

BILLY ARLINGTON. His Long Experience as a Showman and Minstrel.

Interesting Stories and Incidents.—Thirty Years on the Stage.

Thinking the readers of THE ASTORIAN would like to know the many and varied experiences of show life, a reporter called on Mr. Arlington (or as he is more familiarly known "Billy" Arlington) at his rooms in the Occident yesterday and found the "Merry Minstrel" willing to give the public any information that would be interesting.

"I was born in New York state," said he, "and when quite a lad I had a longing for the stage, often appearing at the different amateur entertainments. My rapid strides as an amateur soon brought me into prominence. In 1880 I was engaged by Avery Smith, a circus manager, to go to Havana, Cuba, where, with four others, we gave specialty minstrel entertainments in the ring, with great success."

"The Cubans think a great deal of the American artists, often giving valuable presents to their favorite. It is a custom of the country for the audience to come behind the stage at every intermission, much to the annoyance of the performers. The governor-general of the city sits in a box allotted to him, and by him you might say the show is run. If he desires an encore you are obliged to repeat it, and the manager not performing all he advertises."

"On my return from Havana I was engaged by George Christy the then great minstrel, playing at Niblo's on Broadway, New York. We traveled all through the South. At Charleston the minstrel band serenaded some fifteen thousand people from the veranda of the Mills house. They were having a secession convention, known only to the minstrelsy. The minstrelsy were invited to banquet given in honor of Jefferson Davis, General Beauregard, Robert E. Lee and many other noted men from Charleston. We went to Mobile and from there to New Orleans, playing at the Academy of Music, then managed by David Bidwell. The company went from there to Vicksburg and arrived at St. Louis the very day that Fort Sumner was fired on."

"On my arrival at New York the firm of Arlington, Leon, Kelly and Doniker's Minstrels were formed. We traveled all through the country, locating in Chicago in 1883. We built the Academy of Music on Washington street, remaining there four years. Immediately after the great fire of the firm of Arlington, Cotton and Kenzie's Minstrels were formed. We built the Myers Opera House. In 1875 Don Cotton and myself went to San Francisco under an eight weeks engagement to Tom Maguire at a salary of \$250 per week each. Billy Emerson, Bobby Newcomb, Cool Burgess, and Harrigan and Hart were at times members of my company."

"Did you ever appear on the lecture platform?" "Yes, I lectured for a number of years. Mine was a humorous lecture, 'Life's Problem.' In New Mexico they call them 'burros,' we call them donkeys. They are nice for children to ride, as they are perfectly harmless. I sent one to New York to my little girl and the station agent was quite 'rattled,' he not knowing what the burros were. He reported the way bill that he had a 'bureau short and a donkey over.'"

"His mosquito story." "Mosquitoes? Oh yes, they are good boarders, they 'settle their bills' every night, they are also good poker players, 'every time they draw they fill.' But St. Paul is the place for mosquitoes, a man named them, they weigh a pound—oh no my boy, I didn't say one, I said a 'good many.' They bothered me, so I couldn't get a wink of sleep, the only way I could get rid of them was to get under a mosquito net. I was in the tent, that didn't avail, they poked their bills right through the tent. I took a brick and clinched their bills on the inside of the tent. Still no use. They flew away with the tent."

"Now," said Billy, "I will tell you a mosquito story that will surprise you. 'On my return from Europe a few years ago, as I was passing the upper deck one evening or rather near sundown, I looked off to windward and saw a large black cloud, it seemed to come nearer and nearer, it turned out to be a big flock or swarm of mosquitoes. They lit on every part of the vessel and disappeared as quickly as they came, out the strangest part of my story is that when they left there was not a shred of canvas to be seen on the vessel.'"

