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Moro, Sherman County, Oregon, Friday, Dec. 11, 1908

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 Expert men always at hand to attend to repair work and the upkeep of a machine generally. Located opposite Moody warehouse, brick building and cheap insurance.

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**City Dray**  
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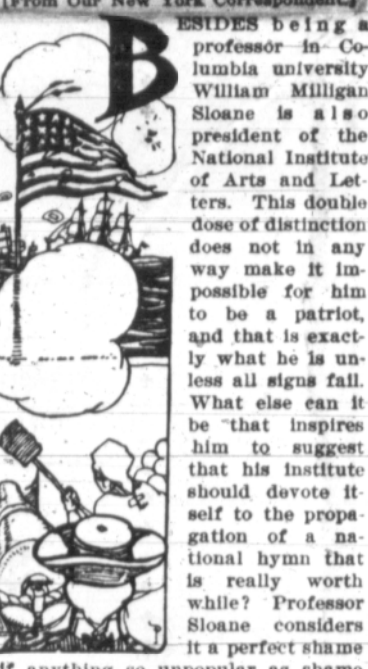
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## New York In Chiaro Oscuro.

A Plea for a National Hymn—How to Become a Philanthropist at Little Expense—Italian Opera.



Until recently I had been wondering how it happened that the bottom still refrained from dropping out of that cheerful American industry known in Gotham as the "Eyetalian opera." Strange that it shouldn't have occurred to me that the market for this commodity is growing up right here in our midst. Although the subscriptions of those who take their season of grand opera as they take a course at Carlsbad or the gold cure are still solicited by the managers, the time is approaching when they will not be indispensable. That will be when the Italian colony in New York surpasses in point of numbers the population of La Scala. Measured by the tide of immigration of the last few years it will come within the present generation. Now, the Sicilian as he is found in Gotham is not as black as his skin would seem to indicate. He is apparently of simple construction, demanding little and getting less. Most things he can do without and does, but there is one thing which he cannot and will not try to deny himself—grand opera of the home brand. He does not regard it as a luxury; for him it is a necessity. That is what makes Italian opera such a good business in New York that its two foremost promoters, Giulio Gatti-Casazza and Cleofonte Campanella, are employed by our rival opera houses to boom it for all it is worth.

Worst of all, other countries not half so worthy of a splendid national anthem as this have good ones, so good, indeed, that we use them for hymns in our churches and in our schools. Russia and Austria, for example. Up to date neither "Dixie" nor "Yankee Doodle" has been accorded a place in foreign hymnals, and the lack of reciprocity is galling. Professor Sloane deserves well of his countrymen and all that he can get besides.

I have been feeling rather deeply on this subject, and it is possible that it may have interested my ordinary conversation somewhat too perceptibly.

Last night at the play I met Jacobus Damm—who, after all, cannot be held entirely responsible for the Knickerbocker blood he is reputed to contain—and I spoke of the awful paucity of our national songs.

"It seems to me," I said, "it puts a damper on Sloane's deserving well of his countrymen."

"If we need it so much, why in the locality mentioned by me?" Mr. Damm is now a matter of grave theological dispute, and he will be given the benefit of the doubt.

"Austria had its Joseph Haydn, Russia its Anton Rubinstein."

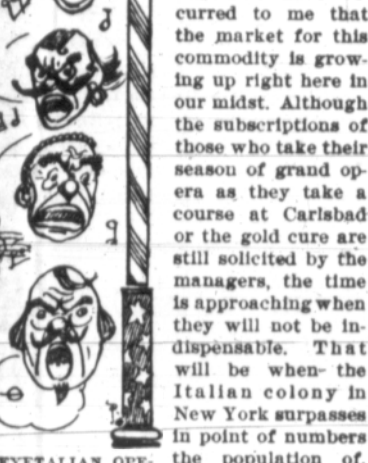
"Then why don't we hire that 'Merry Widow' fellow to do the job?" interrupted Jacobus obtusely. "He ought to get a national anthem in good shape. Dick Savage has raked in about a million out of the 'Widow' and more coming."

An excellent method of becoming a philanthropist has just occurred to me. It is nothing that will draw on one's resources either of time or money, but it is something which may be accomplished by anybody who is capable of deriving satisfaction from the fact

## Fruit For the Christmas Tree.

Cushion Novelties That May Be Made at Home by Deft Fingers—Heart Shaped and Doll Pin Cushions.

