A Dist for Mental Dyspeptics-A Salad for Small Salaries,

AND A SALVE FOR BAD CUTS. The whole carefully compounded and put up expressly for Family Use. BY OUR SERIES EDITOR.

NUMBER CCVIII.

# THE MODERN PLAYGOER,

And All that is Expected of Him.

As a rule, an ordinary playgoer, who pays for admittance, goes to his seat with a good-natured intention to make the best of everthing that the management in its bounty provides for his accommodation and entertainment. When the eprtain rises he takes everything that is set before him with a gentle, touching faith in its possibility, and unhesitatingly honors all cails that are made upon his credulity by authors, managers, and actors. He indo:es the following:-That an impenetrable forest shall always take the form of eight symmetrical trees, planted with mathematical accuracy in two parallel rows, and backed by a mass of tanglod brushwood; that guests at a supper shall only sit round three sides of the table; that four or five persons conversing in a room shall do so standing in a row; that the windows of a nobleman's drawing-room shall only reach half-way to the ceiling; that the inside of a house is much bigger than the outside; that gentlemen of undoubted breeding shall wear their hats indoors in the presence of ladies of exceptional refinement; that the drawing-rooms of people of taste fortune are always decorated



An Ordinary Drawing-room Scene. with pink panels, trimmed with gold mouldings, and never papered on any account; that the introduction of gas into private houses dates from the days of (say) Julius Casar; that a transparent moon is a triumph of scenic ability: that waterfails always creak; that champagne is the common beverage of the poblity at all hours of the day and night; that a mortgage can at any moment foreclose; that for an old or



Wicked Guardsmen Plotting to Entrap promised bride to any gentleman whom dramatic justice may point out as the proper person for her to marry, and for the situation to be secepted cheerfully, on the spot, by all parties concerned, is an every-day bit of magpanimity and resignation; that the upsetting of a table may readily be mistaken for the howling of a storm; that a noise like the springbe of an exaggerated rattle conveys a faithful idea of the falling of a house, the noise of carriage wheels, or the smashing of glass; that

pieces of broken crockery shaken up in

a basket represent the kind of noise



The Same as Seen on Chesunt Street. in falling through a skylight; that it is usual for guests at a party to express open and unnisgnised admiration of the magnificence of the rooms in which they are entertained; that valets wear powder; that a groom of the chambers wears a canary coat; and that in the bestregulated establishment there is always one comic footman in an exaggerated livery and impossible whiskers, whose only duty it is to announce names wrougly, and to fall down with a tray of ices and apples-these are concessious which the Modern Playgoer is called upon to make so frequently, and which he does make so unhesitatingly, that it can only be supposed that he is under the impression that he is assisting at a state of existence wholly abnormal in itself, and having no reference whatever to the complex but familiar social organization which flourishes all round the dramatic temple

m which he is sitting. It is required of him that he shall believe that. when a gentleman who is giving a party wishes to speak confidentially with any of his guests, it | he engages the enemy, and indeed it is generally

is usual for him to interrupt a polks (the only drawing room dance recognized upon the stage), by requesting his guests to retire to someother apartment, which they do with the best possible grace, bowing ceremonlously as they leave the room. It not unfrequently happens that he is called upon to allow that crimson neckties and pumps form portions of the dinner dress of an English gentleman of the present day. He must always be prepared to admit that when an Eastern monarch commands his Bayaderes or Odalisques to dance before him, he is not at all offended if they dance with their backs towards him; and, indeed, he must not be surprised to find that a troupe of fifty or sixty ballet girls forms part of the corps d'armee of every general officer. He must



believe that "lights down" means pitchy nightand that the people who occupy the stage under uch circumstances are wholly invisible to each other, though they are perfectly visible to him. He must accept as hardy rustics young ladles



