

## THEATER ON WHEELS

Vaudeville at Sixty Miles an Hour for the Traveling Public.

Scheme of Eastern Roads for the Entertainment of Passengers — Not Well Thought by Western Railway Managers.

Several of the through trains running out of New York are soon to be equipped with luxurious vaudeville cars fitted up with all the accessories of a regular theater.

This startling innovation, which marks a new era in the comforts of railroad travel, will first be tried on the Lehigh Valley system and the Nickel-Plate railroad.

The first theatrical car will be run on the Black Diamond express on April 1, 1899. One of these cars is now being built for John F. Harley, a well-known theatrical manager, who will provide the entertainments.

The various shows given will consist of vaudeville performances and concerts, the stage being too small for all but the simpler theatrical productions.

Contracts have already been signed with several railroad companies which make it possible to give these performances, charging about the same prices as are asked in the regular theaters.

The novelty of going to the theater while being whirled across the country day or night is expected to appeal strongly to the majority of travelers.

Western railroad officials do not think much of the New York innovation of vaudeville performances on through trains.

General Passenger and Ticket Agent G. H. Headford, of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, said: "The candy butchers are bad enough. Why should a greater nuisance be inflicted? Think of a vaudeville performance 200 miles long. I do not believe the west is civilized enough for that sort of thing yet."

P. S. Eustis, of the Burlington, said: "It might do on some roads. A prize fight or a turkey grab would succeed on some railroads and make money, but I don't believe many of the big roads of the west will take up this vaudeville innovation."

Other Chicago railroad magnates thought that the plan would not be feasible. With the train rushing along at 60 miles an hour considerable loss of life would result if passengers went out between the acts. Eggs also are expensive on buffet cars, and enough to throw at an ordinary low comedian would cost several dollars. Some of the more impressionable passengers might become so engrossed in the singing soubrette as to be carried past their stations. The fireman, too, might persist in whistling for crossings when the "leading heavy" is saying, "Hush! All is still."

## JOURNEYED FAR FOR A BRIDE.

Man Circles the World at the Request of His Prospective Father-in-Law.

Allen McQuary, who has just completed a circuit of the globe, in order to secure the hand and with it a fortune of \$5,000 of a young lady in Arkansas, has arrived in Lebanon, Mo., to visit his father, A. L. McQuary, pastor of the Christian church at that place. The young man left Springfield, Mo., on July 3, 1897. By the terms of the contract dictated to him by the father of the young lady, he was to start penniless and make his way honorably. He was not to beg nor leave any place until all his bills were paid. It was to travel 6,000 miles on horseback and 20,000 by water, and was to return by November 19, 1898. He completed the trip and arrived in Springfield, October 28. He underwent many hardships, worked his way as a sailor on a steamer from New Orleans to Yokohama, Japan. His vessel, the Indrani, which floated the English flag, was in sight of the battle of Manila. He sailed through the straits of Gibralter, the Mediterranean sea, the Suez canal and the Indian ocean. He reembarked in Japan June 14, 1898, on the Kinshu Maru, and arrived at Seattle, Wash., June 16. He was highly entertained while in Japan by both Americans and English. He published an account of his trip, and sold it along the way, and gave lectures and entertainments to make his expenses.

## HIGH FENCE.

Carouse Gaze of Tenants in a Five-story Flat Building in New York to Be Cut Off.

Plans have been filed with the department of buildings at New York city for a 4½-story sheet iron fence to be erected in the rear of the three-story and basement dwelling at 140 East Eighteenth street, owned by Mrs. Hannah Asiel, and occupied by herself and Jacob Asiel, her husband, who is a dealer in coal.

The reason Mrs. Asiel advances for raising this fence is the curiosity of the tenants of the five-story apartment house at 142 East Eighteenth street, which she avers is acute and painful to her.

Mrs. Asiel complains that when her husband and herself dined under their juniper trees, as they were wont to do during the hot months, the tenants in the apartment house would congregate at some or all of the 16 windows and watch the progress of the meal, to their own apparent entertainment, but to the great embarrassment of the diners.

Joined the Long-Haired Crowd.

Lord Chief Justice Russell has started British propriety by kicking off the football at the first match of the London Irish club.

## MISS ADDAMS AIDS TOLSTOI

Raises Money for the Colonization in America of a Quaker-Like Russian Sect.

Miss Jane Addams has accepted a place on the committee appointed to bring members of the Russian sect of Dhoukhoborts to this country and to Canada to establish colonies. Her interest in the movement which has monopolized the time and energy of Count Tolstoi during the last five years assumed definite form about eight months ago. It was when the admirers of Tolstoi the world over were planning to celebrate his birthday, and he asked them rather to add their influence and contributions to the movement in behalf of the persecuted sect in the far-away country. Since that time Miss Addams has been raising money in Chicago for the general fund.

The Dhoukhoborts are a sect similar to the Quakers—opposed to war and fighting. Because of their religious beliefs they have suffered persecutions, have been forced into the army, compelled to march and walk continually until they died from exhaustion or exposure.

Aylmer Maude, a disciple of Tolstoi, was engaged in business in Moscow and became interested in these people. Through his influence and energy, added to that of Tolstoi, an attempt at colonization in Canada has begun.

The czar was bombarded with petitions until he finally consented to their leaving the country. In Canada each man is to be given 160 acres of land and shed to live in until houses can be built and provisions for a time at least.

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According to the edict all of the sect who leave the country must get out within two years, and it is to hasten the exodus that the committee was appointed in Philadelphia. The members are: William Dean Howells, Jane Addams, of Hull house, Chicago; William Lloyd Garrison, of Boston; Rev. Dr. George Dana Boardman, of Philadelphia; N. O. Nelson, of St. Louis, and Bolton Hall and Ernest H. Crosby, of New York. Isaac N. Seligman is treasurer of the committee.

