

CONTRASTS IN NEW YORK.

METROPOLITAN LIFE IS FULL OF LIGHTS AND SHADOWS.

The Recent Festivities of Fashion Thursday in Venice Offer by the Inexpensive...

The contrasts of metropolitan life are sometimes startling—nay, almost appalling.

But a few days ago the attention of the lovers of the poetry of motion in New York was attracted by the representation of Fashion Thursday in Venice at the Metropolitan opera house.

No pains were spared to make the affair a success. The performers were drawn from the ranks of young New York's fashionable society, and as the proceeds were to be given to the inmates of the Bahnmann hospital of New York volunteers were plentiful.



A SWEDISH QUARTET.

Seven dances, including many tableaux and the pantomimes, composed the programme. First came the Serenade, then the Mirror dance and the Rendezvous, then the Fashion dance, the Gondoliers' Surprise and final tableaux, to be followed by the Pierrot, Grecian Cymbal, Swedish, Venetian and Hungarian dances, all ending with the Indian dance.

One of the most fascinating of the dances was the Pierrot. It is performed in a great variety of fantastic movements, with advances and retreats in long lines. In one of the figures the gentlemen drop on their knees, while the ladies circle about them, clapping their hands in concert. A triple tableau in crimson light closed the performance. The ladies were all clad in pink and white. The dress, cut low and filled in with lace ruffings, was draped with wide rich sash below the waist. Each wore over her powdered hair a little Continental cocked hat. A more peculiar style of hat adopted by the gentlemen was of high conical shape in white, laced from side to side with pink and blue ribbons. This was worn with a costume combining white baggy breeches, with large buttons down the sides, and an upper garment of loose blouse shape, with wide and long flowing sleeves, closed in front with the extravagant buttons and finished with a wide ruff about the neck.



GYPSY GROUP.

The Greek cymbal dance was by far the most graceful of all. It was the only dance performed by ladies only. It is executed by twenty-four young ladies. In the dance there is a beautiful solo, which was given to the music of a Grecian melody. The dancers advanced to the music of a march, in double lines, with gauzy scarfs three yards in length held high with both hands above their heads, with ends floating backward. Each carried in addition two symbols in brass, which, as well as the scarfs, are used in the changing movements with delightful effect. A simple stately beginning, with lines advancing, meeting and retreating, and again with clashing cymbals, was quickly succeeded by involved evolutions surprisingly perfect in each novel change.

The Hungarian Gypsy dance closed the series. The costumes were varied and adorned with sequins and embroidery in gold. Each gypsy girl carried a tambourine, decorated with painted designs. The most conspicuous among them was a gypsy queen, who danced a solo with enchanting grace. The men came on the stage in dark velvet knee breeches, and wearing stockings in varied colors. The dance was a succession of brilliant, rapidly changing movements. At one point the retiring figure of the queen was followed the entire length of the stage by a long, radiant line of gypsies, with loosely flowing hair and flying, bright lined ribbons, shaking their tambourines in the air with most novel effect. One of the specially effective movements in which the men united was a wild and reckless rush around the stage, followed by a magnificent triple tableau illuminated in crimson. In another swift change the entire company gathered in a mass at the front of the stage, each with unimaginable quality of action shaking a tambourine. A multitude of movements—evolving splendid color-effects—were accomplished by these artless appearing dancers.

And now for the contrast. One bright morning, not long before the first representation of Fashion Thursday as detailed above, the New York police entered a little upper room in the tenement house, No. 17 Crosby street and saw this distressing sight: A man and a woman writhing in the agonies of death from corrosive poison, and a babe three months old terribly emaciated and too weak to cry, uttering a feeble and piteous wail. There was not a crumb of bread, not an atom of food in the room, and the dying man and wife were so emaciated by starvation that they were little better than skeletons. They were Anselm and Fanny Slotenska, Polish Jews, reduced to the last extremity of poverty, and they had taken rat poison. Little was known of them, save that they were strangers in a strange land without means and out of work, and that for a month or more past the woman had sustained life, if life it could be called, on the crusts and scraps she had picked out of waste barrels in the vicinity at night. They were not members of any of the Hebrew societies, social or benevolent, and had no relations or intimate friends; it is probable, therefore, that they were in some way socially isolated from their people and yet had too much pride to ask for charity. So they took the poison together, their bodies go to the pauper burying ground and their baby to the orphan asylum. Such is the fate, now and then, of the utterly destitute in a great city.

Will civilization ever demolish the deep shadows of modern life?

MINISTER FROM DENMARK.

Count Sponeck, Who Represents His Government at Washington.

