

# \$3.50 For a Nice Morris Chair



A delayed shipment of Morris Chairs has just been received. Some of them we will sell as low as \$5.50 each. Some very fine ones in the lot also, which will be sold to-day at bargain prices.

- Ladies' Desks ..... \$ 5.50 to \$60.00
- Leather Couches ..... \$21.50 to \$60.00
- Bird's Eye Maple Dressers ..... \$27.50 to \$85.00
- Hall Racks ..... \$ 8.50 to \$40.00
- Children's Rockers ..... 35c. to \$ 5.00
- Rugs and Carpets.

Buy Furniture as gifts and make your home comfortable and beautiful. Open to-night until 11:30.

## PARKER-GARDNER COMPANY

### AMUSEMENTS

Cyril Scott, the star in Edward Peple's comedy success, "The Prince Chap," is not only an excellent actor but one of the cleverest bowlers in the United States. In London, England, where he spent his boyhood, he acquired his taste for athletics in every form, but it was not until he had become a full-fledged actor in the United States that he became interested in bowling and achieved such supremacy that the best bowlers in New York feared to meet him in match games. German friends of Scott, who dearly love the game that Henrik Hudson could play so well, have endeavored to prove the star a German, saying that he could not bowl so well if he were an Englishman and in writing so him in their humorous way, they address him as "Mr. Cyril of Jericho." Mr. Scott will be seen in "The Prince Chap" at the Academy of Music to-night.

Volumes upon volumes have been written extolling the dramatic genius of Elie Shannon. Recognized able critics in the daily press, in magazines and other publications, have often written one another in trying to find adjectives of sufficient force, to bestow upon the delightful stage methods of this charming actress.

Her praises have even inspired poets, for in looking over the pages of a somewhat carelessly kept scrap book in possession of Miss Shannon's mother, who is her constant companion at home and on the road, one finds many beautiful effusions, expressions of admiration for her true art and her charming personality. In "The Walls of Jericho" Miss Shannon is reported as having discovered a play of exceeding value, so far as it allows her talents a wide range. This play will be presented at the Academy of Music to-morrow, matinee and night. Seats are now selling at Hawley's.

"Brewster's Millions," a stage version of George Barr McCutcheon's interesting novel of that name, will be presented here at the Academy of Music Friday night by the Cohen & Harris comedians. The dramatization was made by Waverly Smith and Byron Ongley and has met with the most emphatic success. It is now being played by two companies in America, two in England and by one on the Continent. It will be presented here with all the striking stage effects invented and conceived by Fredric Thompson, a master mind in this particular direction. The story has a great deal of ingenuity and the side-lights of humor and pathos which the author throws upon it emphasize its human interest.

The cast which Messrs. Cohen & Harris introduce is composed of Robert Ober, Brinsley Shaw, Joseph Kaufman, George Cosslette, Louis Haines, Edmund Mortimer, John Mathis, Ada May Talbot, Olive North, Nettie Black and other well-known players.

TRAGIC STORY OF "MADAM BUTTERFLY" DAGGER. The significance of much in Puccini's "Madam Butterfly," the Japanese grand opera which will be given here at the Academy of Music Thursday, might be lost through lack of knowledge of Japanese thought and character, which underlies the delicate fabric of the drama, unless it is clearly explained. This is especially true of that part where Butterfly makes use of her father's dagger.

In the medieval days of Nippon, when the Shoguns were de-facto rulers of the land and paid obedience to a Mikado whose domination by his people isolated him from the ken of all save the Shogun; when the fiery Samurai sustained his diamond or fabled lord in revolt against the ruler, the institution of hari-kari was established for the purpose of punishing those of rank that fell ungraciously to the displeasure of the sovereign.

Gilbert, in "The Mikado," makes "the punishment at the crime," and "boiling oil" is suggested as the proper mode of execution. Gilbert's idea was purely satirical. Death by disloyalty or through the Shogun's displeasure, meant self-destruction in the older Japan.

The "sugart mandate" from the Mikado, "The Son of Heaven," was really a letter de cachet. It came in the guise of a "message," and if accompanied by a sword or dagger from the Mikado, meant that the recipient was condemned to suicide. Accordingly he selected a close friend and in his presence committed hari-kari—disembowled himself. The Japanese ideograph for hari-kari translated means "The happy dispatch." The weapon with the blood still on the blade was then plunged in melted wax, so form a preservative coating, and was then given to the family who held it in great veneration.

