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### Picturesque Drury Lane

WHATEVER flutter may be caused in dramatic circles, and in circles far wider, by the change in ownership, declared to be on the way, of Drury Lane Theatre, the famous old London playhouse, it is to be suspected that the prospect leaves Drury Lane itself quite unmoved. For Drury Lane is used to changes. During the hundred and seven years that the present building, the "plain, honest, homely, industrious, wholesome, brown-brick playhouse" of the "Rejected Addresses" has been standing, it has witnessed many changes in its own management and in all around it. As one writer has said of it, in desperation it has worn motley, caught eagerly at every bizarre attraction, and been

Everything by turns, and nothing long;

a monster concert hall, a French hippodrome with spasmodic intervals of pantomime and legitimate drama. The spasmodic intervals, however, were great intervals. With supreme confidence in its own ability to hold its own, Drury Lane has survived all vicissitudes. The pot-boiling stop-gaps have faded out of memory and almost out of history, and the names of Edmund Kean and Joe Massie in and about 1820; Macready, in and about 1840; and Dion Boucicault and Chatterton in the sixties are sufficient to carry it over the first half century of its career; whilst the story of Sir Augustus Harris' triumphs in management, and those of his successor, Arthur Collins, bring the annals of the old playhouse almost to the present day.

The story of Drury Lane, however, goes much farther back than a hundred years or so. It was, indeed, in the early days of the Restoration that one Thomas Killigrew, a ward Master of the Revels to the Merry Monarch, purchased from the Earl of Bedford a lease of a piece of ground, situated in the two parishes of St. Martin-in-Fields and St. Paul's, Covent Garden, and thereon built a theatre. He opened it on Thursday, April 8, 1663, with a play called "The Humorous Lieutenant," acted by "His Majesty his Company of Comedians," and the New Theatre, the "King's House," as the ubiquitous Pepys calls it, quickly became one of the great places of resort for fashionable London. Most of the great actors and actresses in the history of English drama have been connected with it; whilst most of the great literary lights of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries criticized and were criticized within its walls.

It was here that Nell Gwynne made her first appearance, and here that Mrs. Bracegirdle set all London by the ears. But the names of the great, connected with Drury Lane, as of the indifferent, are legion; Quin, Macklin, Garrick, new Givvy, Mrs. Pritchard, Mrs. Siddons, and John Kemble all won fame or added to it at Drury Lane; whilst Addison, Bolingbroke, Horace Walpole, and Dr. Johnson, to take only a few names almost at random, were amongst its regular habitués, however. During all these years, however, it was not the same Drury Lane that witnessed these goings and comings of the great, for the present building is the fourth to stand on the plot of ground secured by Thomas Killigrew. The first theatre was burned down in 1672, and, two years later, a new theatre, designed by Sir Christopher Wren, opened its doors. It was this theatre that saw the triumphs of the dramatic eighteenth century; but toward the close of that memorable period it was pulled down, and another playhouse, a model of elegance and beauty, was erected, only in its turn to be demolished in 1809. Three years later the present building was completed. Its opening was a memorable occasion for many reasons; but for one reason above all others, because it was the immediate cause of the appearance of that famous production, to which allusion has already been made, namely, the immortal "Rejected Addresses" of Horace and James Smith.

The story is well known—how the management of the new theatre, rapidly approaching completion, desiring to signalize the event, promoted a "free and fair competition" for an address to be spoken on the reopening night; how many compositions, good, bad, and indifferent were sent in; how the new theatre saw the opportunity and seized the occasion to publish a small volume of twenty-two such imaginary addresses, imitating, in the most exquisite way, the styles of the chief writers of the day. Byron, Scott, Crabbe, Wordsworth, and others equally famous all found a place. Byron declared it the best thing of the kind since the "Rolliad." Scott insisted that he must have written the address ascribed to him, although he could not remember upon what occasion; whilst Jeffrey, in the Edinburgh Review, pronounced it a model of "humor, good humor, discrimination and good taste." All the addresses are excellent, but "The Baby's Debut," the supposititious work of Wordsworth, has an excellence all its own:

My brother Jack was nine in May,  
And I was eight on New Year's Day.  
So in Wate Wilson's shop,  
Papa (he's my papa and Jack's)  
Bought me, last week, a doll of wax,  
And brother Jack a top.

So runs the first verse. It is certainly excellent fooling, and "Rejected Addresses" is not the least triumph in the history of Drury Lane.

Exercise for Chickens.  
To make chickens take exercise necessary for growth, an inventor has patented a feed box, in front of which is a revolving platform over which they must scramble to get anything to eat.

