PICKINGS FROM PARIS.

Sardou Objects to Being Bluffed by Yankee Swindlers.

STRANGE ANTICS OF A COUNT.

A Don Quixote of the Paste Brush—Stylish Marriage A La Mode—Persecution of a Duchesse and Her Foul Murder—Humorous Mystery of a Meat Store—An American Artist Kills Himself for a Demi-Mondaine.

PARIS,

OF all the pretty rural environs of Paris the district covered by St. Germain and Marly is the prettiest. Situated almost midway between these two towns in a wonderfully picturesque spot is a lovely chateau known as the Chateau of Monte Cristo. It was built by the elder Dumas and named by him after the work of fiction by which he gained most of his glory and gold. The novelist grew tired of his architectural toy, and before his death it passed into other hands. It has, within the last twenty years or so, been held by various occupants, one of whom altered its romantic name. It is now offered for sale under the old title of the Chateau of Monte Cristo, built by Alexandre Dumas *pere*, and unless some wealthy admirer of brilliant fiction be found as its purchaser, the name of which recalls one of the most fascinating of romances, may be again changed. Some of the articles of furniture most prized by the famous novelist are still preserved in the house.

AND SARDOU BLUFF'S ASSOLANT.

Sardou is a plagiarist of subjects. He did more than plagiarize in "L'Oncle Sam." He pirated wholesale. The piracy was committed at the expense of M. Alfred Assolant. Sardou *prend son bien ou il le trouve.* In this instance he found it in a sparkling book of personal impressions of the United States. Assolant was off travelling somewhere when the play taken from his work was brought out. It had a long run and a brilliant success. Assolant, on coming back to Paris, was one evening suffering from a fit of the blues. His wife, to rouse him up, proposed to spend the evening at the theater. Every one had gone to laugh at "L'Oncle Sam," which she heard brimmed over with fun. Suppose they both went too? They went. The blues were cured, but by a towering rage, Assolant "seeing and hearing his book on the stage." There was scarcely an attempt made to hide the raw material with *sauce piquante a la Sardou.*

WEALTH TRIUMPHS OVER POVERTY.

The aggrieved author appealed to La Societe des Gens de Lettres, in the committee of which there was a great row over his suit. Unfortunately for him he was always standing on his dignity, very touchy and afflicted with aloofness. He was also poor, and was sure never to have passes to give for the first nights of fetching plays. Sardou's position was a strong one. He was rich, at the top of the wheel as a dramatic author, and commanded votes at the Academy. A most unfair and evasive judgment was given. Sardou was convicted of having borrowed without Assolant's leave, but satisfaction was refused to Assolant because he did not seen enough protest against the surreptitious loan.

However, most of Sardou's plagiarisms do not injure the authors of whom he borrows. Assolant was too irritable and wayward ever to have worked well enough with a playwright to give a taking dramatic form to his book. Sardou wants the power to originate a subject. But when he finds one ready to hand he covers it with a graceful and charming vegetation, just as the climbing pea covers the wattle. All the bloom and leafage and the bold shooting and lovely tendrils are his own.

AN ECCENTRIC POLITICIAN.

The Comte de Neuville is dead! All Paris knew him by sight, for he was perpetually riding about in his open carriage, distributing his prose and poetry, or quarrelling with the cabmen who chaffed him. He was the victim of a monomania which Charcot, the late eminent mad doctor, was unable to define. At one moment he believed himself persecuted by unseen enemies; then he took to politics and poetry, and finally he was subject to what are called "acces de grandeurs," during which he committed the most extravagant acts. In person he was tall and robust, with black hair and whiskers, well dressed and with a flower in his button-hole. For a long time he desired to play a political role, and appeared as a candidate for the Chamber or the Municipal Council, but in vain—he was always defeated.

AMATEUR KNIGHT OF THE PASTE POT.

His defeat in the Ardennes not having discouraged him, he came forward in the municipal elections in 1890. In the former case he had to complain of the bill-stickers, whom he accused of deceiving him to the benefit of his opponent. In Paris he resolved to watch them himself. During his candidature he might be seen supervising his men, pointing out a good coign of vantage here or a conspicuous spot there for the placarding of his bills. But this state of things did not last long; under the pretext that one of his men had posted his address to the constituents upside down he dismissed them all. "You work like cobblers," he said; "I will do without you." The next day he might be seen riding about the streets of his electoral district with his carriage full of bills, two or three paste pots and a number of brushes. He posted the bills himself, to the great amusement of the passers-by, who had never before seen a nobleman in frock coat and silk hat doing the work of a bill-sticker.

