

London Theatricals

THE "SLUMP," THE REGENERATION, MR. GRANVILLE BARKER, MR. BERNARD SHAW, SHAKESPEARE AND RAGTIME.

(Copyright, 1913, by G. W. Smalley.)

London, April 8.

When an English newspaper finds itself driven to talk of a "slump in theatres" the state of things must really be bad. The word slump has none of that elegance we are taught to expect, and sometimes find, in the English press. Lowell and Mr. Howells can be quoted as authorities for its use, still, it is branded in the dictionaries as obsolete, colloquial, or American. Protests were at once heard. Friends of the drama thought the assertion unfair, even if true. An eminent actor-manager remarked that it was a damned shame to say such things; thus raising the whole question of criticism in relation to plays and players. One or two of these august beings had themselves interviewed—a practice now frequent—in order to declare that, whatever might be true elsewhere, their own theatres were prosperous. It was admitted in the original statement that the slump, though general, was not universal. Out of twenty-eight theatres all but ten were said to be in trouble; and of the ten not all were at their best.

Then came the philosopher, who searches for the cause of things, and found three: 1. A plethora of bad plays. 2. Lent. 3. The taxi strike. No doubt the strike keeps many people at home. It has lasted two months and during all that time you could never be sure of getting a taxi after the theatre; and cannot now. This difficulty affects mainly the public of the stalls and boxes. Pit and galleries are content, now as ever, to travel by tube or motor-bus: A man can always shift for himself; his troubles begin when he has ladies to look after. The deterring influence of Lent may count for something; and of the weather. The badness of plays must be admitted; and of their production.

Long since, managers began to admit they could no longer forecast the success or failure of the pieces submitted to them. They are very astute men of business, these managers. Sometimes they are good judges of plays. But the taste of the public varies and whether a play is to succeed or fail does not depend wholly on the goodness or badness of the play. It depends on whether it happens to hit the taste of the town at the moment. I asked a manager whether the critics could do much toward blessing or damning a piece. He thought not. I asked what did.

"There is no absolute rule. But it's more what people say to each other than what the press says next morning."

I have known a publisher of that opinion about the sale of books. It is now some years since we have been invited to regard with admiration the regeneration of the English stage. Can it be that this regeneration is one cause of the slump?

I think of Mr. Bernard Shaw, one of the regenerators. Mr. Shaw is a Socialist on the platform and an Anarchist on the stage. Can it be that he is one of the causes? I think of Mr. Granville Barker. He is playwright, actor, and manager, in one. Can he be a cause? As playwright, he attained the distinction of being censored; even before that incorruptible guardian of the public morals, Mr. Charles Brookfield, author of a dirty little piece known as "Dear Old Charlie," had been appointed joint reader of plays by the Lord Chamberlain. Mr. Barker's "Waste" turned, I believe, on an abortion, and dealt presumably with the psychological effects of that physiological process. A private performance of this prohibited piece was given at the Savoy Theatre, which I was not privileged to witness. What I say therefore is hearsay, but matter of common notoriety.

But I have lately seen Mr. Granville Barker's "Twelfth Night" at the Savoy Theatre: a play originally written by one William Shakespeare. Mr. Barker's ideas of dramatic construction differ from Shakespeare's. To the play for which Shakespeare thought five acts none too many, Mr. Barker allows only three. Whether he holds that Bacon wrote Shakespeare I know not, but he clearly holds that he, Barker, knows better than Shakespeare knew in what form this comedy of "Twelfth Night" ought to be produced. The change from five acts to three may be one item in the regeneration of the Elizabethan drama, and of the stage in general.

