After being "begaged," as a tiny tot once said her elder sister was, several times with intervals of not being "begaged," the wedding day is at last announced of two very prominent young people. The day has been decided upon once or twice before and afterward became very much undecided upon, but there is every reason to believe that this time it will be a go.

Affairs of the heart are provokingly perverse, though, and the honored, time-worn, uncomfortable adage, "There's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip," is fraught with more truth than is conducive to perfect serenity, so said a young man to me last week who spoke very feelingly upon the subject. His own wedding day is not far distant if all goes well, which didn't two years ago in a similar case, when he was to have been the groom.

* * *

A Tale of Love and Gold.

The story is an interesting one, but not new, for there's nothing new in love. He was deeply enamored of an East End girl. She reciprocated his affection, the engagement was announced, the wedding day likewise, when, presto change, a Prince Charming appeared possessed of more gold than the affianced, and papa and mamma thought wise to have the wedding postponed. In the meantime the engagement was postponed also, and a trip to Europe planned, with Prince Charming as one of the party.

Eventually the first young man was invited to assist at the wedding of his rival and his former betrothed, which he did very gracefully, for, said he, "My pride prevented my declining. And," he continued, "I posed as best man, little the girl I am now going to marry officiated as maid of honor. Were it for the first time at the rehearsal for the wedding, but she made no particular impression upon me at the time, for I had determined to be very cynical the rest of my life, and I remember taking considerable satisfaction in going home the night after the wedding and hanging my dress coat with the yellow rose bud on the lapel, directly over a large pail of chestnuts that happened to be in my closet. But cynicism and bachelorism were not exactly to my taste and the more I saw of the pretty little maid of honor the more impressed I was that she would be an equally pretty bride. And if nothing happens to prevent she will be before long.

"But you never can tell," concluded the speaker with a negative shake of the head.

* * *

A Realm of Loveliness.

Sewickley must abound with pretty girls and lovely ladies. A young gentleman who attended the "at home" given by the Woman's Guild of St. Stephen's Church the other evening at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Herbst, and returned later to give me the details of the affair, per agreement, was quite overcome with the beauty of the ladies that thronged the elegant residence. When he entered the office I was busily engaged preparing an account of the bazaar in aid of the Newsboys' Home that took place the same evening, and was such a glorious success, but I ceased my writing, gave him a welcoming glance, and asked if it was a pleasant affair.

"Well, I never saw so many pretty girls and women in all my life," was the reply, as the speaker sank wearily into a chair. A fan and a glass of water were called into requisition, but when the young man revived it was only to reiterate his first statement in the most emphatic terms, and, as the gentleman is one thoroughly capable of judging the beauty of the fair sex, it must be that Sewickley is the realm of loveliness. The enthusiasm of the afflicted was not confined to the ladies entirely, but included the delicious supper they served and the delightful musical and literary programme that was rendered also.

* * *

Why They Don't Speak Now.

There is one society girl in this city that just at the present writing is wildly furious at a certain young attorney that until recently was considered by her the embodiment of all that goes to make up a desirable man. Some time ago her tender affections became almost hopelessly entangled in this fledgling of the law, who was responsible for many and deep longdrawn sighs on her part. Through an excursion to the Court House, and the subsequent visit of the party to the office of the young sprig of the law, she gained an entrance into the legal sanctum sanctorum. The advantage once gained it was followed up, on one pretense and another, until the life of the young disciple of Blackstone was one of continual apprehension. Now, a note to his sister, whose chumlest chum the young lady was, would be an excuse for a visit to the young lawyer's office once again, a book for his mother, or an invitation that could not be trusted to Uncle Sam's kind care, would form an excuse for a personal visitation.

At last one afternoon, as the youthful lawyer was deeply interested in the intricacies of a nuisance case with numerous heavy, musty looking volumes piled up on his table, who should step jauntily into the office but the young lady in question. She looked stunning—she always does—this day particularly so with a stylish outside jacket of rough goods, a seal cape with a high collar framing her pretty face and a big hat with the latest combination of fur and flowers upon it. But her appearance disturbed the visions the young man was indulging in regarding the astonishment of the Quarter Sessions Court at the length, breadth and thickness of his great learning, and when the young lady plainly indicated her surprise at his studious attitude, and said: "Why, what are you doing?" it was more than he could stand. With an attempt at dignity, almost judicial, he replied: "Posting myself on the law."

"Law, on what?" she said, quizzically.

"Common nuisance," he said, maliciously.

* * *

The Reign of the Blues.

The "blues" are not considered an article of merchandise usually, but they will be such next season—not the plain, common, ordinary, every-day domestic blues, but those from across the ocean will be on the market. The ladies will have them in spite of the high tariff, and the gentlemen, too, who have to pay the bills. Every known tint, from the palest suggestion of blue, to the deepest, darkest blue will be worn next season with the probability of the bachelor button blue being the most stylish and popular.

