

Lancaster Intelligencer.

FRIDAY EVENING DEC. 22, 1882.

The Langtry Business.

Mrs. Langtry has been more severely criticized by the press of Philadelphia than of any other city in which she has appeared, not, probably, because she has depreciated as an actress, nor because her personal charms have faded, but because by this time the novelty of her advent has worn off, and there is nothing left but the metropolitan newspapers but to go to her dramatic efforts with the editorial cleaver. In New York she was a stranger, and common courtesy demanded for her kindly treatment; in Boston the Labaree-vere quarrel and the Gebhardt scandal give some piquancy of interest to her movements, but these had both staled by the time she got to Philadelphia, and after one or two nights of toleration the newspaper critics have turned in to exhort her attempts upon the stage. That she is greatly deficient as an actress is not to be disputed nor is it wondered at. Great actresses are not suddenly developed, even from great beauties. It takes years of hard study and skillful training to make an actress, even when they are added to natural aptitude. Mrs. Langtry has not experienced the former and probably will not start with the latter. She can have a claim exemption from criticism on such consideration for her professional failings when she sees fit to disguise them by essaying leading roles. Had she confined herself to the parts usually assigned to amateurs she would have been judged as such, but when she plumed herself for higher flights she has no right to feel aggrieved that she is judged by the standard which is thus set up.

But all pretense that Mrs. Langtry is an actress or comes here to be seen and heard as such might as well be abandoned. It is well understood that she took or was taken to the stage simply to be exhibited as a pretty woman, the vulgar interest in whom was enhanced by the current rumors of her equivocal relations with the Prince of Wales and other English rascals. Circus managers in this country have recognized the line of prize female beauties among their attractions, and if Forepaugh's "Lallah Rookh" on the back of an elephant was a more conspicuous figure than Miss Langtry as Rosalind or Miss Harlequin, the motives actuating the management and the performers in the shows are identical. No real lady, of course, with refined instincts, would ever consent to make such an exhibition of herself, and if Mrs. Langtry was born such, as is reported, she has descended from that estate. Her composure before an audience which gives unmistakable signs of its disgust at her pretensions as an actress proves that she poses simply as a professional beauty. And while the symmetry and completeness of her physical charms are stoutly disputed, it is, of course, necessary that one who appears on the stage shall possess much more than these to continue an object of attraction anywhere except in the saw-dust ring or in the ballet.

Nevertheless, the short-lived and rapidly waning Langtry "boom" has been well worked. It is much to be doubted whether the scandals attaching to her of late, in connection with a gilded youth who lavishes his attention and favors on her so publicly, have not been managed as a part of the advertisement of her show. The publicity given to her movements and her lover's by the newspapers have put money into her pocket, and as that is what she came after she will doubtless go home happier than if she had been more kindly received in the drawing room or more favorably noticed in the newspapers and the receipts at the door had been less.

Guitreau's Brain.

The American Journal of Neurology continues the discussion over the results of the examination of Guitreau's brain. It shows that the thinning of the cortex of the brain, the pigmentation of the nerve cells, the alterations in the structure of the blood vessels of the organ, and the hyperplasia in Guitreau's case were exactly such as are associated with settled insanity by the highest authorities. They are not, however, conclusive evidence of insanity, as they may be found in sane persons or those declared sane, though with unclouded brains: It seems to be conceded that Guitreau's brain was not a sound one. The dispute is as to whether it was so unclouded as to make him insane, to the extent of being irresponsible for his actions. A man who is uncontrollably impelled to do a thing should not be punished for it as a crime; the difficulty is to determine the uncontrollability. It is a question in which the benefit of the doubt should be given to the accused. When a man, who has a diseased brain, commits an offense without adequate motive, it will be safe to test it as the act of an insane man. As we have often said, it would have been both more humane and more creditable to the government to have decided the doubt in Guitreau's case in favor of the conclusion that his causeless killing of Garfield was an act of insanity.

It is claimed that the Stewart Republican state senators are assured of the co-operation of enough of their so-called independent colleagues to elect Heyburn, of Philadelphia, president pro tem, and it is also given out that another bond of union between the two lately hostile factions, if not a consideration of the above agreement, is a common purpose to seat Bosler as the senator from the Cumberland-Adams district. Bosler, who is Dorsey's partner in Star Route contracts and Blaine's in politics, is rich and daring, and Blaine is anxious above all things to get him into the Pennsylvania Senate; just why it is not yet made plain, but it might be supposed the reasons were such as would make Cameron equally desirous to keep him out. But as the Camerons just now are anxious to heal their party troubles in this state they may be willing to make some concessions in order to begin the work in the state Senate. Between the inception and the consum-

NEWS OF THE DAY.