Of all the Christmas presents that can be made at home at small expense none is more simple or has more originality than the ever welcome pin-cushion. Fortunately for the woman whose income is small, these decorative and useful cushions are quite easy to make at home.



A very dainty little hanging cushion is heart shaped and three or four inches long. Trace the outline of the heart on paper and cut it out for pattern.

**MATERIALS REQUIRED**  
 Sheet of lightweight cardboard.  
 Odd pieces of silk.  
 A pretty doll.  
 Baby ribbon.  
 Pins.

**HEART SHAPED CUSHION.**  
 Then draw the heart shape for the cushion on a sheet of lightweight cardboard and cut out. Two shapes are needed, one for each side. Any odd piece of silk may be used, plain or figured. Cover the cardboard with scented cotton, then cover that with the silk. Put the doll's head between the pieces of cardboard and overhand neatly with silk. On each side of the head fasten a bow of baby ribbon by which it can hang.

The little doll is dressed in soft yellow silk and gauze wings that fasten on her back at the waist line and show

That the opera going habit is congenial to the Italian population of Gotham is a fact recognized by those who try to do business as if it were only acquired and not a native quality. My friend Giovanni Matteo, who has been an Italian long enough to know better than to interfere with nature, is convinced now that such is the case. He is a bootblack padrone, the patron saint of lawyers and a certainty that ere long will enable him to return to his native Palermo in "great shape." Last year Giovanni was brought to a keen realization of the fact that the good old Sicilian custom of keeping one's employees at work as long as it can be made profitable regardless of time and tide has not yet taken root in this country.

When the opera season opened the padrone was confronted by a delegation of eager and determined youngsters who were a unit in demanding early closing on opera nights. Giovanni tried to be firm, and his youthful countrymen proved that they were becoming real Americans by going out on a strike.

America bread is regarded as the staff of life and that opera is only a fitting supplement to terrapin, truffles and the other unattainables. It did not work. Giovanni tried to be firm, and his youthful countrymen proved that they were becoming real Americans by going out on a strike.

Now, such a thing as a bootblack strike right in a congested business district of New York means real hardship. It is almost as impossible for the average business man of Gotham to do his daily stint without his daily shine as it is for the normally constructed Sicilian to do without his opera. Giovanni wrestled with the problem individually for an hour or less, but the miracle of shining forty pairs of New York shoes in less than forty minutes did not happen in his case. There was nothing to do but yield, and he yielded finally and consented to the "night off" system among his triumphant employees. He supplies no more to terrapin, truffles and has no enthusiasm over the coming of Gatti-Casazza.

"If dat Gazzas be know da misero he make me," he moans, "he woulda gif only da German opera."

STUZZA-BENT BROWN.

One Guess Only.  
 "What did he ever see in her?" asked one.  
 "What did she ever see in him?" asked the other.

Which of these two was the woman and which the man?—Kansas City Times.

## USEFUL PRESENTS.

Dainty Christmas Trifle For the Woman Who Sews—Ribbon Holder.

A sewing case of cretonne is always appreciated as a gift by the woman who does her own mending. The vivid colors of the cretonne and the grace of the design make it particularly attractive as a material for this purpose. The case illustrated may easily be made at home at a very small cost.



**MATERIALS REQUIRED**  
 One strip of cretonne.  
 One strip of silk.  
 One pair of scissors.  
 Four spools of cotton.  
 Four spools of woolen.  
 Tape measure.  
 Yard and half of ribbon.  
 Solito.

A strip of cretonne is used for the outside of the case, and the inside is lined with silk, harmonizing with the colors in the design.

The sewing materials are held in place with strips of ribbon. At each end of the case are cut two rounds in cardboard one inch larger in diameter than the roll of baby ribbon. These are covered on both sides with anything convenient, though white linen outside and white china silk on the inside is a suggestion.

Around one end may be embroidered "A Friend in Need," on the other the initials going diagonally. Holes are pierced in the center of the cardboard and the rolls of ribbon and the ends secured under rosettes sewed on the cardboard where the holes are in the cotton spool, the rolls in varied hues taking the place of the cotton.

The hanger also starts from these points, and through a loop on one end of the spool a tiny pair of scissors is slipped, the other end holding a bookkin in a similar loop.

