THE BEST PEOPLE ON EARTH.

First Session of the Grand Lodge Outside of New York.

THE NEW YORK LODGE MEETS ALONE.

Doings of the Week in the Various Orders—The Usual Midsummer Dullnes Prevails on all Sides—Notes.

The grand lodge met at Cleveland, O., on the 8th inst., in accordance with the decision of the grand lodge at its last session. New York lodge No. 1 took excention to the action of the grand lodge in holding its meeting outside of New York state and withheld the records, the secretary, Arthur C. Moreland, refusing to attend. Representatives were present from every lodge except No. 1.

The session was held and an acting secretary appointed. Afterwards the lodge expelled Secretary Moreland and the New York lodge for insubordination. This matter occupied considerable time, an entire day being devoted to the discussion. The vote to expel was unanimous.

The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows: Simon Quinlin of Chicago lodge, exalted grand ruler; Emil Boullier of Louisville lodge, leading grand knight; Frank E. Wright of Toledo lodge, loyal grand knight; E. G. Bower of Dallas lodge, lecturing grand knight; Allen O. Myers of Cincinnati lodge, grand secretary; J. O. Gray of Boston lodge, grand treasurer.

One of the most enjoyable features in connection with the session was the reunion held in the Euclid avenue opera house the evening of the 7th inst. The stage was beautifully decorated with the emblems and mottoes of the order. An address of welcome was delivered by the mayor and short speeches were made by a number of prominent Elks, among them being Edward Larkin of Omaha.

The parade during the afternoon of the 8th inst was a large one and attracted considerable attention. In the evening the Cleveland lodge gave a grand banquet and social session to the visiting Elks in the armory of the Cleveland grays. More than one thousand Elks and their wives were present.

During the time the other lodges were holding their session in Cleveland, New York lodge No. 1 held a session all by itself in New York city and elected grand lodge officers. Resolutions were adopted declaring the Cleveland body clandestine and not a part of the order. This action is very amusing in view of the fact that the Cleveland body represents over one hundred and seventy-five lodges from all parts of the country and the New York grand lodge is simply the representatives of one lone and solitary lodge.

The last day of the session a committee was appointed to secure an injunction against the New York rebels, and the constitution was changed providing that each lodge shall not elect more than one representative, who must be a past exalted ruler. The use of liquor at social sessions was prohibited. The grand lodge will hold meetings wherever it sees fit.

A Polyglot Banquet.

Recently at Lapore, in India, a large meeting for installation purposes, after which a banquet, was given attended by twenty-two brethers, at which the toasts were proposed in six European and seven Oriental languages—French, German, Latin, Italian, Hebrew, Urdu, Persian, Bengali, Sanskrit, Hindi, Dutch, Guzerati, and the district grand master wound up with an amusing specimen of the "lingua franca" spoken by the Punjaubi pleaders before the chief courts, says the New York Mercury. Although we suspect that few of the dead in our own time, save Cardinal Mezzofanti, Elihu Burrit, the learned blacksmith; Dr. Nordheimer of our university, and Dr. James G. Percival, the actual author of "Webster's Unabridged," would have enjoyed the post-prandial luxury of that dinner, we are morally certain that no one of our living grand masters could understand, much less respond to any one toast on the programme whence plain English had been maliciously banished, still it would appear that twenty-two East India Masons in a single city were enabled to accomplish the feat. This ignorance of the living languages forcibly illustrates the ill effects of a corresponding ignorance in Masonic ritual compulsory on Americans through grand lodge dictation. Ragan enumerates the names of no less than seventy-one seperate and distinct Masonic rites, of which we have practical knowledge of but a solitary one, which our learned wiseacres proclaim by law to be the only Masonry and intelligent Mason should be allowed to learn and labor at.

The Use of Hebrew in Masonry.

A correspondent makes inquiry as to whether a knowledge of Hebrew would prove of service to a Mason anxious to go through the higher grades, says the New York Mercury, and requests as to account for the use of Hebrew words in all the degrees from the first to the last. Accordingly, a knowledge of Hebrew is essential to any one particularly desirous of mastering the mysteries of the Scottish rite, as without it he will never learn the correct pronunciation, figurative significance or even literal meaning of the numerors pass and sacred words committed to the memory of the neophyte during his long journey from Alpha to Omega in Masonry. We can only account for the employment of Hebrew words exclusively in the various grades of the various Masonic systems now in vogue from the presumption that, as very few general scholars are familiar with the language and are unable to decipher their meaning, they were deemed the better suited to be used in connection with a mystic institution. Being a primitive tongue, whose alphabet is composed wholly of consonants, the Hebrew is essentially figurative and symbolic, as the words are capable of manifold interpretations, and consequently peculiarly adapated to concealment of a latent signification. Imagine the difficulty an ordinary person would experience to read or understand our vernacular were the vowels to be dropped, as was and still is the case with the primitive Hebrew, the vowel and other points not being component of the alphabet, add you will perceive why Masons, for their own security, employed words capable of being written wholly by consonants.

