

tombor 15th. All competing must send with their answers one dollar for six months' subscription to TRUTH, which will be sent to any desired address. Whosoever you live, outside Toronto, you can compete at any time between now and the closing day for either the first or middle rewards, and as well as, of course, for the consolation rewards. Some one will get those five acres of land—why not you? Look up your Bible now and see if you can find the answers to these questions. It will do you good, apart from the opportunity you have of obtaining a valuable reward in addition to TRUTH, which alone is good value for the one dollar. It consists of 28 pages of choice and pure reading matter for the home circle—something to interest every member of the family. The publisher could not afford to give these valuable rewards unless he was certain of your patronage in years to come, and you are almost certain to become life subscribers to TRUTH if you take it for six months, it is such a splendid weekly (not monthly) magazine.

SPECIAL CLUB OFFER.

If twenty-five persons join and send \$50, each one of the twenty-five whose answers are correct will get their choice of solid-rolled gold brooch, new and elegant design, worth at retail two dollars; a Chambers' Etymological Dictionary, worth about same amount; a World's Universal Encyclopedia, or a volume elegantly bound of Shakespeare's Complete Works. Of course each of the club will have the same opportunity of gaining one of the rewards in the regular list (in addition to the certainty of one of the prizes aforesaid), as though they had sent in singly. This is simply an extra inducement to clubs.

The rewards in last competition were very widely scattered over Ontario and Quebec. In fact, every province was represented in the list, not excepting British Columbia. A great many also went to the States.

No information will be given to any one beyond what has above been stated. So don't waste time by waiting, but send in your answers and money now. If you happen to be too late for the first, you may be fortunate enough to obtain a middle reward, and that is where the biggest ones are. TRUTH directs special attention to the fact that clergymen are not permitted to compete, neither are persons who in previous competitions won prizes exceeding one hundred dollars in value, and as no Torontonians are allowed to compete, the field is now open for a fair and square race for these rewards to any one, on the habitable globe, outside Toronto. No money will be received by telegraph, or in any way but through the postoffice or by express. One dollar only required. Try your skill. You are sure of good value for your money any way. Address S. Frank Wilson, TRUTH Office, 33 and 35 Adelaide street, Toronto, Canada.

Three hundred silver coins bearing the effigy of Queen Elizabeth have just been found by six men while walking on Crawshaw's Cray, Peutypridd, Wales. The coins, which were discovered concealed in a stone mountain wall, bear dates ranging from 1510 to 1666, those of the later date having inscribed the effigy of King James I., the profiles being clear and distinct. The collection has been given up to the police.

M. Rouire has identified the recently explored Wed Margell and Lake Kelbiah, in Tunis, with the ancient River Triton and Triton Gulf. Lake Kelbiah, which still communicates intermittently with the sea, between Carthage and Hammamet, (Hadrumentum,) appears to be the largest in North Africa, with a circumference of nearly 50 miles at low water and a length of 12 miles.

Not another pill shall go down my throat again, said a citizen. "When I can get such a pleasant cure for my blood ailments, such as Dr. Cassell's Blood Purifier, I never again will take any more pills. It purifies the blood, cures skin and liver troubles, and is a splendid Spring Medicine. Large bottles 50 cents.

Music and the Drama.

The Passing Show.

"This world is all a fleeting show
For man's illusion given." Moore.

DEAR TRUTH:—It was too bad of you, just when I was thinking of taking a much-needed holiday, to ask me to write you a column or so of theatrical chit-chat. But business is business, self-abnegation is the order of the day, and I sacrifice myself to the welfare of your constituency.

The theatrical season is now at hand, and there are engagements and rumors of engagements. Mr. Sheppard, of the Grand, has announced a partial programme for the coming season. It is an interesting one, so far as it goes, but there is nothing strikingly new or specially attractive about it. It is chiefly made up of re-engagements of the most popular companies of recent seasons, with, of course, a few novelties thrown in. The programme being, as I have said, a merely partial one, it is difficult to say at present how the season will pan out, but it strikes me Mr. Sheppard might have done better in the way of novelties. Meanwhile, in Kiralfy's "Excelsior" which opens Monday next, he has a first-rate attraction, and one that is sure to draw large audiences, the Kiralfys and their spectacles being well and favourably known to all Toronto theatre goers.

The most noticeable feature in the coming season, at the Grand, judging from present appearances, will be the predominance of melodrama, and the conspicuous absence of opera. Melodrama, sensation, and spectacle, with a soupçon of the legitimate, in the shape of Irving, Rhea, and Keene, will form the principal bill of fare. Opera will find its sole exponent, apparently, in the French Opera Co. of Mlle. Aimée—a brilliant, but somewhat *passer* artiste.

At the People's Theatre we have already had a taste of what we may expect. Mr. Conner has made no announcement for his coming season. He has, however, as I happen to know, made some engagements that will surprise some folks who affect to believe that "no respectable company would come to such a place." The two engagements already played at this little theatre are a sufficient answer to such cynics. The Pauline Markham Co. was as fine an all-round, as evenly balanced, and as thoroughly artistic a company as ever trod the boards of a Toronto theatre, and the John A. Stevens Co. is not altogether a stranger to the Grand Opera House stage. The company at present playing here is of a different nature—not so "high-toned," nor so artistic, but—popular; and, between ourselves, I have seen worse performances by considerably more pretentious companies. If Mr. Conner during the season provides such companies as he has already provided, neither he nor his patrons will have any reason to complain. The house has been considerably altered, improved and renovated.

