Social & Personal

Fate and a Fete.

"I AM growing old!" my lady sighed;
Although I am not decrepit.
I am not in the least bit mummified,
In the dance I yet could step it.

It has always been that they wanted me
On every great occasion
When a queen or a lady of high degree
Was needed for representation.

My waist is as slight, my foot as light—
No mark of age advances;
But I must be old—in the Fete tonight
I sit—while my daughter dances."

H. C. P.

The chief topic of conversation in most circles is the Marie Antoinette fete and "The Pied Piper of Hamelin." The children are more or less daft over the latter while scores of young people are planning steps for the beautiful fete. The prospects for the entertainment surpass all expectations hitherto entertained. It is to be a magnificent spectacular event, whose correctness of historical detail and intelligence of interpretation will appeal to the artistic tastes so strongly developed in Scranton and fascinate and enthrall the patrons not alone by the picturesque effects, but by the musical features and the rhythm of movement present to an exceptional degree.

It is intended to carry out as much as possible the historical character of the period represented and the participants are at present absorbed in French records running from 1770 to the tragic date of 1793. Many to whom the name of the lovely Princesse de Lambelle meant little have now learned to know her as the first friend of the girl Queen in her foreign home. They have ecome familiar with the various authentic portraits of Marie Antoinette in the famous Le Brun group where the little Dauphin lifts aside the cradle canopy to show the empty bed from which baby Sophie had gone forever, and in the many single pictures.

The beautiful Duchesse de Polignac, whom the queen perhaps unwisely chose for an intimate friend, is another whose portrait by Madame Lebrun, the fair dancers are learning to distinguish. The girlish face with the fair floating hair and plumed hat making a picture to hold in memory. These with Madame Elisabeth, the dearly loved, the gay courtiers, Comte de Artois, Comte de Provence afterward Louis XVIII, and many other courtiers of high degree will be represented in gorgeous costumes by participants in the fete.

The following will constitute the personnel of the Court Dance:

Marie Antoinette ..... Miss Amy Jessup
King Louis XVI. ..... Mr. S. T. Reynolds
The Grand Duke of Russia ..... Mr. T. B. Dale
The Grand Duchesse ..... Miss Alice Matthews

LADIES IN WAITING.	COURTIERS.
Miss Caroline Bennell.	Mr. Milton O'Connell.
Miss Clara Van Cleef.	Mr. Harry Hyndman.
Miss Helen Matthews.	Mr. Isaac Haslam.
Miss May Pennypacker.	Dr. Conerr.
Miss Bertha Powell.	Ross Sordam.
Miss Grace Rierstead.	Ralph Williams.

THE FIRE DANCE.—Chaperone, Miss Sara A. Jones.

Miss Edith Williams.	Miss Margaret Ludwig.
Miss Cinderella Morse.	Miss Alice Jones.
Miss Anna Maddas.	Miss May Samuels.
Miss Victoria Watkins.	Miss Della Davis.
Miss Anna Jones.	Miss May Lindabury.
Miss Lillie Sassenbaugh.	Miss Gertrude Jones.
Miss Bertha Carson.	Miss Ida James.
Miss Flossie Frank.	Miss Mary Jones.
Miss Ella Shaw.	Miss Mabel Spencer.

The committee on decorations for the Marie Antoinette fete met yesterday at the home of Mrs. W. W. Scranton, to complete floral effects for the Lyceum stage.

For the next fortnight Marie Antoinette styles will be agitating the mind of the average maiden. Already she is wearing her brain away in worry over fichus, turbans and panniers, and after all she will look divine in whatever she may appear.

Miss Eager, who is directing the Fete, is a lady of many accomplishments. Last night, when no accompanist put in an appearance and there was a corresponding absence of music for the dances, she calmly seated herself at the piano and played from memory with a dash and brilliancy which made the Gypsy dance go off with a spirit hitherto unexampled, while all the time she was watching the twenty-four performers and directing their evolutions. When there was a solos to sing she sings them until the pupil learns not only the air but the inflection, the words and the tones. She dances most of the time in order to enable the learners to catch the step and it must be admitted that the method is satisfactory, for they learn in an incredibly short time. The little people in the Pied Piper dances are doing delightful work and much comment is aroused by their cleverness. There is a regular little plot in the pretty story and they take a vivid interest in its development.