"You don't mean to say the mosquitoes took the canvas with them?" "Well," said Billy, "I will tell you a story that I met a friend who had just come back from Europe, and he said that on the trip out a big flock or swarm of mosquitoes lit on his vessel, and over last one of them had on a pair of canvas overalls; so, you see, my boy, it must have been the same boy," and Billy laughed so loud and enjoyed it such that people thought that he was laughing at himself. "I was in the States for a number of years, and my wife states for the benefit of young mothers that it is a valuable adjunct to the nursery." It is equally so to parents traveling with children. Not only is the fluid invaluable as a deodorizer, but a few drops added to the water in bathing will remove all eruptions from the skin, chafing, etc., and greatly refresh and soothe."

Some days ago a drummer tried to sell whetstones from a quarry in Ohio to a Raleigh hardware firm. The hardware man carried the drummer up to the state museum and showed him samples of whetstones from twenty-five counties in North Carolina—all better than his."

Bucklen's Arnica Salve. THE BEST SALVE IN THE world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Ringworms, Itching, Chapped Hands, Chills, Blisters, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price, 25 cents per box. For sale by J. W. Conn.

At your request I purchased samples of the Royal Baking Powder in open market, which I examined chemically and compared with a number of others bought at the same time. The package not only contains full weight, but an excess of 2.5 per cent. I detected no impurity or adulteration, and I consider this baking powder to be uniform, pure, reliable and equal if not superior to any I have examined.

I find one pound of the Royal to contain 200 cubic inches more available Carbonic Acid gas than the best of the others.

Benny B. Banks

Chemist, Assayer and Geologist, State of California.

A DREAM. About five years ago, the town of Canton, in the eastern part of Kentucky, was thrown into great excitement by the discovery that a horrible murder had been committed. I was horrible advisedly; for no one but a fiend could have perpetrated such a revolting deed.

As far as I could learn, the particulars (I only arrived at the place a week subsequent to the discovery) were as follows: One Simeon Carruthers, a well-to-do farmer, was found literally hacked to pieces in his own yard, and with his own ax. The local authorities could discover nothing except the motive, which was theft. A coroner's jury found that death resulted from injuries inflicted by some person or persons unknown. The coroner offered a reward of \$500 for the apprehension of the murderer.

By profession I was a detective, and as business was dull in our line at the main office, I secured leave of absence, and traveled down to Canton to see if I could not be of any use. I had learned absolutely nothing after having been in the town for three weeks, and was about to give it up when I came across a trifling clue; but, as I had before discovered in my professional career, I always paid to follow up the slightest thread.

I was in the town as probable purchaser of Simeon Carruthers' estate and that gave me the best excuse to loiter about the farm and house. I have neglected to mention that his next of kin was a nephew who lived in Maryland, and had come to Kentucky after his uncle's death to claim the estate. In our business interviews concerning the purchase of the property, I had of course learned considerable of the past life of the old man. It was not an unusual history. In his earlier years he had been engaged to a young girl in Maryland, but the engagement had been broken off, he having discovered her, as he thought, in a flirtation with another. He left the state then and settled in Kentucky.

His relatives in the East heard a little or nothing from him during a long period; but within two or three months of his horrible death, he wrote to his nephew. This letter the nephew had curiously enough preserved, and in the light of the events which followed, it was singularly prophetic.

Up to this time I had preserved my incognito; but my desire to see the letter led me to disclose my identity, and beg the privilege of reading it. It was as follows: 'My Dear Nephew: A feeling of utter loneliness and despondency leads me to write you after a silence of years. But I must tell some one of a very curious dream I have had, and which has troubled me strangely. Being a man who has never been subject to any nervous disorder, I can scarcely account for it, unless old age is creeping on apace, and making me fanciful. I dreamed that I had sat up late one night, and had called for my chair. Suddenly I awoke to find a man standing beside me. I noticed him closely, and he was a large fellow, weighing not less than two hundred pounds. I noticed particularly that the third finger of his left hand was missing, and a scar ran across the bridge of his nose; his other features were indistinct. I made up my mind instantly that his presence was robbery, as I had drawn a large sum of money from the bank in Louisville several days previous, intending to buy a large lot of stock. (All this I dreamed, mind you, even to going to the bank and drawing the money.) The stranger lifted one of my own axes, and bringing it down with full force completely severed my right hand from the wrist. I awoke with a start to find that I had fallen out of bed and struck my head violently.