There are other items. The Savoy stage itself has been not only regenerated but whitewashed; or I suppose white painted. The enlarged proscenium is a splash of white; dazzling white. The curtain has been set back. The space between the footlights and the curtain is so much broader as to allow the wings to begin in view of the audience; as if Professor Reinhardt's methods had influenced Mr. Barker. There is a broad date or step in front of the curtain; which itself is, or once had been, white; now a dirty white; limp and wrinkled; a rag of a curtain. Some of the actors passed in front of it; some behind. When it wrinkled itself up, you beheld a set scene; white-walled, pink-tinted, with two gilt wooden sofas or benches; and two pyramids of shrubbery in green cardboard cylinders, diminishing as they towered aloft. This I understood we were to accept as a conventional treatment of scenery; and conventional in a sense it is; of the kind one became familiar with early in life, in the Noah's Ark provided for the entertainment of embryonic youth. On this and one or two other scenes the dirty wrinkled white curtain kept going up and down; the changes so frequent that all notion of continuous dramatic movement was lost, and you seemed to be looking on at a peep-show.

To this impression the actors and actresses contributed. They popped on and off the stage casually, as if from time to time it occurred to them to appear or disappear. Once there, you wondered how they were and why they came. Who is this Nonconformist Minister in solemn garb and of solemn speech who stalks past? The programme tells you it is Malvolio. But it is not on record that Malvolio had strayed from a Conventicle to Olivia's house. Mr. Ainley, who plays him, is an actor of capacity, which I judge he has subdued to the Barker standard. Or is it that he means this austere Malvolio to be a protest against the buffoonery of Sir Herbert Tree's impersonation? Whatever the reason, he played it as if under constraint of some kind, with scarce a flash of humor. Only at the end had we for one moment a glimpse of the real Ainley and the real Malvolio, with his tragic cry of revenge.

The comedy, indeed, has become a travesty. The Duke of Illyria has reached the Savoy via Whiteley's, where he was floorwalker. Sebastian, Antonio, Sir Andrew Aguecheek—they are all regenerating Shakespeare into the Barker mould. Sir Toby Belch was bent on presenting to us the real Sir Toby; such a Sir Toby as Shakespeare drew; a Sir Toby who really might have been Olivia's kinsman; never too drunk nor too noisy to be tolerated; a sound and intelligent piece of acting.

The Viola I had last seen before Miss Lillah McCarthy's was the Viola of Miss Phyllis Neilson-Terry; almost her debut in comedy; a girl of seventeen. Miss Neilson-Terry played it with such natural grace and sense, with such true feeling for character, with such delicacy, with such ease in her modest boy's clothes, as if she had always worn them, and with such a perception of poetic values as in a novice were astonishing, and in an actress of experience would have been thought admirable. Miss McCarthy chose to present us with a mature, distressful Viola in green pyjamas; mature, yet with the stamp of the nursery still on her, or of the nursery maid. Olivia, to whom Shakespeare gave youth and beauty enough to enthrall the Duke, now becomes a middle-aged yet not-rasthene dame, Maria, one of the sprightliest figures in all Shakespeare, is a serious, stolid Quaker lass.

If the poet could be here, how he would rejoice that so much of his enchanting comedy is in prose. For of the difference between prose and verse no one of these performers seems careful to give us a notion; nor of metrical values; nor of rhythm; nor yet of gesture save in its experimental or tentative form. Is then the stage to be regenerated by dispensing with the art of elocution and of delivery? At the House of Moliere, in Paris, these arts are still studied and practised as essential to the rendering of character, of which a just conception and composition are reckoned the foundation of all dramatic art. They may be studied at the Savoy, but you might have sat through this "Twelfth Night" performance without discovering it.

I am giving you a purely personal impression. The opinion of the majority is the other way. Mr. Barker's "Twelfth Night" has kept the Savoy stage for more than a hundred nights. It has been praised by the critics; or by some of them. The friend who went with me chose it as the one play in all London she preferred. The house, it is true, was half empty and cold, but this was doubtless an exceptional night. Mr. Barker has made for himself in times past a considerable name as manager and producer of plays. Simultaneously with Shakespeare he has lately been presenting, as often before, Mr. Bernard Shaw; whose superiority to Shakespeare we have Mr. Shaw's authority for accepting. Mr. Barker has even risen to the height of comic opera. Why should he not be content with these achievements and leave Shakespeare alone?