The last one of the Fortnightly series was held last night at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Everett Warren, on Madison avenue. It was of the nature of a card party, nineteen tables being filled.

The members of the Fortnightly club are: Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Sturges, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Sturges, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Sanderson, Mr. and Mrs G. B. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Blackinton, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Belin, jr., Mr. and Mrs. N. G. Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Dickson, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Welles, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Warren, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Brady, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Jessup, jr., Mr. and Mrs. James Archbald, Judge and Mrs. R. W. Archbald, Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Watson, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. von Storch, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Kingsbury, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Shafer, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Klotz, Mr and Mrs. A. H. Christy, Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Coursen, Mr. and Mrs. Walter M. Dickson, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Watkins, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Fuller, Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Brooks, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Jermyn, Mr. and Mrs. George B. Jermyn, Mr. and Mrs. Frank H. Jermyn, Mr. and Mrs. George P. Griffiths, Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Weston, Miss Ella Platt, Miss Sanderson, Miss Pennypacker, Miss Helen Sanderson, Miss Gertrude Sprague, Miss Alice Belin, Miss Bessell, Miss Boles, Miss Clark, Miss Dickson, Miss Hunt, Miss Louise Jessup, Miss Augusta Merrill, the Misses Matthews, Miss Mary Manness, Messrs. E. E. Loomis, H. D. Merrill, J. B. Neale, F. E. Platt, C. B. Sanderson, G. T. Slade, S. B. Thorne, J. W. Oakford, James Blair, jr., Max Bessell, John Brooks, M. B. Fuller, Theo. Fuller, Frank C. Fuller, A. E. Hunt, jr., A. G. Hunt, George Klotz.

Mrs. Gilbert D. Murray entertained at cards on Tuesday, when among the guests were: Mrs. A. H. Storrs, Mrs. A. C. Twitchell, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. George Rice, Mrs. N. Y. Leet, Mrs. F. H. Jermyn, Mrs. J. S. Lynde, Mrs. W. G. Fulton, Mrs. G. M. Hallstead, Mrs. J. L. Wentz, Mrs. T. P. Penman, Mrs. W. H. Storrs, Mrs. Frank Silliman, jr., Mrs. H. B. Ware, Mrs. H. H. Brady, jr., Mrs. Gearhart, Mrs. E. E. Chase, Mrs. Randolph, Mrs. W. A. Coleman, Mrs. H. A. Knapp, Mrs. E. G. Coursen, Mrs. F. M. Spencer, Mrs. W. D. Boyer, Mrs. Livey, Mrs. C. B. Sturges, Mrs. C. L. Frey, Mrs. B. E. Watson, Mrs. C. B. Penman, Mrs. T. C. von Storch, Mrs. F. E. Platt, Mrs. L. G. LaBar, Mrs. Frank Crane, Mrs. George Yocum, Misses Gilmore, Charlotte Hand, Matthews, Louise Matthews, the Misses Atherton, Miss Birdsall, of Honesdale; the Misses Gerecke, Clarke, Reynolds, Klien, of Philadelphia; Bradley, Helen Winton, Hunt, Merrill, Coursen, Yocum, Howell.

Miss Coursen gave a pretty "at home" on Wednesday in honor of Mrs. George Forsythe, who has recently come to this city to reside. A large number of guests attended during the hours of receiving. Miss Coursen and Mrs. Forsythe received in the front drawing room. Mrs. H. A. Coursen and Mrs. A. H. Christy presided at the table in the dining room, which was charmingly decorated in red. About the rooms were Mrs. B. E. Watson and Mrs. A. C. Twitchell. Mrs. George Blanchard and Miss McLeod served frappe. The young ladies assisting in the dining room were Miss Hand, Miss Alice Matthews and Miss Frances Hunt.

Miss Laura Merrihue, of 239 Franklin avenue, very pleasantly entertained a few of her friends, Thursday evening, in honor of her sixteenth birthday. Games were indulged in until 10.30, when Mrs. Merrihue, assisted by Mrs. Maclaren, served refreshments, after which flashlight pictures were taken of the party by Joseph Kibler, then games were again resumed until 12 o'clock. Miss Merrihue received many beautiful presents. Those present were Laura Merrihue, Myrtle Hermans, Lettie Wice, Myrtle Merrihue, Nellie Prynn, Margarette Manigan, Minnie Jones, Ethel Keller, Joseph Moran, Roy Nichols, Joseph Kibler, Frank Lamoreaux, Harry Greenwood, Louie Millard and Freddie Merrihue.

