

GEORGE PRIMROSE OUT OF MINSTRELSY

BURNT-CORK ARTIST WILL RETIRE WITH FORTUNE OF HALF A MILLION

NEW YORK, April 26.—(Special Correspondence.)—George Primrose positively, finally and emphatically will never march in a minstrel parade again. This much he has declared recently in a vigorous language as the most skeptical could desire.

These facts developed during the recent engagement at the Harlem Opera-House in this city. The principal scenes enacted on that theater on going so far as to publicly call James H. Decker, his former manager, who will be allied with Dockstader next season, a liar. Decker had sent a number of recruits to the theater for the purpose of having their worth established, with a view to engaging them next season for Dockstader's show. Primrose objected to this proceeding, and one night took the audience into his confidence.

Two oldtimers, indeed, were the comedians who went through a sort of resurrection process at the Princess Theater last Monday night. Charles H. Evans and Charles H. Hopper appeared at this house as the stars of an English comedy entitled "There and Back," and their joint appearance after a long absence brought a fund of reminiscence and showers of congratulations from the theatergoers of long ago. The play is by George Arliss, an English actor who has become known this season for his brilliant portrayal in "The Darling of the Gods." In London Charles Hawtrey appeared in it most successfully, and even yet several companies are presenting it in the English provinces.

Like old wine, Evans and Hopper seem to have improved in flavor. It really was good to look upon these two old school, and recall the days when "Old Hoss" Hoey and this same Evans once made the Nation laugh with their funny quips and amusing homophony. Yet to be quite candid, neither Hopper's old "Chimnie Fadden" methods, nor the mannerisms of Evans, appeal particularly to the audience of this generation. Their tumbling is of an older school, and while it bears up well under a critical analysis, the trouble seems to be that the present generation has been educated to a different style of comedy.

To be frank again, the new school of comedy isn't necessarily an improvement upon the old, but as the twig is bent, etc. This piece is an excellent bit of good-natured folly, which tells of the complications which two married men encounter when they attempt to deceive their wives and at the same time escape from a former sweetheart. Of course, the entire five come together later on and then follow complications upon complications which are genuinely amusing. Although a simple story of the play might indicate that the piece is French in construction, this is not so. It deserves to succeed because it is presented by an admirable company.

Preceding this Aubrey Boudouart presents as a curtain raiser a dainty one-act play entitled "The Man Who Stole the Castle." Mr. Boudouart has been on the boards since the failure of "Heldelberg" at this same house, but he was given a rousing welcome, for he is a most popular young comedian. The comedy was most acceptably received, and the combination of sentimental and farce-comedy which the two bills make, afford a tempting dramatic dish.

Unmistakable signs prove that the age end of a not especially brilliant theatrical season is at hand. Few new plays are promised, and the few are not of great importance. Usually at this time of the year many managers become active in preparing productions for the following Fall. A brief Spring hearing has been considered most desirable. If a play produced in May or June proves successful, the manager knows that he has an offering of value for the regular season that is to follow. If on the other hand it is not received warmly, he makes plans for a substitute, and with this ample warning usually strikes a winner the next time. However, with new theaters in the process of building on all sides, no such provisions seem to be in the wind for filling them, but then, theatrical managers always were a strange lot, and prudence is not their most marked characteristic.

Strange Adventures of American Songbirds in Cuba

Out on the road Najib Hashim is comparatively unknown, but in New York he is one of our most interesting characters. If he is known out of town at all, it is by reason of the fact that he once was the husband of Mme. Tavarz, of grand opera fame, rather than by reason of his professional accomplishments. Najib is a Syrian and a mighty handsome one. Strange tales are told about his origin, some stories maintaining that he originally was one of a group of African warriors. Others relate of his wonderful deeds in London, involving vast sums of money raised by him in the promotion of various enterprises. At any rate, he has won a local fame by taking a lease of Koester & Bial's old music hall, which he managed until shortly before its demolition. He did not succeed financially, and from Leo-Love Fuller to lesser lights he was daily being hauled into the courts by enraged artists, who claimed arrears of salaries. More recently he sent an arena company to the Theater Fayret, Havana, and he decked like Solomon himself. Hashim led the trusting band to the steamer's pier. That was over two months ago, and as the players one by one return, wonder tales are being told of their experiences in the Southern company. Hashim himself was reported to be astride a whale peddling fish to some steamer on his way back from Cuba. In order to cross the Gulf to Florida the members of the company were obliged to return stercorae, and their experiences will prevent another American troupe from visiting that country for some time to come. No salaries at all were paid, yet Hashim is seen daily on Broadway, more gorgeous in his retortment—if this be possible—than heretofore.

