

Saturday night, February 27, was marked by so much disorder that the curtain was rung down at once, and the building cleared by the police immediately afterwards. Large numbers of young men, including many students, threw oranges, paper darts, and even empty bottles on the stage, some of the actors having narrow escapes. The orchestra fled, and the disturbers installed a mock band in their place, amidst a terrific din. Several arrests were made.

In Mr. Charles Frohman's New York production of "An Englishman's Home," Mr. William Hawtreys has been engaged to play the part of old Brown.

Concerning Miss Rees, of Gisborne, a member of Mr. Allan Hamilton's new dramatic company, who opened at Easter in Sydney with "A Queen of the Night," an exchange says: "The initial appearance in Australia of Miss Rosemary Rees was auspicious. The actress has a decidedly graceful movement and charm of manner, and, in addition she possesses a sweet voice." Miss Maud Chetwynd is said to revel in the part of Kitty White. She introduces several songs and dances, and receives a demonstration for her rendering of the patriotic air, "Who's for England?"

During the last 12 months seven playwrights in France have earned over £4000 each, eight over £2000, 27 between £1000 and £2000, 28 between £500 and £1000, and of 45 others none has earned less than £200.

George Chalmers, as General Murat in "A Royal Divorce," is used to more than stage lights. He fought through the Zulu war, and took part in the heroic defence of Rorke's Drift. He bears strong testimony to the fact in the shape of several wounds.

A book of etiquette entitled "Don't Do That," by William Collier, has been issued. After a brief sketch of the way he entered on a stage life, Collier gives a series of "don'ts," which are very funny. Here are a few of his "don'ts" for actors and managers:—

"The purpose of the theatre is to hold the mirror up to Nature, but first clean the mirror, and be sure it isn't cracked."

"Don't bank too much on a good newspaper notice; just try to buy a pair of shoes with one."

And here are a few "don'ts" for the audience which have point:—

"When you buy theatre tickets don't ask, 'Can I see from there?'" a ticket-seller is not necessarily an oculist.

"Don't come late and know it all; come early and see it all."

"Don't overlook the fact that the theatre is yet to be built in which all the seats are on an aisle, and all the tickets for only five rows from the stage."

All the world was recently astounded by the sensational disclosures of the doings of certain New York society millionaires as revealed during the hearing of the now famous Harry Thaw-Stanford White trial. The principal incidents in the lives of Thaw and White have now been moulded into dramatic form, and are to be presented by the Harry Macdonald Company at the newly-renovated Queen's Theatre (Sydney) to-night.

Mrs. Brown Potter's daughter has married Mr. Stillman, the Standard Oil magnate.

The Rio de Janeiro authorities have prohibited the wearing of any form of headgear in theatres. Managers have been warned that they will be held responsible for every infraction of the rule, and fined £25 per covered head.

In one sense the mantle of the dead Boquelin sine has fallen upon Mme. Bernhardt. The great tragedienne is shortly to appear in the role of Cyrano, in Rostand's famous play, the rendering of which made Coquelin's fame immortal. Henri Bernstein, the author of "The Thief" and "Samson" has just finished "Israel" a new modern drama. Charles Frohman has the rights of the play, and Miss Constance Collier will play the lead in the American production. Bernstein is in London now studying English life in order to write a French play about English people.

Probably the most prolific dramatic writer that the world has ever known was Lope de Vega, who is credited with the

authorship of 1500 plays, besides 300 more that can best be described as sacred dramas unsuited to stage production.

The reason there are no American opera composers of renown (says the "New York Musical Courier") is very simple. They do not eat about their preparations correctly, and neglect to choose the proper place where inspiration may be found.

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Plans for the First Five Nights and Wednesday's Matinee will be Opened at Wednesday and Army's TO-MORROW (THURSDAY) MORNING.

PRICES — 6/ 4/ and 2/ No Early Doors.

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ON

FRIDAY, MAY 21st,

AND

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Programme and full particulars in Wellington Dailies.

L. G. PORTER,

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Our Illustrations

ARTHUR'S PASS TUNNEL.

MR. MURDOCH McLEAN states that work at Arthur's Pass is proceeding favourably. A large number of men are being put on widening out the Oira end, and four or five chains of widening is already completed. The block-making plant has been installed, and is working. As soon as the blocks are sufficiently set he will commence lining. Between 78ft and 80ft were driven last week, making a total length in of 41 or 42 chains. The men are perfectly satisfied with the bonus system, and last week £12 or £14 extra was divided amongst the 28 men. The electrical installation at Oira is working admirably, and there has been no hitch since starting. A good deal has been done at the Bealey, and pipes are laid to the tunnel in connection with the hydro-electric installation. The cables are on poles between the power and compressor houses. The generator and petrol wheels are in place, the compressor is fixed, and it is hoped in a fortnight to commence work heading the Bealey end of the tunnel.

SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL AT NEW PLYMOUTH.

