## ARCHITECTURE OF NORWAY

Description of Some Primitive Farm Houses and Churches in the Central Portion.

PINE THE UNIVERSAL BUILDING MATERIAL

Ancient Bonders' Homes and Temples of Worship that Have Outlasted the Famous Oak of England-Picturesque Surroungings.

[Copyrighted 1893 by Edgar L. Wakeman.] LONDON, Dec. 7.- [Correspondence of THE Ben | Some of the architectural features of Norway are exceedingly distinctive and curi-Dus, when it is remembered that, contrasted with the age of civilization in southern Europa, the Norse are comparatively new somers in this Arctic land. There are what might be termed three zones of buildings and edifices, each giving an almost universally different example of structural style and material. In the remote and desclate north all ancient structures are of stone. In southern Norway oak and beech have been utilized. In the central districts everything has been, and is still, built of pine. If one has grown to believe that oak repre-

sents all that is enduring and almost everlasting among the nobler woods serviceable to man, his ideas must be modified when he has come to know the ancient pine built structures of central Norway. One gazes with admiration and wonder when the strong, perfect beams in the old Sir Walter Raleigh house at Youghal, Ireland, in the ancient houses of the gentry in other portions of that country, and in almost awed admiration upon the onken stalls, screens and timbers of English cathedrals, and particularly those in the very ancient parish churches like those of Stoke Poges, where Gray wrote his "Elegy," of Grasmere, and of Crossthwaite at Keswick. These have stood staunch and true for two, three, four and perhaps five hundred years. It is no uncommon thing in Norway to find eagle-nest farm buildings, city warehouses, bonders' or large farmers' storehouses, as well as homes and curious old pier-houses beside the fiords, built wholly of pine, still well preserved, which are quite as old, while the strange, little old churches of central Norway, also entirely constructed of pine, possess a surprising number of their original timbers placed where they stand today long before the venerable Minster of York or the mellowed cathedral of Salisbury assumed anything like their present forms.

Sixteenth Century Farm House.

In visiting an "eagle-nest" farm above the clouds beside the gloomy Nacro fierd I noticed that the oldest portion of the farmer's home-a long, rambling structure which seemed to have had built upon it a new annex for each generation or century-was by far the stoutest, sturdiest and best. I questioned the farmer as to its age. The family legendary memories and finally the family records agreed that it must have been built sometime in the sixteenth century, or perhaps 350 years ago. In the Thelemarken district are many quaint old wooden mills which I found to be from 150 to 250 years old. In a bonder's home I visited in the Trondhjem country the low, wide living room, around which had been added other huger modern apartments and two-story high halls, was over 400 years old and as perfect from decay in any of its timbers as the day it was built, and when among the sacters of Romsdal and Godbransdal heights I even found sacter huts, the habitations of the sacter girls. who tend the mountain herds in summer, which had been built from 150 to 250 years

I soon began to notice that if the oldest of all these structures was not the best it was still, considering its age, incom-parably the best preserved, and another curious fact, that such portion was invari-ably of different construction, became ap-parent. The pine timbers in these structural portions of greatest antiquity were invaria bly placed on end, in the formation of walls and never laid together horizontally. This ancient method of building, I finally learned is what the Norse call "reisvark," that is raised work, or "stood-up work," and in this peculiar method of building lies the secret of the astounding antiquity of the famous wooden churches of Norway. Every portion is constructed from Norwegian pine, so enduring beyond any historically known oak that it has withstood the furies of Nor wegian storms, the rigors of almost Arctic winters, and again the searching heat of almost tropical summers, through periods ranging from 500 to 800 years.

### Of Supposed Oriental Origin.

The appearance of both these curious old churches and the older class of mills and storehouses would indicate almost an Oriental origin. I have been repeatedly impressed with the quite startling similarity. Coming suddenly over some lonely mountain path upon a cultivated valley, where, as in the Thelemarken and Hardanger districts, little innovation has found its way, the various groups of farm houses and outbuildings, dark and weather beaten, or here and there newly stained with a kind of red tar much used upon buildings in Norway, have strongly suggested Oriental affinities in color and The most prominent architectural style. object in all these huddled structures is always the farm "storhaus." which rises story above story, each upper story projecting beyond the one beneath it, like a huge pagoda turned bottomside upward and stood upon its roof. Continuous hanging balconies often extend entirely around each Curious outside stairs ascend to The quaintest of carving of demons heads and serpents often ornament every available portion of outer space, and fan-tastic carved wooden horns project from the corners of the caves, or seem ready to blare from the peaks of the roof. In out-of-the-way places water mills of equally surious and almost barbaric design will be found. These structures are all very ancient, but the flattened arches of the Moors the peculiar natural and reversed forms of the Chinese pagoda, and that pro fusion of grotesque carvings characteristic, in wood and stone, in all the most ancient hamlets of the Mediterranean countries, reappear in this stern northern land with sur ing frequency and certainty of recog-

