IN THE SOCIAL SWIM.

GOOD MANNERS.

Should a Lady Take the Arms of Two Gentlemen? — Wearing Diamonds — Proper Occasions for Wearing a Prince Albert Coat.

[WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH.]

The author of "Don't" this week comes to the rescue of many persons who wish to shine in society, but have some doubts as to their brilliancy, and tells them the proper things to do in puzzling cases. Many questions are asked, and they are answered in a manner which makes the answers interesting to all.

Will you kindly answer the following questions: 1. When accompanied in the evening by two gentlemen, neither of whom you can regard as de trop, is it proper to take the arms of both, or should you walk independently? 2. Also, what should you do if, when promenading in a ballroom, another gentleman should join you, especially if you are thoroughly tired of the gentleman you are with and wish to encourage the newcomer? Should you take both their arms in this case? 3. Is it proper to call on a prospective bride after her cards are out? I know her quite well, and she will leave immediately after the wedding to reside in a distant State. CLYDIA.

1. Either take the arm of one gentleman only, or take the arm of neither. On no account take the arms of both. 2. A woman who takes the arms of two men at the same time exposes herself to ridicule. In the dilemma described you can walk by the side of the second gentleman without taking his arm, or you can disengage your arm from the first gentleman, and either stand conversing with both gentlemen or promenade with both, without taking the arm of either. Very likely the first gentleman will find an excuse to leave you with the newcomer; if not there is opportunity for the exercise of a woman's ingenuity. Send him for a glass of water or to look for your fan, or to find an acquaintance, or something of the kind. 3. Only intimate friends can properly call on a bride after her cards are out.

Will you kindly answer a question in regard to invitations? Two lady friends and myself are contemplating giving a card party together at my house, and we would like very much to have you give us a good form for the invitations. This was my idea:

Mrs. A. and Mrs. B. at home with Mrs. C. Wednesday, April 24, 8 P. M. Cards.

R. S. V. P.

These are merely the words, which, of course, would be properly distributed upon a card or sheet of paper. The other ladies say this would not be right, as they are not at home, but are entertaining with me. SUBSCRIBER.

The invitation "At Home" should come from the lady of the house, but the other ladies' cards might be sent with the invitation. An entertainment given at any house must be assumed to be given by the mistress of that house; a partnership in these matters is scarcely admissable, but a lady may associate other ladies with her.

THE ORACLE ANSWERS.

Will the Sunday "Oracle" please answer the following questions: 1. In a newspaper notice of marriage is it in good taste to have printed the former title of bride's father—be having been "Honorable" for a number of years—as this: "Jane, daughter of Hon. John Smith?" 2. Is not the engagement ring worn on the third finger of the left hand? I believe a late answer to similar questions assigned the engagement ring to the right hand, which I thought must be a misprint. 3. What is the average size of the fee given a clergyman for performing the marriage ceremony?

1. It is often done, but it is of questionable taste. "Honorable" is a courtesy title solely, and hence cannot be claimed or employed by a person himself or by his family. 2. The engagement ring and the wedding ring are worn on the same finger, the third of the left hand. 3. The wedding fee vary according to place and wealth of the groom; anywhere from $5 to $25 is the customary fee.

What color gloves, if any, a gentleman should wear at his wedding, the ceremony to take place at 12 o'clock in the day, the bride wearing white silk and he grey trousers and Prince Albert coat?

If the groom wears gloves they should be of a light color but not white.

WHEN TO WEAR A CLAW HAMMER.

Why is it improper to wear a dress coat in the morning? C. B.

The unknown powers that make social laws have decreed that the dress coat should be worn only at night, because it is thought more suitable for evening occasions than for day occasions. But the rule is wholly arbitrary. In France the dress coat is worn for all ceremonious gatherings, morning or evening. At a recent formal breakfast in New York, the French Consul appeared in a dress suit, to the surprise of many persons who should have known that this is the custom in France. The English rule is that a dress suit must be worn only in the evening, and American society has adopted this authority as binding instead of the French.

1. Please inform me if it is right for a gentleman having become acquainted with a lady at social gatherings, to ask privilege to call on her or to appoint a place of meeting, the desire being for the gentleman to get better acquainted? 2. Is it absolute necessity for a gentleman to remove his hat accosting a lady? 3. Is it necessary for middle or lower class people to follow strict rules of etiquette?

1. A gentleman can always ask for the privilege of calling upon a lady, but not appoint a place of meeting. 2. A gentleman should always remove his hat when accosting a lady. 3. Rules of etiquette are made for all classes. Of course certain social rules are inapplicable to persons not in society, but no man is too low in rank to take off his hat to a lady, to bow to a gentleman, to give way to an elder, to regard the rights of others, to feel self-respect and show respect, to conduct himself with propriety and decency.

