

OUR WEST

VINDICATED BY A TENNESSEAN WHO KNOWS US.

A True People, a Brave People, a Moral People, not Obnoxious to the Slanders or the Ridicule of Thoughtless Scribblers.

The following extracts from an able communication to the Nashville Herald, we take much pleasure in reproducing. They are from the pen of Mr. J. A. Irvine, of Columbia, Tenn., for the last eight years engaged in this section in the lumber business. He knows the people well, he understands them, and he appreciates them. We think him for his kindly vindication. It is truthful. We also know the people of Western North Carolina. We have mingled freely among them. They are a true people, with brave honest, unsophisticated hearts, it may be, with unsophisticated ways, but a better, more law abiding, more temperate, and more religiously inclined people nowhere exist.

We omit a part of the communication in this issue on account of its length. We will publish a portion of the omitted part hereafter.—[CRITERION.]

The mountains of North Carolina have within the last year or two become a fruitful theme for the writers of character sketches, and quaint and didactic stories, and of various descriptive articles of a more or less sensational character. The state, although one of the original thirteen, has not kept its place in the line of progress, wealth and general prosperity with many of the others in the union, but in every respect, it is a state which does not deserve the evil repute it has received through the many articles written about it, some false, some malicious, and others, while true as far as the facts related, are calculated to leave an entirely erroneous impression with the reader.

The most distorted and the most incorrect used are such as to convey to the mind a picture of uncouth and primitive life, embellished by acts of barbarity, sufficient to disgrace any civilized community. The people are pictured as speaking an almost unintelligible jargon, of which "yemassee" and "yemassee" forms an important part. They are shown as huts; their ambition, to live without work or worry; their desires, moderate and easily satisfied; they are described as the ideal of a primitive man, good natured, lawless; content in signally poverty and most revolting ignorance; generous and kind to strangers, but cruel and even brutal to supposed enemies; to be free from the vices of civilization, but to know none of its blessings; to be happy with enough to satisfy their hunger and a roof to cover their head in bad weather.

I am a Tennessean, and for eight years have roamed over mountain and valley buying walnut timber. Local pride has not blinded me to these people's shortcomings and I cannot be accused of not being thoroughly familiar with my subject. The counties of Buncombe, Haywood, Jackson, Swain and Graham are familiar to me as the possessor in a land described only as the home of the hunter, the moonshiner and the beasts of the forest, a land where the murder of an officer is considered a justifiable homicide, a land where barbarians live, surrounded by our civilized communities.

The timber wealth of this land is great. Today it forms the chief product sent out to the outside world. Walnut, cherry, poplar, ash and oak are shipped out by the millions of feet, and there are still billions of feet to be shipped. Tennessee was the pioneer lumbermen of this region.

The farmers here are not rich, but prosperous. They raise large and all varieties of crops on their mountain slopes and bottom lands. They are independent, free from debt. They raise and manufacture all they need. Money has lost many of its charms here, because the want of it is not so keenly felt in a land where the people live well upon what they themselves raise. Each farmer is a little monarch, his farm his kingdom, and he has none but his God over him as long as he violates no law.

A trip to this much abused section would be a valuable lesson to many a money-loving planter, especially in the cotton states, where he is the slave of his merchant, of whom he buys all his necessities and only raising one crop and not the exporting merchant.

Education, too, is in an advancing plane than commonly supposed. All have the elements of a rudimentary education. School-houses are very numerous; far more so than in the rural regions of Tennessee and Alabama. Churches and religious assemblies are common, and, as a general rule, they try to give good service to what they bear on Sunday for the remaining six days of the week.