Use your mind as a storehouse, but not a junkhouse.  
The less a man thinks of his neighbor the more he admires himself.

It is hard to down an upright citizen.

### Facts About Hun Empire

THE late German empire, composed of twenty-five states and one territory, comprising an area of 208,825 square miles in the heart of Europe and having 65,000,000 people, was the greatest industrial state on the vast double continent of the Old World.

It had won and held by the arts of peace an enviable place in the world before the war fever seized it. It had such a "place in the sun" as few of the empires of any age have attained. But unfortunately for it Germany's "place in the sun" was exchanged for a place in the shadow because of the vain pursuit of a mirage.

Prussia was the largest, the directing state of the German empire, and it imposed by virtue of its material power its spirit and instincts upon the other states. It possessed more than half of the area of Germany, 134,654 square miles, and more than half of the population, 38,000,000.

Grown from the Mark of Brandenburg it had joined to its fortunes many provinces in Germany, among these the industrial heart of the empire, Westphalia. Here the great German steel and iron industry made its home, and from here German steel products were sent to flood the principal markets of the world.

Sterile in soil, filled with great dreary sand wastes and stretches of unfruitful whist, most of the original land of Prussia was of the sort that mothers dour, hardy, pessimistic men. The Prussian race was a fighting, fatalistic race, which turned from its own cheerless country to bring the sunnier and richer lands of its neighbors under its sway.

Good humored, boisterous, somewhat backward in educational matters, the famed land of best beer and of Rhine wine production, Bavaria, and Munich, its capital, were popular with pleasure excursionists from all parts of the world.

Saxony, the third state by rank, was an industrial country par excellence. It was one of the most thickly populated states in the world, and was as much sown with mills as Prussia proper is sown with sand wastes. It had a wonderful textile industry, whose products were distributed throughout the length and breadth of the world. It had iron, steel, machinery industries.

It manufactured world famous pottery. It produced a thousand and one articles of export, and its largest city, Leipzig, was the book centre of Germany, a leading fur market, a great products fair centre and one of the busiest commercial towns on the continent.

The free cities, Luebeck, Hamburg and Bremen, were separate elements in the empire's life. They were survivals as states of the old Hansa Bund, and Hamburg and Bremen, the twin cities of Germany's merchant marine renown, were enormously wealthy.

There were four kingdoms in the German Federation, and Wurttemberg, the fourth, with 5,813 square miles and 2,000,000 population, whose influence in German affairs ranks as here mentioned, was one of the smaller state forces in the empire to react upon its larger policies. The smaller states, six grand duchies, five duchies and seven principalities, were important only as names perpetuate the memories of small old-time despots.

Germany is subdivided naturally into many elements. The southern two-thirds are within a highland and mountainous European belt. Here are the German mines and much of Germany's manufacturing industry.

The northern third is a flat, dreary country, in parts highly and scientifically cultivated and largely used as pasture land. The German sugar beet fields reach up into this country, one of the empire's great sources of income. Germany supplied more than 80 per cent. of the world's entire output of beet sugar before the war. This industry was divided between Prussia, Brunswick and Anhalt.

Westphalia and Lorraine formed the "Pennsylvania" of Germany, the marvelous steel industrial centre of the empire. And the greatest part of the ore was obtained from Lorraine.

Germany was the third largest coal and the second largest iron producer in the world, the United States leading first in both cases. Iron production statistics of 1911 showed the United States with 23,600,000 tons of iron, Germany with 15,200,000 tons and Great Britain with 9,500,000 tons.

The outbreak of the war found this state one of growing prosperity in industrial fields, one of steadily increasing prosperity and development in agricultural fields, and, with every reason to avoid hazzarding its good fortune upon a gigantic gamble. As the Germans sit in the ruined midst of what might have been one of the most splendid structures of civilization they must fling many a black and helpless curse after the Kaiser's fled party.

Sugar Cane.  
Experiments in adapting Hawaiian sugar cane to Philippine conditions begun in 1910 are pronounced successful, and hereafter, in addition to Philippine varieties, six kinds of Hawaiian cane will be grown. Some of the new varieties, have grown to a height of twelve feet, and the sugar content is reported in some cases to be 90 per cent. In some instances the sugar yield of the imported cane is 50 per cent. more than the native.

A misanthropist is a man who avoids society only to free himself from the trouble of being useful to it.—J. Saurin.

The only effective way to convince a contrary man that he is wrong is to agree with him.

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