### THE YANKEES OF THE EASTERN WORLD

Interesting Description of the Customs of Modern Japan.

COUNTRY OF GREAT POSSIBILITIES

Labor and Wages, Japanese Farming, Marriage, Divorce and the Social Evil Studied by an Experienced Observer -- Americans Very Popular in Japan.

M. W. H., in the Sun. It is a sober and sensible, and, therefore, trustworthy account of contemporary Japan which William Eleroy Curtis has given us in the two volumes collectively entitled "The Yankees of the East" (Stone & Kimball). The author evidently was convinced that a new book on Japan was needed, for he has no high opinion of the comments of some preceding observers. He points out, for instance, that Murray has published a guide to Japan, but he pronounces it incomplete and unsatisfactory. In his opinion, the most useful books for the ordinary traveller are Chamberlain's "Things Japanese" and Miss Scidmore's "Jinrikisha Days." Griffis' "The Mikado's Empire" is regarded by Mr. Curtis as the most ade quate of all historical works, while Dr. J. J. Rein's remarkable but costly volume is acknowledged to be the best authority on the arts and industries of the country. It is also suggested that one may get an accurate and comprehensive glimpse of Japanese home life by reading Miss Alice Bacon's "A Japanese Interior" and her Japanese Girls and Women." On the other hand, it is alleged that Sir Edwin Arnold's reseate views of Japan were obtained from a pretty villa at the top of a hill in the residence district of Tokio. The author thinks that it would not polite or proper to repeat the gossip that is freely circulated concerning the behavior of this gentleman during his stay in Japan, but it may be said that the missionaries do not refer to him as a shining example of Western We are told that he wrote "The Light of Asia" at Omori, a seashore resort, where he was surrounded by a choice selection of geisha giris and the guides now point out the scenes of his adventures as they do other places and historical interest. As for the prose poems and pictures of Japanese life that have come from pen of Lafcadio Hearn, these are admitted to be "a little more accurate than the writings of Sir Edwin, but," continues Mr. Curtis, "practical people have not been able to see the same

things in the same light as they ap-

pear to his eye. Mr. Hearn is a Greek

by birth, and lived for many years in

the United States, where he did news-

paper work at Cincinnati and New

Orleans. For a time he was a teacher

in a government school in the interior

of Japan, but later has been living in

Kobe. He is a dreamer, with a poetic

In a useful preliminary chapter the American traveller is warned not to buy anything in Yokohama until he returns, after vivsiting other cities. He is further told, what other travellers have omitted to mention, that a great drawback to travel in the interior of Japan is the vigor and activity of the tatoes with as much assiduity as a insect life. The natives, who are toughseem to notice the infliction; the tender flesh of foreigners is more tempting, and whenever one arrives in town, the creeping and jumping things have a matsuri, which is, it seems, the name of a Japanese festival, when everybody comes out for a good time. Mr. Curtis is, we repeat, the first observer who has revealed this fact, and he adds that the Japanese insects are peculiarly active. "They are always on the lookout for a job," he says, "and when night comes they begin business in earnest." Much more agreeable is the admonition that. wherever an American traveller goes in Japan, he should make himself known as an American. That, it seems, is an open sesame to every home and every heart. The Japanese hate the English, the French, and the Russians, although they treat them politely because politeness is due to their own self-respect and the laws of hospitality. A citizen of the United States, however, requires no further introduction than a mention of his nationality. The first question asked of a stranger is, "O kuni wa?" (What is your honorable country?) Englishmen who know the sentiments of the people often proclaim themselves Yankees in order to get the best rooms in the louse and the largest share of atten-

Of the twenty-three chapters in this book we can touch only upon those which deal with the question of labor and wages, with Japanese methods of farming and with the subject of marriage, divorce, and the social evil, which cannot be wholly overlooked in any conspectus of the Mikado's empire.

According to Mr. Curtis, it is a grave mistake to say that the Japanese are not an original people, but that they have always been, and still are, merely imitative. It is undoubtedly true that the Japanese workman can make anything he has ever seen. Give him a most complicated mechanism, a watch, a printing press, or an electrical apparatus, and he will reproduce it exactly, and set it running without instruction. He can imitate any process, and can copy any pattern or design, more exactly and skilfully than any other workman in the world. It is undoubtedly that faculty which has enabled Japan to make such rapid progress in western civilization. Amid the circumstances in which the lot of the Japanese people has been cast during the last quarter of . a century, originality has not needed, but rather the power of adaptability and imitation. These very powers, if they stood alone, would make Japan a dangerous competitor for the merchandise. As a matter of fact, they have evinced a remarkable faculty of selection. They have found one thing in Switzerland, another in Sweden, another in England, others in Germany. France, and the United States, and they have rejected what is not of value to those things which are to their advantage. At the same time, avers Mr. Curtis, it is a mistake to suppose that the Japanese people have no originality. The records of their patent office, to which reference is made in a chapter of proofs of the development of a high de-

