

Random Notes of Life in London.

The Concerts, the Plays, the Gossip and The Weather of the Great Metropolis.

London, Feb. 21.—All London is on skates now, as it has grown quite cold here lately, and every bit of water is frozen up.

There is quite an interesting thing to be seen at Westminster bridge, in town here, daily. The poor hungry sea gulls come flying up the river from the sea as far into London as this bridge.

Saturday Reflections.

The contrast between the number of those who last Wednesday night crowded a local place of public entertainment to witness the ten-minute boxing contest, and the champion pugilist of the world, and that of those who two evenings earlier, assembled to hear the inaugural lecture of one of the most scholarly young Englishmen now in the United States is somewhat vivid, to be sure; but I am not certain that it offers much room for criticism. In both cases the audience paid its money for its choice, and received an ample bargain.

There is one thing to be said for those who exchange words for blows. In the first place, it is a very safe method of settling a quarrel. Whatever else may be said of him, Corbett is certainly what he claims to be, the champion pugilist of the world. The admiration which is shown him on a certain following is certainly not a little of it wholly unwholesome. Not a little of it is commanded by the intrinsic frankness, courage and sincerity of the prizefighter.

Where Blizzards Are Yet Unknown.

Winter As It Is Known in San Diego, In the Western Land of Flowers.

San Diego, Calif., Feb. 12.—As I glance over the telegraphic news from day to day, as chronicled in the San Diego papers, it seems hard to comprehend the fact that the same month, of the same year, on the same continent, can present so great a contrast in climate and scene. While you are enjoying life with the thermometer below zero, we are basking in sunlight that between the hours of ten o'clock and noon, reveals statues carrying parasols, and makes the shade side of the street the popular thoroughfare.

The journey out was comfortably made. We were taken at lightning speed over the Pennsylvania limited by the way of Pittsburg and Chicago. Every comfort that the most fastidious person could desire is provided on this train. The long stretch of flat, uninteresting country between Illinois and Colorado, was made over the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy and Santa Fe routes. The love for the grand old hills and mountains, which I consider a part of my birthright, prevents my being perfectly happy when I am located in the valley of any of these states.

Uncle Sam's ample domain. As we approached Raton Range the grade was simply terrific, and required two engines to haul the train at a pace hardly faster than a walk. So as the ascent was made at times, that it seemed like walking up a steep hill, to walk to the forward end of the car. As we passed the boundary line between Colorado and New Mexico we reached the highest elevation on the route—5,900 feet.

Stevenson's slang. He did not write it, but he talked it almost incessantly. From the Troy Times. It may be soothing to the minds of the many people in this world, who having formed the habit of commonly using slang cannot now do without it.

Welsh Jottings. F. C. Lloyd, town clerk of Cardiff, has been elected to the town clerkship of Huddersfield. The death is announced of Thomas Jones, C. J. P. of the Hafod, near Dowlais, at the age of seventy.

Sharp and Flats. Lull says she was born in 1841. Matt Lehman is to sing in Paris next month. Maurel has been engaged for the season of opera in New York for 1895-96.

Boya's opera, "Christ at the Feast of the Purim," has been put in the End Exaggerations of books which no good Catholic may read. The friends of Miss Sibyl Sanderson are trying to console her with the hope that the American public may yet learn to appreciate her talents.

The Milwaukee correspondent of the New York Musical Courier says of Professor Daniel Proctor, Mus. Bac.: "Beginning his musical career at five years old, his progress has been unusual. He has been conductor of many chorales and societies, always with prominent success, culminating in an effort at the World's fair, which won him the highest prize in that greatest of musical contests."

Charles Jarvis, the well known pianist of Philadelphia, died Feb. 25. His death recalls an event which took place during the State Teachers' association, held last year in this city. After Mr. Jarvis had completed a splendid reading of the "Sonata Appassionata," of Beethoven, the applause was slight.

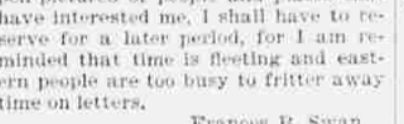
Jean de Reszke is the only one of the great singers of the Metropolitan Opera company who, it is said, refuses to sing at private musicales for hire. Mrs. Bradley Martin, in her efforts to secure him last year, offered him \$2,500 for a single song, but he declined, saying he preferred to be heard only from the stage.



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