IN THE SOCIAL SWIM.

THE PROPER THING.

The Author of Don't Explains Many Interesting Points of Etiquette and Usage—Visits of Condolence—Thanking Servants—Calling on Ladies.

[WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH.]

Will you please state through the columns of your paper whether it is proper or not for a young gentlemen to fan a young lady at the theater, and oblige?

It would be considered indecorous, unless the lady is ill, or is overcome by the heat.

(1). On which side of a lady should a gentleman walk in the street? (2). Should a gentleman in making a brief call leave his overshoes at the door if they are not muddy?

(1). On the side of the curbstone. (2). He should leave his overshoes in the hall under all circumstances.

In making a short call should the overcoat be left in the hall and the hat kept in the hand? What is proper in this case? SIMPLEX.

The overcoat should be left in the hall; the hat may be kept in the hand.

Please tell the writer through the Sunday paper if, in paying a visit of condolence, it is the correct thing to speak of the dead first, or wait until the lady who is bereaved shall do so. In making such calls I have sometimes passed a pleasant half hour chatting upon ordinary subjects, and upon leaving have expressed my sympathy, when the lady would burst into tears, placing me in a very awkward position.

Visits of condolence are proper only when there exists a genuine intimacy between the visitor and the bereaved, but cards with words of sympathy may be sent. When a visit is made after a death the name of the deceased should not be mentioned first by the visitor.

POINTS ON TABLE ETIQUETTE.

(1). What book is best to instruct as to the correct way to arrange the table, and serve dinner, luncheon, tea, etc.; also arrangement of sideboard, sidetable and the duties of a waitress? I want such a book but have never seen one. (2). Is it correct to have claret only, I mean no other kind of wine, for dinner, and should it be served with every course and for dessert also? Should the waitress pour it in the glasses, or should each guest or person pour it for himself?

(3.) How should peas, tomatoes and other vegetables that cannot well be put on the plate be served? (4.) How should chicken salad be served, and in what kind of a dish should it be put on the table? Is it eaten with a spoon? (5.) In sending a card by post should the small envelope containing the card be placed in a large one? IGNORANT.

(1.) If we are not in error, the "Four Book of Decorum" gives information of this nature. (2.) It is the usual way to have more than one kind of wine, but at a less formal dinner one kind only is often served. It is usual for the waiter to fill the glasses. (3.) Passed around by the waiter. (4.) Lettuce salad only should be served at dinner, and eaten with a fork. Chicken salad is only for suppers or collations. (5.) A second envelope is not necessary.

Is it in accordance with table etiquette rules to say "thank you" when you ask for and it passes you a dish or asks you to replenish your plate? Now I maintain it is improper that one thanks always, except at table, of course. I know we do not thank the servants, but ought one guest thank another at table?

Every service of the kind should be acknowledged by thanks in some way, either with "thanks" expressed or by an inclination of the head. According to English rule you say "thank you" to servants and "thanks" to equals.

INTRODUCTIONS AND SALUTATIONS.

If a lady or gentleman are introduced in company and afterward meet on the street, which is proper, for the lady to bow to a gentleman first or the gentleman bow to the lady?

The lady must salute the gentleman first. A gentleman is not expected to recognize a lady in public until she has recognized him.

(1.) I live in a small quiet city, where though we have many parties and balls yet we do not use such strict formality as people do in larger cities; as for example, in a ball given recently in a small hall, although no gentleman escorted a lady hither, yet each one desired to walk home alone with some young lady. (2.) At the close of the walk should the lady necessarily thank the gentleman for his escort? (3.) Should a lady after being asked by a gentleman to dance during the evening (to whom she has not been introduced) speak to him when afterward they meet? (4.) Is it proper for a lady to ask to be introduced to a gentleman by another? (5.) Could a pretty, comparatively cheap, fancy ball dress be suggested to a wondering ignorant? PERPLEXITY.

(1.) A lady should return from a party or ball with the same escort that took her there. It is not uncommon for gentlemen to escort ladies home in the manner mentioned, but it is not in accordance with the rules or customs of the best society. (2.) Certainly. (3.) In introductions the gentleman is introduced to the lady; when there has been no introduction no acquaintance can be assumed to exist. (4.) No; gentlemen seek introductions to ladies. (5.) A dress made of white tarleton with silver paper at intervals in the form of icicles for the character of Winter is an effective and inexpensive costume. The hair should be powdered. A dress of cream colored cheese cloth with a silver fillet for the hair is suitable for any classical figure.

INFORMAL PARTIES.

At an informal evening party given in honor of a gentleman and his wife, should both assist the host and hostess in receiving the guests, or should the ladies only receive? R. E. D.

On ordinary occasions ladies only receive, but when a party is given in honor of any person or persons they should stand by the hostess in order that the guests may be presented to them.

S. K. wishes to know if it is not very bad etiquette for two persons to converse with each other in French, in the same room, or at the dining table, in the presence of a person or persons, who do not understand the French language, when they, at the same time, are able to converse in English?

