WHERE BEAUTY REIGNS.

WASHINGTON TOILETS.

Graphic Description of the Dresses to be Worn by the Administration Ladies This Season—Gowns Which Cost $1,000 Apiece.

[CORRESPONDENCE OF THE DISPATCH.]

WASHINGTON, January 4.—The social season is now in full blast, and the gorgeous dresses and the costly jewels of our leading ladies are about to be brought forth. Before they are displayed to vulgar eyes I will give you a peep at them as they hang in their mistresses' closets and chests of cedar. The big boxes fairly bulge out with velvets, satins and laces, for although the season is just beginning every woman here has her full wardrobe. Velvets and diamonds seem to be the administration's rule, and many a distinguished dowager will dazzle a worshipful public at White House and Cabinet house receptions.

Every gown Mrs. Harrison or her daughter, Mrs. McKee, will wear has been made in New York by the man who composed their inauguration toilets. Not a scrap will Mrs. Vice President Morton or Mrs. Postmaster General Wanamaker put on that was not purchased in Paris. Even their boots, gloves and hosiery were bought there. Mrs. Secretary Blaine has divided her custom between Paris and New York, and she is described by a friend as always buying the best, no matter if the article is a kerchief. Mrs. Windom, Mrs. Noble and Mrs. Wilmerding have done a pile of shopping in New York and everything promises well for the glory of the first season of the Harrison social regime.

There is more toggery worn at the capital of a winter than in any other city, but this year every woman who will be prominent has at least half a dozen new gowns.

Mrs. Benjamin Harrison was arranging for her winter's reception toilets when her sister died, and of course, then, she gave no more thought to them, but Mrs. Morton has 20 brand new ones, Mrs. Blaine has half as many, and Mrs. Wanamaker's wardrobe shows a full dozen. Some of the rich Senators' wives have more. Mrs. Stockbridge, of Michigan, has today hanging up, wrapped in sheets, 33 gowns, of which she has worn no more than six. Then the diamonds—a $1,000,000 could hardly buy the jewel cases that will be opened in Washington this winter. At a diplomatic reception at the White House, there will be $500,000 represented in gems. Take a group who will be apt to stand together in any drawing room, Mrs. Morton, Mrs. R. R. Hitt, Mrs. John Hay and Mrs. Leiter, why the four of them would sell for as many hundred thousand dollars. If Mesdames Senator Standford and Stockbridge should stand opposite them they would just about balance in worth, for the last two have as many men as the first four.

MRS. PRESIDENT HARRISON'S TOILETS.

Mrs. Benjamin Harrison has a fancy for the violet, heliotrope and mauve shades, and they are the colors she will wear this winter when she resumes her place at the State receptions. Not only is she fond of violet and its lower tones, but she especially demands that they be executed in velvet or crepe fabrics, as she claims that nothing else properly represents the colors of the pansy. One marvelous gown that she had made in New York before Mrs. Scott-Lord's death is of silk velvet that has a lilac tint in the day and is rich heliotrope at night. She had intended to christen it by wearing it at the opening of the Chicago Auditorium, but as she did not go it still lies swaddled in tissue papers in a six foot cedar chest of which the White House boasts.

Few know how much a President's wife has to pay for her gowns. Mrs. Harrison arranged for a carriage and house dress the other day at a down town store. It was the simplest thing in the world. Just dark blue cloth, with a narrow pin stripe of black, to be made up without the slightest trimming. It came home, fitted like a glove, was tried on and sent back to have the figure of a woman under 30. The bill that came with it, if you please, was $125 for material, making and finishing. The same sort of dress a woman of ordinary position would expect to get for $40 to $50. It is true that it was made on the lightest of silk and was boned so discreetly that the body could be turned inside out and not show a sign of a make up. Everything else the President's wife purchases is of the same high price. She must pay a pretty sum for gloves and shoes, as she is very fastidious about both. Her shoes are all made to order, and, upon the honor of her maker, the last used is size 3, width C. A dainty foot, and its owner will never have it encased in anything but black shoes, although for light wearing costumes she follows the rad, and has her slipper of the color of the gown.

Elegant women have all sorts of caprices about their clothes. Mrs. Harrison is fastidious about her foot gear. Mrs. Wanamaker would wear a print dress rather than dispense with dainty, hand-made under clothing, and Mrs. Morton considers a glorious costume wasted if the gloves are off in tone or fit.

As a result of these views, the Vice President's wife is always the best gloved woman in any assembly. She has purchased boxes of them each year from a Paris firm who served her when the Vice President was Minister to France. They are suede and very light tan in color.