I went no further, but my mind was made up. If this peculiar dream was verified in one particular, namely, the tragic death of the writer, it might be investigated in others. Upon further investigation I found that Carruthers had been in Louisville four days prior to his death and drawn all his cash from the bank—about \$2,300. This was ample to tempt the cupidity of the ordinary assasin.

To make a long story short, I discovered that the paying-teller had noticed, directly behind Mr. Carruthers when he drew his money, a man who, the moment Carruthers turned aside to count it, presented a \$10 bill with the request to have it changed. The noticeable feature of this man was an ugly scar across the bridge of his nose. 'Verily,' thought I, 'if I can catch the man of the scarred nose he will swing.'

But after getting thus far in the case all my luck seemed to desert me. For weeks I vainly searched for that man. I was in despair and at last gave up all hope of ever ferreting out the case, concluding to go to St. Louis on a job I had there.

Having plenty of time on my hands, I made my way leisurely to Cincinnati, and took passage on one of the steamboats for Memphis. I was playing cards with a long choice spirit when the boat stopped at a small landing, and several passengers came on board. One of them almost immediately found his way to the card-players and joined in the game. I did not notice the man closely when he sat down, but he had not been playing long before I saw that his slouch had been pulled down far over his eyes, as if to shield them from the light. Another peculiarity was that he never by any chance picked up his cards with his left hand.

I was instantly on the alert. As fortune would have it, he played a losing game; but he lost hundred after hundred without a murmur, and

with a kind of Indian stoicism, until every dollar he had was swept; then he gasped as he pushed his hat back on his head and threw his hands on the table. 'All for nothing!' The instant his hat went back I recognized my man, for there was the scar; and as his hand went down, the left one showed a missing finger. It was only the work of a moment to secure him by handcuffs. He made no resistance, but, of course, my summary method of dealing aroused the other men. They calmed down quickly, however, when I showed them my badge and told them I had arrested a murderer.

At the sound of this ugly word the man sprang fiercely to his feet and demanded to know who dared hind him that. I answered him quietly, and to make assurance doubly sure, told him the story of the murder as I imagined it to have been done. At the end of my recital he was a self-complacent man, the Great Heavens of preparation stood out on his hands and forehead, and his first question was: 'Did you see me?'

That was sufficient evidence, supported by the testimony of the three men who had heard the question. He afterward made a confession which tallied so closely with the dream of Mr. Carruthers that it has made me a firm believer in visions. The money which was won of the murderer was the same he had stolen, and we therefore returned it to the heir. I received my \$500, but have always considered it as lucky money, and have kept it undisturbed.

SOCIETY MEETINGS. Ocean Encampment, No. 13, I. O. O. F. REGULAR MEETINGS OF OCEAN ENCAMPMENT, No. 13, I. O. O. F., at the Lodge, No. 13, I. O. O. F., at 7 o'clock P. M., on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. Sojourning brethren cordially invited.

Scandinavian Benevolent Society. REGULAR MEETINGS OF THIS SOCIETY, at the hall, No. 13, I. O. O. F., at 8 o'clock P. M., on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. By order of C. P. A. A. SMITH, K. of R. and S.

Astoria Lodge No. 6, K. of P. REGULAR MEETINGS EVERY WEDNESDAY, at the hall, No. 6, K. of P., at 7 o'clock P. M., on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. Sojourning brethren cordially invited.

Astoria Building and Loan Association. THE REGULAR MEETINGS OF THIS Association are held at 7 P. M., on the first Wednesday of each month. Office on Genevieve street, south of the Commercial.

Common Council. REGULAR MEETINGS, SECOND AND FOURTH TUESDAY EVENINGS OF EACH MONTH, at the City Hall, at 7 o'clock P. M.