S. K. is right. It is exceedingly bad taste for persons in company to converse in language or to use terms which others are not acquainted.

If, at an informal party, a gentleman who is acquainted with most of the other guests, but who is introduced to a young lady for the first time, should ask her to dance four or five times in succession, would it be proper for the lady to excuse herself at the end of that time, or must she wait for the gentleman to do so? LILLIAN.

It is not proper, under any circumstances, for a lady and gentleman to dance together four or five times in succession. The lady should excuse herself in dancing even twice in succession with the same gentleman.

(1.) When ices are served at the table should the dish be placed in the plate and the cake to one side, or the dish placed to one side and plate used for cake? (2.) I am in a university town and the society somewhat formal. I met some young ladies at an entertainment. I desire to call. What shall I do? SPECS.

(1.) Either method is proper. (2.) You cannot call on ladies under these circumstances without being invited to do so. Some person acquainted with the family must ask permission to introduce you.

CALLING ON A FRIEND.

(1.) I have a lady friend who is visiting in the city. I am not acquainted with the family whom she visits. In calling on her, should I ask for her friend? If so, when should I ask? (2.) In using finger bowls should you wipe your fingers on the napkin you have been using, or if a napkin is placed under the bowls instead of a doyley, are you supposed to use it? (3.) Should bananas, pears, and like fruit be eaten with knife and fork? (4.) What is the proper way to eat an orange? (5.) Could you give me the name of a first-class etiquette book? A READER.

(1.) Yes; you should send two cards up when you call. (2.) You are to use the napkin sent with the finger bowl. (3.) Fruit is served with a silver fruit-knife. (4.) Oranges may be served partly pealed and quartered, each guest taking a portion when passed around; or cut the orange crosswise and eat the piece with a spoon. The latter is the Southern method. (5.) Mrs. Sherwood's "Manners and Social Usages," "The Bazar Book of Decorum," and Mrs. Ward's "Sensible Etiquette" may all be commended.

(1.) What style of cards, engraved or otherwise, finely engraved or not, is the best form? (2.) Which is proper (I being an M. D. and a practicing physician), to have my cards read Dr. Charles H. Smith or Charles H. Smith, M. D. (3.) How should my wife's cards read? Would the fact that I am a doctor change hers? (4.) Is it good style to have the name in full on a card when the first name is a common one and you would prefer not to make it as prominent? As, for instance, Charles Herbert Smith, M. D.? MEDICO.

(1.) A card engraved in an elegant script. (2.) Either is proper, but the preference is for the latter form. (3.) The wife's card should in no way indicate the profession of the husband. (4.) In this country the usage is to give the initial of the middle name only, but it is coming to be considered in better form to give either the name in full or initials only, as, for instance, Charles H. Smith, or C. H. Smith.

STATIONERY FOR NOTES.

(1.) What kind of stationery should a gentleman use in writing to a lady accepting invitations to dinner, supper, etc., and in extending invitations to theater, etc., ordinary note paper or such paper as is fashionable for ladies to use? (2.) If I have met a lady at the house of a mutual friend for the first time and she invites me to call to see her, I suppose I can do so with propriety. (3.) If I have made the acquaintance of a lady at the house of a friend and she always speaks to me on the street, is it in bad form for me to join her when she is promenading alone or with lady friends? (4.) If I join ladies on the street while they are out for a walk or shopping, am I at liberty to excuse myself and leave her or them after walking a short distance with them? (5.) Can one join ladies who are promenading or returning home after matinees; under such circumstances is it proper to invite them to take a lunch or refreshments, etc.? A. B. G.

(1.) A plain white note paper of choice quality with envelopes to match. (2.) A gentleman can always respond to a lady's invitations, but a young lady who asked a gentleman to call upon her at their first meeting would be guilty of an impropriety. (3.) No, provided it is agreeable to the lady. (4.) Yes. (5.) It would not be improper under such circumstances to invite the ladies to take an ice or some other light refection.

THE AUTHOR OF "DON'T."

Social Events.

To-morrow evening the Imperial Club will hold a reception at new Imperial Hall on Grant street.

At the last meeting of the Twenty-fifth ward Debating Society the subject discussed was "Woman's Right."

The Dean Literary Society will hold their annual entertainment on Friday evening, March 29, at 8 o'clock.

There will be a fair and concert given at the Warren M. E. Church on Wednesday and Thursday evenings of this week.

On Tuesday evening Sunday School No. 2, of the First M. P. Church, Fifth avenue, held an entertainment and social. It was a success in every sense of the word.

A fine musical programme will be rendered at the Randall Club Social on Thursday evening next. The reception and banquet of the club, to be held April 23, promises to be a brilliant social event.

Master W. Badger, of Robinson court, Allegheny, was tendered a surprise party Wednesday evening. Among those present were Twila Badger, Kate Heron, Jennie Stewart, Bessie Badger and Nany McDonald.