A DISASTROUS FIRE IN BUFFALO.

The new "Commercial" block completely destroyed with a loss of property estimated at \$500,000. At 5 o'clock Thursday evening an explosion of lithographical chemicals occurred in the new Commercial Advertiser building, on the corner of Washington and North Division streets, Buffalo, N. Y., and in an incredibly short space of time the entire structure was a sheet of flame. The accident took place on the third floor where the chemicals, varnishes and inks were stored. Two men were engaged mixing colors at the time, but they were not able to tell whether the fire was the result of spontaneous combustion or came from a match. The explosion was so violent that the building was completely destroyed. The fire spread to the varnishes and communicated with the stories above and below by means of the elevator shaft. They swept through-out the building so rapidly that the employees experienced a difficulty in escape. Fortunately, however, of the 150 employees in the building but one was injured. This was a boy in the job department. He was burned before getting upon the fire escape.

The building was doomed from the first, and nothing beyond the books of the concern and some office furniture was saved. The fire department was slow in getting to work, and the great walls fell into the street within an hour from the start. The sight when the fire was at its height was one to be remembered. The flames were on top of the building, and the firemen had settled down to work, it was seen that all efforts to save the burning building would be vain, and they directed their attention to the adjoining streets and factories. Nevertheless, the flames spread to the wholesale grocery store of Miller & Greiner, over which was the Masonic temple. The society's rooms were entirely gutted and their furniture destroyed, while the building is almost entirely ruined. Another occupant of the Commercial block was the jewelry store of Miller & Greiner, whose goods, whose stock was totally destroyed, entailing a loss of \$50,000.

The Commercial building was a large five-story brick building, and was erected last spring by James Warren, at a cost of \$700,000. It was one of the largest and finest buildings in the city. Miller & Greiner will suffer a loss of \$50,000 on their groceries, fully covered by insurance, while the loss on their building cannot be estimated. Through the kindness of the Courier the Commercial block was visited on Thursday afternoon. Mr. Warren will probably rebuild on the same site. The total loss is now estimated at over \$300,000.

A GASTLY TASK.

The skin of a human being tanned and made into a medicine case by a student. Philadelphia Press.

A student of the Hahnemann college, whose name runs to the chase, is having a medicine chest made out of human skin. The leather, for leather it is now, was tanned and dressed at a morocco establishment on Third street, and was delivered to the student on Monday last. It resembles a fine piece of morocco somewhat, and no one would look at it, would imagine that it once formed a very important part of a living man. The skin was obtained from the dissecting table, and was probably the largest piece of human hide ever submitted to such a process. The trunk, the shoulders, part of the arms and the upper part of the legs of a negro. The skinning was very neatly performed, all in one piece, and the horrible relic of humanity delivered to the tanner two weeks ago. It was submitted to a student of the dissecting table, and it is, to scrape the hair from the upper side. After being stained a deep blue, and dried, it was ready to go into the hands of the case maker, and by New Year day it will be ready to look at, and ready to carry the dead into the homes of the living without detection.

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The Greek or Eastern church has adhered to the old calendar, and never adopted the new style brought in by Pope Gregory XIII. The 25th of December, according to the old style, falls on the 6th of January. That day is still known as Old Christmas or Twelfth night. The most numerous of all the Christian sects in Palestine and Syria are members of the Greek church. They are spoken of as Greeks, but they are so called merely because they belong to the Greek church. They are Arabs of the country, and Arabic is the vernacular language. However, the whole church service is said in Greek when the high clergy officiate.

