Following the announcement made some weeks ago that the Bennett's Theatre would open for the season on Monday, August 30, and that high class vaudeville would hold the boards again, comes the Grand's early opening on Wednesday evening next. They call it a preliminary season, to be followed by the regular opening in September, but it is one of the indications of a busy fall and winter at the James street play house. Manager Loudon has already booked a large number of attractions for the Grand, some of which are very classy indeed, and theatregoers are promised the best season which that theatre has had for two or three years, and an unusually early opening.

Of the three large theatres of the city only the Savoy has not made its announcement. Since the close of the regular season of 1908-9 last May, this theatre has been running moving pictures, and present indications are that it will be continued as a picture house indefinitely, which means for the remainder of the summer and the whole of the fall, at least, if not all winter. It has had a wonderful run of summer business, and even at the low prices has been making a nice little bit of money for the proprietors.

"TEXAS" ON WEDNESDAY.

The sale of seats will open on Monday morning for "Texas,' the attraction at the Grand next Wednesday evening. Though this play has been before the public for several years, this will be its first presentation in Hamilton, and it comes well recommended. It is in four acts, and deals with the love of Texas West, the daughter of a ranch owner, for Jack Dallam, cowboy and Texas ranger, and with the efforts made by an English ranch owner, Lord Angus Trevor, to win the girl for himself. The play is in the hands of a good company, and well staged, the entire three sets of scenery being carried for the production. It is not a lurid melodrama, but a romance of "The Virginian" order.

M'CUTCHEON'S STORY.

"Graustark," or " "A Love Behind a Throne," will be presented at the Grand next Saturday matinee and night. It was the sequel of this, known as "Beverly of Graustark," which was given here last season, and was a very pleasing performance. "Graustark," however, is said to be a better play and has met with much success, as it is by the same author as "Brewster's Millions." It tells of a romance between an American and a princess, and keeps its audience interested from start to finish. The play is beautifully staged, and presented by a company that is said to be above the average, with the result that the performance is a good one.

"THE GREAT DIVIDE."

Next week at Mountain Theatre The Summers Stock Company will offer the great American drama, "The Great Divide." This is the play in which Mr. Henry Miller and Miss Margaret Anglin scored one of their greatest triumphs. The play affords the strongest opportunities for acting of any drama before the public, and, the leading parts being in the hands of Miss Belle Stevenson and Mr. Wm. E. Blake, leaves nothing to be desired. "The Great Divide" will be given every attention as to stage settings and electrical effects, so next week's play at this popular resort will no doubt surpass any previous offering of the present summer season.

"PAID IN FULL."

In the notable cast that is now playing "Paid in Full" at the Astor Theatre in New York, and which will be seen at the Grand here shortly, the part of Emma Brooks, wife of the $18-a-week clerk, who robs his employer and then tries to throw the blame on her, is acted by Katherine Florence. Miss Florence was leading woman for William Gillette in "Sherlock Holmes," for E. H. Sothern in his production of "The Muskateers," and "The Colonial Girl"; was the Julia, the crying wife, in David Belasco's famous production of "Sweet Kitty Bellairs," and last season made an enormous hit in "The Vampire." She is said to be one of the most gifted as well as one of the most beautiful women on the stage. Her selection by the Wagenhals & Kemper Company for the special cast in "Paid in Full" was made with a view to the best portrayal of this character that the stage has seen, and Miss Florence has more than justified her choice.

GERTRU DE PERRY,
As Princess Yetive in "Graustark," which will be seen at the Grand next Saturday.

WM. E. BLAKE,
Who is playing leading roles at the Mountain Theatre with great success.

SOME SONG HITS.

Here are a few of the song punctuations that have helped make Victor Moore and Geo. M. Cohan's play, "The Talk of New York," which Messrs. Cohan & Harris will present at the Grand here shortly: "Follow Your Uncle Dudley," "Put a Little Bet Down for Me," "Mr. Burns of New Rochelle," "When We Are M-A-Double-R-I-E-D," "Burning Up the Boulevard," "Busy Little Broadway," "When a Fellow's on the Level With a Girl That's on the Square," "I Want You," "Claremont," "Under Any Old Flag at All," "Drink With Me," "Gee, Ain't I Glad That I'm Home Again," and what is predicted to be the song hit of the year, "That's Some Love." Mr. Moore will be supported by a big and efficient company, and the same identical production will be offered as used in the New York run at the Knickerbocker Theatre.

DANCE AND BE SAVED

The Cult of Joy Starts to Convert Williamsburg.