1. If a lady dressing in deep mourning receives a wedding invitation, should she send her card together with her husband's to the mother of the young lady going to be married? 2. Is it necessary to have a mourning card? JESSIE.

1. She sends her card with regrets. 2. It is customary to have mourning cards, but no one is under obligation to do so.

CAN WE WEAR DIAMONDS?

Will you kindly answer the following questions: 1. Is it proper for a young unmarried lady living in a small town, to wear diamonds at all? 2. Are not Rhine stones, crystals and like stones, cut in imitation of diamonds, out of good taste? 3. Is it not permissible for a clerk to wear a small diamond in a ring while behind the counter?

1. No, it is not proper for young unmarried ladies living in small towns or in big towns to wear diamonds, according to the theory of fastidious circles. 2. They are in bad taste. 3. In the mind of the writer it is not in good taste for any person of the male sex to wear a diamond ring behind or before a counter, but it must be admitted that a great many American gentlemen adorn themselves in this way, just as they wear showy watch chains and conspicuous scarfs, but all displays of this kind are suggestive of the saloon and the ward politician. The only proper thing for a gentleman to wear on his finger is a seal ring. We do not see that a man's position as a clerk changes his social right to wear a ring; in fact men behind the counter commonly out-do in smartness all their masculine rivals.

Please settle a trifling dispute between a friend and myself, and tell us whether it is very generally the custom for men to shake hands on being introduced at a reception or other social gathering.

Men usually shake hands on being introduced, often when it would be in better taste not to do so. Americans are said to be greatly addicted to hand-shaking, but, according to the writer's observation, they are not behind Englishmen in this particular. In many off-hand introductions, occurring on the street or in public places, shaking hands is uncalled for, but then in these cases the introduction has been unnecessary or rather forced. We introduce too much; we shake hands too much.

Is it necessary to send up a card on calling at houses where one is well acquainted and calls frequently? It seems to me that it is or ought to be sufficient to give the name to the servant who answers the bell.

Where a person is a frequent visitor at a house, all that is necessary is for him to send up his name by the servant.

At private dances when quadrilles are on the programme is it usual to have the figures called or are the dancers supposed to know the forms and changes?

The dancers are supposed to know the forms and changes, and hence the figures are not usually called.

In making a call must I inquire for all the ladies of the family, or only for the lady I particularly wish to see?

In making a formal call it is customary for a gentleman to ask to see all the ladies of the family, sending in or leaving his card for each.

THE PRINCE ALBERT.

1. On what particular occasions is it absolutely required by strict etiquette that a Prince Albert coat should be worn? 2. Is it proper to make an evening call in a cutaway coat?

1. A Prince Albert coat or frock coat should be worn upon all social occasions, such as afternoon receptions, morning or afternoon weddings, the promenade—in short upon all occasions that are at all ceremonious in their character. 2. It is not in the best taste to wear cutaway coat for an evening call. In the best circles many gentlemen put on a dress suit for dinner every day, and wear it wherever they go afterward. Others always put on a dress suit if making call or going to any public place.

Will you kindly answer the following questions? 1. A young man has invited his fiancee, her sister and a chaperone to attend the commencement exercises of a college. The exercises last for five days. Is he expected to pay their expenses, and if not, what is the correct thing to do? 2. Is there any book I can obtain giving the etiquette for a lady in the refreshment room at a ball or reception. How are the gloves kept from being soiled? 3. How is asparagus eaten? 4. When a stranger calls on an invalid who is to be seen or to return the call, should a card be sent by the invalid by post? COUNTRY.

1. If we extend an invitation to people to accompany us anywhere we must foot the bills. There is no help for this. 2. Almost any book of etiquette will probably give our correspondent the information she desires, but we can assure her that the etiquette of the refreshment room does not differ from that of other rooms; she may remove her gloves when taking refreshments, and thus preserve them from soil. 3. Usually taken by the upper end of the stalk by the fingers and thus carried to the mouth. When asparagus tips are served they are eaten like other vegetable, with the fork. 4. A recognition of this kind would be proper.

THE AUTHOR OF "DON'T."

Social Events.

The reception at Norwood Hotel, Bridgville, Tuesday evening was most enjoyable. The attendance was large.

At the C. M. B. A. musicale, last Friday evening, Miss Blanche Oswald recited several selections in a manner that won the highest praise.

The last meeting of the Twenty-fifth ward Debating Society at the residence of Miss Banford was largely attended. The next will be held at the home of Miss Ella Reese on Friday evening.

The Smithfield Club will give its annual cotillion on May 30, at the Idlewood Hotel. As usual, the affair will be one of the events of Decoration Day pleasures. The committee in charge are Messrs. Mahan, Herr, Dunn, Lanahan and Hill.

