

THE STORY OF A LAUGH.

How Mr. Mann Makes Himself Up as a German Innkeeper in "The Girl from Paris."

If outraged justice should ever pursue Louis Mann because of the people he kills with laughter at the Herald Square Theatre nightly, Mr. Mann would be quite safe between the hours of 8 and 11 p. m.—except on Sundays. Justice would never recognize him in the character of the German innkeeper in "The Girl from Paris." It is the most elaborate and most completely disguising make-up seen in a New York theatre for years.

represent the fine wrinkles which are sure to form on the face of any one who regulates his existence by the theory, "It is to laugh."
"And now," said Mr. Mann, "I will put on my humorous hair."
Mr. Mann's humorous hair is the most disreputable old wig that ever saw the inside of a theatre—so disreputable that it is positively artistic. Drawn down carefully over the scalp and the front joined to the skin of the forehead with some more of the pink composition, and Mr. Mann had a tousled topknot that lived up to his nose beautifully. He looked like a man who had slept in his hair every night since his birth, before the invention of combs.
The homestretch was the longest of all. There seemed to be no end to the finishing touches. As they were applied, here and there a touch of rouge, or powder, or pencil, with a stiffening of eyebrows dragged grotesquely upward, the last vestige of the actor's proper personality vanished. With the aid of the materials and tools of his make-up box he had produced the effect of violent facial contortions, while in reality there was not the slightest strain upon the muscles of the face. When the German innkeeper's costume had been donned it would have been a smart detective that would have recognized Louis Mann.
"It is to laugh," said the actor, as he took a final look at himself. A few minutes later it was evident that the audience agreed with him.

PLAYFUL LEGISLATORS.

How They Have Tried to Make Laws for Everything from Bloomers to Barbers.

During the past year the legislators of this wide country have indulged in more vagaries than in any similar period of American history.
Senator Mallin, of New York, submitted a law prohibiting the exposure in public of any woman's legs. This would not only do away with ballets, but make it impossible to produce "As You Like It," "The Merchant of Venice" and other well-known and reputable plays.
Another lawmaker who had been scored by a Buffalo newspaper wished to institute a press censor.
The New York Senate passed Barney

BACHELORS TO BE TAXED.

Mass Meetings of Unmarried Men Held in France and Old Maids Invited to Attend.

The eye of the reformer has at last been attracted by the luxuriousness of bachelors. They offer an easy mark to the tax-maker.
There are two principal reasons why bachelors all over the world are just at present receiving the attention of the law-making power. One is the fact that bachelors as a rule have money and can be made to pay a tax. The other is that celibacy is the view of the ordinary legislator, as opposed to public policy. The interests of the State demand an increase of the population.
In half a dozen of the States during the present winter the Legislature has seri-

FEW RICH MEN IN CONGRESS.

Wealthy M. C.'s Scarce, and the Senate Is No Longer a Millionaires' Club.

There are very few rich men in the new Congress. You might sit in the press gallery of the House all day long and throw biscuits down into the legislative chamber without hitting a single individual of wealth. Millionaires are scarce as hens' teeth.
Among the new Representatives there are only two who may safely be reckoned as millionaires. One of these is Belden, of New York, who is rated at about \$10,000,000. He has just put up a hotel in the metropolis at a cost of \$1,500,000. Unlike most rich men, he knows how to spend his money, being liberally disposed and

The average Senator is to-day a poorer man than for many years. The Senate is steadily becoming less of a millionaires' club; nearly all of the men newly elected to that body are poor.
Mark Hanna is an exception, of course. Nobody knows exactly how much he is worth, but he is a millionaire several times over. Probably he spent a cool million to help Major McKinley into the Presidential chair, but evidently he considers that he has got the value of his money.
Spooner, of Wisconsin, is usually rated as a millionaire, but he resents the imputation. Only the other day he told the writer that the newspapers did him harm by so characterizing him. He was not a millionaire, and "people, seeing that he did not live like one, were disposed to conclude that he was mean, and that he must have got his million by being a miser."
One hears lots of talk about the difficulty which the poor man finds in maintaining his position as a Congressman on a paltry \$5,000 a year. Nothing could be more absurd. An election to Congress is pie to the poor man. In a majority of instances he finds himself better off than he has ever been in his life before.
There is a widespread notion to the effect that Washington is an expensive place to live in. Many Congressmen pay not more than \$10 a week for board and lodging, and a decent room with meals can be got on Capitol Hill for as little as \$7 a week. Representatives have been known to live on their mileage, saving all their salary.

