Performances in English of Gilbert and

Verdi's "Otello" has just been given for the first time in St. Petersburg. The czar was present at the performance. Between the third and fourth acts he sent for the

tenor who impersonated the title part and congratulated him on his performance. "I

think," he said, "you give an admirable ex-pression to the feeling of jealousy. Though I am no judge," he added, with a loving look

upon the empress by his side, "never having been jealous for a moment in my life."

One of the most promising of recent debut-antes has been engaged by Director Stan-ton for the remainder of the season at the Metropolitan opera house, New York. Miss Sophie Traubmann, who is a New Yorker by birth, was under contract to Mr. Locke, and had sung under his management Chrysa in "Nero" and Venus in "Tanahamor" during

the early part of his western tour. She lef-

the company, however, simultaneously with Mmc. Fursch-Madi, her instructress, and M.

Maestro Carlo Bosoni, who was Mme.

Christine Nillson's accompanist in this country, who led the bands of the principal opera

sons, and who was most recently Mme. Mar

chesi's accompanist in Paris, is dead. He was a composer and pianist of exceptional talent, and a most amiable and inoffensive

man, whose extreme modesty and timidity kept him from attaining the full measure o

celebrity to which his powers fairly entitled

A composer of whom the world has heard nothing as yet, but who is regarded by the advanced school of German musicians as the

coming man, is August Bungert, now living

. An opera of his, entitled last week threw Anton Seidl,

playing the score on the piano, into transports of delight. He says that "Nausikaa" is a portion of a mythological trilogy, and that Bungert, instead of copying Wagner, as all German composers do nowadays, has invented a thoroughly new style.

M. Lecocq, the well-known French com

M. Lecocq, the well-known French composer, not long ago bet 1,000 francs that he could compose an air which all Paris would be singing within a week. He wrote one, and the evening after it was sung by a popular artist at a cafe-chantant. Four days afterward M. Lecocq and his friends were walking on the boulevards when several "mashers" met them, all whistling the new song. Through an open window they heard

song. Through an open window they heard

it practiced on the plane; some children were singing an old nursery rhyme to it, and

in a yard not far off the same air was played on a baarrel organ. M. Lecocq had won his wager "with honors," but the air became so

unbearably popular that he was obliged to leave Paris for Brussels to escape from it.

SINGULARITIES.

In Apollo, Pa., a man recently caught a red bat that was stone blind.

There are two Chinese babies in Pitts

A lady in Le Roy, N. Y., has a calla lily

burg. The mother of one is an Irish woman

A Baltimore woman named Wright

During her twenty years of married life

Mrs. John Guest, of Wichita, Kan., has pre-sented her husband with twenty-two chil-dren. She has twice given birth to twins

Millions of dead, fish have been washed

ashore on Middle sound, near Wilmington N. C., and the odor from the decaying mass

is said to be intolerable. No one knows what

A St Paul man, who has a well-stocked fish pond, has tamed a big trout so that it comes at his call, cats from his hand, and shows its delight by jumping out of the water and turning in the air with very plain

Some hunters caught a bear in Athens

Me., after a long chase. He was found to have only two sound legs, one hind leg hav-

been cut off, long ago, apparently, at the joint, and one fore leg near the body. Yet he was able to run about as fast as the aver-

age bear.
Three petrified toads were found in a

bucket in the cellar of the Cumberland Val-

ley railroad station at Chambersburg re-cently. The bucket was placed in the cellar

last summer, when the toads are supposed to

A colossal stick of lumber from Puget Sound has been contributed to the Mechan-ics' exhibition at San Francisco. Its length

believed to be the longest piece of timber ever turned out of any saw mill.

Not far from Hyde Park, Mass., there is a

setter dog which has a peculiar way of mak-ing known its desire for food. When hungry

it will go to the coal hod and pick up a piece of coal and lay it at the feet of the mistress of the house, and if that does not bring the

food he will get another piece. On one occa-sion the dog's patience was taxed to the

utmost on purpose and it nearly emptied the

A curious discovery has just been made by people living in the vicinity of Pine Ridge, in

Crook county, Wyoming, between the Black Hills and the Big Horn basin. The discov-

ery is an article which resembles and has all the characteristics of soap. It is yellowish in color, makes fine suds, and will remove

grease from hands and clothing. The people who live in that vicinity are using it as soap.

D. Carpenter, of Summerville, Ga., has a

pair of twin roosters, nearly grown, which were hatched from the same egg. One is a dominique and the other black. Up to this

time they have never been separated over twenty-five yards, and each night they lov-ingly roost on the same limb side by side.

They never quarrel or fight, and to such an extent does their love go that one cannot flap

his wings and crow without the other follow-ing suit. This is passing strange, but Mr. Carpenter vouches for its truth.

William Horn, living near Greenville, Pa.,

captured a hawk alive recently, and, taking it home, tied it to the leg of the kitchen table

until he could procure a cage for it. The baby was left in the room to play, and soon Mrs. Horn heard it screaming violently. Rushing to the rescue she found that the vicious bird had attacked the child and was

tearing its face and breast with its talons and beak. Before the mother could save it, the baby had been badly lacerated on one

cheek, an eye was torn out and there were deep wounds on its breast.

C. W. Laib, a well-digger of Black River Falls, Wis., has a cat which is regarded as a

very peculiar freak of nature. It is a cat in

all its essential features, but has many char-acteristics of the rabbitt. It is several years old, and has had several litters of perfect kit-

tens; is an excellent mouser and equals a rat-terrior for catching rats. Its ears are longer

than those of a cat and not quite so long as those of a rabbit; its forepaws resemble those of a rabbit closely, also its hind legs nearly to the same degree. It moves by leaps like a rabbitt, and will sit in an upright position

with the ease and frequency of a rabbitt, and

often with the same continuity. Besides cat-ing meat and other food peculiar to the cat it

is very fond of raw cabbage, potato peclings and other vegetables, and will even cat

Two Letters.