The members of the Pentecostal Union who began to convert Williamsburg on Saturday night with meetings at 160 South Eighth street, over near the Williamsburg Bridge plaza, held their first big prayer meeting last night amid much banging of drums, chair seats and piano strings, and their choral work and prayers differed from those usually herd at prayer meetings in that the union believes in dancing two steps, jigs and reels throughout the hymn singing, and in yelling with joy during exhortations to be saved.

The Rev. Kent White, husband of the founder of the religion, Alma White, preaches a religion of great joyousness and gayety.

"When you get salvation as we show it to you," he said in his sermon between dances last night, "you feel so happy and illuminated that you can turn handsprings all the way down the Milky Way."

Throughout the meetings yesterday afternoon and evening the keynote of everything was sheer joy except to backsliders. Mrs. White and her husband, aided by many of an oddly uniformed group around them in the far end of the hall, tried their utmost to convince Williamsburg that the new fangled notion that hel is no more is a myth.

"Hell is just as hot as it ever was" was the theme of all the sermons and discussions of afternoon and evening. But the Bible teaches us to sing and dance, the Pentecostal missionaries said many times last night. When the Rev. Mr. Kent came to this idea last night in the second of three evening sermons he turned to his wife to ask her to sing a hymn she had composed some time ago to prove it. The opening verse of the hymn runs:

When David was king
He used to dance and sing
In honor of the Lord, day and night;
His wife would implore
Him so not to adore,
But he had a perfect right.

When you enter a prayer meeting of the Pentecostal Union you are impressed with the general activity. On either side of the platform of the assembly hall of the Long Island Business College, where the meetings are being held, are grouped two squads of exhorters and singers, the girlers on one side and the men on the mission workers are young, and some of the girls are pretty and all are intelligent looking.

The girls dress in dark blue blouses and skirts, with a bit of white collar showing above the edge of the high blue collar of the blouse. The men wear dark blue coats on the Norfolk jacket order and dark blue baggy trousers that take on a zouave look because of the black imitation leather puttees that come almost to the knees.

The minute a hymu begins you see that here things are different. All stand still enough until the chorus is reached, all but two musicians, who are the instrumental aid to the young man at the piano. One of these performers plays the snare drum with precision and the other plays a bass drum of generous proportions. The two drummers cannot maintain their composure longer than till a line or two before the last line preceding the chorus, and they begin to awaken the echoes until you are finally convinced that the piano is an optical delusion.

With the very first line of the chorus all begin to dance wildly as they sing, but whenever two dance together it is always two men or two women, never a man and a woman. Mostly dancing is done alone. The time is very fast. First of all the singers begin to bob up and down rapidly, but as they grow more enthusiastic they branch forth into step dancing of an individual fashion. A moment later perhaps they are running wildly up and down the aisles, in and out between the chairs, around the hall close to the wall, or doing a "ladies change" in front of the rostrum, where sits the head of the union, Mrs. White. Mrs. White does not join in the dancing to any great extent because of her position, but she encourages the younger set with glad cries of encouragement.

When all are fagged out after a half hour or more of the wild jumping about the prayer meeting settles down to a more conventional manner of conducting religious services. It is lamentable that when the sadder hymns are begun and every one settles down into chairs the Williamsburg congregation straightway begins to lose interest. The shuffling of feet then as sinners who have come merely out of curiosity and now are wandering but makes it impossible to hear the sermons and soft voiced solos.

Arthur K. White, a young son of Mrs. White, who was converted to the Union when he first saw a minister of the gospel chewing tobacco, he says, was one of the first to preach last night. Despite his parents' pleading for all to be happy, young Mr. White took a gloomy view of New York and the chances of salvation for most people in the country. He claims that "The United States has too many new religions and college professors."

A bright looking young woman who had recovered her breath after dancing a long time, also took a pessimistic view of things in general and she spoke for a long time about her father, who she sand weighed 250 pounds and had got salvation.

The Rev. Mr. White was in a happier frame of mind early in his first sermon and di several dance steps when telling of turning handsprings down the Milky Way. There were sermons by almost everybody after this, and then a call was issued for anybody to come forward who wished to be prayed for.

Six men and a woman responded. Among tht men was a pale-faced youth who told of his experiences of yesterday briefly:

"I went to Coney Island," he admitted regretfully. "One look at the place convinced me that it was no locality for a minister's son, so I returned and came here, attracted by the singing. And I wish to say in conclusion that the dancing I saw here to-night was much finer than the dancing I saw at Coney Island."

