

Summer Stage New Perform

Feelings Aroused by Music. In this play's vast vault or ocean's sound, that life's self and draws my life from me, and by instinct ineffable desire holds my breath.

Qualms on the bitter bond? Nay, is it life or death, thou thunder-crowned, that mad the tide of all emergency? Now, notes by separate wave, and to what end?

The difficult eddies labor in the ground? Oh! what is this that knows the road I came, the name turned cloud, the cloud returned to flame.

The lifted shifted steps and all the way? This draws around me at last this wind-warm space.

And in regenerate rapture turns my face, Upon the devious covers of diadem.

—Hansie Gabriel Reest.

part, with any amount of action thrown in. He has no "lines"—that is, for those in the front of the house to hear. He speaks, though, very often and with words that would make any fair lady gasp for breath. However, I warrant you, in the great hereafter, these words will be forgiven him. He, of all men, at times, has occasion to "say things."

His part is not to stand in the glare of the limelight and make heroic speeches, but, in overall and jumper, he works the stage—changes it, at will, from garden to palace, street to humble cot. Talk about the weather man! It is not for our friend behind the scenes to prophesy. If snow is wanted, then, just at the right time, snow we have, in great, big paper flakes. The god of thunder and lightning is not in it. It is the scenery that is the magic of the wings; the rolls or flashes come or go, at his beck and call.

When, between the acts, the wait seems long and the audience grumbles, it should remember that this unknown actor—whose name is not down on the programme—is going through his part, with all the speed that he can command. The stage, perhaps, has to be reset and all the scenery moved or rearranged; this is his work, and he is trying to accomplish it in as short a time as possible.

So, reader, next time there is a wait "between acts," remember our friend behind the scenes—he who receives neither applause nor newspaper notices—and be lenient.

S. TERRY M'KEAN, Jr.

illud ed conscience that they had forcibly secured the dispositions of both the serpents and the youth of this country with that unnecessary acid.

But there's no use arguing on the subject. They might as well order the arsenic-mixer to color his deception with 5 per cent of imported red ink. He can do it, but it won't be the real thing. He can put 5 per cent of lemon juice on his snake, but it won't be circus lemonade.

"SAPHO" THE PAST WEEK

Australian Comedy Company Plays to Good Business and Will Renew Engagement for Week.

The Australian comedy company completed a week's engagement at the Metropolitan last night. The bill, for the entire week, is a masterpiece of dramatic art, a version of Alphonse Daudet's novel of the same title. The version used by Olga Netherole, in the East, is not the same as that presented by the Australian comedy company, the latter being expurgated of all that could prove objectionable, yet retaining all the action and "bright dialogue" features of the Netherole production.

The company which produced it here, largely composed, as it is, of former members of the Moore-Roberts combination, and several of whom made distinct hits while in Portland with the last-mentioned troupe, during the past theatrical season, is one of considerable merit, and played to very good houses throughout the engagement just closed, this despite the warm weather and Summer exodus which has recently set in. Miss George Elliot, a newcomer, and the leading woman of the company, sustained the title role of the piece, and did it superbly well. It is a part that calls for dramatic talent of a high order, and Miss Elliot met most of its requirements, and should improve, as she becomes more familiar with it.

Alec Cochrane, as Jean Gausson, was forceful, and Joseph Finney showed a proper conception of the character of Deschamps. The other members of the cast, and Miss Madge Corcoran, who is a very pretty woman, as well as a capable actress, and who was cast for Aunt Divonne, gave commendable presentations of their respective parts, while W. J. Townsend, as Flamant; Percy Ward, one of the best low comedians on the coast at present; Jones, as Uncle Casaire, and Milton Manning, as Caudal, the sculptor, also performed acceptably. Miss Girard was good as Madame Hettima.

In consequence of the success of "Sapho," Manager Jones, of the Metropolitan, has renewed the engagement of the Australian comedy company for another week, barring tomorrow evening. The bill, at present, Jones, as Uncle Casaire, and Miss Madge Corcoran, who is a very pretty woman, as well as a capable actress, and who was cast for Aunt Divonne, gave commendable presentations of their respective parts, while W. J. Townsend, as Flamant; Percy Ward, one of the best low comedians on the coast at present; Jones, as Uncle Casaire, and Milton Manning, as Caudal, the sculptor, also performed acceptably. Miss Girard was good as Madame Hettima.