Miss Amanda Baer had a pleasant surprise party at the residence of her parents on Colwell street last week. Among those present were: Misses Minnie and Venie Asher, Stella Rosenthal, Alice McShane; Messrs. Alex. Silverman, Joe Simon and Miss Betty Silverman.

On Friday evening Abbott's "Norma" was very much appreciated by a theatre party consisting of George Jeffers, Kate Krause, Will Reed, Millie Hayes, Harry Ausburn, Carrie Leach, John Porter and Nan Hunt. After the opera a delightful supper was served at the Hotel Duquesne.

A pleasant surprise party was given at the home of Miss Fanny Kendig, at Oakland, by Miss Reed, of Mt. Washington. Among those present were the Misses Crissie and Mamie Robinson, Elma Horner, Mamie and Georgie Reed; Messrs. George Price, D. Langdon, Burns, Beckert, and many others.

A delightful donkey party was given at the residence of Miss Ida Bell, of Allegheny. Among those present were: Misses Sadie Heron, Barbia Stewart, Mary Lamb, Maggie Holpodh, Annie Frew, Hannah Cohen; Messrs. J. H. Barnes, Charles Taylor, Walter Kreps, Frederick Kimberland, Harry Ewing and Jos. P. Hage.

Miss Mamie Byrne, of Manhattan street, Allegheny, entertained a number of her friends Thursday evening. Among those present were: Misses Maggie Henderson, Jessie Jenkins, Emma Wilson, Sadie Wall, Bert Gibson, Ethel Davis; Messrs. Miller, Lebzelter, Latimer, S. W. Conners, Will Till, Jim Hood, Jess Hill, Ed Byrne and many others.

Master Earle Anderson entertained a number of his friends at his home, on Irwin avenue, Friday evening. There were present Misses Mary Lindsay, Leila Colvin, Jean Newell, Jennie Cartright, Lulu Cartright, Emma Kamm, Mary Brobst, Bessie Kerr, Gertrude Groetsinger, Julia Alexander; Masters Fred Lindsay, Hay Urling, Walter Boswell, Alfred Boswell, Herbert Holloway, Edwin Cartright and Walter Kofall.

An enjoyable surprise party was given to Mr. Walter Nixon at his parents' residence, shady avenue, Thursday evening. Among those present were: Misses Emma Sprague, Clara Keil, Bertha Sieffert, Alice Nixon, Carrie Scott, Bertha Baker, Lisa King, Carrie Taggart, Jane Hunter, Lorena Nixon; and Messrs. Jim Pennsteiner, Will Scott, Nixon, Joe Sprague, WilliamAngo, Theo. Keil, Lee Gould, Oscar Sieffert, Milton Henricks, Prof. Albert Christy, and many others.

On Friday evening the fourth Demorest silver medal contest and musicale was held in the parlors of Miss Milly Tutell, of Buena Vista street. The elocutionary efforts of the several contestants were creditable to themselves and their teacher, Miss Tutell, and were highly appreciated by the guests. The judges awarded the beautiful medal to Mr. McIllyar Lichliter, son of Rev. M. L. Lichliter. Honorable mention was made of Miss Mary McClausland. Thus passed another instructive and pleasant evening.

One of the enjoyable events of the week was a reception held Tuesday evening by Miss Mabel Lang, of the East End. The large and beautiful parlors were artistically decorated with the choicest of flowers. Among those present were: Misses Carrie Johnston, Katie House, M. Libbey, Nell Scully, Jennie Lawton, Tillie Whitting, Grace Myer and Blanche Nixion; Messrs. Harry Connolly, George Jeffers, John Crumwell, James Nixion, G. Dunlap, Chas. Roun, E. Graham, T. Harter, S. Gleason and Ed Rutter.

On Wednesday evening the young ladies and gentlemen of the Eighth Presbyterian Church, West End, surprised Miss Eva Mertz at the residence of her parents. Those present were: Misses Nannie Nay, May Murray, Annie Graham, Annie Bullock, Eva Bathen, Mena Lober, Jennie Dorrington, Mary Reed, Jose Dougherty, Eva Mertz, Lilly Swearer, Freelove Mertz, Emma Sheifer, Messrs. John Donehoo, Austin Wooster, John Byers, James Gibson, Samuel Truly, Alva Graham, Sidney Mertz, Bert Donehoo, Charles Dorrington and Frank Graham.

A merrier crowd than that which left Bellefield Thursday evening would have been hard to find. After a delightful drive of about 30 minutes they arrived at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Will Hasley, Forward avenue, East End, and tendered the young couple a genuine surprise. Among those present were: Mr. and Mrs. H. Hasley, Mr. and Mrs. Ritter, Mr. and Mrs. Mertz, Misses Emma Hasley, Annie Schoenberger, Hannah Jenkins, Phoebe Logie, Lizzie and May Schaddock, Tillie Best, Annie Ritter and Lillian Ruch; Messrs. Hasley, Righenbough, Craig, Schoenberger, Best, Finar, Frew, Osten and others.

