

Social Personal

MAY DAY does not mean for us what it means in New York state where it is the annual fitting day, when breaking home ties is the rule and transferring one's household to new scenes engages the attention of a large portion of the people. Here we, who must be us forth with our Lures and Penates, did so while still the skies were overcast and left over March winds raged. Therefore, now our people are prepared to enjoy the May weather which, it is hoped, will be the orthodox kind.

Never would you get the full worth of those money-ties of the winter headgear and winter attire in general, it has been in the past seven months of steady, conscientious, unintermittent wear. The zest of the usual spring shopping has been lost this season. Who wanted to go out buying their dainty frappes when the chilly, raw winds yet made tarts comfortable and the heavy rain drenched all enthusiasm out of the feminine heart? The mind of a woman is so constituted that she is unable to grasp elusive pictures of herself as she may look next summer in diaphanous white draperies and fascinating rose-covered hats, while at the present moment her feet are squishing at every step in soggy overshoes and she is more or less disturbed mentally by having other women's umbrellas jerking off her carefully adjusted veil and other passengers' sunshades running rivulets over her gown in the street car. At such a time she is apt to believe that she is growing very blasé and that the consolations of religion are all that is left to her.

The weather certainly has a whole lot to do with the way we all take of life, of clothes and of other people's conduct. On a bright sunny day, such as yesterday, we are prepared to look graciously on the little failings of our dearest friends and can even smile on our enemies.

Sometimes the best wine is saved for the last. We have had a number of musical events this winter, but nothing of really superlative merit in a large way. There have been no great operas, no celebrated combination of artists in any one concert, although individually a number of famous people have appeared at intervals. Therefore it is with pleasure that the announcement is made of the grand concert of May 21, when Madame Schumann-Henck, Miss Maud Powell and Francesco Davies will give the programme, under the auspices of the Scranton Lyceum company.

It was at first planned to have this big concert in the new armory. That was when the opening was scheduled for an earlier date, but reasonably enough the armory management does not wish to have the new building used until the formal opening, which is to be signalized by the great band and as the time is fixed too late to secure the splendid combination noted above, it has been decided to hold the Subscription concert in the Lyceum.

The management has secured many subscribers among the prominent people of the city. There will be a brilliant audience, and from this concert will probably date the musical history of Scranton. It is really an event worth more than ordinary interest. To think of having Mand Powell and Madame Schumann-Henck at once is something to remember, but also to include the great and only Francesco Davies is enough to make Scranton enthusiasts hold their heads very high, even as high as Wilkes-Barreans rear their own brain receptacles.

The subscription concert is under the immediate direction of Mr. F. C. Hand, who assisted so materially in making the Nordica concert in Wilkes-Barre so great a success last season.

Mrs. R. J. Bennett will entertain a company of friends Monday afternoon at her home on North Washington avenue, the occasion being a musicale in honor of Mr. Sumner Carter, of New York. Miss Tessie Casick is visiting relatives in Chicago.

Attorney Joseph O'Brien will go to New York today.

Attorney John J. Murphy is spending a few days in New York.

Mr. Hall of Lima, formerly a resident of this city, has been a guest of Mrs. H. Pratt during the past week.

Mrs. William Matthews gave an informal tea yesterday afternoon in honor of Miss Haight of Lebanon.

Movements of People

Attorney D. L. Flicker is in Harrisburg on business.

Miss Tessie Casick is visiting relatives in Chicago.

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Mr. Hall of Lima, formerly a resident of this city, has been a guest of Mrs. H. Pratt during the past week.

A few of the intimate friends of Rev. and Mrs. A. J. Van Cleef pleasantly surprised them at their home in Dunmore Thursday night to say farewell

his family from Newark to this city yesterday and they have taken a house in the 700 block on Madison.

Mrs. P. M. Downing has returned home after an extended visit with her daughter, Mrs. Walton W. Mitchell, of Utica, N. Y.