Please, dear Jacque,

Can't stand racquet.

Five Minutes of Bliss.

'Did e'er you know five minutes," said the

O, yes, I've known five minutes, sir, of hap-

Twas when a maiden said to me, while driv-

Hers-Sealskin sacque,

No seal facquet,

an aching void!"

and all strife:

clover.

The supply is unlimited.

is 151 feet and is 20x20 inches through.

killed the fish in so great numbers.

week gave birth to three girls and nam them Frances, Folsom and Cleveland.

with a stalk fifty-three inches in height

and once to triplets.

manifestations of joy.

have hopped into it.

coalhod

Nero" and Venus in "Tannhauser"

n this country.

## THE MISTLETOE IN MANSIONS all the money she had saved for three months into a wonderful creation of

How an Old Custom Was Observed by the Vanderbilts and Astors.

GENERAL FITZ JOHN PORTER

His Jest on a Brother Officer Some Appropriate Presents-A Christmas Gift Complication-Clara Belle's Letter.

NEW YORK, Jan. 12 .- [Correspondence of the BEE. |-The first Vanderbilt residence that you come to on the way down Fifth avenue is that of Cornelius J. Vanderbilt, the eldest son and heir of the late William H. On the fifteenth morning after Christmas the servants were throwing out dry branches of mistletoe. Five blocks further down I saw the domestics of William K. Vanderbilt, the next younger brother of Cornelius, were doing exactly the same thing. The next square is filled by the more celebrated residences built by William H. Vanderbilt and occupied by his widow, her two married daughters and her bachelor sons. These mansions have half a dozen doorways opening on three streets, and several of these being removed more mistletoe. I pursued my way along the fashionable thoroughfare, occasionally seeing a like removal of the discarded branches until I got to the houses of Astors, in front of which, in refuse ready for casting away were broken pieces of the evergreen. All these had been suspended in the parlors at Christmas time, in accordance with the English custom. I do not know exactly, as to each particular household how far the custom of kissing girls caught under the mistletoe was observed by the Vanderbilts and Astors, but I do know it for a fact that the mis tletoe habit has been fully acquired by New York society people, and that it was very generally indulged in during

the past holidays.
William K. Vanderbilt and his dashing wife are in Europe, but his residence retains a complement of servants, who received the importation of mistletoe ordered as early as last summer; but I wonder what use they made of it? Certainly, they must have hung it to the chandeliers, for they took it down at the precise prescribed limit of fifteen days, as fixed by the law of English

Hitherto, Mrs. Willie, as they call her, has led the Vanderbilts in social activity. There are four married daughters of William E. Vanderbilt, all of whom are remarkable for charitable works and quiet behavior. The wife of Cornelius has also seemed to prefer the elegance of seclusion rather than public gaiety, but now in the absence of her showier sister-in-law it is said that she is going to splurge. She will give a ball at her magnificent residence next week. The house is finer and more picturesque than the better known Vanderbilt mansions, although not as large. and it has never yet been all at once opened for any public gathering. Its splendors of interior architecture and its sumptuousness of furniture are largely matters of repute only, even to many who move in the same sort of circles. There is, therefore, a great deal of lively expectation of magnificent disclosure.

THE GREAT WEDDINGS which are making such a stir in society are the occasions for curious exhibitions of human nature.

"I've got to buy an expensive present for the bride and a new gown for myself to appear in, and I don't care two hairher," I heard a pair of red li complain. "But when your wedding comes off,

suggested prudent mamma, "she will be able to make you a spleudid present, you know," and that settled the matter. The dear public would stretch its innocent optics to the utmost if it knew some of the doings behind the scenes. What, for instance, would it think of the richly dressed mamma who calls on some artist girls, supporting themselves bravely by their dainty work, who were school friends of her daughter, but of course never been admitted to society-

"Dear Geraldine will be married next month, you know. You didn't know? Then I'm glad I mentioned it. You will have time to do some of your beautiful work for her—she will be so delighted."

calling and casually remarking:

The unsuspecting girls are in a flutter. "They're going to invite us, Oh!" paintings are executed in their best styly, and sent in early, to give dear Geraldine pleasure. The girls watch in vain for invitations to the wedding. They have done all expected of them to launch the child of fortune in the most approved manner. But the day before e wedding a note comes from the bride inviting them to call that afternoon and see her elegant presents, graciously adding that their's did not suffer by contrast. The girl ddin't go.

GENERAL FITZ JOHN PORTER is a police commissioner. So is John McClave. When they met at police headquarters the other morning, the general said: "Hello John! Shall we have to take action on these presents that you got yesterday?" "Yes, if the board thinks we ought

o," was the reply.
This was a joke that meant more than is apparent in that bit of dialogue. The four police commissioners are mighty men in politics here. The daughter of McClave had been married the previous day. Her bridal gifts from her own acquaintances had been outshone and belittled by those sent in by police inspectors, captains and other men dependent upon the the quar-tette at the head of the police department. Four solid silver tea sets, and eight salad bowls of the same metal had been included in the wondrous display of presents. Now, the police board rigidly enforce a rule requiring all the offerers of gifts to policemen to be reported to the commissioners, who may or may not give their consent to an acceptance, and if they do decide that the officer may take the proffered thing, he must contribute 10 per cent of its value to the police pension fund. Now, you can comprehend the depth and subtlety

of General Porter's jocularity.