There are other regenerators beside Mr. Barker and Mr. Shaw. These are the ragtime regenerators. Their sphere is more the music halls than the theatres, but since almost all the leading actors and actresses now make excursions to the halls that is no reproach. The opportunities for ragtime are naturally greater in the halls than in the regular theatres; in some of which plays without music are still performed. This innovation must be another form of regeneration, since it comes to London from America.

We brought some of it with us the other day on the Lusitania. There were ragtime performers on that noble ship; both colored and white. They were fished out from the second cabin and steered, and for two evenings delighted and deafened the saloon passengers in the lounge; of whom the American Ambassador to France was one,—indeed, he good naturedly presided one evening over this entertainment, for charity's sake, with Mr. Haddon Chambers as first lieutenant. An American girl sat entranced on the same bench with the piano ragtime player. Sir Thomas Lipton looked on and listened; so did the captain.

That was two months ago. To-day Ragtime and the Moving Picture Shows are the most profitable things going in London. Next come the Musical Comedies; next, perhaps, a different sort of picture show at His Majesty's Theatre; "Drake," with twice as many nights' run to its credit as Mr. Barker's "Twelfth Night" at the Savoy; if it is not regeneration, what is it? It is a financial age. Shall not the financial test of success be accepted? It may be unfortunate that, tried by this test, Ragtime and Pageant pieces and Mr. Bernard Shaw are more successful than Shakespeare. But, unfortunate or not, the facts must be faced.

G. W. S.

RED CROSS FUND \$1,560,000.

Washington, April 12.—Contributions amounting to \$50,000 received to-day by the American Red Cross brought the total fund for the relief of the flood sufferers up to \$1,560,000.

FLAGLER ABLE TO SIT UP

Condition of Railroad Magnate Greatly Improved.

West Palm Beach, Fla., April 12.—Henry M. Flagler, the railroad magnate, who has been seriously ill here for several weeks, was said to be greatly improved to-day.

At his home it was stated that Mr. Flagler sat up for a short time.

BIG CATHOLIC SALE OPENS

Local Societies Join in Monster Exhibit at 12th Regt. Armory.

The grand exhibit and sale of the United Catholic Works was opened last night by Cardinal Farley in the 12th Regiment Armory, at Columbus avenue and 42d street. There are thirty-five booths and twenty-seven exhibits from Catholic societies in the New York diocese, representing a membership of 20,000 people. The sale will be in progress for the next ten days.

If you want to reduce the high cost of living a fair dandel will sell you a recipe for a butterless, eggless, milkless cake. If you are addicted to profanity, the Anti-Profanity League is there with a whole host of reasons for your reformation. And just as you have made up your mind to swear no more the sixty-seventh smiling, beguiling creature approaches and entices you into parting with your cash for home.

But the show is worth the walk. Indian girls are carrying the Marquette League exhibit, which has many rare examples of blanket and basket weaving of the Sioux, Pueblo, Navajo and Chippewa nations, and illustrates Catholic mission work among the Indians throughout the West. Chinese maidens represent the propagation of the Catholic faith in the Far East. In addition there are booths and exhibits of the negroes of the South, of the French, Greeks, Lithuanians, Spanish, Poles and other races.

The Catholic Blind School is represented by twenty-one children, who have with them a reproduction of their school-room. Visitors to this exhibit may see the little blind pupils weaving baskets, typewriting, crocheting and doing a score of other difficult varieties of work. The Ancient Order of Libertians will sell you clay pipes by the hundred, but you can't get a drink of orangeade to save your life. If you wish it, a charming vision in white will hand you a lemonade to the left as you go out.

MISS WILSON WON'T TELL

Suffragists at Richmond Can't Learn Her Attitude.

Richmond, Va., April 12.—Miss Jessie Wilson's address on "What the Young Women's Christian Association Means to the College Girl" was the principal feature to-night of the association's convention here. The President's daughter has been an interested attendant at all the sessions.

