

WORLD'S FAIR THEATERS

Some of the Strange Stage Shows of Midway Plaisance.

The Picturesque Performances of the Javanese—Trouble Over the Persian Dances—Profitable Enterprises.

[Special Chicago Correspondence]

Tis a well-known fact that public interest centers nearly if not quite as much in Midway Plaisance as in the world's fair proper. And this is not to be wondered at when the numerous theatrical attractions of that wonderful and rough-fare are considered. Aside

from the myriad other spectacles these strange stage shows afford in themselves sufficient inducement to the lovers of theatricals to keep the various theaters packed almost to suffocation day and night. And it is not only the theater-going portion of the populace who visit these performances, but those as well who are not in the habit of attending the theaters of the city. This may be accounted for by the fact that such performances were never before witnessed in this part of the world.

While there are grand musical concerts, both instrumental and vocal, frequently taking place in the great halls of the fair grounds, they do not seem to detract to any appreciable extent from the popularity of the Midway shows;



JAVANESE ACTRESSES MAKING THEIR TOILET.

For the crowds that frequent the stuffy little theaters never grow smaller, and the quarters fairly pour into the ticket-office windows, while there is at all times plenty of room at the musical concerts.

There are about a dozen theaters in operation in the Plaisance. The first in order, on the right leaving the fair grounds, is that of the Javanese, in the interior of their village. Among the performers at this theater are some skillful manipulators of marionettes or puppets, which constitute an important part of their stage property. The principal features of the entertainments are the dances which are performed by the girl professionals. These dances are rendered quite interesting by the graceful movements of the shapely little women and the somewhat weird music of the queer



THE TROUBLESON PERSIAN DANCER.

Instruments which accompanies them. There is nothing in the slightest improper in these dances, which is more than can be said of the dances of the Persians and Egyptians. The dancers are comely and seem possessed of a fine sense of propriety. Their costumes are picturesque and their heads, necks and arms are loaded with odd ornaments of metal and stones or glass beads.

The next theater is that of the South Sea islanders on the opposite side of the Plaisance. Here the natives of the Samoan islands give their strange songs and dances all day long and far into the night, making but brief pauses for rest and refreshment.

Further along, on the north side of the Plaisance, we come to the Persian theater, which of late has figured prominently in the law courts. Several injunctions have been served upon the

proprietors by the world's fair officials on account of the objectionable nature of the performances of the dancing girls at this theater. The trouble continued for some time, but must have been satisfactorily settled, as the dances are still given, though perhaps in a somewhat modified form.

These dances, which have gained for the Persian theater a great deal of notoriety, are represented to be a survival of an ancient religious rite, but it is the opinion of many who have seen



SIAMESE DANCERS.

them that they are a vulgar exhibition intended only to cater to the depraved tastes of a certain element, and to draw the dollars from the pockets of the morbidly curious. In any event these exhibitions are drawing large crowds and the enterprising foreigners are reaping a rich harvest of American coin.

Further along the Plaisance are the Turkish, Chinese and other theaters, each presenting rare attractions in their respective styles. There is also a circus, giving performances by trained animals, and several cycloramas, each

A Matter of Health.
Housekeepers faintly realize the danger of an indiscriminate use of the numerous baking powders nowadays found upon every hand, and which are urged upon consumers with such persistency by peddlers and many grocers on account of the big profits made in their sale. Most of these powders are made from sharp and caustic acids and alkalies which burn and inflame the alimentary organs and cause indigestion, heartburn, diarrhetic diseases, etc. Sulphuric acid, caustic potash, burnt alum, all are used as gas-producing agents in such baking powders. Most housekeepers are aware of the painful effects produced when these chemicals are applied to the external flesh. How much more acute must be their action upon the delicate internal membranes! Yet unscrupulous manufacturers do not hesitate to use them, because they make a very low-cost powder, nor to urge the use of their powders so made, by all kinds of alluring advertisements and false representations. All the low-priced or so-called cheap baking powders, and all powders sold with a gift or prize, belong to this class.