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The procession, in numbers often counting several thousands, winds its way through the streets of the city, leading by the Jaffa Gate. On the plain of Rehaphim the order of march breaks, and the Bashibazouks and the consular guards, 200 strong, are the first to dismount and perform feats of horsemanship. At Rachel's tomb the patriarch is met by hundreds of the Bethlehem and Beit-Jala men on foot, firing their guns, shouting, clapping their hands, and singing as they proceed. The town commissioners and citizens join in this demonstration, the whole has more the appearance of a conquering army than of a devout and peaceful company of worshippers; but they come to celebrate the anniversary of the birth of the greatest Conqueror of the world, ever possessed, and therefore think it not unbecoming to render a hero's honors. Up through the hilly streets of Bethlehem this great army winds its way, the procession constantly growing larger. As they pass the houses they are greeted with songs of welcome from the windows by the women and children. They arrive at the great square which fronts the great fortress like edifice that holds three extensive monasteries, the great complex Church of the Nativity. Here they halt for a moment on either side, through which the patriarch rides, a procession of priests and monks from the monastery, wearing magnificent robes, preceded by a large number of chanting chorists, meet him at the gate, sprinkle holy water and rose-water all over the place, and then the patriarch, the Russian and Greek consulates hold the stirrup on either side while the patriarch dismounts—a token of the submission of the temporal to the powers spiritual. The patriarch, his suit, the consuls and their staff, all related to the reception room, where they are served with refreshments, and later, a repast. The monasteries of this vast edifice belong severally to the Greek, Latin and Armenian sects, and the guardianship of the church is divided between the three communities, of which the various sections under their several care are minutely managed off. The special chapel of the Nativity is, however, common property, and many a time the question of precedence in religious processions has caused the church to be deluged with Christian blood, monks and priests fighting with bell, book, candles, or crozier—whatever happened to be most handy or effective. A strong guard of Turkish soldiers is therefore stationed in this monastic fortress to keep the peace between the sects on the great holy days. At midnight the service begins, the patriarch, the bishop, the priests and chorists in their sacerdotal robes and crowns, which are one blaze of cloth of gold and jewels. Candles made of pure wax, of four feet in length and proportionately thick, are carried by the clergy, the officials and every citizen and pilgrim that has devout enough to purchase so large a taper. The thousands of tapers borne by the crowds, the gorged robes of the priests, the brilliant and brilliant of the service, the army officers and soldiers, the countless variety of costumes worn by individuals from nearly all the different countries, towns and villages on earth, the vast and beautiful cathedral, with its thousands of chandeliers, lamps of gold, silver, bronze, brass and stained glass, all ablaze with light, the richly decked altars, the priceless gems of art accumulated throughout ages, the music, the singing, the constant motion—all combine to form a panorama of such wondrous and bewildering strangeness, and so beautiful, that it is impossible to appreciate it at first sight.

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John Paul a lunatic patient, escaped Thursday from the hospital at Cincinnati, and went to the Pan Handle railroad depot, where he mounted a locomotive fired with dynamite, and sprang into the cab, pulled the lever and shouted "Good-bye, I'm off for St. Louis." Both the engineer and fireman sprang aboard just in time to stop the engine and prevent mischief. A long struggle ensued. The mania was so mad for the two men that they required the aid of others to secure him and remove him from the engine.

Assaults of Western Journalists.

At Omaha a warrant was sworn out late Thursday night by Edward Rosewater, of the Free Press, against Yost & Nye, proprietors of the Omaha Journal, charging them with criminal libel in publishing an article headed "Let the Sinner Live," which denounced Rosewater as a traitor and Confederate spy.

Playing with Powder.

Jeremiah Young, son of James McCarthy, of Wind Gap, was severely burned on the body and face by the explosion of powder. The powder was exploded in a rooming house, and spilling some of it on the floor put a lighted match to it with the above result. His injuries are not considered serious.

Other News Paragraphs.

Fifteen families of Russian refugees sent by relief associations to different parts of Dakota are reported to be in danger of starving or freezing to death. Doughty Kapella, shipbuilders at Perry's island, Thursday launched what is claimed to be the largest dredge in the world. It is 100 feet in length, 60 feet in breadth and 12 feet in depth, and is to be used in excavating for the Panama canal. Mayor Harrison, of Chicago, says he will not interfere with the parade of armed Socialists on the occasion of the reception of Herr Most, but they will violate a state law in carrying arms. Telegrams from Texas state that Montero has been created a general of division by the Bolivian Congress, and Caceres, Vedarde and Canero brigadiers. It is further said Montero will concede Arica and Tacna to Bolivia if she remains true to the alliance.

Reception to Governor-Elect Pattison.

Governor-elect Pattison and wife arrived at Harrisburg Thursday afternoon, accompanied by Rev. Thomas T. Everett and wife, Senator Gordon, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Summers, Thomas Bradley, Rev. J. R. Doyle and Mr. and Mrs. Bartlett. The party registered at the Bolton house. Thursday evening a reception was tendered Mr. Pattison at the executive mansion by the members of the legislature. The parlors were beautifully decorated with floral designs. Gov. Hoyt received with Mrs. Francis Jordan, Mr. Hoyt being prostrated with illness. Mr. and Mrs. Pattison were warmly welcomed by the guests, the majority of whom were from Harrisburg. Among the guests were Attorney General Palmer, State Treasurer Baily, S. Boyd Hamilton, Secretary Jordan, Col. J. Wesley Aul, of the national guard, Col. F. Asbury Aul,

THE NATIVITY PLACE.