Mrs. White figures that it will take about ten days of steady work to convert Williamsburg. Then, she says, she and the other missionaries are coming over to Delancey street and get to work to convert the entire east side. She and the other workers are from the West, she says, where she founded the religion in Denver on Dec. 29, 1901.

The Union now has a farm at Bound Brook, N. J., on which there are some valuable buildings. Mr. White said last night that they also have a building of importance in Denver.

"It rents for $500 a month," he said. "How did we build it? By prayer. We needed the building and just prayed it up."

OLDEST REGIMENT IN THE WORLD.

Title Belongs to the Famous Royal Scots, Also Called "Pontius Pilate's Bodyguard"—Banded in 1633.

The oldest regiment in the world—the famous Royal Scots, or "Pontius Pilate's Bodyguard"—has just returned to garrison duty in Edinburgh, its home town, after years of service in the far parts of the British empire.

This distinguished fighting force is able to trace a direct descent from those companies of bold and adventurous Scots infantry who proceeded in 1590 to France to assist Henry IV. in his wars with the Leaguers. Their services were retained by the Kings of France until the various companies were finally in 1633 formed into a regiment and the command given to Sir John Hepburn, a cadet of an old East Lothian family, who was born at Athelstaneford about 1600, says the Baltimore Sun.

The regiment was called Le Regiment d'Hebron, the nearest French pronunciation of Hepburn. From the fact that the above mentioned companies had been raised and officered by the officers of the Gens d'Armes Ecossaisses and the Garde de Corps Ecossaisses, the regiment can claim a connection with those two celebrated corps and through them with the Scottish Archers of the Guard, of whom we read in "Quentin Durward," and so back to the earliest body of Scottish soldiers to whom there is any record, "the four and twenty armed Scots in whose fidelity and valor Charles III., King of France, in 882, so confided."

In 1635 there was amalgamated with the corps the remains of the well-known Green brigade from the Swedish service, which, composed of Hepburn's, Mackay's, Lumsden's and Stargate's regiments, had served under the Lion of the North, Gustavus Adolphus.

We read in the record of the services of Mackay's regiment, "Munro's Expedition," written by Hepburn's friend and comrade, Colonel Robert Muro, that on the meeting of these two bodies of Scots soldiers "all greeted their old commander with acclamations of jay by beating the Scottish march as he approached, and the last solitary piper of Mackay's Highlanders blew long and loudly a note of welcome on the great warpipe of the north."

Munro was appointed second in command under Hepburn in the new regiment, which consisted of 154 officers and 8,162 men. Its claims to antiquity were fully recognized by the King of France, who now gave it precedence over all others in the service of France.

In connection with this claim the well-known sobriquet, of Pontius Pilate's Bodyguard was acquired by the regiment. The French regiments, especially that of Picardy, were jealous of this precedence, and on one occasion while the point was in dispute between the officers of the two regiments a Picardy officer remarked: "I suppose you will next claim to have been on duty at the crucifixion?"

"No, sir," replied an officer of Hepburn's, "for had we been on duty at the sepulchre the holy body had never left it."

This was a particularly sarcastic retort, for the sentinels of the Picardy regiment had been known to have committed the serious military offence of cleeping at their posts.

The regiment served during the campaign of 1635 with the French army in Germany, and on its retreat was placed in the position of danger as rear guard, admirably acquitting itself by turning and inflicting a heavy defeat on the imperialists near Metz.

In 1636, at the siege of Saverne, a town in Alsace, the regiment lost its first colonel. Volunteering to examine the breach after the third assault, Hepburn, with his usual coolness and temerity, approached too close, and, receiving a musket ball in the neck, was carried off by his faithful Scost, only to expire in their arms, dying as he would have wished, amid the sounds of strife, with his sword by his side, among his trusted fellow countrymen.

A letter is extant from Cardinal Richelieu expressing his great concern for the death of Colonel Hepburn. The burial took place in the magnificent old cathedral at Toul, in French Lorraine. Many years afterward a noble monument was erected above the grave by Louis XIV., bearing an epitaph to the worth of one "who so deservedly was deemed the best soldier in Christendom and conseqnently in the world."

During the English civil war the regiment was kept as far as possible from England lest Charles I. should apply for its return.

In 1652 we find the regiment serving under Turenne against the rebel Conde and taking part in barricade fighting in the streets of Paris.

