

New News of Yesterday

By E. J. EDWARDS

Was Persuaded By Thackeray

James W. Wallack Not Only Attended a Dinner Given by the Author, But Even Recited for the Guests.

"A good many years ago George Willam Curtis wrote in one of his little essays something about a dinner that Thackeray gave at Delmonico's in New York shortly before his return to his home in England in 1855. After the completion of his second lecture tour in this country," said the late Parke Godwin, son-in-law of William Cullen Bryant, and one of Thackeray's intimates when the novelist was in this country.

"Curtis did not tell the story exactly as the incident occurred, according to my recollection," Mr. Godwin continued. "I was present at the dinner and I sat very near Thackeray, who of course occupied the chair of the host. He gave the dinner in acknowledgment of many courtesies of a similar kind which he had received and he therefore had at the table nearly all of the men prominent in professional or literary life in New York."

"I saw a great deal of Thackeray when he was in the United States upon his second lecturing tour. He made the editorial rooms of the old Putnam's Magazine, of which Curtis and I were the editors, his headquarters. He was almost always in high spirits. I sometimes thought of him as a great overgrown boy. But I never saw him in quite the exuberance of spirit which he showed at this dinner."

"As we sat down to dinner, I remember Thackeray saying to us that there would be no speeches. He detested formal speechmaking, he said; that always threw a cloud over a feast. But what he did like, he hinted with a whimsical, all-including smile, was a song, a story, a recitation—anything that a guest could do informally."

"A moment or two later, as I glanced about me, I saw that Thackeray had secured as a guest James W. Wallack, the great actor and playwright, who had left Scotland for this country three years before. Thackeray had told me previously that he was going to invite Mr. Wallack to the dinner, and in reply I had said that he would be very lucky if Wallack accepted the invitation. Thackeray wanted to know why I felt that way, and I said that off the stage Wallack was known in New York as one of the quietest of men, was very shy, and almost always declined invitations to large dinners."

"As we were disposing of the good cheer that Thackeray had provided for

us, I found myself wondering what Thackeray would persuade Wallack to do when the time for coffee and cigars was come. What he did do was to ask Wallack, with whom he had become most friendly when Wallack was on the English stage, to tell a story. Wallack shyly shook his head. Then, asked Thackeray, would he not relate some anecdote? Again Wallack shook his head.

"Thackeray sat as if pondering for a second. Then, of a sudden, he turned to his friend.

"Mr. Wallack," he cried with boyish enthusiasm, "I'll tell you what you can do that'll make every man's heart throb with excitement and pleasure. You can recite that great scene in the play 'The Rent Day,' which, as I have seen and heard you in the play upon the stage in London, I have thought was acting unsurpassed."

"Everybody clinked the glasses at the suggestion. I was afraid for a moment that Mr. Wallack would again shake his head—he was, of course, in evening dress, so that the illusion which the dress of the part that Wallack took in the play produced, was

lacking. But he arose, stepped from behind his chair a little nearer to Thackeray, and in a low but very clear voice began the lines of that scene. Almost instantly we forgot that Wallack was a private gentleman in evening dress, unsupported by any of the accessories of the theater—the wonderful spell which he was able to exert upon his audience in the theater was with him then. We were all enthralled, especially Thackeray. He sat half turned around in his chair, listening intently. He did not move once during the entire recitation. But when Wallack was done and had sat down, and while the entire room resounded with applause after the diners had got their breath, Thackeray rose and bowed to Wallack, and I think it was the most grateful acknowledgment that I ever saw one man pay another.

"I said to Thackeray after the dinner that I felt sure he was the one man in the world who could have persuaded James W. Wallack to enact his part in 'The Rent Day' while in evening dress and at a great dinner. I think Thackeray liked to hear me say that, for he seized my hand and gave it a warm grasp." (Copyright, 1911, by E. J. Edwards. All Rights Reserved.)

When Jay Gould Stood Pat

His Credit Having Been Attacked, He Displayed to a Group of Eminent Financiers Securities to the Amount of \$52,000,000.

The late Jay Gould was one of the most reticent of men. Boasting was entirely foreign to his nature. He was satisfied to let his achievements speak for themselves, and even when he was misrepresented, he maintained his reserve, scoring to make explanations. He took great pride in his business successes, but he was a man without a trace of vanity. He was the last man in the world to make a vaunt of his power and resources.

