"Will the rest of Pittsburg be married to-day?" was the question asked me on last Friday. And really I didn't wonder at it for there were so many weddings on Thursday. It was past midnight when I laid down my pencil after having described no less than six weddings, six charming brides, six handsome grooms and maids of honor, bridemaids and best men and ushers galore. Even then my duties seemingly were not completed, for during the remainder of the night my dreams were peopled with brides and grooms, bridemaids and groomsmen, and best men and maids of honor—all of whom were very inconsiderate and insisted upon appearing at the wrong weddings and becoming confused in the most unorthodox manner. But with the dawn of day came happy release from the chaotic condition caused by the multitudinous weddings of the day previous and renewed interest and vitality for the future ones of which there are many in prospect.

* * *

All Brides are Lovely.

Those of last week were without exception delightful affairs, and the brides were particularly lovely, I say, because all brides are lovely in spite of the many insinuations cast to the contrary by incredulous persons when reading newspaper accounts. The very fact of being a bride makes a girl interesting and lovely. If she is joyous the joy gives her countenance, perhaps at other times plain, a new and beautiful expression; if she is just a wee bit sad, then the pensive look makes her doubly interesting, and in almost every instance she is self-possessed.

But that cannot be said of the grooms. Their self-possession usually deserts them at the important event and they become nervous and excited and look so excruciatingly conscious! Indeed, one of the many grooms who appeared at the altar during the week, according to his male friends' version, was imbibing moxie nerve food every quarter of an hour during the entire day in order to attain even a moderate degree of composure. During the evening, however, he appeared to good advantage, and his manly beauty was decidedly notable even among his ushers, who were a dangerously handsome selection of men.

* * *

Selecting the Attendants.

As a rule grooms do not select their attendants with a view to accentuating their own good points as brides do. They think only of friendship and good fellowship and they don't care one particle if their best men are ever so much handsomer than they are, but the charming brides seldom take any great risks.

By the way, isn't it just about time that Mr. William H. Davis, who officiated at the Murphy-Holmes wedding, be rested on half pay for such services. It was the 25th time he has assisted at the nuptial altar, and indeed, so much has his time been occupied in helping his friends get married that he has no opportunity of accomplishing that feat for himself. Good nature should not be imposed upon longer even though the man is courteous, agreeable, popular and handsome, as is Mr. Davis.

* * *

Here's a Delightful Mystery.

Such a great big piece of news as I did hear this week, and such a great big pledge of secrecy as I had to give in order to hear it! But fortunately for my peace of mind, the pledge referred to names only, and I am at liberty to tell the rest. And by telling it will afford all woo delight in pondering upon the mysterious (and they are legion) an opportunity of indulging in the fascinating pastime. To a gentleman well versed in both the social and financial lore of this city, one who can with accuracy and truthfulness give a biographical sketch of every person who has figured with any prominence in either circle during the last 50 years or more, I am indebted for my information which concerns a certain ex-Congressman and the wealthy widow of a formerly prominent and highly esteemed manufacturer of Western Pennsylvania.

The gentleman is a representative of one of the oldest and best established families in the State and well known in financial circles. Indeed, such is his reputation as a manipulator of profitable investments that the mere mentioning of his name in connection with any enterprise is almost a guarantee of its success. And the lady in question is also endowed with excellent business judgment, and by the exercise of her natural aptitude for affairs of more than ordinary magnitude she has, it is said, distanced many shrewd and far-sighted men, who pride themselves on their skill at being able to go ahead of their competitors in things terrestrial.

* * *

How It Came About.

The ex-member of Congress is a widower, his wife having been dead several years. And his interesting family have one and all attained majority and, as is customary with children liberally supplied with money and opportunities for travel and improvement, have left the home nest for pastures new. And the father, thus finding himself alone in the prime of life and at the height of his prosperity, began to feel the need of a companion. The conviction finally became a factor of his daily thoughts: business affairs ceased to exercise their attractions for him, and he became as keenly alive and observant to his new ambition as ever his nature formerly responded to the appeals of a tempting deal in stocks or railroad securities, which is saying considerable.

He was a man with a mission when one day last spring he left his magnificent home, surrounded by grounds more beautiful even than those of any other of the wealthy residents of the Eden-like little city in which he lives, and took the train for the home—not far from here—of the widow already mentioned. Under the guise of relationship—for she was his deceased wife's sister—he made a short visit, which was followed by many such, and they will continue until a certain contingency relieves the necessity of keeping their engagement longer a secret; and then the lady will return all the short visits given by the gentleman with one protracted visit, and society will be astounded or make great pretensions at having received startling information, which amounts to about the same thing.

* * *

Emma Abbott's Make-Up.