In the first act of the Puccini opera

before the marriage scene. Butterfly begs of her lover that she be allowed to keep "a young girl's possession." Among these is the fateful dagger with which her Samurai father made the "happy dispatch." The American bridegroom begs to see it, not knowing its sinister history. Butterfly beseeches him to wait, and lays it away with reverence. Goro, the marriage broker, approaches and whispers to the young naval officer: "It was sent by the Mikado to her father with a message." The young officer asks seditiously: "And, her father?"

"Was obedient," replies Goro, with a gesture indicating hari-kari. In the second act the fatal dagger appears again. Goro, anxious to make a second marriage commission, presses the suit of the amorous Prince Yamadori, strong in the belief that Butterfly has been deserted by her American husband. Butterfly, equally strong in the faith that her husband will return, rejects the prince. Goro grows about the premises of Butterfly and inhumanly to Susuki, the faithful maid, "that no one knows who is this baby's father."

Butterfly, enraged, makes the sacred dagger, rushes to Goro with, "Say! again and I'll kill you!" Goro howls for mercy and flees.

Butterfly lets her eyes fall on the dagger and is horrified at the thought that she will be about to drink the blood of her ancestor with that of her enemy. She totters to the shrine and restores it to its place with a prayer. In the last act of the opera the ominous dagger appears and completes the calamitous mission for which fate had destined it. In this act, the poor, little geisha wife is brought to a realization that she has been set aside by him she loves, and supported by "a real American wife," who is anxious to take from her the dot of her heart, the very son, "Trouble." She sends Susuki to play with the child without and then prepares herself for the final tragedy. She sends before Buddha, motionless, lost in sad thought. Then bowing before the god she offers up a prayer. Taking the dagger from its waxen sheath she pluckily kisses the blade. Holding it before her eyes, she reads the Mikado's "message" engraved on the blade:

"To die with honor, when one can no longer live with honor." She then turns behind the screen and ends her unhappiness with a Puccini, with his exquisite musical grace, symbolizes the dagger and its tragic significance with a harmony that is one of the fascinating Japanese bits of his beautiful score. In clear, many true Japanese melodies are adroitly introduced throughout the score, but in such a refined way as never to suggest any attempt to be tricky or flamboyant.

#### A NEGRO IN THE HOUSE.

A High Point Lady Runs Into the Arms of a Nook When She Goes to Her Kitchen—Hall Tate Robbed of \$25 in Greensboro.

Special to The Observer. High Point, Dec. 23.—The officers are making diligent search for the negro who Saturday night entered the home of Mr. Pratt, on Hamilton street, and assaulted his wife by grappling her and cutting her arm. When Mrs. Pratt went to investigate a light she saw in the kitchen the negro took hold of her. She screamed and the negro pulled her towards a window, where he made his departure through the glass. It is not known whether the broken glass cut her arm or a knife in the hands of the negro. Her husband was attracted by her screams and arrived on the scene in time to get several shots at the fleeing form, but all shots, as far as is known, went wild. Hall Tate, of this city, was robbed of \$25 in Greensboro Sunday night by a deft-handed individual. He knows he had it at the station and when he arrived here it was gone. He remembers getting in the large crowds waiting for the trains but does not remember any one's rubbing against him or touching his pockets, although he was looking for just such a thing.

#### Arkansas Davis.

Yorkville Enquirer. Several Southern papers have replied to The New York Sun's calling Senator Davis, of Arkansas, Jeff Davis II. We are convinced that they know, neither The New York Sun nor the price of paper. As for us, we will play dominoes—something worth while.—Charlotte Observer.

Indeed, that is a funny proposition and The Observer is exactly right. Arkansas Davis is about as much like Jeff Davis as Bloody Bridges Waite was like Grover Cleveland. In his day Jeff Davis stood for the right, the established order of things and the constitution. The New York Sun was on the other side, occupying about the same relation to conservatism that Arkansas Davis does now.

#### GAFFNEY NEWS BUDGET.

A Still Which Furnished Boys With Their Supply Destroyed Last Week—Now Four Candidates For One Office—Hand Badly Lacerated in Gun-Report Much Discussed Yet. Special to The Observer.

