ROSE ELIZABETH CLEVELAND

The President's Sister Enlisted in a Crusade Against Man's Horrid Habits.

CHORUS GIRLS AT EVERGREEN

Dedication of the Actor's Monument —Edwin Booth's Dignified Fall— Ill-Bred People at the Opera Clara Belle's Letter.

NEW YORK, June 9.—[Correspondence of the BEE.]—All the week and industriously, too, I have been studying the public manners of girls. It was not a cheap promiscuous excursion, but on a private yacht, which conveyed a party of selected swells to a regatta, that I had one opportunity to study an enamored pair. If their names were here written down, that of the fellow would be recognized from his father's wealthy prominence, and the maiden's would be synonymous with social altitude. They calmly sat for hours in blissful unconsciousness of the fact that the cabin full of passengers were laughing at them. She lay back in a sofa chair in a languorous attitude, with her head pillowed on some shawls, while he leaned worshipfully over from another chair, and made a pretense of snapping at her chin. She caught his ear, at one of those dives toward her, and then he had to hold his head down close enough so that she could whisper in it without lifting her head. Then she curled his moustache, stroked his chin, patted his cheek, tapped his teeth and poked her finger into his mouth. This last performance gave them another idea, and she would see how far into his mouth she could poke her finger and then draw it out again before he could bite it. This amused them for a long time. But the ear business seemed to strike them as the most enjoyable way of passing the time, and during the journey up and back each one of those ears was murmured into many times. The dust that gathered in them seemed to have much more attraction for her eyes than the landscapes, and as for him, why, he would have let her pull out a tooth, and sat through it all with the same ecstatic expression that rested on his countenance all that day. Nothing interrupted their attention from each other. If the steamer had exploded I am sure they would have been seen flying through the air on the smoke stack undisturbed.

MISS ROSE ELIZABETH CLEVELAND

is really to become a teacher in one of the fashionable schools for girls, and it will become her duty to take her turn with the rest of the faculty in lecturing on politeness for belles. I don't know but she will say some things about men's behavior, too, judging by what she said to an acquaintance of mine while here.

"The most unpleasant feature of the elevated railroad," she said, after a ride on it, "is the proneness to expectoration that overtakes the male passengers on the stairways. A journey up or down the covered passages leading to the streets from the stations is fraught with as much danger as going around the Horn. The companies should put a monitor on the landings to muzzle the men who so outrage decency.

This is the season of big sashes. Half the ladies' gowns have long ends of broad ribbon depending from their rears. In climbing stairs, a woman catches up her skirts behind, but nine times out of ten the sash escapes, and goes sweeping the steps behind her. This is an accident to shudder at. Its an indelicate subject to write about, but we are forced to consider it every time we take or leave a train." Miss Cleveland was asked in a jocular way, how she would cure the men of this habit.

"I think women could disgust men with the practice of eternal expectoration if they all went in for it themselves," she replied half seriously. "Let women nerve themselves, and band together for one week of this business. Chew some saliva provoking substance, and go abroad to spit about the streets and public places. By Saturday night the papers would be full of anathemas, and the offense of the women would be the one subject of conversation. Possibly a reform by force of example would ensue."

Women do keep a much higher average of seemliness in public places than men. Look down the aisle of a theatre and see the old boots and wrinkled socks waving in the air. They are all masculine. There the men sit dangling a leg as if it was a baby with the stomach ache. I saw a man the other night with a foot (made on the new principle of twenty-one inches makes a foot) and a cane as big as his leg. The foot was beating the air like the dasher of a churn, and the cane was striking the boot at every revolution—that is every time the old foot came around. A prima donna was singing, and this lovely rythmic beat annoyed every one in his neighborhood.

I sat next a man who had the jumps that same night. He would convulse himself and give a snort, dig his knees into the back of the seat in front of him, trot his legs, stretch them out till the hats of his neighbors were kicked into the orchestra, and then start into the back of that seat in front again. The occupant looked daggars, and every time I heard the seat crack I got nervous myself. Between acts he went out, and while he was gone I fixed things for him. Every available pin that put me together I took out, and darned into the back of that seat, points up, and an inch of the point bent over. St. Vitus came back, and began the programme. He danced his leg in the aisle, then slouched in his seat, so that his knees stuck up nearly as high as the back of the heavily protected seat. He dug them in for a minute, when they began slipping down he struck a hat pin. Before he could pull up he was impaled on a bug safety pin. That was reinforced by several simple, common, every day pins—all pointed, however. We had no more climbing and I bet he said his prayers every way but on his knees that night.