20 DRESSES AT $1,000 APIECE.

It is easy to tell why Mrs. Morton need give no thought to her costumes, as M. Worth is their composer. There is a seductive tale afloat that she has 20 that have never been taken from their wrappings, ten for carriages and day wear and ten regal reception robes. It is said the bill Worth rendered was $20,000, as he selected, planned and made every one of them. One thousand dollars per gown distances all competition in modest Washington, and Mrs. Morton will be the best-dressed as well as the handsomest woman in the administration. She is not a bit afraid of colors, and in many of her costumes she even touches on the startling shades of red and daffodil yellow. She can do it, as her arms and throat are like snow; her face has a soft tinge of pink at night, her eyes are dark and her hair of an iron-gray color, all of which features will suffer any color in dress.

Mrs. Morton has a liking for furs, especially seals and otter, and the two are introduced into her evening as well as her day costumes. One gown she has already worn was a rich venetian red brocade, buried in masses of silk net of the same darling color. All her bodies are cut heart-shaped and with straps that follow the line of the body, thereby falling from the shoulder point. In this red gown the heart-shaped effect was exquisitely produced by close folds of the soft net. What jewels did she wear with such a dazzling costume? Pearls, of course, as diamonds would make it too flaming. Her full throat was wound around with a necklace formed of six strands of pearls. In jewels Mrs. Morton defies omens, and wears fire opals a great deal. One opal ring that she constantly wears is of the shape and size of Lord Byron's famous thumb nail, and is surrounded with a crest of diamonds, anyone of which would set a solitaire ring for a person of modest tastes.

One of Mrs. Morton's opera cloaks is raved over as a sweet thing. It is of white broadcloth, very long, lined with rose pink, slashed up the back and fairly embedded in crinkly Angora fur. Her gowns bring up the bustle question. Not one of them but has a roll or two of bar-tuffed cloth secreted in the drapery at the waist. It is true they slope some, but they are till bustles. It is only slim debutantes who can do without them, and every woman over 25 here still clings to the bustle. Mrs. Harrison never tropped them, although both her daughter and daughter-in-law did for a time.

BLACK SILK AND THREAD LACE.

Mrs. Wanamaker likes thread lace, in texture, fills like and in color, black. As she is a woman of few caprices, she can afford to satisfy this one in full. She is a woman out of the ordinary anyway. She likes engravings better than oil-on-paintings, shivers a little at the too white glare of diamonds and would rather don a black robe covered with a cob-web of black thread lace than all the superb gowns in her wardrobe. Her nature is toned to fine issues, and no garish touch will be seen in anything Mrs. Wanamaker does or wears this winter. Think of it, a woman with her wealth does not like diamonds. She has them by the peck, but she never bought the smallest stone for herself or her children. The strain of Quaker in her blood makes all blazon and blare distasteful to her. Her jewel case contains a necklace of matched stones which Mr. Wanamaker purchased when abroad, earrings formed of gems exactly like those in the necklace and bracelets, butterflies, aigrettes and bonnet pins galore. Only one piece does she often select from her collection, and that is a superb pair of earrings presented to her by her father shortly before his death. Although she never wears bracelets and rarely a necklace, she always wears a finger ring formed of an immense dusky sapphire buried in a crown of tiny diamonds. She has a fondness for the almost translucent blue of that stone.

Everything about Mrs. Wanamaker's wardrobe is on touch with her taste in gems. Among her dresses for this winter is a grande toilette of ivory satin, draped in an indescribably graceful way with white baregre, a long length of which is wound about in one piece, forming folds of exquisite softness. Folds are Mrs. Wanamaker's favorite device in the dress art, and a violet velvet that she has suffers no trimming save folds of heliotrope crepe shaped at the throat in a way that would make a sculptor's conception unsymmetrical by comparison. The white dinner gown of which I spoke has a front of rare Honiton which shares with black thread lace Mrs. Wanamaker's favor. She rather likes the green shades for her house and carriage dresses, and one in which she made calls upon the ladies of the Supreme Court and Senate, was green vienna with light jacket of the same, as the days were too warm for furs. Her bonnet with this was the acme of simplicity. In the first place it was a mere scrap, such as the bonnets of the day are. The crown was of dark green velvet draped over two or three folds of reseda green of the same texture. The strings were of the lighter green, and the bow in which they were knotted was larger than is usually seen.

MISS GRUNDY, JR.

Pittsburg High School Banquet.

Gaiety and mirth, toasts and music, lovely ladies and handsome gentlemen abounded in the Hotel Schlosser Friday evening. The occasion was the first annual banquet of the Pittsburg High School, and such a pleasant affair was the first effort in the direction of a systematized series of annual banquets, that the future celebrations will be looked forward to with great interest and bright anticipations. Guests to the number of 150 filed into the spacious dining room of the hotel, where the trained force of waiters spent some two hours in serving them with an elaborate menu, at the conclusion of which the President Mr. Charles W. Scovel in a very appropriate speech introduced the toastmaster Mr. Edward Hays. In a bright witty manner Mr. Hays assumed his duties and amid warm applause toasts were made and responded to until after the hour of midnight.

After the "feast of reason and flow of soul" accompanied with the exquisite eatables had been disposed of, the younger members of the company indulged in the enjoyment of the terpsichorean art until 2 o'clock.

