

When the actors arrived at the Avenue theater on Monday they found notices posted to the effect that the house was closed. Fitz Roy Gardner's career as manager having been disastrous financially. An attempt was made on Saturday to strengthen the bill by substituting *The Lady Burglar* and *More Than Ever for My Lady's Orchard*, Mrs. Oscar Beringer's play, in which her two daughters Esme and Vera, appeared, but the novelties proved rank failures.

Sporting Life, the new four-act sporting melodrama by Cecil Raleigh and Seymour Hicks, in seventeen scenes, including several very striking sets, proves to be a blatant melodrama with a race course scene, *The Race for the Guineas*, the Earls court exhibition, a boxing match at the National Sporting club and the court of the Hotel Cecil, which will thrill the provinces. The hero of the piece depicts the earl of Woodstock, of the second life guards, and is played by Leonard Boyle.

SPAIN AND CUBA NOW.

New York, Oct. 23.—A special to the Herald from Madrid says:

At the ministerial council, a special dispatch from Havana, stating that Gen. Weyler would refuse to relinquish power before Oct. 30th was discussed. Your correspondent was requested to say on behalf of the cabinet that no credence can be placed in the dispatch, since, according to all those received by the government, the ministry anticipates nothing but implicit obedience to its orders on the part of Gen. Weyler. This emphatic statement is all the more generous and all the more worthy of belief from the fact that Gen. Weyler is by no means a persona grata with the present ministry.

Th press continues to harp on the filibustering expeditions. El Imparcial demands that a memorandum be sent to the European chancelleries.

New York, Oct. 23.—A special from Madrid to the World says:

A high diplomatic personage who has special means of accurately judging Spain's motives, claims that the queen regent and the Sagasta government are sincere both in their wish to obtain the sympathy of the American government and to conciliate the majority of the Cubans—especially with the whites, whom the new policy aims to detach from the insurrection.

"Many obstacles may retard the realization of the liberal program," the high diplomat continued.

"First, the condition of the island makes the execution of reforms and the taking of elections very difficult.

"Secondly, the division in the autonomist party makes its support unreliable just when the government wants it to be the corner-stone of the new regime.

"Thirdly, the ambiguous attitude of the so-called Spanish party—the constitutional union—makes mischief, as its proffered support is conditional on the government making no large extension of the electoral franchise as that would deprive it of the control of the municipal and provincial councils and the consular assembly.

"Fourthly, the creating of a local assembly with a responsible executive is exceedingly unpopular in Spain and is combatted even by influential liberals and newspapers, like the *Heraldo* and *Imparcial*.

"Fifthly, military men share the opinion of Generals Blanco, Parrado and Pando that rigid military occupation of the four western provinces of Cuba and very active operations in the two eastern provinces are indispensable to complete pacification and can only produce results in a few months if the United States stop entirely

sending expeditions and all other assistance to the insurgents.

"Sixthly, prolongation of the struggle with its terrible drain on the Spanish forces and embarrassments impend to the tune of \$8,000,000 a month—on top of the \$400,000,000 already spent early this winter will force Spain to pledge more sources of peninsular revenue to raise money to go with pacification in Cuba."

Hence the anxiety of the court and the government to secure the good will of the United States, which is shown in the addition of the new colonial policy, in making promises to settle the American claims after pacification and in holding out a prospect of advantages for American trade and capital in the Spanish West Indies.

"Views on these delicate matters are being exchanged between the two governments with great reserve, chiefly at Washington as usual hitherto. Probably nothing of them will be placed officially on record."

The prevailing opinion in court and official circles in Madrid is that the American government shows a tempering and friendly disposition.

A FLORIDA VIEW.