Mrs. Walter Klotz entertained the Card club yesterday at her home on Adams avenue. The members are: Mrs. Klotz, Mrs. H. H. Brady, jr., Mrs. E. B. Jermyn, Mrs. W. M. Dickson, Mrs. Frank Silliman, jr., Mrs. G. P. Griffith, Mrs. Everett Warren, Mrs. H. W. Kingsbury, Mrs. George Rice, Mrs. A. H. Storrs, Mrs. Joseph Lynde, Mrs. A. C. Twitchell, Miss Reynolds, Miss Belin, the Misses Archbald, the Misses Gilmore, Miss Jermyn, Miss Hunt, Miss Dale, Miss Flora Matthews, Miss Louise Matthews.

Mrs. W. R. McClave entertained a company of little people in honor of the sixth birthday of her son, Brooks, last week. Among the guests were: Misses Katharine Clemons, Eleanor Bevan, Emily Duckworth, Christine Jessup, Florence Shepherd, Blanche, Gladys, Lucete and Janet Connell, Mary Dale, Marjorie Christian, Marjorie Lister, Masters Walter Matthews, Vandling Rose, William Jermyn, William von Storch, Jamie Jessup, William Hallstead, Henry Dale, Joseph Tate, Joseph Gunster, R. Bevan and H. Connell.

Miss Boles has returned from New York, where she went to attend a luncheon given by her aunt, Mrs. Joseph Dickson, when Miss Twombley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. McKay Twombley, was guest of honor. Mr. Dickson's town house is on Fifth avenue, near Twelfth street, and is one of the notable old houses with a history. On this occasion Mrs. Dickson gave a most elaborate entertainment, when covers were laid for fifteen. Pink roses were lavishly used in the table decorations and hurge corsage bouquets of violets were at the plates. At the conclusion of the luncheon a pretty, quaint ceremony such as is popular at bridesmaids' dinners was employed. Long-stemmed roses were given as favors and three lucky maidens found gifts fastened to the stems. One of these was a costly ring, the second a gold thimble and the third a small box of money. Oddly enough Miss Twombley secured the ring, an indication that she will be the first to marry.

The young ladies present probably represented in their family names as many railroads as can be similarly indicated at a big annual meeting, when there has been a bargain sale of trunk lines. Among the guests were: Mrs. Tiero, Mrs. Potter, Miss Twombley, whose Vanderbilt ancestry is recalled, Miss Fowler, Miss Boles, Miss Helen Dodge, the Misses Olyphant, Miss Truesdale, Miss Needles and Miss Lewis.

Mrs. T. H. Watkins accompanied by Miss Gladys and Mr. Law Watkins and Miss Strong will leave Jan. 31 on a voyage through the Mediterranean, during which they will spend two months on shipboard.

Mrs. J. L. Wentz gave a thimble tea yesterday, when an informal company of guests were entertained.

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Brady, jr., will entertain at dinner this evening in honor of Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Watkins.

Mr. George Mitchell entertained a party of young people last night at his home in Green Ridge in honor of his son, William. There were several novel features connected with the evening's entertainment in which was included a cake walk in which the guests participated.

Edward MacDowell, the celebrated composer-pianist, will be in Wilkes-Barre, February 11, where he will be heard in a great programme, many numbers being of his own composition. As he is a favorite with a large circle of Scranton musicians, arrangements have been made for the accommodation of patrons from this city, many of whom expect to attend. Tickets have been placed on sale at Powell's, where reserved seats may be obtained for one dollar.

Movements of People

David Kohn, of Philadelphia, is a guest of Dr. L. G. Roos.

Mrs. D. Gligallon is improving after a severe attack of grip.

Joseph Gretz is slowly recovering from a recent operation.

Mrs. R. A. Spaulding, of Wilkes-Barre, was in town on Tuesday.

Miss Esther Moses has returned from Boston and Northampton, Mass.

Miss Helen Deen, of Danville, visited Scranton friends this week.

F. S. Godfrey, of this city, was registered at the Hotel Victoria, in New York, this week.

SOLOMON SQUAIL'S SAD STORY.

THIS is the tale
Of Solomon Squail,
Who found that his life wasn't all nuts and ale; woe happened to meet a bitter defeat just when he expected a victory sweet.