Amelia Bingham Causes Arrest of Editor

Miss Amelia Bingham refuses to permit her domestic affairs to be trifled with in the press without attempting to secure legal redress. She has just caused the arrest on a charge of criminal libel of Graham Rice, proprietor of a sporting publication known as "Daily America," and she sleuths are looking for a person who

wrote for this paper under the nom de plume of "Jean Dupree." This signature was beneath the article which gave offense to the actress. This story told in circumstantial and brutal fashion that Miss Bingham and her husband, Lloyd Bingham, had indulged in a rough-and-tumble encounter in their handsome home during which Mr. Bingham succeeded in blackening his wife's eye and otherwise bruising her countenance. Details of the supposed incident were strung out for half a column or more and in such language and tenor that there was libel in almost every line, even if the writer had pretty good proof of his assertions, for which Mr. and Mrs. Bingham declare there were not the slightest grounds. Miss Bingham did go to the Princess Theater where her company is playing in Clyde Fitch's "The Frisky Mrs. Johnson" with her face swollen for two nights, but she avers this was from an ulcerated tooth.

The officers are having a hard time in finding "Jean Dupree." Every one connected with Daily America has been "Jean Dupree" at one time or another, but who happened to be using the Gaelic name on that particular day has not been divulged. Graham Rice is now out on bail. He is at the head of the racing tipster concern known as "Maxim, Gay & Co." This company for so much per day will tell you what horses to play at the race tracks.

Elicia Terry and Ibsen

Miss Elicia Terry recently appeared in the principal role of Henrik Ibsen's "The Vikings" in London recently, and it is known that she will make a tour of this country in the play next season. Sir Irving also comes to America bringing with him his last great production, that of Sardou's "Dante." This will be the first time these distinguished English players have come to America except as co-stars. Charles Frohman, who will direct their tours, hopes to bring them together again next Spring for a supplementary engagement in this and other large cities in some of the most popular of their joint repertoire. "The Vikings" is one of Ibsen's strongest and least repulsive dramas. As his name implies it deals with the early rulers of America and with Scandinavian mythology. The play has been likened in some respects to Richard Wagner's magnificent cycle of music dramas, "Der Ring des Nibelungen." It requires a big and spectacular production. Miss Terry should find a ready welcome here with this play. Mary Shaw has proved this season that America is not without a large number of followers here and she did it with so unpleasent a drama as "Ghosts." Miss Shaw, however, also contemplates a production of "The Vikings."

Belaaco and "The Truth Tellers"

The big production at the Belaaco Theater next season will be of Martha Morton's dramatization of John Strange Winter's story, "The Truth Tellers." For this play David Belaaco is engaging a special company in which there will be no star. The first to be signed was Edwin Stevens, one of the strongest and most versatile actors in the country. Mr. Stevens, who is capable of splendid character and emotional work, has been willing away a few weeks of late in the musical comedy "Nancy Brown." He will be called upon to portray one of the most important characters in the new play. Mr. Belaaco has decided to spend the most of his energies and a large sum of money each season upon the production of his home theater. This year the lucky play and star were "The Darling of the Gods" and Miss Blanche Bates. Next year "The Truth Tellers" will command the attention. Miss Bates will open the house with a revival of the Japanese drama and Mrs. Leslie Carter will follow with "Du Barry," to which one will adhere for another season. There will come the Winter-Morton drama.

"Jewel of Asia" Sale Held Up

Nixon & Zimmerman do not get "The Jewel of Asia" after all; that is, unless the referee to be appointed by the Supreme Court to fix the value of this musical comedy production decides that it is not worth more than \$5000. The play, with James T. Powers as star, was staged last year at the Pan-American Amusement Company, of which George W. Lederer was president. Recently the concern went into the hands of A. L. Erlanger, of Klaw & Erlanger, as receiver. He had an offer of \$10000 for the play from the American In fact, the "angel" of the company—objecting to the acceptance of it on the ground that it is not nearly the real worth of the property. Jordan's lawyers told the court that Nixon & Zimmerman are bosom personal friends of Klaw & Erlanger, besides being associated with them in the direction of the theatrical syndicate, and declared that no attempt should be made to get better bids. Justice Davis, after hearing it said that "The Jewel of Asia" is playing to business representation.

representing \$50,000 per week in Philadelphia, said there was enough doubt in the case to warrant the appointment of a referee to ascertain the real value of "The Jewel of Asia" and other belongings of the Pan-American Company, which includes the musical comedies "Sally in Our Alley" and "The Wild Rose," both of which now are sold.

Stage News Notes

Over \$5000 was realized for the veteran actress Clara Morris at the benefit performance given for her at the Broadway Theatre, where Miss Morris has been ill for some time and narrowly escaped losing her home on a foreclosure sale recently.

