

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

JOLLY MAY IRWIN ONE OF NEW YORK'S GREATEST FAVORITES.

Interesting Sketch of How "At Piney Ridge" Came to be Produced—Like Many Good Things, Was at First Rejected.

May Irwin, the rotund humorist, knows more of human nature than any ten playwrights who dish up human foibles appetizingly for us. Miss Irwin, in her knowledge of our ill-nature, gets ahead of us with surprising effect. Before we have time to laugh at her she laughs at herself. And that sharply rivets our admiration. We love May Irwin. We are grateful to her. We think she is the funniest creature on earth, because, just to amuse us, she makes a butt of herself.

"A cigarette firm wants to use my picture on their cigarettes," says May Irwin. "They must contemplate enlarging their packages."

"Here's a note from my manager," she remarks, confidentially. "He wants me to play Rosalind."



MAY IRWIN.

We lean back and roar. We had been thinking rather scornfully that Miss Irwin was very fat to dance and sing so skittishly. We had almost determined to pass unkind remarks about her as soon as we got home, and roast her generally. And, lo! and behold! this remarkable woman knew us like a book, and got ahead of us. She cast her inferiority in our faces. She said to us, in effect, "You are nice and slim and lissome. I am awfully fat. Imagine me playing Rosalind! Ha! Ha! Ha! Think of my giant proportions wedged into a cigarette picture! He! He! He!" I will not hesitate to say that May Irwin's immense vogue is due entirely to her marvellous understanding of human nature. She is perfectly aware of the fact that if she posed as a slyph, and stood in the center of the stage and warbled, "Oh, love! I love you, my love!" in the usual stellar manner, she would awaken nothing but our derision.

In "The Widow Jones" May Irwin first won our approval by this remark: "The advantage of having a big mouth is that you can kiss and talk at the same time." The audience was agog at her daring; then they warmed into admiration of it.

And clever May Irwin's tactics undoubtedly are—clever, tinged with a streak of genius. Dickens knew no more of human nature than does May Irwin. The beauty of it all is that while we think we are laughing at her expense, she is really laughing at ours. The latest story of genius that wouldn't be crushed comes in connection with the play "At Piney Ridge," recently produced and pronounced a great success. This play was written by David Higgins, and is a melodrama on somewhat old-fashioned and conventional lines. Two years ago Higgins pitched up a company and put his own play on in San Francisco. It won favor, and like many a man before him he thought it must have a New York endorsement before it could be a genuine "go." This idea started him off across the continent, and in due time he was in New York. He secured attendance on Charles Frohman at the Empire Theatre, but that magnate of the dramatic muse wouldn't even see the Western author. Then he tried the other Frohman, but though David saw him the results were nil. Then A. M. Palmer was tried, and he pompously said it was waste paper. Thus the entire list was run, and Higgins was disgraced and disheartened. His wife, however, held her faith in him and his play. She somehow or other met Bert McInosh, who had been engaged by Miner & Brooks, theatrical contractors, for a starring tour. The contract nominated Mr. McInosh to secure a play that would suit his abilities and the tastes of the public, and in recompense of his services in thus finding and performing a good play the party of the first part became bound to pay the party of the second part a salary of \$100 a week and 10 per cent of the profits of the said play. McInosh read "At Piney Ridge," saw its merit, and wanted to start out with it. Knowing that the other managers had rejected it, Miner & Brooks wouldn't have the play, and McInosh didn't take it on the road. Finally, everything else failing, Mr. Higgins determined to prove his faith by his work. He and his wife and his two brothers, who had places in traveling companies, scraped enough money together to put the play on at the American Theatre in New York, and it is one of the successes of the season. Now everybody wants it, and it is going to London. Its success charmed all the dramatic dictators, and Bert McInosh is mad clear through. He is now playing a part in the drama.

AN APRON FRONT DRESS.

INDIAN GIRLS GIVE A PARTY.

The Peculiar Names of Some of Those in Attendance.