It appears that the enlistment and two or even three miles away from the He thinks the matter over, and if he

comprehend that they have the best, bor, for the money, in the world. There are no labor unions in Japan, nor are there likely to be, in view of the multitude of people struggling for a living. which consists of a mat to sleep upon and a few handfuls of rice for food. The advance in the cost of labor caused by the war, though it was felt, was very small, when considered in the light of wages paid in other countries. One or two cents a day does not seem very much to men who are accustomed to Japan, where the average income of the workingman does not exceed \$45 a year. it is a matter of importance on both

From the United States consul general at Yokohama, the author obtained the average wages paid in that city, which is the principal shipping port in the country, and where the foreign population is largest. We proceed to quote some figures, but we caution the reader that the wages named are paid to Japanese artisans in the local money, which is worth only about one-half as much as American gold. The average pay of carpenters in Yokohama is 30 cents a day; of stone cutters, 36 cents; of bricklayers, 23 cents; of dyers, 25 cents; of tailors for Japanese clothing. 28 cents, and for foreign clothing, 49 cents; of porcelain makers and lacquer cents, and of printing press men. 26 cents; of farm lands, 19 cents, and of weavers, 15 cents. Wages paid by the month range from \$5.74 to bakers and and \$1.16 for women house servants. It should be noted that the average working hour is ten hours. Factory labor receives even a smaller remuneration. Embroidery women, who produce the work that is so much prized by Americans and Europeans for decorative purposes, seldom receive more than 15 or 20 cents a day in our money. One of the most prominent tea shipping houses in Japan, that of Middleton & Co., employs a large number of persons, men the morning to 6 at night, with three short intervals, when they cat their rice or what other refreshments they bring with them. The highest wages paid by this firm are 42 sen a day, which is equivalent to 21 cents in United States currency. This is received by men who are experts in handling tea. The lowest wages are paid to young boys and girls, who pick over the tea leaves to remove the stems and other foreign sub-They receive 13 sen, or 61/2 cents, a day for about twelve hours' work, not including their resting spells. It should, of course, be borne in that the wages current in Yokohama are the highest paid in the empire.

In the chapter on Japanese methods of farming we are told that Japan is one vast garden, and that, as one looks over the fields, he might imagine them to be covered with toy farms, where children were playing with the laws of nature and raising samples of different kinds of vegetables and grain, Everything is on a diminutive scale, and the work is as fine and accurate as that applied to a cloisonne vase. What, asks Mr. Curtis, would an Illinols or lowa farmer think of planting temperament and a wonderful gift of his corn, wheat, cats, and barley in bunches, and then, when it is three or four inches high, transplanting every spear if it in rows, about as far apart as one can stretch one's finger. The truth is that a Japanese farmer weeds his wheat field as carefully as a Connecticut farmer weeds his onion bed, and cultivates his barley and po-

Long Island farmer bestows upon his ened by continual exposure, do not asparagus or his flowers. Not only every kernel of grain, but every particle of straw is saved, and the latter is put to a thousand uses. They make of it hats, shoes, ropes, roofs matting, the partitions and floors of houses, waterproof coats, baskets, boxes and a thousand and one other useful articles. They braid it for fences also, and the finer, softer qualitles are cut up for fodder. There is very little hay raised in Japan. The grass is very wiry and indigestible. It cuts the intestines of animals. Some alfalfa is grown, but it does not prosper. In the neighborhood of Kobe, on the southern shore, the soil seems bet-

ter adapted than elsewhere for havand the best beef comes from that locality. The ordinary Japanese horse, which originated in China and is called a griffin seems to like straw and to thrive upon it, but he is small and ugly and not capable of much endurance. A journey of fifteen miles will use him up. The straw is chopped with oats, barley, millet, and other grain, and, by adding water, is made into a kind of mush. To oxen is given the same food as to horses, and in some parts of the country one sees a good many of them. They draw their loads by ropes stretched from a collar to the axle of a two-wheeled cart. One man leads them by cords attached to rings in their neses, while another steers the vehicle with a tongue that sticks out behind. On rare occasions

you find a man pleughing with a cow or an ox, but more frequently such work is done with man or woman power. The Japanese plough is the section of the trunk or a branch of a young with the proper curve to it, and it is all wood except a narrow-pointed