Miss Mame Rutter gave a large evening party to a number of friends at her home, North Highland avenue, Thursday evening. Among those present were: Misses Bessie Bell, Agnnes Watson, Cora Hedges, Ida Gumbert, Kate Borland, Emma Fundas, Ida Scott, Clara Davies, Lillie Scott, Emma Bowers, Edna Reams, Maggie Frasier, Lizzie Morton and Lyda Sims; Messrs. Ad Gumbert, W. Frank Stewart, Milton Richards, Robert Frasier, W. H. Stewart, Coyle McCullough, John Davies, Uriah Tinker, Frank Ray, John Wilson, Samuel Shaw, J. Walter Ryland, Charles Bier, Al. Borland, Burt Stahl, George Douthett, H. McCullough and C. G. Elwood.

Miss Nannie Stright, of Chartiers street, gave a progressive euchre party Friday evening. Miss Nan Cauly and James F. Bailey took first honors. The following were present: Mrs. Simon Kirschler, Misses Nan Cauly, Sadie Cauly, Annie M. Bailey, Jennie McVicker, Birdie McVicker, Myrtle Mathews, Ella Pease, Lily Courtney, Retta Courtney, Idella Walker, Tillie Walker, Miss Dunlap; Messrs. J. W. Dow, of Homestead; Simon Kirschler, James F. Bailey, U. G. Purviance, Lee Cauly, T. R. Metheny, Mr. McVicker, George Becke-, S. L. Dunlap, Lawrence Warner, George Conner, S. W. Conner, Frank Walker, Will Walker and Joe Walker.

An informal surprise party, chaperoned by Misses Pearl Natcher and Sallie Ruch, invaded the home of Miss Eleanor Baldwin, Filmore street, Bellefield, Friday evening, and, taking possession of the place, did not hesitate in having a good time. A luncheon was served during the evening and dancing and games helped to bring the happy hours to an end. Among those present were: Misses Annie Johnston, Clara Owens, Mary Wagner, Bessie and Maggie Biggs, Bessie Miller, Belle Wightman, Rose Natcher, Sallie Gray, Tracy Hatch, Messrs. Willie Reed, Wilbert Jack, Frank Johnston, Albert Schmertz, Carl Davis, Russel Wightman, Joe Gray, Oscar Wilson, Eugene Valiant, John Wilson and others.

There was a pleasant surprise party given in honor of Mr. Charles Beattie, at his residence, No. 45 Kirkpatrick avenue, Allegheny, on Thursday evening. Among those present were: Misses Minnie Mooney, Lizzie Small, Lizzie Davis, Carrie Swoger, Mollie McKay, Nannie McKay, Laura Evans, Ella Mooney, Bella Clark, Lucy Fonner, Maud Beattie, Bertie Ackley, Florence Ackley, Annie Sterm, Sadie Wall, Lizzie Hood, Mary Fonner, the Misses Boyd, Nettie Jackson; Messrs. Wesley Burns, George Irwin, Frank Kinkade, James Kinkade, Walter Thompson, Oliver Hezlip, Joe Abbott, Ed Rothermal, Samuel Orr, Thomas M. Boyd, Robert McKay, Will Davis, A. N. Swoger, John Ellis, Martin Zimmer, Mr. Snyder, Fred Minginger, Lann Caruthers, Breading Cameron and many others.

Last Thursday evening the home of Police Captain Richard Wilson, on Western avenue, was the scene of an informal and delightful reception, the occasion being Miss Lizzie J. Wilson's 18th birthday. Many beautiful and appropriate gifts were sent, among them a very handsome upright piano from her father, and many fancy articles from dear friends. The Brilliant Orchestra entertained the guests with a large and well-selected programme. Among those present were the Misses Palmer, of Cleveland; Miss Lewis, of Sharon; the Misses Mitchell and Hamilton, of Avalon; Misses Martin, Orr, Graebing, Hook, Bash, Love, Allen, Conroy, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Curtis; Messrs. Steward, Ehrhardt, Butler, Kuhlman, Orr, Bash, Prof. Liefeld, Maurer, Sheppard, Graebing, Ford, Allen, Porter, Curtis and W. Wilson.

Wedding Bells.

Mr. Charles Ahlers and Miss Katie Ruege were united in the holy bonds of matrimony Thursday evening last, at the residence of the bride's parents, No. 131 East street, Allegheny, by Rev. W. Schaeffer. Mr. Harry Ruege, brother of the bride, acted as groomsman and Miss Annie E. Miller as bridesmaid. None but a few intimate friends and relatives of the contracting parties were present.

Personal Gossip.

Mr. W. DeWolf and his sister, Miss Jennie DeWolf, arrived in the city yesterday morning.

Miss Emma Simonton, of Butler street, has returned home from a four weeks' vacation in the East.