"THE SENSATIONAL THEATER"

Well-Merited Excoriation of Vulgar Dramatic Panderers.

"The sensational theater," says a writer in the July Century, "is operated upon the theory that the great bulk of the public is not only incapable of appreciating what is intellectual, what is instructive, what is wholesome, or inspiring in the drama, but is addicted naturally to what is morbid, abnormal, audacious, startling or unclear, and will pay handsomely for the gratification of a depraved appetite. In other words, the scheme is to make money by pandering to vice at the cost of the wholesale demoralization of the youth who are to be the backbone of the American nation of the future."

"The policy is purely diabolical but fatuous. That it has proved temporarily successful cannot be disputed. Fortunes have been made by the exploitation of wholly worthless and abominable plays; but evils of the kind in the last-mentioned work their own remedy. There is not, perhaps, any reason for expecting a sudden or speedy revival of public morality, but sooner or later dishes reeking of one particular spite shall upon the palate, and in most cases satisfaction is followed by disgust. Luckily the theater cannot, for obvious reasons, exceed certain limits, and is thus confined to a damnable iteration, which must in time become tiresome. These limits have been reached, or nearly reached."

"The writer is nearly correct," remarks a Boston Globe contributor, "the theater-going public, and the happenings of last season proved, is about sated both with mere coarseness and with its blacker associate, emotional viciousness. Efforts will be made to revive a contrary state of affairs, but they will react with a heavy financial penalty upon those who make them. The coming season is to be one of stage clarification. The labor, however, is so gigantic in the twelve-month may pass before the good results become in much wise apparent. A few more French farces—freshly imported—must have failure written large across them. Nevertheless, the tide has turned."

CURED OF LIMPING.

"Ben Hur" Performing Camel, Has a Broken Leg Set.

When Ben Hur, the big 150-pound camel used in the New York production of Lew Wallace's play, "Ben Hur," broke its left foreleg last Winter, it was the opinion of every one that it would have to be killed. The animal is worth \$3000, and Klaw & Erlanger determined to save it, if possible.

For two months thereafter Ben Hur hung in a sling, with his broken leg encased in plaster of paris. When the plaster splint was taken off, the leg was drawn up, and the animal walked lame. It appeared as if the camel would never be able to move without a pronounced limp, so badly were the muscles contracted, and that thereafter Ben Hur would be useless for stage purposes.

Dr. Martin, the trainer and veterinarian, who trained the horses for the chariot race in "Ben Hur," said he believed he could make the camel as good as new. He took it to his farm at Hempstead, L. I., and there, every day for the past three months, he has had men manipulate the injured leg by pulling and rubbing it. The animal can now walk as well as before the accident, without the sign of a limp.

MANFIELD MEETS HIS MATCH.

Richard is Beaten by Witty Western Scene Manager.

"Richard Mansfield is a nimble-witted fellow," said a minor member of his company the other day, "but he met a scene manager out West early this season who was quite his match. The fellow's name is Jack Quinn. He had been a farmer in olden days with Booth and McCullough, and was a prize at his work. Jack always sought to avoid causes for complaint, and especially did he so act in the case of Mansfield. But a kick was inevitable.

"A couple of scene-shifters, after some laborious work in the field, came down to the rear of the stage, breathing rather heavily as a result of their exertions. Mansfield chanced to walk near them. He nearly froze them with a look. They were summoned Quinn.

"The breathing of these men annoys me," said Richard.

"I'd answer to the law if I stopped it," replied Jack, with ready wit.

"A stage hand slipped and danced about a little in the effort to regain his balance.

"Your men make too much noise with their feet," exclaimed the actor.

"Hereafter they'll walk on their hands," was the response.

"Mansfield had no more use for Quinn, and during the remainder of the engagement they spoke to each other only when it was absolutely necessary."—New England Magazine.

NEILL IN HONOLULU.

Marked Success of His Engagement at Hawaii's Capital.

The engagement played by James Neill and his clever company, at the Hawaiian Opera-House, Honolulu, beginning June 23, was a remarkable success, financially, as well as dramatically. Mr. Neill's attraction was the first to appear in Honolulu since the plague visitation last Fall. The first two weeks' receipts exceeded \$3,000, and those for the full period of four weeks were more than \$5,000.