Emma Abbott has come and gone, her gowns have been admired, her voice enjoyed, and her flesh deplored, as well as her stage make-up, which is simply dreadful. And it is so strange that one so well versed in theatrical effects as Miss Abbott, who has been on the stage I don't dare say how long; but at any rate since she was 8 years old, should be guilty of such abominable make-ups when her own natural complexion is so clear and pretty. Yes, that is a fact, but it is hardly credited by some, I know. Indeed, yesterday when a friend happened to glance down the leaf of my note book upon which I had jotted down numerous things I wished to remember, among them Abbott's complexion, he indulged in very suggestive laughter and the remark, "she hasn't any."

But she has one of exceeding clearness and beauty, though minus any color at all except when action brings a faint rose tinge to her cheeks. And in caring for her skin nothing in the world is used but glycerine in great abundance and rice powder. Said Miss Abbott in speaking about it:

* * *

How She Accomplished It.

"I am just a little proud of my complexion, for I had such a dreadful skin to commence on—such a yallery, bluery, blackery sort of a foundation. But by continual applications of pure glycerine and attention to my diet I have accomplished what you see. No, indeed, I have never had any massage treatment. I do not have the time for it, and it amuses me when I see the newspapers credit me with devoting so many hours a day to such, and taking five-mile walks, and doing any number of pleasant and no doubt healthful things, but things that all take time which I can not spare. I don't know as I ever walked five miles in my life. I have never had the time. I jump into my carriage and instruct my driver to go like lightning and he goes. I work 16 hours a day and in all my life have never taken one-half a day's holiday. Oh, indeed, success on the stage means work unceasing."

KATHLEEN HUSSEY PRICE.

THE WEEK IN SOCIETY.

Gatherings of Interest to People of the Cities and Suburbs.

The eighth annual reunion of the descendants of David Scott, of Scottville, was held at Economy Thursday last. The day was delightful and admitted of meanderings in the beautiful grounds amid the fragrance of many flowers and the caroling of many birds. A tempting dinner was served at the hotel, for which the outdoor exercise had sharpened the appetites. Present were Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Scott, Louise and Harriet Scott, Pittsburg; Mrs. Agnes Wendt, Charles Wendt, Myra Wendt, of New Brighton; Miss Margeretta Scott, of Pittsburg; Miss Maggie Bayne, Allegheny; Miss Marian Scott, Beaver; Mrs. Orrie B. Anderson, Murdockville; Miss Lizzie Scott, of West Economy; Mrs. James S. Christy, Mr. Albert I. Christy, Superior; Mrs. Mary S. Crawford, Sharon; Miss Elizabeth Crawford, Mrs. Rev. Samuel Reed, of Beaver; Mrs. Dr. S. Boyd, of Beaver Falls; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Scott, Miss Minnie Scott, of New Scottville, and Mrs. Jane Scott, Allegheny.

One of the most enjoyable events of the week was a surprise party at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Gies, of Juniata street, Allegheny, the occasion being the birthday of Mr. G. E. Gies and his oldest son Charles. Progressive euchre occupied the forepart of the evening. After refreshments were served, the guests were entertained by some very select vocal and instrumental music. All voted it an evening long to be remembered, and left wishing the host and his son many happy returns of the day. Among those present were Mr. Theo Steinbrenner and wife, Mr. H. D. Lenfesty and wife, Mr. J. H. Gies and wife, Mr. J. Ehrhardt and wife, Mr. Ferd Haley and wife, Mr. W. Harris and wife, the Misses Ida Gass, Ida Haley, Maggie, Mary and Lizzie Dunnigan, Susie Fitzsimmons and Carrie Young and Messrs. George Young, James Hutchinson, A. Gorsides von Leslie, James Rodgers, William Elder, Charles Newport, James Dunnigan, T. Owens, Edward Dunnigan, Masters Artie and Charlie Gies.

"Please accept this chair and rest in it as comfortably as your customers do in the confidence they have in you as their banker and broker. And may the fragrance of these flowers bring you a 'welcome home.'" Such was a letter that accompanied a handsome carved oaken chair and a box of exquisite flowers, which greeted Mr. John M. Oakley, of the banking and brokerage firm of J. M. Oakley & Co., as he entered his office yesterday morning for the first time after an extended European trip with his family. The letter was signed by Messrs. J. H. Piley, L. R. Brown, William McCracken, J. S. Breitenstein, John Berger, J. C. Bergstresser, E. Lazard, L. Rosenbaum, R. A. Phillips, L. H. Rugh and Dr. Hunter.

A delightful surprise party was tendered Mr. J. Guy Burford at his home on Roup street, Shadyside, last Monday evening by the Eldorado Club, of which he is a member, the event being in honor of the young man's 21st birthday. Dancing was the pastime of the evening, interspersed with several well rendered selections by Miss Ella Semple. A delicious supper concluded the evening festivities. The happy guests: Misses Ella and Annie Semple, Nettie and Mamie Urban, Anna Gilmore, Annie Freese, Helia and Eisle Burford and Messrs. Frank Freese, George W. Schmidt, William Patterson, Walter Beecher, William Gilmore and Mr. and Mrs. Eli Aurford, Mr. and Mrs. William Burford and Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Burford.