There is no doubt that the blues will rage. The looms of the old country are filled with them at the present date in anticipation of the coming year and with Americans it will be "Hobson's choice." Whether they like them or not they will be compelled to affect them if they would be considered swell.

KATHLEEN HUSSEY PRICE.

NOVEMBER PLEASURES.

Gatherings of a Social Nature in the Two Cities During the Week.

Miss Grace Hague, of Terrace avenue, Allegheny, gave a very pleasant musicale at her home on Thursday. The evening was spent in music and elocution, Miss Mary B. Boley, a talented artist from Sewickley, rendered many beautiful solos. Miss Mary Byron recited "Potion Scene," from "Romeo and Juliet." Miss Laura Lambert sang "Waiting," in her sweetest manner. Mr. John Heideger delighted everyone by his charming whistling solos. Mr. B. A. Burns and A. Sende rendered some excellent music on mandolin and guitar. Miss Annie Hamilton, of Sewickley, sang some sweet music, accompanying herself on the guitar. Mr. Albert J. Christy acted as pianist during the evening. Among those present were: Misses Mary Byron, Laura Lambert, Mary Boley, Annie Hamilton, Carrie Hague, Emma Hague, Celia Byron; Messrs. John C. Fisher, John Heideger, Albert J. Christy, Milton Henrichs, B. A. Burns, A. Sende, C. V. Gates, M. Wickersham, and many others.

Miss Mame Boyle, of Market street, Allegheny, gave a soiree, musical and literary, at her home on Wednesday, in honor of her friend, Miss Magrie Wies, pupil of Prof. Little. Many classical and popular selections of vocal and instrumental music were rendered. Miss Alice Magee played several beautiful solos on the violin. Miss Wies recited a very picturesque scene from "Ingomar" and "Leah's Curse." Miss Jennie McKelvy recited "The Octoroon." The Lefelt Orchestra played some delicious music. Albert J. Christy recited "Romeo's Banishment." Miss L. Lambert sang "The Daisy" and "Mother's Kiss." Miss Woodie Earnest sang "Only a Picture." Miss Wies sang "Farewell, Marguerite." Among those that enjoyed the event were: Miss Wies, Mr. James P. Wall, Miss Bradley, Mr. Albert Christy, "Page" Magee, Jennie McKelvy, David McKelvy, Laura Lambert, Prof. Vetter, Miss Earnest, Miss Nellie Boyle, Alice Magee, Prof. A. Lefelt, Mr. Ward, Miss Irie Ward and others.

Among the pleasant events of the week was a surprise tendered to Miss Marie Swedendick, of Atwood street, Oakland, in honor of her 18th birthday. Parlor games and dancing were the order of the evening, after which an elegant repast was served. The merry making was continued till after midnight when the happy crowd dispersed, wishing the hostess many returns of her birthday. Among those present were the Misses Mollie and Clara Fobertsbauser, Katherine Walz, Nellie Walter, Anna, Marie and Helen Swedendick, Julia Kellar and Amanda Pick, and the Messrs. Albert and Harry Colwes, Al. Lawrence, Will Swedendick, Cornelius Kellar, H. Yuple, Will Krauss Theo Cappell.

A very pleasant musical entertainment was given by Miss Carrie Schuetz, Wednesday evening last at her home No. 36 Watson street, in honor of the Misses Annie and Minnie Barns, from Atlantic City. Those present were Misses Carrie Wilhelm, Annie and Minnie Barns, Millie Renziehausen, Clara and Ettie Weihl, Jennie McCaffery and Mrs. Weihl, Messrs. Henry Wilhelm, Pad Ward, Harry Bracey, Mike Ward, Fred Renziehauser, and John Ward. Mr. Pad and Mike Ward sang several vocal duets, Mr. M. Ward and Miss A. Barns sang a duet. Several instrumental solos were rendered by the Misses Carrie Wilhelm, Clara Weihl and Jennie McCaffery. Miss Carrie Schuetz also sang several vocal solos.

The Disraeli Social, a club composed of Jewish young men, celebrated their first anniversary at Cyclorama Hall Tuesday evening last with a musical and literary entertainment, followed with a dance. The Original Royals furnished the music. One hundred couples, friends of the members, responded to the invitation. Pittsburg's favorites in musical elocution were represented. Miss Woodie Ernest, as a vocalist, and Miss Edna Kiefer, as a pianoist, both of whom made their first appearance before the public, bid fair to occupy a position at the head of the list of favorites in music. The entire programme was received with loud applause and repeated encores.

A very enjoyable surprise party was tendered Miss Hattie Bruner at her residence Wednesday evening last. Music and dancing formed the principal amusement of the evening, after which an elegant luncheon was served. Among those present were the Misses Emma Statem, Blanch Weaver, Martha Rudolph, Jennie Donnely, Mary Shannon, Lillie and Hattie Bruner, Lizzie O'Brien, May Rabb, Hattie Johnson; and Messrs. Fred Dietrich, Page O'Brien, Frank and John Weaver, George and Ben Rudolph, Will Price, Sam Brown, George Fisher, Frank Diebold, Grant Davis, James Statom, Jam Sohnson and James Mazen.

