

"Peruse this as thou goest"

—Merchant of Venice



The Players Bulletin

GRAMERCY PARK

OCTOBER, 1928

Culinary Congratulations

The bald gentleman with spectacles seen recently infesting the Club-house, and wearing an expression of bland pride, is not, as some have supposed, a new father astonished by his prowess. On the contrary, it is none other than the Chairman of our House Committee, and the occasion of the vanity is his, having given birth to a new culinary catacomb.

So vast and so extraordinary have been the amendments to the kitchen and environs that they constitute one of the Seven Wonders of Gramercy Park. Bill Tachau assisted as midwife and he has been architecturally very adroit. Not only has ample space been conjured out of nothing, but it has been conjured in such a manner as to be useful for the purposes for which it was intended.

Food can now be cooked in the kitchen by a chef without asbestos feet. He no longer has to stand on the stove. There is ample storage for our other egg, and the tripe which must be kept at all times for Don Marquis can now be housed in some other way than by hanging it on a line like a blanket. So vast are the ice boxes that it may be necessary to purchase a

dog team for the use of the staff when they enter in search of steak.

Judging with a hypercritical eye, the Editor of this Palladium is compelled to admit that a notably efficient job has been done by all, and congratulations are hereby showered on the deserving. Members desiring to witness this phenomenon may do so without extra cost.

Glory—and Some Cash

The Beaux' Stratagem as revived by The Players will take the road this season, playing the principal cities of the country. The production is to be billed as under the auspices of the Club, and under the business management of Mr. George C. Tyler. A satisfactory financial arrangement has been made, so that The Players will share in the success of the venture.

This is the first of The Players' revivals to go on the road, and such of our members as reside in other metropoli than this are urged to do their best for the production when it comes to the local opy-house.

Political

The recent attempt to revive the old custom of electing a president of The United States has been regarded favorably by denizens of The Players. Numbers of our members favor Mr. Smith because of his alcoholic content; numbers of other members prefer Mr. Hoover because of his specific gravity. Straw votes were taken in the Club-house to determine the trend of public opinion. Fairness required the taking of two separate straw votes. The one for Mr. Smith was taken at five-thirty o'clock in the space directly before Charlie's counter. The result was as follows:

Smith: Twenny-shix. Hoover: Nossing.

The vote on behalf of Mr. Hoover was taken in the library at the crowded hour. The result:

Hoover: 26. Smith: 0.

Traffic Signal

The following red light has been set against traffic by the Board of Directors, which met, as

Boards of Directors are so prone to do, recently:

"By a resolution of the Board of Directors of The Players, adopted September 24, 1928, the following addition has been made to House Rule Number 5:

"Any member who, having reached the credit limit of fifty dollars, orders further supplies and signs for them shall, by his own act, be suspended from the Club and shall thereafter be denied admission to the Club-house until he has reduced his account below the fifty dollar limit.

CLAYTON HAMILTON, Secretary.

Literary Note

On or about the Fifteenth day of October an event in the publishing world will take place. The Club will issue a new Year-Book. The purpose of this deed is not, as some may suppose, merely the issuance of a New Year-Book. It has a far deeper and sadder significance. Mr. Clayton Hamilton, speaking for himself and for the Board of Directors, declares the the end in view is to persuade the members to read the Constitution, By-laws and House Rules. It is his claim that education in those branches has been neglected, more especially by our freshman classes. It is his idea that if all will familiarize themselves with the law in such cases, made and provided, they will then experience a sense of guilt upon committing infractions, instead of doing so unconsciously, as at present.

Beneficence

Mr. E. H. Sothern has presented to The Players his collection of Theatrical objects of interest and historical value. Since the founding of this Club no more splendid gift has been received, nor from one more entitled to make The Players the object of his generosity. The splendid collection is to be maintained as a unit in special cases provided by the donor, and is to be located on the third floor, adjacent to the room formerly known as the Florence Room, but now to be known as the Sothern Room, in which Mr. Sothern's pictures will be kept. This addition to our riches in Theatrical Historiana

makes this Club-house the most important depository in the world of such matter of peculiar interest.

House Committee Report

The following report was submitted by the House Committee to the Board of Directors on September 24th:

For the week ending September 14, 1928, the receipts from the grill were \$1,056.85—for the corresponding week of 1927 the grill receipts were \$903.38; for the same week this year 1,076 meals were served in the grill, for last year 1,015; attendance this year 1,154, last year 1,128.

In regard to our alterations, Mr. Tachau gave \$27,000 as an estimate of the bill of G. Richard Davis & Co. Their bill was \$29,024.05.

The elevator which is working very well cost \$2,800. We were forced to move the employees' toilet in the cellar to make room for the elevator machinery. New electric fans were installed in ventilators on the roof; new fans had to be installed on the porch, as the old ones were worn out and went into the junk pile with the old ice machine and the fire-proof doors between our club and 17 Gramercy Park. We tried to sell this old equipment but in the end had to pay to have it carted away.