Its next move was to the Netherlands, where, in 1655, in a skirmish, Colonel Lord James Douglas lost his life and was succeeded to the colonelcy by his brother, Lord George Douglas, created in 1673 Earl of Dumbarton.

Next the treaty between Louis and Cromwell caused the exiled Charles to side with Spain, and the wily Louis promptly removed the Douglas and all other Scots corps to remote garrisons.

In 1660-61, the restoration having taken place, Charles II. disbanded the old Commonwealth army, but owing to the rising of the Fifth Monarchy men he sent to France for his Douglas regiment, which request the French monarch, being at peace, was unable to refuse.

Two hundred and twenty-three years have elapsed since the Second Battalion called its first muster roll in Scoeland, at Leith, on May 13, 1686, and more than three hundred years since those companies of adventurous Scots set forth from their native land, in 1590, to seek fame and fortune on the battlefields of Europe.

TO WALK GRACEFULLY.

Low Shoes and High Heels Not the Best of Aids.

The modern girl is at her worst when she walks. Her feet are dressed in low shoes with high heels and her stride is out of all proportion to her height. Her right arm is swung vigorously back and forth, while the left one clutches a handbag and holds it at the waist line with elbow aggressive. Her chest is depressed and her head, with its marvellous adornment, is thrust forward.

The present fashion in shoes is partly responsible for the awkwardness of our girls, declares a writer in Vogue. Shoes with high heels tip the foot down, preventing the beautiful spring of the instep arch. If such shoes could be reserved for the house and girls wear well shaped walking boots out of doors they would not only be more graceful but would find more pleasure in walking—which as an exercise has much to commend it.

Three suggestions will help any one who wishes to walk gracefully and with the alertness which is characteristic of youth: the forward foot should point practically straight (the strongest position in supporting weight); the back foot should push the body forward; the chest should be high and forward. As long as we live we must hold ourselves up by muscular effort, and when we have learned the right way it soon becomes a matter of habit.

When a girl walks heavily she is always walking incorrectly and is never graceful. Girls are not altogether to blame for this, as they are told from childhood to "throw their shoulders back," which has a tendency to put the weight on the heels, a strain on the back and to throw the head forward. Instead the young should be told to throw the chest forward and the head and shoulders will take their right position.

Relaxation is the second thing necessary for grace, as well as for the nerves. But relaxation does not mean merely collapsing in a lackadaisical sort of way and being "willowy." It means having the power to control the muscles—letting those rest which are not needed for the immediate work. Motion, of course, is at the joints, and the muscles moving them may be made to act rythmically by a little practice. The body being constructed for movement responds quickly to the pendulum-like swing of the leg from the hip and the harmonious yet very slight swing of the arm. A woman's arms are stiff because her shoulders are usually tense. When the chest is active the shoulders will drop in place, and the arms should hang at the sides.

Husband—"Why don't you have Bridget shut the kitchen door? One can smell the breakfast cooking all over the house." Wife—"We leave it open on purpose. The smell is all that gets the family up."—Judge.

The most provoking thing is what a lot more straight thinking a woman can do with her heart than a man with his head.—New York Press.

Small Boy—"Mamma, was General Washington blind?" Mamma—"Of course not. Where did you bet that idea?" Small Boy—"Nurse took me to th' Old Ladies' Home to-day and showed me the portrait of a woman that he kissed."—New York Weekly.

Don't grumble if it happens to be hot. Remember that you will be burning expensive coal two months from now.—Washington Times.

"That man yonder has a shady record. You can tell as soon as you see him at work that he has something to screen in his life." "What do you think it is he has to screen?" "Mostly suburban porches."—Baltimore American.

He that is embarked with the devil must sail with him.—Dutch.

Howard—"Before marriage he said he'd go to the ends of the earth for her." Coward—"And after marriage he did it—to get away."—Life.

The father in praising the son extols himself.—Chinese.

Drill Sergeant (after three hours' drill with the new recruit)—"Right about face!" New Recruit (not moving)—"Thank goodness. I'm right about something at last."—Kansas City Journal.

Self-conquest is the greatest of victories.—Plato.

"The one thing we demand from our employes," said the head of the office force, "is correctness in figures." The applicant smoothed her hipless skirt complacently. "I have never had any complaints on that score," she replied, with a glance of assurance.—Stanford University Chaparral.

Whiteboards are being substituted for blackboards in some of the English schools.

SEEDS A CENT APIECE.

They're From Ginseng Though and Are Mighty Scarce.

Ginseng seeds are worth a cent apiece or from eighty to one hundred dollars a pound. Dried root is worth $6.25 a pound.