BLOODLESS BUT GLUTINOUS BATTLE.

One evening on the Place Saint Georges an untoward adventure occurred to him. He was in the act of posting up his appeals to the electors on the wall of the mansion of M. Thiers when the bill-stickers of his rival arrived and proceeded to paste their bills over those of the Count. He flew into a passion, called the men all sorts of ugly names and a free fight followed in the course of which the paste-pots and brushes made fearful havoc. The Count came out of the battle in a lamentable plight. His hat was knocked over his eyes and his beard covered with paste, while his clothes were torn to pieces. The police ultimately arrived and marched all of them off to the lock-up. The poor count was naturally indignant. "I will complain to the President of the Republic," he cried; "I will get you all sent to the hulks, for you are simply so many bandits." The Commissary of Police advised him to go home and clean himself and not associate himself with bill-stickers again.

MARRIAGE IN HIGH LIFE.

The approaching marriage of the Premier Duke of France—the Duc d'Uzes—with Mdlle. Maria Therese de Luynes, is an event of prime importance in French society. The bridegroom succeeded his brother in the title when that silly young spendthrift died in Africa some three months ago. The mother of the bridegroom was brought into considerable notoriety at the time of the Boulanger episode, owing to the fact of her having very heavily financed *le brave general.* Her husband was a nonentity, who bore his great honors very gently and simply, but who swore a great deal, hunted a great deal, and eventually died of over smoking. He was never himself unless booted and spurred, and so, from a social point of view, may hardly be said to have left any trace of his existence in the salons of Paris. The Duchesse d'Uzes was Mdlle. Anne V de Rochechouart-Montemart, great-granddaughter of the famous Veuve Chiquet. By a strange fatality the great property of the Epernay wine-growers passed for three generations to sole heiresses and thus came almost intact into the hands of the actual Duchess, into whose pockets, however, Boulanger and her son must have dipped rather deeply.

STORY OF PERSECUTION AND MURDER.

Maria Therese de Luynes is the only daughter of the late Duc and Duchesse de Chaulnes. The Duc, who was brother of the late Duc de Luynes, was the most priest-ridden of men. His mother was the wicked old Duchesse de Chevreuse, and she had her son completely under her control. She hated his wife, who was a lovely Galitzin and the most beautiful woman in France. It was this fatal beauty, added to the fact that she was of the Greek Church, that brought upon her the enmity of her mother-in-law and caused her untimely decease, which is supposed to have been effected by prussic acid, administered by an enemy, under the direction of the Duchesse de Chevreuse. Her persecutors separated her husband from her, then accused her of infidelity, and upon mendacious affidavits invoked the aid of the law to obtain possession of her two children, the Maria Theresa in question, and a boy, since dead.

ROMANTIC HISTORY OF THE BRIDE.

The attempted abduction of these children by their mother, from their grandmother's charge in the Chateau de Dampierre, some years ago, caused considerable excitement in France at the time and drew attention to the gross persecution to which the Countess de Chaulnes was subjected. The opposition element subsidized by the Duchesse de Chevreuse brought the whole of its strength to bear upon the poor woman and crushed her at every step both in the courts and out of them. She was driven to the greatest extremities, sought a situation as a governess and immediately she obtained it died without ryhme or reason in the greatest agony. No inquiry into her death was instituted and her murderer to this day remains unknown and is doubtless absolved in the orthodox fashion. The father died of consumption aggravated by a shot through the lung received during the Franco-German war. There are three Dukedoms in his family, viz., Chevreuse, Luynes and Chaulnes, and all are descended from an Italian named Alberti, who was a favorite of Louis XIII. A cross marriage has recently occurred in the family, the young Duc de Luynes, cousin to the present bride, having married the sister of the Duc d'Uzes.

MYSTERY OF THE RUE ST. HONORE.

