### The Dream Gown of the Japanese Ambassador.

By BRANDER MATTHEWS. Author of "Vignettes of Manhattan."

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SYNOPSIS.

Cosmo Waynflete, a young American traveler, returns to New York on Christmas morning. A friend has engaged rooms for him and he unpacks his things. Among them are a crystal ball and a Japanese dressing gown, curiously embroidered and having three strange coins serving as buttons. Putting on this gown and gazing into the crystal, Cosmo falls asheep and dreams that he is a Samurai in Japan, pretending to be intoxicated in order to throw an enemy off guard. Then his vision changes, and he finds himself in Persia attacked by a hideous monster and able to kill it only by the aid of his trusty steed. A third time he experiences a transformation and he discovers himself to be a stranger at inidnight in the streets of Liston, where he has a dramate adventure. In the fourth phase of his dream he is on horseback pursued by a huge headless horseman. Knocked from his charger, he falls to the ground, and when daylight comes, he is lying under the shadow of a country church. Then he knows that his bride is coming, and he arises to await her while the bells chime gnerilly. That's just what I do mean, its friend returned. "And that's just what you have been doing. You fixed your gaze on the ball and so hypnotized yourself: and then in the intensity of your vision you were able to see figures in the crystal—with one of which visualized conservations you immediately

PART III.

So clamorous and so persistent was the ringing that Cosmo Waynflete was roused at last. He found himself sud-denly standing on his feet, with his hand clutching the back of the chair in which he had been sitting before the fire when the rays of the setting sun had set long ago, and the moon was dark, for it was lighted now only by the embers of the burnt-out fire: the electric bell was ringing steadily as though the man outside the door had resolved to waken the seven sleepers.

Then Cosmo Waynflete was wide-awake again; and he knew where he was once more-not in Japan, not in Persia, not in Lisbon, not in Sleepy Hollow, but here in New York, in his dwn room, before his own fire. He opened the door at once and admitted his friend, Paul Stuyvesant. "It isn't dinner time, is it?" he

asked. "I'm not late, am 1? The fact is, I've been asleep."
"It is so good of you to confess that," his friend answered laughing; "although the length of time you kept me waiting and ringing might have led me to suspect it. No you are not late to suspect it. No, you are not late and it is not dinner-time. I've come around to have another little chat with you before dinner, that's all."
"Take this chair, old man," said Cos-

"Take this chair, old man," said Cosmo, as he threw another hickory-stick on the fire. Then he lighted the gas and sat down by the side of his friend, "This chair is comfortable, for a fact," Stuyvesant declared, stretching himself out luxuriously. "No wonder you went to sleep. What did you dream of?-strange places you had seen in your travels or the homely scenes of your native land?"

Waynflete looked at his friend for a

Waynflete looked at his friend for a moment without answering the ques-tion. He was startled as he recalled the extraordinary series of adventures which had fallen to his lot since he had fixed his gaze on the crystal ball. It seemd to him as though he had been whirled through space and through

"I suppose every man is always the ro of his own dreams," he began doubtfully.
"Of course," his friend returned: "in

sleep our natural and healthy egotism is absolutely unrestrained. It doesn't make any matter where the scene is laid or whether the play is a comedy or a tragedy, the dreamer has always the center of the stage with the calcium light turned full on him."

"That's just it." Waynflete went on, "this dream of mine makes me feel as Stuy if I were an actor and as if I had been playing many parts, one after the other, in the swiftest succession. They are not familiar to me, and yet I con-fess to a vague feeling of unoriginality It is as though I was a plagiarist of adventure—if that be a possible suppo-sition. I have just gone through these startling situations myself, and yet I'm sure that they have all of them hapit from a Japanese acrobat who was out of an engagement and desperately hard up. But she told me also that the acrobat had told her that the garment had belonged to an ambassador who had given it to him as a reward of his pened before—although, perhaps, not to any one man. Indeed, no one man to any one man. Indeed, no one man could have had all these adventures of



THEN HE LIGHTED THE GAS.

