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tion given by Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Sawyer farce and needless to say the decision on New Year's night. Mr.and Mrs.Saw- rendered was in favor of the widow. lowing program:

Piano solo-Mrs. Wurzburg.

Address-The Closing Century, Hon- Hall and Hartley. orable C. H. Gere.

Vocal solo-Minstrel Boy, Shelley, Mr. Movius.

Poem-Mr. Bixby.

Vocal solo—Sleeping World, Dudley Buck, Mrs. Ward.

Each guest was called upon to respond to the subject "Important Events of the Century." Some of the subjects chosen were as follows: "Wireless Telegraphy," "Evolution," "Steam Inventors," "Germ Theory" and "The Legacy which this Century leaves Us." Mr. Sawyer read a letter written one hundred years ago upon the much discussed subject of when the new century shall begin. The letter appeared in the Norfolk (Virginia) Herald one hundred years ago and last week in The Concervative. and reads as follows:

Princess Anne, Dec., 18, 1798. Mess. Willett & O'Connor.

Sirs: I am a poor widow woman, whose great uncle by her father's son died lately, and by his will he hath left me a legacy of £ 100, to be paid me in the 19th century that is, he saye: "Item, I give to my niece; Deborah Violet, £ 100, to be paid to her in the 19th century." Now, sire, as I am a poor woman, and I am told you have a great many law gentlemen in Norfolk. yon will render a great service if you will get their opinion when, and at what time, I have really a right to demand the same. In so doing you will oblige,

Yours at Command, Deborah Violet.

Mr. William Cobbett, author of the famous "Porcupine Papers," treated the letter as a huge joke and printed a letviolet race (especially those who are in full bloom) and observing you in some little distress for advice, you will not be surprised, that, without further ceremony, I proceed to offer you the best, which it is in my power to bestow." He assured his "sweet violet" that she had applied to the wrong source that lawyers' skill consisted in knowing how to procure delay and that she must sue for her money. He advises her to plead her own cause as no eloquence is so eloquent as that which falls from female lips. He then puts forward an argument and ends by sa, ing, "But, if there be amonst them any man of a sound understanding and a clear conscience be will remain locked up 'till he bas gnawed off his hands, before he will give a verdict against you'."

Mr. Sawer proposed that they should try the case and chose at random, Mr. W. B. Lamb and Mr. F. M. Hall on the affirmative and Mr. H. H. Wilson and

The event of the week was the recep- The whole affair was a delightful little

yer gave their first New Year's reception After refreshments were served the in 1891. Each year since then the same guests danced the Virginia reel. Mr. guests, with an occasional addition and Mrs. Wurzburg and Mr. Bixby have welcomed the New Year with Mr furnished music for the dance. The and Mrs. Sawyer with music, literary following out of town guests were presprograms and responses. The Virginia ent: Mrs. John S. Briggs of Omaha, reel has always closed the evening, formerly lady commissioner for the About seventy-five gueets were present World's Fair; Miss Francis Briggs of last Monday night to lieten to the foi- Omaha, and Mr. and Mre. S. R. Rush, of Omaha. Mrs. Sawyer was assisted by Mesdames Field, Ricketts, Wilson,

Mr. Boyd Putnam who is a cousin of Mrs. Putnam of this city was selected by Mrs. George Gould (born Kingdon,) to take the general management of the play she gave in her own little theatre. Mr. Putnam has been with Mr. Crane but just at this season was out of an engagement and when he received Mrs. Gould's note inviting him to be her leading man he accepted the position and the responsibility for one night for four hundred dollars. Mrs. Gould acted the part of a social adventuress and her graceful motions and elegant diction revived memories of her first success in "The Merry Wives of Windsor" under Mr. Daly's management. To entertain more than one hundred persons for twelve hours and to keep them contented might almost be classed among the extra labors of Hercules. This is what Mra. Gould had to try to do. Her New York guests left Jersey City in special cars at 3:20 P. M. When they reached Lakewood they found carriages waiting for them and were driven to the Hotel Laurel in the Pines, where all the guests had a room and private bath to himself, to herself or to themselves. When they met for dinner Mr. Gould explained that Mrs. Gould was so nervous about her reappearance on the etage that she was unable to meet her guests at the table. But the theatricals were a great success. It is a little curious that Mrs. Gould should have chosen to enter society from the stage. Having made up her mind she made a triumphant entry and there is nothing to prevent her from occupying ter to her in mock seriousness. He a proud place in New York society exstarted out: Dear Madam: Having a cept the memory of her father in law singular affection for widows of the against whom, though dead, there is still a strong prejudice.

> Mr. William Jennings Bryan has returned to the city after a visit in the south where he hunted a tame panther and narrowly missed an ostrich-back ride. His hunting trip did him good. He is in excellent condition.

The younger members of the Unity Club entertained for the older members on Monday night at Walsh Hall. The first part of the evening was spent in playing cards. Miss Rose Cahn and Mr. Sam Wessel took the royal prizes. Long tables were laid in the dining room and supper was served before the dancing. The tables were beautifully decorated with candles and holly. Those present were: Misses Sorenson of Sacremento, Pollock of Omaha, May of Des Moines, Cahn of Pubelo and Mrs. Aach of Burr Oak, Kansas. Messrs. Harris of Omaha, Sarbach of Holton, Kansas, Justin Sarbach of Fairbury, Heymor of St. Louis, Meyer of Hol-Judge Tibbetts on the negative side. Heymor of St. Louis, Meyer of Hol-Mr. E. E. Brown, Judge Pound and dredge, Frankenburg of Charleston and Mrs. Ricketts were chosen as judges. Simon of Washington, Kansas. Meters