But there was one occasion when he showed his hand. It was on the 13th of March, 1882.

He had then achieved many of his most brilliant successes—successes from which he was known to have gained a colossal fortune; but, he had recently, also, embarked on new ventures of vast scope, and, as many professed to believe, of very doubtful issue. He was working on the railroad deals in the West, from which he was to build up the Missouri Pacific system, and he was becoming interested in New York city elevated

railroads and telegraph lines, among other things. His enemies for some time had been circulating stories to the effect that he was "spread out very thin," and had been insinuating that if the truth were known it would be found that he owed more than he owned.

Mr. Gould was entirely indifferent, in a merely personal and sentimental sense, to these stories. But they began to affect his credit and hamper him in the conduct of his enterprises. That is the only explanation of the extraordinary proceeding he resorted to on that 13th of March, 1882.

Mr. Gould invited the late Russell Sage and several other eminent financiers to meet him in his office on that day. When the gentlemen were disposed about the room, Mr. Gould gave a signal, at which several of his employes appeared carrying trunks. By his direction the men set the trunks down in the middle of the room and retired.

"I have asked you gentlemen to come here," Mr. Gould said, addressing his guests, "because I want you to inspect the contents of these trunks. I hope you can spare time to look at all of them, and see just what I have here."

Then he opened the trunks. They were full of securities—bonds and certificates of stock. Kneeling on the floor before the trunks, Mr. Gould removed the bundles of securities and handed them to his guests who examined them in turn. They found that they were made out in Mr. Gould's name, and were all good, and they verified an inventory of the whole lot.

"You see," said Mr. Gould, when they had examined all the contents of the trunks, "that there are securities here to the value of fifty-two million dollars. There are some more trunks in the other room. They contain twenty millions more in securities. If you would like to examine them, I will have them brought in."

"I think we have seen enough," said Mr. Sage drily. "We have been greatly interested in looking at these securities, but I don't think you ought to put yourself to any further trouble."

Mr. Sage and his companions stately and expressly withdrew. They did not publish from the house to what they had seen in Mr. Gould's office. Nevertheless, it became known within twenty-four hours that Jay Gould had shown his hand to a group of responsible financiers, and that when they saw it they realized that it was a tall hand, for they had counted fifty-two millions of securities and been invited to count twenty millions more, which Mr. Gould owned. Mr. Gould's credit was never attacked after that.

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Kind Words For America

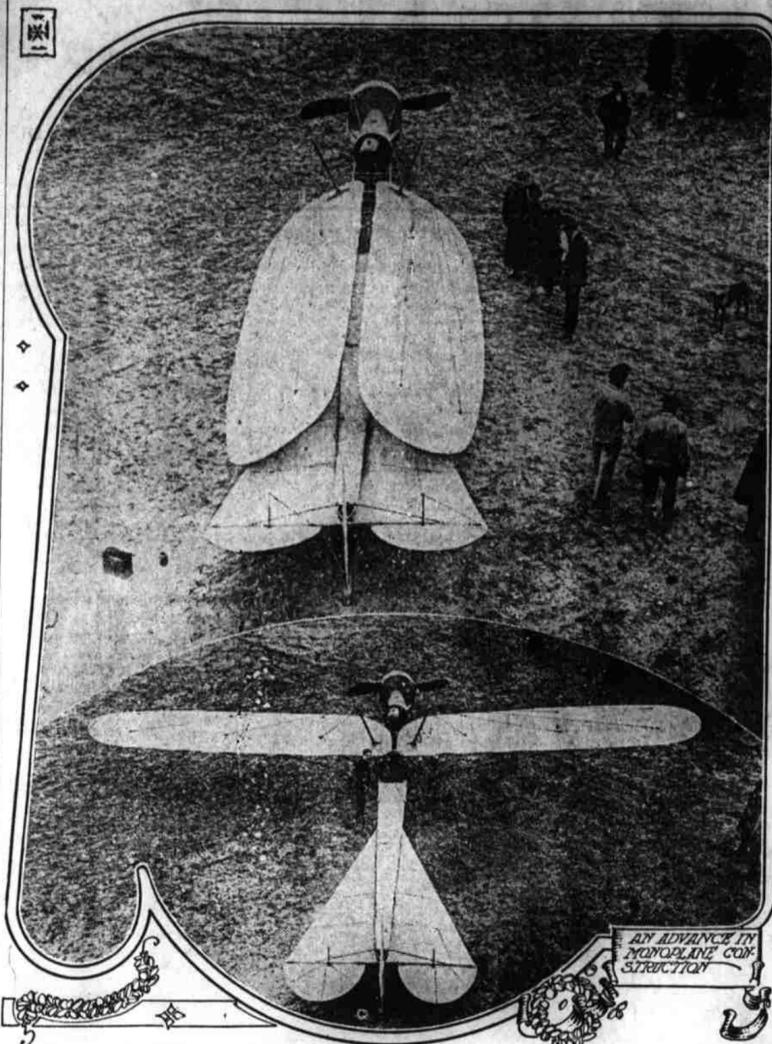
Danish Woman, In This Country Many Years, Sees Advantages Enjoyed in the United States.