Baking powders made from chemically pure creams of tartar and bi-carbonate of soda are among the most useful of modern culinary devices. They not only make the preparation of finer and more delicious cookery possible, but they have added to the digestibility and wholesomeness of our food. But baking powders must be composed of such pure and wholesome ingredients or they must be tabooed entirely.

Dr. Edson, Commissioner of Health of New York, in an article in the "Doctor of Hygiene," indicates that the advantages of a good baking powder and the exemption from the dangers of bad ones in which the harsh and caustic chemicals are used, are to be secured by the use of Royal Baking Powder exclusively, and he recommends this to all consumers. "The Royal," he says, "contains nothing but cream of tartar and soda refined to a chemical purity, which when combined under the influence of heat and moisture produce pure carbonate, or leavening, gas. The two materials used, cream of tartar and soda, are perfectly harmless even when eaten, but in this preparation they are combined in exact compensating weights, so that when chemical action begins between them in the dough they practically disappear, the substance of both having been taken to form carbonic acid gas." Hence it is, he says, that the Royal Baking Powder is the most perfect of all conceivable agents for leavening purposes.

It seems almost incredible that any manufacturer or dealer should urge the sale of baking powders containing injurious chemicals in place of those of a well-known, pure, and wholesome character simply for the sake of a few cents a pound greater profit; but since they do, a few words of warning seem to be necessary.

A One Volume Man.

A curious example of generous obstinacy was a stout countryman who inquired for a nice book to read—"one with a story in." On several being placed before him he examined them attentively, and picked out the middle volume of a "three-decker" with the remark: "This 'ere's my sort. What's the price?"

"Oh," was the reply, "this is only the second volume; the story goes through three—the set is half a crown."

"Hauve a crown! Well, I'll gie ye that for that one book. It's a pretty unenough."

"But won't you have the other two as well? You'd better!"

"Naw! I don't like th' beginnin' of a story; I can't get furrd wi' it. An' I don't like th' endin'; I don't know as ow it's com'd about. But in th' middle un I'm into th' thick of it right off. No, I'll only tak' th' middle un; it'll set me up for a month." And cramping the book into his pocket, he put down his half crown and disappeared with a "Good night!" before the other volumes could be given him.—Chambers' Journal.

He Was Revenged.

"Up!" shouted a man, as the elevator car dashed past the second floor.

"Curse him!" ejaculated the attendant, as he clutched the check rope and reversed the car. "It is always the same. That man never calls until I'm past the floor."

The man entered the car complacently. The elevator man slammed the door after him, gave a vigorous pull at the twisted wire strand and away shot the elevator toward the tenth story.

"Seventh!" shouted the man again, as the car approached the landing, but the elevator man stirred not a hand.

"You didn't call in time," said he "and my orders are against going back for anyone. I'm coming right down again," and with these few words he rushed the occupant up to the tenth story and back again. He had sought and found revenge.—N. Y. Herald.

Saved by a Narrow Margin.

"Been to hedge, have you, Absalom?" said Mrs. Rambo, in a metallic tone of voice.

"Yes, m'dear," replied Absalom.

"What time does the lodge usually let out?"

"About—um—about eleven o'clock."

"And what time do you think it is now?"

"Er—it's about twelve, isn't it?"

"It is half-past two. Does it take three hours and a half to come home?"

"Yes, m'dear. Lodge bodies move slowly."

And Mrs. Rambo went gaspingly upstairs to bed.—Chicago Record.

Took Him by Surprise.

"Oh, well," said a Hartford (Conn.) photographer to a pickpocket who pulled his hat down over his eyes and averted his face, "it doesn't make any difference to me whether you are photographed or not. I get paid just the same." "Is that so?" exclaimed the fellow, as he looked up in surprise. The photographer never got a better picture of a crook than the one he caught that moment.—N. Y. Times.