Scenes of ignorance and poverty and lack of ambition and thrift do exist, but where can they not be found? Go to the slums of our large cities. Look at the notorious old "Black Bottom" of Nashville, but still to be seen in many of these localities as typical of an entire city, or conveying the impression that they were the rule, and something better were an exception. Illicit stills are very rare on this side of the mountains. The people are law abiding and even exacting in the execution of their laws. To prove this I will cite an instance. Two weeks ago at the court at Webster a person was on trial for resisting a tax collector with a grabbing bow. The jury, after being out five minutes returned a verdict of "not guilty." Sheriff McClain had allowed the accused to leave the court house before the verdict was returned. On the strength of this the sheriff was indicted, tried and convicted on the charge of allowing a prisoner to escape. Cases of similar stringency are very common. Killing or personal violence is nearly an unknown crime.

There are two articles upon which I wish to speak before I leave off on this particular chapter. One appeared in the Chicago Times, giving names of persons and claiming that the incidents happened between the Smoky and Nantahala mountains. I am familiar with this region. No persons by the names given live in the valleys. The writer claims that he witnessed instances where women were bartered for cattle, guns and dogs. That they were regarded in the light of personal property by their lords and masters, to be disposed of as he saw fit, sold, exchanged and bartered for as

A STORMY SESSION.

HISSES AND CRIES OF "SIT DOWN" FROM THE LADIES.

A Warm Discussion of the Non-Partisan Amendment to the W. C. T. U. Constitution in Chicago Yesterday.

CHICAGO, November 12.—When the session of the W. C. T. U. convention at Battery D armory was opened this morning, it was known that a storm was coming on, for during the session of yesterday, at the motion of Mrs. Aldrich and Mrs. J. Ellen Foster, of Iowa, consideration of the proposed non-partisan amendment to the constitution of the organization was set down for to-day.

THE CATHOLIC CENTENNIAL.

Another Congress to be Held in the Year 1892.

BALTIMORE, November 12.—After the excess the committee on future congresses has appointed as follows: John L. Carroll, of Baltimore; James H. Dornier, Alabama; H. J. Spaulding, St. Louis; Patrick Farrelly, New York; W. D. Fausley, Ft. Wayne, Ind.; John D. Kelley, Brooklyn; W. L. Kelley, St. Paul; W. J. Harrison, New Hampshire; Morgan O'Brien, New York; John Boye O'Grady, Boston; W. J. Omban, Chicago; Thos. J. Semmes, New Orleans.

Joseph J. O'Donnell, of New York, chairman of the committee to wait on President Harrison at Washington and invite him to be present, reported that the committee had just returned from Washington and were proud to say they had been received cordially and handsomely by the Chief Magistrate of the nation. (Cheers.)

President Harrison said, that if it were not he was preparing his message he would accept the invitation gladly, and in any event he would be with the delegates in Washington to-morrow at the dedication of the great new university. The report was enthusiastically received, and the obligations of the congress to the president and the committee was expressed by cheers and a rising tide of sentiment.

The reading of papers was then resumed, the authors and their topics being as follows: George D. Wolfe, Philadelphia, "The Catholic Press"; Richard H. Clark, New York, "What Catholics have done in the last hundred years"; John H. Campbell, Philadelphia, "Temperance"; Edmund L. Dunne, of Florida, treated extemporaneously his subject, "The Right of the State in Education." His humorous asides and digressions, and the first laughter provoking element introduced in the proceedings, so much to the delight of his audience, was extended over and over by general consent. Recent events in Boston were particularly the target of his sarcasm.

When the speech was finally concluded Dunne was wildly applauded. The vice-presidents and dignitaries on the platform, in a grand and impressive way, congratulating him, and the delegates gave him the most cordial and warm reception.

Mayor Lathrop, who had been invited to be present at the convention, came tendered, and with words of welcome invited the delegates to a reception on Thursday at the City Hall. The tender was accepted.

Father Tollen, the colored priest who was sitting in the body in the hall, was asked by Gov. Carroll to be sent on the platform. The dark visaged cleric replied that he would be most glad to do so to the place of honor. The committee on platform reported that owing to the lateness of the hour the desire of the delegates to witness the great torchlight procession forming in the streets, the further reading of papers was suspended with orders that the remaining ones be printed in the proceedings.