The women suffragists at the convention have vainly attempted to get from Miss Wilson some expression of the attitude of herself and the other women of the President's family toward "the cause." She steadfastly refuses to discuss political questions.

Because of rain the tableaux illustrating the activities of the association throughout the world were held to-day in the horse show building. At the business session Mrs. H. P. Pasmore, of Minneapolis, and Miss Harriet Taylor, of New York, led discussions.

ALL-DAY SESSION AT OPERA

"The Huguenots" and "Butterfly" Have Last Presentations.

"The Huguenots," with Meses Hempel, Dietrich and Alten and MM. Caruso, Gilly, Rothler and Braun, in his afternoon, and "Madama Butterfly," with the usual cast of Miss Farrar and MM. Martin and Scotti, in the evening, packed the Metropolitan Opera House all day yesterday. They were the last performances of the two works this season.

Mr. Caruso was in better voice than he has been of late, and his final brought forth deserved applause, while Mr. Braun again proved what a fine Marcellus was he in the evening. The other singers were in admirable voice and Mr. Falocce led the orchestra with spirit, yet with discretion.

Miss Farrar has rarely been in better voice than she was in the evening. In Puccini's most popular opera, and her companions appeared to be inspired by her example. Mr. Toscanini, of course, conducted.

BOYS IN "AS YOU LIKE IT"

Barnard School Pupils Give a Successful Performance.

The Junior Dramatic Club of Barnard School for Boys gave a very successful performance of "As You Like It" on Friday night, at the schoolhouse, in West 24th street, Fieldston, The Bronx.

Edward H. Weaver was Orlando and Jack Rogers took the part of Rosalind. Nelson A. Brown did some fine wrestling as Charles, even if he did have to succumb to Orlando in the end. The role of Touchstone was divided between Alan C. Dunn and Chester Bolles. Charles Fowler Hill was Jacques and Raynor Halstead Shipman, president of the club, was cast as Adam.

DOBBS TEA SWELLS FUNDS

Adds Hundreds to Resources of Nursery and Neighborhood House.

The annual Dobbs tea and sale for the benefit of the Masters' School Day Nursery and the Dobbs Neighborhood House was held yesterday afternoon at Plaza. Fancy articles, flowers and candy were on sale and several hundred dollars was cleared. Miss Molly Best gave monologues of East Side life.

CALLS CUBISTS THIEVES

Have Stolen Our Stuff, Says President of Art Fakers.

Washington, April 12.—John Brooks Henderson, formerly United States Senator from Missouri, and author of the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, died here at a hospital to-night from a complication of disorders. He was eighty-six years old.

Mr. Henderson was taken seriously ill Monday, and his physicians had him removed to a hospital. Mrs. Henderson, who had been with him constantly, and his only son, John B. Henderson, jr., were at his bedside when death came.

EXHIBIT OPEN TO-MORROW

A. Mizrakjian's "Butterflies" Wins First Prize—\$5, 3 Cents and Pie for F. Neitzert.

The Society of American Fakers, the same being that portion of the Art Students' League that gets an acute attack of the funny-bone about this time each year, gave a private view of its annual Mattedwan of Art yesterday in the National Academy of Design, at No. 25 West 57th street, for the benefit of the press.

The deal opening will come to-morrow, when the general public will be allowed to enter the words of the exhibition and part with its coin for the privilege of seeing the various forms of art mania confined there. The purpose is to raise funds for scholarships for worthy students who want to become artists just like the fakers.

"At one o'clock through this chaos of art," said A. F. Bradley, jr., president of the outbreak, "one should bear in mind that this is our twenty-second annual exhibition of this style of art. My next point is that during the last two or three years there has arisen in France a certain school of painters who call themselves futurists, cubists, and so forth.

Their stuff was hailed at the recent International Exhibition of Modern Art in the 98th Regiment Armory as something new. As a matter of fact, it wasn't new at all. The Society of American Fakers have been doing the same thing for twenty-two years, only better. The cubists have stolen our stuff—anybody can see that."