S. of V.

Comrade Will K. Jacobs tendered a reception at his residence, 1441 South Sixteenth street, Tuesday evening to the delegates from General George Crook camp, No. 1, to the division encampment at Lincoln. About thirty-five members of Crook camp were present with their ladies and a large delegation from Custer post W. R. C. An exceedingly pleasant evening was passed and a delicious supper was served. Comrade Jacobs welcomed the guests of the evening, a response being made by Colonel F. J. Coates, commander of the Nebraska division. Post Colonel Moses O'Brien made a short talk and read an original poem by Ed Crowell on the G. A. R., S. of V. and W. R. C. The speeches were followed by singing and the remainder of the evening was passed in dancing.

Last Monday night Post Colonel Coglizer of Weeping Water, was mustered into Camp Crook. This gives the camp another vote in the division encampment, making seven in all, and also gives the division another vote in the division-de-chief. Colonel Coglizer is one of the oldest members of the order in the state, having been associated with Colonel Moses O'Brien in organizing the Nebraska division in 1883.

At the last inspection General George Crook camp stood at the head when the result was announced. This is the largest camp in the state and its membership is rapidly increasing.

K. of P. Notes.

The knights of Ainsworth, Spring Valley, Long Pine and the surrounding country assembled at Ainsworth on the 3d inst. and proceeded with a good old-fashioned celebration. Grand Chancellor Macfarland was present as the honored guest. A banquet was given on the night of the 3d and on the 4th the typical celebration was had, with parades, music, speeches, etc., the grand chancellor delivering the oration of the day.

Applications have been received for the formation of lodges at Valentine and Atkinson and G. M. of E. Alton of Ainsworth will soon institute lodges at these places.

A. O. U. W.

Omaha lodge No. 18 installed the following officers Thursday night: William J. Crozier, M. W.; A. Ingleden, F.; A. E. Shockley, O.; C. H. Collier, recorder; N. W. Charles, financier; C. W. Eason, receiver; William Hilker, G.; L. A. Flesher, I. W.; W. H. Drain, O. W. The lodge is in a flourishing condition, having a membership of 215.

IMPORTANCE OF PARKS.

Engineer Cleveland Advocates a Complete Park System for Omaha.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., July 9.—Dr. George L. Miller—My Dear Sir: My mind has been of late much occupied with a subject which seems to me ought at this time to possess peculiar interest for every western city, and, as it may not have occurred to you, I venture to address you in regard to it, leaving it with you to decide whether it it is worthy of consideration, and within the power of the park board to take action upon it. I allude to the approaching "World's Fair" of 1893. Probably no one has any just conception of the vast number of foreign visitors who will then be attracted to our shores, or of the inhabitants of the Atlantic states who will then make their first trip to the west. Now, the point to which I wish to call your attention is the obvious fact that, although Chicago will be the central focus of attractive interest, yet the whole country will be on exhibition and it is for the interest and should be a matter of pride for every city to put herself in trim for examination.

Countless thousands of pleasure seekers, of men of business and of scientists, scholars and artists will take the opportunity to extend their journey to the Pacific coast, and European visitors will study with special interest the (to them) amazing spectacle of magnificent cities provided with every appliance of modern luxury where but yesterday was a wilderness.

Experience has taught me that no evidence of advanced civilization and refinement is so impressive upon the mind of an intelligent observer as that of wise forethought in the matter of parks.

No amount of expenditure in public or private buildings is so effective in creating a conviction of future grandeur as an ample provision for future wants in the scope of the park systems of a city. Pretentious buildings are matters, of course, from the time that a new and growing town begins to aspire to civic honors, and becomes ambitious of displaying its wealth—but comparatively few cities exhibit such forethought or such confidence of future importance as is proved by the creation of parks, or the appropriation at an early day of sufficient area for an extended system of parks and connecting parkways.

The value of such a system as a means of health and recreation to the citizens, and of adding to the city revenue by increasing the taxable value of real estate, is too well known to need explanation—but few people have any just conception of its importance in establishing the character of the city in the mind of the world at large, or of the vital importance to every city of attaining such a reputation. My attention was first called to the subject more than thirty years ago by the prestige which New York derived from the construction of Central park and I have since seen it repeated—notably in Chicago and Minneapolis, with such unmistakable effect that I feel entirely confident there is nother form of public improvements that has equal weight in the minds of sagacious and reflecting men.