"An Obstinant Family" and a "Kiss in the Dark," as given in the Mt. Washington Library Hall on Thursday and Friday evenings of last week, were very enjoyable farces. The cast of characters was an exceptionally strong one, and an exceedingly clever performance was the result of the skillful training given by Miss Edith Smithson, under whose direction the plays were given. Miss Smithson, as an elocutionist and teacher, has long, for one so young, occupied a prominent position in her profession, and the success of the two performances of last week has added materially to the fame of the young lady, who is charming as well as talented.

An enjoyable event of the week was a surprise party tendered to Miss L. Bechtold at her residence on the Southside. With excellent music and a sumptuous repast the evening was a pleasant one. The guests present were: Misses Lizzie Hofmeister, Chris. Hagerling, Anna Gundlach, Katie Ostheim, Clara Ostheim, Emma Zimmer, Minnie Gutherlet, Katie Seuser, Katie Smith, Tillie Myers, B. Bechtold, and Messrs. William Rode, Gust. Sexauer, Charles Kurtz, Albert Sexauer, W. F. Herman, Ed. Reichenbach, Grant Alexander, Louis Brann, Lawrence Smith, Louis Smith, Herman Sorg and William Ziegler.

With the delightful afternoon reception given yesterday by Mrs. A. E. W. Painter at her magnificent home on Ridge avenue, and the concert in the evening at Carnegie Hall the social attention to the distinguished guests that have flooded our city for the past week ceased. But the memory of their presence and the long list of festivities enjoyed with them will linger long in the minds of the select few who joined the different parties and appeared at the receptions, and the week will become a memorable one in the annals of Pittsburg's social life.

Quite an enjoyable surprise party was given at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Woodruff, No. 10 Anderson street, Allegheny, on Thursday evening, October 9, and thanks to the host and hostess, all had an excellent time. Lunch was served and dancing indulged in. Among those present were the Misses Kerr, Rutter, Monroe, McKee, Harper, Clark, Edwards, Scott, Edgar, McClain, Hong and Miss Jennie and Lizzie Armour. Messrs. Free, Smith, Harper, Kerr, Cook, Kelly, Davis, Griffith, Beasly, Seidel and Kaisler.

Miss Myra Boyle, of Bidwell street, was the surprised one last Thursday evening when a number of her young friends took possession of her home and proceeded to make merry with music and dancing. The surprising ones were Mr. and Mrs. Bash, Misses Emma and Nettie Punett, of Meadville, Sadie Kensey, of Georgetown, Jennie Thomas, Flo Bash, Mary Dash and Messrs. Joe Dively, H. Eval, F. E. Dimond, John Davis, J. C. Bash, L. T. Cupps, James Torrence and others.

Cards of invitation have been issued by Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Ertzman, formerly of the Southside, but now of Hazelwood, for the marriage of their sister, Miss Ella McComb to Seward H. Augustine. The wedding will occur at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Ertzman, Hazelwood avenue, on Wednesday evening, October 15.

A luncheon, given by Mrs. Mrs. W. M. Denison, of Rodman street, East End, during the week, was enjoyed by Mrs. E. G. Jones, of Washington, D. C., a sister-in-law of ex-Governor A. G. Porter, of Indiana; Miss Grace Flagg, of Canton, and Mrs. A. Laufman and daughter, of Wilkinsburg.

Programmes are out for the anniversary entertainment of Valley Forge Council No. 861, Jr., O. U. A. M., next Thursday evening, at which Hon. Clarence Burleigh will deliver an address on the "History of Our Council," and various other interesting musical and recitative numbers will be given.

The opening reception given by the Alhambra Cotillion Club, Friday evening in Cyclorama Hall, Allegheny, was a pronounced success. The club is an infant but a very pleasing, promising one. Suitable chaperons were in attendance and about 35 couples were present.

September 26, at Greensburg, Pa., Mr. Frank Willenmeyer, a prominent young man of Allegheny, and Miss Tressa Butz, of Latrobe, were united in the holy bonds of matrimony. Their many friends wish them happiness and prosperity.

The evening party given by Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Dixon, of 403 Frankstown avenue, East End, on last Thursday evening, was a highly enjoyable affair, and rendered more so by some exquisite selections rendered by Mrs. M. Henkler.

Visiting and Visited.

Mrs. R. C. Rowley and son, of 383 Webster avenue, are visiting in Steubenville, O.

Miss Annie Brant, of Market street, left last week for an extended trip through the East.

Miss Lizzie Meskill, formerly of this city, but now of Steubenville, O., is in town visiting her brother, James Meskill, of Chestnut street.

Miss Luella Totten left this week for Chicago, where she will pursue her musical studies with William Sherwood at the Auditorium.

