CATALANI AND GOETHE. How the Singer Greatly Mortified the Author of Werther.

The prima donna of the olden time was, as a rule, a somewhat illiterate individual. Catalani, for example-whose throat, by the way, was said to be large enough to swallow a penny loaf whol - Cantalani was almost entirely uneducated. She was extremely vivacious in company, and this, with her ignorance, often placed her in a somewhat ludicrous position. The best story told of ber in this connection is associated with an occasion when at Weimar she was placed next to Goethe at a fashionable dinner party. Catalani knew nothing of Goethe; bu. being struck by the find appearance of the poet, she asked the gentlemen on her other side what was his name. 'The celebrated Goethe, madame,' was the reply, 'Ah, yes. Pray on what instrument does he play?' was the rejoinder. 'He is not a performer. madame; he is the renowned author of "Werther." 'Oh, yes, yes, I remember,' said Catalani, and turning to the venerable poet she addressed him. 'Ah, sir, what an admirer I am of "Werther!" A low bow followed in acknowledgement. 'I never,' continued the lively lady, 'I never read anything halt so laughable in my life. What a capital farce it is, sir!' 'Madame,' said the poet, looking serious, 'the "Sorrows of Werther" a farce?" 'Oh, yes: never was anything so exquisitely ridiculous,' rejoined Catalani, still laughing heartily. It turned out that the lady had been talking all the while of a parody of 'Werther,' which had been performed at one of the minor theatres of Paris. But fancy the mortification of the poet!

HE WON THE BET.

The Trousers Cost Considerably More than They Seemed Worth.

Old John Langley, the veteran horseman, is better known to old Worcester sporting men than any man living. Stories of his eccentric career are innumerable. He often complained of being "done" in betting. As a matter of fact, he "did" his adversaries in the sporting world oftener than they did him. One day he called at the store of a tailor and stated in his usual loud and emphatic way-for his conversation was always highly flavored with the tabasco of profanity-that he "wanted a pair of breeches. And I want the best stuff in the store, no matter what the -color." The tailor was a little bewildered, but finally showed Langley the most costly material in the shop, a beautiful silky broadcloth. That this was unsuitable for trousers made no difference to him. "I want it," said he, "and I want it made up wrong side out." The tailor expostulated in vain, and the trousers were made and delivered.

A friend called on Langley and remarked on the trousers in uncomplimentary language. Langley said he was satisfied. More guying resulted in the old man offering to bet \$25 that the cloth cost more a vard than that in his friend's trousers. The bet was taken, and the tailor was to decide it. He named the price. The friend would not believe that the rough goods could be so costly until he was shown the shiny, silky other side. Then he paid, as did other men on similar bets That was what the old man had bought the trousers

HE WANTED BREAD.

And That was why a Tender Woman's Heart was Touched.

"What do you want?" she asked of the tramp, who had made his way around to the kitchen. "Nothin' much, ma'am,' he replied with

a politeness that awakened her suspicion. "Money, I suppose. We don't give tramps money."

"No'm. I don't want no money." "Well, we have no victuals, except for dinner, and they ain't done yet."

"I don't even ask for none of yer dinner, ma'am. All I want is some dry bread; jes' dry bread." She was touched.

'Poor man!' she exclaimed. 'Here, I'll give you a piece of pie anyhow.' 'No'm. I druther hev the dry bread.' Do you like it?'

' No, but yer see me and the rest of the boys hez hustled aroun' till we've got turkey an' some celery an' some cranberry sauce an' some plum puddin', an' all we want now is jas't the dry bread ter make the stuffin' ot.'

Why Preaching Fails.

Various reasons are assigned for the fail ure of preaching to reach some people and to convert the hearers. An old chief in Uganda, with whom Bishop Tucker recently had an interview frankly gave his reason for not wishing to accept hristianity SPECTACLES, and for refusing to allow missionaries to come to his territory. He said:

"We are fond of fighting and cattlestealing, and if teachers come they will tell us that all this is wrong." Possibly if some of our citizens were equally frank CLOCKS AND BRONZES. they would give a similar reason for not going to church. They do not want to be told that their business principles and practices are wicked.

The Bishop was Shamming,

. Here is a story told of the late Bishop of St. Asaph. Dr. Short. After the usual examination for ordination, the Bishop re-«quested one of the candidates to come into his drawing-room and pay him a pastora' visit as a sick parishioner. In due time the peophyte entered the drawing-room and found the good Bisnop lying on the sofa, with a handkerchiet over his face. Summoning up his courage, he advanced to the sofa and pulled off the handkerchief, exclaiming, "Thomas Vowles Short, you are shamming!"

Not Adapted to pe. d.

Employer (to new amanuensis) - "Here, you are taking most of this dictation in stenographer." Graduate (of business college)-"So I am, sir; but you talk too MEALS SERVED AT ALL HOURS

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THE ARAB CHARACTER. The Remarkable Warning of an Arabian.

