## THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH-PHI

## THE FRENCH STAGE.

There is an obsolete journal of fashion called La Belle Assembles, which contains descriptions, not only of various and elabor rate modes of costman-delightful to leliesbut also of the favorite forms of diversion of its time; and in one of the numbers for the year 1800, the carbons reader may find an article on the recreations of Paris, which gives an account of the Theatre Francaise, and especially of the demeanor of the audience at the rise of the curtain. The passage is worth transcribing, as an illustration of some national characteristics of the Freuch people which have not caught the infection of change amongst all the changing fashions brought forth in the course of the last seventy years.

"The moment the curtain is seen to rise, says the writer in the old periodical, "that instant confusion turns itself into order. Unlike our countrymen, who call for silence by the word itself, the French express their wish for attention by a noise which may be described as a prolongation of the syllable ish. After the curtain is once up, it is expected that no person should interrupt the perform-ance; the established rule of a French andience is universal attention."

This attitude of attention is the same at the Theatre Francais now as then. There is the same order, the same absolute silence observed, the same complete sympathy with the progress of the drama. Any casual interruption is instantly suppressed; silk dresses are not allowed to rustle, fans must not flutter, no whispers must circulate; the audience is expected to exist, for the time being, only for the actors, as the actors exist only for the audience. Between the acts of the piece comes the relaxation. Then most of the spectators leave their seats and throng the antechambers of the theatre, where the imagination still finds a stimulus in art. Grand statues of dramatists, players, and poets have their dwelling-place here, giving dignity to the amusement of the hour, as they suggest the immortality of genius. The hour passes; the play is acted out when the curtain falls; but the creative power which brings a noble drama into existence remains a treasured memory for a great nation. The marble statue of the man is the symbol of his genius carved out for unborn ages. The player who intensified the pas-sions and realized the beauty which the poet conceived stands by his side in sculptured glory, and shares his immortality.

An author or an actor, passing through these halls, feels the stir of ambition within him, and a spectator entering them, full of the emotions which the stage has excited, feels satisfied that these are not vain things, and returns to the next lift of the curtain with a deepened interest. When audiences and actors are in such a condition of mutua sympathy the actors are impelled to great efforts. An audience so attentive does not overlook excellence in the smallest performance-even in the delivery of a message-and therefore every player has a sufficient motive for doing his best.

A complete harmony-which is justness of proportion-an adequate skill in all the parts, and their combination, result from these influences, and an acted drama at the Francais is a work of high art. When such players and such an audience are dealing with the work of a great author, the excellence produced is of that kind which makes a permanent impression of delight upon the mind.

There is a dramatic poem by Alfred de Musset, little known in England, called "La Nuit d'Octobre." It is not a play, it is a dialogue which takes place between the poet and his muse. The poet-who is the victim of a feeling and suspends the judgment of the fatal passion, whose soul is stained, whose spectator; but the slightest shortcoming life is corrupted by the poison of a misplaced would make it revolting to the taste. Indeed, love-is sitting by his descreted hearth in | the least failure of strength in the actress gloomy meditation when his muse addresses would be fatal to the piece, even as it stands. him with tender reproach. Why has he neglected her? why has he abandoned the dominion of beauty and truth which she had opened to him? In reply, he tells the history of his betrayal and his great despair; she answers with compassion and with an exhortation to return to her, and in her pure embrace to soothe his bruised heart, to accept the bitter past as a wholesome medicine, to slake his burning thirst at the sweet waters of the stream of Helicon, to take her hand again and suffer her to lead him to the region of eternal glory. The poet listens, throws off his consuming lethargy, worships, and is reconciled: and so the piece concludes -a piece depending for its interest exclusively upon the poetry of its passion and upon the truth with which this poetry is rendered in recitation. The dialogue is confined to two persons, one of whom is a visionary being behind a veil, and there is no movement but that of inward passion. No stir from without, no interruption even for a single instant to the seclusion of the poet's study, no scenic effect, no action beyond the gestures of one unhappy man. There is pro-bably no stage in the universe but that of the Francais where such a representation could attract and satisfy an audience; there it does both satisfy and attract, and when Mad'lle Favart and M. Delaunay are playing in it, the pit is inconveniently crowded, and yet the silence of the throng is like that of a single rapt listener. But where is the English pit, gallery, or dress circle which could tolerate these revelations of the poet's mind with no other aid from without than that of the muse at the back of the scene, veiled, following his steps with slow, floating movement extending her arms compassionately towards him, but never meeting his eye? It would be less impossible to find tragedians in London capable of performing, than auditors capable of listening to such a scene; indeed, throughout the whole of our great metropolis we cannot at the present day assemble a full audience willing to listen with undivided attention to a dramatic poem or a poetical drama. We have, indeed, no established drama, no playhouse where the manager can afford to wait. The Francais and the Opera Comique, the Odeon, the Chatelet, and the Grand Opera, all the houses in Paris where the performances are the most finished, and where the best pieces are produced, receive support from Government. In London every play produced is a Mints to Wearers of Kid Gloves. money speculation, and must therefore address itself to the immediate gratification of the masses; and the mass is generally vulgar, and prefers the lowest and coarsest and set of these articles depend very much food. Audiences require to be educated by upon how they are put on the first time. the drama before they can appreciate it. The Francais, not depending for support solely on the immediate applause of the public, has had time to direct and improve its taste, and in this way every first representation at this to set much better, and to wear doubly, or house is sure of assembling a circle of instructed critics. A considerable degree of importance is attached to representations importance is attached to representations usually in too much of a hurry; which make a portion of the national pride of they carelessly put them on, and let them the people, and the study of the tragedian is that of an artist whose skill is well under-stood and appreciated in all its details. A piece which has gone through forty-eight rehearsals is still announced as "in prepara-tion;" they are continued till there is no flaw ever after, and no amount of effort will make

