

NUMBER 27.

AT

**MACBAIN,
MERCHANT
TAILOR,
CLOTHIER
AND
FURNISHER.**

Amidst the roar of much talk and self praise there is nothing so refreshing to the buyer of Furniture as prices.

Our Chamber Suits from **\$18, \$22, \$28 and \$30**, are remarkable values.

The great range in Parlor Suits from \$35, \$45, \$55 and \$60, are unusual attractions.

See also our great variety of **Couches, Easy Chairs, Patent Rockers, Divans, and other attractions** too numerous to mention.

Washington Street, Owosso.

Mrs. Roxalana Druse, the Harkin Co., N. Y., woman who killed her husband and then burned his body, was hanged last Monday.

THE OWOSSO PRESS.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 1887.

SONGS OF OUR TIMES.

Nearly all of the more popular ballads
which have been written
in the last few years.

"Everybody loves a lover, and I nearly everybody loves a good song. A few great ones have been written, as was Gen. Grant. Did you ever think, good reader, that out of seven notes are taken all the songs that have been sung? New songs, by the way, are written every day in the year, but the seven little notes, warped, twisted, and tantalized, repeated and worked in combination, over and over, must furnish all the alleged melodies."

"Is there any such element as originality in a song to-day?" asked a Maine man of a professor of music.

"Certainly. The old masters have gleaned the field with great thoroughness, but there are men toiling to-day and doing up and a work with the seven notes."

"Is there not more plagiarism than originality in the common run of popular songs?"

"Yes, I think there is. You have heard Joe Emmet sing 'Love of the Shamrock,' it is a sturdy and venerable church hymn revived and revamped. Byron's words:

Must of Athens, ere we part,
Give, O, give me back my heart,

were set to a tune which will outline the centuries. You hear the melody now in 'When the Robins Nest Again.' Krohn, a famous German song writer, produced 'The Cavalier's Whisper,' and copyrighted it. The copyright having expired, along comes the actor, W. J. Scanlan, and incorporates it in:

Pick-a-bow, I'm onto you,
I see you riding there.

Three years ago that old chestnut air took the country by storm. Scanlan, of course, sings it in faster time, by making eight notes out of quarters."

"Twenty years ago an English song writer produced:

There was a young man on a flying trapeze;
His movements were graceful, the girls he did please.

"In 'Adonis Dixie' revives 'The Flying Trapeze' in its English, 'You Know.' But here is an instance of positive profanation. Mendelssohn's magnificent oratorio of St. Paul has a chorus entitled 'How lovely are the Messengers.' The man who wrote 'Billie Taylor' revives the music of that chorus in 'All on Account of Eliza.'"

"What proportion of the ballads of the day are thefts?"

"Over half of them. A superb funeral march by Chopin is now heard in 'Somebody's Coming When the Dawdles Fall.' To the Blue Belle of Scotland music you are requested to 'Wait Till the Clouds Roll By.' The chorus of 'America's Emblem' is stolen from Ira D. Sankey's 'Till for the Shore.' Claribel's 'You and I' is now doing duty as 'Twinkle, Little Stars.'"

"In 1864 I was in New York, and, going one night into the Tammany theater, I heard Dan Bryant sing 'Shoo Fly.' The refrain was:

Shoo fly, don't bother me,
For I belong to company G.

"In two weeks every street arab was singing or whistling 'Shoo Fly':

I feel, I feel, I feel,
That's what my mother said;

The angels pouring 'resses down
Upon this ducky's head.

"Two months later the country was almighty over this ducky ballad. Six months later it was dead. From 1861 to 1865 'When This Cruel War is Over' was sung in every home north and south. It crossed the ocean and became popular in England.

"Dearest love, do you remember,
When we last did meet;

How you told me that you loved me,
Kneeling at my feet?"

"The melody into which those words were welded was written years before the war. A young music teacher in Brooklyn visited Greenwood cemetery one day, and upon his return jotted down the notes to a little song which he entitled: 'Darling, Meet Me in the Greenwood.' The modest fellow, after writing the music and chorus, placed the manuscript in his desk, where it remained for seven years. In 1861, while looking over some old papers, he found the Greenwood song, and soon had it on the market as 'Dearest Love, Do You Remember,' or, 'When This Cruel War is Over.' Talk about success! It sold faster than 'Shoo Fly,' and remained a favorite for five years."

"What did the composer realize out of it?"

"Very little. I am sorry to say. He died in Brooklyn, poor, about ten years ago. His name was Henry Tucker. He also wrote 'Genevieve' and several other sweet ballads. He was all music, poor fellow, and up to a week or so before his death would sit at a piano and try to sing with his cracked and plaintive falsetto tones."

"What song has been financially most successful?"

"'Grandfather's Clock'; it netted \$80,000."

"What is the average life of a song?"

"Two years. A song like 'Sweet Bye-and-Bye' is, of course, an exception. Probably you never heard of Jim Stewart, of Cincinnati; he died in the workhouse. His song, 'Only to See Her Face Again' will live while ballads do. Drink killed Stewart."

"Have you heard 'Call Me Back Again'?"

"Yes, but please don't. That is a clean transposition of an Irish melody 100 years old, at least."

"Has not Frank Howard the burlesque comedian, made money out of ballads?"

"It is claimed, and truthfully, that Frank Howard has made a fortune out of three songs: 'Only a Pansy Blossom,' 'When the Robins Nest Again,' and 'I'll Await My Love.' It is claimed that Howard did not write one of them, but purchased them from a New York boy named Spencer."

"Then, when you hear a piece which reminds you of one you have heard, before"

"You can be sure it's a steal." Chicago Mail.

He vud be a vise man, who had pig ears und no tongue.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

FEB. 28.—The Senate today adopted the bill for the relief of the

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