

\$25,000 FOR PLAYWRIGHT

Maurice Campbell's Offer for
a Drama for Henrietta
Crosman.

Chance for Unknown Authors,
Who Will have Two Years to
Complete Their Work.

The production of "Miss Nell" will take place at the Grand tonight.

Now let the playwright burn his midnight oil with assurance that he will be paid for his services—providing his services yield something that strikes the fancy of a certain actress. Maurice Campbell, the husband and manager of Henrietta Crosman, will pay as much as \$25,000 bonus for a play to his liking.

The offer is unprecedented, and, as a matter of fact, the offer is not exactly that. To be quite accurate, Campbell formally announces he will pay \$10,000 as a bonus for a proper vehicle, but in conversing on the subject with several dramatists yesterday, he went farther, and said:

"Practically there is no limit within reason to what I will pay if I can get just what I want. I want it understood that I will give as much or more than any one else if I get exactly the right thing. Twenty-five thousand dollars will not be too high if the goods are delivered."

CHANCE FOR AMERICAN PLAYWRIGHTS.

The offer has been made to the representatives of American and foreign playwrights and will be called to their attention further by an advertisement soon to appear. The playwright—especially the American playwright—long has complained that there is no market for his wares. Campbell's answer is the most practical sort of one. The field is an open one.

There are but few conditions to the offer and nothing like a "string" is attached to the proposition. The play must be delivered to Campbell within two years and it must be a romantic comedy. Furthermore, it must be deemed suitable by both Miss Crosman and Mr. Campbell. Those conditions fulfilled, a small fortune awaits the lucky dramatist.

The sum thus offered is a bonus. Besides the amount which may be paid, the ordinary royalties also will accrue. The proposition will be advertised in London and Paris as well as in America. Campbell prefers to get a play by a well-known author, and he particularly would like the opportunity of producing a Rostand or Sardou drama, but he does not bar unknown dramatists.

"THE PLAY'S THE THING," HE SAYS.

"The play's the thing," said Campbell yesterday. "I have a star and she has some plays, but I want something exactly suited to her. Every actress, of course, has a personality of her own. 'Miss Nell' suited Miss Crosman, and it was written by a comparatively unknown playwright. I want another like it, and for that I can afford to pay what I offer. The offer is genuine and made in good faith. Moreover, it is promulgated only after careful deliberation. I wish to be a competitor for the best in the market."

Of course, the sum mentioned is a surprisingly large one, but Campbell is quite in earnest in the matter. He realizes that "Miss Nell" in his case was a "find" for through it he was able to make Miss Crosman a recognized star, a long sought-for condition.

She does not appear to be in pressing need of plays judging from the manuscripts she either has on hand or holds options on. Besides the revival of "As You Like It," she soon will present "Joan of the Shanks" by Mrs. Evelyn Greenleaf Sutherland, who made the dramatization of "Monsieur Beaucaire." This will be produced within a month.

PLAYS IN PREPARATION.

In addition George C. Haddon, Jr., nearly has completed a new play for Miss Crosman. Mrs. W. K. Clifford, of London, has one in preparation for her, and she holds options on a new play by Gilbert Parker. J. Comyns Carr, the manager of the Lyceum Theatre in London, is negotiating with Miss Crosman about the rights of a new piece and A. E. W. Mason has given Campbell the option on his next work.

Every well known publishing firm in the city received a notice from Campbell yesterday announcing he would pay a large bonus for the rights to make dramatizations from books suitable to his purposes.

Gilbert Parker's Great Novel The
Night of Way

Just Published by the Copp, Clark Company, Limited, Toronto and For sale by C. C. Dingman.

The story opens with a court room scene. The figure there, absorbing all the interest, is — not the prisoner, but the young and brilliant criminal lawyer Charley Steele.

