

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

Another week has passed and nothing in the line of local theatrical performances but Jarbean is promised for a few days beginning Monday evening in the opera house.

It is said that after an existence of 266 years, London's Old Drury Lane theatre must go. Its owner, the Duke of Bedford, one of the richest of England's nobility, has refused to renew the lease.

W. M. Wilkison, Alexander Salvini's manager, sailed from Liverpool for New York, August 3. As soon as he arrives active preparations will begin for the next tour of young Salvini, which begins September 18 in Cincinnati.

Jane Hading, the French actress, is said to be more beautiful of the stage than on. She almost always wears black on the street, being probably well aware that it sets off her wonderful red gold hair, languishing eyes, and pale, mobile face autogenously.

It is said that a well known theatrical man of New York recently bought for \$75 at a pawnbroker's sale a solid gold cigar case weighing seventy pennyweights that was presented to John Brougham while he was playing an engagement at the San Francisco theatre in 1864.

Henry Irving possesses an exceptionally sensitive organisation. When he is on tour it is a usual thing for him to request that all the chambermaids in the hotel where he is stopping shall wear list slippers. He has been known, also, to change his valet's room, adjoining his own, to a distant part of the hotel, in order that he might not hear him wash his hands. Ellen Terry is much more tolerant of the sounds of common life. Unexpecting, gracious, she is readily satisfied with all arrangements designed for her comfort.

Miles Standish is the theme of a new opera by Periguzzi.

The oldest violin in the world was found in an Egyptian tomb, dating from about 3000 B. C.

Miss Lillian Carlsmith, the contralto, who sang at the last Oratorio concert here is spending the summer at Old Orchard Beach, Me.

Sarasate, the celebrated violinist, is a Spaniard by birth, and nearly fifty years of age. Unlike most great musicians, he never practises.

The author of "After the Ball" expects to clear \$100,000. And Bizet died a pauper; Gounod is not rich; Mendelssohn and Liszt never saved a cent.

Amongst eminent singers, Mr. Edward Lloyd shines as a first-rate gardener. The beauty of the grounds of his charming house, at Pulse Hill, owe much to his skill. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lloyd have just celebrated their silver wedding.

"Gabrielle" is the name of the new opera by Sig. Pizzi which Mme. Patti is now studying at Craig-y-nos, in preparation for her tour of the United States next winter. The scene was laid during the reign of Louis XI. Mme. Patti appears in the role of a nun in the first act.

Mrs. A.—Why don't you have Professor von Pianohump to play at your house now? Mrs. B.—He's so abominably rude. The last time he played he asked some of the guests to stop talking. He said he didn't mind whether they heard him or not, but that unless he could hear himself he couldn't do himself justice.

A well known singer attributed his own lasting success not more to the fact that a certain spell had weaved around his name than that the public had never caught him singing when out of trim. It costs a fortune to be so scrupulous; yet, if six or eight fortunes can be made by following out such a course, the policy looks certainly like a paying one.

A medallion of Jenny Lind is to be placed in Westminster Abbey, near Handel's monument. A long list of names was to the requisition for permission addressed to the dean of Westminster and included such distinguished signatures as those of the duke of Edinburgh, Prince Christian, James A. Froude, Sir Frederick Leighton, Sir John Strainer and the Marquis of Salisbury.

Liszt, says a French paper, and Rubini once gave a concert in a little French town in the presence of only fifty people, including one lady. In spite of the small number the musicians surpassed themselves. Then Liszt addressed the assembly. "Gentlemen and Madams, I think you've had enough music. Will you do us the honor to sup with us?" The supper cost nearly \$250, but the advertisement paid as the next evening the hall was filled.

Some composers write up to—that is, frame their songs to suit certain vocalists who are public favourites. Many beautiful vocal compositions have come to us in this way. Clay's "The shades of evening close around," was addressed to Mario, the handsomest of operatic tenors. Mr. Stephen Adams, not less renowned as Mr. Maybrick, wrote many of his spirited nautical ballads. "Nancy Lee," the midshipman, and others, to suit his own voice. Making a hit with baritone songs, he has since gauged his friend Mr. Edward Lloyd's voice to perfection, and writes for it tenor songs which charm everybody.