Gaffney, S. C., Dec. 23.—Squire Thomas received information Thursday night that a stillery was in operation within about four miles of King's Creek station, on the Southern Railway. Accompanied by Chief of Police Duncan, of Blacksburg, he went to the scene of the alleged illicit operation and found a still of about 80 gallons capacity, and between 800 and 1,000 gallons of beer. The fires had been drawn, but the still was hot and showed that the operators had only recently left the scene. The capture of this plant is important, as it has for a long time furnished whiskey for the boys and young men of the neighborhood. There are now four candidates for the General Assembly in the field, Kinsey O. Huskey being the last to announce. Kinsey is a politician of some considerable experience, and the others had better look out for him.

Mr. D. L. Splawn, who lives in the Limestone Mill village, slaughtered a hog the other day which tipped the scales at 610 pounds. He obtained 200 pounds of lard from the porker.

A young man named Cash, who lives about eleven miles from Gaffney, in the Butler neighborhood, had the misfortune to get his hand caught in a gin Friday afternoon about 2 o'clock. He was brought to Gaffney, where he arrived about 5 o'clock, and Dr. J. A. Nesbitt dressed the wounds. The hand was severely lacerated and the doctor amputated one finger and thought that another one would have to come off. Mrs. Steady, Pittman and Griffith operated on Mr. T. W. Kirby Friday morning for appendicitis. The operation was successful and, if no complications occur, Mr. Kirby will be able to resume his duties in a few days.

The people of Gaffney are still discussing the report of the committee as to the conduct of certain of the county officers. It is reported on the streets this morning that Governor Alexander has heard the resignation of all the officers, except the sheriff and coroner. Your correspondent feels satisfied that this report is without foundation. Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Mosley and Robert N. Simms, of Raleigh, are visiting the family of Dr. A. M. Simms, on Montgomery street. Miss Alma Bethea, of McColl, is visiting Miss Maria Turner, on Johnson street.

#### Hard Times in America.

Louisville Courier-Journal. According to a dispatch from Wagner, S. D., a wealthy farmer of that section, having found that high wages and an occasional bail given for the benefit of "the hands" did not sufficiently simplify his labor problem, proposed to purchase a motor car for the use of the laborer.

To emphasize his willingness to give employees a square deal, Mr. Smeaton inserted this advertisement in the local paper: "Wanted—A man to plow. Will furnish riding plow with canopy top. I will feed, harness and hitch horses and carry breakfast to him in bed. If the water doesn't agree with him, will get some from Avon that will. Will also furnish him team and buggy to drive evenings and Sundays. Should he prefer an automobile, will buy him one." Fair speech did not suffice. A dozen husky farm hands agreed to accept magnificent salaries, but insisted that the motor car should be in evidence before they entered upon their duties. Mr. Smeaton rose to the occasion by renting a car temporarily and ordering one from a factory in the East. As a result of his liberality and ingenuity he has stupored the services of enough men to run his farm.

This is a picture of "hard times" in the United States!

#### An Impending Sight.

The eight of six pairs of elephants simultaneously at work capturing a half-dozen struggling, trumpeting mates in an imposing one. Like a pair of animal policemen arresting a prisoner, the great beasts slide alongside a victim, take him between them, and jostle and squeeze and worry him, tall first, toward a tree. Every inch is contested by the herculean fighters, until nearing a stout tree or stump the little brown elephants catchers slide from their mounts to the ground, crawl under the ponderous bellies and shuffling, kicking feet, slip cable slings about a hind foot, and take a turn around a tree.

This is the season of decay and weakened vitality; good health is hard to retain. If you retain yours, fortify your system with Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. The secret way is to use Tea or Tablets. R. H. Jordan & Co.

#### YOUNG MINISTERS ORDAINED.

Four Episcopal Clergymen Inaugurated Priests at Gastonia by Bishop Horner—Archdeacon Webber Preaches the Sermon: Special to The Observer.