THIS DOG CAN READ.

Sir John Lubbock Has Educated His Newfoundland to Know Words at Sight.

Sir John Lubbock has a dog that reads. The dog is a big Newfoundland and has been educated to this wonderful degree by Sir John himself, who claims that his dog has no more than the average intelligence and that other dogs can be taught to do likewise by a similar course of instruction.
This is what Sir John Lubbock himself says of the experiment:
"The essence of my idea was to have various words, such as 'food,' 'bone,' 'water,' 'out,' etc., printed on pieces of cardboard, and after some preliminary training, to give the dog anything for which he asked by bringing a card. I use pieces of cardboard



"MYSELF NOT SO WORSE."

"I BEGIN WITH THE NOSE."

"A FEW WRINKLES, AND MORE NOSE."

"MY HUMOROUS HAIR."

"ON THE HOME STRETCH."

"IT IS TO LAUGH."

This Shows the Various Steps in the Evolution of His Make-Up by Mr. Louis Mann in "The Girl from Paris."

The German Innkeeper is a stage freak, while Mr. Mann, as Clara Lipman, his charming wife, sees him at breakfast, is "not so worse"—Mr. Mann's own comment as he glanced at the first of the series of photographs reproduced herewith.
The task of transforming his features into those of the German innkeeper requires his presence at the theatre nightly at least two hours before the time of his entrance upon the stage. A large part of this is devoted to the building up of that travesty of a human nose that destroys Mr. Mann's last claim to beauty.
"I begin with the nose," said Mr. Mann, as he sat at his dressing table the other night. "This pink composition, which is as plastic as putty, hardens quickly, and adheres like a poor relation, is my own invention. I can do almost anything to my face with it. But still to build up this particular nose takes time, as you can see."
It took Mr. Mann a little more than half an hour. The composition was stuck on bit by bit and modeled into shape while the victim made faces at himself in the glass to judge of the effect. While waiting for different sections of his nose to harden, the actor, with a little brush, drew the short lines at a tangent with the corners of his mouth, which appear to purse up the lips in harmony with the nose. Similar lines are drawn radiating from the eyes. These

SIXTY MILES AN HOUR.

The Speed Which a Homing Pigeon Makes with a Tail Wind.

The great ambition of the fancier is to have pigeons that will fly 500 miles in the day. The performance can, it is stated, readily be done on a favorable day, and many fanciers in and about London accomplished the route from Thame, in Scotland, in July, last, the winning bird flying 501 miles, with an average velocity of 1,354 yards per minute for the entire distance. These 500-mile performances in the day are quite common in Belgium, and the distance has also been covered in America.
The rate at which the homing pigeons fly sometimes is almost incredible. With a strong tail wind birds have accomplished more than sixty miles in the hour. But even when the conditions are not favorable some of the records are remarkable. Birds are liberated in the south to fly 200 miles into the north of England, with the wind blowing at the rate of upward of a mile a minute dead against them; and yet dozens of the birds will be in their lofts under 400 minutes. If the day is such that the birds cannot see their way but have to feel it, and the wind bloweth from the quarter that is neither good for man nor beast, then the winning bird's velocity is reduced to about 700 yards per minute, and a large percentage of the liberated birds come home the same day.

Martin's law making it a crime to be found in possession of any anesthetic or similar drug. This was aimed by Mr. Martin at the wielders of "knock-out" drops, but it might easily be applied to a physician or other person engaged in a useful calling.
The prize effort in freak legislation was made by Representative Goodell, of Wayne County, Michigan. He proposed a law that all bills of fare should be printed exclusively in English. This was the result of the statesman's experience in Chicago, where he ordered half a dozen kinds of potatoes from a French menu under the impression that they were all different dishes.
Kansas has been prolific in attempted freak legislation. One law forbade the wearing of corsets and bloomers by women.
In Indiana Representative Farnsworth submitted a bill designed to prevent women from sending flowers to prisoners in jail. This was defeated by the women.
Representative Hood, of Missouri, proposed to prevent train conductors and brakemen from flirting with women passengers.
In Nebraska a law was submitted declaring football a crime. In committee an amendment was added making long hair presumptive evidence of addiction to football, whereupon the law was rejected.
Senator Kellar, of Minnesota, wished to compel all saloons to display a red illuminated sign "Danger."