The ancient and tiny pine churches of Norway are regarded by travelers as among the most interesting curiosities of the country. The best examples are those of Borgund in Laerdal, the Hitterdal church, that of Lom near Andvord, Urness beside the Lyster fiord, and that of Eddsborg in the Thelemarken district. All these churches are called in Norway "stavegirker" or stave-churches, because all were originally constructed by the "reisvark" or perpendicular method of joining the hewn pine timbers in their walls. The same treatment extended to porches and to all portions of the superstructures. The "stavekirser" of Borgund, Hitterdal, Lom and Urnæs are the more noted. All are still used as houses of worship, save the Borgund church, which is now a national curiosity, protected from desecration and decay by the Antiquarian society of Christiana.

Tiny and Primitive Churches Of these "stavekirker," the Borgund church is the timest, most primitive and ancient; the Hitterdal church the most unique and symmetric, if not indeed beautiful; and the church of Urnæs most interesting from its proximity to prehistoric surroundings. Borgund, in the heart of a deep valley set roundabout with snow-capped mountains, suggests a toy church dropped mountains, suggests a toy church dropped there in the vagrant play of some infant god of Norse mythology. It has almost the true pagoda form; diminishing, square and p-slanted roofs, rising above each other third extremely protruding and promi nent. This is in turn surmounted by a distinct structure with a disproportionally large roof, from which rises a central plunacle, very like the minaret of a mosque the peaked gables of the highest two stories being provided with most distinctly oriental putward curving, horn-shaped ornamenta Its cottre outward appearance is

barbaric and grotesque, and but for its quaint half Gothic, half Norman porches, strikingly like the sunny south porches of the very ancient parish churches of England, would suggest that its dark interior was fitting housing only for some gigantic frebeiching Hindoo god. Its inner dimensions are ridiculously small. The nave is but twenty-three feet long and about twenty wide; the chancel is only sixteen feet long and eleven in width, but is one mass of carvings—strange old crosses, horrible carvings strange old crosses, horrible delineations of the passions, grotesque dragon heads, and loathsome intertwined serpents, interspersed with Runic inscriptions, as though in the stern olden days none might near the sacred presence without visible tokens of those earthly powers which delight in conjuring an ever present

than that of Borgund. Its dimensions are somewhat greater, and its six steep shingled roofs are carried to a far greater height. Three arious towers rise at equal gradient. The the chancel are circular in form, have cone-shaped pears like neatly thatched linglish haystacks, and the third, above where the nave is separated from the chancel by the diminutive transept, is sharply peaked from above a square tower. The three towers sustain huge carved wooden crosses. An in-teresting peculiarity of its interior is that the central tower is supported by wooden columns of tremendous height, each one of which is a single tree of Norway pine, stripped of its bark, and whose dimensions have never been equalled in any trees since found in Norwegian forests. Among other found in Norwegian forests. Among other curiosities of the Hitterdal church is a chair of remarkable solidity, standing beside the altar. Its carvings are amazing in their character and profusion, and it is pretty well settled by antiquarians that it was made in the year 100. This leaves it among the oldest, if not the oldest, of wooden chairs a cristance. Two feets should be kent in in existence. Two facts should be kept in mind regarding these ancient "stave-kirker," which certainly add greatly to their antique interest. No other material but pine has been used in their construction or estorations, and every one was originally ouilt after the true church form. Each one possesses a nave, a chancel and side aisles. isually transcots giving the outlines of the cross, and they all stand east and west with the altar and apse at the head or east end of