blade, which is fitted into the frame-It has only one handle. In Japan a couple of acres is considered a large tract of land for farming purposes. Most of the farms are of smaller area, and the crops are greatly diversified. Upon such a little piece of land wiff be grown almost everything known to the vegetable kingdom; a few square feet of wheat, barley, corn, and millet, a plat of beans perhaps ten feet wide by twenty feet long, an equal area of potatoes and peas, then a patch of beets, lettuce, salsify, turnips, sweet potatoes, vegetable oysters, and other varest of the area. The farmer scans nis of his machinery, and if anything is been wrong he repairs it. If a weed appears three cups and a pot of tea. These sne European nations in manufactured other to take its place; the artificial for- for tea pouring is regarded as the with something else. The largest area of agricultural lands in Japan, perhaps them as readily as they have adopted as much as nine-tenths of the whole, is lated to bring out whatever conversathis book, are enough to settle that the water from flowing away when they question beyond a doubt, for they show are flooded. All farming land is irriber as much as he likes, but it is bad may be as licentious as he likes, and gated by a system that is a thousand manners for him to show the young gree of inventive genius, particularly in years old. As in French Canada, so in lady any particular attention. After

caused the employer class in Japan to man knows his own land, for it has gifts. Then the bride's parents send been in his family for generations. Irthe cheapest, and the most skilful la- rigating ditches and little paths are usually the boundary lines. Theoretically, all the land belongs to the emperor, but the greater part of that under cultivation has been long held in the same families, and always descends from the father to the oldest son. Sales are made this country, and land is mortgaged to secure loans. The actual value of every for taxation purposes. The official stareceive \$50 and \$75 a month, but in 11.400,008 men and 10.948,053 women engaged in agriculture, which is more than half the total population.

No other grain or plant requires much care as rice, and, from the beginning of the season, the paddy fields are full of patient workers, men and women, standing half way up to their knees in the mud, preparing the soil or grubbing out the water weeds that spring up rapidly and would smother the young shocts if they were not removed. Men and women work together, weaving wide straw bats that make them look like so many mushrooms, and, aithough the rest of the body may be naked, except for the loin cloth that is prescribed by law, makers, 29 cents; of compositors, 29 in the filthy soil. Every farmer rates ornaments. When she enters the room, that the Japanes women are not g od five bushels per caput of population, and more than half of it is exported. his left are usually two married ladies a pretty figure. She is always short. The rice of Japan is the best in the or two little girls dressed in white to and stumpy. Her neck and waist are \$4.82 to weavers to \$2.31 for farm hands | world and brings the highest prices in the markets of Europe and the United is thus placed, a chorus of voices in the fligh seems to be everly distributed. A States. The product of Chiro, India adjoining room sing a Japanese song modiste would say that she had no and Corea is of poorer quality and called "Utal," A low table of white snape at all, and therefore it is tmmuch cheaper, and a majority of the wood that has rever been used is then possible to make a Europ an dress fit farmers in Japan prefer to rell their brought in, and a tray is placed upon it | Ler. The ancient native style of garwhich is imported, for home consump- bridesmaids first with sake, or rice upper classes, was especially adapted infinite variety of forms. It appears the bride, who takes dainty sips from it women." We are assured that a lady upon the table of the prince as and then passes it to the bridgegroom, always look well in the soft grays and and women, who work from 5 o'clock in enters into as many food preparations ner, and the ceremony is repeated. As look extremely graceful and probably tople Mr. Curtis remarks that there can be no market for American agri-Javan for two simple reasons: first, the farms are not big enough, and, secondly, labor is too plentiful. If a Jap-anese farmer should introduce a modern reaper and gelf-binder on his farm he would cut down everything in the way of crops while he was turning it around, and there would be nothing the rest of the season.

We pass to the chapters on marriage and divorce, and on the peculiar in ctitution known as the yoshiwara. There have been in the course of centuries marked changes in the matriconial customs of Japan, but it appears that now, when a young man wants to get married, he does not offer his heart and hand to the girl he oves, but if an arrangement has not been already made for him by his parents with the daughter of a neighor, he goes to a discreet married friend, and asks that he and his wife act as nakodos or go-betweens, for him in the matter. The gentleman and lady who undertake this delicate function assume responsibilities that few people in the United States would care to accept. They not only agree to find a suitable partner for their friend, but emain through life in the relation of godfather and godmother to the young couple. They are expected to assist them if they get into difficulties or board of arbitration to settle disputes that may arise in the family. Strange o say, this responsibility is not dread-

As a rule, in the upper circles of so clety marriages between the sons and daughters of friendly families are arranged by the parents when the chidren are very young, and a boy or girl often knows whom he or she is going to marry long before either is enough to understand the nature of the relation. They are not allowed, however, to associate with each other. Confucius taught that children of seven years should be separated according to sex, but the Japanese are a little more libera! in this respect, and boys and girls may play together until they are ten or twelve years of age. After that their association is forbidden. Courting is impossible, and even the children of families whose houses may adjoin grow up as strangers to each other. This rule applies to the nearest relations very fine for feeding purposes, is mixed | There can be no such thing as friendship between young men and young women. It is disreputable for a Japanese young man to marry for love When a young man and a young woman are known to love each other, public sentiment places them very low in the scale of morals.