There is yet time for a good deal of work of preparation and I venture the suggestion that energetic action may accomplish results of incalculable importance and perhaps prevent future keen regret, when you find an army of strangers invading your streets and studying the aspect of your city as compared with others, which go to make up the great show they have crossed the ocean to see.

I do not, of course, presume to make suggestions, but hope you will accept this reminder as an evidence of my interest in the work you have so much at heart, and of my earnest wish that Omaha may be ready to prove her own confidence in her future grandeur. Very truly yours,

H. W. S. CLEVELAND.

WAR EAGLE HIS OWN MONUMENT

Petrifaction Does for a Kickapoo What Posterity Has Neglected.

There is great excitement among the Kickapoos over the discovery of a petrified body supposed to be that of War Eagle, a leading chief of the tribe, who died many years ago, shortly after the tribes returned from old Mexico, says a Shawneetown, I. T., dispatch to the Globe-Democrat. Instead of the remains being deposited in the ground in a coffin they were placed in an upright position in a large hollow tree, there to await the coming of the happy hunting days, as the Indians believe.

Yesterday during the rage of a fierce forest fire the trunk of the tree was consumed by the flames. A party of Indians who were passing through the woods stopped to light their pipes, when the image of an Indian warrior, with a tomahawk in hand, was discovered underneath the ashes of the burning tree. The scene which followed is described as being most remarkable. The Indians were scared so badly that they lost all self-control, and a regular panic ensued, the Indians rushing madly through the woods and yelling at the top of their voices. As soon as word could be communicated to the remaining members of the tribe, some 200 in number, a hurried consultation was held, at which it was decided that the reservation should be immediately abandoned. Luckily some of the more civilized members of the tribe had influence enough to allay the feeling of fear, and the plan was not carried out.

The place of fright was visited later in the day, when, sure enough, the petrified body of War Eagle was exhumed and placed on exhibition. The petrification was perfect. The war costume was as natural as life, there being a perfect imprint on the stone of both gun and tomahawk, which were buried alongside the body. The peculiar formation of stone presents an imposing appearance, and but for the occasional creases caused by insects would be clear of any imperfections.

This evening a large, hollow oak was selected, the top sawed off about fourteen feet from the ground, and the petrified body placed upright thereon, to remain forever. A two-inch pine slab bearing the following inscription marks the petrified remains of this tribe's greatest warrior:

"War Eagle, great fighter, turned into rock. Indians afraid Great Spirit. Let him sleep on in his beauty forever."

In view of the proposed visit of the Cherokee commission for the purpose of buying the Kickapoo reservation, the Indians consider as a bad omen the burning of the tree where their chief had been laid to rest, and say they cannot now give up their lands.

A Journey Lasting Nearly Two Years.

In Saratov an interesting traveler on foot arrived recently. He was a peasant, Nikolay Audukin by name, and over seventy years of age. He had been a serf, and in 1852 his master had accused him of theft, and had caused him to be exiled to Okhotsk, in eastern Siberia. As the crime of which he had been accused could not be established he was sent off as a "free exile," that is, he was not kept a prisoner or bound to penal service in the place of his destination. For thirty-eight years he worked in Okhotsk as a tanner, and saved some money. Having attained his seventieth year he conceived a desire to return to his native land, and as he said "to put away his little bones among his own people when his time is up in this world." But he was still hale and hearty, and traveled all the way from Okhotsk on foot. He was on the road twenty-two months, and had many a narrow escape from encounters with bears and wolves. At his old home he has a large family of children and grandchildren awaiting him with open arms.

Dr. Birney positively cures catarrh and hay fever. Bee building.

PASTORS AND THEIR PEOPLE.

The Events of the Past Week in Local Religious Circles.

A SUCCESSOR TO BISHOP O'CONNOR.

Bishop Bourke May Not Be the Man—A Fourth Lutheran Church—A People's Church — A Catholic Institute.

It has been announced from Rome that the announcement of the appointment of Bishop Maurice Burke to the consolidated districts of Omaha and Cheyenne was premature, as it was announced from Rome on Friday that the appointment had never been finally made and in all probability would not be made. It was considered by the newspaper correspondents in Rome that the appointment of Bishop Burke would certainly be made as they had received every intimation to that effect, and just why a change in the programme was made is known to the propoganda only. Bishop Burke had charge of the diocese of Cheyenne, but he went to Rome in the spring and resigned the charge of that diocese and asked the holy father for a larger district and more work.

It is understood that the archbishop of the province of St. Louis will convene a meeting of the bishops of the province in the near future and three more names will be sent to Rome. This will probably be the same as the first and if Bishop Burke is not appointed to this diocese Vicar General Brady probably will be.

