

Evening Public Ledger
THE EVENING TELEGRAPH
PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY
 CYRUS H. K. CURTIS, President
 Charles H. Lindbergh, Vice President
 John C. Martin, Secretary and Treasurer
 Philip S. Collins, John S. Williams, John J. Burchess, Directors

EDITORIAL BOARD:
 CYRUS H. K. CURTIS, Chairman
 DAVID B. SMILEY, Editor
 JOHN C. MARTIN, General Business Manager

Published daily at Public Ledger Building, Independence Square, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Except on Sundays, when it is published at the Pennsylvania Building, Broad and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Telephone: 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000

Member of the Associated Press
 THE ASSOCIATED PRESS is exclusively entitled to the use for republication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in this paper, and also the local news published therein.
 All rights of publication of special dispatches herein are also reserved.

Philadelphia, Tuesday, December 3, 1918

THE CASUALTY LIST SCANDAL

SOMETHING is fatally wrong with the system of reporting casualties to the families of the dead or wounded. For example, thirty-five days elapsed between the death of Major Ward W. Pierson and the notification of his widow. A comrade of a young man who was killed in July informed the man's parents months ago of the catastrophe, but the family has not yet received any official information on the subject and hostilities ended twenty days ago. Men who have been wounded seriously have recovered and have been sent home, have met the postman at the door of their houses, with a letter from the War Department containing the announcement to their families that they had been killed. The lists of deaths given to the newspapers contain almost every day the names of men who are known to be alive and well.

All this uncertainty is keeping the wives and mothers of the men in a state of suspense and strain to which they ought not to be subjected. There is no necessity for it.

But there are no indications of a disposition to change the system. We are told that the total number of casualties has been 265,000. The details of only about 100,000 men have been reported. The names of about 165,000 remain to be sent across the ocean. At the present rate it will take 100 days to get the complete list here, and the loading of the cables with the names prevents their use for other matter. The whole list of 165,000 could be brought over the ocean by a messenger in less than two weeks. The ocean can be crossed in eight days, and if we allow two weeks for completing the work there would be six days for getting the lists to Paris and delivering them in Washington with the sea voyage taken out.

It is about time that some one in authority in Washington with a little compassion for the friends of the dead and injured took the matter in hand and forced expedition and accuracy in reports.

"Baby mine" is a phrase which loses its consoling charm at the thought of what may be floating off the Delaware Capes.

TALKING ALOUD AT LAST

SECRETARY SPROULE, of the State Board of Commissioners of Navigation, has begun to say aloud what men have been whispering for years about the reasons for the backwardness of this port.

Whenever two or three informed men have talked privately on the subject there has been general agreement. At a dinner a few months ago a speaker, sitting next to one of the city officials, expressed his opinion as to the cause. "If you say that on your feet," said the official, "you will create a sensation."

But all that the speaker said was that it was the railroads which had blocked the development of Philadelphia's waterborne trade. Now Mr. Sproule, who knows what he is talking about, has said the same thing in the course of an article on the history and present status of this port, printed in the Advance, the monthly bulletin of the Corn Exchange Bank.

When we begin to talk in the open about what every one knows we are making some progress. If we continue to talk we shall put the railroads on the defensive and then we may hope that they will do something to change the conditions which have justified all the criticism to which they are subjected.

WHAT ABOUT ROUGE?

NEWARK has gone, as they say at election times, anti-rouge.

The sternly avowed determination of the city officials to wipe the flaming paint from the faces of the misguided little sisters who have given themselves over to that fantastic means of adornment represents one of the oddest municipal enterprises of recent years. It is not altogether humorous. For undoubtedly one of the strangest and most moving sights in all America is the immature girl who turns upon you the serene, guileless and unspangled eyes of a child—and a face painted like a Sioux Indian. She doesn't know that in every other occidental country lavish use of face paint is the accepted badge of those who frankly disdain all ordinary social conventions.