Daneing Ploughboy. who stand in the third position, with hand on hip, and having figures and chignons. He must believe that the addition of a cloak or a strange hat to a gentleman's ordinary attire is sufficient to disguise him from his own mother. He must accept the theory that gentlemen who rescue young ladies from the clutches of melo-dramatic ravishers, and whose names are printed in large type in the bills, are accompanied by music, now soft, now stirring, wherever they go. He must be prepared to admit that great moral strength is aways accompanied by great physical strength, and that one good man is at any time equal to tweive bad ones. He must allow that young ladies of high distinction are in the habit of rambling alone in dismal forests, long after the rest of the family bad gone to bed, and that, rambling under such circumstances, they always meet with a villain and a thunder-storm. He must accept the proposition that bad men are in the habit of revealing in solituie their most audacious projects, and that whenever they do so, a good man is crouching behind a bush listening to them. He must not be surprised to find that a pistol discharged into the air kills any one whose death the structure of otherwise undesirable lover to hand over his the piece demands. He must also learn to look upon moustaches as ephemeral things that may drop off at any moment, and that nobody ever leaves a room without stopping to make a speech at the door.

His good nature is severely taxed whenever he is called upon to witness the representation of a dumb or blind character, or an idiot, but it never fails to honor the drafts made upon it, He must not be surprised to learn that dumb people whose education has not included a knowledge of the finger-alphabet possess powers of pantomimic parration (if you only give them room enough) which throw mere vocal eloquence altogether into the shade. He must always be prepared to find that there is always somebody at hand who can readily interpret a dumb person's gestures into a long and highly complex parration, requiring the nicest discrimination in the selection of high-flown metaphoric phrases on the part of the interpreter. He must not allow any preconceived ideas of the drawbacks which attend a a state of blindness to militate against the theory that people so afflicted are, of all people in the world, the best qualified to unravel the mysteries with which a murder case is surrounded; and he must allow, in a general way, that blind people, as a body, see with much greater distinetness than people who only have the use of mere eyes. He will find that idiots have a special faculty of expressing themselves in blank verse, and that in the matter of poetic apostrophe nobody can approach them; and he will learn that they, in common with all dumb and blind people, are admirable a nateur detectives. He will also learn that dumb people can always hear, and that these three classes of unfortunates share with the Old Lady of Banbury Cross the questionable privilege of having music wherever they go.

If the Modern Playgoer is taken on board a man of-war, he will find that its officers are



Naval Captain in Action and that a naval captain wears a moustache and long hair, and carries a telescope. He will find that in action the captain is alraid of nothing in the world except the discharge of his own pistol, and that there is always a marine on board who is a prominent coward. Although a dreadful coward in times of peace, he performs prodigles of valor when

owing to his intreped but, at the same time, judicious course of action that the United States is not-eventually swept from the map of the world. The Modern Playgoer will also learn that the crew of a man-of-war is composed of bardy tars in blue satin trousers, small walsts, and diamond earrings, who dance hornpipes with two flags apiece; also that an action at sea is often conducted from one of the lower decks.

