

DESERT EVENING NEWS.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1898.

LOCAL AND OTHER MATTERS.

THEATRICAL.—Last night a good house witnessed the presentation of "The Stage and the World" and the "Handsome Husband," on the occasion of Mr. Graham's benefit. They are both excellent pieces and were tolerably well played, the only drawback being that the lack of the first piece lacked the vim and snap necessary to make it a complete success. In the characters of Kate Robertson and Daniel Delpia, Miss Lockhart and Mr. Graham found excellent scope for the display of their abilities, and played splendidly. Mr. Hardie as the jealous lover, Mr. Lindsay as the unprincipled man of the world, and Mr. Margate as the "twin gossamer" are worthy of favorable mention. Mr. Thorne as the narrow-minded, prejudiced and pompous aristocrat, played excellently, but used his arms rather too much to be picturesque or graceful.

At the close of the play Mr. Graham, in answer to the vociferous calls of his many friends, appeared before the curtain and "spoke" a very short "piece," thanking the audience for their flattering manifestations of appreciation.

The farce of the "Handsome Husband" went off well, and made lots of fun. The "Stage and the World" will be repeated this evening.

PARTY OF THE HEBREW BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.—This party came off last evening; it was an elegant affair and gave the utmost satisfaction to the committee and the guests assembled. The supper room was nicely decorated with evergreens; about 180 sat down to supper. The music was excellent and the arrangements for the evening's entertainment were complete. All that could be desired. The committee, on behalf of the Society, desire to express their thanks to the "Mormon" residents of this city for the aid and co-operation extended in making this party a success, their aid being far greater than that extended by other residents. We are glad to be able to state that, on a rough estimate, the company estimate that \$400 were cleared by the party.

EASTERN MAIL.—For about ten days past we have received neither letters nor papers from the East, the non-arrival of mails is owing to heavy snow storms which have blocked the roads and so prevented travel. The blockades have occurred between the Chicago City and Rollins, and between the latter place and Wasatch; and about Quaking Asp Ridge. Two or three hundred men are at work to-day clearing the road, and it is probable that the mails will get through and a mail be in to-morrow.

BENEFIT.—To-morrow, Thursday, evening has been selected for the benefit of Professor Careless, conductor and leader of the Theatrical orchestra. The entertainment will be dramatic and musical, and we may safely say that a bill of equal excellence has never yet been presented to a Salt Lake audience. The beautiful play of "The Wonder, or Woman keeps a Secret" never before played in this Territory, will be followed by a musical interlude; the evening's entertainment to conclude with the laughable farce of the "Two Poles." In the play Miss Lockhart, supported by the best talent of the company, will appear. The musical interlude will consist of choice pieces from the best authors, including a grand operatic selection, from El Trovatore, by the orchestra; an operatic selection from Luceria Borgia, by Professors Careless, Pratt and Croxall, besides songs and duets, comic and sentimental, by Mrs. L. Careless, Mr. Dunbar and others. During the evening the orchestra will play overture, Men of Promise, Beethoven; Claribel waltzes, Naples Quadrille and Eleanor waltzes.

Professor Careless has labored indefatigably in his position, as conductor of the orchestra, and though a very unassuming gentleman, as a musician, he is without an equal in the entire West. We hope, to-morrow evening, to see an assembly at the Theatre worthy of the bill presented and of the merits of the benefactor.

INFORMATION WANTED.—Of Jacob Harrison, who emigrated from Derby, England to Utah, in 1896. When last heard from he had gone from Salt Lake City to Montana. His sister, Eliza Ann Harrison, who arrived from England last week, was very anxious to hear from him. Address Ogden post office. [Montana papers please copy.]

WELLSVILLE.—Bro. R. Deakin, writing from Wellsville, Cache county, says they have had a very pleasant winter, and that the health of the people is excellent. A first-class dramatic association is in operation; they have "no regenerators" in that region, and that peace and quietness prevail.

A FIGHT.—Two very respectable gentlemen were brought before Justice Clinton, yesterday, charged with fighting, and were fined in the sums of \$10 and \$15.

DRUNKS.—John M. Bolwinkle and a Spaniard by the name of Frank Sanchez were brought before the Alderman this morning upon a charge of drunkenness, when they were fined in the sums of \$5 and \$10 each.

COUNTERFEIT.—Wm. Murry was arrested for passing counterfeit money; his case is laid over until 4 to-day.

Died.—At American Fork, Utah Co., January 30th, 1898, after a lingering illness of 43 years, Barbara, wife of Henry Bailey, 83 years of age. Deceased was buried into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in 1850, emigrated to Nauvoo in the year 1845, and in the year 1846, was driven with the saints to Winter Quarters, and in 1850 came with her husband to Utah. She died firmly believing in the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ.—Com.

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A NEW "DIXIE" VITICULTURAL CHAMPION.

Ed. News:—In your issue of the 17th inst.

a new champion in behalf of our "Dixie" grape culturists has suddenly revealed himself. For fifteen years, the name of brother Hemenway has been honorably known to me as a popular nurseryman, but not at all as a vine-dresser. My friend Droubay, of Tooele valley, having entered the list with bro. Bonnell in behalf of the Burgundy brand, brother Hemenway has boldly drawn his mighty viticultural sword to break in pieces the impudent French "republicans of the North."