On Saturday evening, November 8, Mr. and Mrs. George L. Holenbeck celebrated their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary at their residence on Sciota, near Fitch street. During the evening their friends, about 75 in number, gathered at the house to congratulate them upon the occasion. The presents, consisting of silverware of all descriptions, were numerous. After supper was served their friends left for home, wishing them many happy returns of the day.

Mr. James McKnight gave a pleasant reception at his residence on Oakland avenue, on Tuesday evening, November 18. Among the many friends that were present were Mr. C. L. Magee, Mr. W. A. Magee, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Keidel, Miss Irwin, Miss Lillie Keidel, Mrs. Teese and a number of others. The evening was passed very pleasantly; some very fine music was rendered by Miss Stanfinger, Mrs. Harry Keidel, Messrs. Keil and Uim.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Mooney entertained a number of friends at their residence, 3001 Penn avenue, on Thursday evening. An oyster supper was provided by the genial host and hostess, after which vocal and instrumental music was enjoyed. Among those present, Misses Ryans, McSteen, Spiatt, Swords, Malone, Barry, Mrs. O. McGarvey, Mrs. W. Sims and Mrs. J. McCarthy.

The select ball given by J. J. Joyce's tailors at Armory Hall, Mansfield, was one of the most pleasant events of the kind ever held in that building. The Italian Orchestra, of Pittsburg, furnished the music with T. W. Quinn as prompter. The tailors will be heard from again soon.

Lovers of Scottish music will have a rare treat to-morrow night at Carnegie Music Hall, when the MacLennan Royal Edinburgh Concert Company makes its appearance. The entertainment is for the benefit of the Allegheny General Hospital.

There was a pleasant gathering at the house of Miss Annie Flower, on Hazelwood avenue, Thursday evening. Everything was in bright array, the ladies looking especially nice in their becoming toilets. Miss Flower was in every sense of the word a charming hostess.

Cards are out announcing the approaching nuptials of Elizabeth, youngest daughter of D. P. Scott, to Mr. J. F. Boggs, the prominent oil operator, of Bradford, Pa., the ceremony to take place at the home of the bride in West Economy, Pa.

Mr. H. W. Fletcher and family of Allegheny avenue and Mr. Harry E. Flahavar and family of Locust street have moved into their new homes just completed on California avenue, where they will be at home to their friends.

Last Monday, "The Mascots" gave their second masquerade reception at the West End Rink. Miss Haney, of Pittsburg, winning the handsome gold ring for the best lady waltzer, after three trials between six couples.

Master Floyd White, of Sewickley, had the pleasure of entertaining quite a number of his little friends at his birthday party on Tuesday last. All spent a very pleasant evening in games and amusement.

The Horner-Miller wedding has been postponed on account of the illness of Mr. Miller. The wedding will take place as soon as Mr. Miller recovers.

Movements of Persons.

Mr. Ed A. Hersperger returned last week from Europe.

Mrs. J. C. Porter and Miss Porter, of Stoo'ton avenue, Allegheny, have gone to Belle Vernon for a week's visit among friends.

Mr. Charles McCollough, son of Mr. H. P. McCollough, of Stanton avenue, East End, left last Tuesday for Kansas City, Mo., where he will engage in business with his uncle.

Mrs. Howard Morton and Miss Mabel Morton, of Denniston avenue, East End, Pittsburgh, have been the guests for several days of Mrs. Dallas Albert, of Latrobe. Mrs. Morton is one of Pittsburg's most charm ing society ladies.

Mrs. Thomas M. Simmons, No. 51 Ross street, will leave this week for Passadena, a town near Los Angeles, Cal. Mrs. Simmons' visit is for recreation and in search of better health, and she will remain in California for the spring.

Sewickley Society Notes.

Miss Tibbles, of Erie, is visiting Mrs. A. B. Starr.

The Misses Quay, of Morganza, are again with their sister, Mrs. Franks.

The Misses Anderson have for a guest Miss Simeral, of Covington, Ky.

Mrs. Taylor, of Philadelphia, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Herbst.

Mr. and Mrs. Seward Murry gave a delightful progressive euchre party last Friday evening.

The Misses Black give a reception at their pretty home next Friday evening from 9 to 12.

The young ladies of the Presbyterian Church gave a very pretty and successful fair in the lecture room last Friday evening.

A very pleasant fancy-work party was given last Wednesday afternoon by the Misses Anderson, in honor of their guest, Miss Simeral.

The "At Home" given by the Women's Guild" of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church last Thursday evening at the residence of Mr. D. C. Herbst, was unusually enjoyable and netted a neat sum for the ladies.