But it is when the Modern Playgoer is called

upon to assist at the proceedings of a criminal court that the most unreasonable demands are made upon his simple faith in managers and their subordinates. It is then that he is required to believe that the assertions of the counsel for the Commonwealth, in a murder case, not unfrequently form the principal evidence agains, the prisoner: that the evidence for the prosecution is invariably overthrown by the suggestions made by the counsel for the defense; that the evidence of the accused one's busband (or wife, as the case may be) is conclusive evidence of the prisoner's innocence; that all comic witnesses begin by getting into the jury-box by mistake, and that all deaf-and-dumb witnesses are allowed to give their evidence from the floor of the court, which is cleared of obstructions that they may have plenty of sea room. He is required to believe that all leading counsel are about eighteen or twenty years of age, and that they all wear what the late Mr. Albert Smith happily described as "an eyebrow on the upper lip;" that a judge is to allow himself to disbelieve evidence of the most conclusive description on the ground that no prisoner with such an eye as that possessed by the particular prisoner whose case is under consideration could possibly be guilty of the charges brought against him. Me must not be surprised to discover that the prisoner turns out to be the Judge's long lost son, a connection by marriage of the foreman of the jury, and an early friend of the counsel for the defense. He will learn that the cheers which sometimes herald the acquittal of a popular malefactor are generally led by the learned judge upon the bench, and that the whole thing winds up with a chorus in which every member of the court has a voice. He will also learn that civil actions of all descriptions, particularly actions of ejectment and probate causes, are tried at sessions of Oyer and Terminer, and that the defendant in such actions is always placed in the dock handcuffed and guarded by two soldiers with fixed bayonets. He will further be required to believe that the title-deeds to estates of incalculable value and long inheritance are comprised in a sheet of letter paper, and that the owner (rightful or otherwise) for the time being always carries them in his pocket-book; also that the omission of a stamp from a deed of settlement effectually bars any action that may be brought upon it. Arrest for debt before judgment is still in vogue, and the last utterances of a dying criminal are quite sufficient to vest an estate in any sody whom it may occur

to him to mention. If the unfortunate spectator is called upon to assist at a wedding in high life, he must be prepared to find that the bride and bridegroom, with their respective contingents, go to the church on foot; that all the gentlemen and ladies invited wear evening dress, and that if any family difficulty occurs to interrupt the proceedings, there is no fitter arena for its adjustment than the church steps. They will also find that the sexton attached to the sacred edifice is a grotesque personage in a comic livery, selected, no doubt, by irreverent church-wardens as a pleasant satire on ritualistic extrava-

A piece that involves a war or an Indian outbreak is a terrible tax on the Modern Playgoer's complaisance. He will find that the most fearful ruptures owe their origin to utterly insignificant causes; such as the determination of a lientenant to marry the daughter of an Indian chief at any sacrifice, or the determination of the chaplain to convert (broadly to Christianity as a first step, and then to Protestanism as a matter of detail) the lovely daughter of an excitable savage.

These are a few of the demands which managers and authors are encouraged to make upon the good nature of this smiling martyr-The Modern Playgoer,

# Cabalistic Telegrams from Europe.

SENT OVER OUR PRIVATE GULF-CURRENT LINE,

London, January 30, 1869.—Reverdy Johnson has resolved to revenge himself upon the workmen who withdrew their invitation to a public dinner, by consuming double rations of roast beef and plum pudding during the remainder of the season. He hopes that his example will be generally followed by the English aristocracy, on account of the favor with which they regard his diplomatic labors, and that the consequent scarcity of food will severely punish the audacious workmen for their presumption.

The leading spirits of the British turf are about completing their arrangements for the coming racing season. Knowing how deeply your readers are interested in these momentous events, I fear their hearts will be saddened with the thrilling news that the first favorite, the Duke of Blackleg's grey more Pluckem, had her near fore foot too closely pared when she was last shod, and that she now limps in consequence of this injury; but they will be glad to know that the Dake not only horsewhipped the blacksmith for his awkwardness, but broke his arm with a club, so that there is little fear of his recovery, and no danger that he will ever be able to injure another ornament of the

The London Times published a leading article this morning which called attention to the con. sistency of its comments on American affairs. It proved incontestably that it was equally right in proclaiming that the success of the Rebellion was certain, and in announcing, after the cap. ture of Richmond, that the Confederacy never had a ghost o a chance of permanent existence; that whether it alteged that the American treasury was bankruot and United States bonds worthless, or praised American securities as the most valuable and profitable in the world, its statements were entitled to unquestionable credence.

On Monday the Times will publish an article predicting the disruption of the Union in spite of the suppression of the Rebellion, but this will be followed on Tuesday by another tremendous leader awakening public attention to the imminent danger that the United States will speedily absorb Mexico and British North America.

