

doubt when sea-going people hear that the *Devastation* has a double bottom, with four feet six inches of intervening space, and that to fit her out 5,628 tons of dead weight will be put into her, they will applaud the recent change. With vessels so light below and heavy above there is, in good sooth, every need for precaution; but, having no masts with the newly-added topside, this monitor will doubtless prove a fairly secure and certainly a most commanding vessel.

## REMARKS.

BY PROFESSOR JOHN TULLIDGE.

*On colored entertainments, the Hyers Sisters' concerts, and the introduction of florid cadenzas by musical authors.*

I have heard, in days gone by, much of the bone and banjo performances by the pale face burnt-cork musicians; but I never heard, until Wednesday evening last, any legitimate colored artists.

When that excellent troupe, called the Murphy and Mack's Minstrels, was here, I wondered why they used the burnt cork face to enable them to interpret the style of compositions contained in their programmes. I thought the face coloring was all humbug, merely introduced to please fashion, and that it was all a farce to expect such excellent renditions of musical compositions by our legitimate colored brethren and sisters. But I am ready to acknowledge, since I have listened to the Hyers Sisters' concerts, that I was in error, and that the colored portion of the human family are equally able, with first rate cultivation, to render classical compositions as perfectly as the Italians, Americans, Germans or English.

I will here make a few remarks on the introduction of cadenzal forms by musical authors. When Rossini first wrote his operas, all the cadenzal portions were left by the author to the singer's judgment. However, the engagement of the celebrated Viliti, for the principal part, altered the license of embellishment. At first, Rossini appeared pleased by the singer's aptitude in improvising cadenzas, but the *Mac-stro* soon discovered by Viliti's versatile introductions that his melody was so extravagantly disguised that he could not tell his own compositions; he therefore exclaimed one day in good humor at a rehearsal, "I must put a stop to the extravagance of the singer by writing my own embellishments to my melodies;" and as he was acquainted with all the Italian vocal schools he would give to his florid parts execution sufficient for much practice, before the singer could master it with perfection.

Verdi followed Rossini's method, which may be seen in his *scena ed aria*, "Ah farse e tu che l'anima," from the opera of "La Traviata," sung by Miss Anna Hyers, at our theatre. The *Scena* commences with a recitativo on the word "Estrano."

The recitativo is the most difficult portion of the vocal art. It not only puts a test to the singer's reading capacity, but it is intricate in intervallic transitions, and the slightest wavering from perfect intonation is sure to lead the vocalist from the key.

Having the *Traviata* score at hand during the rendition of this recitativo by Miss Anna Hyers, I am enabled to assert that, notwithstanding the intervallic difficulties contained therein, the intonation of the young artiste was perfect.

The first division of the *aria* that followed, was executed with precision, ease and clearness of tone, and the closing cadence was an artistic display of great merit.

The cadenzas in the next strain are not only rapid in execution, but the compass ranges to D flat above the staff lines, and notwithstanding the difficulty of reading the note, it seemed like sport to her, as all the notes were rendered without the slightest violence to the vocal organ.

The next movement is in six-eight time, and contains a passage of two bars of sustaining notes on the C above the staff; these were not only delivered with power, but the tones were clear and perfect. Much more could be added on the easy division of the chromatic passages, but space will not allow me to enlarge on the rendition of this fine composition.

The *Miserere*, from the opera of "Il Trovatore" is another of Verdi's composition. A portion of this was sung by the sisters Miss Anna and Emma Hyers. Miss Anna took the soprano, and Miss Emma the tenore.

It was commenced with *Adagio con espressione*, on the words "D'amor sull'a li rose-e." The perfect rendition of this portion of the scene by Leonora, Miss Anna, outside of the prison walls, requires much animation and pointed accent, as well as an easy execution of the florid passages, and more especially in the cadenzas where the range is extensive in the high as well as the lower register; and notwithstanding this difficulty it was delivered not only with time precision, but with artistic ease and grace.

Trovatore, the tenor, was given to Miss Emma Hyers for rendition and in all truth she made a choice novel bit of interpretation to the part. Although the solo does not call for great florid execution, or intervallic intricacies, as found in the soprano, it requires much expressive force and coloring in order to render it natural and effective, and it was finely interpreted by

the young artiste, with much pathos, and also closely in imitation of the tenor voice.

When we consider the rare chance of hearing a female voice taking the extreme range, down to a flat below the staff, we cannot feel surprised if we are pleased with such a wonderful compass possessed by a lady alto.

My remarks on the other portions of the concerts must be left for another article.

## Some Snake Stories.—Experience of Mountaineers in Virginia.

The partiality of rattlesnakes for the company of children, says the Lynchburg (Va.) Republican, has been frequently noticed among the mountaineers, one instance of which is familiar to some of our Bedford readers. A few years ago, a farmer, whose cabin stood in one of the wildest localities about the mountains, on coming into the house one day, discovered his little daughter, two years old, sitting up in bed, where she had been placed when asleep by her mother. The child was laughing immoderately and showing by its every action and expression of countenance that it was greatly pleased. The father approached, when, to his horror, he discovered that an enormous yellow rattle-snake, the largest he had ever seen, was in bed with the child, and actually coiled round her body. His presence instantly wrought a change in the conduct of the snake, which dexterously uncoiled itself from around the child and assumed an attitude of battle. The mountaineer's rifle hung upon a rack over the door; he grasped it in his hand with feelings that cannot be described, and awaited an opportunity to shoot. He had no sooner done so than the snake commenced caressing the child by rubbing his head against her cheek and darting his forked tongue almost in her eyes. Then he would raise his tail and rattle so rapidly as to make one continuous sound, at which the child was greatly delighted. But upon the least movement on the part of the almost distracted parent the snake would entirely change the tone of his rattling and swell to almost twice his natural size. During all this time the child tightly grasped the snake with its chubby little hands, and jerked and twisted him about in a very rude and unceremonious manner, laughing and talking to her horrid plaything in a perfect ecstasy of delight. This state of things was finally ended by a movement of the parent, which so enraged the snake that he drew himself up into a tight coil, leaped out of bed, and would have buried his fangs in the farmer's face had he not quickly dodged to one side. As it was, the serpent went over his shoulder and out at the door, where he renewed the signal for battle, but was quickly stretched out stiff in death by a shot from the rifle.

