THE SECRET OF THE ASPEN.

A cloud hangs over the morning,
Tempestuous the night with storm;
And the robins that sang on the Aspen
Have silver'd and flown away.

The Aspen itself is leafless,
Save the opposite spray; but there,
Two last white doves are trembling,
Hymen and Love to a breath of air.

A weird old tree is that Aspen;
A low-voiced wizard—a seer—
Knows what is coming, quaint unquiet
A secret of life is clear.

Through the fever'd flush of Summer—
When the stillness is sleep—
And within the slumbering forests
The winds have nestled to sleep,

That Aspen alone is restless,
And trembles, in fitful starts,
Like the guilty, when conscience's polgraud
Pricks the canker in their hearts.

And, to-day, those two leaves, lonely
And sere, on its topmost spray,
Sear like the souls, fluttering lately
To pass from their shrunken clay;

Two souls that is life's fair spring-tide
Clinked vows in its golden noon—
To wither thus in life's Autumn,
Is its bleakest summit—alone.

Yes, a weird old tree is that Aspen!
A low-voiced Wizard—a seer—
And he who will dip in its shadow,
This secret of life may hear:

Through its solemn, quaint unquiet,
A wondrous whisper comes
Like the murmur of bees in clover,
Or an echo of far-off drums.

And he who listens, when the shadows
Are creeping, like ghosts, in the West,
May hear: "Since the doom of Adam,
The soul's one curse is unrest."

THE OPERA STRIKE IN NEW YORK.

The Chorus—Scenes in Revelt—Scenes at Maretzek's Favorite Restaurant—A Battle Royal Between Tenors, Baritones, Cavatinas, Scenas, Arieties, and Rondos.

(From the N. Y. World, of New 20th.)

The chorus at the Academy of Music on a strike. Yes, for forty-eight hours they have struck, and to-day they say they are determined to continue striking until the last armed Maretzek expires, not for their altars and their fires, but for bread and cheese. As the case at present stands the prospect for future opera looks rather slim, unless manager Max can get together chorus-singers come to a public arrangement. The chorus-singers in the history of fifty have been employed since the beginning of the opera season at the rate of $20 a week for five performances, including attendance at mid-day rehearsals, for which it has not been the custom of opera managers to pay, as rehearsals were always supposed to be part of the performance. The details of the strike, which were given in yesterday morning's *World* exclusively, it is only necessary to refer to. A few minutes before the time assigned on the bills for the performance of the opera of *Romeo and Guiletta* to begin the curtain was described in solemn concludes behind the mystic curtain of the Academy, and there and then resolved, with many high asservations, that they would not join in ne gladsome chants assigned them, unless that Impresario Max, in vulgar terms, came down and paid to them some of his filthy lucre or base greenbacks to the tune of fifteen dollars per human being of the chorus, male and female. And with many high oaths and with solemn purposes engraved on the salients of each Italian, French, German and Spanish face, did the band pledge themselves to be true, bold and firm "until death did them part," or Max Maretzek gave in and acknowledged the corn, the soldiers in the meanwhile waiting patiently for the installation, for some signs of life from the dumb orchestra. But no sign came, for Maretzek, fearing the if he gave way to the demands of the chorus singers for services performed at rehearsals he would have to comply with the prospective demand of the orchestra, who were waiting in the leash, to strike like the chorus-singers, for the green graves of their sires. He therefore refused to comply with the demand most vigorously, and the strike set in with vigor. Meanwhile the Party of Action joined as they came to the chorus.

"Scenes in Revolt" with wine-glass uplifted;
"Never mind Maretzek, let a dolme fill;
Come on! [illegible] for me a wreath with
grapes and vine-leaves!
Girded with jugs and goblets
I have an idea of the annual of Hallcon.
Long live Bacchus, the King of Gods!
Hymen and Incense to fair Venus!
Let him, who fancies, sing of shields and
cuirasses,
And on the iris and haves of the warlike God,
I sight for sweet the beauties, and surround
by goblets.
I choose to be half drunk; but not dead.
When I hold the jug in my hand, I cannot envy
the empire of a king.
Some think the thirst for gold is holy;
To-Thirst for wine is holy to me.

Party of Action. (*Chorus.*) Oh, nevare mind,
Maretzek, we'll get even yet
Double trouble, Jordan an ze
Hard road to trav-a-e-l."

All. (*Chorus.*) Venus and Bacchus are our gods.
We gather the bloom of life,
We gather perfume to Venus and Bacchus!
Long live the Fatherland, wine! Love forever!
"I tell you, boys," said the reformed rough,
"we ka-n-n stand this theory of ten dollars
a week. If the American pe-o-ple were
stand by the Eyalian Opera! Why don't-a-
they s-s-s-y so and guv it up? That's what
I want-a-e know!"—Alone.

"Ah, Ciel! said the little Frenchman, "vin
le grand ville de Antriche in Vienne it
was mocsh differant; there was ze enchoy-
ment and v-a-r-e lectic wine. But ze
g-r-a-n-ds American people will not pay ze
price of ze opera like ze do in belle France,
or le grande ville de Autricle. Helas! Ze
Grande Duchesse!