Chorus girls and actresses who have not yet arived at the dignity of a speaking part were present in abundance at the ceremonies attending the dedicattion of

THE ACTORS' FUND MONUMENT

in Evergreen cemetery. There was comparatively few well known actresses there, but for thousands of curious people who stood about, and pushed and crowded for a front row position, the minor artistes were as satisfactory as if their fame had filled two continents. For the chorus girl in holiday array is as striking a figure as any tragedienne that ever played. She bears the stamp of the stage in every feature, ornament and action. And this apparently without trying to appear conspicuous. The spectators, therefore, went away under the impression that they had seen a vast gathering of popular, successful and accomplished women, for that is the estimation in which actresses are usually held in spite of the social taboo against which they have to strive. There were about sixty of these distinguished women penned together in a rude, open shanty for the purpose of singing their part in two hymns in the course of the exercises. Except that their skirts were long and their throats covered, they looked about as they do in comic opera. Their fashionable hats were poised coquettishly atop of their banged and frizzled hair, much of which was of a forced blonde shade; their cheeks were marked by a healthy color that seemed at a distance to be capable of standing a wash; their dresses were attractive, albeit somewhat pronounced, and their tournures were extensive and voluminous. They took a lively interest in the ceremonies and seemed to be as much swayed by curiosity as the humble women with babies in their tired arms who stood against the ropes and stared about them in undisguised wonder. To the chorus girls as to the general crowd, Mr. Edwin Booth was the center of attention, and when that dignified tragedian threw up his hands convulsively and went down with the collapsing platform, there were not wanting fair singers to shriek in momentary terror lest the great ornament to the American stage had come to harm. But it was to be noticed that although they uttered little cries of fright their rosy cheeks blanched not.

When it came to singing the "Hallelujah" chorus from Handel's "Messiah," they attended strictly to business, and the grand old composition was rendered with an effectiveness well worthy of its high rank. Few oratorio societies with twice as many voices could render the piece with the power and precision, both of rythmical accent and enunciation of words, that these professional comic opera chorus singers did. Not a false note or intonation marred the performance, and the girls had reason to feel proud. So did the three score, plain looking, plainly dressed, undistinguished gentlemen who sang with them. These were chorus singers also, but with their last summer's straw hats and last winter's tiles, they could not be said to bear the mark of their profession so noticeably as their companions of the sex. I happened to ride back to the city in the same car with five of these young women. They sat quietly by themselves, made no effort to attract attention, and yet were the targets for all eyes. Not a passenger got in who did not take in at a glance that they were stage folk, and that point recognized, he or she did not take eyes off the girls during the entire trip. The choristers did not seem to care, they certainly did not pay attention to it, and at the end of the route went quietly towards their respective lodging houses, and people passing along the streets turned their heads to look at them.

There was interest, too, in the way the people on the main stand, who were supposed to be eminent, behaved. They were

JUST LIKE THE CHORUS GIRLS

in their eagerness to see everybody and all that was going on. Their garments were invariably imposing examples of the highest style. The cheeks of most of them were redder than the red, red rose doubly distilled in carmine. Their eyes were lustrous as diamonds sparkling in settings of jet. This descaiption may be suggestive of "make up," and the facts would amply justify it. Those who were really actresses made a curious study as they descended the steps from the stand at the conclusion of the exercises. It is only fair to say that there were some who passed down and disappeared into the dense crowd as modestly and unobtrusively as parsons' wives might have done; but the great majority were only too anxious to pause and pose. Half way down the steps naturally brought one into the most advantageous position for being seen; she would then be separated from the crowd behind and in full view of the crowd below. So nearly every woman stopped there on her way down, looked about over the heads of people in an imperious way, turned her head haughtily back to see if her companions were following, and then continued her descent impressively, never deigning to recognize the presence of the staring thousands.

Society was startled a few years ago, when the well known belle, Marion Langdon, gave to young Mr. Belmont his freedom, and declined to renew their matrimonial engagement, after months of good behavior and contrition. Now another lady, not so well known, but a charming woman, has severed the bonds that have bound her an entire season—bonds that would have been rivetted by the church next fall. We all know why Mr. Belmont got his conge, but the cause of Mr. Million's trouble is not yet widely known. It happened in this way: The lady has her dresses made in Paris, but her most intimate female friend patronizes a man dress builder here in New York. A Saratoga outfit was in process of construction at this establishment and the fiance of Mr. Million, (as we will name him) went with her chum for a trying on ordeal. During the seance a girl from the work rooms entered with a large box containing a costume to get some directions as to its destination.

"Don't you leave that dress without the bill is paid," said the proprietor, in a subdued voice. "Miss Jewell's order was to send the bill to Pine street in the morning, but be sure and have the dress home to-night. You are taking my orders. Youv'e got time to go to Pine street now, and catch him. He don't go to his stables till 3."

"Very well," was the reply, "will I take a check."

"I'd rather have the money," was the reply; "be sure, now, and don't make your business known before his father—a big-nosed, tall, thin man. Miss Jewell was very anxious for that dress; she don't play to-night, and has an engagement to go to a theatre with him, too, I believe."