On the other hand, the social laws of Japan require that people shall marry at the age of 18 or 19, and it is a disgrace for a man or a woman to remain single after they are 20 or 21. As a consequence, there are very few old bachelors or old maids in the empire. Although courting, as we have said, is impossible, a young man usually has an opportunity to inspect the girl selected by his parents or his nakodos (go-betweens) before an engagement is decided upon, and if either is dissatisfied with the appearance of the other, the meeting is called a mi-yal, which means literally, "mutual seeing." "According to the etiquette of what is called society the interview may take place at the house of the young lady's father; but sion of some sort serves the purpose. the visit takes place at the house of the when he left his employer four years and his go-between are received by the rieties of cereals and roots occupy the conversation on indifferent subjects the engineer would inspect the movements prettiest kalmono and obi (robe and in the bean patch he pulls it up. If a places upon the mat in front of the hill of potatoes or anything else faffs it guests and proceeds to serve the beveris immediately replanted. When he age. Girls are trained to perform this cuts down a tree he always plants an- duty with the utmost degree of grace, ests of Japan cover many hundreds of highest accomplishment a Japanese square miles and permanently assure woman can acquire. She is not to the prosperity of the country. We add speak unless she is spoken to, and that, as one crop is harvested, the soil the responsibility of beginning a conis worked over, fertilized, and replanted versation with her rests upon the gobetween. If he is a person of tact he introduces some subject that is calcudevoted to raising rice, and, as that tional powers the young woman may crop requires a great deal of water, the possess, and in the meantime she sits paddles are banked up into terraces, one upon her heels and endeavors to be as above the other, and divided off into lit-tle plats, 35 or 40 feet square, with may engage in the conversation, but ridges of earth between them, to keep it is not good form for him to address

presents in return, which is equivalent to an engagement, and an early day is selected for the wedding. If the young lady should happen to object, which is not often the case, as she is guided entirely by the wishes of her parents, the go-between is notified before an opportunity to send presents is given. When and recorded very much as they are in | the day for the wedding is selected the trousseau of the bride and several articles of household furniture are sent to acre is fixed upon the assessor's book her husband's home, and they are usually exhibited to the friends of the famitistics of Japan show that there are ly beforehand. The wedding gown is 11.400,008 men and 10.948,053 women enis attired in kamishimo, a peculiar dress made of various kinds of silk in colors according to he rank. The wedding ceremony takes place at

the members of the groom's family, but they all wear thick cotton leggings as he remains seated on a cushion in front one degree allove the servants. high as their knees, to protect them of the tokonoma, a shallow recess or some rice. The rice product exceeds she is excerted to a seat beside him, looking. On page 250 of the first volown crop for export and buy that containing three cups, which one of the ments, particularly that used by the tion. Rice is used by the people in an brandy. The smallest cup is handed to to the peculiarities of the Japanese well as of the pauper three times who does the same. The second and delicate rinks that she selects for her a day, just like bread in America, and | third cups are filled in a similar man- kalmeans, or roles, but one who will as our flour. In connection with this the bridegroom returns the third cup to pretty in her native costume, looks cultural implements and machinery in announcing that the ceremony is over or who the maker. There is no kissing or embracing, but a book as a memento of the occasion. The of that fact, and does not return to her admire, husband's home, which is equivalent to Diver a divorce. If the husband on his part than in any Mohammedan country, and, is dissatisfied, he also notifies the gobetweens, and they are expected to com- the lands of Islam, we might infer that formed, impotent, or diseased in any manner, a divorce is considered honor-

able and legitimate, and it is only necessary to register the fact at police head-There are even causes, according to Confucius, for which a man may divorce his wife. They are disobedience, a failure to bear children, unchastity, jealously, an incurable disease, dishonesty, and a sharp tongue. In other words, he can get rid of her whenever he likes, and by a very simple process. All he has to do is to write her a letter, known as the "three lines and a half," declaring that everything is over between them, and advising her to return to her parents. Such a let-ter addressed to her father or her eldest brother, if she has no father, will answer the same purpose. Then he must go to the registrar's office and report himself as a divorced man. For similar causes a wife may get rid of her husband if she desires to do so, but she will lose her social position if she has any, and is much more likely to be respected and make a second marriage if she is the defendant in-stead of the plaintiff in the case. Mr. Curtis admits that this is somewhat of a paradox, but he maintains that it throws a search light upon the social system of Japan. What is there required above all from women is obedience. That is the highest of virtues. and no obedient woman would ever seek a divorce from her husband for any cause.