Hours of Pleasure.

The Alumni Association of the Holy Ghost College will hold their reception at New Turner Hall Tuesday evening.

A pleasant surprise party was given Mr. and Mrs. Braum, on New Year's eve, at their residence, 106 Ridge avenue, Allegheny.

One of the social events of the week will be the first reception of the Hohenzollern Circle, to be held at the Cyclorama parlors Thursday, January 9.

The engagement of Miss Bertha, daughter of A. J. Bean, of Haysville, Pa., to Mr. Harry M. Van Cleve, of Sewickley, is announced, the wedding to take place early in February.

Invitations are out for the marriage of Miss Jennie May McMillen to Mr. M. J. McMahon, Wednesday morning, January 15, at 9 o'clock, in St. Mary of Mercy's Church, Third avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. McCann, of Jane street, entertained a large number of friends on New Year's night. An elegant repast was served and a very enjoyable time was the verdict of all present.

The Golden Hours Club held its annual supper on Tuesday, December 31, 1889, at the Hotel Duquesne. The event of the evening was an address by the President, R. L. Whitesides.

Miss Lizzie Phelan, of Greenville, neice of Right Rev. Bishop Phelan, who has been the guest of the Misses Alice and Rosie Curran, of Marion avenue, Allegheny, returned yesterday to St. Xavier's Academy, Latrobe.

On Tuesday evening about 30 couples surprised Mr. and Mrs. Reed, of Liberty avenue, by taking possession of their house, and a very pleasant time was had by dancing, card playing and other social games. Lunch was served at 12 o'clock.

In Sacramento, Cal., on the 26th of December, Miss Nettie E. Lawrence, of that city, was married to Mr. Edward H. Watkins, of the East End. They are enjoying a Southern wedding trip at present, but will shortly arrive in Pittsburg, their future home.

The second select masquerade of the Agrandis Club will be held at New Turner Hall, Forbes street, on Monday evening, February 3. The members of the club are: J. D. Eastler, W. J. Spahn, J. F. Hastley, M. Covne, T. L. McNally, J. J. Dolan, J. F. Madden, M. J. Fanning and H. Coffee.

Among the pleasant events of the week was a euchre party given by the Misses Schiver, at their home, 138 Ohio street, on New Year's night. Mr. H. J. Lotz and Miss Emmr Hunnebagen captured the first prizes and Mr. John Moore and Miss Mary Shaver were consoled for bad luck by appropriate booby prizes.

The Golden Circle Literary Society held a meeting, all of its members being present, and installed the following officers for the next term: R. L. Swearer, President; David Roberts, Vice President; John K. Henry, Secretary; Miss Alice Donahire, Assistant Secretary; E. M. Roberts, Treasurer; Miss Estella Brooks, Ladies' Critic; George Henry and J. W. Phillips, Critics. The Programme Committee appointed were: Miss Mable Mays, Mr. J. R. Speelman and Joseph Hugus.

Children and grandchildren assembled on New Year's Day to do honor to the 57th birthday of Mrs. E. J. Miller, of Robert street. The motherly hostess received many handsome presents besides the sincere wishes that she might see many happy returns of the day. With the exception of one son and his family, who reside in West Virginia, her children and grandchildren were all present. They were Mr. James M. Miller and family, Mr. E. Stone and wife, Mr. R. A. Knapp and family.

A very pleasant evening was enjoyed at the residence of Mr. Harry E. Fowhl, Pebble avenue, Allegheny, last Thursday. Euchre and instrumental music, combined with a very tempting luncheon, made the moments pass rapidly. Those present were Misses Ella Temme, Bessie Davis, Annie Kidney, Mollie Ross, Marie McAlister, Henrietta Harper, A. Temme, Estella Fowhl; also Miss Jourdan, of Uniontown, Miss H. W. Tencate, J. Williams, D. T. McKeag, J. E. Thompson, E. Kincaid, T. Hottordf, Frank Patton, R. S. Dalzell, H. Farren, S. McAlister, J. McCarthey and W. B. Fowhl.

One of the most pleasant surprises of the new year was given to Mrs. Henry F. Eggers. Past President of the Ladies' Auxiliary to Post 88, G. A. R., on Thursday evening, January 2, 1890, at her home, 26 Boyle street, Allegheny Dancing and euchre were the leading features of the evening. She was presented with a handsome table, after the sixteenth century style, by the members of the auxiliary. Among those who were present were: Mr. and Mrs. Gray, Mr. and Mrs. Pauline, Mr. and Mrs. Bear, Mrs. and Miss Hyle, Mr. and Mrs. Renge, Mr. and Mrs. Dripps, Mr. and Mrs. E. Eggers, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Richey, Mrs. and Miss Smith, the Misses Irwin, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Branff, Mrs. Stediford, Mrs. Hutchinson, Mrs. Fitzgerald, Mrs. Gotthardt and other friends. Refreshments were served at 11 o'loock.