Now that the season for gift making has been half a month consigned to a worthy rest, let us take a glance at its true inwardness from some points of view. What does it amount to? Extravagance and disappointment. Fair Ethelwynn pouted for a week because the elegant bracelets Adolphus laid at her shrine on Christmas were not the watch her poor little soul craved. Adolphus saw her discontent and on New Year's day slipped a horseshoe brooch into her hand. The stones looked like diamonds, but still she was unsatisfied. She will never know that dear Dolph denied himself the conforting eigar for a month previous to the holidays, and still goes through the ageny of shaving simself to save the dimes to meet these bills. And neither of them is the hap-

months into a wonderful creation of plush and satin, which she called a handkerchief sachet. It was embroidered and trimmed, hung with bows, pompons and bangles, and was pronounced l-o-v-e-l-y by all her girl friends. On Christmas eve the dazzling work of art was given to John. He is an honest, industrious mechanic, and knows all about bolts, screws and steam pipes, but little of works of art. The rose-pink and sea-green sachet was as fit for him as a Honiton lace collar for an elephant. The poor fellow was overwhelmed with confusion. He dangled the sachet on his brown fingers, rumpled the satin ribbons, and tried to speak the thanks he did not feel. A dozen strong linen handkerchiefs, well marked, would John would know have been useful. what to do with them if he caught a cold by-and-by. In one house are three unmarried daughters, all in the matrimonial market. The avowed lovers of two of them were the donors of costly ornaments, the most elegant among their great number of expensive Christmas gifts. You would imagine these damsels to be in the seventh heaven of delight. Not a bit of it. Papa, for good reasons, doubtless, gave neither of them the scalskin jacket she had decided on beforehand. One fancies her sister's ornaments are richer or more unique or something else than her own. Every day since that great one of peace and good will there has been a running fire of stinging words between the sisters. The truth is that the thing is overdone and the money value of the gift is counted on more than the feeling

that prompts it! A complication regarding A CHRISTMAS GIFT is making one woman weep, one man equally sorrowful, and the rest of the boarders laugh, at a fashionable hotel We will call the principal in this city. actors Mr. and Mrs. Brown. She was especially desirous of a thousand-dollar pair of diamond earrings. She had gone so far as to select them at a jewelry store, and had consulted with her husband. He had urged poverty as a reason for not buying them, but had intimated that he could stand an expenditure of about five hundred dollars for the purpose. Then Mrs. Brown had a happy thought. She went to the jew-eler and told him that if her husband came to look at the earrings, the price was to be given to him as \$500, and that if he purchased them she would pay the remaining \$500. The scheme was carefully and successfully worked up to a critical point, and there it had a miserable failure. The husband inspected the jewels according to the programme, and he bought them, too. His wife learned from the merchant of the sale and paid her half of the money according to agreement. But when Christmas came and she opened the box containing her present, she found only a hundred dolar bracelet instead of the coveted earrings. She suppressed her fury for a while and calmy asked her husband why he had not given the diamonds to her. He replied that he had not been able to afford it. Next she had a consultation with the jeweler who declared upon his honor that Mr. Brown had paid ive hundred dollars for the earringshad seemed to regard them as a good bargain and had taken them away.

whom had he given them? To a woman,

surely, for they would be of little use to

masculine ears. Perhaps Mrs. Brown

exhausted all private means of finding out for whom she had contributed \$500

out of her own pocket money. Anyhow,

she has confided the perplexing question

to several cronies in the hotel and they

it goes into publication.

The pursuit of Kyrle Bellew, the actor, by a crazily sentimental woman in Boston is generally smiled at as an advertising device, because Bellew is a chap who can be considered handsome only by the most vivid imagination. But it is a mania with a few women in how, and so it is no wonder that a foolish creature chased Bellew to Boston. Madame Pouisi, the stately old actress who has for very many years been in the Wallack company with Bellew and his predecessors, has been talking to me about the craze for acting and for actors that possesses a few girls of the No one is better qualified present day. to speak on this subject. She has been season after season in the company with such famous heart-breakers Lester Wallack, Henry J. Montague, and later specimens of stage heroes. She had to push through a crowd of their adorers, who locked up the back door, to see their idols enter or depart. She has faced with them matince audiences made up of enamored She has read a bushel of burning effusions. Montague, the most be-seiged of the whole army of theatrical crushers, used to receive a hundred love etters every month of his life, and on such occasions as New Years and Christmas, as many came in a week. Madame Pontsi said that Montague did not pretend to read them. The back door keeper would hand him a batch, out of which he would hastily cull the tender missives, and, as he passed the actresses' dressing rooms he would distribute the

KYRLE BELLEW'S FASCINATIONS. they appeal to the admiration and affection of the very young or the very ancient. The moos that stand and wait for him on the side street either use chewing gum or wear spectacles. Mme. Ponisi told how one sufferer from this form of dementia hit upon a plan. She learned where the matronly actress dwelt and asked for an interview. Now if ever nobility of nature and dignity of womanhood sat on a woman's head and radiated from her fan, it is Madam Ponisi's case. With her crown of silver hair, the honest eyes of Irish blue, the complexidn and teeth preserved by health and a contented mind, the firm, upright form, without an effort to efface a wrinkle gown beautifully old, the actress faced her visitor. A private carriage had brought her there. Her dress be-tokened wealth, and everything that money could do to make an old hen into a spring chicken had been done. Baby frizzes were pinned on her thin and faded locks. Rouge was laid on where Alabaster cream left off. A row of piano keys decorated her upper jaw. Fard Indien threw up her time-bleared eyes. Pads hid the ravages of years in her figure. As she fronted Madame Ponisi, she was that stately dame's antipodes. She had the advantage in years, but she had made such bad use of them she looked older than the actress in her effort to be young.

curiosities for their amusement. As to

"My dear Madame," said the caller, "it is a matter of the heart which has impelled me to call. A most ardent attachment for Mr. Kirke Bellow has taken possession of my-"
"Dear! dear!" interrupted the ac-

tress, "another poor girl! Has your daughter ever met..." "My daughter?"

