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FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, AND SATURDAY MATINEE

Oct. 20 and 21.

Col. J. E. Cavens presents the Great New York

EMPIRE THEATRE COMPANY

18 Artists

Friday Night—"A Broken Heart."

Saturday Matinee—"The Man From Japan."

Saturday Night—"The Great Diamond Robbery."

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TO THE PUBLIC:—I take much pleasure in announcing the engagement of The Great New York Empire Theatre Co. for three performances, Oct. 20th, and 21st. If entire satisfaction is not given will most cheerfully refund the price of admission. Reserve your seats in advance.

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THE STORY OF QUEEN ESTHER

Abasnerus, the Persian king, had issued a decree that anyone coming into his presence unbidden should be put to death unless he held out his golden scepter, thus shielding them from harm. Esther was a Jewess, although the fact was not known to the king. Mordecai, her uncle, by whom she was named, was also a Jew and sat continually at the gate of the king's palace.

Haman, the favorite of the king, noticed that Mordecai did not bow down to him when he passed, as the king had commanded that everyone in his kingdom should, and consequently he was very angry and began to show his hatred for Mordecai. Not knowing that Esther is related to Mordecai or that she is a Jewess, he went to the king and with many smooth speeches persuaded him to believe that a certain race of people in his kingdom did not keep his laws, and Haman then offered a large sum of money to the king if he would issue a decree by which all these people would be destroyed. The king refused the money but granted Haman power to do as he saw fit with the race who was so wicked.

Haman rejoiced in his heart and at once went out and ordered a gallows to be built, on which he intended to hang Mordecai. Mordecai, having learned that his race was to be exterminated from the kingdom, sought out Esther and told her to go to the king and make supplication for her people. She reminded her uncle that it meant death to go to the king unbidden, but Mordecai insisted and she finally consented to go. She told Mordecai to have all the Jews fast and pray for her for a period of three days, at the end of which time she would go to the king at the risk of her life and make supplication for all the Jews.

At the appointed time she went to the king and he held out the golden scepter, thereby protecting her life, and asked to know her wish, promising to grant it, even unto the half of his kingdom.

Esther asked the king to attend a banquet which she had prepared for him, and to have Haman attend also. The request was granted, and when the king and Haman came to the ban-

quet the king again asked Esther to make known her wish. She replied that he had prepared a still greater banquet for the next day, and requested the king to attend it and bring Haman. The second request was readily granted.

When the king retired that night he could not sleep, so he sent for his scribe and had him read the court records to him. In this way he learned for the first time that Mordecai had saved his life by sending him a warning that at a certain time he was to be assassinated in his sleep. Desiring to honor Mordecai for this act, he called in Haman and asked him what should be done to the man whom he wished to honor. Haman, thinking he himself was the one to be honored, tells the king that the man should be clothed in royal apparel, put upon the king's horse and led through the streets by the most noble prince in the kingdom. The king then announced that Mordecai was the man whom he wished to honor, and ordered Haman to carry out the plan which he had suggested.

As soon as he had finished this task which was to him so unpleasant, he was summoned to the second banquet that Queen Esther had prepared.

At this banquet the king again asks Esther to make known her wish. She then tells him that her petition is that the lives of herself and her people be spared, informing him that they are all sold to be slain and to perish.

The king is very angry and asks her who has done this thing, and she informs him that Haman is the guilty man. The king then causes Haman to be hanged on the gallows which has been prepared for Mordecai, and appoints Mordecai to the position made vacant by Haman's death.

This is a short synopsis of the story which is to be told in song by the people of La Grande at Stewart's opera house on next Tuesday and Wednesday nights, October 24th and 25th for the benefit of the La Grande Commercial Club. The staging and costuming will be very elaborate, and no pains will be spared by Prof Robinson, the conductor, to make this the best and most successful entertainment of the kind ever given in La Grande.

Night School

If enough pupils can be secured I shall open a night school in the central city upon the following plan:

I shall teach one subject one evening each week from 7 o'clock to 9, the first hour to be given to those beginning the subject. The charge will be two dollars per month for each subject. The subjects taught will be English Grammar, Arithmetic, Rhetoric, Literature or as many of them as there are classes large enough. Those who wish to enroll will please give their names to the Observer office, to Mr. F. Kilpatrick or to myself.

H. J. HOCKENBEE

Apples For Sale

Twenty car loads of good winter apples for sale. Call or address the secretary of the Home Fruit Co., Cove Oregon.

If your paper is not delivered as you think it should be, please notify the office and the mistake will be rectified.

AUCTION SALE

I will sell, at public sale, at my farm one and one half miles north of Island City on Wednesday Oct 25th at ten o'clock, the following property: 2 mares and colts, 1 yearling colt, 2 work horses, 8 head of cattle, 2 wagons, 1 hack, 1 mower and rake, 112 inch gang plow, 1 harrow, 1 fan mill, 2 seeders, 1 binder, 1 scalding box, 2 sets harness, and other things too numerous to mention.

Terms of sale. Sums of \$10 and under cash. Sums over \$10 9 mo. time on approved notes without interest. Ten per cent discount for cash.

WM. MOFFS

ED STRINGHAM, Auctioneer

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