As the years pass away and the scythes of Father Time mow in larger and yet larger circles, the little band of veterans of the wars in Taranaki dwindles smaller and smaller. A few years hence the generation of to-day will see very little in its daily life to remind it of the troublous times that the province of Taranaki once passed through. The only thing to remind them will probably be a few collections of medals that adorned the breasts of the erstwhile defenders of the province, and the memorial on Marsland Hill, unveiled by his Excellency the Governor, Lord Plunket (says the "Taranaki Herald").

Unfortunately the weather was far from perfect. Nevertheless, the historic occasion drew the public until the top of the hill was covered with a mass of people. The procession from the town was headed by the Taranaki Garrison Band, under Drum-Major Lister, followed by over 70 members of the Veterans' Association, under Captain Standish; the Taranaki Rifles, Taranaki Guards, and the School Cadets. The battalion was commanded by Lieut.-Colonel Okey, V.D., whose staff consisted of Major Malone, Quartermaster-Captain F. W. Okey, Surgeon-Captain Home, and Sergeant-Major Armitage. Chaplain-Major F. G. Evans and Chaplain-Captain S. Spencer were also in attendance. The parade states were as follows:—Taranaki Rifles (Captain Bellinger and Lieut. Lever), 33; Taranaki Guards (Captain Mills and Lieut. Beadle), 42; Cadets (in command of Major Sandford, V.D.)—Central No. 1 (Captain McIlroy) 40, Central No. 2 (Captain Bock) 39, West End (Lieut. White) 56, Fitzroy (Lieut. Bailey) 20. Major Sandford's staff consisted of Captain and Adjutant Johnston, Quartermaster-Captain Barry, and Sergeant-Major Linn.

On arrival at the top of Marsland Hill, the troops formed a hollow square facing the monument, with the vice-regal dais in the centre. Colonel Ellis acted as marshal.

Lord and Lady Plunket arrived at the monument about 2.30 p.m., and were conducted to the dais by Mr. S. Percy Smith, chairman of the Memorial Committee, and were received with the royal salute. Lady Plunket wore her uniform as Hon. Colonel of the North Canterbury Mounted Rifles.

Mr Smith, in explaining the origin of the memorial, said it was unique in the Dominion. There was none in the Do-

minion so comprehensive. There were monuments erected to regiments and to individuals, but this one commemorated the deeds of the naval and Imperial military forces, the militia and the loyal Maori. The origin of this monument was due to one man in this place, Captain Mace, who had felt that there should be a more general monument than had so far been attempted. He and others communicated with the Mayor, Mr Dockrill; a meeting was held, and officers elected. He acknowledged the herculean and honorary labours of Mr W. F. Gordon, the secretary. Having received good response to an appeal for funds, the committee decided on this monument out of a number of competitive designs. A contract was let to Mr Parkinson, of Auckland. About a year had elapsed, owing to the marble figure having to be obtained from the famed Italian quarries at Carrara; and now here was the monument. Marsland Hill would, he thought, be esteemed a very suitable place for a monument of this nature. It was the first spot which had been fortified by the British in the province. Prior to that it was the site of an old Maori pa, called Pukaka, and the hill stood some sixty or seventy feet higher than the present summit. It was beautifully terraced in these days, fortified, and palisaded. In the troublous times of the "fifties," when the Maori were fighting amongst themselves, it was feared that the more remote settlers might become embroiled in the quarrels, owing to the proximity of the fighting pas to their homesteads. Colonel Badley was sent down from Auckland, and he selected this hill as the best site for the military barracks which were to be erected. Two hundred and fifty soldiers were sent here, and they camped on the site of the present Government Buildings; another two hundred camped on the spot where the Technical School now stands. These forces, under the direction of the Royal Engineers, cut down the hill sufficiently to provide barrack room, the beauty of the hill being unavoidably sacrificed. Then followed the erection of the barracks, with its palisade pierced for guns. There had been a feeling of unrest from the days of Home Heke's war, and this gave rise to the formation of the Land League. In 1860 a Maori chieftain, who claimed ownership, sold a block of land at Waitara to the Crown. Another chief, Wi Kingi, defied him to sell, and when the surveyors went out he turned them off and fortified a position. Then followed the ten years' war. So his Excellency would see that Marsland Hill had been connected with military matters for a very great number of years. It was for years a refuge for the women and children of the settlement. Owing to the incursions of the Maoris, and their destruction of the homesteads and farms, the settlers all came into New Plymouth, and no man was allowed beyond "the lines," the safe area being marked by trenches and sod walls. And in times of danger a signal gun from Marsland Hill brought all the women and children flocking to the barracks for safety. Mr Smith then asked his Excellency to perform the unveiling ceremony.

The monument is a very handsome one, and reflects much credit on the sculptors—Messrs. W. Parkinson and Co., of Auckland.

IN IRRESPONSIBLE MANNER.

There was a young man from Savannah,
Who slipped on a vacant banana.

The words that he said
When he fell on his head
Wouldn't do for a Sunday School banana.

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