In matters musical, the season will, I fear, be somewhat dull. Last season was exceptionally brilliant, and the reaction will, doubtless be felt all the more. We will, of course, have the usual concerts by our Philharmonic and Choral Societies; we may possibly have some *malines* *musicales* by some of our local artists, and we are certain to have the thousand and one concerts at which Messrs. Smith, Brown and Jones, and the Misses Jones, Brown and Smith appear with painful iteration; but, from an artistic point of view, compared with last season, the musical season of 1884-5, from present

appearances, will be a particularly dull one.

Of the New York Ideal Opera Co., now playing at the Horticultural Pavilion, I shall have somewhat to say in my next. For the present I may say that I have heard good accounts of it. It includes some admirable talent—Louise Searle, Hattie Richardson, Harry Allen, (all well known to Torontonians)—among the rest. The chorus is very large, and—a word in your ear—good looking and lively; the orchestra is good, the scenery made especially for the company, and the costumes magnificent. This, you understand, is what I hear; but I have no reason to doubt Dame Rumor in this case.

By the way, a novel attraction in connection with this Opera Co. is the production—out door of course—of the great Chicago fire in a highly realistic manner, with real fire engines, hooks and ladders, hose and reels, and fire brigade. This in itself, will doubtless prove a very "drawing card" to the Gardens during the next three weeks.

At the Summer Pavilion Miss St. Quentin and her company are still drawing fairly good houses. This bright little artist has scarcely had a fair chance since she came to Toronto; but she has worked hard and energetically, and has really done wonders with the material she had at hand. "Olivette" as now presented is by far the most satisfactory performance the company generally has given, showing careful and conscientious rehearsal and a desire all round to do their very best.

SEMPRONIUS.

Notes of the Week.

It is to be hoped the agitation in favor of a suitable music hall for Toronto will be renewed and kept up this winter. For a city of its size, increasing so steadily, such a hall is a necessity. The sooner definite steps are taken to secure one the better. Let some of our wealthy men take the initiative and show laudable zeal and public spirit in this matter.

The heart of the small boy is warmed by the sight of the Circus posters, for which he has been pinning all the summer. Better late than never is his thought, as he gazes on all the wonders so vividly portrayed in the window bills, and to be seen in all their reality in Forepaugh's famous Circus and Menagerie on the 12th and 13th prox.

Minnie Maddern has made an immense hit in "Caprice," at the New York Park Theatre, where she has just closed a two weeks engagement, the profits of which will, it is estimated, net her \$12,000. "Standing room only" has been the rule every night.

The Mustayer Comedy company has ready for production an entirely new, novel and original musical comedy called "We, Us and Co.," by the author of "The Tourists." It is a neat production, totally void of offense to the most critical taste.

Patti is to be one of the great musical attractions in America this winter. It is reported that she and Mapleson have signed an agreement, though the terms of it are not made public.

Gilbert and Sullivan will, it is said, produce a new opera simultaneously in London and New York in December. It is said to be another "Pinafore," only of a higher order.

It is said that when her suit is finished Miss Fortescue will come to America, having been secured by a well known New York manager.

Florence St. John, the well known English favorite, will be seen this side the water this season.

Mimo Theo opens at New York (Wallack's) on the 8th prox in "Madame Bonifacio."

Rhea has arrived in New York, and commences her American season Monday next.

A good offer is certainly. A better market may only be hoped.

Writes Letters in Her Sleep.

The Montreal Star tells strange stories of a young lady living a short distance from that city. It appears that within the last few months she exhibited all the symptoms of somnambulism. While apparently asleep she would rise, and, with her eyes tightly closed, could walk down stairs with perfect safety. It was found that after performing these singular feats she would return to her bed, and on awakening in the morning, could never recall the circumstances to mind. A short time ago her friends, who regard her present state with great anxiety, tried an experiment. One evening recently, when she was found walking in her sleep, a gentleman, procuring pen and paper, requested her to write a letter. She obeyed mechanically, and sitting down, wrote a note to an absent friend, correct in every respect, although her eyes at the same time were closed. A singular fact was that the writing throughout was excellent, the words being written precisely along the lines. At times she converses while in this state quite freely and correctly. Recently, though, exhibiting the same symptoms, she has kept her eyes open, which, however, only give a vacant stare. On another occasion, while starting out for a drive, she became unconscious, and the next moment revived, only to be found in her old state. She was asked to drive, and, at the bidding of a friend, took the reins. On returning home, she became herself again, and when acquainted with her strange actions, felt greatly surprised. The young lady is very prepossessing, and is about 18 years of age. About a year ago she had a serious attack of brain fever, and her medical attendant ascribes her strange conduct to that cause. She feels the position in which she is placed very keenly. Several doctors have expressed themselves as puzzled with the case, and she will be taken to Boston shortly to visit some of the lights of the medical profession there to see if any relief can be afforded her.

PEARLS OF TRUTH.

Trust a known knave and suffer thereby.

Due deliberation is half accomplishment.

The friendship of the artful is mere self-interest.

Modesty and civility are prime factors of common sense.

A fool's character only can be discovered at one interview.

The really able are not so conceited as to be above advice.

Discover your peculiar weakness, and be ever suspicious of it.

Let none overload you with the insufferable burden of favors.

Do what good you can, but leave room for promises and engagements.

Avoid many obligations. You may incur debts impossible of payment.

Happiness is not so much in absence of pain as in patience under affliction.

Endeavor to reconcile your enemy, rather than to conquer and to incite his inclination to injure you.

In our journey through life we expend much more uneasiness upon apprehension than reality.

Never ask a favor by letter. That may give your correspondent opportunity of declining handsomely.

Oh! how tired and weak I feel, I don't believe I will ever get through this Spring house-cleaning! Oh yes you will! You take a bottle or two of Dr. Cassell's Blood Purifier to purify your blood and tone up the system. It is large bottles 50 cents.

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