, p ain— Huntsman's, "25. Promenade. 25. Galop—"Cavality Sheildan." 27. Valse, chottische—"Warren." 28. From made. 29. Lancers—"Eug-nic" 30. Promenade. 31. Valse, plain—Entertalment." 32. Galop—"Foujours mobile."

The Supper.

The Supper.

The supper was the best arranged of any we have ever partaken of during a ball. It was prepared and served under the advice of Professor Blot, by Messis. Conley, Hunter, & Houck, caterers for balls and parties. The waiters were polite, the viands excellent, and the price reasonable—single tickets \$2; tickets admitting three to the tabe draote, \$5. Supper was served in the Foyer, with accommodations for four hundred persons, at from half and the price reasonable with a clock with a commodations for four hundred persons, at from half and the price reasonable with a clock with a commodation of the supper was served in the foyer, with accommodations for four hundred persons, at from half and the supper was served.

half-past 10 o'clock until 3 o'clock this morning.
The bill of fare was as follows:

OYSTERS.
Stewed. Fried. Escaloped. Haw.

BALADS.
Lebster. Plain Usiery. Chicken.
COLD DISHES.

Roast Turkey. Boast Chicken. Roast Duck. Ham.
Roast Beef. Corned Beef. Boiled Tongue.

Retistus.

Worcestershire Sauce. Pickies. French Mustard.
Cold blaw. Cranberry Sauce.

Charlotte Russe. Je'lv Italian Cream. Fruit Cake.
Found Cake Fancy Cake.

Vanilla Ice Cream. Unocolate Ice Cream Lemon
Ice Cream Strawberry Ice Cream. Oranges. Apples.
Coffee. Tea.

Cones. 1ea.

WINES.

Champagne Veuve Cliquot Heidsleck, and Benjamin Boucher & to's California Champagne were served to order, together with Charet, Hock Sherr, Port Madeira, Scotch Ale and London Porter and Brown stout.

The Dressing Rooms,

cloak, cost, and retiring-rooms, were all placed in charge of competent, houest, and urbane persons, and the management was quite satistory to all persons who had business in them.

At the Doors,
the scenes and incidents were at all times lively and absorbing. About twenty-live hundred tickets were taken in all, representing over five thousand dollars, which, with the receipts from the supper and bars, must have been increased to nearly ten thousand dollars. The number of persons present was estimated at about four thousand.

Each lady was presented with a beautiful and fragrant bouquet as she passed in upon the dancing floor. The programme was tendered at the same time. It was gotten up in unique style. Two circular red and blue leaves, bearing the names of the Managers and billet of the thirty-two dances, were bound together by red, white, and blue ribbon.

took place shortly after 9 o'clock, and elicited bursts of applause from the crowded balcony, family circle, and amphitheatre. The Directors of "La Coterie Carnival," in magnificent court dresses, led the van as usual, followed by hundreds of persons in every conceivable costume.

There were two "Waddiloves." one "Paul Pre."

there were two "Waddiloves," one "Paut Pry,"
two Queen's Own Cavalrymen, two "Marie
Stuarts," one "Queen Elizabeth," six gipsies,
eight clowns, one Satan, one Mephistopheles,
one would-be Hon. Mrs. Cady Stanton, sixteen
grotesque figures, walking two and two, caled
"Uncle Sam's Happy Family," labelled Ben
Wood and Ben Butler, William B. Heed and
Schuyler Coltax, Andrew Johnson and Wendell
Phillips, John W. Forney and S. S. Cox, etc.
A well-know "jester of the ring" danced with

A well-know "jester of the ring" danced with a petite iemale manege rider, dressed as a page in blue and silver. A most brilliant dress, worn was composed of gold cloth, fitting tight to the body, and falling into a rich trail. Another was a light pink silk, the front skirt cut curtain-shaped, gold fringe trimming, exposing the feet and ankles.

There were alless then twenty Indians, one

There were no less than twenty Indians—one young lady as the "Wept-of-Wish-Ton-Wish" was exceedingly stately and elegan: in appearance. Two Doges and seven Dukes graced the floor, while "Mrs. Haller" appeared but once. One "Duke of Richmond" was present, but we did not see him meet "Gloster." "Lord Dundreary" was present, without "Sam" or "Binney" to kick. There were six jockeys, two flower girls, and one "Fanchon," with her little hen. There were two "Hamlets," one "Queen Bess," two "Romeos" to five "Juliets," one "Friar" to four nuns. One young lady, attired as the "Goddess of Liberty," in a dress of red, white, and blue-

striped silk, attracted much attention.

There was the Brobdignsgian tribe of men, followed by hosts of fox hunters, peddlers, and the inevitable George Washington No. 2, the great matrimonial promoter and friend of the widows, selling his photographs.

There was a whole regiment of harlequine,

gnomes, and general masqueraders on the floor.

Entree of the Dramatic Folks.