Mrs. Morgan E. Yeatman has left the city to join her husband at their new home in Roanoke, Va.

Miss Edna Bridge will hold her fifth reception to her pupils on Monday, March 25, at Cycloramа Parlors, Allegheny.

Miss Mary Freas, of Wylie avenue, has returned home after a brief visit to her friend, Mrs. George Wilson, of Haysville.

George A. Lashell having sold his Allegheny residence, will remove with his family to his suburban residence at Coraopolis, on April 1.

Miss Minnie Morrison, of Wurtemburg, Pa., returned home after a brief visit to her cousin, Miss Minnie Maxwell, of Evergreen Hamlet.

Mr. Will Maxwell and his cousin Minnie Morrison, of Wurtemburg, visited Miss Olvira Temme, of Bayard street, Allegheny, Monday.

Misses Sadie Herron and Barbia Stewart, of Robinson street, Allegheny, have returned home after a two weeks' visit to Miss Mamie Fish, of Kittanning, Pa.

Mrs. Wm. Semple, Jr., and Master E. C. Semple, of Allegheny, after a three weeks' visit to friends and relatives in Philadelphia, returned home on Friday.

Among the recent arrivals at Hotel Royal, Atlantic City, are Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. R. Barnhurst, Miss Dalzell, J. K. Freeman and family, Dr. Jos. K. Smith and Miss Smith, Mr. and Mrs. R. Stewart, Robert Stewart, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Barr and Miss Mayer, J. R. Trainer, R. S. Riggs, Jr., C. N. Grover, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Everett, Miss Clara McKee, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Halstead, A. R. Stafford and family, Wm. M. Fitler, Mrs. Chas. Parrish, Jr., E. J. Fairchild, Miss Fairchild and R. Fairchild, Jr.

GRAND EASTER MILLINERY OPENING.

Chas. Beattie & Co.'s Dress Goods, Etc.

NO. 155 FEDERAL ST., ALLEGHENY.

On Tuesday, March 26, our house will be in gala array to receive our friends, and in order that none shall be disappointed the opening will be continued Wednesday and Thursday, 27 and 28. During these days we propose to exhibit in our various departments everything new and fresh in novelties, which have been drawn from the chief markets at home and abroad, the cream of which we have selected with utmost consideration for the wants of our patrons. The second floor has been entirely carpeted, in which we hold its space the millinery line will be displayed. Our French pattern bonnets are marvels of loveliness and can be relied upon as the leading ideas of Parisian conceit and handicraft. Our American hats are not a whit behind in attractiveness and will prove a feature of the display. Everything in ribbons, feathers, flowers, ornaments and materials for making bonnets and hats to order will be in stock. Our milliners are noted for their deftness in producing nice effects and we will show our friends some marvelous things in this line. Everybody must have a new bonnet for Easter and we are prepared to do ample justice to all who favor us with their orders.

While on this floor look into the subject of beaded wraps especially imported for this opening. There are 100 choice specimens of the mantua makers' art, ranging from $3 50 to $35, to suit all purses. On this floor you will notice our lace curtains and portieres in brussels, French and fine Nottinghams. Also the new spring jackets, in black and all the latest seasonable shades. The jersey and stockinette stock should not be passed without due examination. When you come down stairs we desire to call your attention to a special line of black silks (only 25 pieces), comprising five numbers in gros grains and merveilleux, on which we will put special prices for these three opening days; but we positively refuse to duplicate this offer for a longer term.

Don't overlook the wash goods, especially the imported and domestic ginghams, as well as the French and American satines. These are chances made on purpose to lend attractiveness to our opening. One thing further, we will show a special purchase we have made of challis just to heighten the effect of this opening and astonish you with the prices they are reduced to.

We also carry a fine assortment of ladies' muslin underwear, spring weights in balbriggans, laces, embroideries, corsets and hosiery, all needful things, which it will pay you to look at. For this opening we have employed special people, adepts in the art of ornamentation and decoration of windows and aisles, and we are fully of the mind that the show itself will pay one for the trouble of their visit, to say nothing of the inducements in the way of nice goods at the most moderate prices in Allegheny.

We are not talking at random, but will stand over every statement we make. The goods themselves are the strongest evidence we offer in verification of our talk.

We have employed a number of extra clerks in order that our customers can all be properly waited upon, not disappointed, as at our last opening, when the crowd was so great, we were obliged to close our doors.

Spring Wraps.

An unrivaled assortment of new spring and summer long and short wraps, many exclusive novelties, lace circulars and wraps, beaded and braided wraps, lace trimmed silk and camels' hair wraps, and a special line of light and dark colored cloth wraps in plain and brocade fabrics, the handsomest and most stylish garment shown this season.

MWFSU HUGUS & HACKE.

No Advance in Carpets

At Edward Groetzinger's. We paid more for the spring stock than the goods sold at last season, but will sell all grades at old prices. Mammoth carpet and curtain house, 627 and 629 Penn avenue.