"Didn't you say your dang stor?" "I have no daughter," said the woman, "I am unmarried and I came to ask you to give me some particulars about Mr. —— on my own account,"
The actress was paralyzed. The enamored spinster begged her to take her, as an intimate friend, behind the scenes at Wallack's, and introduce her

to the fascinating leading man. "We do not take strangers behind the scenes," was the reply. The idea of pier for it. I saw a young girl putting | your having such a feeling for this gen-

tleman is preposterous. I cannot help

you in any way."
That foolish woman hung around and cried, and finally declared that no "jeal-ous guardianship" should keep her from knowing the love of her life, for "she would study and go upon the stage, tragedy queens who surrounded her idol should not bar her out.

"I heard the other day of a lady tak ing elocutionary lessons for 'a purpose she wouldn't divulge'", said Madame Ponisi, "perhaps it was the old actorstruck lady who came to me last sea CLARA BELLE.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC.

Minnie Palmer can play in French and Ger man as well as English

Edwin Booth has again placed his Newport ottage on the market for sale. The Apollo, theater in Rome is to be pulled

Mrs. Potter intends to do Cleopatra with much gorgeous magnificence next season. J. K. Emmet will begin an engagement in London next spring under his son's management.

Town lots in California are given away with each dollar ticket at Pope's theatre. St Louis.

Possart, the famous German actor, made great impression recently at the New York

It is stated on best authority that Pauline Lucea is about to settle in Vienna as singing

teacher. The National Opera company still survives having done a fair business in Toronto and

Patti Rossa is regarded as the best banic player in her line of business since Lotta' palmy days. The venerable rope walker Blondin will be

the attraction at St. George's, Staten island next summer.

Massenet and Sardou are co-workers in the opera that will reintroduce Marie Van Zandt

to a Parisian audience.

An Amati violin, which originally belonged to King Louis XIV., has recently been sold at Buda Pesth for \$3,500. Patti has advertised her Welsh estate for sale because burglars recently made a suc cessful raid on the castle.

Sylva, the tenor, has secured his money from Manager Loke, and will join the National opera company in Boston. At a sale of autographs recently at Berlin a letter of Sarah Bernhardt sold for \$50, while one of the Emperor William went at \$10 only.

Miss Rose Coghlan it is said, has decided to resume starring next season, when she will be seen in Charles Coghlan's new play of Joselyn.

M. Guille, the diminutive tenor that acompanied Mme. Patti in her last year's tour s singing in opera at the grand theatre in Marseilles. Mr. Abbey announces three more after-

noon concerts by Josef Hofmann, in New York. They will take place January 18, 25, and February 1. It is said in Italy that Baron Achille Paganini, the son of the famous violinist, will shortly give to the world the unpublished

works of his father. Victor Nessler, the successful and opulent composer of "The Trumpeter of Sackingen." s engaged on a new opera, the scene of which

laid in Strasburg. London World: I hear from Berlin that it is expected the famous Meiningen theatrical company will go to the United States next September for a tour of eight months.

Jacques Kruger is said to have won a law-suit in France involving the title to a large estate. His friends will be able to make little loans for a time if this news be true. Mme. De Murska receives \$10,000 salary a rofessor at the New York musical academy. The professors at the Paris conservatory are

paid from \$240 to \$300 a year for their ser Mary Anderson, having refused a duke, an earl and several of the British gentry, is now engaged by the gossips to young George Beckwith, who runs a dry goods store in

in turn have told it to others, and here P. T. Barnum's special agent, George O. Starr, purchased a complete menageric of wild animals and birds in Europe, which have just arrived in New York by steamer, from

> The Cincinnati Musicians' Protective union has decided that no member shall play in an orchestra with women under penalty of expulsion, and a fine of \$100 if he shall apply From Hamburg comes the sad news that

Hans you Billow is seriously ill. At the last concert he conducted he was too weak to hold the baton, and led the last part of the final number with his hand. Henry Irving the other day telegraphed to New York asking when the burlesque of "Faust" was to be done at the Star, as he did

ot care to give the regular performance of that piece after the burlesque. A new book on Beethoven has just been

published in Vienna by Dr. Frimmel, who calls it "Neue Beethoviana." It contains, besides six hitherto unpublished letters, several studies on the composer and his life. Barnam's agent in Paris has contracted

with the Paris Hippodrome company for a troup of Arab riders and performers which have been such a feature in that city for some months past. They will be brought to Last week Messrs. Booth and Barrett made

Last week Messrs. Booth and Barrett made offer to Gilmore & Tompkins of \$430,000 for the New York Academy of Music. This is \$80,000 more than Gilmore & Tompkins paid for the houses, but they promptly declined the offer. Mille Luisa Lablanche, who was under engagement to the Boston Ideals this season and violated her contract, is now traveling with an operatic company managed by Mr. Mapleson redivivus, and devastating Great Britain and Ireland.

Kate Claxton's new play, "The World Against Her," reveals the story of the separation of man and wife through the machinations of a rich scamp, and their subsequent reconciliation after a number of thrilling adventures.

Mme. Geistinger has found biographical sketch in Brockhaus' encyclochtia which invoices her age at fifty-nine. She denounces the statement as a base libel, and is flourishing a certificate of birth, which testifies that she was born in the year 1837 she was born in the year 1837.