A Fourth Lutheran Church.

Since the dissension among the members of Kountze Memorial Lutheran church, which resulted in the resignation of Rev. J. S. Detwiler, for a number of years its pastor, the friends of that gentleman who have been associated with him in the church work during his pastorate and who stood on his side when trouble arose, are anxious to retain Mr. Detwiler in Omaha. Several meetings have been held to devise ways and means of doing this and finally it has about been decided to establish a fourth Lutheran parish in Omaha and install Mr. Detwiler as pastor. It is proposed to erect a handsome church building in Kountze place to equal, if not surpass, any other church edifice in the city.

Those Lutherans who are opposed to Dr. Detwiler insist that this move will be detrimental to the interests of the Lutheran society in Omaha, while the doctor's friends assert that the opposite would be the result, as an energetic clergyman would be retained in the city.

Since his resignation the doctor has received a number of calls to other parishes, the most flattering coming from Brooklyn. He prefers, however to remain in Omaha.

Some Good Suggestions.

Any number of people have expressed regret at the abandonment of the People's church conducted during the winter months by Rev. C. W. Savidge, assisted by many energetic workers.

Some people who have just skimmed over the surface of the matter and have not taken the time or trouble to investigate more closely have been prone to criticise those who were engaged in the work for abandoning what was considered such a promising and productive field.

"If these people," said a minister of the city while discussing this matter a few days ago, "had been as liberal with the use of their money as they are in the use of their tongues, the People's church, which they claim to have loved so much, might still be flourishing and converting sinners.

"Churches like the one conducted by Mr. Savidge last winter," he continued, "are the most difficult in the world to conduct. It must be done nearly entirely by subscription. There can be no denying the fact that of the 1,500 people that attended Mr. Savidge's sermons on Sunday mornings, many were idlers who, passing by the door of the opera, fell in with the crowd and followed it. Once inside the music attracted them and they would stay through the service, but when the collection boxes were passed many hands would remain without the pockets. These men were after free entertainment. They were not willing to pay for religion.

"A people's church is a good thing and therefore desirable. It attracts a class of people that the ordinary churches can not attract. Mr. Savidge did well in his attempt to redeem men in this direction and by superhuman efforts managed, I understand, to keep even on financial matters. But the strain was too great for one man. He couldn't stand it and had to give up the church.

"Now we want a people's church in Omaha and we should have one, but the only way we could carry such an institution along successfully is for all the churches to unite and carry their relative shares of the financial load. I think this matter should be taken up by the ministers, but I would give the people a chance to think of it for a few weeks and then begin work in the fall."

An Institution to Be Desir d.

A movement was inaugurated at the Millard hotel last Thursday evening which will probably result in the establishment in Omaha of a branch of the Young Men's Catholic institute of America.

Judge J. L. Sullivan, president of the institute, arrived in the city early Thursday evening and was received at the depot by Mayor Cushing, members of the Catholic Young Men's society of this city, and others. He was taken to the Millard hotel, where an informal banquet was tendered him, Father Carroll acting as master of ceremonies. A most delightful social hour was spent in this way and then Judge Sullivan explained to those present in detail the object of his visit. He was here to establish a branch of the institute of which he is president and thought no more promising field than this could be found anywhere. The object of the institute is to educate the young men of the church in the higher branches of study and to prepare such as should desire for the priesthood.

Speeches were made by Mayor Cushing, T. J. Mahoney, C. J. Smythe and others, all of whom favored the location of the branch.

Judge Sullivan remained in the city Friday and talked the matter over with the resident priests and the societies of the churches and there is no doubt but that the branch will be established in Omaha.

CHURCH NOTICES.

At the Newman M. E. church there will be preaching by the pastor, Rev. Charles W. Savidge, at 10 o'clock a. m. Subject, "Divine Guidance." Evening service at 7 p. m., especially for members of the church.

Rev. A. J. Kynett, D.D., LL.D., secretary of the Church Extension society of the M. E. church, will be in the city over Sunday and is expected to preach in First M. E. church, Twentieth and Davenport streets. He is one of the great men of the Methodist church, and all are invited to hear him.

Kountze Memorial Lutheran church, regular church service at 10:30 a. m.; Sunday school at noon; young people's prayer meeting at 7 p. m. Rev. C. Huber, traveling state secretary, will occupy the pulpit in the morning; no preaching service in the evening.

First Congregational church, corner Davenport and Nineteenth streets. Dr. J. T. Duryea, pastor. Sunday morning services at 10:30, immediately followed by Sunday school. Y. P. S. C. E. at 6:30 p. m. Prayer and praise meetings Wednesday evening at 7:45. All are welcome.