EXTRAORDINARY kid glove bargains this week at Rosenbaum & Co.'s.

Fine watch repairing, lowest prices, at Hauch's, No. 295 Fifth ave. WFSU

NEWS OF THE DRAMA.

BIJOU THEATER..... "The Stowaway"
HARRIS' THEATER.. "Beacon Lights"
GRAND OPERA HOUSE.. Rosina Vokes
ACADEMY OF MUSIC.. The Big Four
CASINO MUSEUM.... Curiosities, etc.

The above are the theatrical attractions for this week.

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The week of opera at the Bijou has been hugely enjoyed, if one may judge by the immense audiences which greeted Miss Abbott and her company every night. Manager Gulick says that it is the best week Miss Abbott has ever played to in Pittsburg.

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The second rendering of the "Yeomen of the Guard" at the matinee yesterday was very much better than the first on Monday night. Miss Abbott herself was in better spirits and voice, and the chorus was infinitely smoother in its work. The opera improves upon rehearing, and one is impressed particularly with its musical merits. It must be said, however, that the subject is too gloomy and the humor too dry and too grim to allow of "The Yeomen of the Guard" ever becoming popular.

Mr Gilbert seems to have got it into his head that it is about time for him to set up as a declared rival of Shakespeare, and he has deliberately chosen to kill a clever plot by dialogue smelling of the Elizabethan time—and suggestive of the antique jests of *Touchstone* or some other Shakespearean fool—but too musty and local in its spirit to be harnessed to a comic opera. The music of Sir Arthur Sullivan is excellent, though hardly of the light and popular order which gave him fame and fortune in "Pinafore" and earlier works.

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Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Florence have given us a delightful series of comedies, which Pittsburgers hardly seem to appreciate as they ought. Still the audiences toward the end of the week were of a fair size.

Mr. Florence will be seen here with Mr. Jefferson next season, for three nights only, in "The Heir at Law" and "The Rivals" It is a great event to look forward to.

HEPBURN JOHNS.

This Week's Attractions.

TOM CRAVEN'S powerful melodrama, "The Stowaway," will be made known to the Pittsburg public for the first time to-morrow evening at the Bijou Theater, where it will continue for one week, with Wednesday and Saturday matinees. For a period of four years it has held the boards in England, and it is said to be still drawing large audiences there, proof sufficient that it has both pronounced merit and intense interest. The production is said to be an elaborate one, and the scenery, painted by Maeder and Schaefer, of Niblo's Garden, and Joseph Marston, of Palmer's Theater, New York, is said to be remarkably beautiful and realistic. One of the scenes reveals a view of old London, in which several novelties are in the way of effects are introduced. A full-rigged yacht at sea is shown in one set. The vessel is pronounced by New York yachting experts to be a marvel of completeness and accuracy. The play is described as mingling pathos with humor in the most finished fashion, while it is said to possess many absorbing climaxes in the strong sense. The cast is notably brilliant and well chosen, and includes a number of players well-known to Pittsburg theatergoers, among them being: Marion Elmore, Helen Weatherby, Leonora Bradley, Harry Hawk, Joseph Sparks, Martin Baker, Frank Baker, William Lee and Fenwick Armstrong. As a sort of supplementary attraction the management presents the triumph of stage realism in the shape of genuine burglary. The "job" is said to be done in the most scientific manner by two expert cracksmen, "Spike" Hennessey and "Kid" McCoy, both of whom recently graduated from a kleptomania institution on the Hudson. These worthies are said to be much enamored with their new profession, and vow that they will never again resort to unlawful means to make a living. The play, the company, the scenery and the safe blowers unite in forming a combination that will draw large crowds to the Bijou Theater this week.

AT Harris' Theater this week will be seen "Beacon Lights," of which the New York *World* recently said: It is a new drama, which has successfully weathered Western criticism. The play was brought out last night at the Grand to a particularly crowded and enthusiastic house. The story of the play caught the fancy at once, and held it to the final scene at the close of the play, while the climax at the close of each act prompted thunders of applause. Calmly considered, there was good ground for the generous advances, as "Beacon Lights" is a play that possesses those elements which are bound to win. The story is deftly told, the characters so well drawn, the arrangement so complete, that it must take its place in the front rank of dramas of its class. The play deals with life in the mines, the scene being laid in the Southwest. The plot lies in the trials of the heroine, *Myra Haynes*, whose husband seeks the gold fields and dies there. Efforts are made to swindle her out of a claim which her husband has left her, all of which are defeated through the good work of the hero, *Phil Gordon*. On this thread are hung several stirring scenes and incidents of a thrilling nature. Miss Neva Wharton, in the role of *Myra Haynes*, showed to great advantage in the scene in which she confronts the kidnaper of her child, and it may be said of her that she sustained her part throughout with creditable skill.