Here the conversation became indistinct, but

THE ENRAGED WOMAN WAS QUICK.

Her lover's office was in Pine street. He went daily to his stables at 3 p. m. His father had a beak like a shovel-nosed shark and was tall and thin as a lamp post. She betrayed no interest in the scrappy conversation, but as soon her friend could be taken away and deposited at home, our clever young society lady flew to a married friend and invited her and her husband to take them to the mentioned theatre that evening. Sure enough, from the recesses of the box, which her party occupied, a close survey of the house was unsuccessful; but presently the front of the box opposite blossomed like that rose as Miss Jewell, the well known actress of an Opera Comique fame entered Her companion stopped in the back ground, but an animated pantomine showed that there was an escort and not a sleepy one in the rear. Our young lady was vigilance itself as the curtain fell knowing Mr. Millions' partiality for a cigarette in the foyer. Her patience was rewarded. A newspaper man went up to have a few words with Jewell, and know how she escaped the bill for a night, and Million went out. She saw him leisurely stroll up the aisle and pull the ends of his blonde moustache, and, if there was any comfort in anticipating trouble, she realized it in thinking how little he dreamed of the impending storm. When he returned to the box an usher handed him this note: "If Mr. Million is disengaged at 2 o'clock to-morrow, will he please call at 33,033 Fifth avenue, in order to get a ring left there January 2nd." Then, as he read it in the dim religious light of the back of the loge, he looked across, and there, in the front of the box, sat his escaped prize, a little paler than usual, but with a triumphant gleam in her dark eyes that told him plainer than words that the gem had been lost for an inferior Jewell.

CLARA BELLE.

Piano Tuning by Telephone.

A firm of Birmingham music dealers was lately required to tune an organ to accord with a piano in Moseley. It was impracticable to bring the instruments together, but a happy plan was at length stumbled upon. A note of the piano was struck in front of a telephone, and the sound was so accurately transmitted to the distant tuner that he was soon able to accomplish his task, and the organ was sent in season for its intended use with the piano in a concert.

THE ELECTRICAL WORLD.

Discovery of a New Force, Which is Practically Tested.

ABOUT ELECTRIC LIGHTING.

New Uses for Electricity—Train Lighting—Piano Tuning by Telephone —Electric Locomotion—Telegraphic Habits.

Practical Tests With a New Electrical Force.

New York Tribune. The latest important advance in electrical science has been made by C. Langdon-Davies, of London, who succeeded in utilizing for telegraphic purposes a form of electric force which can be separated altogether from the ordinary electric current and which can pass freely through insulators impassable by currents. Among other things, telegraphic messages can be transmitted and received through an ordinary line wire, while at the same time othe telegraphic messages are being transmitted and received through the same wire by the ordinary telegraphic apparatus. The instrument which secures these results is called the phonopore and when used in connection with the existing telegraph systems will materially increase their working capacity. It was while investigating the induction noises caused in telephone wires that Mr. Landon-Davies made his important discovery. He made the conclusion that the effects ascribed to induction afforded evidence of the existence of a form of electrical force which might be separated from currents and which would pass freely through insulators impassible by currents. His conclusions were justified by experiments, but it was not until a short time ago that phonoporic telegraphy could be successfully employed, and that the principle could be utilized upon an existing telegraph line which was at the same time being worked by the ordinary instruments.

"It will certainly come as a surprise to many," says the London Times, "to learn that the phonoporic instruments have no conducting circuit through them, but this is nevertheless a fact. The phonopore gives uninterrupted passage to electrical effects capable of being associated with sound, although it does not permit the passage of electric currents. In exterior form the transmitter appears to be an ordinary Morse key mounted on a base about four inches high. This base contains an instrument which somewhat resembles an induction coil. The impulses are generated in a primary circuit of improved construction over which is wound in place of a secondary circuit a phonophore of two wires insulated from each other throughout their entire length and at both ends, each of these wires being, however, connected at one end only to the line. Their number of phonophoric impulses generated in the transmitter per second is regulated by the vibrations of an organ reed placed in the primary circuit. Another reed tuned to the same rate of vibration is placed as a receiver at the distant station in front of an electro-magnet, and the phonophoric impulses from the transmitter cause it to vibrate. A new form of contact-breaker, operated by the receiver-reed, completes a local relay circuit when the reed is still, but breaks it whenever the reed vibrates, thereby setting in action any required instrument in connection with any battery."