While divorces among members of the upper class of the Japanese are negotiation comes to an end. This very rare, it is doubtful if there is any country upon earth, not even a Mohammedan country, where they are more frequent among the common people. The author knows the superinresidence of the go-between or at the tendent of the lighters of a steamship company of Yokehama, who has been among the lower classes a pienic or a diovrced nine times, and a missionary theater party, a boat ride or an excur- from Chicago told him that his former cook had had seven wives in succession onions about as hig as a grave, while young lady's father, the young man ago, and that several had since been added to the list. The official records host with great politeness. After some | show that the higher civilization advances in Japan the more numerous latter claps his hands and the young are divorces, though the difference is growing crop every morning, just as an lady herself appears, cressed in her not pronounced. In 1893 the number of marriages per 1,000 inhabitants was sash), and bearing a tray containing 86.6, and the number of divorces 28.2 It will thus be seen that the number of divorces now taking place annually is about one-third as large as the number of marriages. The condensed statistics quoted in this book do not show how many of the divorces were sought husbands, but the author was told by a person conversant with the detailed returns that only about one pr cent, of them originated with the wives. The morals of the women seem to have very little to do with divorce. The prevailing cause is dissatisfaction and a lack of affection on the part of the men, who become tired of their wives, and want to try another chance in the lottery of marriage. In Japan the law of chastity applies to wives. but not to busbands. From the nobillty to the peasantry a double standmay be as licentious as he likes, and the wife seldem grumbles, for if the dees she is liable to less her home and the line of labor-saving appliances and their farms are sometimes a mile, or his go-between retire for consultation. be reparated from her children; as, believe that whatever man does is loyment of about 400,000 mechanics homes. There are no fences or other decides that the candidate is acceptable right, she doesn't think much about are permitted to solicit custom, either side and the grand "cantors" of Leipsic on the other on the othe

It is well known that a Japanese woman never addresses her husband in terms of end arment, for has the Japanese man any pet names for his wife. While there is no doubt genuine affection and devotion on both sides in the majority of families, both sexes have been taught to repress their emotions. A Japanese husband never kisses his wife or his children. Children and wives are taught to respect and reverence the head of the family, be he father, husband, brother, or son; and this deference is carried much further than with us; but if carescea are ever exchanged the world is not allowed to know it. When a husband introduces his wife to his friends it imperial values are not better kept; s with words of dep cointien. He says the dwellings of the princes and noble this is my "humble" wife, or my the house of the bridegroom's parents, "stupid" wife, or my "unworthy" with, with greater elegance or taste. Everyand the friends of both families are inor my "unfortunate" wife, just as he vited to attend. The bride is escorted refers to his humble or unworthy is attractive, and, through long, cool there at nightfall by her parents and home. The husband, too, always pre- corridors you catch glimpses of lovely other members of her family and the go- codes the wife whenever they enter a gardens filled with fruit and flowers betweens, followed by servants bearing house or a room or are walking to: and splashing fountains. Gay-colored gifts to the family of the bridegroom. gether upon the street. When guests awnings shelter the western It was formerly the custom to light a cre present, the wife always takes a southern windows from the sun. Mar-bondre in front of the gate of her par- seat at a distance near the door. It quees are stretched over the lawns, ental home and to lift her over it, the is. In short, accounted the duty of wo- and in the arbors and shady corners ceremony signifying purification. The man to wait upon man. It a mot, or are tables where refreshments may be bride is met outside the main door by ten, or anything else is wanted, the served to order. Tea houses and shops

wife always goes for it. She is only Unlike many of the foreign writers from sludge, bloodsuckers, and water alcove that is found in all Japanese on Japan, Mr. Curlis repeatedly ave s vermin of various kinds that swarm houses, and is used for the display of in the course of these two volumes The go-between sit at his right, and at ume he says that she "does not have the officiating bridesmaid all clap their like a guy when she puts on a Paris hands, which is a salute of approbation. Lown, no matter how fine the mater al

On page 363 of the second volume the great many congratulations are offered author describes a Japanese dinner and to the young couple and guests of liter-ary attainments are expected to hand entertain one. "No matter what Sir them poems of their own composition, Edward Arnold and other sentimental which are afterward bound in a little writers on Japan may say, these girls are not pretty. Their figures are shapecouple then retire to put off the wed- less, their features are flat, their comleft for him and his family to do all ding robes and resume their ordinary plexions are muddy, their teeth are bad, garments, and afterward join the guests and, if they were European garments, at a feast, which is served with great one would never glance at them a secceremony. When the guests have left ond time. They cannot compare in the house, the go-betweens take the looks with the shopgirls of Chicago and couple to their bedroom, assist them, to New York and the waitresses in our remove their garments, and put them to country hotels will average quite as bed. After they are well covered up. well for beauty. But their kimonos another cup of sake is passed around (robes) are of the daintiest shades and and the final good nights are repeated. combinations of color, their obis (sashes) In the morning the father of the groom are of the richest brocades, and their or the male go-between goes to police hair is a marvel for its arrangement, headquarters and registers the mar- All this makes them interesting, and riage, giving the names, ages, occupa- they have pleasing, graceful manners, tions, and residence of the couple. On which often, however, approach familithe third day after the wedding the arity. The geisha girl is not always bride returns to her father's house, to naughty, but she tries to be attractive, stay three or seven days, as the case for that is her capital in trade. As the may be. If the first three days of mar- tea houses are frequented by men only, ried life have not been satisfactory to she naturally adopts the manners and the bride, she notifies the go-betweens the methods that the customers most Divorce is far more freugent in Japan