(*Chorus in the back part of the room, the singers coming forward joyously, with greasy cards in their hands, singing*), *with greasy cards in their hands, singing*).

Ze double is coming!
Et vive l'amour!
Tra-la! on ce jour
Bravora is consigne;
Obelisque a l'amour!

Big Eytonian stags (*his voice resounding throughout the lofty but greasy apartment*). Where can Signor Coglesto be gone? We want him to have the grand explanation with Maretzek an hour ago!

(*Singer, his eyes filled with tears, wine cup covered with vine leaves, upheld*)—Ze dose not return!

Alas! in its angoish,
Ze poor heart is sinking;
Ze soul's filled with terror.
Will he never return?
Ah, where does he wander,
White lady I ponder?
I dare not complain;
But I call in vain!
Alas! where now does he wander!
Will he never return
In grief I'm consoling
Ze chocolate feeling.
Ze hot house ze my wo—

(*Chorus either*)—
Venus and Bacchus are our gods;
We gather the bloom of life,
We gather perfume to Venus and Bacchus!
Long live the Rude-shelmer! Ten dollars a week—Hah!

At a late hour when our reporter left, the strikers were still quaffing the golden Tokay, and cheap Rhine wein, resolving to depriive the great American people of operatic music sooner than accede to Maretzek.—*N. Y. World.*

Trichina in St. Louis.

(From the Missouri Republican, Nov. 8th.)

On Saturday evening a meeting of the Medical Society was held in the Library of the Mercantile Library Building. After some routine business had been transacted a very interesting and somewhat startling report was introduced. It appears that during the past week two deaths occurred at the City Hospital, which have now been discovered to have resulted from the horrible disease produced by the Trichina spiralis, which created so much excitement in Germany some time ago, and subsequently in Iowa and other portions of this country.

The Trichina, as is well known, are taken into the system by eating raw or half-cooked pork. The following is the substance of the statement made by Dr. Dean, a member of the Medical Society:

While present a few minutes before the close of a *post-mortem* examination and demonstration, made by Dr. Leffingwell, the subject of the City Hospital, though not for the purpose of discovering the cause of death, Dr. L. remarked that the muscles were speckled. This drew Dr. D.'s attention to the subject, when he at once pronounced the subject afflicted with *tarvel trichina spiralis*. He at once endeavored to get a history of the case, and found that he was one of two friends who had come to the hospital together, both suffering from general debility, and who were so registered. The one whose body he saw had suffered from diarrhoea, abdominal pain, prostration, etc., had been treated at last for typhoid fever, which he appeared to have and from which he was supposed to die. So nearer are some of the symptoms of trichinasis to those of this disease. As the disease of trichinosis are well-known, he would have said nothing of this case, except to state it and give its history, namely, that the disease (trichinasis) is probably much more common than is generally supposed. If an examining the sick and wounded, he should be shown that his muscles were also inhabited by trichinae it would, by some means, be shown that two cases excusably supposed to have died of typhoid (in the hospital) and there were lung complications) which in really had died of this disease.

Dr. D. said Dr. Steele had also had his attention drawn to the dotted appearance of the muscles, and had, as he handed their over to the microscope the microscope the presence of the trichina. Partly by the request of others versed in the history of the disease, but who thought some of the faculty were not, and partly because of the slight importance attached to the subject by some practitioners, he would give a brief account of the entrance and of the disease. The larvae of trichina, as found in the specimen, were free, surrounded by granular matter, or by a fibrous matter, which latter formed the spindle or shuttle-shaped cyst. This lies imbedded between the fibres of the voluntary muscles. It does not develop further in the muscles. It is found in the same way in the muscle of the animal of this flesh be injected uncooked the calcareous cysts are dissolved by the stomach juice and the larvae become sexually developed and produce young; one producing 100 or more, half a pound of meat might contain enough to produce 30,000,000. These commence emigrating to the voluntary muscles (so-called) all over the body. As they penetrate the intestines there is a copious diarrhoea, which carries off many of them in the ejections, but enough remain. As the remaining ones emigrate into the muscles, pain in, and inability to use the muscles were characteristic symptoms. Oedema of limbs and face, a typhoid condition of the system, hiccough, if the diaphragm be invaded, hoarseness and loss of voice, if the larynx muscles be effected.

This statement excited considerable attention and a brief general discussion took place while many of the medical gentlemen present examined the specimens of the muscles of the deceased, kindly lent by Dr. Dean, through glasses. By holding up a piece of the muscular tissue before a light the little specks were plainly visible and some of the more youthful practitioners present, who had discussed pork steaks and ham for supper, grew serious and felt considerable inward disturbance.

The statement is really one of importance and we have no doubt will excite general attention. It is unfortunate nothing definite is known as to the history of the cases mentioned, but we understand some further examination will be made into the matter which will probably result in some additional information.

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