The comic actor, Warlamoff, of the Alexandra theater, St. Petersburg, has brought Bismarck on the Russian stage in a farce with the ominous title, "On a War Footing," in which he mimies the chancellor to the perect satisfaction of the Muscovites.

Campanini's brief season of Italian opera in San Francisco was very successful, artistically and financially. He produced "Rigoletto," "La Favorita," and "Faust" for three performances, and his principal singers were Schalchi, Repetto, Galassi, Baldini and Nan-

Mme. Etelka Gerster is still living in New York, the guest of her brother, who is a wellknown physician. She sees no one. Dr. Gerster says, however, that his sister has not lost her voice, and that she will sing in this country and prove it before going to her

Henry E. Abbey intends to celebrate Jan uary 10 as one of the red letter days of his life. On that day he will pay the last \$2,000 of that colossal debt of \$253,000 incurred in the seasons of 1883-84, when he was at the head of the affairs at the New York Metro politan opera house.

Mme. Modjeska has added 'Much Ado About Nothing and Romeo and Juliet to her repertoire this season. Last year Mme. Modleska humorously threatened to play Juliet when she was a grandmother. She has become a grandmother and she has kept the promise made in jest.

A well known instructor in the dramatic art gives the following advice to young ladies who contemplate going on the stage: "Study before you go on. It is all well enough to talk about beginning at the bottom of the ladder, but if you begin without knowledge you are very likely to remain at the bottom."

Victor S. Fletcher, of New York is the possessor of one of the most valuable and venerable violins in America. It is a Stradivarius "Elijah," and was recently imported from Antwerp, where it was made in 1728. The instrument is valued at \$7,500, and, needless to state, is of perfect workmanship and

Sarah Bernhardt is having great sport with her two young lions, which are allowed to play about her studio. Sarah is now model-ing a life-size group representing "The God of Love trampling on two prostrate female forms." A one-act drama from her pen is

also expected to be presented at the Odeon in ECHOES FROM THE ANTE-ROOM

Sullivan's operas are now a regular institu-tion of the musical season in Berlin. "Mi-kado," "Patience" and "Pinafore" have so far been given by one of Mr. D'Oyly Carte's News and Gossip of the Various Secret Orders. companies, and achieved as much success in Germany as they have done in England and

WHY A FUND WAS SUBSCRIBED,

Relief to the Sick and Destitute-Masonic Chat-Knights of the Golden Rule - General Pythian News.

What it Meant.

"In a recent issue the Chicago Times says Knights of Pythias of Nebraska, according to dispatches, have offered \$15,000 as an entertainment fund for the supreme lodge of that order, provided it would hold its session next June at Omaha. Mr. Edwin L. Brand, of Chicago, commander of the Illinois brigade uniform rank, Knights of Pythias, said yesterday that he could not understand such move. At the last meeting of the supreme lodge at Toronto in 1886, which was 'attended by supreme representatives of all the states and territories, it was unanimously decided to have the next ression at Cincinnati. He thought it would now be impossible for even the supreme chancellor to change the meet ing-place. Hotel accommodations have been arrranged for in Cincinnati, and it is alto gether unlikely the programme will be

The cause of the move is readily explained Cincinnati guaranteed at Toronto an enter tainment fund of \$10,000. The reports in the papers of that city were taken as evidence that they had failed to keep their pledges The manner in which Supreme Chancellor Douglas was compelled to plead with his fel-low citizens to stand by their agreement was humiliating to every member of the order. The Pythians of Nebraska assembled and se cured pledges in the sum of \$15,000, to be used as an entertainment fund in case the session should come to Omaha. This offer was telegraphed the supreme chancellor with the belief that if Cincinnati should not fulfil its agreement the interests of the orde should best be subserved by changing the place of meeting and knowing had the eash to back its liberal offer. No braskan Pythians do not expect the sessio to go elsewhere now than Cincinnati, but the have the satisfaction of knowing that their time those who were disposed to regard : session of their highest body as a trivial mat

Pennsylvania.

A dispatch received by the BEE from Cincinnati last night says: "Howard Douglass supreme chancellor of the world Knights of Pythias, has suspended the entire jurisdic tion of the Grand lodge of the state of Penn sylvania for disobedience of orders. The diso edience consists in refusing to amend the constitution in certain particulars as been previously required. Chancellor Doug-lass will cite officers of the Grand lodge to appear before him January 21, to show cause why the chancellor should not be upheld.' IN THE majority of the secret orders the

relief extended to sick and destitute member: is regulated by a stated amount. In many instances that amount is too small to meet the exigencies of the occasion, yet it is not often that a member in good standing with any of the secret orders is permitted to be inconvenienced by reason of his poverty dur-ing his illness. The receiving of such aid is not a charity extended but an obligation dis charged by the lodge. In spite of this, how ever, it is not pleasant to the object of sucl attention to be known as the recipient of air which the stranger would construe as charit while those who know appreciate it as t interest on a good investment. A person de pendent on a lodge of A., F. and A. M. i never known outside of the members of the fraternity, and often not outside the lodge he is connected with. Their relief is distributed in a different way from most other secret societies. When they learn of a member in needy circumstances, a committee of three is detailed by the lodge to visit him. They are not given any particular sum, but have authority to supply them with anything they may need They provide clothing, shoes, medicine, gro-ceries, fuel, etc., and continue to do this, not for any stated time, but until the object of charity is able to earn a living. In many lodges of other secret orders where the re lief to be extended is regulated by a stated sum, a very proper rule is enforced whi compels every member, rich and poor, sick for at least a week to accept the amount of weekly benefits. This rule has been found to be meritorious from the fact that members to be meritorious from the fact that members not really in destitute circumstances, yet as proud as they were poor, might be taken ill and the weekly benefits of their lodge might be of considerable and to them. Yet these same brethren would decline to accept this aid if their wealthier brethren were per mitted to refuse it. Thus when the lodge provided \$5 as a weekly allowance to a sick brother, the richest member of the lodge sick the required time and surrounded by plenty accepted his weekly stipend with the san grace of his poorer brother, and thus avoided any humiliating feelings on the part of the