mine, because I see now that I have been whisked through the certuries and across the hemispheres with a sud-denness possible only in dreams. Yet denness possible only in dreams. all my experiences seem somehow second-hand and not really my own"
"Picked up here and there-like your

"Picked up here and there—like your bric-a-brac?", suggested Stuyvesant. "But what are these alluring adven-tures of yours that stretched through the ages and across the continents?" Then, knowing how fond his friend was of solving mysteries and how proud he was of his skill in this art, Cosmo Waynilete narrated his dream as it has been set down in these perces. sciousness, as you want me to believe. But how about my Perian dragon and my Iberian noblewoman?" as it has been set down in these pages.

When he had made an end, Paul
Stuyvesant's first remark was: "I'm
sorry I happened along just then and
waked you up before you had time to

IN THE WORLD



only is it the most elective skin pur-and beautifying soap in the world, but be purest, sweetest, and most refreshing list, bath and nursery. It strikes at the of bad complexions, falling hair, and a baby blemishes, viz.: THE CLOGERS, MED, OVERWORKED, OF SLUGGISH FORE.

His second remark followed half a

minute later.
"I see how it was," he said, "you were sitting in this chair and looking at that

crystal ball, which focused the level rays of the setting sun, I suppose? Then it is plain enough—you hypno-

"Ive heard that such a thing is pos-

sible," responded Cosmo, "Possible?" Stuyvesant returned, "it

is certain! But what is more curious is the new way in which you combined your self-hypnotism with crystal-gaz-

ng. You have heard of scrying, I sup-

"You mean the practice of looking

into a drop of water or a crystal ball or anything of that sort." said Cosmo-

'and of seeing things on it-of seeing people moving about?"
"That's just what I do mean," his

ualized emanations you immediately identified yourself. That's easy enough.

I think. But I don't see what suggest-

ed to you your separate experiences. I recognize them, of course—"
"You recognize them?" cried Wayn-

flete in wonder.
"I can tell you where you borrowed

every one of your adventures," Stuy-vesant replied. "But what I'd like to know now is what suggested to you just

those characters and situations, and

not others also stored away in your subconsciousness."

Paul Stuyvesant looked at Cosmo Waynfiflete for nearly a minute with-out reply. Then all the answer he made was to say: "That's a queer

made was to say: "That's a queer dressing gown you have on."
"It is time I took it off," said the other, suiting the action to the word. "It is a beautiful specimen of weav-

SO CAN I." SAID PAUL STUYVES-

ng, isn't it? I call it the dream gown

skill and that he never would have parted with it if he had not been dead

Stuyvesant held the rope up to the light and inspected the embroidery on

"Yes," he said, at last, "this would account for it, I suppose. This bit here was probably meant to suggest 'the well where the head was washed,'

"I see that those lines may be meant to represent the outline of a spring of water, but I don't see what that has to do with my dream," Waynflete an-

swered. "Don't you?" Stuyvesant returned.

"Then I'll show you. You had on this slik garment embroidered here with an

outline of the well in which was washed the head of Kotsuke no Suke, the man whom the Forty-Seven Ronins

"I read it in Japan, but-" began

"You had that story stored away in

your subconsciousness," interrupted

his friend, "And when you hpynotized

yourself by peering into the crystal

Paul Stuyvesant was examining the dream-gown of the Japanese ambassa-

dor with minute care. Suddenly he said: "Oh!" and then he looked up at Cosmo Waynflete and asked: "What

are those buttons? They seem to be old coins."
"They are old coins," the other answered; "it was a fancy of mine to utilize them on that Japanese dressing-

The first is

esant.

They are all different, you see.

"Persian, isn't it?" interrupted Stuy-

vesant.

"Yes," Waynflete explained, "It is a Persian daric. And the second is a Spanish peso made at Potosi under Phillip II. for use in America. And the third is a York shilling, one of the coins in circulation here in New York at the time of the revolution—I got that one, in fact, from the farmer who allowed it up in a field at Taynetown.

plowed it up in a field at Tarrytown near "Sunnyside."

