

A TEMPLE OF MAMMON.

The New York Exchange and its Members.

Some of the Natty Brokers Described.

Appearance of the Building--Scenes in the Board Room--A Modified Pandemonium--An Elegant Room.

New York Correspondence of the San Francisco Chronicle.

The Stock exchange is still distinguished, as it has ever been in the past, as the rendezvous of the best-dressed men in town. The fashion in male attire just now is to wear a short frock coat, tight at the waist and tighter in the sleeves, a high-buttoned waistcoat, tight-fitting trousers, pointed gaiters, a gorgeous, many-colored scarf, with some odd device in gold chain, and a Derby hat, with a wide, curving rim. Even in cold weather it was the correct thing to go without an overcoat, and I read in a newspaper that affects to be an authority on such subjects that both in London and New York it is stylish to carry the crooked cane of the period, "even when it rains, umbrellas being no longer stylish for gentlemen."

In spite of this, I think that John Bloodgood has carried an umbrella whenever there has been an occasion to use one this spring. Mr. Bloodgood is said to be the best dressed man in the metropolis. He is an active and especially shrewd member of the Stock Exchange. If the prevailing notion is well founded he never wears the same suit twice. He is of the average height, has a trim figure that looks well in whatever he puts on, and a slightly pompous carriage that renders his appearance striking in any assemblage, except, perhaps, the Exchange room, wherein there are so many handsome and well-dressed men that one among them all is lost sight of.

AS NEAT AS A DAISY. "Charley" Osborn, as C. J. Osborn, of the firm of C. J. Osborn & Co., is familiarly called, was always as neat as a daisy. In the course of his career he has become a special partner in it. The gossip of "the street" is that he is going to loaf awhile in Europe, leaving a special capital of half a million dollars, a power of attorney to use another half million left in trust and two million dollars in securities for his firm to borrow money on if he is needed while he is away. Osborn is at the head of what is known in the street as "the gang," but in simpler English would be called a larger following. William L. Scott, ex-chairman of the democratic national committee is one of those whose headquarters is in his office, and so is D. P. Morgan, who is not just now before the public, being, I think, in Europe, but who is the greatest exponent on "change of the art of making quick sales and small profits. Instead of purchasing 1,000 shares of a stock and holding them in an strong box until they have greatly advanced in value he will invest a fortune in securities in the morning and sell them on the rise of a fraction of a point the same afternoon. Henry N. Smith, another well-dressed man, who owns the big Fashion Stud farm near Trenton, N. J., and Frank Work, also a very rich sporting man, both belong to Osborn's following. Addison K. Mack, of the "Windsor hotel gang," an old bachelor, who lives in that stylish hotel, is another member. This Windsor hotel gang does most of its speculation downtown, in which respect it differs from the group known as the "Twenty-third street gang," which has its elegantly appointed rooms in the Cumberland fitted with telegraph instruments, "tickers," books of reference and all the refinements of an Exchange and an office. The members of this gang have their lunch sent in, transact all their operations by wire to brokers in the street, and when the Exchange closes all adjourn to the clubs and play whist. William R. Travers, whose witticisms occasionally creep into the daily papers, is the master spirit of this swell coterie.

AVOIDING NOISE. Beside the gain of room, the main improvement in the reconstructed board room has been through various devices to lessen the noise and confusion in that most noisy and disorderly of apartments. As it was, the messengers and clerks made a goodly portion of the racket in calling inquiries, and at the top of their lungs, the names of the brokers for whom there were callers, telegrams or letters. An ingenious arrangement of speaking tubes from each of the multitudinous doorways to a table near the telegraph instruments in the southern end of the big room, is the means of avoiding most of the extra and unnecessary noise. A young man at this table applies the tubes to his ear, and hearing the name of a broker for whom there is a visitor, looks on a chart near at hand for the number by which that broker is designated, and, finding it, presses an electric button in the table, and throws in immense white numerals the designated number on the big blackboard on the gallery front of apartment. The broker sees the number, and going to the youth at the table learns at which door he should find his visitor. Letters and telegrams are delivered by the messengers without a word being spoken by means of envelopes, which every broker supplies, whereon the brokers' numbers are printed in large type. These envelopes the boys hold over their heads as they push their way through the crowded room until the broker whose number is displayed claims the message.

NOISE THAT INDICATES THE MARKET. Even now, however, there is so much noise that a person unaccustomed to it--to use a trite expression--cannot hear himself think. But to the brokers I have no doubt it becomes as little confusing as the uniform rattling of hundreds of sounders in the main room of the Western Union Telegraph Company is to the operators who spend their working days in that equally bewildering babel. Of this noise in the Board room of the Exchange it is said that a person who is accustomed to hearing it can tell by its tone exactly the condition of the market at any given time by listening outside the building in New Street, or when the windows of the Board room open. When there is what is known as a "bull market," when values are rising, the tone is high and sharp and the brokers seem to be screaming, whereas when there

is a controlling bear movement depressing the values the tone is low and deep and would be described as the united sound of a thousand men hoarse from cold.

