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FROM CABIN TO PARLOR.

THE BANJO OF THE PLANTATION NOW A SOCIETY FAVORITE.

Classical Music as Well as Cotton Field Melodies Evoked from Its Strings by the Dainty Fingers of Fortune's Fair Favorites.

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INCE the days "when Ham went to sea in de ark," and with the laudable intention of dissipating the ennui of his fellow voyagers played the first low-keyed banjolelle in the world.

own invention. It is certain that the world was very slow to recognize its merit. Its appearance in polite society was not made until ten years ago.



FROM THE OLD KENTUCKY SHORE. tomomy promptness. Musicians discovered that what they had heretofore considered plebeian and vulgar was chic and dashing.

Then all the hard up minstrels abandoned the stage, set up "studios," put "professor" on their caps, and in less than no time had more pupils than they could attend to.

Various improvements on the old fashioned banjo were brought out; manufacturers began to produce silver rimmed, pearl inlaid instruments, marvels of beauty fit for diamond ringed fingers to play upon.



ON MURRAY HILL. formers. The guitar is too sentimental and old fashioned. Besides, it is large and unwieldy, and many of its octaves very difficult for a woman's fingers to stretch.

The guitar is still played, of course, but chiefly as an accompaniment to the banjo. The mandolin tried hard to become popular, and really did make a sensation for a time.

on the banjo. The very best music has been arranged for it—Gottschalk's "Last Hope," the march in "Tannhauser," even Liszt's weird fantasias.

There are various ways of touching the strings. The "stroke movement" is employed in playing classic music. For negro melodies and old plantation airs you can "plinkety plunk" as much as you like.

For a while the thimble, a little instrument worn on the finger, was used, but it soon went out of fashion. The sound produced was harsh and unmusical, but rather effective at times.

As a drawing room entertainment banjo playing from a professional is very popular in the most select circles. Mrs. Paron Stevens, Mrs. Frederick Vanderbilt and other queens of society often amuse their guests in this way.

All sorts and conditions of people play the banjo. Talmage is a devotee. Mrs. P. T. Barnum was an accomplished player. Frederick Vanderbilt, Miss Doremus, daughter of Professor J. H. Doremus, Pauline Hall, Minnie Palmer, A. J. Cummings, of the New York Sun, and the late Fletcher Harper are names in the ranks of banjo players.

ABSENT FROM THE WEDDING.

A Bride's Relatives Stay Away from the Church. The recent wedding of Admiral Porter's daughter with Mr. H. C. Campbell at Washington appears to have been an occasion for mingled smiles and tears.

The failure of ex-Senator William A. Wallace and the collapse of the Clearfield bank, of which he was principal manager and stockholder, have excited all Pennsylvania, and the discussion among financiers continues very active.



It appears, however, that Mr. Wallace has engaged very extensively in developing new mines of coal in Pennsylvania, of silver in Colorado, and of other minerals elsewhere.

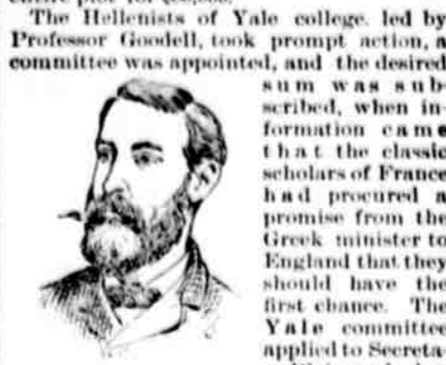
"Civilization" in Siberia. A funny tale comes from St. Petersburg regarding a recent effort of the czar's ministers to make administrative and educational reforms in Asiatic Russia.

A Queer Place to Find a Mine. A story which reads something like one of the erstwhile famous productions of Mr. Joseph Mullhatten comes from the southwest. It is to the effect that some days ago a party of hunters in Indian Territory chased a fox until it found refuge in a rocky cleft.

Mr. McHenry was born in 1826 in Ohio county, Ky., had lived there all his life, and died in his native town of Hartford. His father, John H. McHenry, was a distinguished jurist, and the family has produced several other eminent men.

THE GREEK SHRINE OF DELPHI.

America is Anxious to Purchase the Site of the Ancient Temple. The Hellenists of France and the United States have got into a curious contest for the ownership of the old Greek shrine of Delphi.



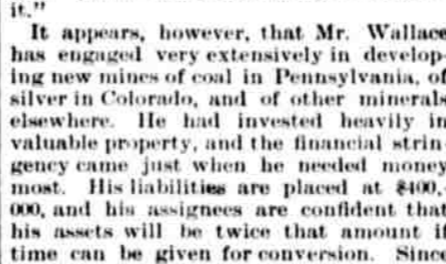
PROFESSOR GOODSELL directed the American minister at Athens to act in the matter at once.

According to the legends Apollo searched the earth for a fit place to found a temple, and found it in the vale of Phocis, at the foot of Mount Parnassus. He slew the great serpent which had thus far ruled the vale, and so the place was named the Pytho.

NOT THE RESULT OF POLITICS.

Ex-Senator Wallace's Failure Due to Entirely Different Causes.

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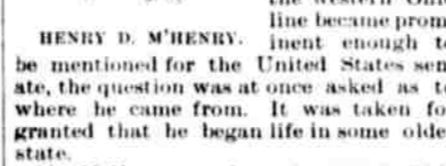


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A decidedly gloomy view of the future of America is taken by Professor Otis Mason, of the Smithsonian institution. Within a century, he declares, the western hemisphere will be exhausted as a support for civilized man, and will be relegated to the dominion of savages of a very low order.

Was a Noted Kentuckian.

By the death of Hon. Henry D. McHenry the state of Kentucky loses a valuable citizen and the Democratic party an able worker. Mr. McHenry's life is also worthy of note because he was among the first of our western men to rise to prominence.



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