"Beauty" Steele, as he is at this time commonly called because of his pink complexion and foppish airs, is a riddle for his friends to read as best they may; "acquaintances" were perhaps a more correct word, for this man chooses to wear a shell of reserve which makes friendship impossible. He is intemperate, and an egomaniac, and he exaggerates his fellows

WOMAN'S WEIGH

Does not always keep pace with woman's will. There are energetic, home-loving women who by sheer force of will keep themselves going, and fancy that strength of will can take the place of strength of body. But it can't. Every day will see a loss of strength, and that loss will be indicated by a loss of weight. When the weight begins to fall below the normal it is time to ask, Why?



In general, ill health in women may be traced to those womanly diseases which sap the strength and undermine the vitality. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription dries enfeebling drains, heals inflammation and ulceration, and cures female weakness. Where the disease is marked by loss of flesh, there is a steady regaining of weight coincident with the cure which proves the renewal of health to be thorough and permanent.

"Three years ago," writes Mrs. John Graham, of 201 Plum Street (Frankford), Philadelphia, Penna. "I had a very bad attack of dyspepsia which left me with heart trouble, and also a very weak back. At times I was so bad that I did not know what to do with myself. I came to Philadelphia two years ago, and picking up one of your little books one day began to read what your 'Favorite Prescription' had done for others. I determined to try it myself. I took seven bottles, and today I am a strong, well woman, weighing 125 pounds. Have gained 25 pounds since I started to use your 'Favorite Prescription.'"

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets cleanse the bowels and stimulate the sluggish liver.

with his enigmatical phrases, his puzzling questions, his cynical philosophies, and the ever-present monologue with which he inspires confusion in the brain of the man surveyed. Many men stand in awe and admire; none can be wholly indifferent, while a few are filled with a smoldering dislike.

At present every man in this chamber of law is compelled into admiration; and one woman—one woman who was before wavering and uncertain—now is moved by the power of his oratory to make a final decision regarding certain important matters. She is tall and nobly planned, perfectly moulded, but with a heart—if she has one—thickly incased in ice. But this marvelous pleader at the bar has done, without trying, what others have striven to accomplish but failed. He has caused this statute to thrill with something like life.

The scene changes to the home of the beautiful Kathleen, and things happen which perhaps might better never have happened. Who can tell—as Charley himself would ask.

The great advocate, and the beautiful woman are married, but they prove ungenial. He becomes more than ever intemperate, and more than ever a scoffer. One day he goes to an inn to drink, and while there haughtily antagonizes the crowd, who become enraged, attack him, and leave him apparently dead. He is carried away by the man whom he defended on the charge of murder to the little village of Chaudiere, and is resuscitated. But his memory for some months is entirely gone. On recovery he cannot return to his home, for by so doing he would ruin his wife, who, believing him dead, has married again. Faced by this terrible situation the hero renounces his former life, adopts another name, and resolves to spend the remainder of his life in Chaudiere.

There he meets Rosalie Evanturel, the postmaster's daughter, a deeply religious and beautiful girl, who materially influences his destiny, and whom he would like to marry. Which woman has the right of way? The spiritual struggle is profoundly indicated, the love exquisitely described, while the development of the whole plot is a masterly achievement. Sixteen illustrations add value to this excellent work of fiction.

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FOR TORPID LIVER.
FOR CONSTIPATION.
FOR SALLLOW SKIN.
FOR THE COMPLEXION.

PREPARED BY J. C. CARTER, CHICAGO, ILL.

CURE SICK HEADACHE.

TENDED HER COW.

A Very Pleasant Story of Italy's King and His Bride.

The young King of Italy and his bride were walking a short time ago in the vicinity of a chateau in a quiet part of his kingdom where they were visiting. The afternoon being warm, her majesty became thirsty, and said she would like to get a glass of milk or water somewhere.

An old woman was taking care of a cow near by, and the King went and asked her for a little milk. Fancying that the young man was an ordinary tourist, the old peasant answered that her cow had no milk.

"But you have some water at home?" asked the King.

"Of course I have," was the reply.

"Will you be good enough to fetch me some?" continued the King.

"Yes, if you will take care of my cow until I come back," answered the old woman.