ELEGANT APARTMENTS. The board room has everything about it elegant except its floor, which is supposed to be made of pine boards so that it shall not become smooth or slippery. This floor is bare of everything except what is known as the rallying posts, a line of slender pillars across the room bearing the names of the principal active stocks in which the groups of operators near by are trading. Other posts, the rallying points of dealers in less conspicuous securities, are under the gallery on the south side. It is from the tickets which the brokers from time to time hang upon these pillars that the reporters (as the telegraph operators are called) obtain the sales and prices of the securities, which they send over the instruments for circulation, not only in all the brokers' offices, hotels and club rooms, but in all the cities of the United States. The rostrum, upon which is always the chairman or vice chairman, ready to settle the disputes of brokers or to announce the death or failure of members, is an enormous and costly piece of cabinet work, the galleries, always open to the public, are graceful in outline, and the ceiling is resplendent with blue and gold. Of the two elegant rooms, in one of which subscribers and members loaf when not upon the floor, and of which the other is the exclusive retreat of members, the latter is the grandest. The heavy, carved lounges and chairs, padded and covered with leather, rest upon gaudy floor of tiling, between walls wainscoted with colored marble and beneath a beautifully frescoed ceiling. The big, old-fashioned open fire-place has not its equal as a suggester of luxurious comfort and hospitality in the city, and the bronzes and other ornaments on the mantel betray a reckless disregard for money. J. E. R.

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY. Death of a Nebraska Woman at an Advanced Age. Teutonic Journal. DIED--At the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Wm. Offield, two and a half miles east of Tecumseh, May 25, 1882, Mrs. Elizabeth Kreps, aged 103 years, 4 months and 23 days. This ancient lady was born in York county, Pennsylvania, December 25, 1778. There is no definite knowledge of her ancestry, except that her paternal name was Stots, and her people of German descent. She was married in 1811 to the gentleman whose name she bore till the close of her life. She raised a family of eight children to mature age, losing none in infancy or youth; yet she outlived all but three of them, and these three are all now living in Johnson county. A son, George Kreps, and two daughters, Mrs. Wm. Offield and Mrs. Catherine Bowen. Omitting her own children she has seen three generations. There were twenty-eight grandchildren, fifty-eight great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grand children, making ninety-seven persons her descendants in her life time. Shortly after her marriage the country, became involved in war with Great Britain, known as the war of 1812. Mr. Kreps was engaged in the defense of his country during this struggle, holding a commission as captain in the federal army and was in active service when Baltimore was attacked by the British--"the red coats," as Mrs. Kreps was wont to call them. In 1813, a very early day in the settlement of Ohio, she emigrated with her husband to Knox county, at that time a wilderness infested by wild animals and wild Indians. Here she endured the many hardships incident to the pioneer, and many wore the interesting stories she told of her hardships and adventures. She remained in Ohio till 1858, when, long after the death of her husband, and having nearly all her children in the further west, she resolved to follow them, and so moved to Peoria county, Illinois. Here she remained till 1869, when once more she followed the fortunes of her children, removing to Johnson county, Nebraska, where she remained till the day of her death.

Mrs. Kreps was a lady of remarkable vitality--short stature, full habit until near her death, when she fell away in flesh, becoming quite thin. But what was most extraordinary was the full enjoyment of all her faculties to the close of her long life. Especially follow as a characteristic of her mind clear and active, in later years more so than in the earlier years, than in the realities of the present. Reminiscences of her young and maturer years were her greatest delight. Not more than two years ago, when she was one hundred and one years old, she walked nearly half a mile to a neighboring house. The gentleman, busy with his threshing, had happened in when she entered, stopped a moment to listen to one of her sprightly narratives of early times, forgot his threshing and all else, listening till he was called away to his more immediate duties. Her eyesight failed a little at middle age, but returned to full vigor in later years, never failing till a few weeks before her death, when she seemed unable to see at all. Her mind was clear to the last hour of her life. In her habits, simplicity, regularity and temperance prevailed, never was sick and never had to employ a doctor. In her earlier years her religious connection was with the Presbyterian church, but in Ohio she became a Methodist, never afterward changing. Why she remained in the world so long seemed not clear to her. "I am only waiting," she would often say, "just waiting till the good Lord calls me."

"Women Never Think." If the crabbed old bachelor who uttered the sentiment could but witness the intricate thought deep study and thorough investigation of country in determining the best medicines to keep their families well, and would note their sagacity and wisdom in selecting Hop Bitters as the best, and demonstrating it by keeping their families in perpetual health, at a mere nominal expense, he would be forced to acknowledge that such sentiments are baseless and false. [Picaque.]

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