HE worked in a bank,
Of the very first rank.
He was long as to whiskers and lean as to shank, and there 'mid the coin he plotted to join the list of the ones who with science purloin.

HE figured and schemed,
He plotted and dreamed.
His brain with conspiracies big simply teemed. He had it all planned—a coup simply grand—a million or more was in reach of his hand.

FOR naught did he lack—
He had a neat knack
Of doctoring books so they'd cover his track. So with countenance gay he figured away, and thought he would vanish the very next day.

"TOMORROW at four,"
He said, "the vault door
Will close on these millions of money no more. I'll take every dime, and then I'll take time to flutter to some more salubrious clime."

ALACK and alas!
It came to pass
That night a wise gent of the bank-robbing class, with a mask on his face, broke into the place, ransacked it, and fled ere they started the chase.

ALAS and alack!
They got off his track.
And looked at the books when the searchers came back. And Solomon squirmed when they easily wormed some points from the books which their doubtings confirmed.

THIS is the tale
of Solomon Squail,
Which shows that the longest planned projects will fail. And Solomon's wail as he lies in the jail is, "Oh, that the other man knew of my tale!"

THE moral lies here:
It would not appear
Advisable to make your object so clear, for some other man, with burglar tools, can leave you to repent of your unhappy plan.

—Josh Wink.

HER POINT OF VIEW

SHE was a little woman with a hurt tone of voice as she sighed that "the new century had not produced a new manner of man, they were still the same inconsistent lords of creation, as blind as bats to their real selves," and more in like vein. She spoke from the depths of a long suffering and silent past. A little tactful sympathy soon won her confidence. It had come about by her showing him with pardonable pride a graceful mention of her very best new gown in the society column of our leading journal. He had read and re-read it with a countenance expressive of scorn and contempt, and finally remarked in the tone of a man "with a soul above buttons," "why, I do not know what I should do if some one should write up my clothes in the paper." Francis Wilson says "it is a long worm that has no turning," and she turned; feeling that if the truth about Billy and Billy's clothes could but be written up it would strike a responsive chord in many a feminine breast.

She murmured loyally, "Billy is really a dear fellow, but he is fussier than any old maid," her tones were lowered to a whisper and she looked stealthily around as she confided how his underwear must always be a certain impossible shade of baby blue, and a blue that is "fast" is always so expensive, but winter and summer he must be "a symphony in blue." Then such hose, such plaids and polka dots, such loud striking clocks; she had blushed to see his efforts on occasions to display the whole pattern—and row after rows of shoes, high, low, thick, thin, tight (habitually and incurably tight) and never the right pair on his feet! And shirts, but then every woman could write a book about men's shirts, the memory of a certain red striped one brought tears to her eyes, and then his collars, or shall we spell it choler? How men's necks shrink and swell from week to week, Billy will jerk one off, tear it in two, fling it and some language in the scrap basket just like any other man, only maybe a little more so, a creaking collar will spoil the most festive occasion for him and his entire household.

The necktie field is almost too wide to touch upon, how her finest sensibilities have been shocked to behold him in a purple, streaming, sash-like affair, reaching a broad, yellow leather belt, and this too, with a green and blue plaid shirt! Big ties, little ties, broad ties, narrow ties, brought to her to shorten or lengthen to the fraction of an inch decreed by fashion. She could not decide which was the most trying season, when the heavy winter clothes were always bagging at the knee and needing constant pressing, which was never done right, or the summer season when the ducks came out of the water all crooked and creased the wrong way.

Billy is no exception, and what man ever gets good-naturedly into a frock coat? When the last button is buttoned, the puffy Ascot tie properly puffed, the silk hat poised and gloves fastened, the deep melancholy of a successful undertaker has settled down upon Billy and he is as one who mourns and refuses to be comforted. Oh! the tales that proper, pious silk hat could tell could it speak from its inner consciousness, it accompanies Billy on all his travels and contains almost his entire worldly possessions, a heterogeneous lot of gloves, hose, razors, shaving soap, shoe polish, photographs, collars, cuffs, studs, stick pins and buttons which he is so mysterious about, they must be tender tokens from anonymous admirers, but he is as proud as Punch of them all. Time was, when Billy was younger, he delighted to array himself in evening clothes or Tuxedo seven nights a week, but now when the subject of going out after dinner is broached, it is always, "Do I have to get into my togs? Then don't let's go," and by the time he is in them the edge of enjoyment is pretty well worn off, and yet he thinks nothing could be written about "his clothes."