In the end her painted face is actually a rather pitiful symbol of innocence. It is the final consciousness of this paradox that has moved uncounted foreigners to amazement. In France and England well-worn women do not paint. The habit is one that is left, as a rule, to the stage and the giddy minority which doesn't take things seriously. From the viewpoint of the vast majority of French and English girls it is goodly indeed the habit of face-painting

represents an unthinkable departure from all the rules of propriety.

It would be difficult to trace the origin of the rouge mania in America. Those who claim to know the contents of the modern handbag say that even some school girls carry face paint and use it more or less regularly. Who is going to convince them that the practice is foolish and ugly and that it deceives no one? The Newark police have attempted this difficult task. The police matrons have been ordered to wash—forcibly if necessary—the face of every young girl who is found on the streets with her cheeks artificially colored. One cannot refrain from wishing Newark luck and power to the elbows of the police matrons.

WILSON STILL PLAYING LONE DIPLOMATIC HAND

Address Leaves Whole Country Still Dependent Upon Him Alone at Peace Conference

PRESIDENT WILSON in his address to Congress revealed nothing of the plans, nothing of the information which inspired his decision to go to Europe. He remains, in relation to the whole question of peace, an autocrat or an inspired mystic, according to the speculations through which he is viewed.

There will be clamor and disappointment in some quarters because of the President's deliberate refusal to tell Congress of the program which he will urge upon the council at Versailles. It will be said that he should have asked the advice of Congress or, at least, permitted it to express an opinion in relation to the new international scheme in which we shall have to participate later on. And, on the other hand, there are many who, because they believe they understand the immensity of the forces opposed to each other in Europe, will be assured that the President could not and should not have revealed his intentions.

It must be assumed that the President will do as he has done before—forge his weapons and choose his course as he goes along. This is an unconventional method, strange in a country like ours and not in accord with our habits of thought or practice. It operated successfully during the war. It served to terminate hostilities successfully. It swept autocracy out of Germany and averted the possibility of another year of blood and loss and horror.

So, even though the address to Congress yesterday studiously avoided to the very end the topic in which all America was most keenly interested, and even though there will be a continuing disposition in many quarters to say that the trip to Europe is superfluous, perilous, pretentious or unwise, it will not do to conclude hastily that the President may not be more astute than his critics. As we have said repeatedly, results alone will tell.

It would be unfair to suppose that a purely selfish motive or any vain assumption of authority has prompted Mr. Wilson in this instance. He knew, surely, that in many respects his address would be a disappointment to the country. And he must be acutely aware that his journey may end in disaster to his prestige. That is proof of his courage. It indicates strong convictions. What the public must hope for now is that he may succeed in establishing the principles of justice between nations which heretofore he has so splendidly expounded. The fact remains that the country is left in a cloud of uncertainties.

Something of what might be called Mr. Wilson's secrecy is understandable. Had he followed the course which would have satisfied and reassured the country and stated frankly to Congress the essential aims and purposes of his mission the President might have been forced to reveal elements in the situation which deeper knowledge requires to be kept secret. Yet in the method he adopted he leaves the country with a sense that it is straying in the mist. Its affairs are taken out of its hands. It must trust the President—for the simple reason that there is no alternative. It has trusted the President before and found that it trusted wisely. But it has to depart far from methods which were found essential and sure in the past.

The President is dealing with imponderables in Europe. Russia is a dim wilderness, with fabulous riches for the exploiter or the conqueror. Germany and Austria are preparing to change the course of life and civilization on the continent. Opposed forces of extraordinary power are struggling for the control of the British Government and British policy. Of the outcome in such instances no one is qualified to make prophecies. So the relation which the United States must maintain with one or another condition of affairs in Europe—the manner in which we shall co-operate or refuse to co-operate with new and unforeseen States and conditions of nationality—is left solely to the discretion of one man. When it is said that that one man is devoted and moved by a concern for the world's benefit we have not yet disposed of the situation. For there is no man who may not fall into an error of judgment, and such an error becomes a matter of immeasurable importance when it is of a sort that affects the destiny of a whole nation.