A pleasant evening was spent at the residence of Mr. Jacob Heisel, on Monday, at Leaugdale, in honor of his guest, Miss Maggie Heisel, of Fayette City. The greater part of the evening was spent in dancing. At 11:30 a pretty little supper was served. Many friends were present from Mansfield and Pittsburg.

The Ventura Club, composed of the following well-known young gentlemen, James McClure, William McKenna, D. Marshall and John McKenna, will hold their opening picnic at Hilton station, Allegheny Valley Railroad, on Saturday next, May 18. Every effort will be made to make the affair a perfect success.

A beautiful sight will be witnessed at Liberty Hall, East End, next Tuesday evening, by Mrs. Lightner's pupils. A real May Queen Festival conducted as a joyous festivity of other days will be the programme. There will be heralds and flower girls, rustic dances, a village reel, a May pole and appropriate songs, after which the little folks and the larger ones will have a good time dancing.

Misses Annie and Agnes McCourt, Ella and Mattie Shaner, Maggie Kirkpatrick, Marguerite McCourt, Nannie Watson, Nannie Weaver and Messrs. Albert Stimmel, Harry Lamb, Jacob Abbey, J. Richardson, J. Elliott, J. Leech and J. Lytle were the merry intruders who invaded the home of Miss Mary and Mr. Joe McCully to tender the young people a surprise. Miss Mary and her brother entertained their friends royally, and dancing to the music of Arlington Serenaders was the closing event of a happy evening.

A lively party of young people gathered at the home of Miss Mamie Riley, of Third avenue, last Tuesday evening, the anniversary of the birth of that young lady. An orchestra seated in the hallway discoursed the music for dancing. A late lunch was served at 11 o'clock. Among those present were Misses Clara and Nettie Dicken, Bessie and Millie Holden, Patterson, Bush, Schaum and Connell, and Messrs. Charley and Will McGuffin, Al Fraser, Arlington, McCarthy, Ed. Patterson, Rhodes, Slocum, Boyd, Tom Orr, Bentzel, Henry Riley.

On Monday evening a pleasat surprise party was held at the residence of Mr. John Sinthley, Bedford avenue. Among those present were the Misses Mary Horn, Kate Lindsey, Mary O'Niel, Aggie McGillix, Mary and Maggie Midnight, Mary McCarthy, Bridget Toole, Mary Malone, Lizzie Best, Ida Clark, Lizzie Banes, Mrs. Best, Mr. and Mrs. Gallagher, Messrs. Daniel Donovan, M. F. Sullivan, William Horn, Joseph Farrell, M. F. Landers, P. Egan, M. McCarthy, William Scoot, J. McCarthy, J. Midnight and Harry O'Niel.

Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Tafel celebrated the 17th anniversary of their wedding last week. The evening was spent in dancing. Music was furnished by the Twilight Orchestra. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Felton, Mr. and Mrs. Evans, Mr. and Mrs. Gallagher, Mr. and Mrs. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Purnell, Mr. and Mrs. James Purnell, Mr. and Mrs. Zacharias, Mr. and Mrs. Freeland, Misses Long, Kelly, Klepner and Purnell, Messrs. Z. Y. Irwin, Diester, Wiseman, Wagner, Tafel and many others.

The County Democracy will celebrate the opening of their elegant new quarters in the Mellon Bank building, on next Tuesday evening, by a reception and entertainment tendered to their friends. The committee having the arrangements in charge are working hard to make the affair as pleasant as possible. The Major Sellers Quartet will sing several pleasing selections. Mr. Will F. Henrahan will preside at the piano. The clever young comedian, Mr. Will P. Clinton, will also be on hand with several characterizations. The association is in a flourishing condition and membership increasing.

A very pleasant surprise party was given in honor of Miss Emma Miller, of Van Braam street, Monday evening. Among those present were Misses Lena Henning, Mamie Sergel, Anna Kallenberger, Misses O'Neil, M. Hellenbacher, K. Henderson, L. Geitel, M. Reitz, M. McDermitt, A. Markley, Misses Moran, Misses Staple, R. Miller, M. Weis, K. Bown, Messrs. August Kuehner, Robert Otto, O. O'Neal, R. Wilhelm, C. Klingelhofer, Minehard, W. Wilson, P. Ridge, J. Cox, H. Schuett, Endrus, T. Tfarr, G. Best, W. Hubner, J. Hertle, A. McLelland, G. Kuehner, J. Miller, J. Peters, C. Donaldson, E. Messingham, C. Goettman, R. Weaver, E. Skees.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hartman gave an evening reception in honor of the Lillie Social at their home, Laurel Valley, Ross township, on Thursday evening. The Lillie Orchestra supplied music. The grand march was led by Mr. Harry Martin and Miss Maggie Hartman. At midnight the party adjourned to the dining hall for refreshments, after which the merry dance was enjoyed until dawn. Among those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hartman, Miss Rosie and Maggie Hartman, Annie Martin, Katie Ivory, Tenie Snyder, Minnie Hartman, Theresa Leutz, Messrs. P. Snyder, C. and H. Martin, Conway Ivory, J. Murto, F. Sheller, F. Hartmann, W. Sarver, C. Ward and Master George Korman, of Perrysville.