To the farmer, Nature's story-book is a never-ending cereal.

FOR BETTER TRADE.

Opening of the Bimetallic Convention in Missouri's Metropolis.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 4.—The pan-American bimetallic convention assembled at Armory hall at 11 o'clock Tuesday. Ex-Congressman Nathan Frank delivered the address of welcome on behalf of the city. Gov. W. J. Stone, of Missouri, performed a like service on behalf of the state. S. S. King, of Kansas, responded for the convention, expressing thanks for the welcome. Turning to the question of sectionalism and silver he declared, first, that this country was able to get along without the economic aid of any foreign nation; second, as regards silver, there was no sectionalism other than that conceived by those endeavoring to debase it, citing, as he presented this, the solid votes of the northeastern Atlantic states. As to commerce, he quoted statistics showing that the internal commerce from the Mississippi valley was greater than the combined foreign commerce of all the world. He touched upon depreciation of the money value of agricultural products by the use of the single gold standard, and in closing upon the Mississippi valley, that great empire of the west, to wake up and take its place in the economics of the country.

Gov. G. P. Tillman, of South Carolina, was chosen temporary chairman. In his address the governor took occasion to charge that the reduction in the anticipated number of delegates was due to the power of the press to smother the efforts of the masses to rise to their proper place. But with all that he dared to say that the time was coming when the west and south would join hands and win their rights, if not by agitation then by their ballots.

When the afternoon session convened the credentials committee reported an authorized convention list of 168 representing the states of Colorado, Iowa, Texas, Indiana, Montana, Kansas, South Carolina, New Mexico, Old Mexico, Arkansas and Missouri. It was decided that each state delegation at large should cast twenty votes, while all other delegates from other sources should cast their individual votes. H. C. Walters of Washington, delegate from a state whose governor refused to appoint, was given power to cast the state's entire vote of twenty, as was also J. K. Weatherford, of Oregon, for his state.

The following names were announced as the selection of the committee on permanent organization for officers of the convention:

President, Gov. L. D. Lewelling, of Kansas; vice president, M. E. Benton, of Missouri; secretary, Olinay Newell, Colorado; assistant secretaries, Samuel B. Cook, of Missouri, and W. H. Culp, of Arkansas.

Gov. Waite, of Colorado, Gov. Stone, of Missouri, and S. H. Snyder, of Kansas, escorted to the chair President Lewelling, who briefly thanked the convention, urging that the deliberations of the assemblage be carried on with care and caution, that the results desired might be accomplished without alienating those who would be friends. He then presented Mrs. Mary E. Lease, of Kansas, for whom he asked of the convention a hearing.

Mrs. Lease said that a crisis was now

on more dangerous than that which confronted the American people in 1776. With that introduction she proceeded to argue for the union of the west and south against the bondholders of the east.

At this point calls for President A. C. Fisk, of the Pan-American Bimetallic association, brought that gentleman to the floor with an address entirely statistical, in behalf of bimetalism, the Nicaragua canal and the use of the Mississippi and other rivers leading to the gulf, thereby severing relations with the east to the benefit of the west to the extent of at least \$8,000,000 on freights to Europe on flour, wheat and corn, and much more in other products.

Gen. J. B. Weaver briefly addressed the convention in favor of bimetalism in its fullest sense, and then the convention adjourned for the day.

HIS FATAL MISTAKE.

Gave the Wrong Signal and in Horror at the Result Shot Himself.

EASTON, Pa., Oct. 4.—A Lehigh Valley coal engine cut a Crane Iron company engine in two at Catassauqua. A dozen coal cars were wrecked and all travel blocked. The collision was due to Watchman Thomas Blas giving the signal to both engineers that the track was clear. He had been stationed there more than twenty years and this was his first mistake. After he saw what he had done, he went home and shot himself. John Ray, fireman on the Crane Iron company engine, died of injuries received, and Engineer Herbert James will be a cripple for life.