DUBLIN, Jan. 36, 1869 .- The return of George Francis Train to America leaves Ireland inconsplable

A great national poet thus gives vent to the anguish prevailing in patriotic circles:-

Oh! why didst thou lave us, Great gaseous hum-Bug Americanus, And Punkings sum? Why gave you not Erin, Before you set sail, Outside of the jall?

Our people were waiting, And eager to hear, And for your one prating, And words of good cheer. They'd have fed you on praties, And whisky galore, And barring that mate is Not plenty in store, They'd have graced every meal

With a slice of the pig, And made your heart happy By dancing a jig. On! why did the fear, then, Come over your heart, That if you went not back,

To get a good start On the road to the White House, In the next four-year race, It might possibly happen You'd not get the place? Sure the boys will sustain you

With ballots and talk, And make you Head Centre When Grant has to walk. They could never resist, Without feeling great pain, The gas and the brass

In the gab of The Traip. Madrid, Jan. 30, 1869 .- The handsome ladies of Cadiz and of the capital unanimously favor the election of the Duke of Montpensier to the vacant throne, because they are convinced that his elevation will be followed by the universal introduction of French fashions and French etiquette, and they long for a change from the stereotyped Spanish modes. They are tired of the system which has heretofore required more time for the transportation of Grecian Bends and paniers across the Pyrenees than across the Atlantic.

Panis, Jan. 30, 1869.-The Emperor has been so much annoyed by the diatribes of Rochefort, that he has determined to destroy in the minds of the French poeple all recollection of the name of the newspaper in which these attacks appear, and he has accordingly issued a decree that the use of lanterns is henceforth forbidden. The war upon journals and journalists is continued, and it is understood in well-informed circles that it will never cease until the writers and publishers adopt the uniform rule of commencing every article with the exclamation, "Great is Napoleon III !" and of concluding ail their productions with the sentence, "The Emperor can do no wrong."

CONSTANTINOPLE, Jan. 30, 1869 .- An Englishman has been arrested here for high treason, and great excitement prevails, as the Government insists upon a vigorous prosecution of the offender, and the British Minister demands his immediate release, threatening war if his countryman is punished. The circumstances connected with this occurrence are as follows:-The Englishman, at a dinuer party given by a British merchant, where good cheer prevailed, was overheard by a Mussulman servant who dropped a decanter, to exclaim "There goes the sublime port." The expression was reported to the Government, and immediately construed into an unpardonable insult.

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 30, 1869 .- The Dutch have taken all Holland off to the canals to witness dashshead and tumble down performances on the ice. Mynheer von Skyderdonk is the champion male and Frau Cluckenhen the champion female skater. They have attained such extraordinary grace and speed that they frequently skate a minuet in a mile, and their consumption of Hotland giu during the intervals which occur between their performances is wonderful to behold. Skyderdonk challenges the world to produce a skater that can smoke as many pipes of tobacco and simultaneously travel over as great a space as himself. If America does not accept this challenge, her skaters may as well consider themselves smoked out.

## FIRE-PROOF SAFES.

MARVIN'S

#### PATENT FIRE AND BURGLAR-PROOF SAFES.

PHILADELPHIA, January 18, 1869. Messra Marvin & Co., No. 721 Chesnut Street
—Gentlemen:—The two large Bafes you manufactured for us, and which were in the front
part of our store during the late fire. were opened
on Saturday last. Everything in them was
found in perfect condition. They contained a
large stock of our best and finest goods, Diamonds, Watches, etc., to an extensive amount, We have every confidence in the fire-proof qualities of your Safes under any emergency. Very respectfully, JAMES E. CALDWELL & CO.

A large assortment of the above SAFES for sale at our Principal Warehouses.