ously debated a tax on bachelors. South Carolina and Kansas are two of the States where this subject has received serious consideration.
The debates in the Legislature were amusing and instructive. They brought out the remarkable fact that every member who spoke on the bills to tax bachelors took the ground that celibacy was opposed to public policy, and that it was the duty of the Legislature to encourage matrimony by every means in its power. The only opposition to taxes on bachelors was on the ground of unconstitutionality or expediency. The unmarried men were without a spokesman to stand up for their right to remain unmarried if they saw fit to do so as a measure of economy.
In France, during the present winter, the subject has received serious attention. In all probability the time is near at hand in France when an unmarried man will have to pay twice as much money in tax to the State as a married man.
The bachelors of the Department of Drome, in view of these facts, have risen up in arms. All the unmarried men of Chateau Neu-du-Rhone and the neighborhood have been invited to attend a bachelors' banquet, and a mass meeting has been called to protest against a special tax being levied against them. In the call for this meeting it was stated that "old maids" were specially requested to attend, being assured of seats of honor on the platform.

dispensing a lavish hospitality. The other plutocrat is Sprague, of Massachusetts, who is the wealthiest member of the present House. He is said to be worth at least \$15,000,000. He married the money, together with a granddaughter of the multimillionaire, William F. Weld, of Boston.
The Representatives whom Massachusetts sends to Congress are nearly always rich men. General Draper and Elijah Morse, who retired March 4, are both millionaires. The family of the former owns a whole town, called Hopdale; the latter is worth \$2,000,000, and draws an income of \$100,000 per annum from his stock polish. In the House to-day by far the wealthiest delegation is that from the Bay State. W. E. Barrett, one of its most conspicuous members, could clear up half a million dollars if required. Mr. Lovenz, of Taunton and Beacon street, is a rich manufacturer; W. S. Knox is a bank president, and John Simpkins has inherited a big fortune in gilt-edged mining stocks.
Outside of the Massachusetts delegation one may look almost in vain for rich men in the present House. Council of Scotland, Pa., has a large fortune, made in hard coal. Disenfranchising a multi-millionaire from the Whitesburg district, in the same State, went out March 4. He might have come back if he had so wished, but, as he said, it cost him \$200,000 the first time to get in Congress, and he did not consider that the game was worth the candle.

TO CALL THE DOCTOR.

It is Now Proposed That Physicians in the Country Utilize Homing Pigeons.

Thanks perhaps more than to anything else to the successful use of homing pigeons by the French Government, both in military and naval manoeuvres, there has been a general revival of interest in the subject of the possibilities of the utilization of these birds as a means of rapid communication between points that are for various reasons unconnected by the usual means of communication. The Medical Record and several of its contemporaries are urging the great benefits that medical practitioners in sparsely settled districts may derive from a carrier pigeon service. The plan is for the doctor who is hampered beyond telephone or telegraphic service, to carry one or more homing birds to the point with instructions to release the feathered messenger when his services may be required. The possibilities of the homing pigeon have never been estimated fully.

ten inches long and three inches high, placing a number of them on the floor, side by side, so that the dog has several cards to select from, each bearing a different word.
"I have now no doubt that you can distinguish between different words. For instance, when he is hungry he will bring a 'food' card time after time until he has enough, and then he lies down quietly for a nap. Again, when I am going for a walk and invite him to come, he gladly responds by picking up the 'out' card and running triumphantly with it before me to the front door.
"In the same way he knows the bone card quite well. As regards water (which I spell phonetically, so as not to confuse him unnecessarily), I keep a card always on the floor of my dressing room, and whenever he is thirsty he goes off there without any suggestion from me, and brings the card with perfect gravity. At the same time he is fond of a game, and if he is playful or excited will occasionally run about with any card. If through inadvertence he does not want, when the corresponding object is shown him, he seizes the right one. No one who has seen him look along a row of cards and select the right one can, I think, doubt that in bringing a card he feels that he is making a request, and that he can not only perfectly distinguish between one word and another, but also associate the word and the object.