There are sixty-four results of as many collisions between good oil paint and artist's canvas in the exhibition, no less than four of them being prize winners. The prize winning was done strictly under the rules of the association of fakers, which call for burlesque on the works on display downstairs in the gallery of the National Academy of Design.

When the public is admitted to-morrow it will see that the first prize of \$5 was awarded to "Butterflies," by A. Mizrakjian, being a "copy" of the work of the same name, by Hugo Babin. A large amount of oil paint was used in doing it, but it was hard to tell just what implements were employed.

The second prize of \$3 has been awarded to A. F. Bradley, jr. It is a take-off on M. Jean McLean's work called "Brother and Sister." Only Mr. Bradley thought his masterpiece was best described by the title "Brother and Sister," and labelled it accordingly. Then the third prize of \$19 went to D. Vaughn for his travesty on a portrait study by Cecilia Beaux, while the fourth prize, for the worst fake, consisting of \$5, three cents and a pie, went to F. Neitzert for his perpetration of an indescribable something called "The Loaded Bearers."

The rooms of the league had been done over to represent street scenes in Singapore, the present outbreak being called "The Few Tourists in India." In addition to the art exhibition there will be a bazaar and tearoom, where each afternoon of the exhibition there will be held a "tea tango" despite the crusade of the Mayor's office. It is confidently hoped that this feature will produce at least one police raid each day. Then, also, just to spite the Fifth Avenue Association, which has raised its voice against parades on Fifth avenue, there will be a parade there every afternoon.

The exhibition will be open every afternoon and evening from to-morrow until Thursday. Thursday night the fakes will be sold at auction, and Friday night the whole thing will wind up with a dance.

CUBIST MAKES A "KICK"

Picture of Dogs Barking in Saloon Puzzles Health Board.

A cubist complaint was received at the Department of Health yesterday. It was a "kick" that ever came in such form, and had there been much illuminating reading in a letter that accompanied the work of art there's no knowing what the complaint bureau might have "doped" out the picture to be.

"Maybe it's a complaint about a nude coming downstairs," said one of the art experts of the department, who knows a black eye when he sees it or can recognize a cold.

"Not on your life," said another one, "that's Marquard winding up."

The complaint, however, was found to do with two large dogs in the back yard of a saloon on the lower West Side. The "kicker" said a saloon-keeper had placed "two extremely large canines" in the rear of the saloon, and that these dogs barked all night, "as per enclosed picture."

"That doesn't look like a saloon to me," declared a doubting Thomas, after inspecting the picture closely.

A sanitary "cop" was detailed to find the offending dogs.

JOHN B. HENDERSON DEAD

Former U. S. Senator and Author of 13th Amendment.

Washington, April 12.—John Brooks Henderson, formerly United States Senator from Missouri, and author of the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, died here at a hospital to-night from a complication of disorders. He was eighty-six years old.

Mr. Henderson was taken seriously ill Monday, and his physicians had him removed to a hospital. Mrs. Henderson, who had been with him constantly, and his only son, John B. Henderson, jr., were at his bedside when death came.

John B. Henderson was born in Pittsylvania County, Va., November 16, 1838, and when a small boy removed with his family to Lincoln County, Mo. There he received a common school education, which was supplemented by his own efforts with a thorough training in mathematics and a good knowledge of the classics. Before he was of age Mr. Henderson became a school teacher, and while thus engaged studied law. He was admitted to the bar in historic Pike County in 1865 and settled in Louisiana, Mo., a year later.

He was elected to the state Legislature from Pike County in 1869 and in 1876 was elected again. He originated many of the Missouri railroad and banking laws. In 1890 he was nominated for the national House of Representatives, but was defeated by James S. Rollins.