municate with the bride's parents. If there is no scope for the social evil. a divorce is insisted upon by either par- This is far from being the case in the ty, it must be accepted by the other, realm of the Mikado. According to But such a proceeding is seldom resortsuffer misfortunes, and to serve as a ed to, except where misrepresentation subject, the peculiar institution known has been made as to the temper and as the yoshiwara flourishes so rankly in physical condition of either party. If the bride or groom proves to be de-said to contain 250,000 inmates. We are forbid prostitution, provided it is not retired from the stage for rest. resorted to from a love of pleasure. neans of earning money for her own needs, or for the support of her family, without committing sin, if her motives are pure. The phrase they use is, "While it defiles the body, it does not defile the heart." Men whom Mr. Curtis knew to be well informed told him that 60 per cent, of the inmates of the yosiwara are there not only with the concent, but with the encouragement of their parents, who sell the bodies of daughters to the keepers of such establishments for a term of years and receive as a consideration a bonus in cash and a certain amount monthly. which represents a percentage of the earnings of the girl. The author of this book confirms the current belief that it is a custom among the lower classes of the Japanese, who have large families to maintain, to place their daughters in a voshiwara for the earnings they can contribute to the family treasury. It is not only considered honorable on the father's part, but for the daughter also, and she lozes no respect from her assoclates because she adopts such a life for such a purpose. If, on the other hand, she enters the yoshiwara voluntarily, or selfishly retains her earnings or wastes them in dissipation, she is despised. This distinction s very clearly drawn, but t appears that the practice is confined to the lower classes of the population.

> The inmates of a yoshiwara, the term applied to the whole precinct devoted to casual sexual relations, are terried by the law shogl; but yoju, which means "a lady of pleasure," is a more polite term used in addressing them. Any woman above the age 16 who desires to enter upon the I'fe of a courtesan may apply for a Eccase at police headquarters in person, accompanied by at least one of her parents or guardians, and her appliention must be accompanied by a written certificate signifying their cons nt. Having obtained her license, the shogt makes a contract with the keeper of a kashi-zashiki, that is to say, one of the establishments within the precinct of the yoshiwa; a, under which co trathe keeper agrees to provide her with wholesome food, lodgings, an I cloth ng. 'and pay her, or her parents, as the case may be, a certain perce tage of her carnings monthly-usually enc-ball; and there may be other stipulations. On the other hand, the shog! agrees to obey all the rules and regulations, to conduct herse'f in an orderly ranner, to report all gratuities, etc. Contracts cannot be made for more onen seven years; the usual term is three. If a woman violates her contract or behaves badly, her employer is not permitted to punish her, but must report the fact to the police, who Nor is he permitted to detain her if at any time she desires to abandon her profession before the expiration of the contract. She then socks the protectior of the police, who give her a release or ticket of leav , but require her to report her whereabouts at police headquarters for a certain length of time. The fees charged in the estanlishments are 'mposed by the police, and printed schedules with the regulations must be posted in consp'euous crally or by printed or written invita- on the other

tions, and they are forbidden to request guests to partake of refreshments, or to accompany the women to

We are told that in the precinct occupied by the principal yoshiwara in Tokio, the houses are larger, costlier, and of better construction than most of those in the city outside. The majority are of stone or brick, profusely adorned, and having wide porches, pillars, verandas, cupolas and towers There is no suggestion of sin or squal or. This colony of people who are compelled to live apart from the rest of human kind evinces unusual pride in appearances. The grounds about the are not more pretentious or furnished thing that one sees from the outside

alternate with the dwellings of the young women; everything can be bought inside the precinct that the inhabitants may need. So long, indeed, as their contracts hold, the women are not allowed to go beyond the gate, except in cases of necessity. There is evena Buddhist temple within the yoshiwara at which they go to pray-not for the pardon of their sins, but for many serve as bridespendes. When the party large, her shoulders are broad, and her and generous lovers. The comprehensive pantheon of Buddhism has supplied special patrons even for these poor souls, to wit, Jizu, "the compassionate," and Benzaiten, who protects widows and orphans and those who have no other friends.

#### DRAMATIC NOTES.

Emily Rigl will star next season.
Loie Fuller has fully recovered her health. "Lost in New York" will be given in

London. Harry Mainhall will star in "Tennes-

see Pardner."
The Schrodes will be seen in "Superba" next senson.
In Venice a box costs but50 cents and

in London in September.

"All for a Girl" and "Lavarre" are new plays by Alice E. Ives.

