

others had disappeared! I suppose they all reached home eventually, as I have not heard of any lost children; but I assure you I didn't envy him his lot. Dancing was kept up till after three, and then there was nothing left but to go home, and wonder when and what the next dance would be.

Last week we had the Grau Opera Company. They opened on Monday night with *The Isle of Champagne*, and gave, during the rest of the week, *El Capitan*, *Pinafore*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, and *The Little Tycoon*. On the whole I think *El Capitan* was the best, while *Pinafore* and *Cavalleria* were decidedly poor. The music of the last two is so well known that we notice every little mistake, to say nothing of the big ones; while if those that are not so well known have a fair amount of "go," we think they are very good. The only thing that made *Pinafore* at all passable was the fact that several members of the first contingent returned from South Africa that evening and attended the opera, so, of course, everybody was very enthusiastic, and willing to make allowances for everything. Miss Kate Michelena, the leading lady, was by far the best. She has a charming voice, is very pretty and graceful, and, which is more than I can say of most of the others, knew her lines. As to the rest of the company, there is not much to be said. The tenor had a billy-goat bleat and he chewed gum! Ye gods! What will we have next? The comedians, with one exception, were poor; in fact none of them, barring Miss Michelena, were as good as last year. Of course they were greatly handicapped on account of Miss Emmett's illness, but even taking that, and the fact that some of the company seemed to be suffering from colds, into consideration, I think they might have given us something better.

Last night, the King & Norcross Company gave "At the White Horse Tavern." Unfortunately it was such a frightfully cold night that the audience was very small. It was one of the best plays we have had for some time. It was funny from beginning to end, without being vulgar, as so many of the plays nowadays are. They were all good, from

Joseph, the hostess of the White Horse Tavern, to Piccolo, the beer boy, one of the best being Walter Huizelmann, the ideal traveller. One thing that would have made us grumble had not the play been so good, was the cold, and if the theatre itself was cold, I can't imagine what the stage could have been, as even in warm weather it is not what you would exactly call balmy.

It is too bad that this cold snap should have come now, as it interfered with the Colwood races, which were to have taken place on Saturday. I had a double dose of disappointment on account of that new frock, that, in consequence of the snow, could not see the light of day; however, if the cold only lasts we may have skating, and in that case new frocks and everything else under the sun, except ice and skates, can go to the wall.

PENELOPE.

WHERE THE TROUBLE LAY.

"Do you think you can clear him?" asked the devoted wife of the lawyer.

"I hope so, ma'am," replied the lawyer, "but I'm afraid——"

"Why, he has lived here all his life," she interrupted, "and knows everyone."

"Yes, and everyone knows him," rejoined the lawyer. "That's what worries me."

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