Mr. Henderson was a pronounced opponent of secession in the stirring days preceding the Civil War. He was a Buchanan Presidential elector, and in 1869 was on the electoral ticket that carried Missouri for Stephen A. Douglass for President. He was also a member of the Missouri convention to determine the question of secession.

At the outbreak of the Civil War the provisional Governor of Missouri appointed Mr. Henderson a brigadier general of the state militia, and he organized a brigade of troops. His pronounced Unionism had carried him into the Republican party, and in 1862 he was appointed United States Senator by Lieutenant Governor Hall to fill the vacancy caused by the expulsion of Truman P. Falk, a Southern sympathizer. Following this action, the Missouri Legislature in 1862 elected him Senator for six years.

Probably the most memorable and historical single act of Mr. Henderson's life was the writing of the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, abolishing slavery.

As chairman of the Committee on Indian Affairs and as special commissioner in 1867 with General William Tecumseh Sherman and others he organized the Indian Peace Commission, which concluded a treaty with the Sioux, Cheyennes and other hostile tribes that had been ravaging the Missouri River country. He also effected the reimbursement of the State of Missouri for war expenditures from the federal Treasury, thereby re-establishing the credit of the state.

The political career of Mr. Henderson was ruined by the proceedings to impeach President Andrew Johnson. He, with a few other Republican Senators, voted for the acquittal of Johnson, and his votes, with those of the Democrats, barely saved Johnson. A few months later the Missouri Legislature refused to re-elect him to the Senate.

In 1872 he was nominated for Governor, but was defeated. Shortly after the end of his Senatorial career Mr. Henderson married Miss Mary Newton Foote, of New York. He returned to St. Louis and resumed the practice of law, in which he was immensely successful. In 1875 President Grant appointed him special United States Attorney to prosecute the whiskey ring in St. Louis. In 1884 he was chairman of the Republican National Convention that nominated James G. Blaine for President.

Mr. Henderson retired from the active practice of law many years ago, and with his wife and his son, John B. Henderson, jr., went to Washington to live. The Henderson home, at Florida avenue and 16th street, is one of the show places of Washington and has been the scene of many lavish entertainments. In January of this year Mrs. Henderson came into the spotlight because she was summoned to court for causing a dead tree to be cut down in front of her house, contrary to the laws of the District of Columbia. In the police court she pleaded guilty, but the case was dismissed.

Mrs. Henderson startled Washington society in May, 1906, by emptying the contents of her husband's wine cellar in the street in front of Henderson Castle, and the gutters ran with the choicest vintages of the Old World. Several years before both Mrs. Henderson and her husband had joined the Independent Order of Rechabites, and when an organization called "Henderson Tent" was effected members were invited to assist in the destruction of "the vile stuff" that had been gathering cellars below stairs.

COMMANDER WALTER J. FEARS

Commander Walter J. Fears, U. S. N. (retired), died at the Naval Hospital, Brooklyn, yesterday, from heart disease. He had been ill for some time, and was taken to the hospital on Wednesday. Commander Fears was appointed to Annapolis in 1876, and was retired in 1905. He became superintendent of municipal ferries in 1910, and held that office up to the time of his death. He lived at the Hotel Grand. He leaves a wife.

LAND ALMOST SIXTY YEARS AGO TO SING IN ONE OF THE FIRST COMPANIES TO PRODUCE GRAND OPERA IN THIS COUNTRY. SHE LEAVES A SON.

BURKE STONE, a well known real estate broker, died yesterday from paralysis at his home in Pondfield road, Bronxville. He was born in Chicago sixty-nine years ago. He leaves one son.

MRS. ANNA W. ABERNETHY died yesterday at her home, No. 73 Montgomery street, Jersey City. She was the widow of Hugh H. Abernethy, who was colonel of the 4th Regiment, New Jersey National Guard, and president of the Jersey City Police Board when P. F. Wanser was Mayor. She leaves two daughters.

WEDDINGS.

BOWER-BUNKER.