The Law and Abstract Office. C. R. THOMPSON. ONE DOOR EAST OF DEMENT'S DRUG STORE. A complete set of Abstract Books for the entire county always kept posted to date. Special attention given to practice in the U. S. Land Office, and the examination of land titles.

H. EKSTROM, Practical Watchmaker, ASTORIA, OR. A fine line of Gold and Silver Watches, Solid Gold and Plated Jewelry, Clocks, etc., at reasonable prices. Repairing Promptly Done. Opposite Cross's Gallery.

ASTORIA TRANSFER CO. AND Livery Stables. Conveyances of any kind, on short notice. Transferring Baggage, a specialty. Telephone No. 12. H. W. SHERMAN & CO.

Your Money's Worth. IS WHAT YOU GET AT Foard & Stokes. Groceries and Provisions. Everything in a First-Class Store and at Extremely Low Figures. Goods Delivered all over Town. The Highest Price Paid for Junk. FOARD & STOKES.

Parker & Hanson. SUCCESSORS TO C. L. PARKER, DEALERS IN GENERAL MERCHANDISE. New Goods Arriving Every Steamer THIS WEEK. Dress - Goods. The Old Stand - Astoria Oregon.

Morgan & Sherman GROCERS. And Dealers in Cannery Supplies! Special Attention Given to Filling of Orders. A FULL LINE CARRIED. And Supplies furnished at Satisfaction Terms. Purchases delivered in any part of the City. Office and Warehouse in Hume's New Building on Water Street. P. O. Box 153. Telephone No. 57. ASTORIA, OREGON.

J. B. Wyatt, DEALERS IN Hardware and Ship Chandlery. Pure Oil, Bright Varnish, Binnacle Oil, Cotton Canvas, Heavy Sail Twine, Lard Oil, Wrought Iron Spikes, Galvanized Cut Nails. Agricultural Implements, Sewing Machines, Paints, Oils, Groceries, Etc.

John C. Dement, DRUGGIST. Successor to W. E. Dement & Co. Carries Complete Stocks of Drugs and Druggists' Sundries. Prescriptions Carefully Compounded. Agent for Mexican Salve and Norwegian Pile Cure.

AUCTION AND COMMISSION HOUSE. MARTIN OLSEN, Successor to E. C. Holden. The oldest established Commission House in Oregon. Goods of all kinds sold on commission. Auction Sales Every Saturday. General Repairing, Jobbing and Upholstering done. Fine stock of Furniture on hand. When you want Bargains in Household Goods go to MARTIN OLSEN.

Thompson & Ross. Carry a Full Line of Choice Staple and Fancy Groceries. Give Us a Call and Be Convinced. ALLEN & SIMPSON, DEALERS IN Wall Paper and Oil Paintings. Sign Writer, Grainer and Ornamental Painter. Cor. Cass and Jefferson Sts., Astoria.

Disolution of Partnership. THE BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP HERE before existing between E. N. Combs and Geo. Richardson, is this day dissolved by mutual consent. Geo. Richardson retiring from the firm. The business will be continued by E. N. Combs, who assumes all liabilities and will collect all debts due the late firm. GEO. RICHARDSON. Astoria, Or., April 4th, '08.

H. W. Strickler, M. D. DEALER IN Pure Drugs, Toilet Articles, Etc. Prescription Clerk speaks four different languages. General practice of Medicine attended to by the Doctor. Second Street, near Postoffice.

C. P. Upshur, Shipping and Commission Merchant. Main St. Wharf, Astoria, Oregon. SPECIALITIES: Cannery Supplies. Barbour's Salmon Net Twines. NEPTUNE Brand Salmon Twine. WOODBERRY Cotton Lines and Twines. SEINES and NETTING. Of all Description Furnished at Factory Prices.

FIRE INSURANCE. Selected in First Class Companies, Representing \$13,000,000. PHOENIX, Hartford, CIGNA, HOME, New York. Agency Pacific Express and Wells, Fargo & Co.