M. Riviere, in his "Recollections," gives some interesting notes of the early struggles of Auguste Van Biene, the great violinist, who lived at one time in a garret in Northumberland Court, Charing Cross. Biene borrowed a stool from his landlady, and betook himself to the street, where he earned sometimes 20s. a day. One afternoon he ventured to Hanover Square, and had not long settled down to play one of his best pieces when he was addressed by a gentleman, who asked him why he did this. "Parce que j'ai faim," replied Biene, truthfully. The gentleman gave him his card, which bore the name of Michael Costa, and told the player to call and see him. The result, of course, was an engagement.

Dr. Hauslick once asked Schumann how he got on with Wagner. "Not at all," replied Schumann, "for me Wagner is impossible; doubtless he is a very clever man, but he talks too fast—one cannot get a word in." Some time after, in an inter-

view which Hauslick had with Wagner, allusion was made to Schumann. "With Schumann," said Wagner, "it is impossible to arrive at an understanding; he says nothing. Some years ago, on my return from Paris, I called on him to talk of operas, concerts, composers, and other interesting matter with which I had become acquainted. Schumann looked at me stolidly, or rather he looked into space, without saying a word. Faith, I took leave of him almost immediately. He is an impossible man."

Patti and the Procession.

The following anecdote is told of M. Schumann in his book entitled "Etoiles en Voyage": Mme. Patti had arranged to sing at Bucharest on a certain date, but could not be persuaded to leave Vienna owing to the inclemency of the weather. So M. Schumann, who was in despair telegraphed to his agent in the Roumanian capital to the effect that the diva must, at all hazards, be met at the station at Bucharest by a deputation of Roumanian nobles, and ordered him to send a telegram to the following effect:—

"Members of the Italian and Roumanian aristocracy preparing magnificent reception for Patti. Cabinet represented. Torch-light procession, military bands. Wire hour of arrival."

The telegram duly arrived, and was shown to Mme. Patti, who was enchanted, and at once made ready to start. As the train steamed into Bucharest next evening the scene was truly imposing—flags were flying, bands playing, and torches flaring.

The diva was escorted to her hotel by an enthusiastic crowd, and as they entered the door M. Schumann signed to his agent to accompany him. The latter, however, refused, promising an explanation next morning. It turned out that he had hired a gang of loafers and vagabonds and dressed them up for the occasion, securing a choice selection of "aristocrats" for the modest sum of about £13.

But he naturally was loth to leave them for a moment until the show was over, as they would otherwise have decamped with their hired costumes.

Her Piano Performance.

After Madame Carreno's concert was over, a countryman quietly took the manager aside, and gave vent to his pent-up feelings as follows:— "I tell you, mister, she was a slasher. Our Jennie couldn't hold a candle to her. When she first sat down she looked kind o' wild, then with a howl dug her fingernails into them 'ere rough notes and shut 'em up like lightning in the thin ones. Then she paused for a reply, mister. She then commenced at the right hand side, went a-rippin' down hand over fist till she got clean down, makin' a noise like thunder. She then yanked a handful out of the centre and planted them at the end, then wiggled about with two fingers, grabbed up another fistful, pounced right and left, went ripety-hopety-scootchy up and down, an' I tell you that 'ere pianner howled. She then gave another snort and started again like mad, raised off her chair, stuffed three finger-tails there, cannoned six more in the corner gobbled up a few more tunes, and s-t-e-d the ash in about a minute. After that she tackled with her left hand alone. Between you and me mister, the man that owned that 'ere pianner went shiftin' about on his chair as though he had carpet tack under him. Good-night, mister."

How to Use Chopsticks.