• • •

This vaccination business is assuming gigantic proportions. The girl who isn't laid up with the grip is out of the race because she's been vaccinated. One fair young matron, in her zeal to have it done right, was thoroughly vaccinated the other day, but it didn't "take." Then she promptly went back to her physician, with many murmurings, and insisted upon having a second edition, which he located a little south of the previous attempt.

My lady is now lamenting her impatience, for both vaccinations have suddenly taken, with conscientious energy worthy a less painful subject.

One of the most prominent physicians in town was visited last week by a little lady, who whirled into his office in apparent excitement, and, while her face grew pale with earnestness, she vociferated, "Vaccinate me quick, doctor! This very minute: Do I have to take off my shoe?"

Now this particular doctor is a big, handsome man, with a calm and placid manner which has helped to net him a fortune in his profession—one of the sort of men who walks into a sick room with such a comfortable, reliable look on his visage that his patients simply gasp with content and satisfaction, feeling that everything will now be all right, and justice to him will admit that it generally is all right.

"Why all this mad haste?" inquired the doctor pleasantly.

"Haste!" she fairly shrieked. I've been too deadly slow. It's all your fault, every bit. You just ought to have made me get vaccinated that day when I didn't want to bother."

The doctor continued to look patient and wait for further enlightenment. "I want you to hurry," she continued with emphasis. "I've been in New York. I went to a dinner party the other night, and today we got a telegram saying that our host came down with the smallpox the next day.

"Oh dear, oh dear! I'm glad it was a telegram they sent," she added hopefully, and then she questioned: "Do you think it's everlastingly too late?"

Saucy Bess.

BOILED DOWN.

The city of New York paid more than $76,000,000 on its debts in 1899.

Tacoma, Wash., has the largest per capita net debt in the country—$115.74.

The interest bill of the city of New York amounted to more than $13,600,000.

Our of the 304 towns in England and Wales, one-third maintain one or more public baths.

The city of Grand Rapids, Mich., has expended nearly $300,000 for improvements during the past year.

Germany has a life insurance association of hotel-keepers which, in seven years, has paid over $300,000 to the families of members.

Cincinnati is the only municipality in the United States that owns and operates a railway system. It is valued at $32,500,000.

Foreign exports at New Orleans last year reached a total of $142,000,000, the largest on record, and an increase over the previous year of $45,000,000.

Eight years ago the silver production of Colorado was worth six times the value of the gold production. Last year the gold production was two and a half times the value of the silver.

A municipal ownership league has entered the St. Louis municipal campaign as an important factor. It professes to have 12,000 votes behind it, which are pledged to support no candidate not in favor of the public ownership of the street railways and lighting plants.

Back taxes to a considerable amount have been collected in various parts of Iowa through the employment of "tax ferrets." In Polk county alone $5,000 was dragged from delinquents in the month of December last.

Texas is comparatively a very sparsely cultivated state, in several counties there are very few inhabitants. Bailey county has but four residents, Cochran has 25, Anderson has 37, Lynn has 17, and Dawson has 36. Twenty-five other counties have populations of less than 500 each.

A veritable "quick luncheon," it is said, is to be had at a restaurant in Paris, where a dinner of several courses composed of concentrated food in the form of tablets can be consumed in a few minutes. The entire meal, indeed, can be carried about in the vest pocket or pocketbook.

A cord of pitch pine under distillation gives the following substances: Charcoal, 50 bushels; illuminating gas, about 1,000 cubic feet; illuminating oil and tar, 50 gallons; pitch or resin, 1½ barrels; pyroligneous acid, 100 gallons; spirit of turpentine, 20 gallons; tar, 1 barrel; wood spirits, 5 gallons.

MUSICAL GOSSIP.

AT EVEN-TIDE.

Listen! Do you hear it, Nellie?
Hear that low, sweet, soulful strain?
Like some long-remembered music,
Tho' its notes are full of pain.

Ah, it takes me back, dear Nellie,
Back to brighter, happier days—
And I hear that loved Cremona,
Where the silvery fountain plays.

Hear again that heav'nly sweetness,
Heart and brain are all on fire!
While the burst of music swells
As tho' an angel struck the lyre.

Nellie, dear, the light is fading—
Can my love have been a sin?
Every sound in earth and heav'n
Was tuned to Ronald's violin.