The Indian girls of the Crow Agency boarding-school in Montana gave a soiree dance on the other evening, and the following girls were present: Clara Spotted-Horse, Edith Long-Ear, Kittie Medicine-Tail, Lena Old-Bear, Clara Bull-Nose, Blanche Little-Star, Nellie Shell-on-the-Neck, Mary Old-Jack-Rabbit, Bertha Full-Mouth, Katie Dreamer, Fanny Plenty-Butterflies, Bossie Crooker-Arm, Martha Long-Neck, Isabel Lunch, Play Hairy-Wolf, Alice Shoots-as-She-Goes, Stella Wolf-House, Lucy Hawks, Beatrice Beads-on-Ankle, Susie Bear-Lays-Down, Louisa Three-Wolves, Anna Medicine-Pipe, Maggie Broken-Ankle, Ruth Bear-in-the-Middle, Helen Come-Out-of-the-Fog, Sarah Three-Irons, Ida Wrinkle-Face, Jessie Flat-Head-Woman, Lottie Grandmother's-Knife, Esther Knows-Her-Gun, Minnie Nods-at-Bear and Daisy Young Heifer.—New York Tribune.

His Record Kept Clean.
A tramp called at a well-known home in the city at about breakfast time, and asked for something to eat. The gentleman of the house informed the tramp that there was a pile of wood in his back yard, and that if he would saw up a quantity of it he would give him a breakfast.

The tramp agreed, and the gentleman of the house forthwith conducted him to the pile of wood and, after pointing out to him the saw, retired into the house.

A short time thereafter, wishing to see how the tramp was progressing he went out into the yard. The tramp had disappeared, and not a bit of wood had been sawed. As he approached the pile of wood he noticed a piece of paper fastened to the saw, and on it were written these words:
Just tell them that you saw me,
But you never saw me saw.
—Lynchburg News

Sofeteramonigo.
A gentleman stopped to listen to the tune played on a hand-organ, which happened to strike his fancy. When the air was finished, he approached the Italian, and asked the name of the music.

"Sofeteramonigo" answered the Italian, showing all his teeth in a smile of appreciation at the compliment to his melodies.
The gentleman walked on, and endeavored for many months to obtain the piece of music with the unpronounceable name. But he never could find it. At last one day he heard it played by an American, and again asked the name of the air he admired.
"Oh, that," said the player, "is an old thing—'Silver Threads Among the Gold'."—Harper's Round Table.

Wonderful Feats.
Hindoo acrobats are still ahead of their European rivals. One who moves about upon a long stick is the latest novelty. This performer is mounted on a bamboo pole about fifteen feet high, the top of which is tied to a girl who wears around his waist. A small cushion is fastened a few feet down the pole, which acts as a leg rest. The acrobat heaps around a large space in the liveliest way, uttering cheerful shouts and accompanied by the tapping of a curious drum. He also executes a sort of dance and goes through a little pantomime. It is a marvellous feat of equilibrium. To walk on a pair of stilts as high as this would be a performance worthy of exhibition on our variety stage. But to hop around on one is quite another thing, as you will find if you attempt it.

Don't Neglect a Head Cold.
Catarrh will result if you do. If you have Headache, Foul Breath, Pain in Forehead, Drooping in the Throat, Dryness in the Nose, it indicates this troublesome disease. Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder will relieve a cold in 10 minutes and will cure Chronic Catarrh. No failure, sure, safe, pleasant and harmless.
Sold by C. A. Klein.

Firing Under Water.
A stage was erected in the harbor at Portsmouth within the tide mark; on this an Armstrong gun of the 110 pound pattern was mounted. The gun was then loaded and carefully aimed at a target while the tide was low.

The target itself was placed only twenty-five feet from the muzzle of the gun. It was composed of oak beams and planks, and was twenty-one inches thick. In order to make the Griper invulnerable, a sheet of lead plates three inches thick was riveted to the water logged hull in direct range with the course the ball was expected to take if not deflected by the water.