Gastonia, Dec. 23.—A very impressive ceremony took place in St. Mark's Episcopal church here yesterday morning when Rt. Rev. Junius M. Horner, of Asheville, ordained to the priesthood the following: Alfred Stratton Lawrence, of Highlands; Eugene DeLoach, of Wilkesboro; Rev. J. Norton Atkins, of Blowing Rock, and Rev. William Hill Hardin, rector of St. Mark's, Gastonia. The ordination sermon was preached by Archdeacon Percy C. Webber, of Berton, of the Diocese of Milwaukee. It was a magnificent sermon and was heard with delight by a large audience. Among the visiting ministers who participated in the ceremony were: Rev. Walter Smith, of Charlotte; John S. Moody, of Hickory; Alfred H. Stubbs, of Asheville; Edmund N. Joyner, of Tryon; F. D. Lobdell, of Philadelphia, Pa.; David T. Johnston, of the General Assembly; John C. Seagrave, of Rutherfordton.

At the night service Archdeacon Webber preached a powerful sermon on "Christian example and Dr. Thompson, of Ferrandina, Fla. Visitors from several towns attended the service. The church was exquisitely decorated with evergreens and potted plants.

An Alabama Missonarian. Montgomery Advertiser. We wish so many of our contemporaries would stop using the expression "Money is plentiful." We are from Missouri some more. Nerves Steady. Cleveland Plain Dealer. At the same time there is no fear that any English fishing fleet will suffer by the way.

A REAL WONDERLAND. South Dakota, with its rich silver mines, bonanza farms, wide ranges and strange natural formations, is a veritable wonderland. At Mound City, in the home of Mrs. E. D. Clapp, a wonderful case of healing has lately occurred. Her son seemed near death with lung and throat trouble. Exhausting coughing spells occurred every five minutes. writes Mrs. Clapp, "when I began giving Dr. King's New Discovery, the great medicine, that saved his life and completely cured him." Guaranteed for coughs and colds, throat and lung troubles, by all druggists, 50c. and 2-l. Trial bottle free.

#### PEOPLE'S COLUMN

All advertisements inserted in this column at rate of ten cents per line of six words. No ad. taken for less than 30 cents. Cash in advance.

WANTED—Situation as governess. Can teach music. References exchanged. X. Y. Z., Box 7, Elizabeth, N. C.

WANTED—Position as salesman in general merchandise or grocery store. Best reference from former employers. Address "Worker," care Observer.

WANTED—Everybody to attend the big sporting match at the Fair Grounds. Shot guns and rifles. Free attractions in afternoon. Ladies and children invited, especially. Don't forget the day, Christmas Day.

FOR RENT. FOR RENT—Two communicating front rooms, first floor, over York Bros. & Rogers' store. Hot and cold water bath. Go. W. Bryan.

FOR RENT—One furnished room. 218 East 9th street.

FOR RENT—Rare opportunity to lease modern home, centrally located, reasonable rent, by buying furniture. Address "E. S.," care Observer.

FOR RENT—The "Dowd farm" for 1904. R. M. Miller, Jr.

FOR RENT—Furnished rooms, No. 4 Carnegie Court.

FOR SALE. FOR SALE OR RENT—The Keearns home at 84 South Tryon street. J. M. Oates.

GOVERNESS WANTED—A governess to instruct three small children, one a girl to take music. State age, experience, references and salary expected with board and laundry free in my home in the country. Mrs. N. Glen Williams, Williams, N. C.

MISCELLANEOUS. THE WHOLE FAMILY will appreciate a "Wicker" Buy one to-day from Stone & Barringer Co.

That Catarrh treatments are being mailed out free on request, by Dr. Whop, Racine, Wis. These treatments are proving to the people—without a penny's cost—the great value of his scientific prescription known to druggists everywhere as Dr. Sloan's Catarrh Remedy. Sold by Muller's Pharmacy.

MORRIS CHAIRS at a bargain to-day. Only \$3.50 each for the \$7.50 kind. Parker-Gardner Co.

THE GREATEST authority on words in Webster's International Dictionary. Put it into your home for Christmas. \$10 plain; indexed \$16.75; stand \$3.00 to \$5.00.

ADDRESS King's Business College, Charlotte, N. C. for special rates for scholarship. Winter opening Jan. 24 and 25, 1904.

HOW ABOUT a Teacher's Bible, with her name on in gold? From \$1.25 up, at Stone & Barringer Co's.

SEND IN ALL advertisements written for Mrs. Joe Person's Remedy by noon to-morrow. \$5 contest closes then.

BUY Christmas Boxes and Holly Tags, etc. Stone & Barringer Co's.