Carnahan & Co. SUCCESSORS TO I. W. CASE. IMPORTERS AND WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN GENERAL MERCHANDISE. Corner Commercial and Cass streets. ASTORIA, OREGON.

E. P. NOONAN & CO. (Successors to) J. P. HYNES, DEALERS IN Groceries & Produce. Water Street, Astoria, Oregon. TELEPHONE NO. 7. P. O. BOX 250.

DIAMOND PALACE. GUSTAV HANSEN, Prop'r. A Large and Well Selected Stock of Fine Diamonds & Jewelry. At Extremely Low Prices. All Goods Bought in this Establishment Warranted Genuine. Watches and Clocks Repairing & SPECIALTY. Corner Cass and Superior Streets.

I. W. Case, BANKER. Transacts a General Banking Business. Drafts drawn, available in any part of the U. S. and Europe, and on Hong Kong, China, India, Japan, etc. P. O. Box 153. Telephone No. 57. One-Third Floor, Commercial Building, Astoria, Oregon.

Wilson & Fisher. Ship Chandlery, HEAVY AND SHELF HARDWARE. FARM IMPLEMENTS, Paints, Oils, and Varnish. LOGGERS' SUPPLIES. PROVISIONS AND MILL FEED. AGENTS FOR SALEM PATENT ROLLER MILLS. PORTLAND ROLLER MILLS. FAIRBANKS' SCALES. ASTORIA, OREGON.

Marshall & Co., Salmon Net Twines. MANUFACTURED BY GEO. A. CLARK & BROS., NEW JERSEY. For Sale by D. SMITH, Agent, Office at Wherry & Co's.

S. ARNDT & FERCHEN. ASTORIA, OREGON. The Pioneer Machine Shop. BLACKSMITH and Boiler Shop. All kinds of ENGINE, CANNERY, STEAMBOAT WORK. Promptly attended to. Especially made of repairing CANNERY DIES. FOOT OF LAFAYETTE STREET.

BOOTS AND SHOES! Of Best Quality, and at LOWEST PRICES. AT THE SIGN OF THE GOLDEN SHOE. JOHN HAHN. A. A. CLEVELAND, Prop'r. Good Bread, Cake and Pastry. None but the Best Materials Used. Satisfaction Guaranteed Customers. Bread delivered in any part of the city.

H. W. Strickler, M. D. DEALER IN Pure Drugs, Toilet Articles, Etc. Prescription Clerk speaks four different languages. General practice of Medicine attended to by the Doctor. Second Street, near Postoffice.

I prescribe and fully endorse Big G as the best and most reliable of all the eye medicines. G. E. INGRAM, M. D., Astoria, Or. We have sold Big G for many years, and it has given us the best of satisfaction. D. H. DYER & CO., Chicago, Ill. Sold by J. W. Conn, Astoria, Ore.

W. L. HELENHART, Real Estate Broker. I have been a resident in Astoria since 1873, and handle only such properties as will bear recommendation. OFFICE ON THIRD ST., Opp. Odd Fellow's Building.

Look at the Bargains. \$11,000 Will buy 4 Lots on Street Car line, near U. P. Wharf. \$1,500 Will buy a Good Residence Lot, 30x150 feet. \$3,500 Will buy good Business Corner on Street Car line, 50x150. \$1,100 Will buy 100 Acres of Land, One Quarter Mile from Columbia Riv. \$3,000 Good Business Corner on Street Car line, 50x150. \$1,000 Will buy 90 Acres of Tide Land, with house. \$3,000 Good Business Lot on Street Car line, 50x125. \$400 Will buy 80 Acres of Tide Land; good location. \$2,000 Will buy a Block in Williamsport. \$475 Will buy good Corner Lot in Olney's Astoria, 50x150. \$2,000 Business Lot, One-Half Block from Street Car, 50x150. \$225 to \$250 will buy Lots in Block No. 76, Shilby's Astoria. \$2,100 Will buy 250 Acres of Land with house. \$175 Will buy 25 Acres of good Tide Land, good location.