A novel and delightful evening was given friends of the Misses Carrie and Lillien Moreland at their home, Craig and Forbes streets, East End, on Friday evening, the feature being a huge spider web made up of 24 balls of different colored twines and commencing in the parlor, through the hallways, up the stairs and through the rooms above, back again to the parlor. Each strand of cord was woven in the intricate meshes. It was this that 20 or more pairs of busy hands endeavored to take down without at any time breaking a single strand. The effect of this great web of different colored threads was indeed unique, to say the least, the first lady or gentleman to accomplish the untwining of their thread, were entitled to a prize, Miss K. H. Dermitt, of the ladies, and Mr. Thomas Fawcett, of the gentlemen, being the successful ones. There were present Mr. and Mrs. George Shephard, Mr. and Mrs. Simpson, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Fawcett, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Dermitt, the Misses Beulah and Essie Littie, Clara and Margaret Moorhead, Blanche and Carrie Baird, Miss Lillie Goidthorp, Mrs. J. R. Boggs; Messrs. Will Lyons, Jr., Dr. Jones, Will Flanigan, John House, Theo. Hoffman, Percy Richmond and Dr. J. W. Heustis. Dancing and refreshments served to conclude an evening of thorough enjoyment to all who were privileged to take part.

The handsome residence of Mr. and Mrs. A. Milligan, on Bogrs avenue, was the scene of an enjoyable and pleasing holiday entertainment on Monday evening last. James B. Cherry, Esq., was chosen master of ceremonies, a position amply filled with fitting dignity to himself and charming delight to the little ones. Recitations, tableaux and music composed the programme, while the interior decorations reflect great credit upon the estimable host and hostess. The library, hall and parlor presented a most beautiful spectacle, being tastefully trimmed in holly, ferns and arbor vitæ, while the otherwise monotony of the walls was relieved by an abundance of exotics. The children took complete possession of the house, and "all went merry as she wedding bells." "The Old, Old Story" was rendered in a charming manner by Miss Nina Milligan; ending with the superb tableaux "Christmas," an object lesson of the birth of Christ. Miss Millie Stinger gave "The Christmas Stocking" in a charming manner, while the laughable comedy, in one act, entitled "In Want of a Servant" was participated in by Miss Mary Shandly as Mrs. Marshall, Miss Nina Milligan as Margaret O'Flannigan, Miss Phebe Keenan as Katharine van Faulkenstein, Miss Maggie Forb as Mrs. Bunker, Master Allen Milligan as Freddie, Miss Adlun Milligan as Snow Drop Washington. During the interval a violin solo, by Master Robert Stenger, was enjoyed by all. "The Inventor's Wife" was portrayed in a very creditable way by Miss Adlun Milligan. This little miss, although but a child, has in her the making of an elocutionist of no small caliber, while her gestures and easy style are to be envied. The evening's entertainment concluded with the tableaux. "The Gypsy Encampment," after which the guests repaired to the festive board, where had been prepared a repast of most sumptuous proportions, to which justice was done, and then each and all with a "Happy New Year," voted the evening one most pleasantly spent.

Personal Paragraphs.

Mrs. Judson Brenner, of Beaver Falls, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Abbott, 72 Page street, Allegheny.

Miss Ella G. Stuart, of "Monterey Terrace," Allegheny, is spending the holidays in Philadelphia and Germantown with friends, and will return January 10.

Since the Monongahela House fire, Mr. and Mrs. George E. Goddard have been the guests of Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Pinkerton, Fifth avenue and Bidwell street.

Miss Regina Harvey, of Brooklyn, N. Y., who is attending school at St. Joseph's Academy, Greensburg, is spending the holiday vacation with her friend and schoolmate, Miss Gertrude Woods, of Preble avenue, Allegheny.

The Misses Alice and Rosie Curran, who have been spending the holidays with their parents, Mr. James and Mrs. Kate Curran, of No. 23 Marion avenue, Allegheny, returned back to school yesterday to St. Xavier's Academy, Latrobe, Pa.

Mr. Charles Sprung, of Woods Run, was presented last week with a beautiful gold-headed cane by the German United Protestant congregation, of Seventh street, East End. Mr. Sprung has been an active member of the choir of said congregation for 25 years.

The Fremont *Journal* says: Dr. W. E. Hawk, who for the past two years has been with Dr. Frank Creager in this city, left on Thursday for Pittsburg, where he enters the large dental laboratory of Taft Bros. Dr. Hawk is one of the finest mechanical dentists in the United States. His many friends in this city regret his departure.

The following is copied from a Covington paper of recent date: There was a very charming wedding yesterday at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. August Haven, on West Fourth street. The groom was Mr. James P. Scoville, a prominent young business man of Pittsburg, and the bride was Miss Mary Irwin Haven. The ceremony was performed by Rev. W. H. Neel. The residence was tastefully decorated for the occasion, and the menu served was delightful. The bride was dressed in a traveling suit with hat to match. There were about 75 guests present, among whom were the most prominent of Covington people. The bride is one of the most charming of Covington ladies. Mr. and Mrs. Scoville left last night for Pittsburg, their future home.