People in Paris have been struck lately by the sight of an elegant *coupe*, perfectly correct, lined with *bouton d'or* satin and all *en suite*, stopping at the door of a meat store in the Rue St. Honore. A tall lady, slim to the extreme, descended from the carriage and entered the store. The mistress of the establishment hurried from behind the counter, and, after many compliments and reverences, brought from the back parlor an armchair covered with chintz and placed it behind half an ex hanging from a book. There the beautiful lady sat, opened a book and began to read. The day after, and every day of the week, the *coupe* came again at 9 a. m., deposited its fair charge at the butcher's and returned at 12 to fetch her. The neighbors, mad at last with curiosity, inquired about the matter, and soon the little crowd which had gathered every morning to see the funny thing dispersed in disgust, for the secret was not half so exciting as they had hoped it would be.

NEW METHOD OF MAKING HUMAN FAT.

The fact was that the extra thin mondaine visitor of the butcher's shop, who possesses a superb hotel near the Arc de Triomphe, and all that can make a woman proud and happy, had one cause of sorrow. Her bones were decidedly sharp and not sufficiently covered; if she could only get a little more fat and plump she would have nothing else to desire, as she has made the sacrifice of her morning drive to the Bois to follow the advice of her doctor, who recommends the sitting quietly in a meat store for two or three hours daily as the sure means of acquiring flesh, and not at the wrong places, as is want to happen when an internal diet is observed and a fattening food absorbed, but just where it ought to be. She is weighed every day, and her admirers are in great expectation, as well as the doctor, whose reputation is at stake.

RUINED BY A GAY COCOTTE.

Both *fin de-siecle* and middle age is the end of a well known American artist named Daly, who threw himself from the life in his hotel at the Rue Caumartin. It was believed at first that the cause of his tragic death was an accidental fall, owing to a door left open in a passage by some careless servant. But, no! Daly killed himself for the sake of a notorious cocotte named Mdlle. d'Arcy. While the mangled body of the wretched man was deposited in a *caveau* at the Church of the Madeline, every day Laura d'Arcy stopped her *coupe* at the grille on the Rue Royale, gathered her frou-frous of lace and silk, ran up the flight of steps and went to the chapel where poor Daly was lying cold and rigid for her sake. There she knelt daintily on a cushion, said quickly a little "Pater" and a little "Ave," crossed her pretty face from her curl *dernier cri* to the dimple of her chin, and proceeded to the Bois for her morning drive with a tiny pang of conscience.

THE EARLIEST MAN.

He Was Hairy, of a Reddish Color and Without a Religion.

In his public lecture at Madison, Wis., during the meeting of the American Association, on "The Earliest Man," Prof. D. G. Brinton said that science inclined to the belief that man originated in one spot, and that all others descended from one first pair. Some eminent men of science believed that man was on the earth even in the tertiary period. What is called the present period was divided many thousand years ago by the glacial period; and it is probable that in certain parts of the world man lived during the ice period, which would place the antiquity of the race at least 100,000 years.

Man could not have first appeared on any small island nor in such cold regions as would expose him to death from that cause, nor anywhere where the remains of the highest animals below him were absent. This reasoning excluded Australia, all of America, South America, South Africa, South India, Northern Europe and Northern Asia. Nor did it permit the acceptance of the ancient Atlantis as that sunken land which Haeckel named Lemurea. It left only, in fact, the southern slope of that great mountain chain which began on the east with the Himalays and extended to the farthest west of Spain. There also were found man's very eldest remains and weapons, and the oldest of them all in Western Europe, in France and Spain.

On the present evidence it must be said that man originated in Western Europe or Northern Africa. The earliest man was of the average height of men of to-day, muscular and strong, walking not always erect, but stooping forward. His skin was hairy, of a reddish color, and the women were somewhat smaller than the men. His forehead was low, but his brain was fairly well developed. He knew the use of fire, how to make weapons of stone, bone and wood, traps for animals and some kinds of boats. Then he used some sort of shelter; he lived in communities; he had a language; he loved his family and took care of the sick, but he did not seem to have had a religion. He was brave in battle and loved to roam. All this can be proved by a careful study of his remains. It was concluded, therefore, that the earliest men were of the same spirit and soul with ourselves, endowed with like faculties and with a similar capacity to advance.—*Popular Science Monthly.*

A Japanese Invitation to Dinner.