The American woman watched the other, who was very clever with her needle. "Did you learn to sew in Denmark?" asked the American. "Yes, I did." "I suppose they do things better over there than we do." "Don't think it. I thought so, too, until I went back to Denmark for a visit last summer. When I first came to America fifteen years ago I was often much disturbed and dissatisfied because I could not find in the shops such good materials or such well-made articles as I had been accustomed to have in Denmark, but on my return to my native land last year I found the case reversed. America has made such wonderful progress in the past few years that we have everything better here than they have in Europe. At least I found it so. We have better style, better cutting,

and fitting, better making in America than they have in Europe, except perhaps in the establishments where they cater to the very rich. Persons of ordinary means have much freer access in America to good articles than they have in Europe. The American department stores are blessings to all such persons, and we cannot be too thankful for them. Besides, it is easier to get the means over here to buy with than it is there. We have so many opportunities in America to work at good prices. No doors are closed against us if we are willing to do good, conscientious work. We have a much broader, freer scope of our ability to attain all good things in America than the ordinary people have in Europe. Besides—with a little laugh—"we don't have to take off our hats when a king goes by."

Canaries Popular in Paris. The Parisian has a sensible reason for the Canary.

MONOPLANE THAT FOLDS ITS WINGS



THE new French monoplane, "Marcey," which has just been put through successful tests at Issy-les-Moulineaux, is an example of the latest types of aeroplanes, so constructed that their "limbs" are jointed and movable. The "Marcey" when at rest folds its wings as if it were a huge flying beetle. Our picture shows the monoplane with its wings open and shut.

Will Market Cats

Company Proposes to Raise Tabbies for Their Fur.

Animal Society's Views—Treasurer Bergh Frowns on Scheme, but Fur Dealer Has Nothing but Praise for It.

Corona, N. Y.—This city is to have a cat farm, to be run on the same plan as a chicken farm or any other kind of farm. The scheme originated with residents of Corona who foresee a fortune in selling the skins of the cats. Judging by the sentiment prevailing against cat farms, however, the Corona Catekin company, as it is to be called, will have troubles of its own before very long.

The company was organized recently and it was said that application for a charter will be made to the secretary of state within a few days. The promoters are to pay nominal sums for all stray cats that can be gathered up within a reasonable freight radius. Having possession of these cats, they intend to go into the business of breeding cats on a large scale.

Should this scheme become effective the first to oppose it will undoubtedly be the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Henry Bergh, treasurer of the society and a member of the board of managers, when asked about such a scheme recently, said that in his opinion the society would be authorized to interfere.

"I don't think the object attained by the killing of cats by wholesale," he said, "would be justifiable. Of course it raises a point which would first have to be decided. The promoters of the catekin company might argue that killing cats for their fur is no more unjustifiable than killing birds for their feathers. I doubt whether it would be justifiable to kill cats under any consideration unless the flesh of the animal is to be used as food. Of course, I realize that some use might be made of the flesh other than for food purposes, but this, to my mind, would be unjustifiable cruelty to animals. The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Ani-

mals will certainly investigate such an institution if it becomes effective." The use of common, ordinary domestic catskins in the fur business, although not common, has been heard of in this city. The fur sometimes appears on the market under various trade names, and a select lot of skins, it is said, can be utilized to such advantage as to make a fine appearance. I. Freundlich of I. Freundlich & Sons, furriers, said that in his opinion there would be a big market for a catskin industry, so large, in fact, that enough cats to furnish the demand could never be raised.