About midnight the masques were removed,

and the members of the stock companies of our various theatres appeared upon the floor.

Mr. Howard Paul appeared as "Napoleon the Third." Mr. John Brougham was present in a domino. Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams were quiet spectators from a proscentium box. Mass Corney Jefferson and Miss Price were dancing during the latter part of the evening. Mr. and Mrs. Mordaunt were also present.

About 2 o'clock this morning the masque-

Mrs. Mordaunt were also present.

About 2 o'clock this morning the masqueraders began to leave, but the musical programme was not played out until 3, when the canary birds sank to sleep, some never to wake, and soon after nothing was heard but the occasional slam of the door, as the weary dancers sought the cabs at the doors of the Academy.

Altogether, the Bal Masque of La Coterie last

night may be set down as the most successful and pleasant ever yet given by that Association.

The Press Supper.

The journalists present last night were shown by Mr. Conley to a private room, where a table was set, and each "Knight of the Quill" was served with a supper that the "Slosher" of Antemas Ward would call "fit for the gods." Everything was nice, and the editors and reporters did full justice to the viands. The table was ornamented with a beautiful pendant picture of a Hoe "Lightning Press" on one side, and an "Old Ramage" on the other. Fragrant bouquets in pyramids graced the cloth at different points, and all who pariook of the col'ation were grateful to Messrs. Coniey. Hunter & Houck for their display of the necessary nutriment at the hour of midnight.

The Mecca Pilgrims.—Advices from Morocco state that the pilgrims have not yet returned from Mecca. The losses, sufferings, difficulties of the voyage, and the apprehension of the cholera, which was raging in Arabia at the period of departure for the celebration of their religious fetes, have so diminished their numbers, that only seventy-three embarked at Mogador, where they ordinarily collect by hundreds, and sometimes by thousands.

RELIEF FOR WIDOWS OF REBELS.

Generals Wise and Rosser on the Rampage-They Declare the Cause of the Rebellion Not Lost-Wise Anxious to be Buried in a Grey Overcoat-The South "Sublimely Unconquered."

RICHMONS, Va., January 14.—A large assemblage of citizens at one of the leading churches here was addressed this evening by Generals Bosser and Heary A. Wise on the subject of relief of the widows of Confederate soldiers. The addresses of both were warmly received and frequently applauded.

frequently applauded.

General Rosser said be was here as the champion of the cause of liberty and freedom, to awake the echoes of the country from North to South in behalf of the honored dead; to lay you the claims of the widows and or phans of the numberless dead. Our duties to them are to do something for these belpless sufferers. He would decorate and erect monu-ments to our glorious dead; but we must not forget the living. We are entirely at the mercy of the conquerers, in whose hands is our fate, and who, instead of being meaning and who, instead of being meaning and and who, instead of being magnanimous, are bitterly oppressive. I would have preferred to have died on the battle-field, at the post of duty, as my worthy comrade and statesman, General Wise, has said; but if we could ask the brave men who died for us what they would require, they would say, "Give our wives and our children bread." We must buy the charity of the world; we must buy the charity of the world; we must go into the lottery business and oiler a certain number of prizes, the ness and offer a certain number of prizes, the first being the mansion once occupied by our honored President, Davis; the second the birthplace of our chieftain, R. E. Lee. Virginia's great son. Virginians, look at your own State, destroyed and made a slaughter-pen by the very Government whose institutions you once admired. She is now dishonored, made desolate and left helpless. Your soldiers have fought for glory and renown. They left home, wives, and children. They had seen the black horrers of war: but they went, inspired by Gol. horrers of war; but they went, inspired by God, truth, and liberty, to fight for their country. What are our duties to them? Have they not a what are our dulies to them? Have they not a right to expect that we would cherish their memories? We should die as they have died before us, unblemished. The death-knell of liberty was sounded at Appomattox. I have not been pardoned; have not asked for it; would not get it if I did. The cause lives, it not in the men in the women. The women carried on the war. The noble women and children who have lost husbands and fathers are entitled to our tespect. We have no courter but we have our respect. We have no country, but we have some means to divide with them. There must some means to divide with them. There must be a comfortable and honorable provision made for the wife and child of every Confederate solder. Virginia is my native State, thank God! I am proud of it. I have never seen the man that was ashamed of it. Maryland was trammelled, and could not assist us during the war; but now she is ready to pour out her treasure to help the suffering widows and orphans of Virginia. There are only six thousand widows in the South, and our eight millions of people must at once provide eight millions of people must at once provide for them. The children must be educated. We know your influence and your power, and we expect you to do it. I have stopped the men bearing the wounded so dier off the battle-weld. and made, them lay him down todie, and go back to the fight. I have realized the bitter anguish of the wives and children for this duty. They call upon you now to-night to give food and raiment to their wives and children. The day of retribution is coming, and every man will receive his reward. General Wise was then introduced. He said