Miss Edith Totten leaves this week for New York, where she will enter upon her senior year at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts.

Mrs. M. E. Kochendufer and son, of Wilkinsburg, left for New Orleans on the steamer C. W. Batchelor and then by gulf steamer for Florida.

Miss Rosalind Forster, the rising young elocutionist of Allegheny, accompanied the Union Veteran Legion to Fort Wayne, Ind., last week.

Miss Anna Grassel, who has been visiting at her uncle's Mr. Chas. Grassel, during the summer, will shortly return to her home in Heidelberg, Germany.

Rev. J. L. Srodes and family have left Coraopolis and have gone to Phillipsburg, Beaver county, where Mr. Srodes takes the pastorate of the Presbyterian Church.

Mrs. W. Yost, of Williamsport, on her return from Indiana, stopped at Pittsburg to visit her friends, Mrs. T. L. Adams and Miss Mamie Maguire, of Third street.

Mrs. Harry L. Miller, formerly, of Pittsburg, now of Philadelphia, is at her old home visiting friends. At present she is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Heck, of the Diamond.

Mrs. A. C. Douthitt, of the Southside, will start for Denver, Col., to-morrow, in search of better health. Her mother, Mrs. Sarah Howe, of New Brighton, accompanies her.

Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Carrol, the bride and groom, have returned from their wedding tour and are located at the corner of Forbes and Dithridge streets. Mr. Carrol left on a business trip to Cincinnati last evening.

Mr. Frank Stokes and wife, Misses Emma McFadden and Bertha Swearengen, of Toronto, Ohio, are in the city over Sunday, stopping at the Hotel Anderson. Mr. Stokes is the publisher of the Toronto *Daily Tribune*.

The Misses Nettie and Emma Prenatt, of Meadville, have been visiting the family of Mr. Joseph Bash, of Allegheny, the past two weeks "doing" the Exposition. Their departure for home next Tuesday is regretted by a host of friends which the young ladies have made during their brief stay in Pittsburg.

Sewickley Society Notes.

Miss Blair is visiting friends in Meadville, Pa.

Miss McCue, of Massillon, O., is the guest of her cousin, Miss McCleery.

Mrs. James McKown gave a delightful fancy-work party to about 50 of her friends last Tuesday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Scott gave quite an elegant reception last Thursday evening to introduce their daughters, Winifred and Gertrude.

An exceedingly enjoyable progressive euchre party was given by Mrs. H. L. H. Blair last Thursday afternoon, in honor of her sister-in-law, Mrs. R. J. Cunningham, nee Miss Gilmour. There were 36 ladies working hard for the pretty prizes, which were finally awarded to Mrs. William Grafton for first place, Mrs. R. J. Cunningham for lone hands, and Mrs. Joseph Nevin for second. The prizes were a pretty picture—a Belleek tea cup and a Royal Worcester sugar sifter.

THE NORMAL ALUMNI.

AN INTERESTING ADDRESS BY SUPERINTENDENT LUCKEY.

How the Graduates of the School Have Scattered—An English Educator Visits the Pittsburg Schools—Value of Mechanical Training—Educational Gossip.

At their old alma mater, the Miller street building, over 100 members of the Normal Alumni Association, constituting the bright and younger city teachers, assembled yesterday afternoon and were addressed by Superintendent Luckey on "Professional Zeal." Before the meeting was called to order the chatter of the bright school marms as they talked of old times would discount an old-fashioned carpet-rag social, but at the tap of the bell, obedient to their own rules, all was serenely still.

Superintendent Luckey thought the High School Normal alumni should have at least one meeting each year. It would help to keep up one's acquaintances and give opportunity to talk of old times, and above all to help one another. The work of the Pittsburg Normal School is even better that that done by the State Normal schools, for it is more in the direct line of teaching. He would like the work of our Normal graduates to be such that one could pick out the rooms taught by them in any school, and their reputation to be such that any of them could sacure a position by simply presenting a diploma, and these things cannot be unless there is professional zeal. This quality belonged to men who made their names famous. Prof. Burt's pupils were all imbued with his enthusiasm and made teaching a success.

In closing his remarks Superintendent Luckey advised the teachers to band themselves together with a sacred resolve to make the work of their alma mater famous. He cautioned against jealousy in the profession, and said that if one teacher did her work better than another the other teachers should try and copy her methods.

After this address the following officers were elected: President, Miss M. A.Ruswinkle; Vice President, Miss Elizabeth McCabe; Secretary, Miss Louisa Seif; Treasurer, Miss K. Neiper; Executive Committee, Maud Evans, Rose Davis, Margaret Lemmon, Lillian Johns, Bertie Torley. The Executive Committee will meet shortly to make arrangements for a Normal Alumni reception which will likely be in November.