For Particulars Call at the Office of D. H. WELCH & CO.

KEEP YOUR EYE ON NEW ASTORIA! LOTS FOR SALE BY Fitzgerald & Carney.

Lots in Case's Astoria Are Now on Sale AT THE OFFICE OF THE Astoria Real Estate Co. PRICES FROM \$150 TO \$250 EACH. TERMS—One-Half Cash; the Balance in Six and Twelve Months.

Stockton & Welch, Real Estate Brokers, AND EMPLOYMENT OFFICE. City, Suburban and Acreage Property For Sale. MAIN ST., ASTORIA, OR., P. O. Box 511. No curstome brokers employed here.

SILVERMAN & THORNBURG, DEALERS IN General Merchandise. A SPECIALTY MADE OF COUNTRY PRODUCE. We pay the highest cash price for country produce, and guarantee square dealing. We will receive orders for potatoes, butter and eggs at lowest market rates. Orders from any quarter will receive prompt attention. SKAMOKAWA, WASHINGTON.

FRED SAIZ, Saddles and Harness. A LARGE STOCK TO SELECT FROM. GOODS AT SAN FRANCISCO PRICES. I make a specialty of good work and guarantee satisfaction. At the Old Stand, West Side Olney Street, Near Wilson & Fisher's. ASTORIA, OREGON.

SEALAND. The terminus of the Hwaco and Shoswater Bay Railroad. THE GREAT-EST SUMMER RESORT ON THE NORTHWEST COAST. Lies at the head of the Bay, at deep water, and only twelve miles from the bar. The coming County Seat and Commercial Metropolis of Pacific country. Now laid out. Lots on the market from \$500 and up. For particulars and full information, call on or address B. A. SEABORG, Ilwaco, Wash.

FLYNN, The Tailor. —KEEPS IN STOCK THE— Finest Woolen Goods for Suitings. All the Latest Styles. He buys for Cash at Eastern Prices. He guarantees the Best Workmanship on a Garment. Call and see yourself. 343 1/2 B. ST., ASTORIA, OR.

Republican Convention. A REPUBLICAN COUNTY CONVENTION for Clatsop county, state of Oregon, is hereby called to meet at Astoria, Oregon, on Wednesday, April 29th, 1908, to elect seven delegates to the Republican state convention, and to transact such other business as may come before the meeting. The convention will consist of five delegates apportioned among the several precincts as follows, being one delegate at large and one delegate additional for each twenty votes and fraction thereof cast for Hon. Binger Hermann for congressman at the general election held in 1907: Astoria Precinct..... 28 Bear Creek..... 2 Knappa..... 2 Westport..... 2 Seaside..... 2 Clifton..... 2 John Bars..... 2 Young's River..... 2 Fish Hawk..... 2 Lewis & Clark..... 2 Mishawaka..... 2 Vesper..... 2 Total..... 71 W. L. ROBB, Chairman Republican County Committee.

INSURANCE. Fire and Marine and Life. VAN DUSEN & CO., Ag'ts, ASTORIA, OR. Of the Following Reliable Foreign and Home Companies: Liverpool and London and Globe, North British and Mercantile, Scottish Union and National, Hartford of Connecticut, Commercial of California, London and Lancashire of Liverpool, Commercial Union of London, Guardian of London, Northwest of Portland, Mutual Life of New York. Prompt, Liberal Adjustments Guaranteed.

I. W. CASE Insurance Agent. REPRESENTING: California Marine Ins. Co., S. F. Columbia Fire and Marine Ins. Co., Portland. Home Mutual Insurance Co., S. F. Phoenix of London. Imperial of London. Robb & Parker, Fire and Marine Insurance. With an Aggregate Capital of \$70,000,000. IMPERIAL of London. CALIFORNIA of California. CONNECTICUT of Hartford. OAKLAND HOME of Oakland. LION of London. FIREMAN'S FUND of California. QUEEN of London.