

Sothorn and Laura Keene.

While in New York and before he had made any hit, the elder Sothorn had a dispute with Laura Keene concerning some trivial affair at a rehearsal, and Miss Keene went into one of her tantrums. After the quarrel on the stage she retired to her dressing room and, still angry, sent for Sothorn and began to rate him fiercely.

"Stop, Laura—stop just a minute!" interrupted the comedian and advancing to the light deliberately turned it down.

"What do you mean by that, sir?" she demanded in a rage.

"Oh, nothing," replied Sothorn, "but you have always been so lovely to me that I can't bear to look upon your beautiful face when you are in a passion. Now, go on."—San Francisco Argonaut.

Paid 15 Cents to Hug His Wife.

The maddest man in Platte county lives at Humphreys. He attended a social, and during the evening the ladies inaugurated a hugging bee, the proceeds to go to the Sunday school. Prices were graded according to the person hugged. For instance, for hugging a young, inexperienced girl the bidder had to give up ten cents, married women brought 15 cents and widows a quarter. Well, the man was blindfolded and, giving up 15 cents, he said he would take a married woman. After he had hugged 15 cents' worth the bandage was removed from his eyes, and, lo and behold, he had been hugging his own wife! Then he kicked and wanted his 15 cents back.—Columbus (Neb.) Times.

Venezuela has an enormous territory, claiming 682,000 square miles of area. It is about as large as Alaska and Arizona.

A FEAT IN GLASS BLOWING.**The Trick Which a Russian Sprang on the Experts.**

Emperor Nicholas wished to illuminate the Alexander column in a grand style. The size of the round lamps to be used for the purpose were indicated and the glasses ordered at the manufactory, where the workmen exerted themselves in vain and almost blew the breath out of their bodies in the endeavor to obtain the desired size.

The commission must be executed, that was self evident, but how?

A great premium was offered to the one who could solve the problem. Again the human bellows toiled and puffed. Their object seemed unattainable, when at last a long bearded Russian stepped forward and declared that he could do it; he had strong lungs; he would only rinse his mouth first with a little water to refresh them.

He applied his mouth to the pipe and puffed to such purpose that the vitreous ball swelled and puffed nearly to the required dimensions, up to them, beyond them.

"Hold! Hold!" cried the lookers on. "You are doing too much. And how did you do it all?"

"The matter is simple enough," answered the long beard, "but first, where is my premium?"

And when he clutched the promised bounty he explained.

He had retained some of the water in his mouth, which had passed thence into the glowing ball and then, becoming steam, had rendered him this good service.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

Guarded Answer.

Gotrox—How would you like to be a rich man like me?

Getsnox—I'd like to be rich.—Indianapolis Journal.