SHIRT WAIST BOXES make nice gifts. See our stock to-day. Parker-Gardner Co.

WE HAVE a few choice "Raganslie" books still on hand. Buy early this morning. Stone & Barringer Co.

TEACHERS WANTED—Many desirable openings, N. C. and South, principals, assistants, rural schools. Special enrollment. Sheridan's Agency, Greenwood, S. C.

OUR S-CRANT COUNTER will settle that problem in three minutes. Try it. Stone & Barringer Co.

WILL GIVE REWARD of \$10 for arrest, with evidence to convict, of persons who destroy trees on my property on Sharon road near fair grounds. J. K. Wolfs

LADIES' WRITING DESKS at \$5.50 to \$10. Parker-Gardner Co.

CHOICE bunches of Holly, 25c. to-day. Stone & Barringer Co.

SPECIAL NOTICE—Families wishing a nice box of Florida oranges, my own raising, for Christmas. Phone 1218. J. A. Allison.

SPECIAL PRICES to-day on Leather Couches. Prices from \$21.50 to \$85. Parker-Gardner Co.

\$500 AUTOMOBILE absolutely free. Ask Miller Clothing Co.

AUTOMOBILES—Hand Cars, Motor-grounds and Rocking Horses at actual cost. At C. E. Flournoy & Co's.

ORIENTAL RUGS, Wilton Rugs, Velvet Rugs, Smyrna Rugs and Axminster Rugs at special prices to-day. Parker-Gardner Co.

LADIES—Give him a box of good cigars. We have best stock in city to select from. Gem Restaurant Co.

LIBRARY and Parlor Tables in great variety. Any price or wood wanted. Parker-Gardner Co.

CHRISTMAS CIGARS—We have them in all the popular brands in all size boxes. Gem Restaurant Co.

LADIES' TOILET TABLES and Cheval Glasses at special reduced prices. Parker-Gardner Co.

WHITE OWL CIGAR—We have control of this popular cigar, and it's a nice Christmas present. Gem Restaurant Co.

PIG DISPLAY of China Closets in Oak. Early English and Mahogany. Parker-Gardner Co.

Recipe for Delicious Golden Glory Doughnuts

1 egg, 1 cup sugar, 1 cup sweet milk, 1 tablespoon Golden Glory Cooking Oil, 1-2 nutmeg, 1 teaspoon salt, 1 heaping teaspoon baking powder, 1 quart flour (or as much as may be necessary for proper consistency). Sift salt and baking powder with the flour. Roll out the dough and cut with a tin doughnut cutter. Use a deep frying pan nearly full of Golden Glory Cooking Oil. Get the oil hot enough to brown a bread crumb in five seconds. Carefully drop the doughnuts in and do not overcrowd the pan. They will soon float. Turn them over as soon as possible. When brown take up with a fork and lay on folded cloth or blank white paper to absorb the adhering oil. Sprinkle with powdered sugar.

BRANNON CARBONATING CO.

### Holiday Gifts for Men

Anticipating the immense holiday trade which we are having, we have sent in new orders and have just received and added to our already large stock many new and beautiful articles of wearing apparel—not only useful and worthy, but especially appropriate for Christmas gifts.

We cannot begin to enumerate them here, but we do say that if it's something the right-up-to-now clothing store ought to carry, we have it.

Don't overlook our magnificent line of highest grade Suits and Overcoats. It will interest you to see what we have to show.

Mall Orders Filled on Day of Receipt.

Ed. Mellon Co.

REMEMBER MELLON'S CLOTHES FIT.

Over 400 Schools and Colleges now using

IVERS & POND PIANOS

Over 42,000 Ivers & Pond Pianos made and sold. Every piano warranted and guaranteed. It is the piano for you to buy if you want the best. Sold on reasonable terms.

LITTLE-LONG DEPARTMENT STORES

Write for samples to the

THE SOUTHERN COTTON OIL COMPANY

Charlotte, N.C.

THE WHOLE FAMILY will appreciate a "Wicker" Buy one to-day from Stone & Barringer Co.

That Catarrh treatments are being mailed out free on request, by Dr. Whop, Racine, Wis. These treatments are proving to the people—without a penny's cost—the great value of his scientific prescription known to druggists everywhere as Dr. Sloan's Catarrh Remedy. Sold by Muller's Pharmacy.

Ed. Mellon Co.