A surprise birthday party was given Misses Annie and Ida Gass, at their residence on McClure avenue, on Tuesday evening. It was gotten up by Miss Minnie Young, Hettie Ford; Messrs. Charlie Lebzetter and Will Young, which proved to be a delightful affair to all who attended. Singing and dancing were the enjoyments of the evening until a late hour; a bountiful repast; music by the Olympic Orchestra. Among those present were: Misses Annie and Birdie Haudenschield, Martha and Annie Eversman, Annie and Emma Voelker, Clara Gass, Mary Young, Silla Mierich, Dot Young, Emma Wilson, Mammie Burns, Miss McCartney, Alice Smeck, Miss Robinson and Rachel Zimmerman; Messrs. John Gallagher, Benny Steck, Charlie Beamer, Sam Till, Will Eichbaum, Frank Haughton, Charlie Rest, Will Eichleay, Clarence Hipley, Andy Ackley, Fred Gass, Will Walters, Will Scot, Ralph Ford and many others.

The gentlemen members of the Qui Vive Literary Society gave a reception in honor of the lady member, on Tuesday evening, at the residence of Mr. Wertheimer. Dancing was indulged in from 9 o'clock until early morning, accompanying sweet strains of music from Toerge's orchestra. The dining room, where supper was served during an intermission, was beautifully decorated with flowers. The oratorial efforts of the members in responding to toasts were truly highly appreciated. The ladies have reason to thank their gentlemen friends for the delightful entertainment. Among those who participated were: Miss Elsie Morganstern, Blanch Wertheimer, Carrie Stern, Blanche Adler, Nettie Klee, Ida Wertheimer, Stella Benswanger, Laura Hannach, B. Eiseman, Miss Jean Rosenheim, Baltimore; Messrs. Theodore Kaufmann, Oscar Wertheimer, Joe Feidenheimer, Sigmund Joseph, Marous Aaron, Charles Wormser, Benny Klinordlinger and Emanuel Grafner.

Visitors and Absentees.

Mr. George A. Lashell left for the West yesterday evening on a short business trip.

Miss Martha Cooper, of Bellevue, has gone on a few weeks' visit to her sister at Denver, Col.

Mrs. Isabella Fultz and Mrs. Lizzie Duffy, of Allegheny, have gone to visit friends in Chicago.

—Miss Mary Farley, of Penn avenue, has gone to Philadelphia to visit friends for several weeks.

Mrs. A. C. Owen, of New York City, is visiting her mother, Mrs. E. W. Courtney, of Flavel street, East End.

Mr. A. G. Wallace and his mother, Mrs. J. V. Bradshaw, are visiting the home of Mrs. Luker, Arch street, Allegheny.

Mrs. James D. Swindell and daughters have gone to New York. They will visit Boston and other cities before returning.

Mrs. W. B. Knolle, of Wylie avenue, sails for Europe the coming week. She will be absent for about four months, visiting Strausburg, the Rhine and the Alps, and returning home via London and Paris.

Sewickley Society Notes.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Davis are in New York City.

Mr. Joseph Fleming sailed from New York yesterday for a six months' stay abroad.

The Misses Loring left last Monday for their home in Wheeling, W. Va., after a short visit to Miss Whiting.

Mrs. T. L. Shields, the Misses Shields and the Misses Black sail the last of this month for a short stay abroad.

The Misses Jessie and Nora Macrum sailed yesterday for Germany, where they expect to remain for two years.

Miss Baldwin, of Rochester, N. Y., who has been visiting Miss Love for some time, left for her home last Monday.

Mr. Ezra P. Young and little daughter Bessie, Mrs. George Clapp, Miss King and Miss Love left by boat last Wednesday for the round trip to Cincinnati.

NATIONAL GUARD NOTES.

THE only soldiers not Frenchmen at the Paris Exposition are a company of American marines, on duty in the United States section.

LIEUTENANT HARRY F. DAVIS, of the staff of Colonel Smith, will entertain the officers of the Eighteenth at his residence on Arch street, Allegheny, next Tuesday evening.

CAPTAIN HUNT, of Battery B, sails for Europe the latter part of this month on a pleasure trip. He will be back again in time for the regular encampment in July.

COMPANY F, of the Southside, will act as escort to Post 151 on Memorial Day, and Captain Awl extends an invitation to any other members of the regiment, who desire, to parade with him on the occasion.

CAPTAIN JAMES B. MOORE, of the Duquesne Grays, speaks of going to Europe this summer for his health. The Grays have not yet decided whether they will go into camp this season or not; several sites, however, are being contemplated.