There are 430 graduates of the Pittsburg Normal School and over 200 of them are teachers in the city schools. Miss Margaret Cuthbert, of the class of 1879, is a missionary in Japan. Margaret L. Jones is in South America. She is the wife of Rev. Robinson. Principal C. B. Wood, of the High School, was present and made a few pleasant remarks.

Mr. Lynlph Stanley, a member of the London School Board, and one of the visitors of the British Iron and Steel Institute, chaperoned by Superintendent Luckey, spent Friday at the Grant and High schools. Before the visit he told Secretary Reisfar he had heard of the high reputation of the Pittsburg schools over in England, but one thing that surprised him very much is that so little attention is paid to manual training in a manufacturing city like Pittsburg. In England there are cooking and sewing schools and they are now trying to have a department established where cutting and fitting shall be taught. He thought the cooking school is a step in the right direction.

Mr. Stanley has visited the schools in all large American cities.

On Tuesday evening the Central Board meets. The Music Committee will ask for authority to change the present route of schools now followed by the music supervisors. The election of additional teachers for the High School will be ratified, and the Committee on Night Schools will decree the length which the night schools shall be open.

The Ninth Ward School, Allegheny, reports the largest night school in the city. Six rooms are in operation, having an attendance of 175 pupils.

The Oakland school district had the largest increase in attendance of any in the city, and last Tuesday evening the school board elected four new teachers. For the Bellfield School Miss Maggie E. Jones and Mollie Bennet are the new teachers and Miss L. V. Steel was elected writing and drawing teacher. Miss Lizzie Small was elected the additional teacher at the Soho School and Miss Alice Kelly writing and drawing teacher. The substitutes are the Misses Alice Alderson, Katie Farrel and Miss Knteps.

Prof. Elliot, the new assistant in the department of science at the High School, is a graduate of Cornell, and taught two years in the High School at Auburn, N. Y. Miss Guttendorf is of Pittsburg.

BUILDING AND LOAN ASS'N. PROBLEM.

The Inter-State Building Ass'n. Offers to Give $10 to the First Person Who Solves It.

The Inter-State Building and Loan Ass'n., General A. E. Stevenson, Pres.; Hon. John Eddy, Vice Pres.; T. J. Bunn, Sec. and Manager; H. C. Bunn, Ass't. Sec.; F. L. Bunn, Treas.; James S. Ewing, Atty., and Dr. W. Robinson, Actuary, have their city office in room 606 Penn building.

They will give $10 to the first person who will give a correct solution of the time necessary for a payment of 60 cents a month on a share of stock, with 6 per cent annual interest and 7 per cent annual premium, payable monthly, to accumulate $100.

The correct solution of this problem will be published in the columns of The Dispatch October 26. All communications should be sent to E. L. Hawley, their gen. agt., 606 Penn building, Pittsburg, Pa.

Go Direct

To headquarters if you want a good overcoat. The P. C. C. C. overcoats are the cheapest for the money. "Everybody says so."

P. C. C. C., PITTSBURG COMBINATION CLOTHING COMPANY, cor. Grant and Diamond sts., opp. the Court House.

$3 50—Until November 30, 1890—$1.

Until November 30 we will make a life-size crayon portrait for $3 50, or 12 elegant cabinets for $1, at Aufrecht's Elite Gallery, 516 Market st., Pittsburg. Bring children; use elevator.

SEE the four funny little coons in "Amerita" at the Grand Opera House to-morrow night. "Erminie" Friday and Saturday nights and Saturday matinee.

NOVELTY plaids, 50c a yard; an additional line opened this week. Superior in effects to many of the higher priced goods.

TTSSU HUGUS & HACKE.

BIJOU THEATER.....'"My Aunt Bridget"
GRAND OPERA HOUSE....Pauline Hall Opera Co.
WILLIAMS' ACADEMY.....Gus Hill's Novelties
HARRIS' THEATER.....'"Hearts of New York"
DAVIS' FIFTH AVE. MUSEUM.....Curiosities, Etc.
WORLD'S MUSEUM.....Curiosities, Etc.

The above are the theatrical attractions for this week.

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Manager Harry Williams got through his fiery ordeal this week all right, and Williams & Orr's Minstrels played out the balance of the week in the Central Rink to large audiences. As a matter of fact, the rink being a good deal larger than the scorched Academy, Mr. Williams was compensated to some extent for his loss by fire and water by the increased receipts at his temporary home. The Academy will be open again to-morrow week, October 20.

Talking of the Academy it is worth Manager Williams' while to think about giving the public a larger variety theater. It is an accepted fact that most of the time it is useless to go to the Academy after 8 o'clock, for all the seats are sold by that time and standing room is mighty scarce as well. The popularity of the Academy has never been so great as it is this season, and the demand for good variety performances is increasing all the time. There is not room for two variety theaters here—one reason for this being that there are not enough first-class vaudeville combinations on the road—but there is a decided demand for a larger variety theater than the Academy.