On all of these—the ouken target, the boiler plates, and the old vessel's hull—the effect of the shot from the submerged gun was really startling. The wooden target was pierced through and through, the boiler iron target was broken into pieces, and driven into its "backing," the ball passing right out through both sides of the vessel making two huge holes, through which the water poured in torrents. Taken altogether, the experiment was an entire success.

Match Boxes for Women.

Since the passage of the city ordinance pertaining to lamps on bicycles, women who ride wheels find it necessary to carry a match box. Therefore, there are any number of new match boxes, which are smaller and more dainty than anything in this line ever seen before.
"Do the girls buy them?" a prominent jeweler was asked. To which question he answered: "Yes, indeed. The smaller sizes are made particularly for their special use."
The prettiest of the new match boxes for girls are of gold, with an enamelled decoration. The enamelling either takes the form of a crown or yacht club flag, or it resembles a hand-painted miniature showing a girl on a wheel, or the head of a dog. Many of these match boxes are made with a concealed recess for a photograph. It is only when a certain spring is touched that the picture can be seen, so satisfactorily is it hidden away.
The silver match boxes, decorated with the outline of a tiny figure in enamel, are also new and much less expensive.—Continental Enquirer.

Match Boxes for Women.
Most of us are familiar with the way in which a horse or a mule kicks, but few of us know how a camel expresses his anger. The camel doesn't seem to be out of temper. He lazily chews his cud, with his eyes half closed, and those not familiar with his ways might fancy that he is half asleep. But directly he draws one of his hind legs up under him, and then, as soon as the object of his wrath is in range, he sends his hoof straight back like a shot. A writer says that he has seen a heavy man sent whirling several yards in a horse crowd by the kick of a camel.

Haggly mother: "Oh, George, the baby's beginning to take after you!"
Haggly father: "After me? In what way?"
Haggly mother: "He's beginning to crawl!"

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NEWS AND NOTES.

According to the figures of the department of agriculture, there were fewer hogs on the farms Jan. 1 than at the beginning of any year since 1891.

Charles W. Dabney is in favor of a national department of science.

In general, seed grown in a more northern latitude, when transferred to a given region, will produce varieties more adapted to maintain themselves and produce larger yields than those grown in that region.

For the preservation of posts, the application of crude petroleum and chloride of zinc, petroleum alone and sulphate of copper or charring is recommended.

Spraying orchards and shade trees by steam is a new wrinkle.

The pith from cornstalks is used for making wheels, barrels and all sorts of vessels usually made of iron or wood.

American Cultivator says that whenever the quality of milk has been injured by feeding ensilage it has been due to feeding too heavily or of an ensilage that was put up while immature.

Nicholas Sanderson, the blind professor at Cambridge, was almost preternaturally gifted in the sense of touch. By this faculty alone he could distinguish counterfeit from genuine metals and money, and could tell, by the grain, of what wood a table was made.

Even Fargo Is Shocked

Sixty days ago a woman from the east somewhere—it is not easy to say just where all these women do come from—was made supremely happy by obtaining a decree of divorce, for which she had fought long and hard. To celebrate her liberty and appreciation she married again immediately. The other day she returned to Fargo. At the end of the term of residence necessary she will apply for another divorce.

I have tried to get the facts of this illustrative case. When the gossip is thrown aside and the facts themselves polished to a gloss that is fit for publication, I find that about all I can tell you is that the woman is in the deepest seclusion, in an obscure boarding-house and under a doubly assumed name. Now, Fargo is generous, good natured and rather enjoys breezy, blizzardly scandals. But this time Fargo itself is a bit shocked. It considers outsiders are pressing liberal and free hearted opportunities a trifle too hard.—Fargo Cor., New York World.

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LITTLE CUBA.

Key West Is Full of Refugees, Yet is Very Quiet.

When the annexation of Cuba to the United States is mentioned, you usually hear somebody say that we do not want that turbulent island; that we have troubles enough of our own without taking on new ones; that the people are different in race, in customs and habits, and that if we should attempt to manage the government of Havana the natives would rebel against us just as they have done against Spain.