SPECIAL order No. 12, from the Adjutant General's office, announces the discharge of Captain E. T. Carswell, of Company H, Fifth Regiment, and Lieutenants W. W. Kellogg and H. B. Scribner, of Company D, Sixteenth Regiment.

OWING to non-attendance to duty, Sergeant Major Charles Holmes, of the Eighteenth, has been discharged. Quartermaster Sergeant Shannon, one of the oldest members of the regiment, has also been retired, thus leaving two vacancies on the non-commissioned staff of Colonel Smith.

LIEUTENANT McLAUGHLIN, Company B, Eighteenth, has decided to tender his resignation after the spring inspection. Captain Harper has been holding his men to hard work lately, drilling every Monday and Thursday, and as a result the company is rapidly coming up to its old standard of merit.

LIEUTENANT BEAN, of the Regular Army, will arrive in the city this week to assist in the inspection of the local organizations. Lieutenant Bean graduated from West Point in 1886, and has been extremely lucky in catching an easy detail for so young an officer. He intends resigning shortly and going into business in the East.

THE inspection of Battery B takes place Wednesday evening, May 22, at New Market Hall, on Fifth avenue. After the inspection an election will be held for Captain, as the commission of Captain Hunt expires the same date. For some time it looked as if First Lieutenant Brown would make a fight for the two bars, but he has about decided to withdraw from the race, as Hunt has made things in such shape that defeat is next to impossible.

THE annual report of Adjutant General Hastings for the year 1888 is now about two months over due, and as a consequence many guardsmen are beginning to imagine it will contain some very interesting reading matter. General Hasting's declines to state when it will be issued, but it was hoped that it would have been out before the spring inspections, in order to give the companies a chance to see where they were faulty last year, and let them correct the same.

THE Washington Infantry will act as escort to Post 117, East End, on Memorial Day, and Captain Shannon expects to have a full company in line. At the regular monthly meeting last week a committee was appointed to attend to the decorating of the graves of deceased members of the organization. A donation of $50 dollars was received during the week from W. J. Richardson, a former member of the company, and as the headquarters rooms are furnished in good shape, the boys propose to shortly give a house-warming, so that their friends may be able to see how they are fixed.

CAPTAIN DANIEL M. TAYLOR, of the regular service, who was detailed by the War Department to observe and note the movements of the militia at the Centennial exercises in New York, sent in his report during the week and it will shortly be made public. The outcome of Captain Taylor's observations can be but one thing, and that is that the country can still get along very nicely with its present small standing army and be comparatively safe from foreign invasion or internal outbreaks. The concentrating of 50,000 men, armed and equipped, in the great metropolis inside of 16 hours, has shown that point very conclusively.

THE following are the dates set for the inspection of the different companies of the Eighteenth Regiment, and every man is expected to be in line promptly at the hour named: Company C, Friday, May 17, at 8 P. M.; Company I, McKeesport, Saturday, May 18, at 7:30 P. M.; Company A, Monday 20, at 8 P. M.; drum corps at 8:30 P. M., and Company E at 9:30 P. M., same evening; Company D, Tuesday, May 21, at 7 P. M., and Company E at 9:30 P. M.; Company F, Thursday, May 23, at 8 P. M., and Company G at 7:30 P. M.; Company H, Saturday, May 25, at 8 P. M. Companies, in addition to the arms and State equipments, will be inspected as regards proficiency in skirmish drill, guard mount and in their knowledge of the duties of sentinels.

THE appropriation of $75,000 having passed the Legislature to furnish the National Guard of the State with a dress uniform, it is extremely probable that Adjutant General Hastings will lose no time in the matter, but will take steps at once to carry out his favorite hobby. While it is almost certain that all the regiments will be equipped with the same style of uniform, probably that in use in the regular service, many arguments have been offered in favor of distinctive uniforms for each regiment. A well known authority, speaking of the Centennial parade, says: "The large bodies of troops from Pennsylvania and Ohio, in the State uniform, could hardly receive the credit that was their due, because of the monotony of their appearance which wearied the spectators, and herein is a strong argument in favor of distinctive uniforms for occasions of ceremony. Praise and appreciation are necessary to maintain a healthy esprit du corps among volunteers, and this can hardly be hoped for if there is not something to catch the popular eye in great parades."

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MWFSu

NEWS OF THE DRAMA.

BIJOU THEATRE.... "Fat Men's Club"
GRAND OPERA HOUSE.. "The Corsair"
HARRIS' THEATRE.. "We, Us & Co."
ACADEMY OF MUSIC.. "Irish Luck"
CASINO MUSEUM.... Curiosities, etc.

The above are the theatrical attractions this week.