An invitation to dinner among the middle or upper classes of Japan frequently commences as follows: "I beg pardon for thus insulting you in begging your company at my house to dinner. The house is small and very dirty. Our habits are rude, and you may not get anything fit to eat; and yet I hope that you will condescend to be present with us at 6 o'clock on Dec. 9th." Upon arriving at the house you find it spotlessly clean, tasty in arrangement, and the host and hostess affable indeed. The bill of fare consists of ten or fifteen courses, the best the market can afford. All the self humiliation of the host is the method adopted to pay you honor.

A Stickler for Realism.

Theatrical Manager—Didn't I hear you making some talk about there not being enough realism in this play, Mr. Walker?

Leading Man—I did say something of the kind, sir.

"Huh! We already have real horses, real water, a real sausage-chopper, real snakes in the delirium scene and real turnips in the gorgeous banquet scene. What more do you want, anyhow?"

"Well, I should like a little real applause at each performance and real money on salary days."

Sad Accident at a Football Game.

"How did you enjoy the football game, Mr. Jones?"

"Very much, indeed. It was rather rough, however."

"Indeed?"

"Yes; two men lost their ears, one had his nose broken and I got into a crush of young ladies on the way out and lost my heart."

Sure to Find It.

"I am going out to spend the evening, Bridget," said the master of the house, as he came down stairs arrayed in full evening dress, "and I want you to give this note to your mistress as soon as she comes in. Don't forget it, now."

"Shure, and I won't. I'll put it in the pocket of the breeches yez have just taken off. She'll be sure to find it, then."

More Pressing.

Mrs. Doubtful—What did you get in the mail?

Dickey Doubtful—Only two invitations.

Mrs. Doubtful—From whom?

Dickey Doubtful—One is from Jack Harlemite; he wants me to come up some time. The other is from my tailor; he wants me to come down—right away!

Monument to Gounod.

A monument to the memory of Gounod will be erected in Paris. About 50,000 francs has been subscribed already. Among the subscribers are the Countess of Paris, the Princess of Monaco, the various ambassadors accredited to France and President Carnot, who gave 2,000 francs. Work on the monument will be pushed as rapidly as possible.

"My daughter gets $20,000 as a wedding present, but she has an impediment in her speech," said a wealthy father-in-law to a would-be son-in-law, who was poor. "I know, but I do not regard that as an impediment to our marriage," replied the impecunious one.

Mr. Lanks (the new boarder)—Please help me to another portion o the wild duck, Mrs. Flint. Mrs. Flint (the landlady)—I am sorry, Mr. Lanks, but there is a limit to this little game.

THE TUBERCULOSIS SCARE.

Prof. Mills on the Dairy Herd at Agricultural College.

THE FACTS SUCCINCTLY STATED

SIR,—As some very sensational, spiteful and reckless assertions regarding our dairy cattle have been published within the last few days, I shall be obliged if you will insert the following statement and explanation of the facts:

First, allow me to state that we have made no attempt to conceal the fact that we have had several cases of tuberculosis in our dairy herd this year. It has been well known to all our students and many others. We have given careful attention to the matter, and intend to publish a full statement of the facts when our experiments are completed.

Secondly, I may say that our dairy herd is kept by itself at the dairy department. The rest of our stock, including the bulls of all breeds except the Guernsey, is at the farm buildings, on the opposite side of the road and nearly a quarter of a mile distant.

1. The first trouble noticed was in January last, when one of our imported Guernsey cows showed signs of sickness. We at once isolated her; killed her soon after, and found that she had tuberculosis.

2. In April, two other Guernseys (one imported and the other from the herd of William Davies, Markham) commenced to cough, and one of them began to fail in flesh. The latter, that is the sick one, dropped a calf during her sickness. We left it with her in isolation; tested the cows with the Koch lymph, known as tuberculine; and, the rise in temperature, supposed to indicate disease, having taken place, we slaughtered both cows and calf on April 28th, and found that they had the disease. At this time the students were present and had the nature of the disease and the action of the tuberculine explained to them by Dr. John J. McKenzie, bacteriologist of the Department of Agriculture, Toronto.