The little island of Key West is a miniature Cuba. It has about 25,000 population, of whom 70 or 80 per cent are Cubans, and most of them political exiles, the most discontented and dangerous class in the Spanish colonies, those who are responsible for the present revolution and for most of the insurrections that that occurred during the present century. Yet there isn't a quieter place in the world. Four policemen keep 25,000 revolutionists in order, and until recently there was only one policeman on the island. The other three were recently appointed as a political necessity. There were not enough offices to go around.—Chicago Record.

Naturally fair complexions would be the rule rather than the exception, as unfortunately it is at present, if the ladies would wholly abandon cosmetics, and more generally keep the blood pure and vigorous by the use of Ayer's Sarsaparilla, the only reliable blood-purifier.

The Gulf Disappearing.

It is rather a disturbing thought to feel that great portions of the earth's surface are slipping away, as in the case of a mountain in Gard, France, Niagara changing, or that the Gulf of Mexico is being gradually filled up. The latter change is predicted by the St. Louis Republic.

In the years to come, the geographers will make no mention of the Gulf of Mexico, but will picture an immense tract of lowland in its stead, the map being probably provided with a footnote something like this: "Note—There is a tradition that this level tract of swamp land was once a billy tract sea several hundred miles long, embracing all that country between Mexico and Cuba on the west and east and Yucatan and Louisiana and the south and north." This state of affairs is being gradually but surely brought about by the Mississippi and other United States rivers, which annually deposit millions of tons of sediment in the gulf's bottom. Expert hydrographers declare that the Mississippi alone annually deposits mud sufficient in the gulf to cover one square mile of its bottom to a thickness of two hundred and forty feet.

PILL-FAME—10 CENTS a VIAL for Dr. Agnew's Liver Pills would not make them the fame they enjoy to-day if the curative qualities were not in them. Worth will get to the top and that accounts for the wonderful demand for these little gems. They positively cure Constipation, Biliousness, Sick Headache. Sold by C. A. Klein.

SCHOOL AND CHURCH.

The Armenian relief committee of Chicago recently forwarded to Turkey \$2,500.

The Young Woman's Christian Association has taken up missionary training as a part of their work for the year.

By a vote of 161 to 77 the League of American Wheelmen in annual convention at Rochester, N. Y., recently decided against Sunday racing.

Virginia has just enacted a law making it a misdemeanor to sell intoxicants to any student of an educational institution in that state.

Peoria's magnificent new library building, costing \$85,000, a gift from the Mercantile Library association, was formally opened recently for public use.

J. D. Rockwell has promised to contribute \$250,000 toward paying off the total indebtedness of \$480,000 resting upon the Baptist Foreign and Home Missionary societies.

The committee of Harvard professors and graduates to which was intrusted the task of suggesting an appropriate memorial of the late Prof. Child has decided that it shall take the form of a library for the English department of the university.

The school children of New Orleans are raising a fund of \$5,000 to erect a monument to John McDonough, who bequeathed more than \$2,000,000 to New Orleans for educational purposes. The gift has resulted in the erection of more than 50 public school buildings, in which 15,000 children are at present enrolled.

The latest results of pharmaceutical science and the best modern appliances are availed of in compounding Ayer's Sarsaparilla. Hence, though half-a-century in existence as a medicine, it is fully abreast of the age in all that goes to make it the standard blood purifier.

THE HEALTH MAGAZINE
For July, 1896, says:
"A very large class of intelligent and right-thinking people throughout the world are ready to testify to the nutritive properties of WALTER BAKER & COMPANY'S Breakfast Cocoa. The food value of this article has so long been known to physicians and the public that it has become in a great many homes a staple article of the dietary, not only for invalids, but for persons in health as well."
Consumers should ask for, and be sure that they get, the genuine Walter Baker & Co.'s goods, made at DORCHESTER, MASS.
WALTER BAKER & CO., Ltd., Dorchester, Mass.