in the performance. At the Opera Comique La petite Fadette, and Le preader Jour de Bouleur, are as remarkable for exquisite finish and smoothness as the Nait d'Octobre, or R ne faut jurer de rien, or Paul For-estier, or Le Menteur, at the Francais. The performances at the unendowed theatres are not equal to these in completeness and harmony. Where there is a French company there will generally be found some talent and often some genius; but it is not the cleverness of one or two players which produces a perfect work of art, but the indefatigable drilling of a company and the careful cherish-ing of every germ of ability and the proper distribution of every part. Wherever a play-house is a mere speculation such an amount of care becomes impossible, and the best am-bition of the player is at an and, and is so bition of the player is at an end, and is re-placed by a restless vanity or a greed for gain. The minor theatres of Paris excel those of London, inasmuch as they have models of excel-lence in the endowed playhouses, with the hope, for the superior artist, of being engaged in the higher regions of his art, where, be it remembered, not only all the heat ability remembered, not only all the best skill of modern Paris is concentrated, but where also the day. Those who have read that deficious dramatic poem by Francis Coppee, called "Le Passant," will accept the fact of its great and prolonged success at the Theatre de l'Odeon as a sufficient proof of the retined taste of Parisian playgoers. For the beauty of the piece consists in its poetry, without any kind of spasm or sensational effect. The French writers, casting off the pedantic tramany kind of spasm or sensational effect. The French writers, casting off the pedantic tram-mels of their classical drama, have developed a quantity of poetry of which they were sup-posed to be incapable. Victor Hugo and Alfred de Musset are acknowledged by all nations in their different ways as eminent dramatic poets, and M. Coppee, for that one production of "Le Passant," deserves to be named in the same category.

named in the same category. Clever writers of comedy and romantic drama are too abundant for any satisfactory selection, but Augier, Sardon, and Feuillet are the names which the most immediately present themselves for distinction in that long list. But as some evil is wont to be associated with the good of this world, we find that the new freedom which has opened a way for the imagination of the dramatic poet has also given admittance to the vagaries of unsound thought, which substitutes the abnormal for the true and puts fever in the place of force. The dauger that the genius of France incurs at present consists in the spasm and contortion which the romantic school has encouraged, and which writers of such extraordinary gifts as Victor Hugo and Octave Feuillet ought to have had the strength to renounce. M. Octave Feuillet's last tragedy, called Julie, is a case in point. It is a domestic tragedy; a painful, fatal passion absorbs the unhappy woman who is the sub-ject of it, from the first to the last scene, culminating in her death. She dies of her internal anguisb. The play, though the plot is of a disagreeable nature, is not an offence against morals, but it is an offence against art. No human being could take any touch of pollution from this drama. The penalty of the transgressor is very bitter, and there is no scene of alluring tenderness to soften its effect. But young authors desiring to imitate M.