"Then there are three of your adven-tures accounted for, Cosmo, and easily enough," Paul commented, with obvi-

enough." Paul commented, with obvious satisfaction at his own explanation. "Just as the embroidery on the slik here suggested to you after you had hypnotized yourself that you were the chief of the Forty-Seven Ronins, so this first coin here in turn suggested to you that you were Rustem, the here of the 'Epic of Kings.' You have read the 'Shah-Nameh?"

killed. You know the story?"

from his friend's hand.

the skirt of it.

"My subconsciousness?" repeated Waynflete. "Have I ever been a samu-ral in my subconsciousness?"

name was Rakush, wasn't it?" asked Waynflete.
"If you can recollect the Shah-Nameh.'" Stuyvesant pursued, "no doubt you can recall also Beaumont and Fletcher's Custom of the Country?" That's where you got the midnight duel in Lisbon and the magnanimous mother, you know."
"No. 1 don't know," the other declared.

"No. 1 don't know, the other clared.
"Well, you did for all that." Paul went on. "The situation is taken from one in a drama of Calderon's and it was much strengthened in the taking. You may not now remember having read the play, but the incident must have been consider to you or else your subcon-

play, but the incident must have been familiar to you or else your subconsciousness couldn't have yielded it up to you so readily at the suggestion of that Spanish coin, could it?"

"I did read a lot of Elizabethan drama in my senior year at college," admitted Cosmo, "and this piece of Beaumont and Fletcher's may have been one of those I read—but I totally fail to recall what it was all about."

"You won't have the cheek to declare that you don't remember the 'Legend' that you don't remember the 'Legend of Sleepy Hollow,' will you?" asked Stuyvesant. "Very obviously it was the adventure of Ichabed Crane and the

Headless Horseman that the York shilling suggested to you."
"I'll admit that I do recollect Irving's story now," the other confessed.
"So the embroidery on the dream-gown gives the first of your strange situations," and the three others were untions; and the three others were suggested by the coins you have been using as buttons," said Paul Stuyvesant. "There is only one thing now that puzzles me—that is the country church and the noon wedding and the beautiful bride."

beautiful bride And with that he turned over the folds of the silken garment that hung over his arm. Cosmo Waynfiete hesitated a moment and a blush mantled his cheek. Then he looked his friend in the face and

said: "I think I can account for my dreaming about her—I can account for that easily enough."
"So can I." said Paul Stuyvesant, as

he held the photograph of a lovely American girl that he had just found in the pocket of the dream-gown of the Japanese ambassador.

The end.

"The Saunterers," a story of English country life, by Frank Hird, will begin to-

BUSINESS BREVITIES.

A FALLING MARKET.-There was n depreciation in 325 securities dealt in at the London Stock Exchange of \$40,-000,000 in the month ending March 21.

EXPORTS OF BUTTER.-During the last eight months this country exported over 14,600,000 pounds of but-ter, against 3,177,000 pounds the previ-GROWTH OF HONEY INDUSTRY

The growth of the honey industry has been very rapid. According to the last census, the production during the preceding year was 63,298,327 pounds compared with only 25,743,208 pounds ten years earlier. Iowa led in production with 6 812 000 pounds. ion, with 6,813,000 pounds. EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

Exports of general merchandise from the port of New York for the week ended April 7 are valued at \$6,72,132, against \$7,332,445 the corresponding week last year; since January 1, \$106, 097,134, against \$95,491,843 the corresponding period last year

VISIBLE GRAIN SUPPLY.—Brad-street's weekly statement of visible supplies of wheat stocks shows: East of the Rockies, decrease 1.286,000; Eu-ropean stocks, increase 136,000; world's of the Japanese ambassador, for although I bought it in a curiosity shop in Nuremberg, it was once, I really believe, the slumber robe of an oriental stocks, increase 174,000. LIVE STOCK DECREASING.-The reports of the agricultural department