AT the Grand Opera House next Monday evening, March 25, the theater-goers of Pittsburg will have an opportunity of welcoming that charming comedienne, Miss Rosina Vokes, who appears here with her own company for the first time. From an extensive repertoire of delightful comedies Miss Vokes has selected two of her best bills, and as is her custom, will present three separate and distinct pieces at each performance. The programme for the week has been arranged as follows: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday evenings the performance will commence with "A Game of Cards," a comedy adapted from the French, to be followed by G. W. Godfrey's charming comedietta, entitled "My Milliner's Bill," in which Miss Vokes will sing her famous song "His 'art was true to Poll," and conclude with "The Rough Diamond," from the pen of the veteran actor and author, J. B. Buckstone. Thursday and Friday evenings and Saturday matinee the bill will consist of "In Honor Bound," a drama by Sidney Grundy, "The Circus Rider," written specially for Miss Vokes by Mrs. Charles Doremus, of New York, and "A Pantomime Rehearsal," a laughable burlesque on the fashionable craze of amateur theatricals.

AT the Academy of Music this week will be seen "The Big Four's New Departure." Here is their list of performers: Harry Watson, Alice Hutchings, the Big Four, Flora Moore, Horseshoe Four, Frank Lester, Maud Beverley, Nelsonia and Rouclere, Bobby Daily, Lottie Roy, Smith & Lord, E. G. Johnson and the Peruvian Dog Circus. What more could be desired. They represent all branches of the vaudeville profession, from ballad singing to trapeze acts, and all are good in their respective lines.

THE sea serpent will unwind its wonderful tale at the Casino Museum this week, and there will be many other attractions of an equally stunning sort.

Echoes of the Stage.

"OSTLER JOE" has been dramatized at last, and by a New England woman, too.

MARY ANDERSON will start for the South of France in two weeks, Dr. S. Weir Mitchell feeling confident she will be able to travel by that time. She is at the "Stratford," in Philadelphia.

BRONSON HOWARD has returned to New York from Washington, where he has been studying military details for introduction into his play "Shenandoah." He will remain in New York to arrange with Phil Goatcher about the scenery for the play.

MINNIE MADDERN, who spent last week in New York enjoying an unexpected rest through the failure of the Star Theater at Buffalo, was to have gone to Rochester on Sunday night to resume her tour. Owing to an attack of acute tonsilitis she was prostrated and unable to leave the city. The Rochester date was canceled in consequence. Miss Maddern has recovered sufficiently to begin again on Thursday.

"SPIKE" HENNESSEY and "Kid" McCoy, the two burglars in "The Stowaway" Company, are preparing to do the European capitals next summer non-professionally. It is inferred that they will follow in the practice of all illustrious travelers and journey incog.

BURR MCINTOSH assumed the part of *Ned Alcott* in "A Midnight Ball" at the Bijou Opera House, New York, on Monday night, and made a decided hit. If Mr. McIntosh will drop pool playing and study in his profession he will make his mark as an actor yet.

A CLOSE friend of Mrs. Langtry says she is worth $700,000 in money, bonds and real estate. When she started on her tour of the English provinces she had nothing. She cleared £10,000, however, in that tour, and take my word for it, a pretty good slice has to be given up before she again marries.

"HANDS Across the Sea," by Henry Pettitt, Esq., which had such a long successful run at the Princess Theater, and now playing to crowded houses at the Grand, in London, has been secured by Gustave Kahn for the United States and Canada, and will be produced early in the fall with a strong cast and elaborate scenic effects.

THE recent invention of an "opera hat" for ladies, which is destined to revolutionize the millinery business, is patented by an English lady, and consists of a hat made on a wire frame, trimmed with lace and flowers. It will close similar to a gentleman's evening hat, and can be sat upon without injury. It is also convertible into a fan.

A NOTABLE engagement will probably be played at the Bijou Theater by "The Crystal Slipper; or, Prince Prettiwitz and Little Cinderella," which opens at that house a week from Monday. The piece has had a most remarkable success in Chicago, New York, Philadelphia and Boston. In the company there are nearly 150 people, which includes a ballet of 60 and a large chorus.

WITH the introduction of real burglars and a fac-simile of a genuine yacht in "The Stowaway," it might be supposed that realism had reached its limit, at least as far as that play was concerned. But Manager Thomas H. Davis seems to be possessed of a feverish desire for even more realism. He will soon introduce two prize fighters, to appear in actual combat in the first act of the play—a street scene in a London slum.

JOSEPH JEFFERSON has been writing his autobiography at odd times for several years past. It tells of his travels as a boy in his father's company in the primitive towns of the West, and then gives a complete account of his work, the principal happenings of his career and the interesting people he has met to the present time. The autobiography will be published in installments by the *Century*, beginning early next autumn.