First M. E. church, corner Twentieth and Davenport, Rev. P. S. Merrill, pastor. Morning service, e0:30 a. m. Subject: "Witnesses of the Faith or the Faithful—Which?" Evening service, 8 p. m. Subject: "Can I Be Saved Without the Church?" Sunday school 2:30 p. m. Y. P. S. C. E. Monday 8:00 p. m. All services open to the public, all seats are free and a cordial welcome to everyone.

Young Men's Christian association building, corner Sixteenth and Douglas. Free reading room open daily 8 a. m. to 10 p. m. Sunday from 2 to 6 p. m. Strangers and visitors always welcome. Meeting for men only Sunday 4 p. m., addressed by Rev. Meredith of St. Louis, Subject; "The Only Badge of True Greatness." Meeting Saturday 8:30 p. m., to which traveling men stopping over the Sabbath in the city are cordially invited. Noonday prayer meeting daily 12:30 p. m.

Second Presbyterian church, Saunders and Nicholas streets. Preaching at 10:30 a. m. and 8 p. m. by the new pastor, Rev. S. M. Ware. Sunday school at noon. Young people's meeting at 7 p. m. Strangers welcome to all services.

At the Southwestern Lutheran church, between Poppleton and Woolworth avenues, Rev. Luther M. Kuhns will preach at 11 a. m. on "The Law Not Made for the Righteous," and at 8 p. m. on "A Sympathetic High Priest."

Castellar Street Presbyterian church, Sixteenth and Castellar streets, Rev. J. M. Wilson, pastor. Services 10:30 a. m. and 8 p. m. Young people's meeting 7:15. Rev. Francis S. Blarney will preach in the morning and in the evening the pastor will deliver the third sermon of the series on the Book of Hebrews.

Rev. J. H. Meredith, D.D., of St. Louis, Mo., will occupy the pulpit of the Knox Presbyterian church tomorrow morning and evening. Subject, morning, "The Immortality of the Soul;" evening, "The Enemy That is Nearest and Strongest."

Trinity cathedral, Capitol avenue and Eighteenth street, Very Rev. C. H. Gardner, dean. Holy communion 8 a. m., morning prayer, litany and sermon, 11 a. m.; evening prayer and sermon, 7:45 p. m. The dean will preach morning and evening.

Trinity M. E. church, corner Twenty-first and Binney streets, Kountze place. In the absence of the pastor, Rev. J. H. Presson will preach at 10:30 a.m., and Rev. John Dale at 8 p.m. Sunday school at 12 m. J. T. Robinson, superintendent. Epworth league at p. m. The people welcome to these services.

RELIGIOUS.

There are 1,070,000 Sunday school children and teachers in New York state.

The Roman Catholic authorities in the diocese of Montreal have prohibited political meetings on Sundays.

A vessel manned wholly by monks arrived at Odessa lately. They belonged to the monastery of Mount Athol.

A Protestant Episcopal church costing $400,000 is to be built at Philadelphia as a memorial of the late George W. South.

Miss Abigail Dodge (Gail Hamilton) teaches a Sunday school class that meets every Sunday at Secretary Blaine's residence.

A curious inscription placed over the door of a church in Leeds is as follows: "Pray for the sinners who built this church."

A Philadelphia minister thinks that a fee should be paid clergymen who conduct funeral services, as it takes up their time.

Miss Mary Coddington of New York city has given the city mission $40,000 for the building and endowment of a boys' club house for the poor boys of the city.

A Maine minister, who has just retired, during his pastorate of nearly half a century married 467 couples and preached 757 funeral sermons, of which 300 were for members of his own society.

In New Zealand a Mormon convention has just closed its sittings, at which it was officially reported that there are 3,000 Mormons in that colony and that 500 converts were made during the last year.

Eight years ago the American bible society of New York began the work of placing a bible, by sale or gift, in every home in the land where it would be received. But now the society proposes a work of still greater magnitude and importance—a bible of its own for every child who can read, with special reference to Sunday school use. Where there are no auxiliaries, and when neither the parents nor the Sunday school can afford to give each child a bible, the American bible society, for the present, will in such cases supply bibles at half price, but the expense of transportation must be borne by those receiving this favor.

Rev. A. Orr Ewing, who has spent the past four years in missionary work in northern China, delivered an address in San Francisco recently on the progress of the Christian work in that empire. A very pathetic picture was drawn of the evil effects of the opium habit on the Chinese, and all Christians were urged to join in praying that Great Britain would prevent the sale of Indian opium to the Chinese. The spread of Christianity, though not rapid, was still making headway, and a good beginning had been made which should be followed up by vigorous work.

IMPIETIES.

The matches that are made in heaven are safety matches.