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The theaters might just as well close. The weather is too hot and the players are too weary to do anything but tire the people who go to see them. I was forcibly struck with the effete and played-out appearance of the actors wherever I went last week. Mr. Mayo could barely pump up enough energy to present a mere semblance of excitement when he was supposed to be as *Davy Crockett* within an ace of being devoured by wolves. It was simply too hot and too late in the season for a heroic actor to indulge in heroics.

The Boston Ideals have played a spiritless and unsatisfactory engagement at the Grand Opera House for about the same reasons. It is the last week of their season. Everybody knows what the last week of the season is like in an opera company. But the public does not care to pay for the privilege of seeing the celebration of a welcome finale transferred to the stage.

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Manager Wilt and Colonel Foster, of the Ideals, have been fighting with varying vigor all the week. The Grand Opera House has obtained under the management of Mr. Wilt a remarkable reputation for battles throughout the land. Mr. Foster will not tell his side of the quarrel for publication, and Mr. Wilt is inclined to tell too much of his side, so the matter cannot be discussed here. But the fact is that it is too hot to trifle with squabbles at the Opera House.

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The May Festival seats are selling better now than at first. It is worth one's while to forego a few pleasures to be able to witness some of the performances of this splendid series. The warning ought to be repeated that the first comers will get the best seats.

This Week's Attractions.

A MUSICAL comedy with the suggestive title, "The Fat Men's Club," will be given at the Bijou this week by J. C. Stewart's Comedy Company. This comedy is the latest creation of the fertile brain of the fat comedian and author, J. C. Stewart, who is known far and wide as the rotund and jolly fun-maker in "The Two Johns," a comedy that, during many seasons, has been presented time and again, and with great success, in every city in the United States. What amusement Mr. Stewart has furnished to theater-goers in "The Two Johns" he promises to more than repeat in "The Fat Men's Club." The piece is written to amuse, and the plot hinges upon the proposed production of an opera and the initiation of two fat men's brothers into the club. The scene is laid at that well-known resort, Ballston Spa, and in New York. There is an endless amount of fun, brightness and music in the comedy, and no less than five comedians are members of the club.

THE stage of the Grand Opera House will be transformed into a dream of Oriental splendor next week, when Rice's spectacular burlesque, "The Corsair," will receive its second production in this city, and continue until Wednesday night, when it will be replaced by the ever-popular "Evangeline" the balance of the week, with Saturday matinee. The scenic setting and costuming of "The Corsair" are splendid. On Thursday night and the balance of the week Rice's new and beautiful "Evangeline," which has been dear to all theater-goers for the past 15 years, will be produced with new and gorgeous costumes. Both extravaganzas will be cast to the full strength of the company. Among them are such artists as George K. Fortescue, George A. Schiller, Harry Carr, Sherman Wade, Richard Gorman, W. H. Mack, Annie M. Perkins, Irene Verona, Lila Blow, Carrie Wallace, Mae Branson, Amelia Glover (the little fawn) and other artists of equal note.

C. C. MAGEE'S "Irish Luck" company will bring a full breath of old Ireland to the Academy of Music this week. The members of the company are able to give the rich brogue, the dances and the music of old Ireland in the most entertaining fashion. "Irish Luck" is a jolly play, full of Hibernian human nature from beginning to end. It is by turn humorous and pathetic, and it is a play to be enjoyed heartily several times in succession.

TO-MORROW matinee "We, Us & Co." will commence an engagement of one week with regular matinees at Harris' Theater. It is a clever and entertaining absurdity. The company includes Lina John, late of "The Little Tycoon;" Celia Volmer, a young miss, who has heretofore appeared in comic opera; Hattie Haynes, Lillian Keene, Walter Jones, a clever young comedian, a native of Cincinnati, and others.

A GOOD-NATURED act on the part of Manager Foster and the singers of the Boston Ideals Company is to give the sacred concert to-night at the Bijou Theater for the benefit of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. The Bijou Theater ought to be crowded, for the programme is a grand one, interpreted by Miles. De Lussan and L'Allemand and all the other stars among the Boston Ideals.

THE Casino Museum is supplied with new curiosities and a change of bill generally this week.

Echoes of the Stage.

AMELIA GLOVER (the little fawn) in the "Corsair," is the sister of Mrs. Henry E. Dixey.

TED D. MARKS, business manager of the Corsair Company, is shortly to wed Miss Marlborough, a California belle.

ANNIE PERKINS, who plays *Conrad* in the "Corsair," is a handsome blonde (natural) and almost an albino in appearance.

AMELIA SOMERVILLE, the first *Merry Mountain Maid* in "Adonis," has lost fully half of herself somewhere, and is now a slender woman.

GEORGE A. SCHILLER, one of the comedians in the "Corsair," has been with Mr. Rice over 12 years and has been seen many times in Pittsburg in his various productions.