E. G. Bassell, superintendent of the Inter-Colonial railroad, who is on a leave of absence, passed through this city yesterday en route to New York.

George W. Murphy, one of the telegraphers at the Lackawanna Railroad station, returned yesterday from a visit with his parents in Clarendon, Ohio.

HER POINT OF VIEW

SHE was rather a busy woman. The way they found it out was by reading a bit of memorandum she left in the street car. They were not curious people, but they were making a study of comparative brain force and mental balance in man and woman and thus the treasure-trove was of interest. They didn't regard it as a mark of under-breeding to read the little penciled lines, nor a breach of confidence to tell of their observations. It was all for the benefit of the race—and the woman was only a type. That is what they said, at least. People who prowl over your bureau drawers and read letters and telegrams mean for your eyes alone, usually find equally pleasant excuses for their deeds.

But that memorandum; well, it wasn't any gorgeous address book bound in Persian embroidery, snipped from some rich old altar cloth in a foreign land, and fitted up with silver lettering and a dainty gold pencil. Nothing so fine and luxurious. That is the sort you keep on top of your desk in a conspicuous place and never have any engagement quite important enough to baffle the memory of the pages. So you jot down your memory-jogs on stray bits of paper and the back of the backs of envelopes.

This woman had a respondent engagement book just like that, but it was one of her treasures and always reminded her sweetly of the giver. Then she never wrote anything between its glorified covers—because she never wanted the little book to remind her of anything but the gracious lady whose gift it was. So she wrote the notes of things she meant to do, and to get, and to see, and to hear on anything that came handy. Sometimes it was a blank page in a letter. She had so many letters from friends who wrote here and there, in the most benighted fashion and skinned merely from the first to the last page and then somewhere else unexpectedly, and the blank spaces made convenient tablets for memoranda. Sometimes she used the laundry lists and at others wrote on the blank slips in vogue at the public library.

This time the scrap of paper happened to be the back of a yellow check thing which the clerk had put in a parcel of dry-goods from a department store. One would think that blank paper was extremely scarce in my lady's neighborhood.

This is what they read, minus certain abbreviations:

Telephone to Mrs. X. about the linen to be sent to the dressmakers with that silk.

Mem.—Buy a tack hammer.

Ask Dr. A. if he won't make poor Mrs. B. a subject of prayer Wednesday night. It will please the old soul so much.

Order the meat and a peck of potatoes.

Order some hair dye and a Philadelphia cream.

Stop at Y. W. C. A. and tell them about Mabel.

Order some more dog-biscuit.

Get that hair prescription filled.

Go to Reading Club at 10:30.

Stop at Library for that Russian history.

Order a box of bread from the Eureka Bakery.

Mem.—Tell George about kitchen sink.

Help daughter with music lesson.

Order the other things for auntie.

One of those who read this list—he had a great deal of levity in his markings—gave way to mirth.

"Thinking of mixing up hair-cloth and cream cheese," he shouted. "Nowbody would a woman would do that; and, by Jove! look at the sandwich she makes of the preacher's prayers between a tack hammer and a peck of potatoes!

Oh my; oh my! Anyway," he added, reflectively, "that memorandum is another argument in favor of being born a man. It makes a fellow's brain rest to think of having all those things on your mind; although, on second thought, she didn't have them on her mind, but this bit of yellow paper, I bet think of having to do all those things—music lesson, dog biscuit, Russian history, great Scott!"

"Mixing them up indeed," gravely responded the serious member of the party, "just think of the mind that could plan all that for one morning's work, and yet we men talk about our superior intellect and try to get on the high board and want to be city Recorder. That list isn't anything to laugh at, young fellers! It's pathetic that list is. What you suppose is going to happen to a woman who tries to do all those things and succeeds too! I'll venture to bet? Why, she'll collapse some of these days; go off into something—nervous prostration or Christian Science, or fits or an operation or something, you see if she doesn't. The human brain can't stand it. I'll bet, too, she is the sort of woman who is pleasant enough to live with—meets her husband with a smile and all that sort of thing—takes a kind of pride, you know, in never leaving a solitary duty undone or falling short of what is expected of her; and her husband, poor fool, probably thinks he knows it all and quite prides himself on his virtue and his exact but memory when he happens to remember their wedding anniversary or the shoes she asked him to bring home last week.