Our hot water plant was rearranged so that there is plenty of hot water with plenty of force at all times. An ice box was built in which we can store ice from our machine and, therefore, avoid buying ice in the hot weather. New furniture, benches and tables were built for the employees, the old furniture being in a disgraceful condition.

The house is in such condition at present that the House Committee can see no large expenditures ahead for some time. New plumbing system, new electric system, everything up to date and working well for which the House Committee gives a sigh of relief.

The employees are working in wonderful harmony. The House Committee can find no fault of any importance with any of them.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAIRMAN HOUSE COMMITTEE

New Members

The following Members Elected on September 24th, have qualified:

Resident

D. F. SWEENEY

Non-resident

LEONARD CAREY
JOHN GALLAUDET
JACK QUIGLEY
MINOR WATSON

Proposals for Membership

A. W. Pezet, writer, by Edward E. Free and Lodewick Vroom.

Antony Holles, actor, by Charles D. Coburn and Stafford Dickens.

Arthur S. Allen, color expert, by Cyril Nast and Hal Marchbanks.

Robert C. Adams, banker and patron of the arts, by Hulbert Footner and Eugene F. Saxton.

Gerald D. Stopp, radio director, by Wright Kramer and Lawrence H. Cecil.

Arthur Allen, actor, by Wright Kramer.

Harold McGee, actor, by Wright Kramer and Walter Kingsford.

John S. Alexander, actor, by Earle Mitchell and Herbert Corthell.

Bernard J. Flynn, designer and patron of the arts, by Frank Ward O'Malley and Franklin P. Adams.

Dwight Taylor, artist and dramatist, by J. M. Kerrigan and Allen McCurdy.

In Memoriam

EDGAR MILLS, joined The Players in 1905, died June 1, 1928.

ROBERT MANTELL, joined The Players in 1890, died June 27, 1928.

HENRY LONGAN STUART, joined The Players in 1927, died August 26, 1928.

DIXIE HINES, joined The Players in 1925, died October 1, 1928.

Henry Longan Stuart

Those who possessed the friendship of Henry Stuart possessed something which, though the giver of that friendship is no more, is as vital and as ever present as it was in the days of his physical companionship. For Stuart was one of those rare characters in whom the merely physical seemed trivial. With him and in his influence it was always the spiritual which mattered. A devout Christian and one of the leading minds among the Catholic intellectuals of our country, his sympathies and his friendship were given as freely and as utterly to his friends of other races and other creeds. Born in London of Irish parents, he served during the war as a Captain of artillery in the British army, but the greater portion of his intellectual life was given to his adopted country. In him America lost a novelist of rare quality and a literary critic surpassed by none of his generation, and one moreover who never allowed himself to become enslaved by cliques or temporary enthusiasms. To his favor there was only one criterion-merit. Though only recently made a Player he considered his membership as one of the finest things which life had offered him. It was something which threw a happiness into the last few months of a man who deserved happiness as few men have deserved it. We who loved Henry Stuart knew the loneliness which often filled his heart, but now that he is gone that loneliness is ours.

GRENVILLE VERNON

Library Notes

During the Summer the following items were added to the Library:

Souvenir Programme of "Money." The gift of James T. Powers.

Cape worn by E. H. Sothorn in the character of "Richelieu." The gift of Mr. Chas. I. Berg.

"Ben Jonson" 2 volumes and "Reminiscences" by Julia Ward Howe. Received from John C. Travis.

Whitaker's Almanack. Purchased.

"The Judgment of Dr. Johnson" by G. K. Chesterton. Purchased.

The Stage Year-Book 1928. Purchased.
Four Old Programmes. Received from John Cumberland.

Satin Souvenir Programme of "A Scrap of Paper." Received from Mrs. Louis I. Haber.

Belt worn by John McCullough in the character of "Othello." The gift of Franklin K. Sprague.

"Who's Who In America." Purchased.

"The Silver Tassie" by O'Casey. Purchased.

"The Queen's Husband" by Robert. E. Sherwood. Purchased.

"The Royal Family" by George S. Kaufman and Edna Ferber. Purchased.

"The Front Page" by Ben Hecht and Chas. MacArthur. The gift of Harold Hendee.

"The Story of the Theatre" by Glenn Hughes, "Sumpin Like Wings" and "A Lantern to See By" by Lynn Riggs. The gift of Samuel French Co.

"The Letters of Horace Howard Furness." The gift of John C. Travis.

Keys, handkerchief and leather pocket worn by Edwin Booth in the character of "Shylock." The gift of Mrs. N. F. Conant.

"Adam—A Religious Play of the 12th Century" by Edward Noble Stone. The gift of Harold W. Gould.

First American edition of "London Assurance" by Dion Boucicault, bearing the autograph of Charles R. Thorne, Sr. The gift of John C. King.

The Diary of David Garrick, dated 1751, in handsome limited edition, was the gift of Mr. Messmore Kendall. This item was omitted in the last issue of the *Bulletin* and the Librarian wishes to apologize to Mr. Kendall for this omission.