An Ancient Norse Temple of Worship. On the east bank of the Lyster flord, op-

posite Solvern, is perched the lonely hamlet of Urnes. But a tiny patch of tillable land of Urnes. But a tiny patch of tillable land surrounds it, and then come the mountains which pierce the clouds above. Jutting out into the gloomy flord is a little cone-like promontory. Upon the peak of this stands the lonely "stavekirke of Urnes. Antiquarians tell us that here once stood a temple to Thor. Scattered all about are huge mounds, called "Kampehouse," where mighty Vikings and prehistoric heroes lie buried. One feels at weird old Urnes as though he has come to the very inner temple of Norse antiquity and mythology. The church itself intensifies this weirdly fascinating feeling. To my mind its lonely situation and sombre To my mind its lonely situation and sombre interior pique the fancy to a more intense and searching grasp upon the mighty past of Norseland than any other spot or scene in Norway. The pine beams of the interior are tremendous in size and black with age. The carvings are even more fanciful and gro-tesque than at Sorgund or Hitterdal. Behind the altar are rude pictures of the twelve apostles, 400 years old. No one knows how old is that most curious candelabrum ever seen, to be found here, a rudely wrought tiny iron snip; the chalice is 350 years old; beside the altar hang the priests, vestments dated 1681, but all these things are comparatively modern embellishments. A curiosity of earlier date is a huge beam across the chancel to which are yet attached some rotting pulleys. This was the ancient "gabe stok," or pillory, from which in those dear old times many long to have returned naughty children and offending parents were strung up in sight of the congregation which had gathered for consolation, forgiveness

#### Titles to Lands and Estates.

While the entire agricultural population of While the entire agricultural population of Norway may be regarded as of the peasant class, by far the larger proportion of these are what are known as bonders or udalmen. These own absolutely their lands free from all rents, tithes or conditions of tenure. The original titles to many of these landed possessions are so ancient that they are written in an extinct language. Inheritance of land and personal property has lately been made equal among sons and daughters. If property is alienated from its original pos-sessors through mortgage or sale the next of kin has the right of redemption at any time or purchase price, with actual cost of such mprovements as have been made. All lands passing out of the hands of original family ownership do not again become udal lands until they have been in possession of a new proprieter for a period of twenty years, and the subdivision of these old Norwegian estates is largely prevented by one heir pur-chasing the inherited rights of the others, when their purchase of reclaimed lands and

The almost universal spectacle is therefore presented in Norway of a land of farm-steads, old as the forests about them, housing a folk rooted with the affections, the legends, the customs and the noble inde-pendence of centuries of growth to the soil beneath them with a strength of love which amounts to their grandest passion. There is no other country in Europe-and American love of land, of a landed home-spot with the sacredness of generations of toil and joy and sorrow consecrating its every atom of earth has not yet grown beyond the thrifty, shift ng sentiment of speculation-where such conditions universally exist; and but in one, where, in a tiny corner, the same class of stern, sturdy, liberty-loving, and almost land-worshiping yeomen can be found. That one is England. The little corner is the shire of Cumberland, over against the roaring Soiway tides and the rampast Irish sea. There, too, the folk are free of the lord's taxes, tithes and terrors. "States men" they are called, because lords of their own tiny estates. "Statesmen" in grand old Cumberland and udalmen in glorious Norway are like as brothers may be in those virtues of steadfastness, loyalty, integrity and simple goodness which are as everlasting sinews to the grandest attributes of

### A Hamlet of Houses.

Like the Cumberland "statesmens" stone built homes, which seem to have added a new clump of rock and wall for each genera-tion or century, the Norwegian bonder's gaard or farm house is an odd jumble of like a tiny huddled hamlet in Whether in one continuous series of attached structures, or composing many sep-arate buildings, they always seem to have seen gradually brought together with a view to forming an irregular sort of court, pro-tected from the terrible winterstorms. First there is the farm house itself, if the oldes! ous of all, with its invariable quaint, carved porch, its huge chimneys, and its roof of big, scale-like shingles, or still of turf in which there are often seen growing vagrant moun ain flowers. Then there are the bake-louse, also used on account of the heat which can be secured and for its privacy, for the family bath house, the dairy, always an important structure and a veritable feast, in butter, choese and milk, for city eyes, and most important of all, the "storhaus." The latter is not only literally a house for stores and supplies of food, such as sugar, salt, candles, flour, dried and pickled fish, bacon, pork and dried meat hanging from dark beams in startling variety and profusion, but it is the granary as well, and here are found in huge bins heaps of the rye, barley and cats the quickening sun of these northern latitudes matures in such generous measure