## MARVIN & CO.,

721 CHESNUT Street (Masonic Hall),

No. 265 BROADWAY, New York;

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C. L. MAISER MANUFACTURER OF FIRE AND BURGLAR-PROOF SAFES, LOCKEMITH, BELL-HANGER, AND DEALER IN BUILDING HARDWARE, No. 484 RACE Street

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No. 22 NORTH SIXTH STREET, PHILADELPHIA. OLD OAKS CEMETERY COMPANY OF

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The Company is now prepared to dispose of lots on REACONABLE TERMS. The advantages offered by this Cemetery are well known to be equal if not superior to those possessed by any other Cemetery. We invite all who desire to parchase burial lots to call at the office, where plans can be seen and all particulars will be given. Deeds for lots sold are

ready for delivery. ready for delivery.

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Office S. E. corner of THIRD and WALNUT Streets, Philadelphia.
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136,800 00

60,000.00

211,375 06

128,594 00

51,500 00

20,200.00

24,090 00

20,825-00

21,000 00

5,031 25

15,000:00

11,300 00

3,500 00

15,000 00

26,000.00

40.178.88

\$1,647,367.80

....\$400,000.00 .....1,015,598.89 .....1,184,840'40

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1,813.00

322,486 94

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5,000 North Penn'a Railroad Co.,

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Cost, \$1,093,604-26.

Bills receivable for insurance made Balances due at agencies, premiums on marine policies, accrued inter-

est, and other debts due the com-

Stock and serip of sundry corpora-

Cash in drawer.....

Theophilus Paulding,

APITAL ACCRUED SURPLUS .....

UNSETTLED CLAIMS.

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John C. Davis, James C. Hand

\$1,109,000 Par.

cipal and interest guaran-

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ASSETS ON JANUARY 1, 1868,

\$2,603,740.09.

\$33,693-22 \$350,096-69, LONBEN PAID SINCE 1529 OVER

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sr, Aifred Fitler,
Thomas Sparks,
William S, Grant,
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\$5 500,000.

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Their Capital, together with a large Surplus Fund, is invested in the most careful manner, which enables them to offer to the insured an undoubted security in the case of loss.

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\$400,000 \$2,677,372,13

Statement of the Assets of the Company on January 1, 1869, published in conformity with the provisions of the sixth section of the act of Assembly of April 5, 1842,

MORTGAGES.

On property valued at over \$4,000,000, being First Mortgages on Real Es-tate in the city and county of Phila-

REAL ESTATE. Purchased at Sheriff's sales, under Mortgage Claims, viz.:—
Eight houses and lot, S. W. corner Chesnul and Seventeenth atreets...
A house and lot, north side of Spruce Street, west of Eleventh street.......

54,369.32 LOANS.

Temporary Loans on Stocks as Collateral Security (valued at \$1(3,723), \$47,113-33 STOCKS.

\$9,000 Pennsylvania State Six per sio 000 North Penn'a R. R. Bonds... \$900 North Penn'a R. R. coupon

590 shares Penn'a Rallroad Co.... do Franklin Fire Insurance Northern Bank of Ky.

Union Bank of Tenn.... Insurance Company of the State of Penn'a... do Southwark Railroad Co

do Union Canal Company. do Continental Hotel Co... \$329 Philadelphia City Warrants... Total Market Value......\$203,680-13

Cost 172,637 00
NOTES AND BILLS RECEIVABLE 3,199 26
REVENUE STAMPS 127.85
B. Hammett for real estate sold, 20,700 00 

TOTAL CASH, 26,091-92 82,585,373.59

REAL ESTATE. Market Price..... ....8115 324 48 Cost, as above Advance in Value ... ....860,955-11

STOCKS. Market Price ... ......\$203,680 13 172 687 00 ....\$31,043-13

LOSSES BY FIRE. Losses Paid during the Year 1868....8113,540-03

By erder of the Board, CHAS. N. BANCKER, President.

Attest-JAS. W. MCALLISTER, Secretary pro tem.

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ALFRED FITLER, THOMAS SPARKS WM S. GRANT. ALFRED G. BAKER, THOMAS S. BLLIS.

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1 19tuths6t Secretary pro tem.

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