Chieftain One day I was the guest of a general commanding the mititary division of Northern Africa. It is better not to mention

names, for people with official responsibili-ties usually dislike being quoted. My acquaintance with G-neral --- arose. however, through a good mutual friend, and as I was treated with frankness. I have every reason to consider his views of conse quence.

"Can you trust these Turcos and Spahis in the case of war?" I asked him. To this he replied by telling a story. That he had once been in the position where he was able to save a great Arab chief from disgrace and beggary. That chief had been triendly with him for many

years, and was so overwhelmed by gratitude that he brought the general a costly present. "I never expect presents from natives," said the general, in parenthesis. "Whoever accepts a present from an Arab loses his authority at once."

The chief was very much chagrined at he general's determination, and sought in vain to alter it. Finally, in a fit of uncontrollable emotion, and with a choking voice, he raised his hand solemnly and said: "General, you have saved me from dis-

honor. I owe you all I have. Let me make you a gift more valuable to you than any precious stone. It is one word of advice: Never trust an Arab-not onenot even me !" With which strange, not to say para-

doxical, warning the chief disappeared. "That happened several years ago." said the general, "but each day I real z; more fully the value of that strange gift. The Arab has his nature, which is not yours or mine. He may live twenty years with you, respect and admire you, serve you taithfully, even spill his blood for you -but all that counts for nothing. The n xt year he may cut your throat."

Fiercest of Their Tr be.

The gray wolves are on the rampage in he northern part of Gallatin Councy, Montana. Already they have killed hundreds of calves, and in some instances have been known to attack steers and cows that became separated from the herd. The gray wolf is the fiercest of his species and many a man in the great woods of the East and North has been killed by them. A few days ago a farmer in the northern part of the county shut two large-sized colts in a corral while he took his team to a fi ld. When he came back after the colts a few hours later be found both had been killed by wolves Another stockman, while riding over the hills, came across two large steers that had been carrying on an un qual fight with wolves. The steers were surrounded by a number of the big gray creatures and several coyotes, which had been running the battle about. The steers were badly bitten, and they were nearly exhausted with the unequal struggle. At the appearance of the stockmen the wolves and coyotes slunk away. When winter finally sets in and it becomes a difficult matter for them to get a calf or a sheep the stockmen fear that these wolves will become desperate. They will then go in bands and will undoubtedly attack almost anything that might furnish them a meal.

Reward of Honesty.

Mr.Chugwater, who was taking a ride on a street car, had just handed a half dollar to the conductor. On counting the change given to him in return, he called

"Conductor, you didn't keep out your nickel. You've given me 50 cents." "So I have," replied the conductor, counting it himself. "I must have dropped a dime in my nickel pocket by mistake. Thanks '

He took back the dime, put it into its proper pocket and Mr. Chugwater rode to his destination suffused with the comtortable glow that comes with the consciousness of having done a manly, honorable, upright act.

And it was not until Mr. Chugwater had got off the car that it dawned upon him he had paid lo cents for his ride,

Hlying Machines.

Lord Rayleigh at the British association considered that three out of the five great fight problems had been solved-namely. motive power, propelling power and the lifting power. Steeing and maneuvering remain. The art of descending has also to be practiced. Hitherto this has been the easiest but least satisfactory portion of the problem. For commercial purposes M. Maxim expects little from flying machines, but for military uses they will be highly valued. Perhaps they might be used for sporting purposes, and it is not altogether unlikely that in the daily journals of 20 years hence we shall find illustrations of some popular prince of the realm on a flying machine pursuing a flock of wild geese through the air and firing on them with a Max m gu 1.

The Portieres Broke Their Hearts.

An old couple took a son home to live with them and deeded to him the property. The young man's wife brought from Massachusetts a head full of notions as to style in house decoration, and had the inner doors taken off, all through the house, and tu-key-red portieres hung all over the pre-mises. The old folks looked on in wonder at first, then the change in their home surroundings amazed them so they began to weep. After about three months of this crying the young man concluded that his wite's decorative ideas would kill the old tolks, so he deeded back the farm and went his way. The portieres did it. for he could never learn of any other cause for com-

A Ghastly Competition.

A hangman of Hungary recently died, and his post was offered for competition. Amongst the aspirants were several bankrupt merchants and schoolmasters, but the place went to a peasant who had proved his talents during the Bosnian campaign, when he assisted at several executions.

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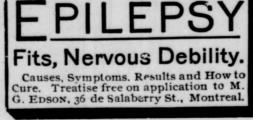
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A TOUCHING INCIDENT. Here's Twenty Dollars to Get Her a Better Coffin With."