Members of Episcopalian churches have a great deal of response ability.

Adam—What kind of an apple was that you gave me? Eve—An early fall.

When angels are entertained unawares the entertainment is nothing to brag of.

Charity may cover a multitude of sins, but women at a charity ball really need some other covering.

Little Girl (during a thunderstorm)—Mamma, do they have music in heaven? Yes, my dear. Little Girl—Well, I guess Wagner must be leading the orchestra.

Aunt Theo—Tommy! I am surprised you forget your bible so quickly! Now, when the rain descended and smote the earth for forty days, what was it called? Tommy (promptly)—Mud.

"I listened to your famous oratorio last night," said the president to his private secretary. "My oratorio!" exclaimed Halford, mystified. "Certainly, the oratorio of Elijah. Fine piece too."

Rev. Rounder—I feel as if my sermons had had great effect. The ballet has hardly a leg left to stand on. Parishioner—Well, doctor, you want to get rid of that one. As long as there's a leg left the ballet will flourish.

"Glad to see you," said the cannibal. "Thank you for your kind reception," returned the missionary. "I think we shall get on famously together. "I hope so," observed the cannibal. "Your predecessor disagreed with me."

Briggs—What an eloquently sermon Mr. Longwind preached in favor of a belief in future life. There can be no doubt that he is firm believer in an eternity. Braggs—Yes; he thinks that when eternity begins he will have a chance to preach as long a sermon as he likes.

"Awake! arise!" the parson said,
In thunderous, rolling tones,
Which startled from his slumbers deep
The pious Deacon Jones.
"All right, all right, my dear Mariar,"
Said he between his snores,
"I'll be down direct to build the fire
And do the mornin' chores."

—New York Herald.

"Ha, ha," cried Officer Mulbollan, exultingly, rushing upon four unsuspecting tramps, who were bathing their tired limbs in a park pond. "Bgorras, Oi've got yez fellys at lasht, in shwimmin' on Sunday. Kim on wid yez!" "My good man," said one of the tramps, "have you no respect for the church that you act so?" The church! Fwhat's thot to do wid the loikes o' yez?" "A great deal," replied the tramp, piously folding his hands. "This is a baptism, and the minister has just stepped up to the nearest farm house to borrow a prayer book."

Where All are Dishonest.

A correspondent writing from Siberia says: "Living is absurdly dear in this country. Everything is five or six times dearer than in Russia. The people are wicked and depraved, given to gossiping, slandering, spying and secret denunciations. Everything which is good and honest is mercilessly persecuted, and baseness is triumphant. In order to live in the way in which I have been accustomed in Russia I should require 3,000 rubles per annum, but my salary is only 1,600.

"A wretched apartment costs 600 to 700 rubles. The servants are all bad characters and thieves. They are generally lodged in a building detached from the house occupied by the master, otherwise one would risk being plundered or murdered.

"We go to bed at 9 o'clock in the evening, and after 10 nobody dares to go out without a revolver. The government offices are in the same disheartening condition. Every official, whatever his powers may be, ill-treats his subordinates, interferes with their private affairs and inflicts every humiliation on them. The small officials who receive daily wages are recruited from criminals awaiting judgment or already condemned. They are all thieves and drunkards. The high cost of living and the inadequate salaries make it almost impossible to find an honest man here."

GREAT RACE AGAINST TIME.

Marcus Mayer Trying to Reach Paris From 'Frisco in Fifteen Days.

A PECULIAR BET ON THE RESULT.

He Was Delayed in Omaha, Which Made Him Very Angry, But He Hopes to Win Just the Same.

Marcus Mayer, chief lieutenant to the famous theatrical manager, Henry E. Abby, passed through Omaha Thursday evening last enroute from San Francisco to New York with the London Gaiety company. The outfit had four cars—two baggage, one emigrant sleeper and a Pullman. The Union Pacific brought them from Ogden on its fast mail train at the rate of forty miles an hour. It was expected by Mayer that upon their arrival here they would be attached to the Burlington flyer, which leaves at 4:15, and go on through to Chicago at lightning speed. But the flyer failed to wait and consequently when Mayer learned that he must stay in Omaha nearly two hours and go on the slow 6 o'clock train he grew very angry, and it is said, turned the transfer depot into a scene of pandimonium. Furthermore, none of the Burlington officials had considered it imperative upon they part to show him any personal attention, and this insult helped to fan his rage into a hotter heat. Marcus is racing against time on a bet to be in Paris on the 26th, consequently the loss of time on account of inattention from a railroad midway between the two oceans aggravated the impetuous gentleman beyond the limit of his excitable patience. Having four cars, he wanted the Burlington to run him a through special, but there was nobody in sight for him to talk with having authority to make such arrangements. As a consequence he was compelled to lay at the transfer until the regular train went out.