A practical test with the phonopore was made on a telegraph line running from London Bridge to Folkestone, the line being worked with the phonopore simultaneously with the ordinary needle system working on the line. The wire has four single-needle instruments—at London bridge, Nutfield, Shorncliffe and Folkestone harbor. Two simplex phonopore telegraphs, one at London bridge and the other at Folkestone harbor, were attached to the line, each by a single piece of wire. Five experiments were arranged by Mr. Langdon-Davies and successfully carried out: (1) A phonopore message was transmitted along from Folkestone to London, and there received, working a postoffice universal relay and ordinary Morse sounder; (3) a similar phonopore message was transmitted and received while an ordinary telegraphic message was traveling in the same direction between the same stations; (3) a phonopore message was transmitted and received while an ordinary telegraph message was being transmitted in the opposite direction between the same stations; (4) a phonophore message was transmitted and received between the terminal stations while an ordinary telegraph message was being transmitted between two intermediate stations; (5) phonopore messages were freely exchanged between the terminal points after the line had been discontinued at London and Folkestone and the circuit absolutely broken.

These and similar experiments have been carried out to the entire satisfaction of Latimer Clark, F. R. S., and S. McGowan, director-in-chief of telegraphs and deputy postmaster general of Australia, and Mr. Clark has pointed out many advantages which the duplexing of a telegraph service by adding a simplex phonopore possesses over the ordinary duplex system now in use. The cost of construction and of working is much less and messages can be carried either in the same or opposite directions. Moreover, if the line is already working either the duplex or diplex on the ordinary system, the phonopore can still be added to it as if the wire were being used for nothing else. The phonopores are easily worked, and in the trials mentioned the instruments was worked at one station by a boy of sixteen who had no experience with it.

Electric Lighting.

Detroit Free Press: The reduction by the Brush Illuminating company of its price for electric light in New York, from 70 cents to 25 cents per lamp per night, seems to indicate one of two things. Either there has been a considerable cheapening of cost in the production of the light, or the company has been charging heretofore enormous profit. The cheapening theory there is little to support. There has been no marked reduction in the cost of coal or labor for the past five years; and as these are the principal elements in the cost of electric light there can not have been any such reduction in that as the immense drop of the company would indicate.

The theory that the company has been charging an enormous profit in the past is far more in harmony with what is known as to the history of electric lighting in this country. Yet there is a third possibility which may, perhaps, modifiy public opinion as to the extent of the profit the companies have been reaping. It transpired long since that there was a large margin for the companies between the "candle power" at which their lamps were rated or guaranteed and that actually supplied. In a recent report to city of Bridgeport which we find quoted in the New York Times—President Henry Morton, of the Stevens institute of technology, said on this point:

"I had occasion some time since to measure the light of a number of the lamps used in the streets of New York city and found that the best of them only reached 800 candles. It has been customary ever since the first introduction of electric lighting for the electric companies to call their ordinary street lamps "2,000-candle-power lights," though they have not possessed any such actual efficiency. If, therefore, you were to hold your electric light company to the wording of their contract they might reasonably claim that the term "2,000 candle-power" had become a technichal expression, meaning only a light of the usual efficiency, from 500 to 1,000 candle-power by direct measurement."

It is quite possible, therefore, that it reducing its price more than 60 per cent the company proposes to compensate itself by reducing the candle power. The existence of this possibility makes it worth while for Detroit and other Michigan cities using the Brush light to inquire a little more carefully than they have ever done as yet into this matter of "candle power." The lights in this city, like those in New York, have always been spoken of as "2,000-candle-power-lights." If there is as little reason for calling them so as there appears to have been in New York, the city ought to know it. The knowledge might be of service in contracting for street lighting.

Electric Locomotion.

So long ago as May, 1881, an electric tramway opened near Berlin, and traffic has been regularly carried on during the six years without a mishap of any importance, although the average speed is twelve miles an hour and 100,000 passengers are carried annually. The line has always been regarded more as an experiment than as a type to be permanently adopted, and for that reason cars with different kinds of gearing have been tried, not for a few months, but in regular work for several years in order to test the durability of the mechanism apopted. To obtain a higher degree of economy an electric motor must run with great velocity, which must be greatly reduced by the time its motion is transmitted to the driving axles of a tramway car; methods of doing that form the subjects of several patents, and it may be that the best arrangement has not yet been devised.

It seems an easy thing to the uninitiated to reduce 800 revolutions of one shaft to eighty of another; but when it has to be done in connection with a tram car, a vehicle on which space is limited, noise objectionable, and dirt and dust in abundance, one obstacle after another crops up to disapdoint the inventor who imagines he has solved the problem. On the Berlin-Lichterfeld line one of the cars has run 76,000 miles since the opening, and has pulleys on the meter shaft and car axles, with V grooves in which to run cords of spiral steel wires. This device, it seems, works without noise or vibration, though some little difficulty is experienced in adjusting the "cords" upon the pulleys; for if too tight they will break at the joinis, and if too loose slip at starting—not a disadvantage, as that is the most trying moment in all gearing driven by electromotors. Other devices are employed, such as the pitch-chain, but the spiral cords seem to be the best.

Gas and Electricity.