"I would not be surprised at all to see such industries flourish in the future."

Nose May Grow On Again. Albany, N. Y.—Michael Bello's nose was cut off with a razor; eight hours later the member was found in a doorway where the fight occurred, and just before sunset surgeons grafted it back in position. They believe that the operation will be successful.

SAYS DON'T WED ORIENTAL

Princess Hassan Points Out Fatal Mistake After Five Years' Trial.

New York.—"Never marry an Oriental—it's a fatal mistake," said the beautiful Princess Hassan, who, before her marriage to a cousin of the khedive of Egypt, was Miss Olin Humphrey of California, an actress. After five years' absence from her native land, the princess has arrived from her home in London and she will remain a few days at the Knickerbocker before going to join her mother in Oakland, Cal.

The princess spoke feelingly and somewhat knowingly on the subject of marriages between members of the Oriental and Occidental nations, for her life as a member of the khedive's immediate family was one that was far from romantic and happy. "To begin with," she said, "an American girl is far too independently brought up, and too spoiled by her own countrymen to be dominated in the manner an Oriental expects his wife to be. You see, my meeting with the Prince Hassan was so romantic and I was so overpowered by his great manner and his magnificence that I married him impulsively after two months' courtship.

"I have always been impulsive and I shall always be so. My marriage with Prince Hassan should have taken some of that quality out of me, but it hasn't.

"I know, however, enough to give advice to other American girls and the advice is never to marry people of Oriental origin or with Oriental strains

in the blood. They can never understand each other and the woman will be the one who suffers."

The princess was wonderfully attired in a new Parisian frock and ermine toque trimmed with sweeping albertes.

The skirt of the frock, by the way, was made simply of a wide border of lace over nothing but chiffon. No petticoats were worn underneath.

"All the frocks are made in that fashion in Paris and London now, and no petticoats are worn," she added.

MEETS DEATH IN WIRE FENCE

Wealthy Pennsylvanian, Unable to Free Himself, Freezes, While Friends Search.

Pottsville, Pa.—Too weak to free himself from a barbed wire fence that held him captive on a mountain three miles from here, Louis Stoffregen, 80 years old, a wealthy resident of Pottsville, was frozen to death. While his body was swaying about in the wind hundreds of friends searched the valley below.

Mr. Stoffregen left home in the afternoon to take a walk. He apparently climbed the mountain, and was held fast when his clothing caught in a barbed wire fence. The aged man was probably exhausted by the long climb, and his feeble shouts were lost in the rush of the wind.

Friends started the search when he failed to reach home at dark. State policemen who had been called in climbed the mountain and found the body.

TO BE THE RICHSET CHURCH

Fifth Avenue Baptist, John D.'s Place of Worship, May Be Absorbed by the Calvary.

New York.—The wealthiest congregation in New York, if not in the world, probably will result from negro tithe donations now on foot for the consolidation of the Fifth Avenue Baptist church—John D. Rockefeller's New York place of worship—with the Calvary Baptist church. Real estate totaling at least \$1,000,000 in value is involved in the proposed merger.

David C. Link, treasurer of Calvary church, heads a committee of four which has been conferring since last spring with a like number of representatives of the Fifth Avenue organization with a view to uniting the two congregations. At a meeting held last Wednesday, according to Mr. Link, the project finally took the concrete shape of considering the advisability of abandoning and selling out the Fifth Avenue church property, valued at an estimate of \$600,000, at No. 5 West Forty-sixth street.

The joint committee also took up the question of transferring the membership of the Fifth Avenue church bodily to the Calvary church, which has one of the largest and most complete edifices in the city on Fifty-seventh street, near Sixth avenue. The Calvary church is valued at more than one million dollars.

