SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1905. THE MORNING ASTORIAN, ASTORIA, OREGON. 4 VERY \*

years have found their way into the houses of the wealthy and adorn the shop windows of the antique dealers are not only interesting from their rarity or association, but also in the manner in which they come into the bands of the dealer. The following story told by a dealer may illustrate this fact and tell how a priceless relic came near to being thrown away:

Some years ago, when staying in the fittle island of Guernsey, in the English channel, which for so many years was the residence of Victor Hugo during his exile from France, I was going through one of the old streets and strayed into a secondhand furniture store on the chance of finding something that might be interesting. Among several odd pieces I found the bottom of an old Chippendale dressing mirror. minus the mirror, the center of which had been hollowed out to form an inkstand.

The oddness of the piece attracted my attention and upon questioning the dealer be informed me that it was a part of a lot of rubbish that had been thrown out of Hauteville House, where Victor Hugo had lived and which is still preserved intact by his family just as he left it upon his return to France. This old house is full of costly antique treasures with which the auther loved to surround himself, and the visitor on application to the caretaker is today shown over the place and sees the table and bed used by him in his add study at the top of the house in which he wrote so many of his works and watched the shores of his beloved country, from which he thought himsolf forever an exile. This house and its treasures being

so carefully guarded by the descendants of Victor Hugo, I wondered how a piece like the inkstand could have been thrown away and besitated to believe that it really had come from where the dealer said it did, the price asked for it being but a few francs. I decided to think it over before purchasing, and in a few days called around again. Upon inquiring for the inkstand, the dealer said, with many apologies, that I was too late, and explained matters as best he could. During the summer months the Hugo famweeks, and prior to their arrival the house is thoroughly cleaned, etc. A new maid, seeing an old box, as she thought, threw it away with the rubbish, and it was sold by a junk man to the dealer. A few days after my visit to him M. Georges and Mile. Jeanne Hugo, grandchildren of the author, strolled into the same store, and, looking around, espied the inkstand. They immediately inquired as to how it came into his possession, and after telling them the particulars



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they informed him that it was an imprevised inkstand that Victor Hugo had used for many years.

"The Lost Chord."

Perhaps the most successful song of mødern times is "The Lost Chord," whose sale in Great Britain has excould 250,000 copies. The story of its composition, as told by Mr. Willeby in his "Masters of English Music," ilfustrates that in art, as in statesmantip, success came to those-

Who knew the seasons when to take Oscasion by the hand.

For nearly three weeks Arthur Sey mour Sullivan had watched by the bedsize of a dying brother. One night, when the end was not far off and his brother was sleeping, he chanced to come across some verse of Adelaide Procter's which five years before he had tried in vain to set to music.

In the silence of that night watch he read them over again and almost instantly their musical expression was conceived. A stray sheet of music for the purpose of electing directors and paper was at hand and he began to write. The music grew and he worked on, delighted to be helped while away that may properly be considered. the hours of watching. As he progressed he felt sure the music was what he had sought for and failed to find on the occasion of his first attempt to set the words. In a short time it was complete and not long after in the publisher's hands.

bonor, the man's an undertaker!"



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Nestaulaul.

December 11, 1905, at 11 o'clock a. m.

Astoria, Oregon, December 1, 1905.

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