Within the past three years the I. O. O. F in the United States has expended \$800,000

Court St. Louis, Ancient Order of Forest ers, at a special meeting on Thursday even ing decided in favor of calling a special cor one decided in favor of calling a special convention of the order in America for the purpose of considering the advisability of severing connection with the high court of England, chiefly on account of the action of the foreign high court wishing to change its constitution so as to admit colored people into the order, The courts of this country, so far as known, are opposed to the admission of

THERE IS a movement on foot to build Pythian castle at Washington, D. C. THE AVERAGE membership of Pythian lodges

in Nebraska is forty.

Major General Carnaham of the Uniform Rank, during '87, approved 125 applications for the new divisions in various parts of the country, a gain of 100 per cent over any previous year.

THAT WHICH amounts to almost a passion.

exists among the negroes of this country in their taste for secret organizations. It is curious too to notice the peculiarity of titles selected for these organizations. Among the number appear the following: Junior Rising Sons and Daughters of the Vineyard, Resolute Daughters of Joshua, Benevolent Sons of the Young Army Shining, First National Phoenix Sisters, Young Ladies' Golden Harp of America, Devolutions of the First Star of Largh Rising Daughters of the First Star of Jacob, Rising Sons and Daughiers of the East, Loving Daughters of Paradise, Young Rising Sons of Ham, Sisters of the Lord's Delight society, Heavenly Called Laborers of the Vineyard, Originating Sons and Daughters of Business Young Home Search Daughters of Love, Hope to Be Righteous society, United Sons and Daughters of Rising Morning Star, Seven Colden Candlesticks, Benevolent Daughters of Weeping Mary society, Following Sons of Abraham, Loving Sons and Daughters of Revelation, Grand Council of the Cross, Young Lambs, Peace-able Daughters of Bethlehem, Young Daugh-ters of the Aid of Shiloh, Young National Daughters of Phœnix, Infant Daughters of Love, United Sons of Adam, Daughters of the Colden Chemict, Sweet Prospects of the Golden Chariot, Sweet Prospects of Paradise, Loving Daughters of the Sepulchre.

misanthrope to me,
"Five minutes in your life, sir, when from
trouble you were free;
Five minutes of true happiness, of pleasure DR. SAMUEL SMITH, a well-known Meson of Minnesota, in a recent public address said: "Nothing ever happens by accident unalloyed, In which within your heart you did not feel and nothing exists unless there is some good in it. We sometimes hear of heary false hoods. But there are no such things. Those piness in life, Five minutes when I quite forgot all trouble very gray-haired falsehoods have lived be-cause of some good contained in them. Masonry has existed in many generations in in spite of the doubts of many wise men as to the results of it, and in spite of lies and calumnies of blackguards it has existed and ing in a sleigh,
'I'll give you just five minutes, John, to take
your arm away.'" will exist for generations to come, because of the good in it. If this is not so, how could it have gone through the troubles of fifty years ago! It exists in other lands than this—we may say in all lands. If men thick Miss Braddon, the popular English novelist, is now forty-eight years old; she is rather tall, her features are plain, but she has a very intelligent expression; her hair is of golden red. About fifteen years ago she married her publisher, Mr. Maxwell, and her novels, of which she writes three a year, and greatly to the income of the publishing house. alike and feel alike they must and will come together. Men must organize because they are built that way. This organization grows

gan, and it lasts down to these late times. It is non-political, but it has certain principles of vitality. It takes hold of truth and knowlof vitality. It takes hold of truth and knowledge. It exalts above all these the principle of brotherhood, and in the words of the Meson of Scotland, Bobby Burns, recognizes that 'man's a man for a' that, and a' that.'

A NEW hall has been engaged by the Ancient Order of the United Workmen in the new Barker block corner Farnam and Fifteenth streets. The Omaha, Union Pacific, Herman and Gate City lodges will all hold services in the halls.

THE GRAND LODGE A. F. and A. M., of the Province of Quebec, will at its coming session deal with the following motion: "No saloonkeeper, or restaurant keeper who sells spirituous or intoxicating liquors, or tavern-keeper or bartender shall be eligible to be made or become a member of the fraternity of Free Masons in the jurisdiction of the grand lodge of Quebec; that any member of the fraternity of Free masons in the jurisdiction of this lodge, becoming a saloonkeeper, res taurantkeeper selving spirituous or intexicat ing liquors, or tayern keeper or bartende shall hereafter be deemed, on proof thereof, to be guilty of an un-Masonic offense, the punishment of which shall be suspension or expulsion from the fraternity, and the erasure of his name from the roll of his own and the grand lodge.

