

most intense dramatic poem that has ever been written. All the poets of our earth would declare it the supreme piece of the human mind. All of which is too sincere to be patronizing.

Madame Blodgood, who has been left "disengaged," owing to the failure of "The Crown of a Duchess," which Clyde Fitch wrote for her use this season, is now playing with Amalia Blodgood in New York. She has her former role in "The Climbers."

Mildred Morris, a daughter of the late Felix Morris, who was the father of F. H. Ward, and Henry Weeman, son of the late Thomas Weeman, formerly of the London troupe company, who was the father of Tom Hinch of his time, are all members of the "Mansfield" company.

"Sergeant Brum" is a musical comedy by Owen Hall and Liza Lehman, now running at the Prince of Wales Theater, London, has been obtained for an American production, with Frank Daniels in the title role. The musical comedy will be given its New York premiere early next Spring.

Frank Perley, it is said, has arranged with J. M. Barrie to have "The Little Minister" made into a musical comedy. The title of the new opera is "The Little Minister." It is in the musical version Mr. Perley intends to star Viola Gillette, the stage actress who was seen here in "The Sleeping Beauty and the Boy."

It is understood that Blanche Walsh's leading man when she produces Fitch's new play "The Women in the Case," in New York next month will be Robert Drouet. Mr. Drouet, who yesterday closed his engagement here with Miss Anita in "The Eternal Feminine," will remain in that company until next Saturday, when he leaves for New York and will begin his tour of appearances with Miss Walsh.

Berberth Tree has a project for a Shakespearean festival, to take place at His Majesty's Theater, in London, next April. The performances will extend over a fortnight, and will be embraced, apart from the special productions by other artists which may be arranged for, revivals of "Julius Caesar," "The Merry Wives of Windsor," "Macbeth," "Hamlet," "Richard II," "Macbeth," and "Much Ado About Nothing."

Every one remembers Eugene Field's criticism of a performance of "Hamlet" in Denver: "Mr. Jones acted Hamlet last night at the Tabor Grand Opera House, and he acted it well. A still better one comes from a review printed somewhere in the West. The drama in this instance was "King Lear," and the complaint against the actor was that he was in the impregnation of the "His Majesty's King," which the newspaper, as though he were an expecting woman, some else to play the part."

Herbert Bosworth, who played here with Mrs. Fiske and Florence Yonkers, has been compelled to retire, and will spend the winter in California building up his health. Though he possesses a robust physique, Mr. Bosworth has fallen a victim of consumption. The physicians in the West have given Mr. Bosworth but little reason to hope that he will ever return to the footlights, although he was compelled to retire on two previous occasions, and came around all right after a long rest.

Robert T. Haines heads a capable company in "Once Upon a Time," a new modern romantic comedy by Genevieve G. Haines, author of "Hearts Adams," which will have its first production at the Berkeley Playhouse Theater in Berkeley, California, on Friday evening. The company includes Gertrude Coghlan as leading lady, E. J. Radcliffe as leading man, Miss Costello and Tom Ricketts in character comedy roles, and Arthur Hoyt, who succeeded William Morris as Adonis, the hunchback in "The Palace of the King," for an eccentric character.

According to a New York writer, rehearsals at the Metropolitan Opera-House have suddenly become interesting. Cause—Conrad. He is always there, and nothing escapes his eye. He is a man who knows the music, but leaves that to his conductors. That stage setting, action, grouping, business, and all such matters are personally supervised by him. He is actor-manager, and no one can fool him about these things. He can catch the least error in a rehearsal, and all the prima donnas go to rehearsal now. The cause of this is also Conrad.

FIRST BATTERY INSPECTED.

Adjutant-General Finzer Presents State Medal to Private Larson.

Friday night, First Battery, Field Artillery, Oregon National Guard, held its regular quarterly meeting and inspection. Captain H. U. Welch being the inspecting officer. The battery made a very fine appearance, considering the condition of the old blue uniforms. The battery did not drill with the field pieces, but went through the foot movements of a field battery and the pistol drill as only artillerymen can.

Adjutant-General Finzer was present and expressed himself as well pleased with the showing made, and in a few well-chosen remarks complimented Private Chris Larson with the state medal for the highest score made at pistol practice during the target season this Fall. The battery did some very good work on the pistol range, and had a man qualified as marksmen out of 52 practicing. The medal won by Private Larson must be won three times to become the permanent property of the holder. Last year it was won by Corporal W. H. Ormandy. The battery is hoping that the recommendations of General Finzer will be carried out, for then the organization will be given more field pieces, making a four-gun field battery. The battery now has but two field pieces and two obsolete Gatling guns. With two more new guns, Oregon could boast of one of the best field batteries in the United States.