***

Ted Marks' Internationals gave the best and cleanest variety performance at the Grand Opera House this week that has been seen here in years. In some features the performance could not possibly be more entertaining. The imitation of monkeys given by Jaco and Coco is wonderfully true to life, and the Avolos are the most agile athletes of juvenile years we have ever seen. The Internationals drew large audiences, it is pleasant to note, and Mr. Marks deserves especial praise for arranging a programme so free from offense and vulgarity of any kind. That it is possible to give a variety performance that shall be absolutely free from objectionable suggestions and that shall at the same time please the regular patrons of vaudeville, Mr. Marks has proven.

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The books of Jerome K. Jerome do not encourage one to expect much from his plays, that's a fact. Such tasteless, cooked-over literary hash as "The Idle Thoughts of an Idle Fellow" would indicate a poverty of brain and an absence of honesty in the author and certainly suggest very slight dramatic power in his pen. But, all the same new plays by Jerome K. Jerome are announced on all sides, and curious to say most of them are meeting with success. Mr. A. P. Dunlop, writing to THE DISPATCH of the latest of Mr. Jerome's plays, says: "On Tuesday Mr. Augustin Daly began his regular season at Daly's Theater, with Jerome K. Jerome's new comedy, "New Lamps for Old." When the curtain went up Mr. Frederick Bond was discovered sitting in one corner of the stage. He was reading a book, which he at once referred to as the wickedest book he ever read. A voice in the gallery immediately called out, "Oh, what is it?" The vast audience roared with laughter and applause, and this was the keynote of the evening."

***

One of the few genuine successes, artistic and financial, this season seems to be Frederick Warde's new Shakespearian revival with Mrs. D. P. Bowers in "Henry VIII." It is about 16 years since Edwin Booth produced Shakespeare's "Henry VIII." He always played *Cardinal Wolsey*, the character Frederick Warde is now assuming. But Charlotte Cushman often acted *Queen Katherine* one night and *Cardinal Wolsey* the next. Mr. Warde as *Cardinal Wolsey*, and Mrs. Bowers as *Queen Katherine*, have been praised almost extravagantly wherever they have played.

***

Joseph Arthur, who wrote a drama very successfully around a fire engine, has had equal success in composing a play around a buzz saw. Mr. Arthur's new play is called "Blue Jeans." A New York correspondent writes me that "Blue Jeans" is a picture of rural life in Indiana, and has a sawmill situation that alone would carry it to success. *Robert Hilliard*, the hero, is knocked insensible near a sawmill. The villain of the piece takes the and places him upon a long board lying on the bench of one of the big buzz saws in the mill. He then sets the machinery going and pushes the end of the long board upon the wheel. The rapidly increasing teeth of the buzz saw wheeze around, eats into the board and throws sawdust upon *Mr. Hilliard's* quickly approaching body. When he is within two inches of the ugly looking teeth of the saw, and the goose flesh is creeping down the backs of the audience, *Jennie Yeamans* breaks into the sawmill, raises up the prostrate form of *Hilliard*, and drags his body from the sawmill just in time to save his life, and prevent the gallery from jumping upon the stage. "Blue Jeans" is cleverly staged, excellently acted, and good for as long a run as Mr. Arthur's other play, "A Still Alarm."

In the summer of 1888, in the lobby of the Princess Theater, in London, where the fire play, "The Still Alarm," was playing at the time, Mr. Arthur revealed to me the buzz saw germ that has developed into "Blue Jeans." All he had in his mind's eye then was the buzz saw and the thrilling situation which is described above. It seems likely that Mr. Arthur will upset the precedents in the case and profit by monkeying with the buzz saw.

***

The comic opera, "Amorita," which Miss Pauline Hall will produce here to-morrow night, was played at the Bijou in the summer of 1887 by the Conried and Herrman Opera Company. Perhaps you remember that very frosty season of light opera. "Amorita" was introduced after the "Fildermans" had fallen very flat. Mlle. Bianchi was the *Angelo*—the part to be assumed by Pauline Hall on this occasion—and made a great hit in it. Bianchi's singing was the great feature of the engagement, and Pittsburgers would like to hear her sweet, cultivated and powerful soprano again. As far as my remembrance goes "Amorita" was a melodious little opera, with a few numbers of marked beauty, and a mild vein of humor.

HEPBURN JOHNS.

The Programme.