It is a very simple trick after it is learned, and one which I have often found useful at other places than at the table in a Chinese restaurant. Once mastered, with a couple of pencils one can improvise a very serviceable pair of tongs to pick up a bee, or struggling worm, a bit of hot metal, or any such small objects which one does not care to touch with one's fingers. The first stick should be held rigidly, about three inches from the lower end, between the ball of the second finger, the first joint of the thumb and the hand, just below the knuckle joint of the first finger—very much, in fact, as a clumsy school-boy holds his pen.

The second stick should be held almost exactly as a good penman holds his pen lightly between the ball of the thumb and of the first finger, slightly resting along and steadied by that finger, to just between the second and knuckle joints. Chinese meats are all served cut into small pieces, so as to be readily eaten with chopsticks, thus materially reducing the labor of dining.

The Munro Case.

GRANLEX, ONT., Aug. 7 The interest in the case of Mr. Munro, of which mention was made in a despatch from here last week, rapidly increases as his improvement in health progresses. As a wise man should do, Mr. Munro did not say anything about his trial of Dodd's kidney pills for the dropsy which afflicted him, until he had found that good would result from their use. Now that he has satisfied himself and others of this, beyond the shadow of a doubt, he is loud in his praises of the remedy. In answer to the enquiries that poured in upon him about his health, Mr. Munro answers: "I am better than I have been for three years, and the credit is due to Dodd's kidney pills." His case and others prove that these pills are, by all odds, the most wonderful remedy of the age.

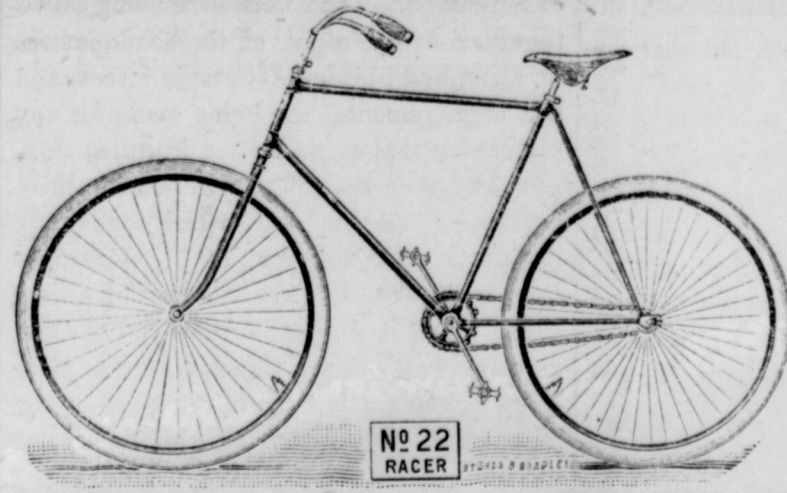
How the World Will Die.

According to all probability, notwithstanding all the circumstances which threaten it, our planet will die, not of an accident, but a natural death. That death will be in consequence of the extinction of the sun in 20,000,000 years or more—perhaps 30—since its condensation at a comparatively moderate rate will give it, on one hand, 17,000,000 years of existence; while, on the other hand, the inevitable fall of meteors into the sun may double this number.

Even if you suppose the duration of the sun to be prolonged to 40,000,000 years, it is still incontestable that the radiation of heat cools it, and that the temperature of all bodies tends to an equilibrium. The day will come when the sun will be extinct. Then the earth and all the other planets of our system will cease to be the abode of life.

Don't expect much from the man who is always talking about what great things he would do if he had somebody else's opportunities.

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Calico Printing.

The art of calico printing was introduced into Europe about the seventeenth century, although it is believed to have been known in India and Egypt as early as the first and second centuries. In this early period the printing was done by means of blocks, on which the designs to be transferred to the cloth had been engraved in relief. These were dipped into dye-stuff and then pressed upon the material by hand. Later, presses for this block printing were invented, and the use of several was introduced, so engraved as to fill up each others vacancies, and thus several colors were put into the pattern.