James W. Regan will star next season in "The Bells of Shandon."

Clara Morris has booked almost her entire season in one night stands.
Robert Downing has added "In Search of Happiness" to his repertoire. It is reported that Manager A. M. Palmer may star Virginia Harned with SILVER'S UNSTABLE VALUE.

Henry Miller. Henry Guy Carleton's new play for the Hollands has been named "Two Men of Business."

y Robert Mantell.

Arthur Bourchier will probably re-vive the late Westland Marston's poetical comedy, "Donna Diana." Lilli Lehmann was recently stung in the neck by a bee, and this caused a bearing in mind the state of things in swelling which necessitated an opera-

er was a Methodist preacher.

Messrs. Canary & Lederer have ar-

Chicago.
Mrs. Patrick Campbell, who had partially arranged to come to this country with Beerbohm Tree next winter, has in the price of silver. War with Spain said to contain 250,000 inmates. We are | decided not to. She objects to visiting reminded that the Buddhists do not the United States and has temporarily

Paderewski's physical collapse is so woman, they hold, may adopt such a complete as to lead to the cancellation least the earlier part of next season. The player's outlook is a serious of He is temporarily a nervous wreck. Dion Boucicault, the younger, who has been very successful as an actor and manager in Melbourne and Sidney for the last ten years, has bidden fare well to Australia, and is about to begin a professional career in London. scenery. Hammerstein's new patent is the application of aluminium for stage purposes. In short, the whole stage is to be constructed of that metal. It will be entirely white.

be entirely white.

A new Napoleon play is by Georges Ohnet, the novelist, and author of "The Forge Master." It is called "Colonel de Roqueburne," and the action takes place at the close of the great French Emperor's reign. This character is subordinate, however.
Augustus Van Biene, an English ac-

tor and 'cellest, is to play at the American theatre next winter in "The Broken Melody." He has given the play, which is an adaption of and old piece called "Monsieur Jacques," more than 1,000 times in London.

E. S. Willard may possibly present a Shakespearcan play during his forthcoming American trip and his choice is said to be "Cymbeline." Mr. Willard was a very successful Jachimo some thirteen years ago in Miss Wallis' re-vival of the play at the London Galety. The immediate cause of the dissolu-

artist in the company. Each of these wanted to sing the role of Devilshoof, in "The Behemian Giri." Victor Herbert is about half through

a new opera, the music for a musical edy, which goes on the road this and last but not lesset, I am expanding the score of my "Wizard of the Nile" for an orchestra of 50 pieces, so that the Vienna manager may have it by the middle or last of September. Otis Skinner will produce his new ro-mantic drama, "A Soldier of Fortune."

at the Grand Opera House, Chicago, September 21. It is understood that Mr. Skinner wrote the play at the instance of a well known Chicago manager, assisted in its construction. Be ner will play a preliminary two weeks ed stationery at 1.50 to 1.75 pesos in de-in Minnespolis and St. Paul. appearing preclated currency. in a round of Shakesperean characters

At the jubilee performance of "The Elijah,' at the Crystal Palace, was one this occasion and returned immediately afterward. Amony the 23,000 persons present there were many who

John Sebastian Bach is going to have a sufficiently original monument at Berlin. William II. has conceived the iden of ornamenting the Avenue idea of criamenting the Avenue des Victoires in Thiergarten with 32 groups of statuary, each one representing a sovereign, supported by two of the most illustrious men of his reign. Now William II, has ordered that the statue places for the information of elsitors, of Frederick II., the royal composer and Neither the keepers nor the inmates flutist, shall have a general on one

### ONE CHAPTER FROM HISTORY OF CHILI

Her Struggle After the Fall in the Price of Silver.

WAGE-EARNERS MOST AFFECTED

Chili's History Constitutes One of the Most Instructive Chapters in the History of the Free Coi age of Silver--She Tried to Maintain the Equal Bimetallic Coinage of Gold and Silver -- Silver Fell and Gold Flew -- Gold Now Resumed.

One of the most instructive chapters in the history of the free coinage of silver is that which relates to the experience of Chill, says the New York Herald. The people of that highly intelligent, wealthy and compact republic have suffered within a narrow era all the results of experiments with bimetallism, have tested the impossibility of maintaining it, and have experienced the fall in the real wages of labor and the confusion of foreign exchanges which inevitably follow such a policy. Chili endeavored, like France, to maintain the equal bimetallic coinage of gold and silver. The mints were open to both metals by act of January, 1851. The ratio was not quite 16 to 1, but a little less friendly to silver, being 16.39 to 1. This slight difference protected Chili during several years after bimetalism became an acknowledged failure in France.

France was substantially upon the single silver standard prior to the opening of the Californian and Australian mines. These mines increased the product of gold so greatly that gold became less valuable than silver, at the French coinage ratio of 151/2 to 1, and was the only metal offered at the mints. France's bimetallists insisted, like American bimetallists today, that gold valued at 5f. by the coinage laws could not fall below silver francs in value,

because it was worth that at the mints. n pit seat but 17 cents.