It is conceivable that Mr. Wilson sees the subjects of the Peace Conference far more clearly than they can be seen by those whom he might have taken into his confidence. We are unlike the other nations since we have no indemnities or territories or awards to seek. We have lost all that we can lose in the present. The President, acting apparently upon his assurance that the majority of mankind is upon the side of justice, aware of his ability to rally a large section of public opinion in Europe and America to his support in idealistic causes, may aim to make an open war, if it is necessary,

on the forces which he knows will operate at the Versailles conference to build new empires of selfishness upon the ruin of Europe. If he succeeds he will be hailed as the greatest statesman of his age. If he fails he will be repudiated as a vain victim of his own egotism. It is a mark of Mr. Wilson's confidence in his own position that he is willing to risk so much on so perilous an enterprise. That alone should be an adequate assurance of his sincerity.

The address to Congress, though it lifted none of the mists from the European situation, was a tentative reply to all of those who have been convinced that the President was preparing to throw the weight of his influence to a program of Government ownership, Government administration and a socialistic administration of other utilities are not evident in the logic of the President. The admission of Mr. Wilson that he didn't know the answer to the question of utilities seems to dispose of the prospect of Government ownership. He implies that the matter is one to inspire research and constructive reasoning in Congress. Had Congress been more reasonable and more constructive in the past the railroads might not have proved inadequate in a crisis and they might never have passed under Government control. Congress now has another chance. The railroads have another chance. All of the utilities that have been administered in the past for the benefit of stockholders rather than for the benefit of the public have another chance. For what Mr. Wilson said of the railroads must apply with equal force to the telegraphs and the telephones. We may yet profit by the war if by the present confusion the corporations are taught to function efficiently, profitably and in an enlightened manner under wise Federal regulation. No other system is adequate to America and the needs of American life.

The plea for woman suffrage was natural. It is highly probable that every country in Europe will soon grant the franchise to woman. We cannot afford to be listed among the backward nations of the earth.

If any senatorial party goes to Paris it is possible that the demands for English in the peace conference will be louder than ever.

FROM SEA GIRT TO SEDAN

WHEN a regiment is cited immediately after action it is proved to have done something momentous and unusually brave. When an officer is advanced on the field he receives the highest recognition possible under the rules of military service. The ceremony represents the chivalrous acknowledgment of superiors whose own hard experience has taught them how to esteem exalted courage.

These distinctions were won by the 114th Regiment, Camden's old Third Regiment, N. G. N. J., and two of its officers in the final days of the drive toward Sedan. Major B. Stone and Major George L. Selby and the men in their command were average Americans who trained at Sea Girt in the easy-going days when there seemed no possibility of war. They were a part of the National Guard in the days when the National Guard was supposed to be old-fashioned and inadequate. The world has since learned that soldiers scientifically made are not always the best. Spirit counts.

The "imponderable" in the 114th and in all other American units, the win-or-die state of mind that made a thought of retreat or defeat unbearable, has added epic pages even to the stupendous record of the most awful of wars.

Camden should do something fine for the 114th when it gets back with the flags that never were hatted.

It remains to be seen how the other nations like the Big Brother attitude of Mr. Wilson, indicated in his remark to Congress that "We are about to give order and organization to this peace not only for ourselves, but for the other peoples of the world as well, so far as they will suffer us to serve them."

The P. R. T. wants us to "know the truth." Can it be that it thinks we have forgotten the truth about the watered stock on which it is paying dividends?

Now we know why the reports of the ex-Kaiser's cigarette smoking have been so persistent. It was to give verisimilitude to his great "foiled again" hissing scene as his reinstatement plots are frustrated.

This plan of court proceedings for Mr. Hohenzollern seems to me excessively paper-bogatory. Mr. Bones. "How so, Mr. Tambor?" "Well, sir, I estimate its sheer wastefulness by the fact that he has been already tried and found wanting."

Nations which have loaned money to Russia had at once great interest in that country and none whatever.

The news that Nicholas of Montenegro has been ousted by a Skupstina is enough to frighten any monarch of tender sensibilities.