Feuillet would be likely to enlarge the sphere of bad art by working with such a model before them-for it is only the intensity of the emotion which atones for the manner of its development. That intensity of passion, reached by the master's hand, absorbs all the and M. Feuillet would hardly have ventured upon his concluding scene if he had not known the peculiar genius of Mad'lle Favart. So much regard for the special talent of an actress is not good either for author or player, and a beautiful drama is rarely produced under such an influence. The great fault in the construction of M. Feuillet's Julie consists in its monotony of pain-in the absence of that relief which beauty gives, or should give, to the severest tragedy. Such a relief is afforded in the terrible tragedy of *Lear* by the tender-ness of "Cordelia" and the devotion of the fool to his master; and no perfect master of his art would allow any great tragic work to be complete without some touch of beauty of this kind. The true poet will not be content merely to lacerate the imagination; he will also clevate and soothe it. The scourge is too much in use in the modern French romantic school, and the imaginative faculties of the reador or spectator are in danger of being blunted or stunned by along course of this savage treatment. It is to be found in many of the late productions of the French dramatists, and in some works of the most distinguished poets, as in Victor Hugo's play of Le Roi s'amuse, which is in some respects a grand production, and which would have taken its place among the masterpieces of creative genius if the poet had used more restraint; if he had paused in the whirlwind of his passion, and had tempered the horror of his situations with some alternations of repose and sweetness. If such writers as Victor Hugo, Feuillet, and Augier throw off the restraints of true art, and, in order to o'stain violent and startling effects, abandon decorum and dignity, the players will come by de grees to follow their example, and instead of such finished artists as Favart and De launay, we shall have shrickers and grimacers. Things have not yet arrived at so had a pass as this; but the tendency of the modern school of fiction in France (and in England also) is in this direction, and it is the business of the honest critic to speak words of warning while there is yet time. The English acted drama is past hope-it is dead, without a chance of resurrection; but the French stage lives yet, is still vigorous, is still fresh, and still maintains the elements of beauty within it uncorrupted. It runs the risk of descending to a lower, but it has the means of rising to a higher life. -Macmillan's Magazine. It is not generally known, or does not appear to be known, even by those who wear kids almost exclusively, that the durability upon how they are put on the first time. Two pairs may be taken from one box, of exactly the same cut and quality, and by giving different treatment when first putting the hands into them, one pair will be made other. When purchasing gloves, people are go in that way then, thinking to do the work more completely at another time. When this is the case a person is sure to meet with disappointment, for as the glove is made to fit

to require the aid of a stretcher, they show not be purchased, as they will prove too am for durability, contort, or beauty. Wh selecting gloves, choose those with fingers correspond with your own in length; ta time to put them on, working in the finge first, until ends meet ends, then put in t thumb, and smooth them down until they a made to fit nicely. A glove that sets we will usually wear well, at least will wear be ter than one of the same kind that does n fit well. When the ends of the fingers not come down right, or when they are long as to form wrinkles upon the sides the fingers, they will chafe out easi where the stretcher has to be used make the fingers large enough, the body I will be so small as to cramp the hand so th it cannot be shut without bursting the sear of the kids. Some recommend putting n kid gloves into a damp cloth before they put on, and allowing them to remain un moistened. With this treatment they can put on much easier than otherwise, and w fit very nicely until they get dry, but second wearing there will be an unnatu harshness about them, wrinkling in spots, a they will not set so perfectly as at first. have tried the damping process and do approve of it .- Canadian Journal of Co merce.

FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF SAF A V O W E R FARREL, HERRING & C HAVE REMOVED FROM No. 629 CHESNUT Street No. 807 CHESNUT S PHILADELPHIA. Fire and Burglar-Proof Safes (WITH DEY FILLING.) BERRING, FARREL & SHERMAN, New Yor **BEFRING** & CO., Chicago. HERRING, FARREL & CO., New Orleans, J. WATSON & SON, Of the late tirm of EVANS & WATSON, FIRE AND BURGLAR-PROOF AFE STOR 8 NO. 53 SOUTH FOURTH STREET A few doors above Obesnut st., Phi DRUGS, PAINTS, FTC. ROBERT SHOEMAKER & CO

N. E. Corner FOURTH and RACE S

PBRADELPHIA, WHOLESALE DRUCCIST

Importers and Manufacturers of WHITE LEAD AND COLORED PAINTS, PUT

VARNISPES, ETC. AGENTS FOR THE CELEBRATED FREI ZINC PAINTS.