Boston Herald: While there seems to be no reason why the gas companies in the state of Massachusetts should not be allowed to make, distribute and sell electricity for lighting purposes, it should be said that the restrictions governing the right to manufacture and dispose of gas do not properly apply to the manufacture and sale of electricity for illuminating purposes. The gas commissioners are, with good reason, granted the power to prevent the establishment of rival gas companies in places where the needs of the people seem to be sufficiently met by existing facilities, for to establish a new gas company involves tearing up the streets and putting the people to many inconveniences not at all desirable, unless some obvious gain is to result as a consequence. But in establishing an electric light plant annoyances of this kind are not to be anticipated. The electric light wires are run either over the housetops or upon poles, and are located and maintained with no practical inconvenience to any one. There would seem to be no more call for the state authorities to prohibit the establishment of new and competing electric light companies than to prohibit the establishment of new retail grocery stores. But the same freedom which ought to be accorded to all new electric light companies should be given to the gas companies to enter, if they see fit, into this new form of supplying the people with light. It would certainly be absurd to tell the gas companies that because they were making and supplying the public with gas, therefore they were prohibited from using another light medium which a great many people believe to be superior to that now employed.

New Uses For Electricity.

Electrical Review: "The light-outspeeding telegraph," said Emerson, in one of his poems in 1846, "bears nothing on its beam"—but it did, even then; it bore from city to city at least the market price of whisky. And if to such base uses the thunderbolts of Jove can be applied—thus misusing a force which enwraps the key to the mystery that lies around the very gates of life—if the august lightnings of heaven may be so abused, why need any one be astonished to learn that among the latest devices for the amusement and depravity af men (and women) is "bull fighting by electricity!" It seems a little late in the century for such barbaric sport—which would better befit the brutal scenes once enacted in the ampitheater of Vespasian at Rome—and it sounds strange to hear such things almost on our own border. But the mysterious element that in one form is utilized to bring the news of the performance, was used in another shape one night in the City of Mexico to light up the arena for a bull fight. Owing to the novelty of this part of the performance, "an immense crowd" was attracted to the scene—President Diaz and the members of his cabinet being among the spectators. "The arena was brilliantly lighted by ten electric lights," and the dazzling blaze seemed to infuriate the bulls. The first one quickly killed four horses and tore open and disabled as many more, flung one swordsman, nearly dead, over the bars, disabled the matador and several picadors, and ramped around the arena the lord and master of the situation. These things are highly relished still in Spain—and our neighbor republic on the southwest is much more Spanish than American. How much better are such scenes than those of the colosseum—the "thumbs down" spectacles in which human beings instead of bulls were the sacrifice. And what must be the influence of such exhibitions on the people who uphold them?

Will Use a Pail Hereafter.

Troy (N. Y.) Times: A leak in the floor of the Western Union telegraph office, corner of Broadway and River street, allowed water to drip last evening upon wires leading to the electric light in William Ahern's saloon underneath. The contract of the water permitted the electricity to escape, and the ceiling in Ahern's place was ignited. Ahern seized a seltzer bottle and prepared to give the flames an extinguisher. He was a surprised man, when, after having opened a stream from the seltzer bottle upon the fire, he was violently thrown from the bench upon which he was standing. The glass of the bottle saved him from more severe handling. The stream of water had completed the circuit, and the shock was the result. Mr. Ahern has ceased to act as a bottle-holder in a fight with electricity, and will hereafter use the pail.

Trains Lighted by Electricity.

A few weeks ago a train was started on the Connecticut river road lighted by electricity from the dynamo in the baggage car, run by the car wheels. S. H. Barrett, electrician, had experimented for weeks on his invention, and since putting into practical work has watched it constantly and added improvements, so that it may now be considered a practical arrrangement, which is pretty likely to displace the methods of lightning by storage batteries alone. The experiment has been tried on a train of two passenger cars and a combination baggage and smoking car. The dynamo occupies a closet built on one side of the baggage section of the car next to the entrance to the smoking apartment. There are sixteen incandescent lamps to a car, arranged on each side, while experiments have also been made with a huge 64-candle power incandescent lamp in the baggage car, which is not considered a practical or economical light. The small incandescent lamps of sixteen-candle power, and differ from those on the Boston & Albany train in the construction of the film, which is of carbonized silk instead of bamboo fiber. Few people have noticed the huge cable concealed under the car which gives power to the dynamo, and the machinery runs almost noiselessly.

Electric Alarms in Hotels.

If hotel men cannot afford to build fire-proof hotels, they should at least provide every means of escape and all the latest electrical alarms to notify guests of impending danger. Had not an electrical fire-alarm communicating with every room in the house of the Richmond hotel, burned at Buffalo last week, awakened the guests, the loss of life would have been at least five times as large as it was. So rapidly did the house burn that even the instantaneous alarm of the "Hess system," of the fire call could not save them all, but, as the testimony shows, what the result would have been without such an invention is appalling to contemplate. That such a serious loss of life resulted in face of the fact that an alarm bell was ringing in every room from the instant the clerk became aware of the fire, proves that the Richmond hotel must have been even worse constructed than the average fire-trap hotel. In the absence of fire-proof hotels, what is demanded of hotel men is careful management and the providing of every possible precaution and improvement that shall make human life safe in case of emergency.