Daniel Dougherty was unanimously voted a place on the committee of future congresses. Omaha, of Chicago, moved that an International Catholic Congress be held not later than 1892 in Chicago, because it could offer the largest gathering in America as well as western hospitality.

Campbell, of Philadelphia, moved an amendment that the convention be held wherever the world's fair is located, (applause) as the eyes of the whole country would be directed there at that time.

Omaha accepted the amendment, because he believed the world's fair would be held in Chicago.

Spaulding, of St. Louis, expressed his satisfaction at the amendment, because he thought that that would bring the convention to St. Louis.

The resolution as amended was adopted. Resolutions of thanks to the committee on arrangements were adopted.

As Archbishop Ireland of St. Paul had opened the congress, it was the desire of the committee to give him a fitting epiphany. "Go to you homes filled with the enthusiasm of this convention, and spread it through the Union that there is a new departure for Catholics in this country—a mission for Catholic laymen. The day has come, thank God, when all Catholics will be united, and we are worthy of our religion. The country to be conquered is Heaven. Don't go home to sleep, but to work like true Catholics." Adjourned sine die.

COL. ALFRED RHETT DEAD. Died of Congestive Chills in Charleston Yesterday.

CHARLESTON, S. C., November 12.—Col. Alfred Rhett, son of ex-United States and Confederate States senator R. Barnwell Rhett, died here this morning in the sixtieth year of his age of congestive chills. He graduated at Harvard, was colonel in the Confederate army, and commanded Fort Sumter when it was unscathed fully attacked by the Monitor fleet, and until 1868, when it ceased to be an artillery post of importance. He was a well known duelist. The most noted affair in which he engaged, was the fatal duel in 1863 with Col. Ransom Calhoun, of South Carolina. After the war he was chief of police of Charleston, and at critical political junctures was appointed by Governor Hampton and Simpson as State constable. He was a brother of R. Barnwell Rhett, jr., editor at one time of the Charleston Mercury, and later of the New Orleans Picayune. At the time of his death, Col. Rhett was trial justice and a rich planter.

Bond Offerings.

WASHINGTON, November 12.—The bond offerings to-day aggregated \$480,450 and were accepted, at 1.27 for four per cent and 1.05 1/2 for four and halves.

MAYOR BLANTON'S COURT.

John Cut Burt, But he Didn't go to do it.

They were both there, the carver and the carver, and they were almost the only ones there, as this was a day of rest at the Mayor's Court. Both were big, black, burly darkeys and they had gotten into a fracas on their own private account. John Garlington was the one and Burt Collins the other. John thought he would take a slice out of Burt's shoulder. He did it accidentally, so he said. And certainly there was a depth to his affection for Burt, if the reportorial eye was not deceived as to the depth of the wound. It seems that Johnnie protested against any cutting up and friendly wrestling matches in the restaurant of which he was the custodian. Johnnie said his arm slipped in his excitement, and as he held the knife open in it, why Burt got cut, since he didn't know enough to move his shoulder out of the way. But Burt didn't take this view of the case, and Johnnie was lodged behind the bars. His friends were out in force and told wonderful tales of how they called out during the rumpus. "Ah, Johnnie won't cut nobody; he is only blowing." But Johnnie did, and he is a bad man from Bitter Creek. He wasn't angry when he did it, Oh, no! As one of his friends said, "I told Burt to go back until Johnnie was reconciled."

The latter word compelled the court to practically grasp its head and call for the dictionary. Johnnie wasn't angry perhaps, for, as the last witness said, "he wasn't showing his teeth." Well, in short, Johnnie was bound over for the next term in court for the sum of \$100, and Mayor Blanton, having imposed a fine of \$5 on a drunken man, concluded his arduous day's labor.

GENERAL CITY NEWS.