Dealers and consumers supplied at lowest p for cash.

M. MARSHALL, DRUCCIST AND CHEMIST.

AND WHOLESALE DEALERS IN

11611

316w6t

8 21

| FINANCIAL.  | FINANCIAL.  | SHIPPINO.  |
|---|---|--|
| JAY COOKE & CO.,  | THE UNDERSIGNED   | LORILLARD'S STEAMSHI   |
| HILADELPHIA, NEW YORK, AND<br>WASHINGTON,   | Offer For Sale \$2,000,000  | NEW YORK   |
| BANKERS   | OF THE  | 5 cents per 100 pounds,<br>2 cents per foot, or 1-2 cent per gallon, ship<br>option.   |
| AND   | PENNSYLVANIA CENTRAL RR. CO.  | Extra rates on small packages iron, metals, etc.<br>No receipt or bill of lading signed for less than 50 cen<br>The Line would call attention of merchants generally<br>the fact that hereafter the regular shippers by this h   |
| calers in Government Securities.  | GENERAL MORTGAGE  | foot, during the winter seasons.<br>For further particulars apply to   |
| Special attention given to the Purchase and Sale of<br>onds and Stocks on Commission, at the Board of<br>rokers in this and other cities. | Six Per Cent. Bonds   | PIER 19, NORTH WHARVES   |
| NTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS   | At 92 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> and Interest added to Date of<br>Purchase.  | Steamers are appointed to sail as  |
| COLLECTIONS MADE ON ALL POINTS.   | All free from State tax, and issued in sums of \$1000.  | Utty of Brooklyn, Saturday, April 3, 7 A. M.<br>City of Baltimore, via Halifaz, Tunestay, April 5, 8 A. B<br>City of Antwerp, Saturday, April 9, at 11 A. M.<br>Otty of London, Saturday, April 6, 1 P. M.<br>City of New York, via Halifaz, Tuesday, April 10, 8 A.<br>And such successfund Saturday and Altarnia The   |
| GOLD AND SILVER BOUGHT AND SOLD.  | These Bonds are Coupon and Registered-interest<br>on the former payable January and July 1; on the<br>latter, April and October.<br>The bonds secured by this mortgage are issued to  | from Pier 45, North River,<br>RATES OF PASSAGE,<br>BY THE MAIL STRAMER SALLING EVENT RATURDAY,<br>Payable in Cold  |
| HELIABLE RAILROAD BONDS FOR INVEST-<br>MENT.  | WISTAR MORRIS and JOSIAH BACON, Trustees,<br>who cannot, under its provisions, deliver to the<br>Company, at any time, an amount of bonds exceed-<br>ing the full-paid capital stock of the Company-                                      | To London  |
| Pamphlets and full information given at our office,   | limited to \$35,000,000.<br>Enough of these bonds are withheld to pay off all<br>existing hens upon the property of the Company, to<br>meet which at maturity it now holds ample means  | Payable in Gold. Payable in Currency.<br>Liverpool   |
| No. 11-1 S. THIRD Street,<br>PBILADELPHIA. (118m  | Independently of the bonds to be reserved by the<br>Trustees for that purpose, making the bonds prac-<br>tically a FIRST MORTGAGE upon all its railways,  | etc., at reduced rates.<br>Tickets can be bought here at moderate rates he new   |
| THERDSHITER (11 M   | their equipment, real estate, etc. etc.<br>The gross revenue of the Pennsylvania Railroad<br>in 1869 was \$17,250,811, or nearly twenty-eight per<br>cent, of the capital and debts of the Company at<br>the end of that year.            | wishing to send for their Griends.<br>For further particulars apply at the Company's Off<br>JOHN G. DALF, Agent<br>OT to O'DONNELL, & FAULK, Agenta<br>45 No. 402 CHECANUT Street, Philadelphi   |
| CITY WARRANTS   | Since 1857 the dividends to the Stockholders have<br>averaged nearly eleven and one-half per cent, per<br>annum after paying interest on its bonds and pass-  | TATETA A PARTY AND |