Now I will quote the following awful and criminal statements of mine, reproduced by my new antagonist in his lengthy correspondence. "I must confess," he says, "that we were taken by surprise by the following, which appeared in brother Bertrand's letter, published in the News of July last:

"I hope and trust that bro. Bonnell, in Arizona, bro. Dodge, in St. George, and other Swiss grape culturists in our 'Dixie,' will succeed in making raisins equal to those of Malaga, and in manufacturing excellent wine, as alcoholic as sherry; but with the most scientific they will never produce anything approaching, in the least degree, any of the aforenamed Burgundy wines. Why? Simply because the climate of their locality is too warm." Again, my antagonist says, "In your paper of September 2nd, brother Bertrand says: It is a fact, indubitable, that Mr. Bonnell, Mr. W. E. Dodge, St. George, and several other grape cultivators in our Dixie, will soon succeed in manufacturing a large quantity of wines, equal and perhaps superior to the best brands of Malaga, Malaga, Temmerillo, Sherry, etc.; but I say again, nothing which can compare with the peerless aromas of the first class Burgundy ones. It is an utter impossibility." He also says: "I do affirm that the first class brands of Burgundy, mentioned in my first communication, are, by their unsurpassed aroma, the very best light wines in the world."

To annihilate these "sweeping" statements, bro. Hemenway refers the numerous readers of the News to the report of the committee appointed by the United States Commission at the Universal Exposition of Paris, in 1876, on the culture and products of the vine, which, says he, "is the most valuable publication on the vine I have ever seen printed, and comes from the highest authority in our nation." This report is now in my hands, and I boldly declare that it is an able and very partial document. After quoting from it to elucidate the difference of national taste between the French jurors and American exhibitors of the Exposition, your correspondent triumphantly exclaims: "From the above quotations, we read that the peerless aromas of the Burgundy wines is fully appreciated only by the French palate, trained to like that only which is negative." Also, "that the first class brands of Burgundy are, by their unsurpassed aroma, the very best light wines in France, but not in the world." Also, famous Burgundy wines, idols of my heart, you are now fully dethroned by the powerful hand of bro. Hemenway!

The short description of "Clos Vougeot," the richest Burgundy vineyard, given by the American Committee, is too curious to be omitted:—"Here stand little starveling vines, very slender and very low; yet here is the celebrated 'Clos Vougeot,' and this is the hill, and these are the vines that yield a wine rivaling in excellence and value that of Medoc, and to the fortunate possessor, the cote d'or is what it signifies, a hillside of gold." I wonder if my philosophical friend Droubay, who is well acquainted with the first-class Burgundy vineyards, can discover any feature of "Clos Vougeot" in the above description. I will remark here that the name of cote d'or, imperfectly given by the American Committee to the hill forming this celebrated vineyard, belongs to the who department in which it is situated. The department of "Cote d'or," one of the most populous of Burgundy, contains Nuits, Pomard, Chabertin, Romanee, Morachet, Aloose, Sagin, Mergot, and other first-class vineyards not mentioned in the report.

Another remark. Why has brother Bonnell, who is so fond of scientific investigations and quotations, left unsolved my little problem on the Morachet vineyard? I would like to present opportunity to correct a very curious assertion made by himself in a former correspondence. "I have made," says he, "good wine in Switzerland with the white chasselas." I feel as inclined to endorse this statement as to believe that brother George D. Watt obtained the beautiful cocoons of his last crop in feeding the silkworms with cabbage leaves. Every European, ever so little familiar with the grape culture, knows that the white chasselas is an excellent table grape, but unfit for wine making.

After reading the American Commission's report, every impartial man can discover at once that a certain national rivalry arose between the French, German and American jurors or exhibitors of wines at the Exposition of Paris. The display of wines and fermented liquors of all kinds, from various parts of the world, was enormous. France had 600 exhibitors of wines, Prussia and Switzerland 201, the United States 23, not to mention hundreds of others. With this vast amount of work before the jury, it is not surprising that the wines of the United States, including those of California, did not receive more attention. Honorable mention was made of the sparkling wine sent by the Buena Vista Viticultural Society of Sonoma (California). In order to remedy the disappointment of the United States wine exhibitors, the American Commission appointed a committee to specially examine American wines and make a report. The committee consisted of Mr. Flagg, of New York, Marshall P. Wilder, of Boston, and Dr. Jacob Thompson.

Now "Brother Jonathan" is a young promising boy, very smart, full of pride and ambition, anxious to beat the whole world in everything. According to his military notions, General Grant is the most accomplished warrior, and the very best soldier the world has ever seen.

In reading carefully the report of the American Committee, I have been struck with the mastery style of its contents, but specially with the great partiality it displays against France. For instance, it is stated that the four millions of acres devoted to grape culture in that country yield annually an average of one billion two hundred millions of gallons. This is, indeed, a large production. Nevertheless only four vineyards are mentioned, namely "Chateau Margaux," "Chateau Lafite," "Chateau La Tour" in Medoc, and "Clos Vougeot" in Burgundy; but without saying a single word on the merit or demerit of these celebrated brands. How different his dealings towards famous German vineyards! All the most pompous words he English language can command are here accumulated to extol its praises to the sky. Read without laughing (if you can) the following republican phraseology:

"Now, Johannesberg is the most delicate of wine, as it is indeed superlative in every respect. By the kind invitation of the Princess, Metternich, the Committee were allowed to taste specimens of the best of the castle contained, including some that was twenty-one years old in the cask, and some from a cask that was par excellence, called the 'Bride of the cellar,' and the opinion formed was that the quality of Johannesberg is such that it cannot be described and can be communicated only to the organs of taste, nor can be understood or even imagined except by those who are highly favored as to have a taste of it." I will remark here that this marvellous wine, as well as the best French brands, are produced in cold countries. Now, what is the very best wine in the world? I boldly

answer that which commands the highest price. The first class French wines are always bought by the monarchs, princes and bankers of Europe, before the vintage.

I have annexed a short quotation which speaks volumes on the value of certain French wines. "Yd Medoc grows wine that often sells for ten dollars a gallon, while that of Bezaire sometimes sells for the half of ten cents per gallon."

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L. A. BERTRAND. (To be continued.)

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