Messrs. Cortland Bros. have moved their office to Nos. 24 and 26, Patton avenue.

We learn that Mr. S. D. Pelham is to remove his business from his present stand to Patton avenue.

E. C. Chambers and W. T. Weaver sold three lots on Bailey street yesterday for C. A. Nichols for \$1,250.

There are one hundred guests at the Battery Park now, while last year at this time there were only thirty-six.

Mr. McNamee, Vanderbilt's lawyer, states that the accounts published in THE ASHEVILLE CITIZEN about the Vanderbilt mansion and estate are correct.

Gorton's Minstrels are stopping at the Grand Central, and gave a delightful concert in front of the court house yesterday afternoon at one o'clock. The feature of this was the admirably executed triple-tonguing in the baritone solo.

About 10 o'clock on Monday night one of the conductors of the electric cars was shot at. He had a narrow escape, the bullet passing between his legs. The car at the time was on North Main street near Cherry. The culprit ran away and has not been caught.

All those who appreciate good oyster supper will be delighted to learn that there will be one given by the young ladies of the Central M. E. church on Thursday evening at Col. A. T. Davidson's residence on College street. Terms spot cash and no tick.

In their new caps and uniforms they march through the streets attracting universal attention. Who? Ask the "boys" and they will soon tell you. Why the young ladies of the Female College. Of course the "boys" know all about it and who could blame them.

There was a runaway in front of THE CITIZEN yesterday afternoon. A saddle horse standing in front of the office was run against by a lad driving a buggy, and the animal managed to get his leg caught in the wheel. Both horses began kicking and the splinters flew. At last the saddle horse kicked himself out of the scrape and the other horse ran away with the buggy. He was finally caught and brought back minus the vehicle.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Mr. Frank Longhaur, proprietor of the Hickory Inn, is in the city.

Gen. J. W. Bowman, of Mitchell county, is in the city in attendance on the federal court.

Mrs. Wm. H. Overman, of Salisbury, is the guest of Mrs. Edwin R. Overman at her home on Vance street.

Mr. W. H. Hargrove, of Haywood, passed through the city last night on his way to Augusta, Ga., on business.

Mr. J. A. Branner leaves to-day for Waynesville, where he will probably remain some time with his daughter, Mrs. R. D. Gibner.

H. C. Alley and wife, of Spartanburg, S. C., and Mrs. M. J. Fairland and Miss May Fairland, of Media, Pa., have registered at the Swannanoa.

F. E. Hayes, of Louisville, Ky., Jas. T. Ross, of Atlanta, Ga., and W. F. Thorne and P. M. Thorne, of Cincinnati, Ohio, are stopping at the Battery Park.

Showing Themselves.

PARIS, November 12.—A number of Boulangists, headed by Paul Deroulade, Laisant and Mermeix, assembled in the place De La Concorde to-day. The police dispersed the gathering, and mounted republican guards now surrounded the place De La Concorde.

Glasgow Iron Market.

GLASGOW, November 12.—The pig iron market still displays great activity and there is a general rise in prices.

The hands employed on the steam craft in the river here have gone out on a strike.

ASHEVILLE'S INCREASE.

WHAT CLERK MILLER TELLS A CITIZEN REPORTER.

An Increase of Nearly Five Hundred Per Cent, in a Period of Ten Years—Facts and Figures Cannot Be Deceivable.

The city of Asheville is to be congratulated on very many accounts, not by any means the least of which is the fact that the position of city clerk is filled by its present competent and faithful incumbent Mr. F. M. Miller. A call there yesterday showed everything as usual in good order, and much information of public interest to be gained in a shape so concise as to require little change at the hand of our reporter.

For instance, the question is often asked us: "What is the assessed valuation of city property, and 'has it increased in amount during the past decade?" In reply, we have often been obliged to plead an ignorance for which we could give no excuse, or to look very wise and go into statements of very general character, not at all to the satisfaction of any thoughtful inquirer. On yesterday we no sooner intimated a wish for information on these important subjects than Clerk Miller laid before us the following statement, which he had already tabulated:

Valuation of property of the city of Asheville.