Kyrle Bellew and Mrs. Potter will act above the coining value and disappear-This did not prevent silver going ing from circulation as absolutely as though it had been wiped up with a sponge. It was this condition of things which made gold the chief medium of circulation in France, and kept it in circulation in Chili so long as the differ-

> SILVER'S UNSTABLE VALUE. Chill began to experience the same

strange fluctuations in the coinage of Men of Business."
A dramatization of Rider Haggard's by the countries of the Latin Union af"King Solomon's Mines" will be used the two metals which was experienced by Robert Mantell.

Rejane lately revived in Paris "Lysistrata," which is so wicked that she was afraid to try it here.

Neil Warner, the old tragedian, has 1875 to 17.80 to one in 1876 and 17.96 to one been engaged by Manager W. A. Brady for "Under the Polar Star." tion of gold and its heavy exportation. The amount of gold minted in Chili in Joseph Arthur, author of "Blue 1875 was 85,434 pesos, and the amount Jeans," was born in Indiana. His fathof silver was 2,151,735 pesos. The value of the gold peso was then about \$1 in United States gold coin. The mechanical forces of the mint were scarcely sufficient for coining 250,000 pesos per month, while silver was imported and offered for coinage at the rate of nearly 500,000 pesos a month. The government was compelled to suspend the reception ranged to produce their annual bur-lesuges hereafter simultaneously in New York, Philadelphia, Boston and required coinage. of silver while nine new machines were required coinage.

The evils of specie suspension were compelled the suspension of specie payments by the National Bank of Chill, on Sept. 24, 1865, while the country was still upon the gold basis. The flight of gold from the country after 1874 tended to of all the planist's engagements for at create a contraction of the currency, which was met by increased issues of bank notes.

Forced loans by the government in the form of bank notes, issued for public uses rather than for the legitimate purposes of business, drove paper below par in silver and led the country in a mire from which escape grew daily In a professional career in the stage will be devoid of price of silver. The government made a bad matter worse by putting out its own paper issues in 1879 and 1880, which were swelled by the issues of President Balmaceda during his attempt to crush the Congressional party.

# WENT TO GOLD BASIS.

The persistent fall in the value of silver made resumption of specie payments in that metal little better continuance upon a paper basis. Chilian government, therefore, determined to resume specie payments in gold, but at a rate of exchange which would accord with the actual value of the paper in gold at about the time of resumption. The first legislation on the subject was not successful and it became necessary to make a new readjustment which carried the value of the standard coin, which had formerly been \$1, down to about 36.49 cents in United States gold coin. The dollar was made the monetary unit, but was reduced to the immediate cause of the dissolu-tion of the Arragon Opera company was a wrangle between Frank David, the comedian, and George Broderick, the basso, two of the most important of a gold dollar of the United States. one-thirteenth part of a pound sterling. instead of constituting more than onefifth of a pound sterling, as in the case

The vice consul at Antofagusta furnished a table showing wages in different occupations during 1875, 1885 and scoring a new opera, the book of which is by Harry B. Smith. "Besides my two daily concerts at Washington park," says Mr. Herbert, "I am writing the peso had fallen in gold from 43% 1895. These statistics showed only pence. English money, to 26 pence.

The decline in the gold values of wages, therefore, was from 88 cents, in United States money, to 52 cents per peso, while the actual wages in depreciated money advanced only from rates of 2.50 to 4.00 pesos for black-smiths in 1875 to 3.50 to 5.50 pesos 1885; carpenters from 3.00 to 4.00 pesos in 1875 to 3.25 to 4.00 pesos in 1885, and mechanics from 3.00 to 4.50 peros in 1875 to 5.00 to 5.50 pesos in 1885. The wages opening his regular season, Mr. Skin- of laborers, including servants, remain-

The actual gold value of wages thus including Hamlet, Romeo and Richard fell in the case of laborers nearly 40 per cent, and in the case of mechanics, taking the maximum in each year, bass singer who had taken part in the first rendering of this work 50 years summing up the results of his inquirago, when Mendelsshon himself conics, states that "the rise in wages has ducted. This veteran, Mr. Pountney, not corresponded to the depreciation is still in excelent health, and came in money, and calls attention to the from Birmingham to London to sing on fact that "in a country like Chili, which is in a state of development, it would be natural to expect an increase of had witnessed the first performance of wages in 20 years—from 1875 to 1895— "The Elljah." even if there had been no depreciation." even if there had been no depreciation."

## Mother Goose on Wheels.

The king has left his counting-house and wisely spent his money; The queen and he are bicycling, forgetting bread and honey: The maid has bought a wheel, too, and left

her hanging clothes.
'Twould take a nimble blackbird now to