Liebknecht has been sleeping in the Kaiser's bed, but the pressing question in Germany is who is going to wear the Kaiser's shoes?

No legal objection to the President's trip to France has yet been found which impresses the lay mind as worth serious consideration.

PRUNES AND PRISMS

Tribulations
 I AM a conscientious citizen,
 And on Sundays I try to read the Sunday paper
 Without stint or limit.
 I study the rotogravure section,
 I read the editorials,
 The financial news,
 The innumerable articles about the League of Nations,
 The real estate advertising,
 The stories of the home life of theatrical and movie stars
 And why Mrs. Douglas Fairbanks couldn't get along with Bug.
 And the complexities of the Russian problem;
 That Omak (where is it?) has suffered a coup d'etat (what is it?);
 And that the President's mother-in-law is to occupy
 The regal suite on the "George Washington";
 And oppressed mothers-in-law all over the world
 Now take heart and look for better days.
 And I read that the All-Slyest
 Still nurses a hope of getting back to Berlin,
 And that Perd considers declaring war on Chile on Carne,
 And that an eminent person says no one can love New York
 Because it is the city of unbrotherly shove.
 And I read that no one can understand what is happening
 In Alsace-Lorraine unless he has read the novels of Erekmann-Chatrain (who was the lady?);
 And I think to myself, "That lets Pershing out."
 And I read that beer has joined the Great Majority,
 And that some guy earned a place in the Baltimore Sun
 By saying that everybody in Europe hates the U. S.
 And I read that a millionaire cut his nephew out of his will
 Because his trouser knees were baggy.
 And then,
 Thoroughly exhausted,
 I come upon an article about the Havaspa Indians
 Who hardly ever see a white man,
 And I wonder how much it costs
 To become a Havaspa Indian?

Our Own War Songs
 By Clara the Cockney
 "The Mother of Six"

MY OLD MAN was a lovely chap—
 'E bashed my skull in twice;
 An' I was always fond of a scrap,
 An' signed no armistice—
 But our six sons was thoroughbred 'Uns—
 'Eredity is so queer!
 Each of 'em the litter a blinkin' quitter
 An' 'one was a profiteer!

CHORUS
 They left the war to Mother dear
 As quick as quick could be,
 An' the only one to go to 'ie front
 Was—'oo do you think?—but me!

Bill and Ben was Bolshevik,
 Sam's 'eart did palpitate;
 And Ed compiled some little tracks
 To teach men not to 'ate;
 Joe was a blinkin' pacifist
 In everything but beer,
 And Jack invented a cootie cure
 And became a profiteer!

They left the war to Mother dear
 As quick as quick could be,
 An' the only one to go to the front
 Was—'oo do you think?—but me!

IF EVER there comes another war
 I know what I will do;
 I'll never knit a bloody sock
 An' fighting is nappo—
 I'll be a blarsted warrior
 At 'ome—'us, never fear!
 I'll sell Jack's cure for cooties
 An' be a profiteer!

They left the war to Mother dear
 As quick as quick could be,
 An' the only one to go to the front
 Was—'oo do you think?—but me!

Read on the Menu Card
 "The management will deem it a personal favor by reporting any delinquency on part of the employees."

Grace Before Filling a Pipe From a Friend's Tobacco Pouch
 Thanks for this pipful of good stuff;
 I musn't pack too tight to puff;
 If I should die before I smoke
 My thrifty heart would be quite broke.

If it should prove to be an exceptionally bitter winter, the Fuel Administrators will say they foresaw it. And if the winter is unusually mild, they will say that was why they held back on coal. In other words, they are only inhuman, like all the rest of us.

Sartar Resartus
 Apparently Mr. Wilson's visit to Europe is far more momentous than any of us dreamed. Frank Dilnot, writing in the New York Times, says:
 "The French people in the streets, as well as the fashionable people whom he will see at the more distinguished gatherings, will take a mental note of the Wilson trousers, or the Wilson necktie, and especially the Wilson hat. These will be the things by which many of the people will remember his visit, and will, to some extent, perpetuate it. Let him be careful, therefore, that he sets the right note. I can foresee, moreover, that his clean-shaven face will do away with many of the moustaches at present observable in France. To be like President Wilson will be the fashion."