GEORGE K. FORTESCUE burlesques the character of *Little Lord Fauntleroy* in the "Corsair." His make-up is an exact copy of little Elsie Leslie and little Tommy Russell.

EFFIE ELLSLER'S piece de resistance next year will be "The Governess," which is reported to have made a hit on the Pacific coast. J. W. McKinney has been engaged as her general manager.

A LARGE quantity of plastering fell on the bed in room 9 of the Hamilton House, early one morning, just after the noted tragedian, James Owen O'Connor had left it. The drama escaped a severe calamity.

THE Boston dramatic critics tried very hard to say that Mrs. Langtry was a bad actress, and some of them got up independence enough to declare as much just like little men. But they did not see her *Lady Macbeth*. They are fortunate, those Bostonians, sometimes.

ELSIE LESLIE, the child of ineffable dramatic loveliness, appeared for the last time as *Little Lord Fauntleroy* yesterday afternoon. She goes to the Green Mountains, to run about in the sweet air, made sweeter by her presence, and to study, incidently, her part in the adaptation of Mark Twain's "Prince and the Pauper," which she plays next season under Daniel Frohman's management.

SAYS a writer in the New York *Mirror*: Jogging along the Riverside drive the other day I saw the unusual spectacle of two healthy looking women, astride of bicycles, bowling along the smooth highway with a grace and speed that would have commanded attention had the riders belonged to the trousered sex. One of the women was Pauline Hall. I had heard of Miss Hall's cycling exploits, and I confess I imagined a good deal of it was traceable to the paragrapher's ingenuity or the press agent's industry. But as a matter of fact the ocular demonstration proved that there was nothing in the nature of a "fake" in the descriptions of Miss Hall's skill in riding and directing her steel steed. The full, bifurcated skirts she wore sufficiently served the purposes of womanly modesty. They looked, from a side view, like the short but ample skirts women wear while tricycling, and only was their peculiar construction noticeable when surveyed fore and aft. On Miss Hall's cheeks there lay a bright, more becoming color than she wears before the footlights and the sparkle in her eye showed that her novel form of exercise is both enjoyable and salutary.

A LOT of New York papers try very hard to praise "Featherbrain" and Miss Minnie Maddern, who assumes the heavy burden of the latest production at the Madison Square Theater. But *Le Chat Noir*, which is very friendly to Miss Maddern, has only this to say: "The actress was certainly artistic in being stupid, though she almost lifted the authors to the point of sanity once or twice during the progress of the play. But no one, I hold, no one living could have infused the character of *Featherbrain* with one atom of interest or charm. Minnie Maddern is open to the severest censure for disappointing her admirers and hazarding all her future by dribbling through this dull and dreary performance, which did not contain one emotion such as every critic who ever wrote a line about the actress has told her she excelled in portraying. It is to be regretted that a young woman who certainly promised to become one of the foremost of serious American actresses should see fit to put the dunce's cap on her head and get up on a stool in the corner of the theatrical schoolhouse, while others, with not a tithe of her ability, win the approval of the examiners and the emoluments of popular favor. Minnie Maddern was a dead failure in 'Featherbrain.'"

NOTES ABOUT ART.

BY way of illustrating the history of decorative art at the Paris Exposition it is the intention to have constructed a series of models of the interiors of dwellings, showing the styles of decoration peculiar to different countries and of various ages. If the idea is successfully carried out it will convey more instruction at a glance than could be gained from books by considerable study.

A WELL executed pastel portrait of E. W. Histed, shown in Mayer's window, is the work of Mr. C. Birsch, who apparently makes a specialty of this class of pictures. Mr. Birsch does this work particularly well, which is probably the reason he does so much of it, and he is very successful in getting true effects of color and fineness in molding, the appearance of solidity being equal almost to that of oil painting.

MR. D. B. WALKLEY has a couple of water colors on view at Boyd's. They are both subjects of similar character, one being a study of a Holland farm house, and the other one of a Pennsylvania farmer's home. The sketches are of equal size, and, so far as artistic excellence is concerned, of equal importance, but it is, perhaps, gratifying to patriotic instincts to note that the home farm scene forms the best picture of the two.

A PICTURESQUE valley on a clear midsummer day is the subject of a very fine work by Mr. George Hetzel, which is shown in Boyd's window. This picture is well handled throughout, and has, in addition, some points of special excellence, of which the splendid painting of sky and clouds is not the least important. The atmospheric effect in this portion of the work is of far more than ordinary merit, but it is fully equaled by the masterly treatment of haze in the distance. The subject of this picture forms a very beautiful scene, consisting as it does of a fine valley between splendidly wooded hills, and through which a small stream wanders over its shallow bed. As regards the execution of the work, it is fully up to Mr. Hetzel's usual standard, and in some particulars may even go beyond it.