A new craze now seems to have sprung up in London, says the *Mirror*, namely, the frequent rechristening of advertised new productions. The chief example this week in this connection comprise the changing of the name of Henry Arthur Jones' new comedy for the Haymarket from the "Pauper" to "Matthew Ruddocke" and from that to "Mat Ruddocke" and the renaming of the Cellier-Stephensen new opera now in rehearsal at the Lyric. This was first to be called "Dorcas," then "Barbara," then "Dorcas" again, and now hey, presto! (up to the time of mailing) "Winifred."

MISS ROSINA VOKES, who occupies the Grand Opera House next week, possesses many striking traits of character. Among these is her remarkable fondness for athletics and outdoor sports of all kinds. Of course, every one who has seen her on the stage has been more or less impressed with the nimbleness of her feet and her general athletic disposition. Miss Vokes tells a story herself of an eventful foot race she ran some years ago at her home in England. The course lay over a long stretch of smooth lawn, and when the contest came to the finish the actress, who was running with the swiftness of the wind, tripped in some unaccountable manner, fell and broke her collar bone. But she won the race just the same.

PHILIPPOTEAUX, the painter of "Niagara in London" (out of which John Hollingshead for the ten months from March, 1888, to December, inclusive, cleared over £22,000 net profit), has painted a more complete painting of Niagara for this company, and is bound by contract not to paint for anyone else for four years. A movable iron building is to be constructed wherein to take the panorama around withal. The promoters seem to attach considerable importance to the fact that they will be able to take the building about with them, for the word movable is printed in italics, and otherwise made much of wherever it appears in their prospectus. They have arranged to open in Paris on the site near the Champs Elysees, by the end of May. The price to be paid for the painting and the movable building is $94,000.

THE comedy which is known in its English form as "Featherbrain" has not been produced in this city. It has several times been submitted to Minnie Maddern, in the belief that at her hands the somewhat difficult role in question would receive full justice. Last week Miss Maddern decided to take the piece. Arrangements were then speedily effected whereby the brilliant young actress will produce "Featherbrain at the Lyceum Theater during the month of May. A company of special illness will be engaged and the scenery built for the piece will be used. Miss Maddern says that the young woman from whose sobriquet the title is derived possesses peculiar characteristics that afford novelty of interpretation. *Featherbrain* is a sort of female *Lord Dundreary*. The piece has many amusing situations and is said to run along the line of genuine comedy from first to last.—*Musical Mirror.*

B. P. O. E. Notes.

MR. J. HORNER took his first at the last meeting.

BROTHER QUINCY ROBINSON has been on the sick list the past ten days.

CLEVELAND LODGE is making preparations to attend the reunion on June 19, 20 and 21.

THERE will be close on to 150 lodges in the United States by the time the reunion takes place.

BOSTON LODGE had a benefit last week as was a benefit. The receipts were close on to $4,000.

BROTHER SMITH, of St. Louis Lodge, of the original Big Four, will be in the city next week at the Academy.

BROTHER FRED CARROLL, in his last letter received here, says that he would like to be back among the boys of No. 11.

BROTHER W. F. MONROE, of Erie Lodge, No. 67, was in the city all last week and will be with us at this communication.

BROTHER ARCHIBALD COWPER, of New York Lodge No. 1, was in the city last week with the Florence Opera Company.

BROTHER GEORGE BELTZHOOVER, of Pittsburg Lodge, who has been in Chicago the past year, is home on a visit to his mother.

BROTHER D. H. WILSON, of Youngstown Lodge No. 55, business manager of the Florence Opera Company, was in the city all last week.

FRANKLIN LODGE was instituted last Wednesday by District Deputy Wallace and members of New Castle and Youngstown lodges.

BROTHER SAM FREEMAN, of No. 11, who has been absent for a year, is spending two weeks with us and also looking after Paul Boyton's sea lions.

BROTHER NICK ENGEL, of New York Lodge, No. 1, sang one of his melodious songs in a phonograph in New York recently, a copy of which was brought here last week and has been repeated several times in a phonograph in this city. It is highly appreciated by all who have heard it.

THE Benefit Committee yesterday concluded their arrangements for the annual benefit of Cincinnati Lodge No. 5, B. P. O. Elks. It will take place at the Grand Opera House the evening of Monday, April 8, with the favorite Carlton Opera Company as the attraction. As the attraction offered is one of the strongest on the road, and the benefit is for the purpose of replenishing the charitable treasury of the order, the Grand should be packed as it was never packed before.

READING LODGE of Elks, No. 115, was inaugurated on the 10th by E. G. R. Dr. Hamilton Leach under most favorable circumstances. He was assisted by Thad K. Sailer, N. B., Washington Lodge, No. 15; E. C. Stahl, H. A. Donnelly, of Trenton Lodge, No. 105; Harry Bernard, No. 53; Joseph H. Hugg, No. 34, and George W. King, No. 74. The new lodge is composed of representative citizens, the E. R. being the Hon. James R. Kenney, Mayor, who will be assisted by what promises to be an able and efficient corps of officers. The prospects for the future of "the infant" are most promising. At midnight the members, visiting officers and guests rep