Mr. and Mrs. William Grafton have issued cards for a reception Tuesday evening, November 25, at the Hotel Park Place. The reception is to be between the hours of 8 and 10, after which the younger portion of the guests invited in honor of Mrs. Grafton's daughter, Miss Chew, will engage in dancing.

What Mrs. Harrison Reads.

Send 25 cents to the Ladies' Home Magazine, Philadelphia, Pa., and they will send the magazine for a whole year and a premium worth newly $2 monthly. It is the most wonderful offer yet made.

BLANKETS, blankets, blankets; genuine country wool blankets, white and scarlet, from $4 50 to $7 50 per pair; value unequaled.
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HOUSEHOLD goods packed for shipment.
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su

BIJOU THEATER.....“Castles in the Air.”
GRAND OPERA HOUSE.....Warde and Bowers.
ACADEMY OF MUSIC.....Rentz-Santley Co.
HARRIS' THEATRE.....“Blue and the Gray.”
DAVIS' FIFTH AVE. MUSEUM.....Curiosities, Etc.
WORLD'S MUSEUM.....Curiosities, Etc.

The above are the theatrical attractions for this week.

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The popularity of "The White Slave" is one of the puzzling conundrums of the time. It is a cleverly built drama, no doubt, and its original power in the pathetic chords can be granted, but why on earth should it continue to draw audiences of such an enormous size as the Bijou management complacently regarded at every performance last week?

"The White Slave" has performed ten engagements in Pittsburg during as many successive years, and Mr. Harry C. Kennedy, the proprietor, admits that he has taken out of Pittsburg alone with this play no less than $50,000 for his share of the receipts. Nearly every night last week there was such a demand for seats at the Bijou that the orchestra had to be taken out. The popularity of "The White Slave" shows at least that romantic melodrama, well lined with sentiment and heroics, is what the public demands, the fairer half of the public in particular. Next season Mr. Kennedy intends to give "The White Slave" a grand production, and I am sure nobody wishes that he may not continue to dig gold out of Bartley Campbell's drama.

***

The opening of the Duquesne Theater being now absolutely set for December 1, the prospect of an unusually brilliant theater season is assured. At all the theaters the promise of the future excels, and well may it, the performance of the past. The Juch Opera Company will lend considerable eclat to the first nights of the Duquesne Theater, and some interesting details of the opera to be produced may be found in the musical columns of this issue.

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"The Sea King," the new comic opera by Richard Stahl, whose earlier work of "Said Pasha" is well remembered, and which has from all accounts merited the high things said in its favor, will receive its premiere in this city at the Bijou on December 1, which also serves to introduce a new operatic organization in the title of the William J. Gilmore Opera Company, whose name has been associated hitherto with spectacular productions. The opera was originally produced in the city of Philadelphia the past summer, where its success was so quickly established that after a month's run in that city it was transferred to Palmer's Theater, New York, and made as distinct a success as did "Erminie," "Clover," and other familiar works which have served to afford amusement to thousands of lovers of comic opera. The opera will be given here with a very strong cast and will be given in its entirety, with every attention to detail, as at Palmer's Theater, New York City.

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The Order of Elks is going to tender a well-deserved compliment to Frederick Warde this week. They will attend the Grand Opera House in a body, and afterward entertain Mr. Warde at a banquet at Goodwin's Petroleum Exchange. The Elks could not find a better fellow—and very few better actors—to honor, and there is not the least doubt that Tuesday night's affair will be mightily pleasant to all concerned.

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"Superba" will be remembered as a first-class production, and when it comes here again next season I have no doubt that Mr. George Hanlon's promise that "Superba" will be wonderfully improved in every way will be kept to the letter. The reason the public take so kindly to the Hanlon productions is that the Hanlons are honest in their undertakings. Honesty is the best policy, but not half the managers of traveling theatrical combinations know it. And for some reason or other the managers of spectacular plays are usually the biggest frauds in the pack. Therefore, it is pertinent to point out the Hanlons' honesty—shown in their work and ways, from newspaper promises to the treatment of their employes—and I am glad to say that they find it very profitable.

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The De Wolf Hopper engagement may be relied upon to lift the city perceptibly out of atumnal dumps. Hopper is a comedian who does not merely tickle—he can make the worst hypochondriac on earth yell with laughter. And they say that the opera and the other players have similar power.

The Warde-Bowers combination cannot fail to be a delightful one from the artistic point of view. The novelty of "Henry VIII." is also an attractive feature.

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It is not altogether unsatisfactory to note that THE DISPATCH's opinion of "The Editor," which was played here last September, has been indorsed to such an extent by the public at large, that Mr. Louis Aldrich decided last week to take it off the road. Mr. Aldrich alleges his ill-health as the reason, but he is mistaken. It is the public that is death-stricken. Among the other wrecks of the week is "Hendrik Hudson," Fay Templeton's castaway, which Manager Tillotson and the large Miss Anna Boyd in vain tried to galvanize into new life. Agnes Herndon and Katie Rooney have also given up the struggle, and word comes that "The Irish Arab" is to be laid on the shelf until a better vehicle for Bobby Gaylor can be found.