3. Two other imported cows seemed somewhat out of health in the early part of the summer, an Ayrshire and a Red Poll. The latter was lame; and, not knowing whether her trouble was caused by the lameness or not, we decided to keep her in a grass plot by herself and await developments. The Ayrshire, we thought, should be dealt with at once. So in July we tested nine animals, the Ayrshire cow, our Guernsey bull, a calf dropped during the time of her sickness by one of the Guernseys which were slaughtered in April, a fine, healthy-looking grade cow, and some steers on the farm. Four showed a rise in temperature and five did not. These four were the Ayrshire cow, the calf of the slaughter Guernsey, the healthy-looking grade cow and the Guernsey bull. The first three were slaughtered in the presence of the Hon. Mr. Dryden, and the bull was isolated, to be kept for further testing. Of the three slaughtered, the calf (which had been fed on its sick mother's milk) and the Ayrshire cow were evidently diseased. The case of the healthy-looking grade cow was not so clear. Mr. Dryden said he could see nothing the matter with her; but Dr. Reed states that to him there was clear evidence of tubercular disease in its incipient stage in one of the lungs.

4. We then decided to test the remainder of the herd, but could not get any tuberculine till October. On receipt of the lymph, we tested 18 animals—the Red Polled cow, the Guernsey bull and sixteen healthy-looking cows and heifers. Fourteen showed a rise in temperature and four did not. Of the fourteen, we slaughtered two—the Red Poll and a very healthy-looking grade cow. The former was badly diseased, but the latter was something like the other healthy-looking grade cow. Prof. Dean and Mr. James Miller, of Guelph, said they could see little or nothing the matter with her, while Dr. Reed stated that to him there were clear indications of incipient tubercular trouble.

A SUMMARY OF THE FACTS.

To sum up, since the first of January last, five of our cows have shown signs of sickness. Four of these were tested with tuberculine, and showed a rise in temperature. The five were killed, and all found to have tuberculosis. Besides these, twenty-six healthy-looking animals have been tested. Nine were pronounced sound, and seventeen were condemned. Of the condemned ones three were killed—the calf mentioned in section 3 of this letter and the two healthy-looking grade cows spoken of in sections 3 and 4. Regarding the remaining fourteen, all healthy-looking, expensive, thoroughbred animals, we hesitated what to do. At length we decided to put them by themselves and keep them for a time, to make a series of microscopic tests of the milk. When these experiments are completed, we shall slaughter the whole of them and give to the public a full statement of the facts. Up till the 27th November, the date of the last letter which we received from Dr. McKenzie, he had not discovered any bacilli tuberculosis in the milk. His investigations are still in progress, and we hope to receive his official report before long.

DAIRY STOCK OFFERED FOR SALE.

Seven calves from the dairy department were offered for sale with the farm stock on the 7th inst. Prof. Dean made the selection. These calves were all from the healthy-looking cows which we tested in October—two Ayrshires and two Holsteins from four cows in which the lymph produced a rise in temperature, and one Ayrshire and two Jerseys from three cows in which the lymph produced no rise in temperature. We still have all these cows; and they appear perfectly healthy. No one can raise any question about the three calves from the calves which have passed the test satisfactorily; and we (including our Veterinary Surgeon) had no doubt about the healthiness of the other four calves, for two reasons: (1) Because the dams at the time of the test in October appeared perfectly healthy, and to the present time have shown no signs of any kind of ailment; (2) and chiefly because the calves were dropped several months prior to the October test and have ever since been kept by themselves, each in a separate box stall, and fed on pure wholesome milk. Notwithstanding these facts and our judgment, as soon as the Hon. Mr. Dryden, during the progress of the sale, learned that four of the calves were from cows recently tested and condemned, he instructed Prof. Dean to state the facts fully to the buyers and inform them that they need not take the calves if they had the slightest doubt about their health and soundness. Later in the day Mr. Dryden himself saw Mr. Steacy and one of the other buyers and made a full statement of the facts. So it is not correct that Mr. Steacy had to refuse to take the heifer which he had bought.

CORRECTIONS.