Another subject for discussion will be proposed suspension of the edict of non Masonic intercourse issued against the grand lodge of England in 1885, on account of there being three lodges in Quebec under the jurisdiction of the English grand lodge, which refuses to come into the Quebec jurisdiction

WEDNESDAY EVENING Castle Omaha No. 74. Knights and Ladies of the Golden Rule, celebrated their fifth aniversary at their hall o Douglas street. The members and their friends, numbering about two hundred, were in attendance. After installing the following officers, (William E. Hughes, commander; Joseph I. Watt, vice commander; Joseph Kragskow, prelate; George Sheller, master at arms; Charles Kohl, financial secretary; Roberts, recording secretary; Swartzlander, treasurer: Theodore Festner, herald; William C. Andress, warder;), about an hour was spent in singing, music and speaking, after which an elegant supper was served by the lady members, of which all partook freely. Several hours were spent in dancing and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

THE RESIGNITION Of Lieutenant Colonel John T. McMannis, commanding the Omaha regiment, U. R., K. of P. of Nebraska, under date of January 9, 1888, has been received and accepted. Captain Charles P. Needham Falcon division, No. 15, has assumed com mand of the Omaha regiment. A meeting of the field staff and line officers of the regi-ment will take place January 17, at 8:30 p.m. sharp, for the election of a lieutenant colone. to fill the vacancy.

THE REGIMENTAL ball at Masonic hall of the U. R. K. of P. Wednesday next should be well attended by all of the knights of the

DELAYED BY the attendance of its editor at the editorial convention the Pythian Spar will make its January appearance during the Inspections of the several divisions of the

U. R., K. of P., was seriously interfered with on account of the weather the past week. Omaha division No. 12 being the only on duly inspected by Assistant Inspector Gen eral Gibson. Supplemental orders may be ssued for divisions unable to meet on count of weather.

Nebraska Lodge No. 1 installed its officers for the ensuing term Wednesday night, all of whom were duly qualified and the installa tion was a pleasing success.

TROJAN DIVISION No. 18 has adopted a unique form of notice to its members for dues, etc., by the attachment of its by-laws to every notice sent out by the recorder, thus enabling members to read and be wise as to the enactments of the division.

RELIGIOUS.

Archbishop Williams, of Boston, it is said, s to receive a cardinal's hat. Mr. Spurgeon has returned to London from Mentone. He is greatly improved in health.

Eighteen of the thirty-four churches in Waterloo Presbytery, lows, are vacant, and five of these are self supporting. Dr. Emil G. Hirach has been re-elected minister of Sinai Synagogue, Chicago, for t a salary of \$12,000

Rev. Dr. Furness, of Philadelphia, eighty-six years of age, and still a vigorou and entertaining preacher. He delivered bi-first sermon sixty-five years ago.

The Methodist Episcopal general confer ence is to be held next year, when five bish-ops are to be elected. The state of Ohio comes forward already with three candidates le Michigan alone there are at least 225 neighborhoods, of from 100 to 500 people each entirely destitute of religious service by any religious denomination; in Nebraska, 50; in Dakota, 100.

At the annual meeting of the New York branch of the Alliance Israelite last week the officers for the ensuing year were elected. They are Mr. A. S. Solomons, president; Rev. H. S. Jacobs, vice president; Mr L. S. Wolff, treasurer, and Dr. Pereira Men

les, secretary. Archbishop Ryan, of Philadelphia, has sent two different cable dispatches to his ca-thedral priests—one from Ireland and the other from Rome—announcing his arrival at each point. He intends to make a lengthy visit to Ireland on his return, and expects to

be back in Philadelphia about the middle of March.
The Greek church, at Sitka, Alaska, is one of the wealthiest in the world, its treas ure consisting for the greater part in oil paintings of the saints, set in frames of gold and silver. One picture, a present from the czar, is valued at \$40,000. The massive doors of the church are heavily inlaid with precious

metals. The Hebrew seminary which was started last year in New York city by the conservative Jewish rabbis, to train young men for the Jewish ministry, has attained such prosperity during the twelve months of its operation that an advanced department has been added to the school of elementary instruction with which it began its work. The school is now considered to be ably equipped for the mission of providing young clergymen for Jewish pulpits.

The London Graphic says: "A new office in the church of England, that of permanent deacon, has been created, and the first ap-pointment of the kind was made at the recent ordination for the diocese of Litchfield. A permaneut deacon is one who is not to become a priest, and the intention is that he shall at first assist an incumbent in the celebration of the communion, while he may be afterwards licensed to preach."

At the recent Catholic synod held in the Providence (R. I.) cathedral, the Right Rev. Bishop Harkins presiding, the full list of diocean officials ordered by the late plenary council of Baltimore was appointed. They were: Consultors—Rev. M. McCabe, of Woonsocket: Rev. Thomas Falls, of Central Falls; Rev. C. Danvy, of Woonsocket; Rev. James A. Fitzsimmons, of Ashton, and Rev. Philip Grace, D. D., of New York, Rev. Christopher Hughes, of Fall River, Mass., was appointed defender of the matrimonial bond and Rev. William Stang, of Providence, the defender of the matrimonial bond and Rev. William Stang, of Providence, fiscal procurator.

Slightly Mixed. DES MOINES, Ia., Jan. 14 .- Special Tele

gram to the BEE. ] -- The action of the senate to-day in giving Senator Cassatt a prima facie title to the scat as senator from the Fifteenth district has attracted considerable comment from the curious complication it makes of the whole matter. The executive council had ordered a new election on the theory that there was an excess of votes at the last election, but Mr. J. T. Young, the republican contestant, in an impulsive moment went with some democrats and opened the ballot box and made a new count. They then declared that the error was only clerical, and Voung, in a desire to be very honest, made affidavit that he believed the other man had the most votes and was entitled to the sept. The executive council, however, paid no attention to his information as it was unofficial, and that the opening of the ballot tox was illegal and ordered the new election. This will be held next Tuesday. But the democrats in the senate took Young's affidavit as evidence stronger just in proportion as we are drawn out and toward one another. Far back in against him, and demanded that Cassatt be the dim and distant past, Free Masonry be-

the senate had nothing else to do but concur, So Cassatt gets the seat. The election will go on and if Young gets the most votes, seems likely, he will still be out in the cold, and will have to bring a contest if he hopes to get a seat in the senate this session. It is very peculiar mudale.