Miss Katherine May Bunker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Bunker, of No. 97 Hudson terrace, Yonkers, was married in St. John's Episcopal Church in this town yesterday afternoon to Ernest Turrell Bower, a lawyer, of Manhattan. The Rev. John Mark Ericsson, rector of the church, officiated.

Miss Margaret Bunker was maid of honor, and the bridesmaids were Miss Edgarda Robinson and Miss Helen Elling, of Yonkers; Miss Jane Torrance, of Pittsburgh, and Miss May Connor, of Tenafly, N. J. Charles Russ, of Hartford, Conn., was the best man, and the ushers were George Bunker and Archibald W. Doty, of Yonkers; Edward Barber and Robert H. Mead, of Ardmore, Penn.; Willbridge Marston, of Brooklyn, and Throff B. Scholze, of Waterbury, Conn.

Mr. Bunker, who is vice-president of the Fajardo Sugar Company, of Porto Rico, gave his daughter in marriage. She is a graduate of the Halsted School and Vassar College. Mr. Bower is a Yale man, was the best man, and the ushers were George Bunker and Archibald W. Doty, of Yonkers; Edward Barber and Robert H. Mead, of Ardmore, Penn.; Willbridge Marston, of Brooklyn, and Throff B. Scholze, of Waterbury, Conn.

CLARKE-NEWMAN.

Noah Turner Clarke, of Albany, son of John M. Clarke, State Geologist, and Madeline Spear Newman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Newman, were married last night at the home of the bride's parents, No. 491 Palisade avenue, Yonkers.

The Rev. Dr. L. Mason Clarke, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Brooklyn, an uncle of the bride, performed the ceremony. He was assisted by the Rev. Dr. William P. Stevenson, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Yonkers.

Miss Elsa Hammarskold, of Yonkers, was the bride's only attendant. Warren Waldo Hawley, jr., of Batavia, N. Y., was the best man. Edith Getty was flower girl, and Walter P. Getty, jr., and Harry Bissell were ribbon bearers.

KING-FORD.

Morrisseton, N. J., April 12.—Miss Rosette Ford was married to Arklay King, of Garriens, N. Y., in the Church of the Redeemer, at noon to-day. The ceremony was performed by the rector, the Rev. Barret P. Tyler. The brides attendants were Mrs. Henry S. Kanopy, of New York, matron of honor, Miss Emily Ward Ford, sister of the bride, maid of honor; Miss Frances Burr, Miss Isabel Hoyt and Miss Elizabeth Sloan Nelson, of New York, and Miss Ann Nelson, of Boston, bridesmaids.

Archibald Grae King was his brother's best man. The ushers were Frederick H. Osborne, Clarence Cummings, Gallatin Pell and Charles Durand, jr., all of New York; Harry Buckley, of Rhinebeck, and Henry W. Ford, the bride's brother. After the church ceremony a reception was given at "Ford Farm," the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. Ward Ford, in Washington avenue.

MISS ELSIE E. GRIDLEY TO WED.

Miss Elsie Elizabeth Gridley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mead Gridley, will be married to Edward Hinman, jr., Wednesday afternoon, April 30, at the home of her parents, No. 8 Bedford place, Brooklyn. The bride's only attendant will be Miss Elsie Hinman, sister of the bridegroom, and Henry Berover Renwick is to be best man. Among the ushers will be George Henry Warren, jr., and Ferdinand Zogbaum, 35.

Only relatives will be present at the ceremony at 4:30 p. m., but a few intimate friends have been asked to the reception, which will follow half an hour later.

Mr. Hinman is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hinman, of No. 110 Remsen street, Brooklyn.

MISS OGDEN TO WED MAY 7.