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CHEAP EXCURSIONS TO THE WEST.

An exceptionally favorable opportunity to visit the richest and most productive sections of the west and northwest will be afforded by the series of low-cost excursions which have been arranged by the North-Western Line. Tickets for these excursions will be sold on August 22d, September 12th and October 10th, 1883, to points in Northwestern Iowa, Western Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Manitoba, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming and Utah, and will be good for return passage within twenty days from date of sale. Stop-over privileges will be given on going trip in territory to which the ticket is valid. For further information call on or address Ticket Agents of connecting lines. Circulars giving rates and detailed information will be mailed free, upon application to W. A. Thrall, General Passenger and Ticket Agent, Chicago & North-Western Railway, Chicago.

A EXPRESS WOMAN.—"What expressive eyes you have with!" said Manchester Snaggs. "Yes," assented Snaggs with a smile. "She can express herself very vigorously with her tongue, too."—Indianapolis Journal.

NEW THROUGH SLEEPING CAR LINE. From Chicago to Seattle via the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul and Great Northern Railways, has been established and first-class sleeping cars will hereafter run daily from Chicago at 11:30 P. M., arriving at Seattle at 7:30 A. M., fourth day. This is undoubtedly the best route to reach the North Pacific Coast.

For time tables, maps and other information apply to the nearest ticket agent, or address G. H. Hafford, General Pass. Agent, C. M. & St. P. Ry., Chicago, Ill.

JANETTE. "I'm afraid you are a vain little wife. You gaze into your mirror so much." "You oughtn't to blame me for that. I haven't your advantage." "What's that?" "You can see my face without looking into a mirror."

DO NOT LEAVE PORT. Don't go on a long land journey, don't start as emigrant for the far west, if unprovided with that defender of health and conqueror of sickness, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which will defend you from sea sickness, nautical fatigue and ill health caused by travel and change of diet, and counteract malaria. Peerless is it for dyspepsia, rheumatism, liver complaint, nervousness and debility.

WHAT MAKES MR. SNAPPER SO FOND OF THE CHILDREN NEXT DOOR? Mrs. Snapper—"Because they cry most of the time." "That's a strange reason." "Oh, no, it isn't; it drives the voice of the young lady who sings in the flat above."

"I CAN HEARTILY SAY TO ANY YOUNG MAN WHO IS WANTING GOOD EMPLOYMENT, FOLLOW FOR JOHNSON & CO., FOLLOW THEIR INSTRUCTIONS AND YOU WILL SUCCEED." So writes an agent of B. F. Johnson & Co., Richmond, Va., and that's the way all of their men talk.

"YOU DON'T DOT YOUR 'I'S OR CROSS YOUR 'T'S." said Mr. Dimity to his new bookkeeper. "No, sir," was the reply. "In these hard times—er—I thought it advisable not to use any more ink than I could help, sir."—Harper's Bazaar.

W. H. GRIFFIN. Jackson, Michigan, writes: "Suffered with Catarrh for fifteen years. Hall's Catarrh Cure cured me." Sold by Druggists, 75c.

THE MAN WHO WAS OUT ON A LARK THE NIGHT BEFORE FEELS LIKE HE HAD BEEN ON A WILD-GOOSE CHASE THE NEXT MORNING.—Topeska Journal.

BERCHAM'S PILLS are proverbially known as "Worth a Guinea a box," but they are sold at 25 cents a box.

THE LATEST METHOD OF Eloping is by bicycling. In such instances it is love which makes the wheels go round.—Buffalo Express.

"IS BIRCHAM'S STILL DISCUSSING THE FINANCIAL SITUATION?" "No; he's done gone to work for a living!"—Atlanta Constitution.

DON'T NEGLECT A COUGH. Take Some Hale's Honey of Horehound and Tar Infusate. Pike's Toothache Drops Cure in one minute.