this was a touching appeal made by General Rosser, whom he seconded, who was only yes-terday the champion of the cause that fell. No arm now can strike for it. We can only now repair our loss, The appeal for and for our widows and orphans comes from one of Virginia's sons. Have I been spared to see the cause die out before we die? What evidence have we that that cause has died out? But when we see widows wall or hear an orphan cry, I feel then the cause has indeed died out. It you let one of them wall, you may well say the cause is dead. It shall be to your cost. Should every man and woman in the South give it up, I never will-never, never. I care not how much more of misery may be piled upon me, it will only be a monument reaching to heaven to reach heaven's ear. You never were worthy the cause if you let it die out. We are wailing and in want. My God! what a widow Virginia herself is! That is an aching agony. The men whom I commanded were endured it. all my children. I looked at them not as a martinet would, but as citizens who were detending a noble commonwealth, and we cared not so the victory was won. Never has there been such unexampled heroism. When they followed me through disaster and defeat, the glory that was in my heart was that they knew I. loved them. I would have loved them for that devotion and self-sacrifice in any cause half as good. I have wept over many of them whom I saw fall by the enemy's bullet as I would over my own son. When I die let me lie where I fall, wrapped in my grey overcoat. Leave the noble memorials you have begun, which are only vanity. The Confederate dead all, all, sleep well, thank God! But the women—the wife that never knew want -who could not work-who, above all that suffer now, are the ones who need your charity. This is what the children and widow of the Confederate soldier now need. The mother will feel proud if you educate her noble child to emulate the heroism of his father, to strike for the same cause. That enemy who undertook to conquer the Southern people, three millions would not cover the number who were laid hors de combat. Eight hundred thousand will cover the Confederate loss. We must provide an asylum for both widows and orphans. We can raise the means by the plan proposed, and let the proceeds be invested in profitable account. Let no widow wall, no orphan want. I have never had the heart to see a man want when I have had a crumb for myself. Don't wait; look out for those that want, and you shall be blessed by Heaven. If you do not you are an infidel people, and your substance will be eaten up. Find out, give, and relieve. Virginia shall revive and be stronger than ever. Only prove if you are not tighting yet you are still sublimely unconquered .- N. Y.

Anticipated Union of Spain and Portugal—On the 8th of December the Queen of Spain, accompanied by the King consort and her son and daughter, set out from Madrid on a visit to the King and Queen of Portugal. The visit of the royal family of Spain to their royal neighbors at Lisbon (says a foreign journal) is an unprecedented event, and one which, in the present state of affairs in the Peninsula, is calculated to arrest attention. The Spanish court is awaic that the revolution which appears to be impending in Soain will probably, if successful, assume a dynastic form, a desire being widely spread among the Spanish liberals for a "unification" of the Peninsula under the tiouse of Biraganza. The House of Bourbon is to be deposed from the throne of Spain, and the King of Portugal is to become King of the Peninsula. Such views unquestionably find favor among an influential portion of the Spanish people, and it is doubtless in connection with this circumstance that the King and Queen of Portugal are honored with a visit from their royal neighbors. There is also a rumor that the royal visit is meant to pave the way for a matrimonal alliance, as a good means of obviating any violent or immediate change in the royal politics of the Peninsula.

tics of the Penissula.

Bagdad — Magnificent blocks of crystallized sulphur, dug at Hidvena, have arrived at Paris from Bagdad for the exhibition, with specimens of essence of petroleum, of pearls, of pit coal, and of broidered stuffs. From Monsul five species of marble, twelve specimens of minerals, several antiquities from Nineveh, marbles from the spot called "Yournong the Prophet," with inscriptions in undeciphered hieroglyphics, have arrived. On one of these marbles there is an eagle's head, with a wing on its back. Wines, gold and silver, stuffs, and carpets, are expected from Diarbekir.

Horse Meat —In Berlin, horse meat has found so much favor that the number of horses slaughtered in a year has already reached two thousand six hundred, and is constantly increasing. DRY GOODS.

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Four other Companies were organized about the same time with the EQUITABLE, and their combined business for the year is \$25,950,706, or \$396,294 less than that of this Society, while their total disbursements, including losses by death and expenses, are about thirty-five per cent. of their total income, whilst the EQUITABLE was less than twenty-six per

At the date of the organization of this Company in 1859, there were eighteen American Life Insurance Companies in the field, some of them having commenced business nearly twenty years earlier, and none of them having been organized later than 1853; and although this is but the seventh year of the Society, it is already doing a larger business than fourteen of the eighteen Companies above alluded to, while its percentage of disbursements to cash income is less than that of any of the other four.

Our next dividend will be declared February 1, 1867, and annually thereafter, and may be used in any of the following ways:—As each in payment of premium—for the permanent increase of the sum assured—for the increase of the sum assured for one year or a term of years—for the permanent reduction of the premium—for the reduction of the number of years in which premiums are to be paid.

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