Beginning in August, 1901, the Neill company will play a return engagement in Honolulu for five weeks, under a \$30,000 guarantee. Charles Aster Parker, manager for the company, will, early next Summer, precede the organization by a two months' start, and arrange dates in Australia and points in the Orient. This tour will cover a period of nine months.

DEATH OF CARL SONTAG.

Brother of Henrietta Sontag and a Noted German Actor.

Carl Sontag, the noted German actor, died in Berlin on Sunday morning, June 23. In his native land, where for many years he was esteemed as a leader in his particular field of dramatic art, his passing is deeply mourned, and among the German theater-goers of New York, says the Dramatic Mirror, of that city, who

AT THE STEPPING STONES

Will Tour the Orient Under a Cash Guarantee of \$60,000.

A contract was recently closed between Colonel W. A., otherwise familiarly known as "Billy," Thompson, of the Boston Lyric Opera Company, and Mountie de Co, the Oriental exhibitor, at Yokohama, Japan, and whereby the Mountie Impresario's forces will make a tour of Japan, China, the Philippine Islands, India and Australia under a guarantee, by Mountie de Co, of \$60,000 for a six months' tour. The firm further undertakes to pay all transportation and baggage expenses from and to San Francisco, via Australia, and on December 1 of the present year it will deposit \$30,000 in the Bank of California, at San Francisco, subject to Colonel Thompson's order, and to guarantee the performance of the contract. Colonel Thompson will give a bond, guaranteeing the fulfillment of his part of the agreement.

On the arrival of the company at Yokohama, Mountie de Co will make an additional deposit of \$30,000 in the Bank of Yokohama, thus fully covering the firm's guarantee. The company will open at Yokohama on or about June 15.

This undertaking is one of great magnitude, and the transportation of the opera company, consisting, as it does, of 25 people, will prove costly. The rate of transportation to the Orient are very high, and it is estimated that this item of expense alone will reach a total of \$200,000 for such a tour. The points at which the latter will appear are widely separated, often requiring a journey of two weeks from one place to another.

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MAN BEHIND THE SCENES.

Artistic Work of Him Who "Sets the Stage" for the Play.

ASTORIA, July 18.—(To the Editor.)—We have all heard of the "man behind the gun"; he deserves every bit of the praise he has won, and I am going to speak of another man, little known, but who deserves more praise than is his wont to receive—the man behind the scenes. Back in the region of mystery, where so many of the uninitiated will gather before the footlights fancy all is play, and see in the mind's eye the actor waiting in his dressing-room, while waiting to go on, surrounded by luxury and resting on cushioned chair or couch, cut flowers scattered here and there on dressing tables, leading the atmosphere with fragrance—there is he to be found. Oh, how swiftly the pretty illusion is knocked in the head as one steps through the old, begrimed stage-door and sees there, to the front, the great drop-curtain and knows he is in the domain of King Theatrical.

No sooner is this stage-door swung to and closed, than one is aware of a peculiar odor—not offensive, but different from any other odor ever met with—a combination of gas, paint, tobacco, perfume, and I don't know what all. This is the home of, and where we meet, the man behind the scenes. He is everywhere—here, there, above and below.

During a performance, his is a "think-

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Dr. and Mrs. Adams, of Albany, arrived Thursday evening. Dr. Adams will remain here throughout the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Veal returned Wednesday to Albany.

Mr. W. Langdon, cashier of the First National Bank of Albany, arrived Wednesday to join his family, who have been here for two weeks, in their cottage on Nye Creek.

King, ex-agent for the C. & E. Railroad, Kingston, will have charge of the telegraph office and railway baggage department here during the season.

Edwin Stone, manager of the C. & E. Railroad, was here this week.

Rev. James Thomson, of Brownsville, who recently returned from a trip to Ireland and the Paris exposition, will preach at one of the churches next Sunday.

F. J. Smiley, of Albany, was here for a few days.

D. E. Rose, of the Postal Telegraph Company, Portland, has been in Newport for a week.

AT THE BEACHES.

(Continued from Page Thirteen.)

Mrs. W. E. Stevens and children, John Morrison, Mrs. Meyer and children, Mrs. F. M. Hill and children, Mr. E. E. Beaman and family arrived this week from Albany.

Mr. Sullivan, superintendent of the Corvallis & Eastern Railroad, spent Sunday at the bath, and H. L. Wilson, of the Corvallis & Eastern force, came over the same day with the excursion.

Squire Farrar and family, of Salem, have gone to Seal Rocks to spend several days at the bath.

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