Surprising news comes from Omaha. John H. Russell, who made of "The City Directory" a fortune-paying farce, has gone astray in his newest venture, "Miss McGinty of the Comedie Francaise." He organized a new company, with Fay Templeton at its head, and players like reliable Tom Herndon, promising Eddie Goodwin (Nat's brother), pretty Josie Sadler, agile Fred Lennox and William Carroll to help on the diversion. But Omaha's report of the first performance is that everything went sadly amiss, so that the audience sat in modern silence and the actors became ghastly as the awful truth grew upon them. The piece was tried last year as "On Easy Street."

The retirement of Minnie Palmer from "Suzette" and the disbanding of her Comic Opera Company is no surprise to anyone who knows how Miss Palmer sings, or how her husband, Mr. Rogers, talks. There has been a more or less amusing war of words between Mr. Rogers and his wife's managers in the comic opera venture, Messrs. Lock and Davis. Rogers says that Minnie Palmer is too good for comic opera anyhow and does not need to act unless she pleases, while the managers express doubts of Minnie's ability, and a general disapproval of Rogers' methods.

HEPBURN JOHNS.

The Programme.

DEWOLF HOPPER and his merry company of comedians will make their first appearance in Pittsburg at the Bijou Theater to-morrow evening in Byrne & Kerker's sparkling operetta, "Castles in the Air." This will be the last engagement played by Mr. Hopper in Pennsylvania this year, for he goes directly from Pittsburg to Cincinnati and then West to San Francisco. The DeWolf Hopper Opera Bouffe Company come here from a triumphant run of 107 consecutive performances at the Broadway Theater, New York, a record which tells its own story. "Castles in the Air," as its name implies, is a light and airy composition, put together by Charles Alfred Byrne, the well-known dramatic critic of New York, and set to music by Gustave Kerker, the director in chief of the New York Casino. It is said to resemble both "Boccaccio" and "The Beggar Student" in its plot, which is as follows: *Bul-Bul*, an impoverished young nobleman, falls in love with *Blanche*, the daughter of *Cabolastro*, a rich resident of the Island of Martinique. His only fortune is a lottery ticket, which, of course, finally draws the capital prize of a million, frees him from all his embarrassment and enables him to wed *Blanche*. Meantime he has exhausted his credit with all the trades people of the Island and they hound him down. His uncle, *Filacoudre*, is the Judge of the Island, and he has taken part in the hounding process to save his own official head.

One of the numerous features of the opera is a vocal argument between Mr. Hopper and Della Fox, a pert little soubrette, on the difference between youth and old age. Each verse of the song is illustrated by pantomime demonstrations on the part of both, including billiard matches, baseball, and amateur theatricals. Another feature is said to be the tender, heart-touching ballad about the little pigs that went to market, which Mr. Hopper sings with all the pathos and beauty at the command of his splendid bass voice. These and many other features too numerous to mention carry the opera from start to finish with a snap and go that never flags. Besides these the opera is superbly mounted, the costumes are gorgeous and the chorus girls said to be unusually pretty. Following is the complete cast of characters: *Filacoudre*, DeWolf Hopper; *Repetillo*, Alfred Klein; *Cabolastro*, Thomas Q. Seabrooke; *Jovrisse*, Edmund Stanley; *Chief of Police*, Lindsay Morrison; *Pierre*, George Wade; *Bul-Bul*, Anna O'Keefe; *Blanche*, Della Fox; *Angelique*, Sylvester Cornish; *Louise*, Elvia Crox; *Victorine*, Lilly Fox; *Stephanie*, May Levinge; *Desiree*, Louise Edgar.

FREDERICK WARDE and Mrs. D. P. Bowers are the magnets at the Grand Opera House this week, and their repertoire adds materially to their drawing powers. The company contains such sterling actors as Charles D. Herman, Catherine Cogswell, Beverly W. Tuner, Harry Leighton and H. C. Barton. The repertoire for the week is: Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday matinee, "Henry VIII.;" Tuesday and Saturday nights, "Macbeth;" Wednesday matinee, "Virginius," and "Othello" Thursday night. The plays will all be handsomely mounted and costumed. The New Orleans *Times-Democrat*, of November 4, says: "Henry VIII." was the attraction for an intelligent and discriminating audience last night, with Mr. Frederick Warde as *Cardinal Wolsey*, and Mrs. D. P. Bowers as *Queen Catharine*.

The performance was one of universal excellence, not being confined to one, nor made dependent upon the work of the principals, but was well looked to in every detail. The endeavor to give this play with fitness has signally triumphed.