A year ago when the Rev. Dr. Charles F. Aked threatened to resign unless an adequate church edifice were provided, it took the Fifth Avenue Baptist congregation just twenty-eight minutes to raise \$375,000 for the new building then talked of. The total was later increased to \$422,000 within a few days.

Has Music in Him. "Your cat made an awful noise in the back garden last night, and—"

"I'm awfully sorry, Mr. Houston, but since he ate the canary he thinks he can sing!"—London Opinion.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By Rev. William Evans, D. D., Director Bible Course, Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.

LESSON FOR JANUARY 28

PRESENTATION IN THE TEMPLE.

LESSON TEXT—Luke 2:22-38. MEMORY VERSES—23, 27. GOLDEN TEXT—"For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples."—Luke 2:34.

This lesson concerns the matter of the presentation of the Christ child in the temple forty days after his birth. Ever since the redemption of the first-born of Israel on that dark night in Egypt, when the destroying angel passed through the land and smote all the first-born of the Egyptians, the first-born son of every Hebrew family belonged unto the service of God. As a substitute for all the first-born, a tribe of Levi was chosen to act as priests. By this, however, the Hebrew parents were not exempt from the presentation of their first-born to God. By reason of the choosing of the Levites, the first-born son of the family was released from priestly service on the payment of a certain amount of redemption money.

Joseph and Mary being righteous parents, obeyed this law and presented the Christ child in the temple. In thus presenting the child, these parents realized the great truth, which all parents should realize, that our children belong to God, and are but loaned to us. Christian parents should imitate the example of Joseph and Mary, not only in realizing that children are the heritage of the Lord, but also in presenting them in dedication publicly, in the church, to the Lord.

Mary also made a personal offering as a token of her appreciation of the goodness of God. It was a small gift, it is true, but it was the best that she in her humble circumstances life could give, and, therefore, was as acceptable to God as any offering of much higher value would have been. Would it not be a good thing to celebrate the birth of your child by making a special offering, or gift to the cause of God, to some needy work? A parent whose child died some years ago, is in the habit every year when the anniversary of his child's birth arrives to send a birthday gift to an orphan home, just as though he would have given it to his child were he living.

We have a wonderful description of the work of Christ in this lesson. He is the light of the world. Not one, but every nation is to feel the effect of his coming. On one occasion when a Japanese convert to Christianity was summoned before the magistrates and called upon to give a reason why he had forsaken his national religion, he was told that Japan had religion enough and did not want any more; that Confucianism was good enough for scholars, and Buddhism for the masses. The Japanese convert replied, "If Confucianism is an all-sufficient religion, why is it, since the founder lived thousands of years before Christ and taught during a long life, that it has not spread beyond China and Japan? And if Buddhism is an all-sufficient religion, how is it, started by Buddha thousands of years before Christ, and taught by him to spread a long life, that it has not spread beyond India, China, and Japan? If Christianity is a bad religion, how is it, since its founder taught three years, and was put to death when he was thirty-three years old, that it has spread over all the world?"

Jesus is the desire of all the nations. There is no satisfaction to be found in any religion outside of him. Even Simeon, representing the Old Testament, did not find full satisfaction until he had seen the Christ child. The Old Testament itself is a book of longing and expectation which does not find satisfaction until Christ, the theme of the New Testament, came into the world.

The salvation of the world centers in Christ. He is the only Saviour. Christ is the only person who can save the world from its sin. The world had had reformers, scholars, philosophers, philanthropists before Christ, but it never had a Saviour. Jesus Christ is the only person born into the world with reference to the sins of men.

We may learn a lesson of what it means to have faith in Christ from the words of Simeon. He had seen no mighty works wrought by Christ; no miracles had been performed in his sight; he had heard no words of kingly dignity from the lips of Jesus; Christ had pressed upon this good man's heart no claims to Messiahship—and yet with the eye of faith he saw all these things in the infant Jesus. Centuries have rolled by since Simeon lived and died, and Jesus Christ has been proven beyond all reasonable doubt to be all these things—to be, and to do all that Simeon in prophecy claimed for him, and yet we may ask, "Do we believe in Christ, the Christ of the past; as he believed in the Christ of the future?"