"Mixing up hair-cloth and cream cheese—indeed! I shudder to contemplate the results if any of us fall out prone to do a moron's stunt like that."

If you want to read a pretty book, one whose grace of style is peculiarly charming and whose simplicity is equally fascinating, try "St. Paul's Umbrella" by a Hungarian author with an unpronounceable name, Károly Miskraff. There are other unpronounceable names in this novel—names which look as if they might sound like the music of a buzz-saw or the splutterings of an enraged pussy—but, barring those names, it is a delightful story laid in the quiet homes of a simple-hearted people into whose lives came a red umbrella and a baby. The reader gets a view of unfamiliar ground in those quaint Hungarian villages, their folklore and their ambitions.

It will be well, too, if we look out eagerly for "The Crisis," Winston Churchill's new book, to be issued this week. He hasn't made the mistake of following "Richard Carvel" with some haphazard work unworthy of his ability.

Cards for the reception to be given by Mrs. Fletcher and Miss Fletcher, next Wednesday, have been recalled, owing to the death of a near relative.

Before their departure for Ashley whence they have gone to begin a new pastorate.

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A genuine surprise party gathered at the house of the Rev. Thomas de Gruchy, D. D., last Wednesday evening, when the choir of which took possession of his house and enjoyed a social hour, interspersed with singing by the choir, after which refreshments were served to the happy crowd. There were present:

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Mathias, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Williams, Rev. and Mrs. Thomas de Gruchy, Miss Edith Boddie, Jessie Gleason, Ethel Lewis, Peoria Jones, Margaret Griffith, Margaret Ludwig, Mattie Thomas, Jessie Wagstaff, Lizzie Thomas, Jessie de Gruchy, Louis de Gruchy, Wm. Davis, Thomas Evans, Edward Watkins, Edward Rose, John Lloyd, Gus Howser and John Reese.

Mrs. William H. Taylor gave a charming luncheon at her beautiful home, on Webster avenue, on Wednesday, when Miss Stella Seymour and Miss Ethel Newcomb were the guests of honor. Others present were Mrs. E. W. Gearhart, Mrs. H. C. Barker, Miss Augusta Archibald, Miss Alice Barker, Miss Mary Bassett, Miss Helen Hand, Miss Anna Watson, Miss Evelyn Gilchrist and Miss Caroline Benwell.

Miss Stella Seymour and Miss Newcomb have received warm greetings during their stay in Scranton. They have both left the city, Miss Seymour to go to her brother's home at Orange, N. J., and her niece to Whitney's Point.

Mr. Harry A. Pierce and Miss Grace Rose will be united in marriage at the Penn Avenue Baptist church at 12 o'clock noon today (Saturday, April 27), Rev. R. F. Y. Pierce, D. D., the pastor of the church, officiating.

A very pleasant surprise party was given Wednesday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Case in honor of their daughter.

J. W. Guernsey, in Guernsey hall, Tuesday night, entertained the Class Culture society with a maple sugar at the home of Rev. J. B. Sweet and family was memorable in the expression of genuine regret at their departure, and its substantial expression of good wishes for their happiness in their new field in Oneonta.

The Young Ladies' Sewing society will have a sale of plain and useful; also fancy work and dolls, cake and candy, in the store recently vacated by Netterton, in the Commonwealth building, next Thursday.

Receptions of welcome and farewell to ministers were the chief gaiety in this vicinity last week. The big one in honor of Rev. J. B. Sweet and family was memorable in the expression of genuine regret at their departure, and its substantial expression of good wishes for their happiness in their new field in Oneonta.

