The Picayune.

NEW ORLEANS, MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 31, 1866. —Whole—14 012.

AMUSEMENTS.

VARIETIES THEATRE.—Last night "Dot" was played for the last time. To-night will be presented the thrilling drama of "Waiting for the Verdict," and the amusing farce of "An Object of Interest." This is a capital bill, and those who visit the "Varieties" may be certain of passing the last hours of the departing year in the midst of "jocund laughter" and enjoyment.

We regret, by the way, this withdrawal of "Dot." The Weather has been so unsettled that many families who desired to see the play were doubtless unable to attend. However, we have had little *Dot*, and the *Cricket*, and *Tilly*. At the *Ruby* with us for nearly a week, and, in the press of the many novelties which Manager Floyd purposes producing, we have reason to be satisfied with this much of them.

"Dot" has, on the whole, been presented with more care and with greater attention to details than we remember to have seen it in this city, even in those days when it was all the rage. When the house was packed nightly when seats were secured two weeks in advance, when the theatre was the choice place of resort for *Crème de la crème*, and when John Owens in *Caleb Plummer* touched hearts that had long ago felt the throb of play. Owens *Caleb* is, indeed, for so many nights, best associated in the minds of many of our play goers, with the character itself. We doubt, in fact, if any one recals Owens in any other role. His *Solon Shingle* is recorded in the history of his great speciality. Here, no one rivals him, or, if he remembers, speaks of it.

Mr. Floyd is assuming the character, by the way, adopted under every disadvantage. It is not all in his "line" in the first place, and, besides, Owens' masterly handling of it can hardly be in this community against so assumption of it. Although Mr. Floyd's performance cannot be named with Mr. Owens, we think that it may be said that it is, at least, a just conception of the rich old Yankee character of the good old man. Mr. Owens is not, we believe, prefer to play "Caleb" to accompany his therefore, with Owens, in a part which does not belong to him, and which, on the other hand, is a *chef de bataille* for the latter, would hardly, we think, be a satisfying fidelity. Owens is supreme as *Caleb*. Floyd makes a respectable one, but no more. But if we reverse the picture, what then? How could Mr. Owens, for instance, play *Fanny Marlowe*, *Dolly Spanker*, *Master Mod Modish*, *Tidage*, *Percy Archer*, or *Fagin*—characters which Mr. Floyd has shown marked talent, and has amply satisfied a critical audience that he can fill with credit to himself? It is just possible that he might do as well, in any of them, that Mr. Owens has acquired by representing one of his peculiar characters. The fact is, the difficulty in assuming parts totally out of an actor's line is well understood in the profession, and Mr. Floyd's *Caleb Plummer*—imperfect as it is—is, in a certain sense, may be regarded as a proof of his skill in adapting himself to characters, for which neither his talent nor his previous training has fitted him.

CHARLES THEATRE.—The patrons of the Charles are amply rewarded, this evening, the reading of Washington Irving, who will appear at Eddy's Washington Irving, who will appear at Eddy's Rochester in the great character of the "Jewess," or the Crusaders. The many weeks, during which this play has been underlined, and the excellence at which it is understood, the Management has been in production with new scenery and costume, will doubtless draw a crowded house at the Charles to-night.

THE CITY OF MOBILE.—Robinson Crusoe in all the excitement of the "Academy," and the joke that delighted "Young and weather, such as may be expected at this season of the year, will be greatly enjoyed by the stockholders in arranging themselves, for the upper compartments especially—excepting a few wand previous to the exhibition of the evening views, the piece has been presented in the most complete style. Mr. Thomas as the majestic *Hogan of London Police*, Miss Crusoe Mlle. Emeline as pretty as ever, and sweetest of Polly Hawkins, Mlle. Fanny as the *Lame and Halt*, Mlle. Christine, who, by the way, is a great favorite, as the *Jungle Queen