

been running four years now, and still the rush. About the most popular and elevating production in London at the present time is Wilson Barrett's "Sign of the Cross" which is doing a grand word for the cause of Christianity. At the Savoy the Mikado has been revived with all the old enthusiasm.

But the style of entertainment dear to the average Londoner's heart is the music hall, where he can go and have his cigar and champagne or pipe and beer according to his status. The empire music hall on Leicester square probably furnishes the finest entertainment in the world of its class, while not being quite so elaborately upholstered as Koster and Bial's—New York, it is a very fine place. Outside here of a night before the doors open one sees more of human life than can be imagined. The double throng extends around the corner for yards up a back street. Every one is in good spirits chaffing. Peddlers rush up and down the line with their wares. Street musicians and broken down comic singers amuse the crowd with their efforts, and incidentally pass the hat in a seductive manner, that makes a man feel he is a stony hearted fraud if he refuses them.

Ere long the line moves and you follow the throng. For a shilling (24 cents) one gets a comfortable upholstered seat in the pit which occupies about the same place as the dress circle in the Salt Lake theatre. Everybody smokes until the atmosphere gets hazy, and the performance proceeds amidst a fusillade of popping corks. The bill is of the usual vaudeville style of an extra excellent order entirely free from veiled obscurity so prevalent in the larger cities of the states. A bullet is seen sandwiched in; the one at present on the bill being Monte Christo, the story being acted in pantomime throughout four acts, some of the scenes being highly gorgeous, in which some 400 girls, electricity, beautiful tinting and blending of costumes play an important part.

London like New York, is undergoing a severe siege of the cinemascope or animated photographs thrown upon a sheet every, subject under the sun being reproduced including horse races, cavalry charges, etc., etc. Not only do the music halls include them in their programs, but the leading dry goods firms like Swan and Edgar's, Regent street, amuse their customers with them.

As the theaters disgorge their audiences the seamy side of life becomes more apparent, and truly London is rightly called the modern Babylon. For thirty minutes the streets are impassable and from cabbies darting to and fro in search of fares. Should you attempt to cross and get over alive, every cabbie who misses you and has to pull up curses you with a deep comprehensive curse that extends back to your ancestors. Then as if by magic the cabs seem to thin out and vanish, leaving a few still patrolling the streets. But it is time to be getting home, for if you miss the last bus, 12 o'clock, you have to walk to your lodgings—an hour's tramp that is not the most delightful experience, for the pubs and dram shops close their doors and turn out the drunken hordes of both sexes into the streets, who fight, swear and yell and ultimately stagger off to their wretched garrets or sneak into some doorway, homeless, to

escape the ever vigilant eye of the "bobby."

A sight strange to western eyes is Chapel street, Islington, within a stone's throw from Penton street—the London conference house—There until the wee 'sma hours (especially Saturday night) is held a market, the street being lined with a double row of barrows and stalls, each with its swinging flaring Naptha lamp. There everything under the sun is displayed that a poor person would buy vegetables, a slice of five or six kinds raw in halfpenny (one cent) lots; quack doctors lecturing on nostrums; auctioneers selling villainous looking aged clothing; fruit of all description; cat's meat; ancient eggs; olemargerine; cough mixtures; lamp cleaners etc, etc,—the entire street being filled with a surging, dazzling mass of bonnetless women, perspiring, yelling, touts, loquacious auctioneers and vendors who seize you by the arm and try and seduce one into buying a pair of pants that have all run to seat and knees, or an umbrella with unmistakable symptoms of premature curvature of the speril. Truly the poor we have with us always and as long as there are dram shops and pawn shops will they be in the overwhelming majority. The little bare footed, unkempt, vicious and unnaturally quick witted children will continue to be old men in vice ere they have reached their teens.

GEORGE E. CARPENTER:

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29. — Chief Hazen of the secret service has issued a circular warning against a new counterfeit \$10 national bank note on the Union National bank of Detroit, Mich. The note is the product of the same hand which produced the recent counterfeit on the National Bank of Commerce of New York. One distinguishable feature is that the back of the note is upside down.

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—According to Wong Ohing Foo, editor of the Chinese News, Chicago is to become headquarters for the Chinese revolutionary junta. This body plans the overthrow of the present Chinese dynasty, by an armed invasion from a convenient island in the south seas. Rooms for the junta have already been engaged in this city and the Mongolians here now await the coming of Sun Yat Sen to set the machinery in operation which is to open China to western civilization.

Sun Yat Sen is the celestial revolutionist who recently was kidnapped in the streets of London and whose release was effected by Lord Salisbury.

He is now collecting money and organizing his followers in England. He will sail for America within two or three weeks, where he will confer with Wong Ohing Foo of Chicago and other leaders of the Chinese reform party in this country.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—A dispatch to the Herald from Buenos Ayers says:

The agricultural commission appointed to investigate the conditions of agriculture in the province of Santa Fe, will make a report to President Urriburu this week.

The report will, it is said, show a disastrous state of affairs among the farmers in the province. It will

recommend as the only salvation, commercially, an issue of \$1,000,000 in mortgage bonds, to be used in assisting the farmers in this crisis. Other measures of relief will also be proposed in its report. The commissioners say that the corn crop in the province will fall 50,000 tons short of the actual necessity of the people. Buenos Ayers is now sending grain to Santa Fe to relieve the distress.

In ordinary times the yield in that province is 800,000 tons, but the whole crop this year is practically a failure. Buenos Ayers will continue to send to Santa Fe the relief to their countrymen though that will prevent their exporting any grain.

The correspondent of the Herald in Rio de Janeiro telegraphs that the municipal elections were a triumph for the federal party.

There were disputes in several quarters and encounters with mob of lawless persons. At a point in the city a conflict occurred in which some citizens were killed and others wounded.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 29.—The announcement that arrangements were in progress for surveying a new transcontinental line from Sioux City, Ia., to San Francisco, to be known as the Pacific Short Line, is regarded by local railroad officials here as erroneous. It was stated that the work was in charge of Donald McLean, a railroad promoter, who was backed by \$32,000,000 of English capital.

Vice President O. F. Crocker of the Southern Pacific company, when seen today, said: "There is no truth in the report, in my judgment. It would not be a wise business move to parallel the lines now running to this coast from the Missouri river in any case. Secondly, I do not believe this man McLean, of whom I never heard until today, could get capital to the amount of \$32,000,000 to engage in the enterprise. In the third place, the government is about to foreclose its liens on the Union Pacific system, in which case the road must be sold. Under such circumstances foreign capital could not be induced to invest in such a gigantic enterprise. There is nothing to the story."

Other railroad officials, when questioned, expressed similar views.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 31.—South American papers just received here say that the Indian uprising in Peru has been quelled. The government sent Colonel Para, an experienced Indian fighter against Jacobo with a good force of infantry, cavalry and one or two Gatlings. In small parties the soldiers penetrated into the mountains in Peru in pursuit of the savages whom they encountered in several camps. Battle was given by the Indians against the small force of soldiers with the result that the Gatlings so depleted the rebel ranks that old Jacobo, their chief, was hunted down with a few hundred braves. Colonel Para united his command in such position as to rake the camp, and thus practically the entire Indian population taking part in the uprising was exterminated.

The situation in Uruguay is reported as critical. The government troops have not only been worsted in their encounters with the rebels but there is a strong movement in favor of deposing President Borda and establishing a triumvirate.