

NEW YORK LETTER.

The old time fairy queen of the original Black Crook, Pauline Markham is at Tony Pastor's, and so at each of her performances is a group of men in the front row of seats, every man Jack of 'em marked for maturity by width of person or scantiness of hair.

The Model Cheap Hotel. While the fashionable world is looking through the Astoria part of the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel with great interest, another stratum of society is watching the progress of a hotel in Bloeker-st., the opening of which will mark a new era in the housing of men in moderate circumstances.

D. O. Mills, the builder and owner of the new hotel, which will be known as Mills House No. 1, gave the subject long and careful study before he began building the hotel, and spared neither time nor expense in making the structure as complete and as nearly perfect as possible.

A clean, comfortable room, furnished with a well-appointed bed, the floor carpeted and the windows curtained and shaded, for 20 cents a night is only one of the features of the great building, which is arranged to accommodate in its ten stories fifteen hundred guests.

Bowery Whiskey is Pure. The morgue keepers of Chatham square and the Bowery are holding up their heads and scornfully sniffing at the fancy drink mixers who have a habit of twirling their mustaches and washing themselves in the mirrors of the big cafes.

The man who is responsible for it all sits in a little room near the top of the Criminal Court building and picks things apart for the benefit of science and the health of New Yorkers. Dr. Ernst J. Lederle is the man. As chemist of the Health Board he was directed by the Chief of the Division of Foods to analyze the various brands of drink known to the frequenters of the Bowery lodging houses as "Kennedy's Curse," the "Panhandler's Joy," "Graveyard Booze," and "Bowery Lightning."

Dr. Lederle spent nine days and nine nights getting samples of the liquor and finding out what was in it. He stated that he had secured twenty samples of the stuff sold in the morgues of the Bowery at three cents a drink. The analysis showed that the stuff was only imitation whiskey and that it was less harmful than genuine new whiskey.

"According to the United States Pharmacopoeia," says Dr. Lederle, "whiskey should contain from 50 to 58 per cent. of alcohol by volume. Of the samples of three-cent liquor I examined eight contained 45 per cent. of alcohol, four contained 40 per cent., five contained 35 per cent., and three 30 per cent. I found that the flavors used were peppermint, prune juice, vanilla, cinnamon, or bergamot. Caramel was added to deepen the color. None of the flavors or colorings used is deleterious to health. I found all of the samples used free from injurious or poisonous metals.

In two cases the doctor said he actually found some whiskey in the whiskey.

Information. Tuffold Knutt threw away the torn scrap of a newspaper with which he had been amusing himself and languidly asked:—

"What does it mean when it says 'the resolution was adopted by a risin' vote'?"

"It means," replied Mosely Wragga, blinking at the sun and rolling a little further over into the shade of the tree, "it means that the vote was small at first, but it kept a risin' an' risin' till it wuz a majority. If you wouldn't ask questions folks wouldn't find out what a blame fool you are!"—Chicago Tribune.

CHICAGO'S FEMALE WARRIOR

Mrs. A. Emogene Paul's Work in Cleaning the Western City's Streets. Mrs. A. Emogene Paul is the Hercules in petticoats who has undertaken the task of cleaning the streets of Chicago. It is the first time in the history of municipal government that a woman has been chosen for such a commission. Mrs. Paul took the contract because in the list of Civil Service eligibles her name was at the top and Mayor Harrison reasoned that it was not far wrong to have a woman as head sweeper, anyway.



MRS. PAUL.

There is no one in Chicago who does not think Mrs. Paul will accomplish what she has set out to do. The town has confidence in her, despite the fact that for twenty years men have failed to keep even the crosswalks passable, or the alleys better than the byways of an Indian shamble. Mrs. Paul is not a "new woman." She is plain business from the bottom of her feet to the top of her head. Her chin is pointed and her head tips back over two square shoulders.

This unique Commissioner of Streets is a New York woman. She was born in a little village in Monroe County, near Rochester. Her parents had plenty of money, and more. They concluded to try the West while Mrs. Paul was a young girl. They went first to Rockford, Ill., and were prosperous. Mrs. Paul—the only girl in the family—went to the seminary at Canandaigua, where she was graduated with honors, and went back to Rockford to live the peaceful life of a bright country girl on a big farm.