Measuring Lightning.

The length of a flash of lightning is generally underestimated. The longest known was measured by M. P. Peritt, of Tonlouse. This flash was ten and a half inches long. The longest interval ever remarked between the flash and the report was seventy-two seconds, which would correspond with a distance of fourteen miles. Direct researches have shown that a storm is seldom heard at a greater distance than seven to ten miles, while the average are barely heard over four or five miles off. This fact is more curious, as a cannon may be distinctly heard double or treble that distance, and in equal cases much better.

Electric Light at the Winter Palace.

The czar of Russia, at his winter palace on the banks of the Neva, possesses what is probably the largest permanent installation of electric light ever placed in a single building. The palace itself is illuminated by 12,000 incandescent lamps, while fifty-six powerful arcs light up the front and the various court-yards. The machine room contains eight engines, capable of developing 2,500 horse power; the dynamos, including reserve machines, are twenty-six in number. The work was planned and carried out by the engineers of the palace, in conjunction with the St. Petersburg house of Siemens & Halske, and the installation has been at work since the commencement of last winter.

Spiders and Electric Lights.

Some time ago electric lights were placed in front of the treasury and other public buildings in Washington, and a curious result has been an extraordinary congregation of spiders' webs. These cunning animals have discovered that game, in the form of flies, moths, and so on, is very abundant near the electric light, owing to the attraction it has for some insects, and hence their webs are in some parts so thick that portions of the architectural ornamentation are no longer visible.

Concerning Candle Power.

Electric lights were measured recently by Prof. Henry Morton, of Stevens institute of technology, in the city of New York, and he found that the best of what were called 2,000-candle power lamps gave only a power of 800 candles. He assumes that the term "2,000-candle power" has become a technical expression with the electric light companies to denote a lamp of from 500 to 1,000 actual candle power.

Death to Book Agents.

Dr. Cornelius Herz, a Frenchman, has invented a telephone which costs 62½ cents. Wherever the ordinary electric button can be used the telephone button can be introduced. It will be possible to give or receive instructions by it, to show who is knocking at the door, to communicate, in short, by speaking as well as by ringing.

Telegraphic Habits.

The other night at a New York bureau of a western newspaper, the telegraph operator was busily engaged in transmitting the latest news. It was noticed that while he manipulated the key with his right hand fingers he kept drumming on the table with a lead pencil held in his left hand. When his right hand had stopped so did the left. After watching the knight of the key several moments, a reporter ventured to remark, that he seemed very nervous. The operator smiled, and said such was not the case, but that 99 per cent of the male telegraphers accompany the transmitting movements of their right hands in various ways. Some operators drum on the table, while others tap the floor with one of their feet, like a musician keeping time to music. An operator employed by the Baltimore & Ohio company in this city cannot transmit without holding his left hand across his face and gently patting it. Another operator duplicates the dots and dashes which his right hand forms by wiggling the lobs of his ears with the idle hand. These peculiarities are not noticeable among women telegraphers.

Telephones Around New York.

Few people have any idea of the number of telephones in use immediately around New York. The number is 15,000. On April 1 the New York and Long Island division of the New Jersey company had 3,438, and the New Jersey division and Newark had 3,264. New York city had 6,800, Staten Island 250, and Westchester county about 800, making 14,552 within New York city reach. Such a network of wires and service for intercommunication can be found nowhere else in the world.

A Wise Young Wife.

Boston Courier: "There," said the young wife, turning from the mirror to her husband and giving him a sweet smile, "what do you think of these bangs, Charles? Do they become me?"

Charles, who was at that moment engrossed in the task of reckoning up the total cost of bonnets, bangs, dresses and so forth, answered with a clouded brow:

"I should think you would be ashamed to ask me such a question, Mary. Your vanity is becoming actually insufferable."

"Charles," she said, in a tremulous voice, "if I am vain it is for you. You would not love me if I was a slattern and a dowdy. It is for your sake that I try to make myself as attractive as possible."

Having said this she burst into tears.

Then Charles arose and gathered her into his arms and kissed her fondly and said:

"Your bangs are lovely, dear, and you are lovely, and if all wives were as neat and desirous of attracting the admiration of their husbands as you are there would be a great deal more conjugal happiness in the world than there is at present. There, my love. Now forgive me for my rudeness."

HYMEN'S HAPPIEST BOWERS.

Where the Husband and the Wife Daily Add Strength to Their Bond of Love.

AN ODD WEDDING INCIDENT.