NATIONAL GUARD NOTES.

THE much-postponed election for Captain in Company G, of the Fourteenth, took place last night.

LIEUTENANT HORACE F. LOWRY, of this city, is among his friends again after a severe attack of throat troubles.

COMPANY F, of the Southside, has secured a room in the Marker building which will be used for armory purposes until the new armory is completed.

CAPTAIN HENRY SCHMIDT, of the Fourteenth Regiment, will make a flying visit to Erie this week on business connected with the Knights of Honor, of which he is a prominent member.

LIEUTENANT HARRY F. DAVIS, of the Eighteenth Regiment staff, is developing a taste for journalism. His articles in a local paper on the battles of the late war are being read with interest.

LIEUTENANT WILLIAM DOAK, of Company G, Eighteenth Regiment, is an active candidate for the position of Postmaster of East Liberty. His numerous military friends hope that Uncle Sam will treat his application favorably.

COMPANY B, of the Eighteenth, has had a series of resolutions engrossed expressing the sympathy of the organization over the death of Harry G. Clothier, which took place December 31.

THREE local companies failed to receive their appropriations from the State last week on account of the bonds of the commanding officers not being properly filed. The companies were A and G of the Fourteenth and A of the Eighteenth. The proper bonds were sent on at once after this discrepancy was discovered.

THE members of Company A of the Fourteenth Regiment will meet this afternoon in the company quarters for the purpose of making some necessary arrangements relative to the annual ball of the organization which occurs shortly. The last affair of this kind given by the company was such a great success financially that the members are ambitious to excel if possible this year.

QUITE a number of local officers have received invitations to the annual ball of the State Fencibles, which will be held in Philadelphia the latter part of the month. It is expected that the coming reception will eclipse anything of the kind yet held in the State, and quite a number of prominent individuals from different parts of the country have signified their intention of being present.

THE annual meeting of the officers of the Eighteenth Regiment, which was to have been held last night, has been postponed until next Saturday evening. As this is the most important meeting of the year, every officer is expected to be present. An election for civil officers for the ensuing year will be held the same evening, also the final approval of the plans for the new armory will be acted upon.

A MOCK general court martial will shortly be held by the officers of the Eighteenth Regiment for the purpose of instruction in the details of court martial duties. The subject of courts martial is but little understood by nine-tenths of the local officers, and several mock trials in the Fourteenth and Battery B, as well as the Eighteenth, for instruction purposes, would not only prove interesting, but most beneficial to the large number of younger officers who have lately been commissioned.

THE marksmen's badges for last season's work are expected in the city this week. The total number coming to the local organizations will be almost 600, a large increase over the number received last year in this city. Colonel Watres, the Division Inspector of Rifle Practice, in response to the solicitation of the different regimental inspectors, will issue a special report on the work accomplished in target practice throughout the Guard during the past season.

THE following order has been issued by the Secretary of War, and will be of more or less importance to the members of the guard, as it will be carried into effect at the next camp: There shall be two roll calls daily, viz., at reveille and retreat. They will be made on the company parades by first sergeants, superintended by a commissioned officer. Ordinarily there will be no formation for roll call at tattoo, but the prescribed signal will be sounded, and 15 minutes thereafter all lights must be extinguished. Taps shall be sounded at 11 P. M., when an inspection of quarters shall be made by the first sergeants, who will report the names of absentees without permission.

IN speaking of the appointment of the successor to General Hartranft, Governor Beaver said last week that he was not at all anxious on the subject and did not see any particular reason for naming such an officer at present, as the affairs of the Guard are running along smoothly without a head. All communications addressed to the Division Commander are forwarded to General Snowden's quarters, and the Governor has intimated that no appointment will be made until after next camp, which will be by division at Mt. Gretna, when the ability of several of the applicants for the position can be tested relative to handling a body of men as large as the National Guard of Pennsylvania. As the only candidates prominently mentioned are Generals Snowden and Gobin, it is a little rough on their previous records to thus question their ability to handle 8,000 men. At any rate the appointment seems to be permanently shelved.

Want of Room

Compels us to sacrifice. The mild season leaves us with a heavy stock of woolen goods, we have not the room to store them for another season and are obliged to let them go. Blankets at 79c a pair; all-wool scarlet blankets, $2 49; Bradley's blankets at 77½c a pound. Ladies' cloths, double width, all-wool, at 25c. All kinds of winter goods at a sacrifice. Satine comfortables $1 50.

THORNTON BROS.,
128 Federal st., Allegheny.

B. & B.

Our display ad. in this paper we want you to read. Possibly you will come, and come among the first.

BOGGS & BUHL.

HAUGH & KEENAN repair furniture.

DON'T forget our "Forget-Me-Not" sale.
FLEISHMAN & Co., Pittsburg.