It is a nice question in international courtesy. Will Lloyd George and Foch shake, or will the President grow a bush? At present, at any rate, Germany looks like the most clean-shaven thing in Europe.

Unbroken Cabinets
 To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—With the exception of the elder Harison, who died exactly one month after his inauguration, Franklin Pierce was the only President whose Cabinet remained unchanged in personnel during his term of office. His postmaster general was the late Judge James Campbell, of this city, father of John M. Campbell, former surveyor of the port.
 S. B.
 Philadelphia, November 29.

"IF YOU DON'T SEE WHAT YOU WANT, SON, PLE-E-EASE ASK FOR IT!"



A "WORLD POET" AND HIS WORK

Edmond Rostand Won the Applause of the International Stage Without Compromising a Single Artistic Ideal

ALCLOISTERED poet, austere scrupulous and revising his polished and infrequent products, and yet the bearer of a name perhaps as well known the world over as any in contemporary literature—such was Edmond Rostand. Reputation of the charge that favor with the general public can be gained only by a surrender of artistic ideals is inspiringly furnished by the career of the distinguished craftsman who died in Paris yesterday.

Edmond Rostand never wrote "down to the mob." He took it up with him to Parnassian heights. He interpreted his vague dreams with gorgeous verbal tapestry and with the sense-quickenng radiance of romance. His singular faculty might be called French had not Shakespeare performed the same miracle on a vaster scale.

Without sacrifice a certain kinship between the two poet-dramatists may be traced. Parisian enthusiasts who witnessed the memorable premiere of "Cyrano de Bergerac" on December 28, 1897, fervidly evoked the parallel. The extreme flatness of such a snap judgment for a time damagingly obscured a part truth. Rostand was no supreme genius. He was an admirable, a richly imaginative, often an eloquent maker of verse-plays, and repugnant to his sensibilities must have been an unstrained appraisal of his art on the Shakespearean heights.

The analogy is best drawn not so much with reference to the intrinsic merit as to the spirit animating both dramatists and the intimate relationship with the public which each established through his works. It is the sheer romanticism of Rostand which is Shakespearean. The Frenchman eschewed "problems." In an era of special pleadings of economic, sociological, psychological, even esthetic propaganda, he defied every faddish "ism" and courageously scaled the peaks of beauty.

There is no more "secondary intention" in "Cyrano" or "L'Aiglon" than there is in "Romeo and Juliet." Dramatic fire is there, illuminating majesty of language, sprightliness of thought and a vivid sense of human character. No one expounds the "philosophy" of Edmond Rostand, for, as a matter of fact, no such millstone on his art exists. It would be well were the pedants to leave off endeavoring to unearth it in Shakespeare.

Rostand's best plays, clothed in exquisite language, are none the less throbbing with sincere, human emotion. The investiture is romantic, the characterization and dramatic honesty, of forthright and irresistible appeal.

The public's delight in such a talent has been unmistakable. The two masterpieces, "Cyrano" and "L'Aiglon," have gone the rounds of the world's theatres. Outside of France what other poet-dramatist that nation enjoys such universality of production? In non-French speaking lands, Racine, Corneille, Leconte de Lisle, Hugo as a dramatist, are revered names in literary circles, but Rostand has held the stage.

PHILADELPHIANS have seen numerous productions of his most important plays. The "Cyrano" furore is a landmark in American theatrical history and in this city it left a deep impression. Three distinct representations of that brilliant, gasconading, whimsical yet tender dramatic romance were given here in the course of a single season.

Richard Mansfield was the authorized possessor of the American producing claims to the piece, and yet his title was nebulous. No American copyright or translations of the work had been secured in France, and a strange variety of English versions appeared and were acted. Mr. Mansfield, emphasizing the tragic, passionate and sentimental aspects of the Gallic-nosed hero rather than his fantastic Gallic qualities, scored a triumph with his creation at the Walnut Street Theatre.