and fine hard grain. Besides these there are long, low sheds; a huge building similar to an American or English barn, in which every spear of precious hay, tender birch, twigs, and great quantities of reindeer moss are treasured against the long winter's needs for the herds; and often three or four comfortable stout-walled cottages in which "housem or cottagers, each having the use of a postion of laud, rent free for a certain number of days labor upon the farm, live in morr than ordinary comfort and content. However old or weather-beaton these farmsteads may be, they give to all this stern northland that tangible, palpable warmth of colo which subdues and softens all material ster-ility and desolation, wherever is unendur-ingly built that blessed and thrice blessed

earthly type of heaven, the home.

Engan L. Wareman.

"A dozen on the sheil," some celery and a pint of Cook's Extra Dry Imperial Champague is a lunch for the gods.

## NEBRASKA LABOR CONGRESS

Annual Meeting in Omaba Being Looked Forward To with Much Interest.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS WILL BE LIVELY

Methods to Send to the Next Legislature Representatives Friendly to Labor-Delegate to the National Pederation Meeting Talks-Labor Notes.

The meeting of the Nebraska State Labor ongress, which is to be held in Omaha Janu ary 14, 1894, is being looked forward to with great interest by the members of organized tabor in this city. President Willard predicts that about 500 delegates from the Knights of Labor assemblies, trades unions and farmers alliances will be in attendance while others think the number will hardly be that large.

The increased growth of organized labor in the state, especially marked in Lincoin, Omaha, Nebraska City, Wymore and Grand Island, insures a much larger number of delegates to the congress at this meeting than there has ever been at any of the previous meetings of this body. Already the campaign for offices has been started and it is expected that an interesting but goodnatured scramble will take place in the selection of the principal officers of the

congress for the next term.

Mr. J. M. Thompson, a member of the executive council of the congress, has been delegated to attend the state meeting of the Farmers alliance which convenes at Hastfarmers alliance which convenes at Hastings January 2, and extend an invitation to the suballiances to send delegates to the Omaha meeting. The representation will be one delegate for each organization in the state, and one additional delegate for every 100 members or majority fraction. All central labor unions, district assemblies of the Knights of Labor and the organizations of the Farmers alliance will each be entitled. of the Farmers alliance will each be entitled to three delegates. The local labor leaders are of the opinion that action will be taken at this meeting which will figure strongly in the election of members of the next Ne-braska legislature, and there is some differ-ences of opinion at this time as to the method that should be adopted to secure the election of friends of labor, which appears to be one of the chief aims of this

organization.
The law committee of the state congress, Omaha Central Labor union and Lincoln Central Labor union held a three days' conference some time ago and now have some measures which they have unanimously agreed upon that will be placed before the meeting, with recommendations as to the proper methods to secure their enactment into laws by the next legislature. It is the intention of the state congress to thoroughly concentrate all the power of all organized labor in Nebraska in order that they may be properly considered by the law making powers of the state.

The proposition to ask candidates for the legislature to sign agreements to work and vote for labor laws seems to receive the ap-probation of more of the organizations that have taken action on this matter than any other system so far proposed. Several of the delegates are already preparing themselves with resolutions and recommenda-tions, and it is said that the Typographical uniou at Lincoln will come well prepared to show cause why ascathing resolution should not be passed denouncing the attitude toward labor of the Journal and Call.

From the National Federation Meeting. In speaking of the recent convention of the American Federation of Labor, held at Chicago, a prominent delegate to that body said: "The steady growth and increasing popularity of trades unionism was fully temonstrated by the large number of delegates in attendance, many representing trades unions organized since the last con-Almost every trade reported large accessions in members during the, past ear."

f Labor for a closer union of labor organizaions, he said he thought it was a good idea and believed the proposed conference would be held and that something would be done at that meeting looking to a union of all in-dustrial organizations. When asked as to the effect of Gomper's re-election into the proposed union, he said that while person-ally he was sorry Gompers had been re-elected he did not think his election would affect the project in any way. Of course there is a growing hostility to Gompers. especially on the part of western men, and that he has won by a very narrow margin foreshadows his defeat at the next election. John McBride of the Miners union, he be-lieved, was the coming man in the American Federation. He said the old time hostility to the Knights of Labor had about died out and that all appreciated the motto, "that an

injury to one is the concern of all."