No! God knew we'd but each other,
Knew our lives could ne'er be one—
Ah! The light is growing brighter,
Nell, dear Nell, the song is done.

—Rose Van B. Speece.

Lieutenant W. H. Santelmann, leader of the United States Marine band, and successor to Sousa, has received permission from the president and secretary of the navy to make a short tour of the country, beginning in March next, in order that the people may have opportunity to listen to the splendid musical organization that is one of the features of official life at the national capital. The band will start upon the tour on March 18, and will be under the management of Mr. Howard Pew, who is well known as manager of the Innes' band concerts and many other musical and theatrical enterprises. It is probable that the Marine band will visit Scranton during the tour.

The following programme will be observed in the Second Presbyterian church tomorrow:

MORNING.

Organ Prelude ..... Shackley
Anthem, "Jubilate Deo," ..... Dudley Buck
Offertory—Quartette, "Behold the Bridegroom Comes" ..... Sanecker
Misses Black and Garagan, Messrs. Gippel and Morgan.
Organ Postlude ..... Kroeger

EVENING.

Organ Prelude, "Andante," ..... Whitney
Anthem, "The Son of God Goes Forth to War" ..... Sullivan
Solo, "Crossing the Bar," ..... Buck
Mr. Ralph Williams.
Offertory—Duet, "Babylon," ..... Smart
Misses Black and Garagan.
Organ Postlude ..... Bach
Mr. J. M. Chance, Organist and Director.

Bauer's band expect to give their annual concert at the Lyceum in February. The date has not yet been decided upon.

H. T. Huffmaster, who is becoming so well known among our musical circles, a member of the faculty of the Scranton Conservatory of Music—assisted by local talent, will give an organ recital in the Providence Presbyterian church on Monday evening, Feb. 11. Mr. Huffmaster created a most favorable impression at the recital given in the Elm Park church on a recent occasion, and it is expected that an evening of organ music at Providence will be most thoroughly enjoyed.

Tickets are out for a grand concert to be given Wednesday evening, Feb. 6. Piano solos, violin solos, piano and violin duets, some fine vocal music interspersed with a half dozen elocutionary numbers will be included in the programme. This is the quarterly concert given under the direction of Professor L. W. Carr, director of the International College of Music of this city. This concert promises to be one of the chief musical events of the winter season.

Mr. J. T. Watkins, director of music at the First Presbyterian church, has prepared the following programme of music for tomorrow's services.

Anthem, "Oh, For a Closer Walk with God," ..... Foster
Soprano Solo and Quartette.
Soprano Solo, "Oh, Lord Be Merciful," .. Bartlett
Anthem, "Jesus, Lover of My Soul," ..... Tours
Solos for Soprano, Tenor and Alto.
Trio, "Oh, God, Have Mercy," ..... Parry
Contralto, Tenor and Bass.
Anthem, "Lead Kindly Light," ..... Bach
Quartette: Mrs. E. Turnbull Chase, soprano; Mrs. H. S. Keller, alto; Mr. David Stephens, tenor; Mr. J. T. Watkins, bass. Miss Florence H. Richmond, organist.

Francis Wilson, in an interview with a Baltimore newspaper reporter, says that comic opera needs a Gilbert and Sullivan combination. Probably there is no question as to the needs, but it is not difficult to guess what the result would be should any one at this day attempt to induce Mr. Wilson to produce an opera of the Gilbert and Sullivan class.

The musically inclined people of the city will be pleased to hear the Hemberger quartette at Guernsey hall next week, when they make their reappearance after a season's absence. It is a great convenience to the many who have journeyed to Wilkes-Barre time and again to be able to hear these sterling musicians at home once again, and the Keystone Lyceum Bureau deserve commendation for successfully arranging the forthcoming series. The first concert occurs next Thursday evening, Jan. 31, and not Tuesday evening, Jan. 29, as previously announced. Course tickets are on sale at Guernsey's music store, and include three tickets for the nominal sum of $1.50. Single tickets may be had, however, for each concert. The personnel of the quartette is as follows: Theodore Hemberger and Fred H. Widmayer, violins; A. N. Rippard, viola; Thomas Rippard, cello.

RAILROAD STATION BURNED.

The Erie Passenger and Freight House at Lackawaxen Consumed.