When the importance attached to education and the amount spent upon it in this country are borne in mind, the policy of admitting from foreign lands a great mass of hopeless illiterates presents a singular contrast. Men from countries widely dissimilar from the United States, and unable even to read or write their own language, can not be other than a perilous element. One point to be remembered is that prosperity will rapidly augment the tide of immigration.

A glance at the past is proof of that. In the four years ending with 1879, the year of resumption, the largest annual arrival of immigrants was 177,826. In 1880 the number leaped to 457,257, in 1881 to 669,431, and in 1882 to 788,992, which is high-water mark. The better the times the more immigrants, but there is no rule assuring an improvement in quality. At present the quality, in illiteracy and some other objectionable features, is at about the lowest point.

Practical men who think the chief work of a college is to fill the minds of its graduates with valueless ideas will, perhaps, be convinced by the success of Cornell University in raising potatoes that colleges can cultivate something besides mental abstractions. The college devoted a portion of its farm this year to potatoes. It was not the best kind of soil for potato culture, being, like Hamlet's honesty, "indifferent," and part of it was given the benefit of fertilizers, while another part was not; but all was treated scientifically, the cost of the science applied being rather under than over \$20 an acre.

A PARIS SUGGESTION.

She—And do you love me as much as you did when we were first married? He—Oh, more. You have become one of my habits by this time, so to speak.—Indianapolis Journal.



CURRENT COMMENT.

Secretary of the Navy John D. Long was recently made a member of the famous Harvard Custard Pie association. Secretary Long produced the largest pie, which was twenty inches in diameter.

The new recreation pier recently opened in New York at the foot of East Twenty-fourth street has cost \$125,000. In winter it is inclosed in glass for concerts and lectures.

Judge Pfost of Kansas City, advertises in the press that in order to stimulate trade he will give a couple of theater tickets to every bride and groom whom he marries. Shall we hear a bid now from the divorce court Judge of Kansas City?

At the same time that report says Colorado gold miners are arranging to send their product, in million dollar consignments, by special train to the Philadelphia Mint, it is also announced that the Australian gold recently received at San Francisco is coming across the continent by registered mail—\$500,000 in a day—the only extra expense involved being the insurance of its safe delivery.

The labor bureau at Washington gives some figures as to strikes in this country between 1881 and 1894. The cost of the strikes in those thirteen years is estimated at 163,807,866, and by those strikes 3,714,406 persons were thrown out of employment. The sufferings, physical and mental, on the part of the strikers do not, of course, admit of arithmetical computation, but some idea of their extent can be deduced, with reasonable accuracy, from the figures that are presented. And that extent must have been frightful.

Some admirers of Thomas Moore among the flourishing and ancient Order of Hibernians have made formal complaint that the name of their favorite poet was omitted from the lists of famous men which find a place on the walls of the new Library of Congress. But the gay and tuneful Irishman who visited the United States in 1803 and could only characterize its system of government under Jefferson as "The brute made ruler and the man made brute," could scarcely expect a cordial welcome, even a century later, to an American Pantheon.

The United States Circuit Court of Appeals, at San Francisco, has decided that Tapioca flour is not Tapioca and not flour, but starch, and that, being the latter and neither of the former, it is subject, under the Dingley law, to a duty of two cents a pound. The consequence of this decision is that Tapioca flour, which never had any other name, in commerce, and which is a favorite article of food, especially of the poor, and starch, an article of necessity to everybody, will be increased to the consumer in proportion to the amount of the duty levied.

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Wherever plenty of water is there electric light, heat and power can be generated, whether there be any great quantity of coal or other fuel or not. A waterfall will turn machinery any where, and the machinery will run a dynamo. This use of water power is now extensively made in Central and South America and Mexico, likewise in some of our southern states. In Alaska and on the land route to the goldfields the rapids of the great Yukon and its tributaries might speedily be utilized to run electric cars and supply power and light as well as heat. It is much to know that wherever water flow is there man has the means of lighting and warming himself and running cars, mills and factories.

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