About 1770, copper plate printing was invented in England. By this method the design was cut into plates, the color filled into the sunken parts of the engraving, and the cloths were printed by being pressed upon it. This invention finally led to the introduction of cylinder printing, the method now in use. The cylinders are of copper, and the design is engraved upon their surface. A separate cylinder is required for each color or shade of color to be used in printing the cloth; and in fine and intricate designs as many as twenty cylinders are sometimes used. These are set in a strong frame against the face of a large central drum made of iron and covered with woolen cloth in several folds, between which and the cylinders the calico is printed as it passes. The color is spread upon the cylinders as they revolve by contact with another roller, which dips into a trough containing the coloring matter properly thickened. This roller is made of an absorbent, elastic material, similar to the roller used in inking a printing press. Each cylinder thus receives its proper color and imparts it in revolving to the calico, pressed between its face and that of the fixed drum. A sharp blade of metal pressing against the copper cylinder removes all superfluous matter from its surface, so that only the design cut in the metal is impressed in clear outline upon the cloth.

The employment of a number of rollers to make one design is attended with much difficulty, as in passing under them the cloth is in much danger of being displaced and the regularity of the print destroyed. As the cloth leaves the printing machine it is drawn over rollers through a hot air chamber, by which it is thoroughly dried and the colors become fully set.

Her View of It.

It was in a Chicago theatre, the opera was "Faust," and as Jones and his adored gazed upon the apotheosis, as the angels carry Marguerite into heaven, he murmured, "Beautiful, beautiful! Here the soul, clothed in all its purity, is waited to eternity to sweet strains of angelic music." "Yes, Gus," she replied, dreamily; "but I rather think it that grapping was to give way and drop her on the stage, it would churn her up somewhat."

Getting Into a Scrape.

The red and fallow deer which formerly roamed through the English forests had a habit of scraping up the earth with their forefeet to the depth of four inches, sometimes even of half a yard. The stranger passing through these woods was frequently exposed to the danger of tumbling into one of these hollows, when he might be said truly to be "in a scrape." The college students of Cambridge, in their little perplexities, picked up and applied the phrase to other perplexing matters which had brought a man morally into a fix.



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The Calendar of the School for 1893, giving all necessary information regarding entrance examinations, courses of study, terms, etc., has just been issued.

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Austin K. deBlois, Ph. D.

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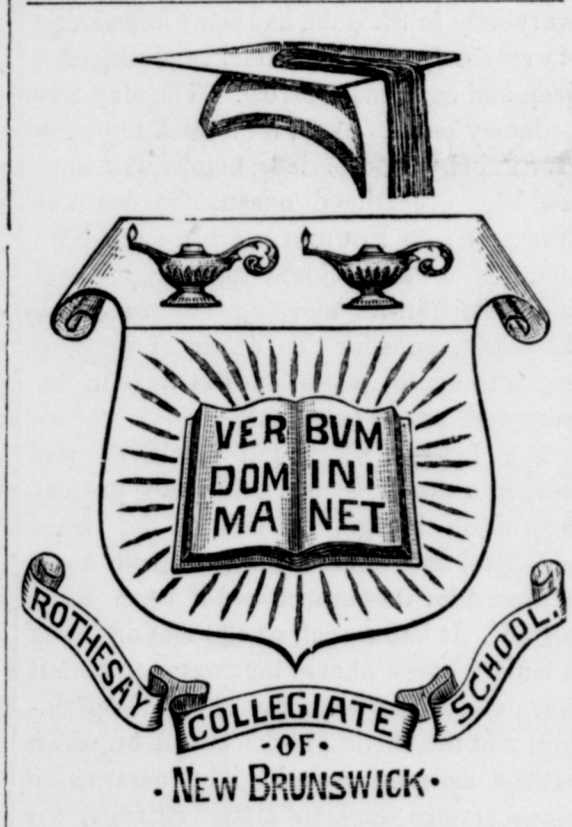
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