Stuyvesant took the silken garment "Why did the Japanese ambassador sell you his dream gown in a Nuremberg curiosity shop?" he asked.
"He didn't," Waynflete explained.
"I never saw the ambassador, and neither did the old German lady who kept the shop. She told me she bought it from a Japanese acrobat who was show that our live stock—horses, cat-tle, sheep and swine—have decreased in number. This fact is one that should not be overlooked, for, as our popula-tion is increasing, it is plain that sooner or later the supply will be less than the demand, and prices will, consequently,

ESTIMATED PIG OUTPUT.—The Engineering and Mining Journal gives the following as a close estimate of the output of pig iron for the first quarter of the year-

Fuel. 1895. 1896. Inc. P.C. Anthracite 291,202 483,983 192,781 35.8 Coke 1,928,924 2,197,394 208,410 12.3 Charcoal 61,094 67,529 6,426 9.5 Total ......2,281,220 2,718,887 437,647 16,1

AMERICAN TIN.—The American tinplate factory at Ellwood, Ind., will be enlarged to meet the rapidly increas-ing demand for its product. From a four-mill plant in 1892, employing 300 men, it has grown, until now it is a sixteen-mill plant, twenty-one stacks, employing 1,250 men, with an output of 15,600 timplates per week and a monthly pay roll of \$55,000.

COMPARISONS OF VALUE.—The English statistician, Hy. Sauerbeck, reports the average price of 45 staple commodities on March 1 at 61.4 per cent. commodities on March 1 at 61.4 per cent. taking the average of 11 years from 1867 to 1877, inclusive, as one hundred per cent. A year ago the average was 60 per cent., and in 1894 it was 63 per cent. Mr. Sauerbeck finds that prices so far this year have been unusually steady, there having been no important fluctuations since January 1. fluctuations since January 1.

ball, this embroidery it was which sug-gested to you to see yourself as the hero of the tale—Oishi Kuranosuke, the WORLD'S WHEAT CROP.-The chief of the Forty-Seven Ronins, the faithful follower who avenged his mas-March report of the department of agri-culture gives the figures of the world's

	ter by pretending to be vicious and dis-	wheat crop by divisions, as follow	
ı	sipated-just like Brutus and Loren-	1895. 18	94.
H	saccio-until the enemy was off his	North America 523,563,000 522,	850,000
ij	guard and open to attack."		915,000 559,000
U	"I think I do recall the tale of the		109,000
	Forty-Seven Ronins, but only very	Africa 48,842,000 54.	795,000
,	vaguely," said the hero of the dream. "For all I know I may have had the	Australasia 32,461,000 43,	360,000
1	adventure of Oish! Kuranosuke laid on	Total	588,000
	the shelf somewhere in my subcon-	mus wrespes berems on sec	

THE WHEREABOUTS OF MONEY. The following table shows the total amount of money coined or issued, the amount of money in the treasury and the amount of money in the hands of the people April of this year:

The people April of this year:

Coined or In Issued. Treasury.
Gold coin \$ 583,743,393 \$142,831,047 \$ 445,812,256
Silv. doi. 425,829,916 \$371,497,164
Subs. sil 76,216,677 15,246,374 62,976,393
Gold cert 43,822,677 533,220 43,239,249
Sil. cert. 348,825,594 11,233,678 237,632,456
Tr. notes 136,081,250 123,252,314 193,788,966
U. S. nts 34,680,060 123,060
Na, b. ns 221,316,067 7,110,998 214,205,09

Total .. \$2,224,156,192 \$695,526,729 \$1,528,629,463 The total amount of money in the hands of the people now is \$55,000,000 less than it was a year ago and \$162,-000,000 less than it was two years ago. The per capita circulation on April 1 was \$21.53, as compared with \$21.59 on March 1. The actual circulating medlum, the money in the hands of the

people, was as follows on April 1, in the years named:

chief of the Forty-Seven Ronins, so this first coin here in turn suggested to you that you were Rustem, the here of the Epic of Kings.' You have read the Shah-Nameh?"