Mr. Warde's *Wolsey* was a delightful surprise, and from whatever point viewed at, an admirable personation.

Mrs. Bowers was, as delighted audiences have known her for many years, an incomparable *Catharine*.

The military drama "The Blue and the Gray," which will be seen at Harris' Theater this week, tells a story of love and war. The play will be given by a strong company.

AT Harry Williams Academy the well-known Rentz-Santley Company is the attraction this week. They appear in an extravaganza called "A Sensation in Paradise." Incidental to this satire on Jules Verne's famous romance are character sketches by Charles Pusey, Harry Lester and Barney Reynolds, skipping rope dancing by Lottie Elliott, illusions by Mdlle. Leoville and Ada Rentz, a knife-throwing act by Clara O'Brien and Kate Gilbert, medleys and songs by the petite LaPorte sisters, juggling by Natta, some songs and graceful dancing by Nellie Wilson, comedy sketches by Will C. Matthews and Nellie Harris, the Nautch dance by Carrie Rodgers, Clara Gilbert, Jessie Davine and Kate Gilbert, spectacular marches by the company and songs by Barney Williams.

Other Amusements.

VERY seldom before in the history of this museum has there been such a quartet of attractions appear at one time, as will be shown at Harry Davis' Fifth Avenue Museum, commencing Monday. They embrace Hattie Bowen, who is recognized at present as the largest white woman in the world; present actual weight 718 pounds; she is a native of Massachusetts, and is known as the white giantess of that State; she is 41 years of age, and the mother of seven children, and when 7 years old weighed 160 pounds; is 5 feet 7 inches high; measures 30 inches around the arm and 9 feet around the body. She is so big that an ordinary passenger coach will not accommodate her, when she arrives in Pittsburg at 9 o'clock Monday morning by the Baltimore and Ohio Railway, she will be conveyed to the museum on a truck prepared for the purpose, and drawn by ten large horses. A portion of the front of the house will be removed to get the fair lady inside, and she will be hoisted to the second story via derrick route. With her is the Australian giant, Colonel Pickett Nelson, who is at present the tallest man in the world, measures 8 feet, and is only 21 years old; weighs 327 pounds; his feet are 18 inches long and his hands 13 inches; he holds a $500 bill in his hand and offers it to any one who can reach it. The various antipodes of this great pair come with them in the person of Tom Thumbkins, reputed the most eccentric of little men on the earth, his height being 32 inches and his weight 100 pounds. There is also Princess Nora Wren, the most perfectly formed of all the midgets. She is from Indianapolis, Ind., 25 years old, 35 inches high and weighs but 62 pounds. By taking in the museum next week the people will not only see the largest woman and the largest man in the world, but will also see the smallest man and the smallest woman now living. Manager Davis has arranged a procession of the entire party from the B. & O. depot on Monday morning at 9 o'clock, and everybody who cares to look can have an opportunity to see the strange concert of nature's wonders. They will not be the only features, as C. F. Blatt has been retained another week, so the public will be enabled to see the strongest man ever known to exist, together with many pleasing features on the stage.

THERE is a novelty beyond all question at the World's Museum in Allegheny this week in the shape of a wrestling bear. This bear is as big a wonder as the animal that climbed a locomotive, as told in THE DISPATCH yesterday. He is perfectly tame and will wrestle a bout with any man who cares to tackle him. He is backed to throw any wrestler in the city. Among the other remarkable curiosities in the hall is Ed S. Willis, the tattooed half man. In the theater there will be one of the best shows yet given there by Frank E. McNish, a comedian of undoubted talent, and these well known artists: Jessie Beetley, serio-comic vocalist, Randall and Kane, Dutch comedians, P. J. Kenyon equilibrist, Williams and Adams, change artists, J. W. McAndrews, eccentric comedian, Kherns and Cole, Dutch comedians, and Madam De Soto, the iron-jawed lady.

Stage Whispers.

JOSEPH ANDERSON, brother of "Our Mary," has joined the Booth-Barrett Company.

LOTTA will soon be with us, and as usual her thousands of admirers will be getting ready to give her a royal reception. Her tour is under the direction of Mr. Sam Fort.

MISS LILLY POST, owing to severe illness, has resigned from the McCaull Opera Company and is on her way to New York. One night stands and hard travel did it.

"SHENANDOAH," Bronson Howard's war drama that made such a splendid reputation last season, is booked in Pittsburg for a return date. It will be seen here before the holidays.

BEATRICE MORE (Miss Mollie Beuchler), of Allegheny, a member of the Byron Company last year, is traveling with Louise Arnot this season, and winning much praise wherever they appear.

ONE of the notable theatrical events of the coming summer will be the elaborate production in Chicago of Charles Reade's adaptation of Emile Zola's novel, "L' Assommoir Drink," under the direction of Mr. Edward J. Henley, who will enact the role of *Coupeau*.