Arrangements have been completed for the wedding of Miss Helen Ogden, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Ogden, of No. 117 West 88th street, and Andrew Murray Williams, which is to take place at 4 p. m., Wednesday, May 7, in Grace Church. An hour after the ceremony there will be a reception at Delmonico's. Mrs. David Gregg, jr. (Edith Ogden), will be her sister's matron of honor, and Miss Katherine Ogden, the five-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Ogden (Sophie Wisner), will attend her aunt as flower girl. The best man will be Colonel Francis G. Carter, formerly of the city, but who is now living in Washington. The ushers are to be John T. Ogden, a younger brother of the bride; Laurence L. Tourette Driggs, Leeds Johnson, Erskine B. Essig, Harrie T. Lindenberg and Dr. Henry C. Cowles, jr., all of New York.

PRaises U. S. Schools

Rank with World's Best, Says German Authority.

"AMERICAN NOT CONCEITED" Dr. Kerschesteiner, of Munich, Thinks We Are Too Ready to Adopt New Ideas.

After all the criticism that has been heaped upon the Board of Education for its management of the public schools, Superintendent William H. Maxwell sends to the newspapers flattering extracts from a report published in the "Süddeutsche Monatshefte" and written by Dr. Kerschesteiner, Superintendent of Schools in Munich, Bavaria.

Dr. Kerschesteiner, who is considered one of the highest authorities on elementary education in Europe, thinks "American schools compare with the best in the world." He has just completed a series of articles giving his views of American schools.

By way of introduction, Dr. Kerschesteiner says: "These buildings are invaded by the noises of the street and wedged in between rows of four storied and five storied tenements, whose entire fronts are disfigured by unsightly fire escapes. There are no proud facades, no monumental entrances, no grassy plots extending in front of them, no gardens with fountains or sculpture that engender in one a desire to take a peep behind the curtain.

"And yet, like a magnet, one of these inornate, unadorned school buildings drew me toward it again and again. In fact, it attracted me more than did the museums and collections of this giant city. I left it invariably in a devotional frame of mind."

The Munich educator refers to the appointment of members of school boards by a Mayor, or their election by the people direct. He describes a meeting held by a committee of the Board of Education at which he was present and at which citizens not members of the board expressed their feelings freely. Dr. Kerschesteiner claims that such freedom and such privileges may at times be harmful and obstructive, yet the active participation of a whole people in all school matters will prevent a permanent overthrow or prostration of the public school system.

"In the mother tongue," Dr. Kerschesteiner writes, "English literature, composition, spelling, in music, physical training, geography and history, the aims are about the same as in Germany, only with this difference—that the well supplied school libraries and the free supply of histories, geographies and good readers give the children a far better insight into literature than the poor readers and pitiful class libraries do in Germany.

"In drawing and in nature study and science the aims are also the same, but in the United States, in the same classes, the drawing methods in the case of drawing and insufficient equipment in nature study and science prevent the schools from reaching their aims. This is all the more remarkable because it is not true of the high schools that articulate with the elementary schools.

"On the contrary, the drawing methods in the high schools were such as to make it possible to carry out the aims; and the equipment in many schools for nature study for instruction in physics and for chemistry surpassed in appropriateness, in abundance and in use anything that I have ever seen in Germany, that I have visited."

In arithmetic and geometry the aims in the American schools are higher than they are in German schools, and I must say that in the schools in which I observed the drawing methods in Germany they accomplished the work set for them. "The better class of schools in the large cities are technically in most branches as good as the best schools in Germany. It may, indeed, be said of the American that he is too easily induced to adopt new ideas, but he is not so easily induced to do so in his daily life, nor only in education, but also in his school. He adopts the good wherever he finds it, he is not conceited, although he does consider 'his schools' the best."

MARRIED.

MARRH-HILLER—At Grace Church, Orange, N. J., by the rector, on Thursday evening of the 11th inst., the marriage of Mrs. James H. Hiller, of No. 445 William st., East Orange, to Theodore M. Carr, of No. 100 West 120th st., New York City, was solemnized at 8 o'clock, by the Rev. Dr. J. J. Hiller.

DIED.

BALDWIN, Jared G. Paul, Agnes M. Boyd, Perry Oliver H. Grant, Lillian B. T. Randolph, Caroline L. P. Ewen, Caroline G. Smith, Caroline J.