Creston Clarke, the tragedian, and Stephen of Edwin Booth, is suffering from heart trouble. He had to cancel the engagement he had to play as stock star at the Columbia Theater, Brooklyn, this week in "Richard III."

Stuart Robson says he has shelved "The Henrietta" forever. He played this favorite old comedy of Bronson Howard's at the Grand Opera House last week. He has shelved it for this season because "The Comedy of Errors." Next year he will have a dramatization of Charles Dana Gibson's pictures, "The Education of Mr. Pipp."

Grace George has made such a success at the Herald Square Theater as Peg Woffington in "Pretty Peggy," that her time has been extended there by three weeks. She leaves the house on May 25. Two days later Dan Daly comes there for a run in "John Henry," a dramatization of George V. Hobart's story of that title.

QUEER WEDDING

Courtship and Marriage Ceremonies of Mr. and Mrs. Borden No. 11, Shenandoah Herald.

On last Tuesday night Mr. Borden met for the first time his intended bride, at the evening train at the station at Woodstock. Mr. Borden firmly believes in the efficacy of printer's ink and advertised in a matrimonial paper for that which he wanted more than all else—a fond, loving wife. His advertisement was promptly answered by a number of ladies in want of husbands. Among these was Mrs. Amanda C. Deer, of Indiana. After exchange of photos and a number of inquiries which proved satisfactory, Mrs. Deer was requested to come on to Woodstock, where the contract would be fully completed.

When the 8 o'clock train rolled into the station, Mr. Borden stood there watching intently until an old lady with white hair and spectacles wrapped around her wrist stepped from the car. He at once rushed to her side. "Mr. Borden," she exclaimed. "After a loving embrace they repaired to the waiting-room of the station, where the marriage contract was read and duly signed, and the beautiful poem, "Carrie, Dear," was recited with wonderful dramatic effect. The ceremony was followed by a wedding on the carpet excited the curiosity of all the young people and many of the old. In a few moments the platform was filled with a crowd of curious spectators who were anxious to see the bridal couple. To assist them and prevent any annoyance, the Mayor appointed Mr. Henry Riedel, an especial policeman, to conduct them to a minister. They at once proceeded to the residence of Rev. W. J. Cooke, where, after several prominent ladies in the audience were invited into the parlor as witnesses, the ceremony was duly performed.

Mr. Borden has been married once before, and Miss Borden twice. He is a lawyer, editor and Dunkard. Mr. Borden delivered the following address at his home at Calvary on Wednesday evening: Gentlemen of the Calvary Neighborhood: Messrs. Marion F. Emmert, Sanford Sheets, Charles Russell, R. L. (Lemuel) Holler, M. L. (Lemuel) Sheets and William H. Pasley have kindly consented to be present and to act as masters of these ceremonies for you all and for myself and lady. They or their efficient agent will fix and determine your rates. If you will please preserve order in your ranks, I will now read our wedding poem and our marriage contracts, after which Mrs. Borden No. 2 will give you a chance to see. I will after reading the poem and contract, and introducing Mrs. Borden to you all, my friends and neighbors, withdraw to Mrs. Borden's side, and then we will all enjoy the excellent music of your orchestra. Once more, gentlemen, I thank you in advance for the serenade.

This gentleman is Mrs. Borden No. 2. If possible excuse me, for you will all remember that it is now only a few hours more than two years since that great, good and noble lady, Emma L. Borden, ceased to live! Oh! if there is one praying man among you all (and you are all praying here tonight by actions louder than words) if there are praying men here tonight, will they not say "Amen" when I utter the invocation: "Oh! that 'Carrie, Dear' may be to me and to you

ATTRACTIONS AT THE MARQUAM GRAND THEATER THIS WEEK

CALVIN HEILIG Manager MARQUAM GRAND THEATER CALVIN HEILIG Manager MONDAY AND TUESDAY NIGHTS, APRIL 27 AND 28 MATINEE TUESDAY AT 2:15 O'CLOCK ENGAGEMENT EXTRAORDINARY Mrs. Patrick Campbell AND HER LONDON COMPANY DIRECTION OF CHARLES FROHMAN MONDAY NIGHT THE JOY OF LIVING By Hermann Sudermann TUESDAY MATINEE THE SECOND MRS. TANQUERAY By A. W. Pinero. TUESDAY NIGHT AUNT JEANNIE By E. F. Benson. PRICES BOTH MATINEE AND NIGHT—Parquet, \$2.50. Parquette Circle, \$2.00. Balcony, first 3 rows, \$1.50; second three rows, \$1.00; last 6 rows, 75c. Gallery, 50c and 60c. Boxes and loges, \$15.00. SEATS ARE NOW SELLING. CARRIAGES AT 10:30 O'CLOCK.