**Moslem Prayer Rugs.**  
 Prayer rugs were evidently invented for the purpose of providing the worshippers with one absolutely clean place on which to offer prayers. It is not lawful for a Moslem to pray on any place not perfectly clean, and unless each one has his own special rug he is not certain that the spot has not been polluted. It does not matter to these followers of Mohammed how unclean a rug that is on the floor may be, because over it they place the prayer rug when their devotions begin.

**An Eye Experiment.**  
 The two fingers really see two objects. If the two forefingers be held, one at the distance of one foot, the other two feet in front of the eyes, and the former be looked at, two phantoms of the latter will be observed, one on each side. If the latter figure be regarded, two phantoms of the nearest figure will be observed mounting guard, one on either side.

**Little Food.**  
 Student—Something is preying on my mind. Professor W.—It must be very hungry.—Yale Record.

**Don't Shiver**  
 Just scratch a match—light the Perfection Oil Heater—and stop shivering. Wherever you have a room that's hard to heat—the furnace doesn't reach—there you'll need a

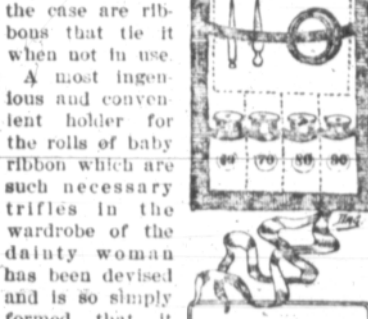
**PERFECTION Oil Heater**  
 (Equipped with Smokeless Device)  
 Just the thing for blizzard time or between seasons. Its genial glowing heat makes any room cheerful and cozy. No smoke—no smell—smokeless device prevents. Brass font holds 4 quarts of oil burning 9 hours. Finished in Japan and nickel. Every heater warranted.

**The Rayo Lamp** Gives a resplendent, steady, soft light which is so much appreciated by workers and students. Made of brass, nickel plated with the latest improved central draft burner. Every lamp warranted. Write our nearest agency for descriptive circular if your dealer cannot supply the Perfection Oil Heater or Rayo Lamp.  
**Standard Oil Company (Incorporated)**

## SET OF BLOTTERS.

Useful Holiday Gift That May Be Made at Home.

This simple and inexpensive gift can be made with little trouble. Buy a big sheet of gray blotting paper, dark gray preferred, the thickest calendar that you can purchase and a yard of one-half inch holly red ribbon.



**MATERIALS REQUIRED**  
 One sheet of gray blotting paper.  
 A small calendar.  
 Half yard of one-half inch holly red ribbon.

The blotters when finished, envelope in the house, and print in the upper left hand corner in gilt letters "Greeting to a Friend." Place the blotters in a pile, and you have a very attractive and useful present.

**Waist Protectors.**  
 One of the simplest and at the same time one of the most appreciative gifts which one can make a girl is a waist protector to slip over the closest hanger which holds her fancy waists.

It is the easiest thing in the world to make. Take a square of figured-stiff, silk-line or any pretty, light material, cut a hole in the center large enough to slip easily around the collar of the waist and finish around the edges with some pretty white lace.

Rosettes of narrow satin ribbon tacked on the corners will add to the dainty effect. Lining is not advised, as this would make the protector too heavy for delicate waists.

**Nickel Bread Trays.**  
 Quaint and ornamental for the table are the nickel bread trays in old colonial design, showing fluted and beaded borders in highly polished finish. These trays are somewhat boat shaped and show ornamental effects in placed work.

**Appropriate Motto Cards.**  
 Motto cards have come into great prominence as Christmas gifts. Popular quotations illuminated with elaborate floral garnitures printed on large cards and furnished with rings by which to suspend them are 25 cents each.

**Heri Bad Break.**  
 "Here's a pretty good coat if you want it," said the farmer's wife, with a generous smile.  
 "Young Hilary Weariness, the tramp, spoke 'politely, yet with some slight hauteur."

"Your kindness, ma'am," he said, "should be an excuse for per ignorance, but you oughter know I can't wear no sack coat with this here silk hat."—Atlanta Constitution.

**Dickey Suet's Joke.**  
 Dickey Suet, the comedian, liked nothing better than a joke on his comrade and rival, Dripping. Debt always haunted poor Dickey, and one evening as he was steering for the theater in a pouring rain an officer tapped him on the shoulder and politely inquired, "Are you Mr. Suet?" "I? No, indeed," was the instant response. "Don't you see I'm Dripping?"—London Globe.