A party of young men in the same neighborhood only a few years ago had a very interesting adventure with rattlesnakes, which may be briefly stated: Early in the fall of the year, and before the snakes had "housed up" for the winter, this party went out one night on a raccoon hunt. About midnight the dogs "treed" a family of coops in one of the largest trees in the neighborhood. It was decided to wait until daylight to capture them, with the hope that the cutting down of the tree could be dispensed with. The young men laid upon the ground and were amusing themselves with telling stories, when one of the party, who was thoroughly acquainted with the habits and peculiarities of the rattlesnake, suddenly called out, "Lie still boys; don't move for anything. There's rattlesnakes here. I heard one's rattle hit a rock." He had scarcely spoken when an enormous rattlesnake came crawling over his foot, and, following his leg to the body, crossed over his breast, striking his neighbor's face, and crawling over his mouth. The third party was not touched by the snake, except that his rattles tapped lightly against his cap brim as he passed. The fourth huntsman heard the rattle, sprang to his feet, and ascended a tree with remarkable agility. This snake was immediately followed by another not quite so large, and then by four small ones, all of which traveled precisely the same path. When daylight came the raccoons were shot, and then the search for the snakes commenced. They were found in a hollow stump, but a few steps off, and though they were dragged out with crooked sticks, and tormented in every way, the female alone condescended to rattle for them, or show any signs of anger. They were all killed, and the young man who had gotten up the hunt has never since been known to go out after coons unless there was a very deep snow on the ground.

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w 3t.

## ESTRAYS!

I HAVE in my possession one white mare, seven or eight years old, no marks or brands perceptible. She has a y. ung colt. Also a white heifer two years old, branded on left side, crop off left ear. The above named animals, if not claimed within twenty days from date, will be sold to pay costs and charges.

WILLIAM MARRATT,  
Poundkeeper.  
Pleasant Grove City, Utah County,  
August 3, 1871.

w 27 3t

## NOTICE,

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

JAMES H. HART, County and Probate Judge, for Rich County, Utah Territory, did, on the 19th day of June, 1871, file declaratory statement (No. 2714) in the General Land Office, Salt Lake City, according to "an Act for the relief of the inhabitants of Cities and Towns upon public lands," approved March 3rd 1871, claiming the following described lands for the benefit of the inhabitants of Randolph, of Rich county, namely S W 1/4 of N E 1/4 and S 1/4 of N W 1/4 and S W 1/4 and W 1/4 of S E 1/4 and S E 1/4 of S E 1/4 of Section 21, Township 11 North of Range 7 East, containing 400 acres.

JAMES H. HART,  
Bloomington, Rich Co.  
w 27 3m

July, 27, 1871.

## THE UTAH CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY,

HEREBY NOTIFIES THE OWNERS OF, and residents on Lot six (6) Block Two (2) Ogden five (5) acre Plat A, Territorial Survey lying in the S. W. 1/4 of Sec. 29 T. 6 N. of R. 1 W. U. S. Survey, containing five acres more or less, that the aforesaid Company has filed a petition, with the Probate Court of Weber County, Territory of Utah, which said petition is to be heard on the 7th day of August, 1871, in which the petitioner asks the aforesaid Court to appoint Commissioners for the purpose of assessing the value of said lot of land, that the same may be condemned for the use of said company. The owners and residents of said Lot are hereby notified to appear and show cause if any why said petition should not be granted. w 23 1m

## STRAYED OR STOLEN!

ABOUT two months ago from Centerville, a white pony about 7 years old, both ears slit, one glass eye. The finder will please return to

WM. H. PRIESTLEY, Centerville,  
and be rewarded. w 23 3

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF BEAVER COUNTY, TERRITORY OF UTAH.

In the matter of the Estate of }  
Cornelius O'Connell, deceased. }

Order to show cause why order of sale of real estate should not be made.

It appears to the Judge of said Court, by the petition of Martin O'Connell, the Administrator of the Estate of Cornelius O'Connell, deceased, duly presented and filed, praying for an order to sell the whole of the real estate, in order to wind up the affairs of said estate, and to pay the debts, charges and expenses of administration.

It is therefore, ordered by the Judge of said Court, that all persons interested in the estate of said deceased, appear before said court on the 19th day of August, A. D., 1871, at 10 o'clock a. m., of said day, at the basement of Meeting House, in Beaver City, Beaver County, U. T., to show cause why an order should not be granted to said administrator to sell the real estate of said deceased, and that a copy of this order be published at least four successive weeks in the "Deseret Weekly News," a newspaper printed and published in Salt Lake City, and having an extensive circulation in said county.

JOHN R. MURDOCK,  
Probate Judge.

I, WILLIAM FOTHERINGHAM,  
Clerk of the Probate Court  
in and for said county.

Dated,  
July 15, 1871, Territory of Utah, County of Beaver.  
w 25 1m

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H. B. CLAWSON, Supt.