HAUGH & KEENAN upholster furniture.

D. LUTZ & SON'S justly celebrated ale, porter and beer are every year growing in public estimation. Office and brewery cor. Chestnut st. and Spring Garden ave., Allegheny. WFSSu

RING UP THE CURTAIN.

BIJOU THEATER..... "Shenandoah"
GRAND OPERA HOUSE.. Primrose & West Minst'ls
HARRIS' THEATER..... "Reuben Glue"
ACADEMY OF MUSIC.... American Four Co.
WORLD'S MUSEUM..... Curiosities, Etc.

The above are the theatrical attractions for this week.

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At the Bijou Theater, commencing tomorrow evening for one week, with the usual matinees, Bronson Howard's greatest triumph, "Shenandoah," will be presented for the first time in this city. Its production will correspond exactly with that given for the past six months in New York City to large audiences, and where it has been conceded as the only big dramatic success of the present season.

Bronson Howard cannot be called a prolific writer, for in more than a decade he had given but seven plays, beginning with "Saratoga," and ascending to "The Henrietta," the immediate predecessor of "Shenandoah." For a very long while "The Banker's Daughter" was esteemed the foremost product of American authorship. The care with which Mr. Howard has done all his work, the delicate treatment which he has given subjects readily inviting the force of exaggeration, and the fine dramatic instinct which has enabled him to invest his plays with realism, with a series of consecutive stage successes, entitles him to consideration as the foremost of American dramatists. In "Shenandoah" Mr. Howard has, it is said, written a play which differs entirely from any of his previous work. It is described as a comedy with threads of romance gleaming through it. The story is taken from events that occurred in and around Washington and the Shenandoah Valley. There is nothing in the play to hurt the feelings of the most sensitive Southerner. The opening scene of "Shenandoah" is laid in Charleston, in a ball-room, in the early morning of the day on which the first shot was fired against Fort Sumpter. Here the principal personages of the drama are assembled. Two young officers, bosom friends at West Point, one a Virginian and the other a New Yorker, discuss the great question of the hour, and each avows his love for the sister of the other. The young ladies, who share the political sentiments of their respective brothers, enjoy a little patriotic quarrel on their own account, closing the encounter with tears and kisses. The Virginian wins his suit promptly, but the New Yorker is less fortunate, the guns of Beauregard bringing his courtship to an abrupt and angry termination. In the second and third acts the principal question is transferred to the Shenandoah Valley, and the introduction of realistic war pictures is attained. By a certain coincidence the chief personages are brought together, and the New Yorker, now a Colonel, makes a prisoner of his Southern lady love, who has undertaken to deliver Confederate dispatches. The interrupted courtship is then continued under disadvantageous circumstances, for the Colonel is almost killed by an assassin, love triumphs and the fair Southerner surrenders at discretion. The war incidents include the reading of the evening's signals from Three Top Mountain, and the conversion of a rout into victory by Sheridan after his famous raid. The cast will be:

Gen. Haverhill	Officers of	Jos. Holland
Col. Kerchival West	Sheridan's	Frank Carlyle
Capt. Sheridan	Cavalry	Chas. Mackey
Lieut. Frank Bedloe		Lewis Baker

Major General Irenaeus Buckthorn, Commander of the Nineteenth Army Corps ..... Chas. Stanley
Sergeant Barket ..... C. B. Hawkins
Colonel Robert Ellingham, Tenth Virginia, C. S. A. ..... Vincent Sherroyd
Captain Thornton, Secret Service, C. S. A. ..... Charles Canfield
Hardwick, Surgeon, C. S. A. ..... W. L. Denison
Captain Lockwood, U. S. Signal Corps. ..... W. Harry Thorn
Corporal Dunn ..... Charles Mitchell
Lieutenant of Signal Corps ..... F. Pierce Basin
Benson ..... William Barnes
Lieutenant of Infantry ..... George Maxwell
Mrs. Constance Haverhill ..... Eleanor Tyndale
Gertrude Ellingham ..... Esther Lyon
Madeline West ..... Maud Monroe
Henry Haverhill, U. S. A. ..... Neil Maxwell
Mrs. Edith Haverill ..... Belle Buckland
Old Margery ..... Lizzie DuHoy
Jannette ..... Grace Chase

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Primrose & West, the great millionaire minstrel kings, will appear at the Grand Opera House this week. This season Messrs. Primrose & West have spared neither time nor money in placing on the road the greatest minstrel combination ever organized. The salary list alone is nearly $5,000 per week, say nothing about the cost of the elegant printing, hotel board, car fare, and their agents in advance. Certainly Primrose & West have thoroughly revolutionized the minstrel world and have added exclusive features that were never before seen in this city. The gorgeous crystal satin first part cost $25,000; it is something unique, grand and original. The intricate marches introduced by Barney Fagan are marvelously executed; the "original big four," Le Mack, Weston brothers, Joe Natus, T. B. Dixon, Mons. Barker, Raymond Moore, Fox. Samuels, Fred Sharpley and George Powers are among the many artists enrolled on the list of Primrose & West's greatest minstrels on earth.