The New Bureau of Standards,

THE UNITED STATES bureau of weights and measures, for the building of which Congress just gave Secretary Gage a quarter million dollars, has been established to the government for the largest amount. It might be more properly called the Bureau of Standard Weights and Measures, because it will be the tribunal of last appeal where all disputes as to the accuracy of weights and measuring instruments can and will be finally settled.

This new bureau will save millions of dollars a year. The bureau will make the researches of scientific more accurate, will enable the service to state out one building and farm lots with greater precision, will give the common people better measure of dry goods, groceries, gas and electric light. This bureau of standards will correct our weights and measures, so that they may be uniform and where they will be uniform, will go with a government stamp certifying their standard character. A representative of each measuring or weighing instrument to be thus tested and stamped will be stored in the new bureau as "the standard of that particular measure and weight, with which all others of its class must be compared." The bureau will be divided into standard and testing departments, with the former to be directed by a director, and the latter by a director of testing. The Bureau of Standards will be the central authority for all weights and measures, and will be the standard of all other bureaus for the country.

It will be difficult to realize the amount of work which will be taken with these standards installed in the new bureau. To properly shelter them from the many disturbing influences which have little effect upon ordinary instruments the new building will cost a half as much again as would a usual structure of the same size. Protection S. W. Stratton is the new director of the Bureau of Standards. The new building will be known, will be situated in an open space so large that no other building can be erected within a quarter of a mile of it. It will be far enough from the city to be out of reach of the vibrations caused by electric cars and heavy wagons. Many of the walls will be double to prevent penetration of hot or cold air and consequent fluctuation of interior temperature.

Compressed air and vacuum pipes will extend throughout the building, as will several systems of electric wires. There will be double windows capable of flooding the rooms with light, able to withstand the most severe weather. There will be a large hall for the storing of the standards. A separate building, a thousand yards or more away, will install the engines, dynamos and other heavy machinery essential to the work. The bureau will also establish a standard electric cell, measure standard resistances, standardize electrical units of measurement, and make a standard of time. Although applications for electric power, heat, light, pressure and so on, with their subdivisions and multiples, Today we are dependent upon Germany, France and England—which have standardized bureaus—for the manufacture of electrical apparatus.

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A standard thermometer will be another of the main instruments to be used in this laboratory. It will be used for correction for the millions of thermometers used by physicians and surgeons, by scientific laboratories and the great industrial establishments.

For a long time Uncle Sam has had an official weights and measures for giving out, mostly to scientists, standards of weights, measures of capacity which have been adapted for commercial use. These standards have been used for many years, but they are not as accurate as those produced in this laboratory.

There is a standard of length, the yard, which is the standard of all other measurements.

There is a standard of mass, the pound, which is the standard of all other weights.

There is a standard of time, the second, which is the standard of all other measures of time.

There is a standard of temperature, the degree Fahrenheit, which is the standard of all other measures of temperature.

There is a standard of electrical current, the ampere, which is the standard of all other measures of electrical current.

There is a standard of electrical resistance, the ohm, which is the standard of all other measures of electrical resistance.

There is a standard of electrical capacity, the farad, which is the standard of all other measures of electrical capacity.

There is a standard of electrical potential, the volt, which is the standard of all other measures of electrical potential.

There is a standard of electrical density, the coulomb, which is the standard of all other measures of electrical density.

There is a standard of electrical intensity, the ampere per square centimeter, which is the standard of all other measures of electrical intensity.

There is a standard of electrical pressure, the millivolt, which is the standard of all other measures of electrical pressure.

There is a standard of electrical energy, the watt, which is the standard of all other measures of electrical energy.

There is a standard of electrical heat, the calorie, which is the standard of all other measures of electrical heat.

There is a standard of electrical work, the erg, which is the standard of all other measures of electrical work.

There is a standard of electrical power, the watt, which is the standard of all other measures of electrical power.

There is a standard of electrical frequency, the cycle, which is the standard of all other measures of electrical frequency.

There is a standard of electrical tension, the volt, which is the standard of all other measures of electrical tension.

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