

From Town Topics

The Boston Artists' Festival this year did not come in for as big a share of fashionable attention as it generally does, for it occurred in the dead vast and middle horse show week; but Mrs. "Jack" Gardner, Mrs. Montgomery Sears and Mrs. William F. Apthorp were among the few that were loyal enough to its interests to leave their boxes early Wednesday night in time to appear at the Grundmann studios just before midnight and see and be a piece of "The Arabian Nights." Mrs. Sears' "get up" had one peculiarity to which she held the exclusive right. She wore through her nose, or apparently so, a genuine jeweled nose-ring, and she wore it with as much unconcern as if it had been her habit to have it there. Oddly enough it was rather becoming. Her costume of an Indian princess was silvery gauze and embroidered satin, with pearls upon pearls, and more pearls besides. Mrs. Apthorp, all in fluffy white and peacock's feathers, was gorgeous as to fabric and coloring.

Mrs. Jack Gardner, however, outshone everything and everybody, and at her grand entree she fairly stopped one's heartbeats. She was arrayed in a costume which she brought from Egypt. It was supposed to be the toga of a Natch girl. As to body, she was tightly swathed round and round with layers of gauze, gold embroidered; a broad band of the same, heavy with Brazilian beetles' wings, made the bodice, and her famous diamond-and-ruby necklace, with her ropes of diamonds, bound her throat. But it was upon her head that the eyes of the Oriental multitude were fastened with breathless admiration and awe. Everything was covered but her eyes which made it, as some facetious person remarked, "such an awfully becoming headgear!" Her chin was swathed in soft mull as tight as a bandage; two big diamond balls held strings of jewels, with a pendant in the centre, which hung just above her nose, from which fell long strips of embroidered gauze on each side to the ground. Directly across the face were strung lines upon lines of Oriental stones. The arms were covered with old pieces of jewels and her bare hands with a lot of queer rings of Oriental device. It was really a wondrously artistic costume, and one which probably no one else could manage to achieve with like effect or could wear so well.

Anthony Hope and beautiful Evelyn Millard are not going to be married. The lady fell off a bicycle and scratched her nose. The latter is not given as a reason for the former but the two items come—together.

Mr. Irving and Miss Terry are in Boston. Great excitement, especially on Tuesday night. Mr. Irving loves Boston, and never, until last Tuesday night, had he consented to produce "Macbeth" there. But the people yelled for it. He had to give it. In the Tremont theatre that night no man was admitted who could not show at least three quarterings in the Harvard Quinquennial Catalogue. I have lived long and seen little, as the Psalmist did not say, but seldom have I seen anything equal to that audience. It was "great," and its efforts to understand Mr. Irving reminded me of previous trimountain efforts to understand Bernhardt and Duse; only the Tuesday night effort was harder. If ever the ghosts in the Old Granary squeaked and gibbered; if ever the Mimes and Fafners of the Subway howled and growled and chortled, it was that night; and the whole collection, and all the asthma and vocal appendicitis in the world were in Henry's lungs, throat, cords and things. Was the house happy? Well—can a bean bake?—

General Miles evidently has a strong political backing, which he has organ-

ized very adroitly. Ten years ago I heard him, in the lobby of the Ebbitt house, at Washington, address a throng of newspaper correspondents and telling them how he was beset by the jealousy of the regular officers—that is, the West Point graduates—how he was kept down because that privileged class always combined against an outsider. The impression he sought to make was that he was infinitely the superior of any officer then living—though Sherman and Sheridan were still on deck, to say nothing of Schofield and others—and that he was kept down by the malignant envy of the professional soldier. I must say that I emerged from that experience with a great many misgivings, which I had not before entertained, as to General Miles' real qualifications as a soldier. I recognized particularly his talents as a politician and a stump orator.

Miss Morton, a sister of the secretary of agriculture, is president of a new movement at Washington, which intends to secure the abolition of Sabbath receptions. A large number of the wives and daughters of the cabinet and of judges, senators and others are members.

Nothing Too Good for Bud

It is now generally believed that Bud Lindsey will be a candidate for the Lincoln postoffice, and he should have it. A man who is as shrewd a worker in politics as Lindsey is and one whom Lancaster county loves so well, should have it if he wants it. And the Sun predicts that if he goes after it he will get it. There's nothing too good for Bud in Lincoln.—Sterling Sun.

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