Fidgety Husbands—A Wise Young Wife—Some Marriage Customs—Marrying to Avoid Banishment—Connubialities.

Best of Friends.

Charles L. Dean.

Oh, best of friends who taught me how to love—
Who taught me what no other friend could do.
If God would give me whatso'er I wished,
I'd ask for you.

Kings might wear crowns, with richest jewels set,
And statesmen gain the praise to greatness due;
Their wealth and glory I would envy not
Had I but you.

Poets might sing of Eden's happy bowers,
Artists portray its beauty to our view,
Still would I prize as fairer spot, by far,
My house with you.

And when our souls had bade farewell to earth,
And in immortal lands did live anew,
I'd crave no other paradise than this—
Your love and you.

Fidgety Husbands.

Cincinnati Enquirer: James Payne writes: I would solemnly warn all women about to marry to ascertain beforehand that the contemplated husband is not what is called a fidget. A leaning to intemperance may be greatly mitigated in a husband by one keeping the cellar key and not allowing him any pocket money; but a fanaticism for being always before the time it is difficult to repress and impossible to extirpate. Better that a bridegroom should not be at the church door until after the rubrical hour, and your marriage be postponed for a day, than that he should prove himself a fidget by presenting himself at the altar before the clergyman or yourself is ready for him. Your self-love may suggest that such haste is only the result of his eager devotion; but do not deceive yourselves, young women—he would have been at the church equally early if it had been to bury you. Tompkins himself is in many respects an excellent husband, and I do believe he is very fond of me, but it is timeliness first and feelings afterward with him, I know. When business calls him on a journey only one eye drops a tear at parting with his wife and offspring. The other is fixed on the clock to see that the cab is sent for in time to catch the train. That "catching the train" is the thought that makes him thin and that keeps him so. Much of his time is necessarily consumed in traveling but not nearly so much as spent in preparing for his journey. The day previous to an expedition is mainly occupied in packing his carpetbag and writing out his direction labels He leaves over night as in a will, the most elaborate directions for the proceedings of the next morning, with a codicil appointing that he shall be called half an hour earlier than he at first considered soon enough. This last command is wholly superfluous, since he always wakes of himself long before the appointed hour and proceeds to ring the house up. Previous to this he has kept me from my rest since earliest dawn by perpetually getting out of bed to see whether it is going to be fine. Upon this depends the momentous question: "Shall he take his waterproof coat or not?" If he does it should be strapped up at once with the other things already lying on the hall table ready for departure; not a moment is to be lost. His toilet is hasty enough, but not speedy, for in his eager desire on retiring to rest to have everything ready for the morning he has generally packed up his brushes and comb or some other indispensible thing which has to be disentombed from the portmanteau. He generally shaves overnight; but, if not, I tremble for his throat, since I know with what inprudent rapidity he is performing that operation in his dressingroom.

An Odd Wedding Incident.

Chicago Tribune: An odd incident happened recently at the West Arch street Presbyterian church, Philadelphia. There was to be a wedding there at half past 7 o'clock of a young lady of an extensive social connection in that and other churches. There were great preparations, and it so filled the minister's mind that he entirely overlooked the fact that he had an appointment to marry another pair at exactly the same hour. When a quarter-past 7 arrived, the large church was as full of people as it could possibly be, and the pavement on each side of the projecting awning was crowded with the non-invited waiting for that boon which the highest to the lowest enjoys—a peep at the bride. There were at least fifty or sixty carriages in front of the church. Among the guests in the church were bankers, judges, lawyers, numerous clergymen, and a fine representation generally of the city's best social and material prosperity. The organ was pealing and the minister was in place. Just at this juncture bride and bridegroom-elect No. 2, who had been at the minister's house and been told to go to the church, drove up in a carriage to the side door and entered. Around the side door everything was as quiet as if nothing was going on. Through the door leading from the chapel they saw the illuminated and crowded church, and just then the other bride in white, with jewels, and attended by a bevy of radiant bridesmaids, all in golden-colored gowns and preceded by a retinue of elegant-looking youths, came up the aisle. It was a curious surprise for the puzzled pair in the chapel. In about ten minutes the church was empty. While the last of the guests were going and the sexton was putting out the lights the minister married the second pair briefly in the chapel. The bride was in a plain traveling dress and the groom in ordinary attire. When they came out to enter the solitary carriage that stood on the side street she was leaning proudly on his arm, and they looked at least as happy as the other pair.

Transylvania Marriage Customs.

Popular Science Monthly: When the young couple go to church the day after the wedding they are met at the church door by a group of masked figures, who surround them singing and hooting, and playfully endeavor to separate the young matron from her husband. If they succeed in so doing then he must win her back in a hand-to-hand fight with her adversaries, or else he must give a piece of money as her ransom. In general it is considered a bad omen for the married life of the young couple if the wife be separated from her husband on this occasion; therefore, it is customary for the young husband to take his stand close by the church door while his wife is praying within, and then be ready to catch hold of her as soon as she steps outside. For greater precaution the man often holds her round the waist with both hands during the dance, which immediately takes place before the church, and at which they assist merely as spectators, taking no active part, as it is not considered seemly to dance in the church attire.