ALEXANDER BROTHERS & CO.
DEALERS IN
Cigars, Tobacco, Candies, Fruits and Nuts
SOLE AGENTS FOR
Henry Maillard's Fine Candies. Fresh Every Week.
PENNY GOODS A SPECIALTY.
SOLE AGENTS FOR
F. F. Adams & Co's Fine Cut Chewing Tobacco
Sole agents for the following brands of Cigars:
Henry Clay, Londres, Normal, Indian Princess, Samson, Silver Ash
Bloomsburg Pa.

Prices Low and Good Work.
For the finest and best stoves, tinware, roofing, spouting and general job work, go to W. W. Watts, on Iron street. Buildings heated by steam, hot air or hot water in a satisfactory manner. Sanitary Plumbing a specialty.
I have the exclusive control of the Thatcher steam, hot water and hot air heaters for this territory, which is acknowledged to be the best heater on the market. All work guaranteed.
W. W. WATTS,
IRON STREET.
Bloomsburg, Pa.

SHOES SHOES
We buy right and sell right.
OUR SUCCESS IS BASED ON THIS FACT.
Honest trading has won us hosts of customers but we want more. We are selling good shoes, so good you ought to see them. Drop in and we will make it pay you.
W. H. Moore.
CORNER IRON AND MAIN STS.

IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF CARPET, MATTING, or OIL CLOTH, YOU WILL FIND A NICE LINE AT W. H. BROWER'S
2nd Door above Court House.
A large lot of Window Curtains in stock.

The Sultan as a Benefactor.
Abdul Hamid may be a cruel man, but he can be kindhearted now and then, as the following story proves: Last year, on the occasion of the "Hirka-i-Cherif," when the sultan drives through the streets of Constantinople, in the rush of the crowd to see the royal carriage pass it chanced that a little boy belonging to a charity school was knocked down and trodden on by an officer's horse. The sultan saw the accident and was much concerned. By his orders the boy was at once removed to the palace and placed under the care of his own physicians. The child was badly hurt and lay ill for a long time. No expense was spared to cure him, and he was treated as though he were one of the little princes. His mother, a poor widow, living in a far off province, was sent for immediately. She came to Constantinople and was granted a pension, which enabled her to live near her child. As for the boy himself, the sultan has undertaken the expenses of his education and placed him at one of the best private schools in Constantinople. The little fellow's future is thus secured. He may safely count on quick promotion in whatever branch of the Turkish service he decides to enter, and his friends consider it a lucky chance that threw him under the hoofs of the bodyguards' horses. The boy is a Christian.—New York Tribune.

There is a Class of People Who are injured by the use of coffee. Recently there has been placed in all the grocery stores a new preparation called GRAIN-O, made of pure grains that takes the place of coffee. The most delicate stomach receives it without distress, and but few can tell it from coffee. It does not cost over 1/2 as much. Children may drink it with great benefit. 15cts. and 25cets. per package. Try it. Ask for GRAIN-O.
New Vessels' Mighty Frames.
The quantity of material used in the construction of the two new twin screw express steamers, the Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse and the Kaiser Friedrich of the North German Lloyd line, now building, is interesting as illustrating the enormous size of these two steamers.
There have so far been used in the construction of the Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse for rivets \$40,000 pounds of steel; in the construction of the stem and of the stern frame, inclusive of the arms that carry the screw shafts, 200,000 pounds of steel. The weight of the crank shafts of this steamer amounts to 400,000 pounds and that of the two screw shafts 500,000 pounds; 2,700,000 pounds of steel went into the boilers, and the weight of the plates, angles and diagonals of the hull of the ship sums up 15,000,000 pounds. The Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse will be launched the end of March or beginning of April and will take her place on the line next fall.

ITCHING PILES—Dr. Agnew's Ointment is proof against the torments of Itching Piles. Thousands of testimonials of cures effected by its use. No case too aggravating or too long standing for it to soothe, comfort and cure. It cures in from 3 to 6 nights. 15 cents. Sold by C. A. Klein.

No Heart Too Bad To Be Cured
—Testimony could be piled high in commendation of the wonderful cures wrought by Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart. No case stands against this great remedy where it did not relieve the most acute heart sufferings inside of thirty minutes. It attacks the disease in an instant after being taken. Sold by C. A. Klein.