THE return to Manager Gulick's popular theater of those very frisky comedians, Monroe and Rice, is looked forward to by all lovers of farce comedy with anxiety and delight. Messrs. Monroe and Rice have surrounded themselves with very clever people who do their share to make the performance a success. Both the new and the old faces of the company are said to be well received, and the changes made in the cast, if anything, an improvement. The fun is continuous from beginning to end. The doors open with a laugh, the curtain goes up with a laugh and the audience go out with a laugh. What more can be desired? The musical features are new, the specialties are new and the costuming of the piece is new. Monroe's character of *Aunt Bridget* is well known to the amusement-going public, and he is adding continued success with his new song, the Irish Jubilee. John C. Rice introduces a dancing specialty. W. A. Mack sings his new song, "My Mamma Sang to Me." Frank Holland plays the "Coal Dealer" and "Glad of It." Miss Ada Jones (by kind permission of M. Conried), sings "Fair Columbia." The "Aunt Bridget" quartet renders some excellent vocal music. "Little Rosebud," Sally McDonald and John C. Rice do a very difficult negro song and dance, and the pretty girls, in still prettier costumes, make up an evening's entertainment of rare merit.

TO-MORROW night the Pauline Hall Opera Company appears at the Grand Opera House in "Amorita," which enjoyed a successful run of 150 nights in New York, at the Casino, and of nearly a year in Vienna, where it was first produced. "Amorita" will continue to be the attraction during the first four nights and on Wednesday matinee. For the remainder of the week "Erminie," the most successful of all comic operas, will be produced. Miss Hall has been over six months rehearsing and completing her arrangements for these productions, and has spared nothing to make them a success. She has expended money with a lavish hand on scenery and costumes, and in Philadelphia, where the company opened its first season, about two weeks ago, the verdict was unanimous that the production was the most beautiful ever seen in that city. Miss Hall wears a costume in the second act of "Amorita" studded with over $20,000 worth of diamonds, making it the most costly ever seen on any stage. The music of "Amorita," written by Alfons Zibuka, is very bright, and has been lately rearranged by Edgar S. Kelley, Miss Hall's musical director, and is now without a single dull number. Everybody is familiar with the sweet strains of "Erminie" and the comedy element, which is very strong throughout both pieces, is supplied by the well-known comedians Charles H. Drew and Walter Copley. The other members of the company playing in the principal characters are Joseph S. Greensfelder, Arthur E. Miller, Hornie Weldon, Rachael Booth, Rosa Cooke and Pauline Hall. Miss Hall does not appear as a star, but as a member of her own organization.

AT the Grand Central Rink, the attraction booked for Harry Williams' Academy, will appear this week. Gus Hill's World of Novelties is too well known to need much description. The four Shrode Brothers are remarkably fine acrobats, Gus Hill is a wonderful swinger of clubs, and Charles H. Hoey is a champion among jugglers. The company is said to be strong all around.

AT Harris' Theater this week Will E. Hines and a company said to be of great strength, will appear in the sensational drama, "Hearts of New York." The scenery and effects are said to be startling.

Other Amusements.

THE claim that Clarence Dale, the 6-year-old boy on exhibition at Harry Davis' Fifth Avenue Museum, has the largest head in the world, has certainly not been exagerated; the boy has a head that measures fully 48 inches, and during the past week has attracted many thousand people to see him; in fact so great has been the desire to look at this marvel of nature that Manager Davis has very wisely concluded to retain him another week. While the boy will be retained another week, all the other features in every department of the Museum will be entirely new; they will consist in part of the somersaulting goat, a marvel of animal training, displaying intelligence that is human; Prof. Burke's acting and boxing dogs, Sullivan and Kilram; the MaGinleys, Eddie C. and M'lle Lotta in her slide for life from the dome of the theater to the stage on a slender wire suspended by her teeth; the Alsatian gymnastic marvels, DeHaas, the emperor and empress of running globes and Indian clubs; James W. Thompson, the Napoleon of Ethiopian comedy, in songs, witticisms, and side-splitting monologue; the famous transformation dancer Miss Kitty Smith, a lady of rare grace, illustrating in quick succession the styles of dancing in vogue throughout the world; the German Rose, handsomest of Lilliputian ladies; violinist and vocalist; the Montague family, mandolin and guitar soloists; Princess Zoe Zaretta, the giantess moss hair lady; Prof. Lyons' acrobatic polyphonic family of little folks.

YOU could not very well expect to get more than the World's Museum offers for ten cents. The attractions are decidedly out of the ordinary this week. On Friday, October 8, a baby monkey was born in the Museum, and this tiny infant, with its interesting parents, will be on exhibition. The claim is made that the birth of a monkey in captivity and in America is an extraordinary event, and it is certain that very few people here have ever seen a baby monkey in the arms of its mother. The parents are said to be very loving. The dens of tame alligators, crocodiles and armadilloes, the educated Australian cockatoos and the Murray midget triplets will be retained another week; and Zenona, the queen of living skeletons, will be seen here for the first time. In the theater Miss Daisy Beverly will appear in a sensational border drama called "Silver Bird, the Dead Shot," in which she will be supported by a good company.

Stage Whispers.

MARCUS R. MAYER has secured the American rights of "Carmen up to Date"—the latest London success by Sims and Pettitt.