Count Sponeck, who comes from Denmark as minister to the United States, is the son of Count W. E. C. Sponeck, who inherits large estates in that kingdom. The father was sent by the king of Denmark, with the young Prince George, when that prince was made king of Greece, to act as his confidential adviser. He remained with King George in Athens for two years.

Count W. F. Sponeck was born in Copenhagen in 1842. After being graduated at the University of Copenhagen in scientific branches, languages and the law as a profession, he traveled, and studied for awhile at Heidelberg. When the Franco-German war broke out he entered the French service as a captain in the auxiliary army and received the decoration of Chevalier of the Legion of Honor. He then entered the diplomatic service as secretary of legation at Paris, London and St. Petersburg, with occasional service in the foreign office at Copenhagen.

Count Sponeck enters upon his duties at Washington a mourner. Upon his arrival in this country he learned that while he was on the ocean his distinguished father had died.

The Surgery of Mr. Conkling's Case. A physician has given the following description of the operation recently performed on Mr. Conkling at New York: "The operation is a very delicate one, having been made over a century and a half ago with the chisel and mallet. The first martyr of this operation was the Danish surgeon, Berger, of Copenhagen, at his own request, who had an opening made into the mastoid cells, and died eleven days later from suppurative meningitis induced by the operation."

The technique of the operation is very simple. An incision is made through the soft parts over the bony prominence, just behind the ear, as shown in No. 1, about an inch and a half in length. The soft tissues are drawn aside by metal retractors to fully expose the bone, as shown in No. 2. An opening is then made through the outer layer of the bone by means of a gimlet, a drill, a trephine or a chisel, as shown in No. 3. When the spongy or cellular part of the bone is entered the operation is finished. If matter is formed it is removed by carefully washing it away with antiseptic fluid. In order to prevent its absorption and causing blood poisoning."

The Bald Knobber Chief. About a year ago certain members of the Vigilante Order of Bald Knobbers in Missouri, under their chief, David Walker, went to the house of William Edens, as they expressed it, "to have some bald knobbing fun." They were met by Edens and Charles Green; firing began, resulting in the killing of Walker's son on the one side and Edens and Green on the other.

The trial of DAVID WALKER. David Walker for the shooting of these two men has just been acquitted at Ozark, Mo., and he has been found guilty. Walker is described as a man of fine physique, 44 years of age. He was born in Kentucky, but was brought to Missouri by his parents when he was 4 years of age. When he was about 18 he joined the Union army and served in the Sixteenth Missouri cavalry with many Missourians now well known. Senator J. J. Gideon was in the same company with Walker. As a soldier Walker was brave even to the point of reckless daring, according to the (left) motto of his army comrades.

The history of the bald knobbers is well known.

Mr. G. H. Young, of Peterboro, Ont., says that his friends can testify to his being cured of indigestion, Constipation and Torpid Liver by using two and a half bottles of B. B. B. "It seems to act like magic, and I heartily recommend it" are the closing words of his letter.

Mr. David Weir, of Wroxteter, was the victim the other day of a somewhat painful accident. While engaged in cleaning out his well, his thumb got between the windlass and the rope, and the end of the thumb being torn completely off. We hope to see him leave off nursing it in a few days.

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\$2,000 WANTED AT THE TORONTO CASH STORE, BY THE FIRST OF FEBRUARY. As I have determined to hold a Grand Clearing Sale to make room for Spring Purchase. I will during the next six weeks sell at cost my large and well selected Stock of Dry Goods, consisting of Dress Goods, Trunks, Blankets, Quilts, Hats and Caps, Ready-made Clothing, Knitted Shirts and Drawers, and everything else to be found in a first-class Dry Goods establishment.

TORONTO CASH STORE. P. O'DEA, Manager. Goderich, Dec. 16, 1887. 2021.

FLOUR! FLOUR! The new full Roller Mills at Port Albert using the LATEST & BEST MACHINERY will be running about the 28th of February. Farmers cordially invited to give them a trial. CHOPPING DONE EVERY DAY. JAMES MAHAFFY, Proprietor.

CARD OF THANKS THE FIRM OF YATES & ACHESON having been dissolved by mutual consent, I beg leave to thank the customers of the late firm for past favors at their hands, and to intimate that the business will hereafter be carried on by me at the old stand. I intend to carry FULL SHELVES OF HARDWARE and in every line in which I deal I will make it my aim to have a full assortment. New goods constantly arriving, and goods not in stock ordered at short notice. The public's obedient servant, JAMES YATES, Successor to Yates & Acheson.

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