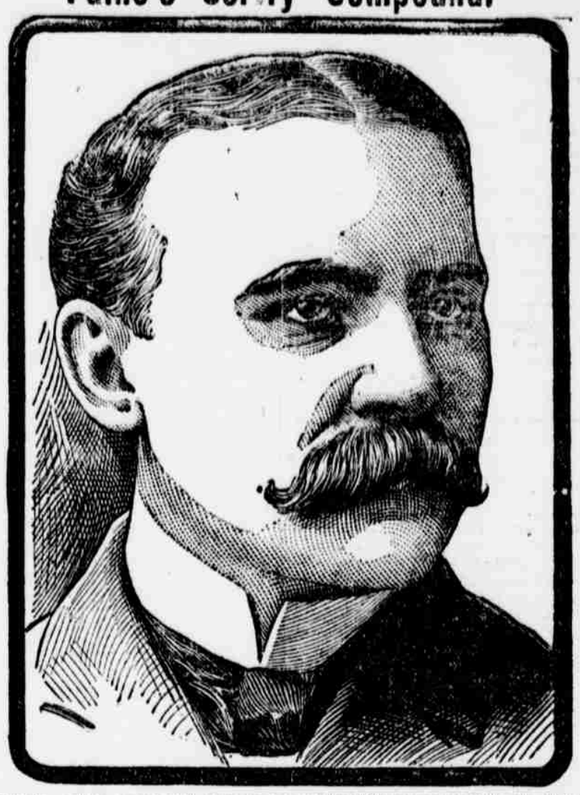
Special to the Scranton Tribune.

Honesdale, Jan. 25.—The Erie passenger and freight station at Lackawaxen, was burned at 3 o'clock yesterday morning, entailing a total loss of the building, freight, express and baggage. Considerable matter accumulates at Lackawaxen for transfer to the Honesdale branch.

A few books and tickets was all that was saved. The supposition is that the fire was caused by a lamp being tipped over by a dog, which escaped from a crate in which it was being shipped. The building was one of the oldest on the line of the Erie. At present a passenger coach is used for a waiting station.

THE ONLY REMEDY THAT ALWAYS CURES

Senator Dwyer Gives Full Credit to Paine's Celery Compound.



Paine's celery compound has been for years, and is now, the general prescription of most eminent practitioners of medicine in this country. It is the result of the best scientific knowledge and research of the last quarter of a century. It is in no sense a patent medicine, and for that reason more physicians of high standing are using, prescribing, and recommending it than any other remedy.

Senator Dwyer has used various medicines, and they had done him no good. Just how Paine's celery compound was first brought to his attention, he does not remember, but it has done so much for his health that it has no more enthusiastic advocate in the city of Chicago. He gives full credit to Paine's celery compound for the great improvement in his health.

"Senate Chamber, General Assembly, Springfield, Ill., Feb. 25, 1900.

"Gentlemen: It is with sincere pleasure that I furnish this testimonial to the superior merits of Paine's celery compound. I have found it an efficacious and agreeable remedy for various complaints which refused to yield to other forms of treatment, and I can cheerfully recommend it.

"EDWARD M. DWYER."

Senator Dwyer has held many positions of trust, both in the city and state. Elected Southwest town clerk, before he had concluded his term Mayor Washburne appointed him superintendent of the city water office. Later he became West town assessor, and in 1894 was elected to the Illinois State Senate, in which body he took a prominent part during last winter's session.

Senator Dwyer has recommended Paine's celery compound to many of his friends, and has yet to hear anything but the most favorable results from any one of them.

Busy men and women threatened with failure of nerve force and showing the effect of too prolonged, too hard, or too anxious work by periods of languor, depression, nervousness, dyspepsia, or other signs of nerve exhaustion, will find Paine's celery compound an invigorator as superior to all other remedies as modern scientific methods are superior to old-fashioned, inaccurate ones.

When Paine's celery compound is used, other members of the family are quick to see the great gain in health.

Paine's celery compound is the one known nerve feeder and nerve restorative. By its means all the functions of the body receive a fresh supply of nerve food. It encourages the body to produce an abundant supply of this indispensable vital force, without which there can be no health, strength, nor happiness in living. From the lack of nerve force men and women are driven to despondency, melancholy, insanity, and suicide.

There will be no neuralgia, no persistent headaches, no dyspepsia, no haunting pain over the eyes, no nervous exhaustion, if Paine's celery compound is used.

THE ILLS OF NEW YORK.