AT Harris' Theater the drama "Reuben Glue" is the attraction this week. The play is a dramatization from Mr. H. Thomas' stories, "The Bushrangers, or Gold Hunters in Australia." It is exceedingly interesting and full of thrilling situations. The plot is laid in Australia, during the gold excitement in 1850. The company is a strong one, following the lines of such a play, and all the characters are personated in excellent style. Johnny Prindle, as *Reuben Glue*, is especially strong.

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At the Academy of Music a capital attraction is promised. The American Four Comedy and Specialty Company receives its title from the quartet of capital fellows, Pettingill, Gale, Lewis and Lord. They are one of the strongest specialty companies before the public, and in themselves are a capital show. Lillie Western is dashing and versatile, and "The World's Trio" can make the veriest dyspeptic forget his troubles. The Sheppard Sisters, the Sheerans, Karl and Bailey, the Healers and others give such pleasing specialties as combine to produce a most entertaining programme.

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THE World's Museum still intends to depend upon the heavy-weight, Big Eliza, who will this week appear upon the stage and show her hirsiquoe talents. There are a multitude of new curiosities and a variety performance besides—all for 10 cents.

Stage Whispers.

IT is reported that Henry Irving is to build a new theater in the Strand, London.

COLONEL MCCAULL has been removed to his home in Baltimore. He is quite ill.

WILTON LACKAYE has been engaged for Nat Goodwin's new play, "Colonel Tom."

BRONSON HOWARD has received a letter from both Generals Sherman and Beauregard, in which both state that "Shenandoah" is the best war play they ever saw.

HARRY HILLIARD has been engaged for the tenor role in "The Gondoliers," and will be a member of the company engaged to present the new opera in the Eastern States and Canada.

MR. AND MRS. KENDAL, the English artists now en tour in this country, have purchased from Bronson Howard his comedietta, "Old Love Letters," and have added it to their repertory.

IT is likely that Annie Pixley will play an engagement in London this spring. Marcus Mayer is negotiating for a theater in that city and expects to present Miss Pixley in "Miss" on Easter Monday.

MISS ROSE COGHLAN has never yet played an engagement in Pittsburg. The favorite actress is to appear in that city March 10, and during her week there will be seen in "Jocelyn," "Peg Woffington" and "Forget-Me-Not."

THE Kendals will most probably take home to England with them, as the fruits of their toil in this country between $75,000 and $100,000. In many theaters in which they appear outside of this city the price of seats has been raised.

BRONSON HOWARD'S plays have had the following runs in New York City: "Saratoga," 101 nights; "Banker's Daughter," 138 nights; "Young Mrs. Winthrop," 180 nights; "One of Our Girls," 200 nights; "The Henrietta," 152 nights; "Shenandoah," 165 nights, and is expected to bring its author $50,000 within 12 months.

EDWIN BOOTH and Mme. Modjeska resume their tour next Monday night in Providence. On January 20 these distinguished artists begin an engagement in Boston at the Boston Theater, reaching the Academy of Music in Brooklyn February 4, the Chestnut Street Opera House in Philadelphia February 10, and the Holliday Street Theater in Baltimore February 24.

IN "Senandoah" a dispatch is found on a rebel spy reading: "General Rosser will join General Early with all his cavalry," etc. During a recent performance after the play in New York a card was handed Mr. Howard bearing the name of Major General Thomas E. Rosser, and the following note: "I will say to the manager that as I sat in the audience, having participated in the scenes of the great tragedy of the Shenandoah, that as presented they are to me most realistic indeed."

THE company who have occupied the stage of the New York Casino for the past four months will inaugurate a traveling season at the Hollis Street Theater, Boston, Monday evening, presenting "The Drum Major" and also revivals of "Nadjy" and "Erminie" during their stay of four weeks. The complete scenic and stage effects will be carried by the company, requiring four immense cars for the transportation from city to city. At the home theater "The Brigands" will be revived for an indefinite period, with the same cast as was seen there a few weeks ago.

MADAME MODJESKA says in the *Mirror:* Judging by myself, I can only say that a certain disposition, excitement, or whatever you call it, is at times a help—at times a hindrance to me. But, then, is it possible for us to give an exact analysis of our state of mind while we are playing to state the exact share of our identity divided between our private character and the one we assume? To state accurately how much I feel that I am my own self, and how much that I am the other person, is a psychological puzzle that I am unable to solve. Of course, I know that I am sometimes more in my part, sometimes more out of it; but why it is so, and how much it is so, I cannot say.