MISS AGNES HUNTINGTON has scored a great success in "Paul Jones" at the Broadway Theater, New York. The critics all speak her fair.

SUCCI, the Italian faster, is in New York, but the *Mirror* says the report that he is to go out with a comic opera company on account of his small living expenses, is denied.

JAMES HOPE, the author of "The Two Johns," is reported missing and his friends are alarmed, but not a soul would weep or worry if "The Two Johns" were to get lost.

ONE of the lions in "Nero," which is to be the winter attraction at Niblo's, in New York, rides a bicycle, and another settles all disputes between the management and the members of the company.

WILLIAM COLLIER, far and away the best comedian in Russell's "City Directory" Company, won the jewelled badge offered by the *Dramatic News* for the most popular actor in the United States.

THE costume studded with diamonds worn by Miss Pauline Hall in the second act of "Amorita," will be on exhibition during the day time this week at E. P. Roberts & Son's jewelry store at the corner of Fifth avenue and Market street.

WHEN Birdie Irving, the English dancer, made her appearance in "The Red Hussar" in New York last week the heel of one of her slippers broke, and, without stopping the dance, she threw off both and finished in her stocking feet. It took the house by storm.

EDITH KENWARD has written a part for herself in the second and third acts of "Dr. Bill," which will be interpolated in the performance next Monday. Miss Kenward is the the young woman who dances the kangaroo dance that all New York is speaking about this week.

OVER the dressing room doors in Daly's Theater, New York, are inscribed these pieces of disinterested managerial advice: "Mind your own business; it is the only way to succeed," and "Don't speak louder than a whisper." John Drew and Adah Rehan have studied these legends until they are letter perfect.

MARIE TEMPEST is to stay in this country for some time, and her manager, H. J. Leslie, states that after the close of "The Red Hussar" run, she may appear at Palmer's Theater in "Dorothy" and will subsequently appear there in "Doris." It is also given out that Andre Messager is writing a new opera for Miss Tempest.

AN English exchange says that an essentially new departure of the dramatic world is about to be tried in Berlin—a Socialistic theater—the arrangements for which have been already completely made. The performances will take place on Sundays, and the price of admission will be uniform to all parts of the house, the seats being determined by ballot.

THE *Echo de Paris* tells the following good story of the elder Dumas: "On the first night of "Camille," at the Paris Vaudeville, he attracted considerable attention from the audience by his evident excitement. During the interlude a friend, thinking to flatter the old man, said to him, 'There's some work of yours in this piece, isn't there?' 'Yes, the author's my work,' was the laconic rejoinder.

"The Prodigal Son" is the name of a pantomime row running in Paris with great success. It is founded on the old Bible story, depicting the life of that well known wayward youth. Americans who have seen the piece pronounce it a great novelty. The entire action of the pantomime is set to music, and the character of the *Prodigal Son* is played by a handsome young woman. It will probably be seen in New York this season.

THE British Museum has just purchased a relic of Beethoven—one of the great composer's daily expense books. The following is a sample of the contents: "January 31—Dismissed the housemaid. February 15—Engaged a cook. March 8—Sacked the cook. March 22—Engaged a housemaid. April 1—Discharged the housemaid. May 30—Engaged a scrub woman. July 1—Engaged a cook. July 28—The cook resigns. Four bad days. Eat at Lerchenfeld's. August 29—Sacked the scrub woman," etc., etc. The museum is to be congratulated.

FASHIONABLE Paris is considerably excited just now in consequence of a mild request from President Carnot that the State box at the Theater Francais be placed at his disposal as is his right. M. Carnot has not been much of a theater-goer of late years, and profiting by this the Comedie had rented the said box to the Princess of Sagan, a much advertised member of the aristocratic faubourg, whose husband chiefly distinguished himself, it is said, by supplying the soldiers during the late war with poor shoes at exorbitant prices. The Princess began to identify herself with the State box and feels much aggrieved at the action of the President. M. Carnot is very sorry, but he takes his box all the same.

FANCY dancing seems to be a fad with New Yorkers at present. After they saw Carmencita all agreed that she had no equal on the globe, but all at once a new manager announces Otera. New York went to see her and came to the conclusion that Carmencita was as an uncut diamond and Otera the polished stone. While they looked at both dancers they forgot the Kiralfys, who have done more to keep fancy dancing in a front place than all of the managers in America. They are continually searching Europe over for new premiers who have new dances. In fact in business they continually live in an air of tinsel, striving to twine it in a picturesque manner over some new ballet, or else diving into the seeming impossibilities of some new spectacle. After other managers seem to have reached the top of the pinnacle these master minds of dancing and spectacle unveil something new and again we have to thank them. There are lots of other managers smart and brainy, but in a matter of grouping colors and the general art of putting together their productions Kiralfys stand alone.

MR. JOSEPH R. WOODWELL spent this, as he has spent many seasons, sketching at Magnolia beach, near Boston.