They Have Existed and Been Denounced for 236 Years.

From the Sun.

Of course, this town needs reformation, for nothing human is as good as it ought to be, but actually the process of improvement has been going on from the time when Thomas Willett was appointed its first mayor by Richard Nicholls, the governor of the province of New York, two hundred and thirty-six years ago.

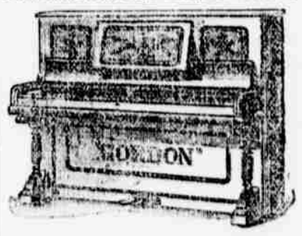
The earliest European settlers had not been free from vices, but had corrupted rather than elevated the morals of the aboriginal inhabitants they found here. During the administration of William Kieft as director general of New Netherlands for the twenty years before 1647 a contemporary chronicler recorded that one-quarter part of the city consisted of "grogshops or of houses where nothing is to be got but tobacco and beer." Dominie Bogardus, who was the pastor of the first church, was a quarrelsome, litigious parson, "too much addicted to drinking." "Fighting with knives" was so frequent that Peter Stuyvesant, who succeeded Kieft, issued an ordinance against it and also against "fast driving through the streets" and "shooting with firearms at partridges and other game within the limits of the city." Even in those days protection seems to have been bought from the police and recognized by the authority over them as proper enough, though the "watchman" was ordered to "give the same to the captain," to "be paid to the city treasurer."

Long after this time New York maintained its reputation as a hard-drinking town. When Sir Edmund Andros was governor—up to 1682—a map of the city showed that still a quarter of it "had become houses for the sale of brandy, tobacco and beer." Much later a distinguished New Englander, visiting New York, expressed astonishment at the amount of drunkenness and the frequency of rumshop brolls, and the condition he found must have been very bad to astonish him, for New England itself during those days and long after was far from sober and moral. When Thomas Dongan was governor he reported that "the people grow more numerous daily and are of a turbulent disposition." Piracy, euphemistically called "privateering," was the means by which many fortunes were built up, and the pirates were regarded as reputable people; but they caused much official corruption. Slavery prevailed; early in the eighteenth century there was "an active slave market at the foot of Wall street." Epidemics were frequent. It was recorded in 1725 in special praise of Governor William Burnet, that "the excessive love of money, a disease common to all his predecessors, and to some who succeeded him, was a vice from which he was entirely free;" that "he sold no offices."

The water of the city was "bad, impure and brackish," there were no sewers, and the streets were "paved with rough cobblestones, if paved at all," and were "lighted by a few lanterns." "Great inequality of wealth marked the city," we are told. Even after the Revolution "something like a landed aristocracy controlled municipal elections" and it was accounted a great political victory when, in 1804, all citizens paying $25 rent a year and taxes were allowed by a new charter to vote for aldermen. Bitter complaint was made of extravagant living by the rich and increasing poverty among the poor. The papers of the period contained letters against the "commercialism" of the town, and also that because of the negligence of the officials there was no thorough protection against fires, vice and crime. Mobs inspired terror. Pigs roamed about the streets. The pauper population was large. "This town," wrote Governor Gage, is "full of hogs and mud," and Senator Maclay, of Pennsylvania, described the people as "vile."

Even the most pessimistic "reformer" of our own time will not deny that there has been improvement in New York since those days. Something more always remains to be done. Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty, and of the good order and sound morals of a community also.

THE CELEBRATED GORDON PIANO



Before buying, send for catalogue.

H. S. GORDON, 130 Fifth Ave. New York City.

The Wonders and Beauties OF Earth's Largest Segment of Fairydom

Superb California, are penetrated only by the really sumptuous trains of the

SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY

The "SUNSET LIMITED" that Train of Trains, belongs to this system.

Peerless in equipment, service and cuisine. Its three routes offer continuous delight to the tourist.

For full information, free illustrated pamphlets, maps, and time tables, also lowest rates, sleeping car tickets and baggage checked apply to SOUTHERN PACIFIC CO., 109 S. 3d St., Phila., Pa.

JUST BEFORE WE INVENTORY.

Saturday and Monday We Offer Every Garment Cheap

Fine Coats for Ladies
Fine Coats for Children
Ladies' Suits, Capes and Skirts
at Such a Mark-Down
That It Will Astonish You

COME AND SEE.

MEARS & HAGEN

415-417 Lackawanna Avenue.