The following, from the *Times-Union* and *Citizen* of Jacksonville, Florida, of Sept. 19, contains some errors which the reader will readily detect, but it is on the whole intended to be friendly. It was written of the Nashville Exposition; and Utah has undoubtedly been greatly benefited and widely and favorably advertised by her display in and participation at the great Tennessee Centennial:

One of the most interesting and surprising exhibits in the whole Centennial is that of Utah. It is away off in a back corner, very much as the state appears on a map of the United States, but you who have never visited the land of Joseph and Brigham will open your eyes when you see it. But Utah has been always exceptional to its social, political, and economic systems. Strangers to the real wonders of Utah often find it difficult to accept the most truthful descriptions of them. For instance, many people find it hard to believe that the human body will not sink in the Great Salt Lake, although that fact is demonstrated every day in the summer season. * * *

One of the wonders of creation the Great Salt Lake of Utah has long been accounted. The specimens of rock, granulated, powdered, and other kinds of salt taken from the Lake, now on exhibition here, confirm the wonders heard of it. The story of its existence came first to any European—Baron La Hontan—in 1689. It was on its shores that Brigham Young's party, consisting of 143 persons, landed in 1847. Though they were Joseph Smith's Mormons, there were only three women in the party. What dearth of heaven's last, best gift! There was salt enough to make many thousand Lot's wives—but they wanted lots of wives to "cum" with only uno grano salls apiece. And they soon began to come—nearly 200 arriving a few weeks after.

The Lake is seventy-five miles long by fifty miles in its widest place—average depth, fifteen feet. The value of its evaporated salt is immense. A statistician computes the number of cubic feet of salt in the Lake to be 250,905,600,000, which, at the present market price for salt gives it a total value of \$103,483,296,000.

I am careful to state these facts in order to divert your Florida Klondikers to Salt Lake. The climate is not so severe as Klondike's—indeed, the cool lake breezes in summer make it a second Florida for that season, while the winters are very mild, as may be judged from the fact that cotton is

raised in Utah—some fine staples of which I have just examined. "Digging" is not so hard as in Alaska. All the wealth seeker has to do is to sit down and let the salt evaporate.

It is a great sheep country. Mr. Pyper has a red, white and blue United States flag covering all one inner side of the Utah building. It took 1,000 lamb pelts to make it, and it attracts very animated attention of visitors.

The estimated value of her sheep is \$4,000,000—yearly value of wool, \$1,000,000.

There were never more or finer specimens of any state's resources under one roof than Utah's exhibit shows. Here are specimens of finest marble. Onyx for building material. There must be near 100 different kinds of metal and marble, but for gold, silver, copper and lead alone, the dividends show (1895) their value to reach a total of \$1,440,500.

A southerner's sectional prejudice against sugar from beets must be dispelled at sight and taste of Utah's sample. It would be hard to find a more delicate flavor or a prettier brand. Being more easily grown and handled, southern sugar-growers have in the beet a very ugly rival. The crop is about 30,000 tons, yielding 3,877,110 pounds of dry, granulated sugar of first quality. But of sugar, as of every other agricultural product, her delicious fruits, grain, etc., Utah consumes about all of it herself.

Salt Lake City has immense shoe and leather manufactories, and of the highest class—judging from the exhibits. Her soap factories turn out enough of that necessary article of domestic usage to get the dirt off of Anarchist Most—almost.

In coming here, Utah brought no specimen of her religion along to put on exhibition, but in this respect she is no worse off than the other states. That is a commodity men generally leave at home. It may not, however, be out of plumb to suggest that "the Mormon question is no longer discussed in Utah," according to Mr. Pyper. "It is of no importance in connection with present conditions of the State," he adds. While the same is very natural and universal, Brother Pyper, under "present conditions"—this is the age of greed. Men are setting aside learning, love, politics, and everything else, for the money—why not give religion the grand bounce, also?

But the Mormon people have disbanded their anti-Gentile party, surrendered polygamy, proclaimed the perpetual dissolution of Church and State, and have come into the Union along with the balance of us Christians! No wonder, therefore, that religion must take a back seat! "Evil associations corrupt good manners." Utah now boasts a proud university and a free common-school system, all supported by the State.

DARK LANTERN METHODS

And now the Democrats—those patriotic souls whose bosoms swelled with indignation at the Reformers for not holding a convention and inviting the people in to make up a ticket—have become suspicious of the public, or rather they have just shown their real attitude. Those who shout loudest that they are sole custodians of the people's interests will bear watching, and when the Democratic organ began criticising the Citizens' Reform committee for alleged distrust of the people, men of experience felt that there was something in the wind. Now it is out. The *Herald* gave it away this morning in one line:

"Admission will be by ticket."

This was the clause of limitation to the announcement that the Democrats will hold a "mass meeting" next Mon-