AT the Grand Opera House Thanksgiving week, Stuart Robson will be the attraction. He will present his new comedy by Archibald D. Gorden, "Is Marriage a Failure," and Bronson Howard's greatest success, "The Henrietta," Mr. Robson as *Bertie, the Lamb*.

TRAGEDIAN MARLANDE CLARKE had a rocky time in Memphis. Manager Robb cancelled some of his time, and the local press sat down on him with neatness and dispatch. Mr. Clarke has engaged a lawyer to bring a suit for damages against the manager and actions for libel against the newspapers.

THE picture of David Belasco standing at the wings of the Broadway Theater with the promptbook of "The Ugly Duckling," and in his breathless anxiety for his pupil's (Mrs. Carter) success, uttering every word with her, is, of course, to be appreciated only by those who occupy boxes or positions at the side of the house in front.

THE Rev. T. De Witt Talmage will continue lecturing at the Academy Sunday nights until January. He has also the privilege of extending that time. Talmage and E. G. Gilmore have become quite chummy. Mr. Gilmore asked the reverend lecturer to have a drink the other night. Talmage wasn't angry, but he didn't take the drink.

MISS MINNIE PALMER is resting placidly at her home in the Gramercy Park flats. The fact that "Suzette" has stopped does not trouble her much. Said John R. Rogers: "I told my wife to enjoy herself and have a good time until something that suited her came along, and if nothing came along, to go on having a good time. It is not as though she were obliged to act."

THEATRICAL people say that there have never been so many good actors and actresses disengaged as at the present time, and the reason is that farce comedy is rife. Managers want songs and dances and flipflaps from their people. An ingenue who has been advertising regularly in a dramatic paper received no answers until she inserted the words "songs and dances."

BEAUTIFUL Isabelle Urquhart says: "I want to go back to the dramatic stage. I left the Casino last June, you know, and have been singing at Palmer's in "The Red Hussar," but I am simply filling in time until I get into the drama. I am very glad to say that that will be early next summer, when I come to Chicago to play with E. J. Henley's company in a grand production of 'L'assomoir.'"

HOMER F. EMENS, of the Fourteenth Street Theater, New York City, whose terra cotta scene proved the scenic hit of William J. Gilmore's "Twelve Temptations," paints the first act of the new comic opera, "The Sea King." The second and third acts, respectively, the Sea King's grotto and a royal palace in Spain, are from the brush of Maeder and Schaeffer—two of Gotham's leading artists.

JEROME K. JEROME, the playwright and author, is a reddish blonde and he is not very imposing in appearance. He has a modest demeanor and manners quiet and gentle, and he is good-hearted and generous, without having the least sense of business rapacity. He is married and lives in Chelsea Gardens, London. He has a greater fondness for literary than dramatic work, although his friends have urged him to center all his powers on the latter.

ANNIE PIXLEY comes next week to the Bijou, and it will be her first engagement at this popular house. She will play the usual Wednesday and Saturday matinees, and one on Thanksgiving Day, making nine performances in all. Her repertoire will consist of "2 Second Floor," "The Deacon's Daughter," "M'liss," and her new play, "Kate," by Jas. A. Kouck. The action of the play begins at the commencement of the late war, and is said to be varied and spirited.

ENOUGH has already been written about Sarah Bernhardt in "Cleopatra" to fill a couple of large volumes, and still the "news" rolls in. A London writer has just directed a severe criticism at the asp which causes Cleopatra's death. Says he: "The much vaunted denouement with the live snake is a ludicrous failure. The little green serpent which crawls about *Cleopatra's* bosom and nestles in the folds of her dress is undoubtedly a live one. But the effect of its presence is to distract attention from the actress. Certainly no death scene of Sarah's has ever fallen so flat."

THE lions are the lions of "Nero" at Niblo's Garden, really. The big boarhound should be counted as one of them, too. The five beasts were far behind the human performers in getting to work, for they arrived from Europe late and seasick, and it was not until last week that they did all that they had been expected to do. They are a marvel as exhibited in connection with Prof. Darling's control of them. Darling is devoid of all circus aspect. He walks into the cage as though sauntering among casual companions. The old idea was that a lion tamer who did not dash in demonstratively, with a firing of pistols and with fierceness of attitudes, would be instantly attacked and devoured. This man wears a plain suit of dark blue clothes, and he behaves like a college lecturer among stuffed animals.

FANNY DAVENPORT is making grand preparations for her production of Sardou's "Cleopatra." She said the other day: "I am having new sets of jewels made to wear with each costume. None of the jewels which I wore in 'Tosca' will be used. There will be one dress made entirely of jewels—the effect will be marvelous. This is called the 'divine costume,' and is copied from the one Cleopatra wore on high days and feast days. With this a jeweled head-dress, which towers over a yard, will be worn. I think this costume will make a distinct sensation, as nothing like it has ever been seen before. The nearest approach to the necklace costume will be a garment of white crepe made exactly like a chemise. Over this I shall wear a robe, crimson in color, gold embroidered and wrought with various stones. Of course I shall remove this robe," said the lady, in the most matter-of-fact way, "and—there you are."