Table with columns YEARS and AMOUNTS. 1880 \$ 904,428. 1881 1,063,299. 1882 1,229,729. 1883 1,590,000. 1884 1,590,000. 1885 1,838,127. 1886 2,252,063. 1887 3,079,293. 1888 3,773,979. 1889 4,153,234.

This shows an increase of five hundred per cent, nearly within this term of ten years.

STATEMENT OF TAXES COLLECTED.

Table with columns Year ending May and Amount. 1880 \$ 6,844,28. 1881 6,000,00. 1882 7,179,49. 1883 5,880,84. 1884 12,610,76. 1885 20,797,29. 1886 28,679,82. 1887 38,710,12. 1888 44,060,10. 1889 45,942,90.

In addition to the above, in the year 1882 there was \$10,000 received from the sale of bonds, and expended on water works and streets. In the year 1887, the sum \$101,436.10 was received from the sale of bonds, of which \$89,021.33 was applied to water works and remainder added to general fund. In the year 1889, the sum of \$101,026.50 was received from the sale of bonds, and \$51,061.90 applied to construction of sewers, and \$12,833.34 to extension of water works, the remainder being added to the general fund.

Mr. Miller also asked our attention to an amendment of the city charter, all of which should be published for the information and guidance of our people, but space forbids that we should do more this morning than notice those points which most particularly win our approval, and which we think will be commended by our readers.

Section 1 gives the aldermen authority to exempt from payment of poll and street tax all active members of the fire companies. No one will object to this, but on the contrary still readily acknowledge our indebtedness to these good friends, who so often have proved themselves friends in need and indeed.

Section 3 provides: "Whenever any street in the city shall have been graded, gutted and curbed, in whole or in part, including the sidewalks, it shall be incumbent upon the owner or owners to pave the walkways, the full width across their fronts, with brick or such other material as the committee on streets may approve," and then adds such provisions as sufficiently protect the interests of all. This we consider a most important change, and under its operation the great evil of inadequate sidewalks will disappear.

Section 4 authorizes the board of aldermen to force citizens to connect their premises with street sewers. This too all will approve. The sewers being provided, let them be utilized immediately.

Section 5 gives authority for extending sewers either within or without the city limits. This act was ratified March 11, 1889, and can doubtless be found in the published acts of last session. We commend it to careful perusal.

FIRE ALARM GRAPH.

In addition to the information derived from our efficient clerk, we learn gladly that there is a prospect of an early supply of this system which is so greatly needed. Doubtless the board will take due care to inform itself as to the qualifications of the installation proposed by the "Ganewell Fire Alarm Telegraph Company," which proposes to exhibit publicly its working on Thursday next. We have met Mr. Clark, the agent of this company, and are much pleased with his courteous manner, and apparent knowledge of his business.

The writer of this is glad to remind the readers of THE CITIZEN, that some two years ago he urged the consideration of this important subject. No doubt, there has been good excuse for the delay, but it is to be hoped that such excuse may no longer exist. Our firemen are faithful in every emergency, and should have every assistance that science can furnish. A delay of five minutes in reaching a burning building may result in its total loss, and occasionally perhaps in the loss of life. This delay can only be avoided by prompt and accurate information of the exact locality, where help is required. Now whenever a fire occurs, a crowd of

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What was the cause of the valises found in the sewer with Cronin's effects was examined by the salesman who sold the furniture to the mysterious Simmons and declared it to be identical with the valise sold to Simmons along with the furniture.