As commonly several couples are married at the same time, it is usual for each separate wedding party to bring its own band of music, and dance thus independently of the others. On the occasion of a triple wedding I lately witnessed, it was very amusing to watch the three wedding parties coming down the street, each accelerating its pace till it came to be a sort of a race up to the church door to secure the best dancing place. The ground being rough and slanting, there was only one spot where anything like a flat dancing floor could be obtained, and the winning party at once secured this enviable position, while the others had to put up with an inclined plane or a few hillocks accidenting the ballroom floor. The ten to sixteen couples belonging to each wedding party are inclosed in a ring of bystanders, each rival band of music playing away with heroic disregard for the scorched ears of the listeners. "Polka!" calls out the first group; "Waltzer!" roars the second, for it is a point of honor that each party should display a noble independence in taking its own line of action; and if, out of mere coincidence, two of the bands happen to strike up the selfsame tune, one of them is sure to change to something totally different as soon as aware of the unfortunate mistake—the caterwauling effect produced by this system baffling all description. "That is nothing at all" said the worthy pastor, from whose garden I was overlooking the scene, laughing at the evident dismay with which I endeavored to stop my ears. "Sometimes we have eight or ten weddings at a time, each with their own fiddlers. That is something worth hearing, indeed!"

Marrying to Avoid Banishment.

London Standard: The case of the notorious Mlle. De Sombreuil came on for hearing April 30 before the French court of appeal. After having been expelled from France she returned, and, being arrested on French soil, had been condemned by the correctional tribunal to two months imprisonment. The appeal court reduced the term of prison to one month, on account of her promise that she would for the future respect the French law. The court evidently believed that she intended to quit France forever; but it is said she intends to remain, and, to prevent for the future any decree of expulsion being issued against her, she is about to make herself French by marrying a Frenchman. It would be impossible for Mlle. De Sombreuil to act otherwise than in an eccentric manner, so she decided to pay a man an annuity of £48 for the service he would render her by going through the formalities of marriage. She is said to have receive an immense number of applications from men anxious to confer on her their name and with it the much-coveted French nationality. In any case it will now be useless for other Frenchmen to apply, as the woman has made her choice. Her future husband, whom she has never seen, and whom she intends to see only once—that is to say, at the marriage ceremony before the mayor—is a peasant of seventy-three years.

What Bridemaids Wear.

Harper's Bazaar: Bridemaids at June weddings will wear lace dresses made of the new silk lace in designs like those of the black marquise laces, and there are also dresses of plain Brussels net, of point d'esprit with its tiny dots, of striped lace, of the square meshed Russian nets, and of the polka-dotted net with large ball-like spots. V-necked, half-low waists gathered on the shoulder at the top, or else plain to the elbow, with a puff there, are the corsages of such dresses. The skirts have two or three flounces gathered all around or lengthwise, or else festooned, and Marie Antoinette paniers short and full in the hips, with one or two long points in the back. White silk French lace in large rose patterns, made over a white moire skirt is a fashionable combination. The deep scalloped lace is draped as an apron, covering the front and sides, while the back has a lace breadth in pleats down the middle, with a moire breadth each side of these pleats, turned over at the top in handkerchief points. A bridle of moire ribbon is down the left side of the lace front, and a great chou or loose rosette is on the right side. The moire basque is draped with lace, and has a high collar of moire ribbon, with a bow on the left side. The full lace sleeves have a deep moire cuff. Yellow if a favorite color for bridesmaids' dresses, and appears in watered silk skirts and waists and sashes, with white lace or Russian net dresses, or else it is seen in India silk for a full waist, and drapery over a cream nainsook embroidered skirt, with a border formed of five or six rows of picot-edged yellow ribbon an inch wide run through the open figures of the embroidery.

CONNUBIALITIES.

There is a project of marriage between the Princess Louise of Wales and the Grand Duke Michael Michailovitch, cousin of the czar. Mike is a pretty good fellow, they say.

Miss Lillian Bayard Taylor, daughter of the dead poet, is announced as engaged to Otto G. H. Ritiani, a medical student of the university of Halle, Germany. Mrs. and Miss Taylor will ultimately return to America for a permanent residence.

Miss Helene de Rothschild, the only daughter of the late Baron Solomon, of Paris, intends to marry Captain Van Smesser, a young officer of the Belgian army. The opposition of the lady's mother and other relatives will prevent the ceremony from taking place before August. Mlle. Helene already possesses an immense fortune, and her dot will ultimately amount to $30,000,000.

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