Christ is a revealer of men's hearts. A man's character is judged by his attitude toward Christ. We see in the character of Christ absolute goodness, love, truth, honor, purity. Therefore to see Christ, to see truth, love, goodness, purity, and not to love and choose him is to reveal a state of heart which, like that of Galileo, "cares for none of these things."

Simeon was satisfied when he had seen the Christ. To see him is the greatest sight in all the world. We are often asked, "Have you seen the sights in Rome, in Greece, in Italy?" And if we reply in the negative, it is hinted that we have missed a great part of life. But there is a light more important to see than any material vision, and that is, the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. Have you seen this sight? Have you seen the face of Jesus? Have you seen the glory of God in the person of Jesus? Have you seen in him salvation? Do you have not all in him?

Odd Result Of An Election

Mon. William S. Grosbeck, Famous Cincinnati Lawyer, Received One Electoral College Vote for Vice-President.

The late William S. Grosbeck of Cincinnati, who died about ten years ago, was esteemed at one time one of the ablest of the very brilliant members of the bar who practiced in the states west of the Allegheny mountains. He probably ranks with the half-dozen greatest lawyers the west has ever provided. Abraham Lincoln had the highest regard for Grosbeck's abilities as a lawyer. Edwin M. Stanton was sometimes associated with him in important legal cases. He was one of the counsel associated with William M. Everts in the defense of Andrew Johnson in the impeachment proceedings and he was later a member of the international monetary commission. At the height of his fame as was regarded as perhaps the finest example of the classic school of oratory the west could furnish. He also had the almost unique experience of having received one vote in the electoral college from an Ohio elector for vice-president of the United States.

The late Samuel S. Cox of Ohio, better known as "Sunset," was a close personal friend of Mr. Grosbeck.

"I ventured to say to Mr. Grosbeck when he returned to Cincinnati with national fame after the impeachment proceedings against President Johnson were ended that I felt sure he would become some day a candidate for the presidency and that I hoped to live long enough to see him nominated and elected. Mr. Grosbeck smiled, not being displeased by my remark, and said that no longer did political parties nominate orators for the presidency and, furthermore, that if he had any capacity as a speaker

it was not of the kind which would appeal to the masses.

"In spite of what you say," I replied, "I have a prophetic intuition that you will be nominated for the presidency some time."

"In reply he told me that he had always been convinced that there was a profound truth in the statement made by Senator Leigh of Virginia in the early days of the republic that the presidency was neither to be sought nor to be found.

"Well, the incident passed out of my mind until in the summer of 1873 there arose then a great deal of dissatisfaction among certain liberal Republicans over the nomination of Horace Greeley for president by their party. The dissatisfaction finally caused a convention of bolting liberals to be held, I think at Cincinnati. I remember taking up the newspaper one evening and reading that this bolting liberal Republican national convention had nominated William S. Grosbeck of Cincinnati for president. I immediately wrote a line to him to this effect: 'Congratulations; you see my prophetic intuitions were correct.'"

"Mr. Grosbeck did not take the nomination very seriously, but I think he was amazed and perhaps a little gratified at one curious result of the election, which I presume is now almost entirely forgotten. When the result of the balloting in the electoral colleges was announced, it was discovered that William S. Grosbeck of Ohio had received one vote, not for president, but for vice-president, from Ohio. I met him shortly afterward and told him that he had gone into history as the recipient of one vote for the vice-presidency. His reply was: 'That is nearer to the presidency than I ever thought I should get.'"

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Turkey's Sultans as Poets.

Among the authors must be included the sultans of Turkey. Of thirty-five monarchs who have sat upon the throne of Osman, twenty-one, Mr. Stanley Lane-Poole records, have left verses, the greatest poet being the terrible Selim the Grim. Abdul Hamid was passionately addicted to journalism or rather to "journalism." Only the "d journals" which he fostered and the journals which wrote them would not be recognized by an institute of journalists. The journals were the daily reports he received from his host of spies, as Mr. Francis McHugh explains. They average hundreds daily, and the sultan accumulated a collection of several million.

Curious Credentials.

Check the patent medicine man—Here is a curious credential from one of our customers. Medicine Man—Read it. Check—Before I took your pills my eyes were a sight. You ought to see it. Here is the another bottle for my mother-in-law—Lillian.