Pauline Hoertel, a washerwoman, testified that she passed the Carleton cottage between 8 and 9 o'clock on the night of the murder. She saw a white horse drawing a buggy, which there were two men, driven to the cottage. The larger man, who appeared like a gentleman, got out of the buggy, taking a suitcase or box out of the buggy, went up the steps and entered the cottage. The driver of the white horse at once turned around and drove back towards Chicago. The gentleman knocked and was at once admitted to the cottage. As quick as the door was closed Mrs. Hoertel came some yards of blows and the fall of a heavy body, and what sounded to her like some one calling, "Oh, God." In the confusion of sounds she also heard the word "Jesus." Then in a very short time everything became still, she said, it was as if somebody was fighting and then as if something fell. The witness said this occurred soon after 8 o'clock at night. "The man who went into the cottage," she continued, "went into the house unhesitatingly and it seemed to me as if the door was opened, or as if some one opened the door, and he came in the sweeps. When I turned from Ashland avenue and started east, I saw a man standing between the Carleton house and the cottage. There was a light in front of the cottage and the night was a bright starlight."

GORTON'S MINSTRELS.

Their Performance in Opera Hall Last Night.

The exhibition last night was so fully crowded, and perhaps to us fully a satisfied one as ever filled the Opera Hall. The minstrels caused no disappointment; in fact, in view of the absolute fulfillment of every feature of an elaborate programme, they might seem to have been very modest in their claims to favor. Everything seemed perfect to us. We have never heard such deliciously soft and sweet music on wind instruments, "the golden horns." There seems to be something in the royal metal that softens everything to its dominion; and music was never so effectively allied with the form of perfect expression as it is in Gorton's orchestra. The fine body of young men who compose the minstrels and all have exceptionally pure and sweet voices of great compass, yet of perfectly controlled power, with a delicacy of expression scarcely to be expected in the characters assumed. The characters were sustained with fresh vivacity as if all had entered into the spirit of genuine fun and frolic, the natural outpour of humor and high animal spirits, not the routine work of nightly wearisome repetitions for reward. As with their song, so with their interludes—in which, we are free to say, among those that was new and original, there popped up many an old joke and familiar witticism—and their dancing, all sparkled with vivacious freshness.

Of the performance of the Japanese Prince, we can find no words to express admiration and wonder. There was something "mystery" about him; he seemed to be in union with a "familiar." For whatever thing he brought to illustrate his magical skill became at once part of himself, moved as he moved, thought as he thought, acted as he acted. Lively, quick and graceful, with his gorgeous native costume, he transported us, as we breathlessly watched him, to his land of skill and legend, where his art merges into the supernatural, and where nothing is incredible or impossible in the realm of natural dexterity. His favorite slave was his toy. It danced about him, it flew around him, it poised above him, it spun beneath him, it flew from him, it returned to him, and all with such undulating grace and certainty as to make it appear a part of himself. One illustration of his skill with this toy will prove his mastery in his art. He produced a Japanese sword; he proved the keenness of its edge to the spectators by cutting paper with it. He sent his toy spinning high up in the air, and as it fell, caught it on the attenuated edge of the sword, and then, for several minutes, made it pass from heel to point, and back and forth, as if it had become a part of the sword itself.

WHAT DID IT MEAN?

Music Hath Charms to Soothe the Savage Breast.

That large crowd that was so quickly gathered together yesterday on the public square? Who composed it? Every body who could possibly come, and they were all in the very best of humor. Every branch of business was represented. Mr. Powell and Mr. Kepler forgot to argue about which had the best groceries. Mr. Sawyer stood close to Mr. Whitlock. Present Mayor Blanton beamed upon ex-Mayor Harkins. The lawyers forgot to huddle the poor Federal court witnesses. Judge Dick suspended the monotonous "three months and \$100." The witnesses forgot how much liquor they had begged out of Bill Jones for a dime. THE CITIZEN, the Evening Journal, the Democrat, the Baptist, and the Methodist were all there, and all were happy. THE CITIZEN forgot to call its neighbor the e. j. The Democrat forgot that THE CITIZEN was not loyal. The Baptist and Methodist nudged each other. Every one was happy. What caused it? Why the very sweetest of music discoursed by the band of the minstrels.