NOT a little comment has been called forth by the fact that of the many portraits at Washington shown at the Centennial Exhibition no two of them appear alike, and yet there is nothing remarkable about it, as anyone must admit who will consider the matter for a moment. There is probably no greater dissimilarity between these various paintings than in an equal number of modern photographs taken by as many different photographers. When we consider the innumerable causes which have to do with forming the character of an individual, his changing moods from day to day, and then reflect that neither the camera nor the brush of the artist can depict more than one phase at a time of this complex organism, whose outward semblance is changing constantly through the influence of the mind and its ever varying thoughts, and of the soul-speaking through the countenance, we will find little cause for wonder that portraits vary in appearance, aside from the technical differences by which each artist stamps his own individuality upon his work.

MR. WILLIAM T. RICHARDS, of New York, is, perhaps, one of America's best marine painters; at any rate his productions in this branch of art are possessed of more than ordinary merit. A work by this artist, which has been in the Gillespie gallery for some days, will fully bear out the foregoing statement. It is a scene on the New Jersey coast, or rather, it might be said, off the coast, as the view is taken looking oceanward, and the picture presents little else than an expanse of sea and sky, with the exception of a partially submerged rock on the beach over which the waves break and roll, and a narrow strip of sand still covered with water from the last retreating breaker. The title of this picture is, "A Summer Morning," and the keynote of the work is one of brightness and life. Through an opening in the clouds the sun, which is not yet high in the heavens, may be seen, and its rays are returned in a glittering reflection from the waves of the sea and the wet sand of the beach. This picture is a combination of good qualities that is very pleasing to behold; the color is excellent, the drawing almost faultless, the waves possess cleanness, transparency and motion, the cloud painting is far away better than is often found in some of the most highly prized pictures; in short, the work is a fine one both in whole and in part, and is one of those which are a constant source of satisfaction to their owners. Mr. Richards has an enviable reputation as a landscape painter, in which he is noted for carefulness and finish of detail. Since he has turned his attention to marine views, clearness and brilliancy of coloring are still his leading characteristics.

THE Hacke gallery opens this week an entirely new lot of pictures, numerous enough to completely cover its walls, and consisting for the most part of very high class works. All those who appreciate fine pictures should make it a point to visit this collection, which is one of the largest ever brought to this city, and contains some rare and important paintings, giving it a special interest in addition to the general excellence of those forming the bulk of the exhibit. Those who fail to visit these pictures during their stay here will have missed something well worth seeing, as an hour or two may be spent among them both pleasurably and profitably. The collection embraces a great variety of subjects and includes many famous names. Perhaps the largest and most important work shown is that by Evariste Carpentier, entitled, "Les Refugee," a picture well known here through numerous reproductions. "Russian Officers Shooting Horse-Thieves," is a fine painting by B. de Kaslowsky, full of life and action. A very clever picture by Alf. Sieness, for which Sarah Bernhardt posed as a model for one of the figures, is called "The Butterflies." A picture showing a landscape with a number of young calves in the foreground and a good effect of storm in the distance, is the work of A. Braith, and it exhibits a complete mastery of some of the technicalities of painting; it is called "A Rainy Day on the Bavarian Hills." A marine view by Wm. T. Richards is a splendid water color in which both rocks and sea are particularly well handled. "On the Tow-path," by Veyrassat, and "The Cavalry Review," by F. Jaset, both show fine painting of men and animals; the former quiet and restful and the latter strong in action and spirit. Many others might be instanced, among them a fine work by Rico, "A Street in Seville;" "In the Seraglio," by G. Simoni, a finely painted work of a decorative character; "Espionage," by Berne-Bellecour, and a very pleasing little work by Bridgman entitled, "Out of the Rain," showing a little girl sheltering herself under a tree. A number of pictures possessing merit are still more valuable on account of the famous names they bear. Of this class is the still life by Volont and "The Song" by Viberti; it is also true of "A Windy Day on the North Sea" by Emile Vernier and of a few others. These pictures are the property of Mr. Charles F. Haselton, of Philadelphia, and, taken as a whole, they form a collection of very strong interest to buyers and to all who appreciate works of merit.

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MEMORIAL DAY.

Arrangements for Its Observance—A Circular to the Colored Sunday Schools—The National Encampment — Inspection of Posts.

Arrangements for the regular observance of Memorial Day are well under way. General Orders No. 8 have been issued from National Headquarters, calling attention to Memorial Day, and reminding comrades of the fact that assistance is needed in the shape of flowers, flags and money by posts that are weak in the following cities: Marietta, Ga., Chattanooga, Memphis, Nashville, Fredericksburg, Arlington, etc. There are at least 10,000 soldiers buried in the cemeteries of each of these cities.

Post 236 will hold memorial services on Decoration Day at the Southside Cemetery, and the committee having charge of the arrangements