He said the delegates had been royally received in Chicago, and had enjoyed their stay there very much; that conditions were worse in Chicago than had been reported tens of thousands being idle and hungry mobs fed by charity while thousands slept in the city hall, having no money to buy In regard to politics be said he found great

dissatisfaction with the policy of the ad-ministration in the matter of finance and the tariff, and believed the democrats would be overwhelmingly pereated in the con-gressional elections next year. He thought the republican and people's parties would oth receive a largely increased labor vote. When asked as to the possibility of a new labor party he said he did not think that it was the intention of the leaders to try to form a new political party, but to work for reforms through the existing organizations. He said the finances of the federation were in good shape and that everything pointed to an increased prosperity of the organization. The meeting in general was one of the best the federation has ever held, and some new departures were taken on lines that have never been heretofore mentioned at the meetings of this organization.

Should Send Information to Erion. Labor Commissioner Erion is taking considerable interest in gathering statistics from the organized trades in Nebraska and promises that his report will contain all the general information regarding wages, ex censes of living, needs and desires of the organized and unorganized workingmen.

Mr. Erion will be very glad to receive any information which the unions and assemblies may wish him to use, and it is the duty of organized branch of industry to him well informed as to received, expenses for living and any other matters which they desire brought before the public. Organiza-tions not having statisticians should elect them at once and instruct them to gather the information mentioned and forward to the labor commissioner. It is largely their own fault that organized labor has not re-ceived more consideration from this office heretofore, but now if they will do their duty toward themselves the objects for which the office was created may yet be attained. It is found that comparatively only a few organizations in Nebraska have kept a record of any statistics worth mentioning and without some effort on their part it is absolutely impossible to secure the data

which they are constantly clamoring for. Complaint of Spinners,

The Spinners union of Lowell is very much dissatisfied with the present order of things. The following is from a public address issued by the Lowell union: the past twenty-five years the speed of ma chinery has been increased to such an extent that a cotton mule can now produce i nine hours what it formerly took eleven to do. This increases the spinners' duties and tends to produce premature old age, while there is no additional compensation in the matter of wages. Under old conditions men 60 years of age could sustain themselves and not become a burden to their friends, but today only the young and strong can do the work, and after devoting the best part of their lives to the work, but few can retire with sufficient funds to keep the wolf from

Tariff uncertainty is assigned as the cause of a Cieveland nail company closing down. The co-operative bakery established by

the Knights of Labor at Montreal is thriv-

There are now 50,000 union trainmen. "No wages no rent" is a Boston by-word. The American Railway union is growing. Ohio sweating shops employ 35,000 women. Carpenters are working nine hours in 400

New Haven's idle workers are estimated at 5 000. The International Barbers' union has 7,000

The miners have resumed work at Win-throp, Mich.

The cap workers have decided to form a national union. A co-operative shop will be established by the Boston bakers.

The United Boot and Shoe workers have opted a union labe The miners at Bevier, Mo., are on a strike gainst a 20 per cent cut.

The Painters union of Boston has been oked out by the bosses association The collar workers of Troy have signed a rotest against the Wilson tariff bill.

Master Workman Sovereign is reported as aving that 3,000,000 workers are idle. The cotton workers of Massachusetts are eparing to form a state organization. Labor organizations in Chicago are taking teps to care for the needy poor among their

embers. The jewelry workers at Syracuse, N. Y. ave organized under the American Federa-ion of Labor.

Frederick Buehler of Louisville, Kv., nember of the state assembly of the Knights f Labor, is dead. The pay of a granute cutter in Scotland for a week is about the daily wages for similar

work in America. Knights of Labor assembly, No. 695, located at San Diego, Cal., has a case in court with a Chinaman. General Master Workman Sovereign ad-

he present wrongs. The State Workingmen's assembly of New York will hold its twenty-eighth annual conention at Albany January 16.

A firm at Washington, Pa , has secured an junction preventing former employes from ongregating about its works.

The street railway company at Jamesown, N. Y., has reduced fare to 3 cents between 6 and 8 a. m. and 4:30 and 6 p. m. The Labor congress of England has issued manifesto against the House of Lords for ot passing the employer's liability bill. The wholesale clothiers of New York are eported as organizing their employes to help

heir sales in strongly organized districts. Toronto unions have entered politics and will support only the candidates who will promise in writing to support their demands. The hatters of Yonkers held a meeting in Music hall with about 2 000 present assed resolutions against the passage of the Wilson tariff bill.