He didn't look like a savant or scholarnot even like a cultivated gentleman of retinement, capable of the higher instincts and noble feelings. He was not even well dressed. In fact, he looked rough and unarcustomed to the ways of civilization. How he came to find his way to the city's undertaker no one knows. But he pushed and edged his way through the little crowd that surrounded the bodies of Severa Cisneros and her lover, and did not shrink from the ghastly sight of the d ad sweethearts who had found union only in death. "Say, pard," said he to the city undertaker, "that gal died afore she wanted to, didn't she?"

"Yes, sir." "An' that feller there murdered her?"

" So it is said.' "An' ye'r givin' him a big burial ?"

" His friends are." "Yer say the gal's got to go to the potter's field?'

"I am afraid so." "Where's her mother?"

"She has none." "But she had one onc't, an' she's got to have a square deal an' be buried right. Here's twenty dollars to get her somethin' to wear what's fit to be planted in. Here's twenty dollars to get her a better coffin with, an' here's ten dollars for a broken wheel of flowers. Let's not have it said that old 'Frisco gives the murderer a bigger send-off than the poor gil what he killed. Good-bye, old pard."

"What is your name, please? This is an act of rare generosity." "Have a drink, pard, but my name's my own biz,"

What Comes After Death. A little story is told in connection with the recent lectures on theosophy in this city that is too good to keep. The lecturer was in the midst of a learned discourse and

asked in stentorian tones: "What comes after death?" No one answered, and after waitin a moment he repeated with vehemence, "Again I say,

what comes after death? Just at that moment the door opened and in walked one of the leading undertakers of the city and went demurely to a seat. The coincidence was too much for the ribles and a broad smile spread over lhe countenances of many and the solem nity of the occasion was for the moment broken.

A Patrician Element.

There are people who in former years ere wont to regard street cars and ferry boats a privileged mode of transporation, who will not make the shortest railway journey now unless in their own private, or a specially chartered, car. This sought-tor exclusiveness which it is claimed begets distinction is a part of the education of wealth which makes those unaccustomed to it extravagant in foolish ways. And to think the Pilgrim Fathers and Puritans, from whom we boast descent, were compelled to walk to church, to which exertion the additional annoyance ot s'hooting Indians en route was a ne :essity!

No Blackmail for Mrs. Mackay. Mr. Mackay, the wife of the well-known "Silver King," is not a woman to be in-timidated, for recently she completely turned the tables on a would-be blackmailer. Mrs. Mackay, when in Paris, received a letter from him in which he asked for four hundred and eighty pounds, in:imating that unless this sum was paid, he intended to have the bodies of a former porter and a governess in Mrs Mackay's establishment exhumed (their deaths, according to his statement. having come about by foul means). Mrs. Mackay sent the letter to the Prefect of Police. The man was sentenced to two years' imprison-

Where Men and Women Dress Allke. In Annam, an Empire occupying the eastern portion of the Indo-Chinese peninsular, with a population of 6,000,000, men and women wear their hair in the same way, and dress almost alike. Like the man the woman wears a turban, a long tunic, wide, loose trousers, and a bright sash, the end talling below the knees, The physiognomy is almost the same, as the men are beardless, and have their hair done up like the women. The only clue to distinguish them is tound in the ear-rings and finger-rings, which are worn by women only.

Pole-Finding Made Easy. To reach the North pole an architect, M. Hauln, has proposed to the Geographical society of Paris the construction of wooden huts one or two days' journey apart. He considers Greenland the most tivorable locality for an experiment of this kind Each of the huts would become in its turn a base of supplies for the construction of the next. As the distance to be covered is about 900 miles, about a score of huts would be necessary to establish a route to the pole.

A Prince Among Flatterers. Jollyer-"Yes, Miss Lightfoot, you are a wonderful dancer."

Miss Lighttoot-"Do you think so?" Jollver-"More wonderful than the damsel who dan el befor : Herod and demanded the head of John the Baptist."

Miss Lightfoot— 'How so, pray?"

Jollyer—"When she denced one man was decapitated, but when you dance all men lose their heads."

Ancient Eggs as Food. The Chinese are fond of eggs about 100 years old, and old eggs are worth about as much in China as old wine is in other countries. They have a way of burying the eggs, and it takes about hirty days to render a pickled egg fit to eat. Some of the old eggs have become as blank as ink, and one of the tavorite Cninese dishes for invalids, is made up of eggs which are preserved in jars of red clay and salt-water.

A Four-Footed Electrician.

The underground system of electric wires in London owes much of its success to "Strip the clectrician." Strip is not a man, but a tiny 'ox terrier, who has been trained to crawl through the street condults, dragging a wire, the end of which is attached to her collar. She has done an immense amount of work that could not have been accomplished as well by any other agency. chase & Sanborn's



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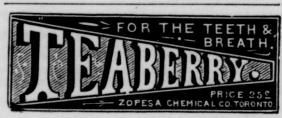
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