CALVIN HEILIG Manager MARQUAM GRAND THEATER CALVIN HEILIG Manager RICH AND HARRIS'S COMEDIANS JOHN C. THOS. A. RICE AND WISE IN THE TREMENDOUS LAUGHING HIT Are You a Mason? THE COMEDY SUCCESS OF TWO CONTINENTS. POSITIVELY THE ORIGINAL NEW YORK COMPANY. "You laugh, and laugh, and laugh, and when you have finished laughing, you laugh at what you have been laughing at."—New York Herald.

CORDRAY'S THEATER Management Cordray & Russell. Phone Main 992. PORTLAND'S POPULAR FAMILY THEATER. Prices: Evening, 25 and 50 Cents; Loges, 75 Cents. Matinee Prices: Adults, 25 Cents; Children, 10 Cents; Loge Seats, 50 Cents. Week Commencing Matinee Today BEST AND MOST POPULAR SWEDISH DIALECT ACTOR AND SWEET SINGER BEN HENDRICKS AND HIS COMPANY, WHICH INCLUDES THE FAMOUS SWEDISH LADIES QUARTET In the first, best, most natural and most popular Swedish-American dialect classic Ole Olson Enlivened by New Scenes, New Fun, New Specialties HEAR HENDRICKS' NEW SONGS "MEMORIES OF MY SWEDISH HOME" "STRAWBERRIES" "BABIES AND BLOSSOMS" SOUVENIR MATINEE SATURDAY Handsome Cabinet Photographs of Ben Hendricks as Ole Olson, given to every lady purchasing a 25c ticket to the Saturday matinee. CENTRAL PARK LEONOR BROS., Managers. JIM MAGRATH, Director of Amusements. HIGH-CLASS OUT-OF-DOOR VAUDEVILLE COR. GRAND AV. AND TAYLOR ST., EAST PORTLAND WILL OPEN NEXT SATURDAY EVENING, MAY 2, 1903 With an Excellent Array of Talent. The French Artists LES INCROYABLES Three in number, in an original grotesque dancing pantomime. America's Greatest Song Illustrators, THE GAUTIER'S Genuine Comedy Entertainers, SMITH AND ELLIS The Three Rexticoes Introducing their trick cottage. Hebrew Comedians BARNEY BARNARD Australia's Brightest Artist, AIDA SWEENEY The smart little man from Ireland, JIM MAGRATH Engagement Extraordinary of the Upside-down Man, BARTELMES TEN-ALL-STAR ACTS-TEN Admision 10c. Reserved Chairs 20c and 25c. Performance every evening; Matinee Saturday and Sunday. No liquors sold.

BAKER THEATER GEO. L. BAKER Manager PORTLAND'S FASHIONABLE POPULAR-PRICE THEATER THIS AFTERNOON AT 2:15 AND THE REMAINDER OF THE WEEK WITH THE USUAL SATURDAY MATINEE MR. RAPH STUART AND HIS NEW YORK COMPANY IN THE BEAUTIFUL ROMANTIC DRAMA— PRINCE OTTO A Story of Court Love and Intrigue. First time on the Coast MR. STUART in the Title Role. No Sweeter Drama Ever Written. A Dramatization by Otis Skinner of Robert Louis Stevenson's Romance of the Same Name. Evening Prices: 15c, 25c, 35c, 50c. Matinee Prices: 10c, 15c, 25c. STARTING SUNDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 3 Next Production AN ENTIRELY NEW VERSION OF By Right of 'Sword' D. 102.0

CENTRAL PARK LEONOR BROS., Managers. JIM MAGRATH, Director of Amusements. HIGH-CLASS OUT-OF-DOOR VAUDEVILLE COR. GRAND AV. AND TAYLOR ST., EAST PORTLAND WILL OPEN NEXT SATURDAY EVENING, MAY 2, 1903 With an Excellent Array of Talent. The French Artists LES INCROYABLES Three in number, in an original grotesque dancing pantomime. America's Greatest Song Illustrators, THE GAUTIER'S Genuine Comedy Entertainers, SMITH AND ELLIS The Three Rexticoes Introducing their trick cottage. Hebrew Comedians BARNEY BARNARD Australia's Brightest Artist, AIDA SWEENEY The smart little man from Ireland, JIM MAGRATH Engagement Extraordinary of the Upside-down Man, BARTELMES TEN-ALL-STAR ACTS-TEN Admision 10c. Reserved Chairs 20c and 25c. Performance every evening; Matinee Saturday and Sunday. No liquors sold.