Cassatt Scated.

DES MOINES, Ia., Jan 14.-In the morning session of the senate, E. R. Cassatt was scated. The following bills were introduced:

By Harsh-Regulating railroads. It repeals existing laws thereto, applies the principles of the Inter-state commerce law to commence within the state and provides for the election of railroad commissioners by a

direct vote. By Mr. Young-A bill requiring the attorney-general to sue railroad companies for \$5,000 per month penalty. The amount recoverable is \$6,000,000. Referred to the coverable is \$6,000,000. Referred to the committee on railways. Also a bill exempting from taxation homesteads bought with pension money, and costing under \$700.

Senate File 43, by Mr. Woolsen, appropriating \$2,300 for an asylum at Mount Pleasant, was referred to the committee on appropriations.

A joint resolution was introduced by Mr. Beinegar proposing a change in articles in the state constitution making all citizens of the United States voters and leaving out the word "male" in the qualifications of voters.

An adjournment was taken until Tuesday, January 17, at noon. Grave Robbers Sentenced.

DES MOINES, Ia., Jan. 14 .- [Special Telegram to the BEE.]-T. J. Jones and C. S. Porter, who attempted to rob a grave at Mitchellville a few weeks ago, were brought into court this afternoon for sentence. Judge Given in passing sentence said he took into consideration the good character of the prisoners, and would make the fine \$50 each and costs of the prosecution and six months in the penitentiary at Fort Madison. An appeal bond of \$500 each was given so that the de-fendants could have time to graduate in the medical college before going to prison.

lowa Legislative Proceedings. DES MOINES, Ia., Jan. 14 .- | Special Telegram to the Ber |- Senator Young's resolution introduced in the senate to-day instructs the attorney general to begin suits against the railroads engaged in the old Council Bluffs pool and recover the fines, interest, etc., under the act of 1873. This pool was sustained for several years by all lines that made their western terminus at Council Bluffs. The penalty for violation of the act forbidding pooling was a fine of \$5,000 a month. It was notorious that the pool existed contrary to law but the roads were never prosecuted Senator Young proposes now that the state shall try to recover from the roads that were in the pool the full amount of their fines up to the time when the pool was broken up. If successful the state would recover \$6,000,000.

Manitoba Politics. WINNIPEG, Jan. 14.- Harrison, government candidater is defeated. Greenway will not take the office until Monday.

Soft muffs, made of the material matching the costume or wrap, trimmed with fur, passementerie, lace, ribbon bows and other fancy decorations, in accordance with the material, are very fashionable. Independent mufts for dressy wear are made of bright colored plush or velvet, elaborately trimmed with lace, beaded motifs, tinsel embroideries,

AHAMO

MEDICAL & SURGICAL INSTITUTE. COMMANDED AND SQUESTION OF STREET

N. W. Cor. 13th & Dodge Sts. Ohnania and Onnaisal Di-CHLANIC AN**A** PALÄICAI DIBRA**209** BRACES. APPLIANCES FOR DEFORMITIES AND TRUSSES.

Best facilities, apparatus and remedies for suc-cessful treatment of every form of disease requir-ing Medical or Surgical Treatment. FIFTY ROOMS FOR PATIENTS.

Board and attendance; best hospital accommodations in the west.

WRITE FOR CIRCULARS on Deformities and Braces, Trisses, Club Feet, Curvature of the Spine, Piles, Tumors, Cancer, Catarrh, Broachitis, Inhalation, Electricity, Paralysis, Epilepsy, Kidney, Bladder, Fye, Ear, Skiu and Blood, and all Surgical Operations.

Diseases of Women a Specialty. BOOK ON DISEASES OF WOMEN PREE.
ONLY RELIABLE MEDICAL INSTITUTE

MAKING A SPECIALTY OF PRIVATE DISEASES. All Blood Diseases successfully treated. Syphilitic Poison removed from the system without mercury. New restorative treatment for loss of Vital Power. Persons unable to visit us may be treated at home by correspondence. All communications confidential. Medicines or instruments sent by mail or express, securely packed, no marks to indicate contents or sender. One per-sonal interview preferred. Call and consult us or send history of your case, and we will send in plain wrapper, our

BOOK TO MEN, FREE; Upon Private, Special or Nervous Diseases, Im-potency, Syphilis, Gleet and Varicocele, with question list. Address

Omaha Medical and Surgical Institute, or DR. MCMENAMY, Cor. 13th and Dodge Sts., . OMAHA. NEB.

OF

Mannion & Hughes, Opticians,

Important to Spectacle Wearers.

Direct from London. Now at

1512 Farnam Street, Will thoroughly test your eyesight

Free of Charge, and show you where necessary the Glasses most suited to your condition.

your condition.

There are thousands of persons permanently injuring their eyes by the use of inferior and ill-fitting Glasses, who reget when too late their mistake. We would invite those persons about to begin and those who think they cannot be suited to see us. Remember, it costs you nothing but a few moments' time.

The proper adjustment of Spectacles is a science which none but the skilled optician or oculist should practice. We have the most improved and scientific instruments and tests for determining the defects of vision and promise to remedy where possible by the use of Spectacles.

We use none but the most perfectly ground and accurately centered lenses, and make frames to fit the face. No fancy prices. Our Crystaline Spectacles at \$1.00 are unequalled for comfort and case to the wearer.

Proprietor Omaha Business College, IN WHICH IS TAUGHT

Book-Keeping, Penmanship, Commercial Law, Shorthand, Telegraphing and Typewriting. Send for College Journal.

S. E. Cor. 16th and Capital Ave.