In order to win the bet referred to, Marcus must sail from New York the 16th. This is the way the wager came about:

Six weeks ago Jim Williamson, who used to be the juvenile comedian of Wallack's just after the war, and is now the principal manager of Australia, with a bank account of at least half a million, sat in a San Francisco club room with Mayer. Their talk ran upon their plans for the summer just on them.

"I can't leave "Frisco," quoth Marcus, "until July 9, but I expect to be in Paris on July 24."

"That's rather a bold expectation on your part," said Williamson. "I know things have changed a good deal since my day, but I can't swallow that. From 'Frisco to Paris in fifteen days! No, sir; you'll never do it."

Mayer rubbed his moustache with his finger and thumb, his usual expression of confidence.

"I'll bet you anything you like," he said, "that I do it."

Outsiders, hearing the debate, were drawn into it, and when the wager was registered and mutually accepted all around, it took this shape:

Williamson and twenty-three friends—many of them theatrical celebrities and all of them amply able to redeem their obligations—were to take a fortnight's law of Mayer. Only July 25, precisely at 5 o'clock p. m., the twenty-four gamesters are to be in a private room at the Cafe Anglaise in Paris, awaiting dinner, the service of which is to begin at 5:30. The cost of the dinner is to be at the rate of 150 francs a cover, and there are to be twenty-five covers, one held in reserve for Mayer.

Between 5 and 5:30 Mayer is to appear at the Cafe Anglais and take the place reserved for him. Should he do this Williamson must pay for that particular dinner, and on following days the twenty-three other bettors must each in turn foot an equivalent bill. That is to say, if Mayer reaches the Cafe Anglais in time Williamson and his twenty-three brother skeptics will have to provide, one after another, twenty-four dinners for twenty-four diners, at a cost for each dinner of $720.

On the other hand, if Marcus should fail to make his entrance into the Cafe Anglais between 5 and 5:30 p. m. on July 24 he will have to give twenty-four dinners to twenty-four people at an aggregate cost of $720x24, which, as everybody knows, will be $17,280.

Although it was not so stipulated in the protocol, Mayer has declared his intention to rely absolutely upon ordinary modes of travel, and not employ special trains or boats or any other extraordinary device.

By general consent his movements are to be kept secret, and until he shall have arrived in Paris nobody will know the precise moment of his departure from San Francisco, or the name of the steamer on which he will sail from New York.

Some of the party are already quartered in Paris, and a large number of Americans, actors and business men, aware of the bet, will undoubtedly swell Mayer's triumph if he makes his connections all right. Nat Goodwin, Donnelly and Girard and other theatrical people intend, if they can discover the place of his arrival in Paris, to whoop him along in a four-in-hand to the Cafe Anglais, and celebrate his victory with a special jollification of their own.

A good deal of money will change hands on the event, the friends of the audacious cosmopolitan being willing to give long odds.

The hero of the venture is a good looking young man of about thirty-eight, of the middle height, well developed, a good dresser, and a genial companion. He has a keen aquiline face with laughing dark eyes, and a chin suggestive of indomitable resolution. His father is an immensely wealthy man and one of the officers of the Alaska seal company, under the aegis of which Marcus was for a little while prevailed upon to remain. But having a will of his own as well as a private and personal fortune, he soon turned his back upon Behring's sea and its furry inmates, and took to theatrical management as naturally as a full grown seal takes to deep water.

Associating himself with Mr. Henry E. Abbey, Marcus had charge at various times of the professional tours of Adelina Patti, Christine Nilsson, Sarah Bernhardt, Mrs. Langtry, Mary Anderson, Ellen Terry, Henry Irving and Josef Hoffman. So much traveling had he to do at the shortest conceivable notice that he grew to be a living time table of the entire American railroad system, and can at this day tell you the precise second the express leaves Kalamazoo for Oshkosh as easily as he can spot the steamer which is due at Vera Cruz on the 21st of next October.

Learning, as he does, every spoken language with lightning rapidity, his intimates when themselves abroad are not a particle surprised to hear him chattering French in Cairo a few weeks after they knew him to be delivering speeches of thanks to Brazilian students in the purest Portuguese.

Mme. Patti declares that Marcus is her ideal of a cosmopolite, and Henry Irving vows that if he were dropped out of a balloon car in the smallest town in Thibet, Mayer would at once recognize an old friend in the head man and know by instinct where to get the best dinner for the most money. For it is one of Marcus' accomplishments that he can order an expensive breakfast in any extant tongue as well as pay for it afterward without deigning to look at the bill.