GOSSIP OF THE GUARDS.

COLONEL NORMAN M. SMITH went East last Thursday evening on a business trip. Colonel Smith is still using crutches, from the result of his fall of several weeks ago.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM P. RODGERS, of the Seventeenth United States Infantry, stationed in the Indian Territory, is visiting friends in this city while on a leave of absence from his regiment.

THE monthly meeting of the Board of Control of the Fourteenth Regiment was held last Monday evening, and a number of matters of more or less importance to the regiment were straightened out.

THE Eighteenth Regiment turned out a good-sized battalion for drill on Forbes street last Thursday evening. Colonel Rutledge put the companies through a number of movements in a very satisfactory manner.

THE celebration of the one hundredth meeting of the Loyal Legion in this city last Wednesday evening brought quite a number of officers of the National Guard here, as many are members of the Legion.

LIEUTENANT BEN GRAFF, of Company D, Eighteenth Regiment, is back in the city, after an absence of a number of months in Sharon, Pa. Mr. Graff is one of the heavyweights of the Guard, tipping the scales at 315 pounds. He carries his weight with the best of them, however, and is quite an athlete.

COLONEL J. L. SPANGLER, of Bellefonte, who was appointed Commissary General on the Governor's staff for his brilliant work at Johnstown during the flood, spent a few days in the city last week. Colonel Spangler would like to be reappointed to his present position by Mr. Pattison, and, as he is a good Democrat, his chances in that line are pretty fair.

LIEUTENANT W. H. BEAN, of the regular service, spent a few days among friends here last week. Lieutenant Bean has been on a tour of duty in this State in connection with the National Guard for the past two years, but will leave for his regiment about the 1st of January. The tour is a most pleasant one, and quite a number of officers are seeking to be detailed to this State.

THE disappearance of a well-known Captain in the Fourteenth Regiment from his usual business and home, during the past week, has caused some comment among his friends, both in the Guard and out of it. A committee from the regiment will investigate his accounts, although it is thought everything is in good shape. No cause has yet been assigned for his apparent disappearance from his usual haunts.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL JAMES B. STREETER, of the Tenth Regiment, is the latest name prominently mentioned for the Adjutant General's commission under Mr. Pattison. It is safe to say, however, should the appointment come to this end of the State, it will be either Captain William McClelland or Lieutenant Colonel Frank Rutledge, with odds in favor of the latter, as Captain McClelland is not a member of the Guard, and it is hardly probable a selection will be made from outside. For the commission of Inspector General, the name of Colonel Chambers McKibben is at the top of the list. His appointment would prove a pretty more most gratifying to the Second Brigade, as aside from his social standing in this vicinity his ability as a tactician is recognized all over the State.

THE season of rifle practice in the National Guard of Pennsylvania closed yesterday. Work on the Saltworks range of the Fourteenth Regiment did not commence until about one-half the season was gone, on account of the rainy weather, but the organization will show a pretty good increase in the number of marksmen over last year. In the Eighteenth Regiment and Battery B ranges were not secured until the beginning of September; however, on account of the special efforts of the officers in both commands a large improvement over last season's total will be shown. It is expected that the Second Brigade, as a whole, will show a bigger percentage of gain in qualified marksmen this year than either of the other brigades. The total number in the State will probably run about 5,000. Such importance is now placed on rifle practice both in general rating and in efficiency in the eyes of the heads of the departments at Harrisburg that it is probable next season the local organizations will make qualification a requisite in enlisting recruits.

THE postponed and much-talked-of election for Second Lieutenant in Company B of the Eighteenth Regiment was held last Monday night, and resulted in the choice of Sergeant Major James Bigger for the position, with a vote of 26 to 19, the latter number being cast for Mr. Bundshup, who formerly held the position. Since the election a number of allegations have been made by the defeated candidate to the effect that he was forced out of the regiment, and that his defeat this time was due to the influence of officers who should not have meddled with the election. The State code provides for two ways for an officer to sever his connection with the Guard before his commission expires, and those are by resignation or by discharge, under section 31 of the military law. The former manner is generally suggested to a man who, while holding a commission, shows himself totally unfit to handle even a corporal's squad, and whose conduct in and out of the armory fails to even suggest respect from his subordinates. However, when such an individual proposes to take advantage of the benefits of a resignation blank, he is gently fired out of the organization to which he belongs under the section mentioned. Mr. Bundshup resigned.

CAREFUL inquiry shows that Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup is the cough remedy in this country.

The Extraordinary Popularity

of "The Rustic" continues to be the subject of conversation among the business men of the thoroughfares contiguous to Diamond street. "The Rustic" is pat