GUS MORTIMER, the well-known theatrical manager, died Friday in New York of pneumonia, resulting from influenza. Mr. Mortimer was the manager of the Marie Wainwright company, also of Louis James, the tragedian. He was in this city several weeks ago, arranging for the appearance of Miss Wainwright in her new production of "Twelfth Night" at the Grand Opera House. Last week a contract was signed between Manager Mortimer and Manager McVicker, of Chicago, by which Mr. Louis James is to be seen at McVicker's Theater in that city February 10 in an elaborate production of a play called "Gomez de Vegas," which was originally owned by the late E. L. Davenport, and has been presented to Mr. James by Miss Fanny Davenport. Mr. McVicker will personally superintend the production, and if the play is a success it will be seen in New York before the close of the present season.

THIS winter, at Her Majesty's Theater, in the historic Haymarket in London, the managers of that theater propose to take the pantomimic cake. The record of the past, brilliant as it is, is to be beaten. More money is to be spent than ever. The preparations for the show began in June last, and have been going on ever since. The costumes are being made by the best houses in Paris and London; the best painters supply the scenery; men like Alfred Cellier and Edward Solomon furnish the music; Clement Scott is to write the words of the songs; the ballets are from Paris; the rank and file of the artists include such well-known favorites of the English stage as Violet Cameron (a prima donna in comic opera), Lauri Linden, Ella Chapman, Irene Verona, Lila Clay and Mrs. Henry Leigh, Shiel Barry (the famous *Gaspard* of the "Cloches de Corneville"), Harry Parker, Fawdon Vokes and Charles Coborn (of "Two Little Black Eyes" fame). And who, think you, is to be at the apex of this galaxy of brilliant talent? Why, our own Minnie Palmer. A compliment to Minnie, and as her modest husband would say, to the American people.

THE entire arrangements for the production of Gilbert and Sullivan's new opera, "The Gondoliers," in this country, have at last been made. At the Park Theater, New York, which is now closed and being put into perfect order for the event, the opera will be given its first production on next Tuesday, January 7. The English company which will present the opera may be expected here the early part of this week, as it sailed from England on last Thursday week. After its run of eight weeks at the Park Theater the opera will be transferred to Palmer's Theater. Francis Wilson and his company will be the first to present the work in Philadelphia, arrangements to that effect having been made on last Saturday. Mr. Wilson will take the part of the *Duke*, appearing for the first time in any of Gilbert and Sullivan's operas, and the piece will be put on at the Broad Street Theater on March 1 for a long run. For the rest of the country John Stetson puts two companies on the road to produce the opera east of Pittsburg, while Manager David Henderson, of the Chicago Opera House, starts three companies on the road for the Western cities. Putting so many organizations on the road in "The Gondoliers" will, it is supposed, be a barrier to pirates.

ART NEWS AND NOTES.

AN oil portrait of the late Mrs. W. G. Johnston is on view at Gillespie's. It is the work of Mr. Jasper Lawman.

ALTHOUGH more retired and shut off from the world than are people who follow many other avocations, the artists are not so far removed from the great mass of humanity engaged in more lucrative pursuits that their interests cease to be identical with those of the balance of mankind, and the approach of the holiday season creates increased activity in the ranks of the painters in their studios everywhere. But now that the gala days are past, they have once more settled down to serious work, and their small canvases having been mostly finished up previous to Christmas, they are now engaged upon pictures which require more time and care in their preparation.

A NOOK in a dark forest glade where ferns grow in wild luxuriance has served Mr. George Hetzel as a model for the small study which is at present showing at Boyd's. The subject is one that takes in an extremely limited area, being merely a vacant space between the boles of a few old trees, whose slender sweeping branches trail their luxuriant foliage upon the ground, shutting off the view of all beyond with an impenetrable curtain of rich and varied green. With strong and pleasing coloring, this little picture combines a quality which is much less desirable, and that is a certain stiffness of handling rarely to be observed in Mr. Hetzel's work. It is true that this is in some measure inseparable from the character of the subject, but even with due allowance for this fact, the work is scarcely up to the artist's usual standard, since he is noted for the freedom and flexibility of his foliage and shrubbery.

A JOCKEY mounted upon a thoroughbred horse going at full speed forms the subject of a very cleverly handled painting shown at Gillespie's. In the immediate foreground a small portion of race track is seen, while on the left rise some picturesque trees; and the background is formed by a glimpse of distant landscape, but this portion of the picture, although finely composed and excellently well executed, has been completely subordinate, and the entire interest of the picture directed toward the animal and its rider. With this end in view, the scene has been shrouded in a soft, gray misty haze, and is painted somewhat below the strength of nature in the matter of brilliancy of light and depth of shade, though in color it is clean and bright in spite of its cool and misty quality. Against such a background as this the form of the running horse, glossy and dark almost to blackness, stands out in strong relief, while the figure of his rider, in a costume of bright scarlet, forms a spot of rich color that at once rivets the attention of the observer. The drawing of the figure of the jockey is very good; that of the animal is still better, and the action of the latter has been very cleverly shown. Altogether the picture must be considered a strong and well balanced work; but in subject it is one that will interest only a comparatively lim