His performance had been anticipated, however, with a condensed and distorted rendition of the work by Augustin Daly's company at the Chestnut Street Opera House. In that presentation Charles Richmond was the Cyrano and Ada Rehan, the Roxane. Still less representative of the original was a "shoe-string" production by Henry Lee.

Some years later the play with its native flavor was superbly presented by Coquelin, who caught the fantasy which Mansfield had missed in the title part. Sarah Bernhardt assumed the comparatively minor role of the heroine.

BEFORE that visit of the distinguished French stars, "L'Aiglon," that appealing and pathetic exhibit of patriotic ambition, unrealized by Napoleon's son, stifled in the oppressive air of Schoenbrunn, had been offered by Maude Adams. The part was clearly beyond her, but the imaginative power of the play won well-remembered approval. When Bernhardt came, the work went for its full value. Unforgettable were the scenes with Metternich and the Hugoesque vision on the field of Wagram.

The long-awaited "Chantecler," an allegory of human life expressed in terms of the farmyard, exhibited a certain strain in Rostand's genius. Perhaps with a consummate actor such as Coquelin, who died before the first public performance in Paris, the suggestion of effort would have been less obvious. Lucien Guitry is said to have irradiated its rhapsodic verse with dazzling authority, but the American theatre was denied his performance. Miss Adams's attempt to embody the ambitious herald of the dawn, quintessentially symbolic of France, was a lamentable mistake. Philadelphia's saw the birdplay under the worst possible auspices.

"La Princesse Lointaine" ("The Faraway Princess"), where Rostand once only took a leaf from the volume of the mystical Maeterlinck, and "La Samaritaine," a scriptural play of a somewhat pallid type, were both Bernhardt vehicles. They were good literature, but foreign public interest was not spurred by them. "Les Romanesques," a delicious extravaganza, is, however, well worth reviving provided the proper interpreters can be procured. It has been given in this city by the Browning Society.

ROSTAND, so far as plays were concerned, was silent during the war, but his muse sounded impassioned patriotic notes which augured well for noble dramatic expression in a happier future. Of these products in verse perhaps the finest were his "Heart of Chopin," pulsating with the pathos of enslaved Poland, and "The Song of the Star," which exaltingly disclosed his feeling for American idealism. The poem was written long before we embraced the Allies' cause. Americans may recall with pride the rectitude of his interpretation of a people who knew the pulse-felt Rostand better than they did the unmatched Moliere. From his "Fivory tower" at Cambro les Bains in the French Baugue country Rostand had bidden indeed the whole world listen when he invoked his vibrant dramatic muse. "He held his pen in trust for art." It will be cherished.

READER'S VIEWPOINT

Fairness of the Gownman to the Teachers
 To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—Permit me to thank the "Gownman" for his masterful presentation of the facts about teachers' salaries in Philadelphia. Unlike a writer signing himself "Justice" in a letter to one of our papers recently, the "Gownman" knows whereof he speaks. Furthermore, he reveals a large-minded view of the whole problem, as any intelligent citizen can readily see.

If we can read between the lines and read correctly, we venture to believe that the "Gownman" is not the sort of citizen who would begrudge the teacher well-earned, well-made, even beautiful clothing. "Justice" as he so ludicrously miscalls himself, might prefer to see the teachers clad in Cinderella's rags or in her clad in severely plain, lackluster attire—as, for example, khaki duck in summer and olive drab shoddy in winter; for "Justice" is outraged at the idea that a young teacher, in a moment of enthusiasm, exclaimed that she would use her \$250 bonus money to buy an evening coat! If "Justice" is an experienced shopper he (or she) must be well aware that an evening coat bought for \$50 is a very modest-looking affair indeed.

But the ideas of "Justice" about the clothing problem for teachers are just as far wrong as the salary figures recently in his remarkable letter. The lowest salary paid is not \$740 for ten months, but \$600 for twelve months or \$50 a month for ten months, the