Seamstresses report that private families are doing their own sewing, which leaves them with little work to do in comparison with former years. The Journal of the Knights of Labor is

authority for the statement that the Read-ing Railroad company is discharging all enineers over 45 years of age. The amalgamation of cabinet makers and wood carvers has been postponed indefi-nitely. One organization favored and the other opposed the amalgamation

The Knights of Labor of Baltimore have asked the city to establish an employment bureau and maintain it at the expense of the city and keep a registry of the unemployed At a meeting of the employes of the Couant Thread company in Pawtucket a reso ution was passed asking the Rhode Island delegation in congress to oppose the Wilson

The Illinois Federation of Labor has a gavel made from the barrel of a rifle used by a Pinkerton detective at Homestead. It is used only at state meetings of the federa-

The Indiana Kuights of Labor in their state convention passed resolutions demand-ing that the volume of money be increased to \$50 per capita by the issuing of legal ten-der treasury notes.

An unauthorized statement has been sent out boycotting the firm of Carhart, Hackett & Co., clothing manufacturers of New York. The statement is not signed by any one and is supposed to have been sent by some rival The labor unions of Lowell addressed a set

of questions to the candidates for political office and out of twenty-six candidates, ighteen have promised in writing to work for the reforms demanded by the labor organizations. A Georgia court has compelled a railroad

company to keep its agreement with the employes in the matter of wages and time. This is said by old time railroad men to be a new departure and is looked upon as a great victory for railroad wage earners.

Cure indigestion and biliousness with DeWitt's Little Early Risers.

IMPLETIES. The startling mistake of a furneral ser-

mon preached over the wrong person occurred in Los Angeles recently. The good, kind and well-intentioned reverend doctor made the distressing error of speaking the last words over the wife and mother of the family, instead of the husband and father, whose corpse lay in the casket a few feet from him, while the agonized widow, to whose virtues he was directing the discourse was compelled to sit in terrible suspense and listen to her own funeral sermon. What must have intensified her distress and added to the grim complication of the situation is the fact that the lady is a member of the eminent divine's church. The proucher painted the desolation of home without a nother and extelled the lady's virtues in a manner that, under less painful circum-stances, must have been some satisfaction,

A well known friend of the family finally summoned up enough courage to arise and explain in broken and indistinct accents that the minister should confine his remarks to Mr. and not Mrs. Blauk. The minister, who was in the midst of his discourse, misunder tood the luterpolation, and, therefore, coninued all the more intensely his panegyric. It was no use trying to stop him now, but after the percration he looked into the coffin and fell back. He had discovered his mis-

At a prayer meeting in an Indiana church the other evening a stranger offered the following petition: "Lord, Thou knowest I am a stranger here. Thou knowest I do not like have but resided ive here, but reside in a neighboring town. Thou knowest I have relatives in another wn whom I am on my way to see. Thouknowest why I am here instead of there. Thou knowest just what I want. I want 40 cents. Amen." He got the 40 cents. and is now a firm believer in the efficacy of prayer.

The English reformers adopted some curious titles for their devotional and controversial works. "Matches Lighted at the Divine Fire," "The Gun of Penitence," "The Shop of the Spiritual Apothesary," "The Bank of Faith," "Sixpennyworth of Divine Spirit," "Some Fine Biscuits Baked in the Oven of Charity, Carefully Conserved for the Chickens of the Church," "The Sparrows of the Spirit," and "The Sweet Swallows of Salvation" are among the number.

Preacher: Young men should never go to a place where they would not take their sis-ters. Is there a young man in the audience who thinks he may safely break this wise rule! Young man under the gallery stands up. Proacter: And what is the place, my young friend, which you think yourself justified in visiting, and yet to which you would not think of taking your sister? Young man: The harber shop, sign Young man: The barber shop, sir.

Indignant Chicago Deacon-Is It true that men out of work are to be allowed to come to our elegant church at night and use it as a sleeping place! Pastor—Why not, brother For about an hour and a half every Sunday of your life to my certain knowledge you use it as a sleeping place in the daytime.