| UTT WARRANTS  | ing annually a large amount to the credit of con-<br>struction account.<br>The security upon which the bonds are based is,<br>therefore, of the most smple character, and places<br>them on a par with the very best National securities. | THILADELPHIA, RICHMON<br>ANI NOSFOLK STRAMSHIP LI<br>THROUGH FREIGHT AIR LINE<br>INUREASED FACILITIES AND WEST.<br>INUREASED FACILITIES AND ERDUCED RAT<br>FOR 1870.<br>Steamers leave every WE DNREDAY and SATURD<br>at 12 o'clock noon, from FIRST WHARF above M<br>& F. Strees.   |
| Demalt and Call   | For further particulars apply to<br>Jay Cooke & Co.,  | THURSDAYS, and NORFOLK TUESDAYS and<br>TURDAYS, sol NORFOLK TUESDAYS and<br>No Bills of Lading signed after 19 cited and   |
| Bought and Sold.  | E. W. Clark & Co.,<br>Drexel & Co.,   | days.<br>THROUGH RATES to all points in North and S.<br>Carolina, via Seaboard Air Line Railroad, connectin<br>Portemonth, and to Lrnchburg, Va., Tennesse, and<br>West, via Virginia and Tennessee Air Line and Richm<br>and Dauville Kailroad.<br>Freight HANDLED BUT ONCE, and taken at LOW<br>RATES THAN ANY OTHER LINE.<br>No charge for commission, drawse, or any   |
|   | C. & H. Borie, <sup>13 19 2w</sup><br>W. H. Newbold, Son & Aertsen.   | and Danville Kairoad. Changes all the and Richm<br>Frecht HANDLED BUT ONCE, and taken at LOW<br>RATES THAN ANY OTHER LINE.<br>No charge for commission, drayage, or any expense<br>transfer.   |
| DE HAVEN & BRO.,  | NEW LOAN.   | Steamships insure at lowest rates.   |
|   |   | State Room accommodations for passongers.<br>State Room accommodations for passongers.<br>WILLIAM P. OLYDE & CO.<br>No. 128. WHARVES and Pier 1 N. WHARVE<br>W. P. PORTER, Agent at Rechmond and City Point<br>T. P. OROWELL & CO., Agents at Norfolk,   |
| No. 40 South THIRD Street,  | City of Allegneny Six Per   |  |
| 6 U6 PHILADELPHIA.  | Cents,  | The splendid new vessels on this favorite routs for<br>Continent will sail from Pier No. 50, North river, e<br>Estarday.   |
|   | ,   | PRIOR OF PASSAGE<br>in gold (including wine),<br>TO BRIST OR HAVER,<br>First Cabin   |
| ELLIOTT & DUNN,   | FREE OF STATE TAN.  | First Cabin  |
| BANKERS   | We are offering a limited mount of this Loa   | Medical attendance free of charge passengers.<br>American travellers going to or returning from the<br>timent of Kurspe, by taking the steamers of thus lines in<br>unnecessary risks from transit by English railways<br>crossing the channel, besides saving time, trouble, an<br>pense. GEORGE MACKENZIE, Ageon<br>No. 58 BEOADWAY, New Yo<br>For passage in Philadelphia, apply at Adams Ex<br>Company, to H. L. LEAT<br>1378 No. 320 OHESNUT Streen   |
| No. 109 SOUTH THIRD STREET,<br>DEALERS IN ALL GOVERNMENT SECURI-  | At 90 Per Cent. and Accrued   | For passage in Philadelphia, apply at Adams Ex<br>Company, to H. L. LEAF<br>1375 No. 320 OHESNUT Stre  |
| TIES, GOLD BILLS, ETC.<br>DRAW BILLS OF EXCHANGE AND ISSUE  | Interest.   | NORTH GERMAN LLOYI<br>STEAM BETWREN NEW YORK<br>BREMEN, VIA SOUTHAMPTON  |
| COMMERCIAL LETTERS OF CREDIT ON THE<br>UNION BANE OF LONDON,  | The interest is payable first days of January and   |  |
| ISSUE TRAVELLERS' LETTERS OF CREDIT<br>ON LONDON AND PARIS, available throughout<br>Europe.   | July, in Philadelphia, FREE OF STATE TAX.<br>We recommend them as an unquestionable se-<br>curity for investment.   | FROM SOUTHAMPTONEVERY TUESI<br>FROM NEW YORKEVERY SAUTE  |

The debt of Allegheny City being comparatively

First Cabin, \$120; S nd Cabin, \$72; Steerage, \$30, Gold.