Friends and brethren, why should this be an occurrence so infrequent? Depend upon it, the people in the "Fader Land" know what they are about when they encourage their men and woman and boys and girls to meet together and listen to soothing, heart-pacifying strains of music. Cannot we learn of this? Will we not encourage our own band? We have the talent; who can doubt it that gazed into the rapt faces on all sides on yesterday. Nothing can be conceived more perfectly wholesome than on every pleasant evening to have our people assemble on the square, listening to music, laughing, chatting, walking about; no one to draw in his garments for fear of contamination from his neighbor; no one to curse and swear about politics; no one to be selfishly seeking his own good at the expense of his brother, but all—yes, every soul filled with health and happiness, under the inspiration of heaven-born music. Oh, why may it not be so?

My Foot is on My Native Heath!

Scots who live with Wallace dead, Scots whom Bruce hath often led, Stand back no more to give us thanks, But meet with us at brother Frank's.

On Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock, without fail, that we may arrange for a meeting in January, to which we would not blush to invite any of our gallant clansmen, who so truly stood together for the right, in the days of Auld Lang Syne.

Acknowledgements.

In response to an appeal made a few days since through our columns in behalf of certain destitute people in a portion of this county, a benevolent gentleman has sent us a bundle of miscellaneous articles which will be properly disposed of. A beginning of the good work having been made, we hope others will follow the good example.

A well known young man of this city had his luxurious growth of side whiskers removed the other night. It was a whole day after this event before he was seen by his anxious friends. It is supposed that the resulting change in his appearance had disturbed his mental equilibrium, and that he had lost his identity.

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Their Performance in Opera Hall Last Night.

The exhibition last night was so fully crowded, and perhaps to us fully a satisfied one as ever filled the Opera Hall. The minstrels caused no disappointment; in fact, in view of the absolute fulfillment of every feature of an elaborate programme, they might seem to have been very modest in their claims to favor. Everything seemed perfect to us. We have never heard such deliciously soft and sweet music on wind instruments, "the golden horns." There seems to be something in the royal metal that softens everything to its dominion; and music was never so effectively allied with the form of perfect expression as it is in Gorton's orchestra. The fine body of young men who compose the minstrels and all have exceptionally pure and sweet voices of great compass, yet of perfectly controlled power, with a delicacy of expression scarcely to be expected in the characters assumed. The characters were sustained with fresh vivacity as if all had entered into the spirit of genuine fun and frolic, the natural outpour of humor and high animal spirits, not the routine work of nightly wearisome repetitions for reward. As with their song, so with their interludes—in which, we are free to say, among those that was new and original, there popped up many an old joke and familiar witticism—and their dancing, all sparkled with vivacious freshness.

Of the performance of the Japanese Prince, we can find no words to express admiration and wonder. There was something "mystery" about him; he seemed to be in union with a "familiar." For whatever thing he brought to illustrate his magical skill became at once part of himself, moved as he moved, thought as he thought, acted as he acted. Lively, quick and graceful, with his gorgeous native costume, he transported us, as we breathlessly watched him, to his land of skill and legend, where his art merges into the supernatural, and where nothing is incredible or impossible in the realm of natural dexterity. His favorite slave was his toy. It danced about him, it flew around him, it poised above him, it spun beneath him, it flew from him, it returned to him, and all with such undulating grace and certainty as to make it appear a part of himself. One illustration of his skill with this toy will prove his mastery in his art. He produced a Japanese sword; he proved the keenness of its edge to the spectators by cutting paper with it. He sent his toy spinning high up in the air, and as it fell, caught it on the attenuated edge of the sword, and then, for several minutes, made it pass from heel to point, and back and forth, as if it had become a part of the sword itself.

WHAT DID IT MEAN?