Mr. Dryden never countermanded any of Dr. Reed's orders as to the isolation of animals. It is not true that Prof. Dean or Mr. Dryden refused to make a statement at the sale. No such course was suggested, and there was no reason why they should do so. And the insinuation that we have been using or selling diseased milk or butter is a slanderous falsehood, wickedly uttered, for a wicked purpose. We never used or sold any of the milk from cows that showed signs of sickness; and ever since the October test of the healthy-looking cows, we have heated their milk to a temperature sufficient to destroy all germs that might be in it.

TUBERCULOSIS.

In conclusion, I may say that tuberculosis is another name for consumption, and is no doubt in a certain sense and to some extent contagious, inasmuch as a healthy animal may take it from a diseased animal in two ways. (1) From the sputa or mouth discharge; (2) from continued close contact in breathing, just as a person may take consumption from sleeping with one that has it. This disease is wide-spread in all stock-raising countries—in England, the United States and Canada; but no great stir is made about it, because it does not spread rapidly from one animal to another, as in the case of pleuro-pneumonia, hog cholera and other highly contagious diseases. It was discovered in the Dominion herd at the Ottawa Experimental Farm last winter. The officials took all necessary precautions to prevent it from spreading; and at length, after making a number of tests, I am informed that they had to slaughter no less than 26 animals. The fact was to be regretted; but it could not be helped; and no one in this country was found mean enough to make it the basis of an attack upon the Dominion Government or the Experimental Farm officials. The case is different at Guelph, because we have here a few special correspondents who care not what damage they may do to our college or farm, provided they can manage things so as to stab the Minister of Agriculture or the President of the college.—Yours, etc.,

JAMES MILLS.

Ontario Agricultural College, December 12th, 1893.

WHITE FUR RUGS

Some of the Pretty House Furnishing Conceits of the Day.

One of the pretty conceits of the day is a boudoir carpet made entirely of white fur. Very large white fur rugs are also greatly in vogue, and are not expensive, three good-sized goat skins sewn together making a reasonably large rug. White fur rugs can be easily cleaned, and should not be allowed to remain soiled, their beauty consisting in their freshness. Those who possess a superfluity of rugs can make a charming effect by hanging them against the wall in the corner of a room, one at the head and two to three on the side.—*St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

Narrow-Minded People.

Narrow-minded people are obstructives; to their minds all good is centered in themselves or others, in what they are or what they believe. Their politics can only be right; their methods the only safe ones; their religion the only true one. Save us always from narrow-minded people, who make their own arm-chair the centre of the world; who persistently refuse to look through any other spectacles than their own; who pooh-pooh all that other people think or say.—*Good News.*

To Clean Wall Paper.

Is your wall paper smoked? Make a dough of flour and water, as stiff as light bread. Take a piece the size of a bowl and gently pass it over the surface of the wall from the top to the bottom. As the soiled dough may be worked into the lump at each stroke, it will do for a quarter of an ordinary sized room. Use until the dough becomes black. It is superior to damp bread.

When Man is Most Misera

One of the most melancholy sights in nature is a man trying to buy a Christmas present for a woman. He knows in a vague way that the present must not be a pair of suspenders or a shaving set, but when he comes to particularize the poor man lapses into perfect imbecility, and gives his sister the money and tells her to buy the present.

A Verbal Paradox.

Dibbs—English is such a funny language!

Nibbs—How so?

Dibbs—There's that young Swellers, who's owed me money for two years, and he's in the directory as a "settling clerk."

Base Ingratitude.

"Madam, have you the receipts for this pie?" said the tramp.

"Yes; would you like to have a copy of it?" replied the good woman.

"No, madam, but I should like to destroy the original," said the tramp.

"The wall-flower," remarked the philosopher, "is often the only girl in the ball-room who can cook a dinner." "Yes," responded Miss Wordling; "and the girl who dances is the only one can digest it."

The prosperity of a people is proportionate to the number of hands and minds usefully employed.

CUT THIS OUT,

Sign your name and send it with one dollar to

Dr. Samuel Ginner, Secy.-Treas. of the Anti-Prohibition Association of Ontario.

DEAR SIR,—I herewith enclose one dollar and desire my name to be enrolled a member of the Anti-Prohibition Association of Ontario. Kindly acknowledge receipt by return of mail.

Name _____

Address, Post Office and County _____

N. B. Printed matter mailed on application