Gen. Gomez Wrote That He Is Sure That Congress Will Treat Cubans Fairly.

Gen. Gomez, writing to Senior Quesada, charge d'affaires of the Cuban delegation at Washington, says in part:

"I have full confidence in the solemn promises made by the congress of Washington, and for that reason I do not have any fear as to the independence of Cuba. Some time must elapse before our ideal will be realized, but after so many struggles and privations we can wait a little longer."

The military occupation by the United States is to a certain extent necessary to prepare and hurry the evacuation of the Spanish and to bring about harmony among the different factors in Cuban politics.

"During this military occupation the republican government will be organized. Its decisions will be finally accepted by all; order will reign everywhere. Those who speak now of an annexation try to satisfy their spite, propagating unfounded fears as to personal security and private property. The final success of our struggle has required destruction of property which the enemy used to its advantage, but we have never attacked individuals.

All applicants for participation in this lottery were to present themselves at a certain rendezvous either alone or chaperoned, and if the applicant suited him he would give her a number in the lottery. The lottery would come off before Christmas and the lucky one would become Mrs. Van Westerhoven. The young man sent a card to the queen as well as to other young ladies.

## WANTS A BIG LOAN.

Cuban Government Will Ask United States for \$50,000,000.

Money Is Needed to Set the Men of the Disbanded Army on Their Feet and to Get the Farms in Shape.

Capt. Justo Garcia, the son of Gen. Calixto Garcia, of the Cuban army, who was a passenger on the United States transport Berlin, which arrived from Santiago de Cuba the other day, said in an interview:

"We are being confronted by several very serious conditions. The chief one is the disbanding of our troops, and the convention now in session at Santa Cruz is trying to solve the question. This convention has one great object in view, and that is to disband the troops, which now comprise about 30,000 men, and to secure work for these men.

"The assembly proposes to appoint a commission to consult with the government officers at Washington as to the best way of disbanding. When that is accomplished, the commission will endeavor to raise a sum of money to be divided among these men, so as to reestablish their farms. To do this, it would take at least \$50,000,000. Overtures will be made to the United States to advance this sum to the Cuban government as soon as it is formed and our government will be the security. If the United States government does not care to advance such a sum, the commission will try to form a syndicate of American capitalists to advance the money.

"All the Cubans feel that the United States will give them absolute independence, but before doing that, the United States should occupy every part of the island. Personally, I believe in a government similar to that of the United States. That is the land that fought for us, and is the land we intend to favor in every way. I do not think my father would accept the presidency of the new republic. He has worked unceasingly for over 30 years to establish the freedom of Cuba, and when that has been accomplished finally and forever, he intends to take a rest."

OFFERS HIMSELF AS A PRIZE.

Man Who Proposed to Queen Wilhelmina Arranges a Novel Lottery.

The newspaper correspondent, Van Westerhoven, who was committed to an insane asylum for having approached Queen Wilhelmina at the Central railway station and having written letters to her majesty, asking for her hand in marriage, has had many strange hallucinations.

Letters have come to the police which show that Van Westerhoven believed himself to be the coveted prize of all the pretty girls of Amsterdam. To make an end of this state of things he wrote letters to business men who were blessed with marriageable daughters, in which he evolved an ingenious solution to the difficulty. He wanted to organize a lottery for his own hand.

All applicants for participation in this lottery were to present themselves at a certain rendezvous either alone or chaperoned, and if the applicant suited him he would give her a number in the lottery. The lottery would come off before Christmas and the lucky one would become Mrs. Van Westerhoven. The young man sent a card to the queen as well as to other young ladies.

FAVORS CAPITALISTS.

Special Privileges Conferred Upon New Companies in Mexico According to a New Bill.

The congress of Mexico has received a new bill from the department of encouragement of foreign interest to American investors in Mexico. It is in substance the same as the present law regulating special privileges to new companies, and provides for granting franchises for from five to ten years, according to the importance of the business and the capital invested. It is provided that companies organized under this law shall be relieved from federal taxation during the life of the privilege, and that the material required in new industries shall be imported free of duty. The old law made \$25,000 the minimum amount of capital required to enjoy those immunities, but the new law reduces the amount to \$100,000.

Judas, as described in the novel, was a rich man, holding offices of great importance under the Roman government. He possessed a peculiar power, the nature of which he himself did not understand, but which we often to-day would call mesmeric.

By means of this power he was able to influence Emperor Tiberius to appoint Pontius Pilate to the governorship of Judea. Incidentally, the interesting fact is brought out that, as developed by Dr. Hammond's researches, Pontius Pilate was a Spaniard.

Judas is described as a particularly handsome man. It is on account of Judas' love for Mary, and not for the 30 pieces of silver, that he betrays the Lord, according to the novel.

In historical accuracy the work will stand with Gen. Lew Wallace's "Ben Hur."

## A NEW NOVEL.

Hero Is Judas Iscariot and Heroine Mary Magdalene with Whom Judas Is Portrayed as in Love.

An extraordinary novel is about to be published by Dr. William A. Hammond, formerly surgeon general of the United States army. Its title is "The Son of Perdition." The hero of it is Judas Iscariot and the heroine is Mary Magdalene, whom Judas is represented as being in love.

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## Ghiberti.

Sig. Francheschi, the Italian historian, has just found in the old cemetery of the Church of Santo Croce, in Florence, the tomb of Ghiberti, the celebrated sculptor and architect. He was the designer of the famous doors of the baptistery of Florence, of which Michael Angelo said that they were "worthy of Paradise."

France's Colonial Population.

London tends to become a city of bachelors, while the country round becomes a vast encampment of families. London Levee Beds.

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