GREEK CHRISTMAS AT BETHLEHEM.

When Christ Was Born—The Christmas Eve Procession—"Peace, Peace." The Refrain of Centuries. Bethlehem of Judaea, the birth place of our Saviour, is second only in sacred interest to Jerusalem, and the sight of the wondrous event which has given a name to our era, neither history nor tradition losing sight of so memorable a village. Although under Turkish dominion, it is wholly a Christian town of about six thousand inhabitants, these Christians belonging chiefly to the Roman Catholic, Greek or Armenian churches.

The Greek or Eastern church has adhered to the old calendar, and never adopted the new style brought in by Pope Gregory XIII. The 25th of December, according to the old style, falls on the 6th of January. That day is still known as Old Christmas or Twelfth night. The most numerous of all the Christian sects in Palestine and Syria are members of the Greek church. They are spoken of as Greeks, but they are so called merely because they belong to the Greek church. They are Arabs of the country, and Arabic is the vernacular language. However, the whole church service is said in Greek when the high clergy officiate.

It is customary for great numbers of the residents of Jerusalem, as well as visitors, to spend Christmas at Bethlehem, as the churches celebrate it there with great pomp and ceremony. Most go there as worshippers, while many others go simply as spectators. The Greek patriarch of Jerusalem, whose see extends over the whole of Palestine, both east and west of the Jordan, proceeds yearly to officiate at the religious services Christmas-eve in the Church of the Nativity at Bethlehem. The procession leaves the Patriarchal palatial city residence, at about noon on the eve, in great state. First in order ride Nakarjeje and Shadrima, the old style of Oriental cavalry, in the picturesque, richly ornamented, and heavily laden, drummers of the high Levantine, a weird and yet martial kind of tattoo upon small drums fastened on either side of their saddle bows. Next to this detachment ride a company of fierce Bashibazouks, armed, like the preceding cavalry, with the bow, the scimitar, the scimitar and consular guards, follow, gorged in suits of cloth heavy with gold embroidery, armed with pistols and silver, bearing in the right hand a long silver mace, the bottom of which rests on the ground, and in the left hand a drum, the drumsticks resting on the ground. Behind these, in order of rank, come the chorists, the monks and chorists of all the numerous monasteries and churches, also the clerical students and officers in the civil service. Private citizens from all ranks of society and pilgrims from all parts of the world bring up the rear.

The procession, in numbers often counting several thousands, winds its way through the streets of the city, leading by the Jaffa Gate. On the plain of Rehaphim the order of march breaks, and the Bashibazouks and the consular guards, 200 strong, are the first to dismount and perform feats of horsemanship. At Rachel's tomb the patriarch is met by hundreds of the Bethlehem and Beit-Jala men on foot, firing their guns, shouting, clapping their hands, and singing as they proceed. The town commissioners and citizens join in this demonstration, the whole has more the appearance of a conquering army than of a devout and peaceful company of worshippers; but they come to celebrate the anniversary of the birth of the greatest Conqueror of the world, ever possessed, and therefore think it not unbecoming to render a hero's honors. Up through the hilly streets of Bethlehem this great army winds its way, the procession constantly growing larger. As they pass the houses they are greeted with songs of welcome from the windows by the women and children. They arrive at the great square which fronts the great fortress like edifice that holds three extensive monasteries, the great complex Church of the Nativity. Here they halt for a moment on either side, through which the patriarch rides, a procession of priests and monks from the monastery, wearing magnificent robes, preceded by a large number of chanting chorists, meet him at the gate, sprinkle holy water and rose-water all over the place, and then the patriarch, the Russian and Greek consulates hold the stirrup on either side while the patriarch dismounts—a token of the submission of the temporal to the powers spiritual. The patriarch, his suit, the consuls and their staff, all related to the reception room, where they are served with refreshments, and later, a repast. The monasteries of this vast edifice belong severally to the Greek, Latin and Armenian sects, and the guardianship of the church is divided between the three communities, of which the various sections under their several care are minutely managed off. The special chapel of the Nativity is, however, common property, and many a time the question of precedence in religious processions has caused the church to be deluged with Christian blood, monks and priests fighting with bell, book, candles, or crozier—whatever happened to be most handy or effective. A strong guard of Turkish soldiers is therefore stationed in this monastic fortress to keep the peace between the sects on the great holy days. At midnight the service begins, the patriarch, the bishop