"Did you say, Aunt Sarah, that your aephew was studying theology!" "Yes, ho's a bibulous student.' Little pills for great ills: DeWitt'sLittle

The steamers between Europe and North America carry on an average about 70,000 passengers a month.

"A Brass Monkey," which opens its holiday engagement at the Boyd with a matinee this (Sunday) afternoon, is a striking manifestation of Mr. Charles H. Hoyt's peculiar aptitude for pointing the arrow of truth with amiable saure, wherewith to "shoot folly as it flies." For creating or assimilating the materials that enter into farce comedies Mr. Hoyt possesses a talent that is akin to originality. Newness is not claimed for the material made use of so freely by him. They have been used time out of mind in one form or another, but it has remained for Mr. Hoyt to create a new farcical entre met by combining the materials in a new way, and flavoring the dish with certain ideas of his own. In "A Rag Baby" he hit off the idolarry for prize fighters and incidentally shed a little light upon the peculiarities of drug store management. "A Tin Soldier" let is the daylight upon the plumber. "A Hole in the Ground" satirized the management of railways and the peculiar discomforts to which the traveling public is subject. The target for the satire-tipped shafts of "A Brass Monkey" is broader and of more general application than any of the themes treated in his former phining the materials in a new way, and than any of the themes treated in his former compositions. It is superstition that comes in for a going over, this time, and as a majority of the folks are confessedly or unconsciously superstitious, the play appeals to a wide constituency. It is partly on ac-count of this general application of the sub-ject that this work seems to possess more dramatic coherence than its predecessors, but in fact, there is small difference on this score. Without attempting to show in just what degree this difference exists, let it be remarked in passing that theater-goers care little or nothing for this side of the ques-tion. "A Brass Monkey" gives rise to a vast amount of enjoyment, and that demonstrates indisputably that this side of the question is only regarded by the public.

Vernona Jarbeau will open a four-night engagement at the Fifteenth Street theater this afternoon in her ever popular comedy, "Starlight," but so altered is it with bright, catchy music, funny situations and witty dialogue as to be scarcely recognizable. Miss Jarbeau's costumes and those of the ladies of her company form one of the fea tures, and will be the finest seen this

Act I-An Italian peasant costume, consisting of black lace skirt, yellow silk blouse, red bodice and embroidered apron.

Act II-An evening gown of shrimp pink heavy faille, Worth's latest creation, having a long drapery of point lace falling from the shoulders, and costing 12,000 francs. A white brocaded silk opera cloak, lined and bor-dered with ermine, which seems to be the rage just now. The second is a child's dress, a skirt, a Swiss pinnfore and a sun-bonnet. The third is an Empire gown made by Felix, screent green and cardinal, front richly embroidered with pearls, and a green tiara. The empire lacket and enor-mous sleeves are of cardinal velvet. A large d hat tipped with green and cardinal com-cete this most effective costume, and in it the handsome Jarbeau looks as if she had stepped from a picture frame, a breathing canvas. Miss Jarbeau is a very beautiful woman in Spanish dress; sparkling and vi-vacious, her extraordinary talent has led her on to a splendid career. Her voice is full and mellow and she has a lovely person-ality. Next season Miss Jarbeau will produce a new comedy which is now being re-hearsed. This will be positively the last chance to see her in "Starlight." A special Christmas day matinee will be iven tomorrow afternoon at 2:30.

When Maggie Cline sings Throw Him-Down, McCloskey," she becomes more or less acrobatic. But the robust Margaret's imitation of pugilism, judging from the acroimitation of puglism, judging from the acro-batic view point, falls short of a feat per-formed in "Yon Yonson" by Sadie Connelly, whose line and manner of work somewhat resemble Miss Cline's, without copying them. Miss Connelly plays an Irishwoman in "Yon Yonson." which is the New Year's attraction at the Boyd, and the young Swede, whom she desires for a husband, leads her a swift chase through a window. She dives through headlong, and, as she is not exactly fragile, the effect is guite sensanot exactly fragile, the effect is quite sensa-

A great interest is being manifested in the grand production of "Damon and Pythias," which is to be given at the Boyd December 29, not only in Pythian circles, out by all lovers of the legitimate drama. Over fifty people are to take part, and the ast is headed by such well known artists as Frank and Edna Lindon, J. and wife. Mr. Lindon will play Pythias for the first time in this city, he having erto appeared as Damon, while Mr. ( will play Damon; Edna Lindon. Calanthe, and Mrs. Owens, Hermion. The scenery and appointments will be of the most elaborate character, and the costumes correct and handsome.