Such is his unfailing good nature that he is willing to give the most tremendous odds to a friend, while such is his luck that he never loses a bet. But the latest exploit of this polyglot nomad, erst of San Francisco and now of the universe at large, easily places him at the head of American gamesters when one considers the character of his wager and its dimensions.

A Notable Report.

"For disordered menstuation, anaemia and sterility, it may properly be termed a specific."

Extract from Dr. W. P. Mason's report on the waters of Excelsior Springs Missouri.

THE KAISER BROTHERS

How Military Discipline Got the Best of Princely Dirt.

Apropos of the meeting between the queen and the Empress Frederick at Darmstadt, I am reminded of the following story, which is characteristic of her majesty's eldest daughter's notions and practice of discipline, says a writer in the London Figaro. Prince Henry, the brother of the present emperor, had when a small boy the greatest objection to his daily bath, and the nursery became every morning the scene of a vigorous and fearful struggle on his part against tubbing. His mother tried in vain to persuade him that baths were inevitable and that he must submit to them, but she finally gave the nurse orders one morning to let him have his own way. Prince Henry, confident that he had gained a remarkable victory, was exultant, and when he set out for his morning walk took no pains to conceal his triumph. He indulged in sundry taunting remarks to his attendants, but on returning home he was surprised to notice that the sentinel at the gate did not present arms as he passed. On reaching the palace he found a second sentinel equally remiss, and, knowing as well as any of his punctilious race what was due his rank, the little fellow walked up to the man and asked severely: "Do you know who I am?" "Yes, Hohelt," said the sentinel, standing motionless, "Who am I?" "Prince Heinrich." "Why don't you salute then?" "Because we do not present arms to an unwashed prince," replied the sentinel, who had received his orders from the prince's mother. The little fellow said not a word, but walked on, bravely winking back the two big tears which filled his eyes. Next morning, however, he took his bath with perfect docility, and was never known to complain of it again.

WOMEN IN POLITICS.

Mrs. Tom Platt Talks of Mrs. Blaine and Mrs. Harrison.

"Do the women who go to Washington study politics?" asked a reporter of the wife of Boss Platt of New York.

"Not to any noticeable extent. American women have not the same interest in the affairs of state that distinguishes the English or Russian lady. In those countries society and politics are united. Here they are distinctly separated. The woman who is recognized as an able politician does not belong to the fashionable class, while the woman who has a social position shows an indifference to politics amounting to aversion.

"Why this is so I don't know. Our women are very bright, and every newcomer from school or college surpasses the previous graduate. They should be able to make good politicians—in a woman's way, I mean—but the interest is lacking. This is too bad, for the subject is admirably adapted to quicken the wit and exercise the reasoning faculties of a woman, and it is so much better than gossip."

"Is Mrs. Harrison much of a politician?"

"I hardly know, for I have seen her only on formal occasions. She is very domestic, devoted to her husband, and what interests him I think would naturally claim her attention. Mrs. McKee is a sweet, pretty little woman, and like all young mothers, wrapped up in her beautiful babies."

"Was Mrs. Cleveland politically inclined?"

"I never met her. She went from college to the capital, you know, and would hardly be expected to know much about affairs of government."

"Mrs. Logan? Yes; but she divides her attention between the army and navy."

"Mrs. Secretary Blaine is perhaps the most gifted of any lady in Washington. She is a woman of great intellectual strength, calm judgment and intense pride; her mind is masculine in its grasp. She is a brilliant conversationalist, and must be a great help to her husband. Naturally retiring in disposition, and superior to the mere caprices of society, she has by quietly maintaining her dignity allowed herself to be misunderstood. Society has not appreciated her for the reason that it has never been able to reach her mental height. No one who has ever known Mrs. Blaine could fail to recognize her superior worth and ability.

"Whom do you consider the most brilliant woman of the administration?"

"Intellectually, Mrs. Blaine. Socially, Mrs. Morton, who has all the polish, wit, beauty and finesse of the women who made the French salon immortal.

Jester: Waiter (looking in on noisy card party in hotel bedroom)—I've been sent to ask you to make less noise, gentlemen. The gentleman in the next room says he can't read. Host—Tell him he ought to be ashamed of himself. Why, I could read when I was five years old.

Drink Excelsior Springs Missouri waters

The Plasterers.

At a regular meeting of the Plasterers union of Omaha Friday evening the following officers were elected: Edward Monahan, president; J. Warner, vice president; John Mitchen, financial secretary; N. Garit, recording secretary; James Welch, tiler.

The Staten Island carpenters, who went on a strike for the eight-hour day, returned to work last Tuesday, after having signed an agreement which holds good until May 1, 1891, that they will work nine hours per day and a half day on Saturday.

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