"All right," said Victor Emmanuel, and from that moment he kept his eyes on the cow.

Ten minutes later the old woman came back with a bowl of fresh water.

"How is it," asked the King, "that there are so few people here today?"

"Because they have all gone to the chateau to see the king, queen and little princess," was the reply.

"Only old women like me have been left at home, and so we'll never have the luck to see the king and his family."

"You are mistaken, my good woman," answered the King, as he handed her a new gold piece. "I am the king, and this lady is the queen."

For some moments the old peasant could not speak; then in a faltering voice she cried:

"Pardon me, your majesty, but I really had no notion that you were the king."

The royal couple tried hard to calm her, and at length succeeded; but even as they were strolling away she was still reproaching herself and saying over and over again:

"How crazy I must have been to ask the king to take care of my cow!"

Parsnips in Winter.

To a woman without a cellar, a good supply of vegetables that may be left in the garden all winter and drawn upon as needed is a boon. Among this class of roots, the parsnip is perhaps the most satisfactory for general use. Its flavor is improved by the action of the frost, and is therefore at its best when a succulent, nutty vegetable is most relished and usually highest priced in the market.

Parsnips are a fine seasoning for soups. To one quart of soup stock allow one well cleaned parsnip cut into slices, fry several slices on one another, and cut into small narrow strips; add to the stock and simmer until tender, and serve without straining. A spoonful of Chili sauce blends nicely with the flavor of the parsnips, as do also chopped parsley and onion.

To make delicious parsnip fritters boil four or five parsnips till tender, remove the skins and mash them very fine. Add to them a teaspoonful of flour, one well beaten egg, salt to taste. Make the mixture into small cakes with a spoon and fry on both sides to a delicate brown in sizzling hot butter or beef drippings. When done serve them on a napkin. Parsnips are often broiled under roast beef and served in a separate dish with the exception of a few pieces which are left to garnish the meat. Wash and scrap the parsnips, and if very large cut them across. Put them into boiling salted water and cook quickly until tender. Drain and place them in the dripping pan under roast beef, and when the meat has been removed, dust over them a little pepper and salt and let them brown nicely.

Great Fires of the United States.

Portland, Me., 1835, property loss \$15,000,000.

New York, N.Y., 1835 property loss \$20,000,000.

New York, N.Y., 1838, property loss \$10,000,000.

New York, N.Y., 1845, property loss \$8,000,000.

Pittsburg, Pa., 1845, property loss \$6,000,000.

St. Louis, Mo., 1849, property loss \$5,000,000.

San Francisco, 1851, property loss \$4,000,000.

San Francisco, Cal., second fire, 1851, property loss \$3,000,000.

Chicago, Ill., 1871, property loss \$200,000,000.

Boston, Mass., 1872, property loss \$80,000,000.

Jacksonville, Fla., 1901, property loss \$15,000,000.

Sir Henry Irving's Hint.

During Sir Henry Irving's performance of "The Merchant of Venice" at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, much annoyance was caused to frequenters of the stalls and circle boxes who did not remove their hats, with the result that the management at last decided to give the fair ones a gentle hint.

Prior to the commencement of the first act a curtain was displayed on which was painted in large letters the following: "Madam, will you kindly take off your hat, as I am sitting immediately behind you, and cannot see the stage?"

The hint was sufficient, for all hats and bonnets disappeared.

Writers as Pilferers.

A historian who has recently had access to the state records of some foreign countries says that it is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain permission to examine historical documents and letters. There can be no doubt that a certain amount of pilfering has been indulged in by writers of historical romance in search of facts for their fiction. It is a curious coincidence, that the originals of most of the documents made use of by a famous French novelist are missing from the official archives.

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Hugh McDonald



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Farm in Township of Raleigh, 50 acres. All cleared. Good houses and barn, \$3,750.

Farm in Township of Chatham, 98 acres. All cleared. New frame house. Large barn, stable, granary and drive house and other buildings, \$7,500.

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Armon Tea, mixed or black, 20c. per pound; extra value.
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