Farmer J. C. Lewis comes to the Fifteenth Street theater the last three nights this week, presenting the great Yankee comedy drama, "Si Plunkard

The new play house that will open its doors Christmas day at 1 p. m. will see the revival of cheap prices and the hourly shows so long in vogue under Will Lawler's man-agement at Eleventh and Farnam. The new Eden Musee at 1515 Dodge street is a perfect ittle gem and in colors nothing but cold, white and cream are all to The second floor is the main curio hall and he opening cards are varied and interesting. First comes the famous cat minstrels, nine ving, singing, dancing cats, the wonders of the amusement world, and the greatest musical novelty in existence.

The Cliff Dwellers' exhibit is the most complete and varied collection of prehistoric elics ever exhibited and varies in age from 000 to 4,000 years.

Ratekins' squirrels and Anderson's trained mice both exhibited by Omaha cit-izens, show the power of kindness and paience over those agile animals uptil nov The famous Moynihan colle of footlight favorites is very fine, and Manager Lawler has filled each nook and corner with something odd. The Bijou theater, with its settees and folding opera chairs, beautiful scenery and decorations, is the last place you visit, and there we find Burton and Clyde Stanley, the Kellys, sharp and flat, and the musical trunk makers, a big flat, and the musical trunk makers, a big show for a little bit of silver—the old trade mark, one dime admits to all opera chairs 5 and 10 cents continuous shows; no waits good order, cleantiness and good shows, and a present of a beautiful souvenir to lady visitor at each show all the week the inducements offered at the new Eden Musee, 1515 Dodge street. Open daily, 1 to

### POINTS ON PROTRESS.

Glass is soldered to motals. Electric forging is extending. The world has 41,073 cannon. Rochester has a cricket farm. 'Frisco imports coal from China. Uncle Sam has 6,000 farms. Hawaii has fifty miles of railway. Russia is last in beer production. Germany has co-operative banks. Parisians cat 12,000 horses yearly. England eats Jerusalem oranges. London streets stretch 2,000 miles. Japan railroads extend 1,717 miles. English locomotives use liquid fuel Jerusalem is to have water works. Egyptian pottery is 5,800 years old, Stamps are canceled by electricity. Jordan valley is to have a railroad. Electricity runs a Boston typowriter. Our new navy has cost \$25,000,000. Electric railroads cover 7,500 miles. Electrically driven tools are booming. Our cotton prop is over 9,000,000 bales. Texas leads the states in cotton and

We make 80,000,000 needles annually. Japan makes 6,000 tons of iron annually. Germany has 5,000,000 savings bank de-

France is building an aluminium torpedo An English locomotive is to go 100 miles Cast steel is much cheaper for casting

The Prussian government has demon-

bells than any other metal.

The Rug sale will go on until New Years' with prices lower than ever.

This week will be a money saving time for any one fond of Rare Rugs. Our line of Antique, Corabogh, Ghiorde, Daghestan and Bokahra small Rugs is more complete than at any other season. specimens of Animal Rugs at prices to sell this year.

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EVILS WEAKNESSES, DEBILITY, ETC company them in men QUICKLY and NENTLY CURED. Full STRENGTH given to every part of the body. I will curely packed FEEE to any sufferer the tion that cured me of these troubles. A WilloHT, Music Dealer, Box 1,289, Marshall

strated that petroleum is a reliable scale preventer in steam boilers.

The explosive power of dynamite is eight times stronger than gunpowder. The longest single arch in a stone bridge is 9814 feet, over the Rinkto at Venice.

No New Thing. He loved the girl, says the Detroit Free Press. That was plain to the most casual ob-

He sent her flowers. He wanted her to go with him whereever he went. Every spare moment he devoted to

server.

When he was beside her he was the willing slave of her every wish. Did she drop her fan, he was first to Did she want a glass of nectar, he flew to fetch it.

Did she want an easier chair, he moved all the furniture in the room in order to pratify her. Did she ask this or that, he was only too glad to be of service Theater tickets and drives and candy and books and all manner of pretty little

Where she was, there was his treasure His voice was a flute note for her always; and his days were spent in thoughts of her. But that was years ago.

souvenirs were for her alone

How different now.

He married her.

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