When first growing from the seed the ginseng plants have two forks or stalks and one leaf on each stalk. The second year it adds another leaf on each part and the third year the plant grows in three parts with three leaves on each part, and this year a seed ball forms.

This grows direct from the main stalk of the plant and from four to five inches above the foliage. The average plant, says a writer in Outing, produces from fifty to sixty seeds and sometimes goes as high as 100 seeds. Wild plants yield better than cultivated.

The fourth and fifth years one leaf is added to each stalk. The fifth year the plant is full grown, having three forks and five leaves on each stalk. It grows from one to two feet in height; some times as high as twenty-seven inches. The leaves are broad and flat, about four inches long and two inches wide when full grown with escappoled edges.

It takes five years to grow the root from seed for market and eighteen months to germinate the seed for growth. There is more cultivated root now on the market than wild. The plants are found on high, dry land in the woods and never in swampy places.

Scene from "Texas," which will open the preliminary season at the Grand next Wednesday evening.

GOOD SHORT STORIES

On the banks of the Serpentine in London, a lady and gentleman paused beside a stylishly clad nurse in bonnet and floating veil, and the lady exclaimed, looking at the children of 2 and 4 who accompanied the girl:

"What charming children. Are they not lovely, Edward?"

Edward replied that they were all that the heart of man could desire.

"Will you kiss me?" said the lady.

"They don't usually kiss people, madam," said the nurse, "but of course they will you."

The kissing ceremony completed, the woman of fashion asked:

"And whose dear children are they?" as she looked admiringly at the rosy cheeks and bright eyes of the little ones.

"Madam," said the girl in amazement, "they are your own. They know you because they have often watched you from the nursery window, as you passed to and from your carriage."—Joe Mitchell Chapple, in the National Magazine for August.

DID NOT KNOW HIS FLOCK.

(Dundee Advertiser.)

A newly appointed Scottish minister on his first Sunday of office had reason to complain of the poorness of the collection. "Mon," replied one of the elders, "they are close—vera close. But," confidentially, "the auld meenister he put three or four saxpence into the plate hissel,' just to gie them a start. Of course he took the saxpences awa' with him afterwards." The new minister tried the same plan, but the next Sunday he again had to report a dismal failure. The total collection was not only small, but he was grieved to find that his own sixpences were missing. "Ye may be a better preacher than the auld meenister," exclaimed the elder, "but if ye had half the knowledge o' the world, and o' yer ain flock in particular, ye'd ha' done what he did an' glued the sixpences to the plate."

A SHORTER WORD.

The day before Christmas Edith, aged ten, had a number of packages tied up for distribution. The doctor felt of one intended for "Uncle John"—and the rest is as the New York Sun prints it.

"That's some tobacco," said the doctor, as he fingered the package.

"How can you tell?" asked Edith.

"Because I am a good diagnostician," he replied.

Then, as Edith seemed somewhat dazed at the big word, the doctor inquired:

"Do you know what a diagnostician is?"

"Yes," she answered promptly. "It's a good guesser."

THE LABORER AND HIS HIRE.

At a recent conference in New York of foreign mission boards reference was made to the increased cost of living of missionaries home on leave, which made it harder for them to get along than if they stayed in their foreign field of labor.

"Why," said the speaker, "a missionary must travel decently, and that reminds me of a story of Mr. Spurgeon and a fellow clergyman. The two were just starting off on a railway journey, and Mr. Spurgeon's friend showed him a second class ticket.

"'See,' said he, 'what good care I take of the Lord's money.'

"'See,' said Mr. Spurgeon, bringing out a first class ticket, 'what good care I take of the Lord's servant.'"—Youth's Companion.

WANT A STANDARD LOAF.

Toronto Controllers to Ask Legislature to Fix Weight of Bread.

Toronto, Aug. 14.—In view of the opinion of the city solicitor that the city has no power to prevent bakers selling sixteen ounce loaves of bread at the price charged for twenty ounce loaves a short time ago, and has no power to demand a certain standard loaf, the Board of Control decided yesterday to apply to the Legislature for legislation in the matter. A recommendation was sent by the board to the Civic Legislation and Reception Committee that a report be made for council bearing on the question. It was agreed that a loaf should weigh either one and a half pounds or three pounds.

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Biggs—"How does she work it?"

Wiggs—"Easily enough. She tells them such funny stories they laugh till they 'split.'"—Boston Transcript.

Every cigar is apt to meet its match.