"I remember Firdausi's poem after a fashion only," Cosmo answered. "Was not Rustem a Persian Hercules, so to speak?"

"That's it precisely," the other responded, "and he had seven labors to perform; and you dreamed the third of them, the slaying of the grisly dragon.

The COAL TRADE, Hanthracite is very quiet at the circular. Buyers are not disposed to engage ahead of their requirements. There is less talk of an advance on May 1, and one will probably not be made on that date. The pool controlling the soft coal interests shipping to tidewater is in full operation. Very few contracts are being placed and these are taken with the understanding that rebates will be made if the prices are lower, Commission of the grisly dragon.

For my own part, I think I should have preferred the fourth of them—the meeting with the lovely enchantress— but that's neither here nor there." sion men and large buyers are doing their best to break the market. This their best to break the market. In accounts for the many rumors of cuts that are in circulation. As far as can be learned there have been no large contracts booked at the circular or "It seems to me I do recollect some-thing about the fight of Rustem and the strange beast. The faithful horse's name was Rakush, wasn't it?" asked any other price.

MARCH FIRE LOSSES.—The fire loss of the United States and Canada for the month of March shows a total of \$14,839.600. This is about \$600.000 more than the sum chargeable against March, 1895. The following compara-tive table will show the January, Feb-ruary and March records in 1894, 1895 and 1896:

January 210,508,400 211,805,000 211,005,000 February 11,257,600 12,359,200 9,730,100 March 9,147,100 14,239,350 14,835,600 Total .....\$21,913,100 \$28,495,100 \$25,509.700

SENSIBLE VIEW OF COAL-A gentleman long identified with the an-thracite coal trade is quoted by the Stockholder as saying: "Anthracite Stockholder as saying: "Anthracite coal is the cheapest thing nowadays that I know of. It is being produced by a number of companies from a deposit, the limits and extent of which are so well known that it has been recknown that the so well known that it has been recknown that the so well known that it has been recknown that the sound that the so oned up just how many tons can be taken out. Most of the great coal com-panies own their own estates, and have done their own development work. Yet I only know of one of them that charges against coal sales a sinking fund representing coal taken out of the ground The Pennsylvania Coal company. think, charges this sinking fund against coal. Reading certainly does not, and it is clear that the Delaware

and Hudson does not. Yet every ton of coal taken out and sold is gone, and cannot be replaced. Where is the sense in taking coal out of the ground and selling it at a price which shows a loss on the actual mining work, without any charge for development of the collectes or for a sinkging fund on their capitalization. Coal at less than \$4 is very much too cheap. I figure that every ton extracted should be charged with something like 30 or 35 cents for sinking fund and interest on original cost of colliery and capitalized im-provements. If this is not done a great ieal of money will be eventually lost.

### PRICEBURG.

The entertainment and social held here on Easter Monday evening for the benefit of St. Thomas' choir was one of the most successful of this sea-son. Among the several well rendered numbers on the programme was a vo-cal solo, "Ben Bolt," by Miss Lizzie White, of Archbald. A neat sum was realized.

The evangelistic meetings that are being held at the Primitive Methodist church are attracting large crowds each evening. Miss Wilmena Griffin was a visitor

The condition of the sidewalk in front of the Johnson No. 1 colliery on Main street is still the same. It is a wonder that the proper authority would not attend to this.

Miss Mary and John O'Connor and the Misses Mame and Clara and John Grier attended the charity ball at the Frothingham theater Tuesday evening.
Thomas Dodd, the accommodating barkeeper at the Grove house, is suffering from a severe attack of rheu-

Mrs. William Guest, of Providence. vas a visitor in town last evening. George Hawk, of Main street, is sick. Mrs. Dunlap and family, of Peckville, risited in town yesterday. Master Hayden Sampson is ill of chickenpox.



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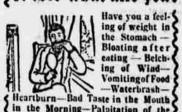
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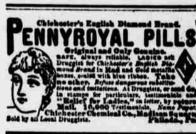
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