Maud Adams and "The Simple Life"

As Disciple of the Wagner Cult, "Lady Babbie" Gains 27 Pounds

Chicago Inter-Ocean. It is fair to assume that there are very few theater followers in this country who are not interested in Maud Adams, and particularly in the manner in which Miss Adams spends her time. For the knowledge has gone abroad that she is far from strong, and this has added to natural curiosity a tinge of sympathy that whets the interest. Miss Adams' movements, however, once she is away from the theater, are distinctly and even severely those of the private citizen. She objects seriously to any one attempting to record them. She shuns the earnest reporter as she would the plague, and looks upon newspapers in general, with a necessary evil than a blessing. Personally, she is anxious that her tours should be conducted with as little publicity as possible, and the keynote of her character is that of honest, retiring modesty.

However, there are those favored individuals to whom Miss Adams will talk, and sometimes they tell of her vacations. One such related last week that the attractive little actress gained 27 pounds last Summer doing nothing more than living Mr. Wagner's simple life at her country place deep in the Catskills. She fairly reveled in outdoor life and "licked like a school girl," for it is said she has the happy faculty of casting aside all cares pertaining to the stage when her season of vacation comes. About four years ago Miss Adams selected a tract of ground in the most remote portion of the Catskill Mountains, in an extremely high elevation overlooking the valley of the Hudson River. Here she built a home, which, however, she seldom occupies herself during an entire Summer, but usually makes the abiding-place of a number of her friends whom she sends there at dif-

ISLAND OF CONTRALTOS

Oregon So Termed by Herr Corried in New York Interview.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—(Special Correspondence)—Christmas week! If people think that any one has much thought of theater concert or even opera at this particular season of the year it is a great mistake. At the opera, however, there has been more activity, notwithstanding the disappointment as far as Melba has been concerned, as she was announced in "Traviata" and in "Rigoletto," in both of which operas Madame Sembrich substituted for her. It is a noticeable fact that the audiences are larger this year than they have been for many seasons. Whether this is due to the general excellence of the company or financial conditions cannot be definitely stated; but a success in the highest acceptance of the term the Metropolitan Opera of this season must be declared. The shining lights are more numerous this year, but we have learned, thoroughly, that a great operatic production needs much more than two or three shining lights. It is the point that Mr. Corried has made, and that is the excellence that counts, in which the chorus and the stage setting, the orchestra and the handling of the stage are as important as Sembrich or Melba or Caruso or Nordica. It is in this point that Mr. Corried has won distinction. He understands the contour, and, moreover, he understands how to secure it on the Metropolitan stage. It is for this reason that the performance has been distinguished from other great productions in this city heretofore, and the advance in excellence this year over last season is the subject of conversation and comment among all the opera-going public. Whether this is the case or whether it is the glamor of the present, it is not easy to say, but it is certain that the performances are of the very highest order and leave little to be desired.

One of the most interesting features of the Metropolitan Opera Association is the establishment of the new Opera School, which has already shown remarkable results in so far as the training of singers is concerned. It is the point that Mr. Corried has made, and that is the excellence that counts, in which the chorus and the stage setting, the orchestra and the handling of the stage are as important as Sembrich or Melba or Caruso or Nordica. It is in this point that Mr. Corried has won distinction. He understands the contour, and, moreover, he understands how to secure it on the Metropolitan stage. It is for this reason that the performance has been distinguished from other great productions in this city heretofore, and the advance in excellence this year over last season is the subject of conversation and comment among all the opera-going public. Whether this is the case or whether it is the glamor of the present, it is not easy to say, but it is certain that the performances are of the very highest order and leave little to be desired.

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results from all over-beautiful voices, handsome men and women, and no sound-work and no languages and no knowledge of how to study—it is a great pity, a great pity.

"But," resumed Herr Corried, "things will be different. There will be something to work for, something which will pull on earth to accomplish instead of merit, and when this will be understood I believe that teachers will teach differently, and pupils will study differently, because this opportunity is within the grasp of the Californian as well as of the New Yorker."

"And what about the Oregonian, Mr. Corried? I ventured to ask. "Oh, the Oregonian," he said, "that is the lead of the contraltos, and there is no reason why we should not get something worth while from that section of the country." It is a notable fact that most of the young ladies from Portland, Or., who have studied in New York have been contraltos. Among these may be mentioned Miss Imogene Hays, Miss Evelyn Hoyer, Miss Edna Gates, Miss Ruth Hoyt, Miss Rose Case, Mrs. H. M. Smith, who has just arrived; Miss Lorena Sales, which makes a pretty good showing from Portland, Or. I cannot pass on from the affairs of the opera without speaking of the wonderful production of Rossini's Stabat Mater, on Sunday night, in which Nordica sang the Inflammatus. The outburst of applause has been distinguished from other great productions in this city heretofore, and the advance in excellence this year over last season is the subject of conversation and comment among all the opera-going public. Whether this is the case or whether it is the glamor of the present, it is not easy to say, but it is certain that the performances are of the very highest order and leave little to be desired.

The most notable concert of the week without a doubt was given on Sunday afternoon when Walter Damrosch shared honors with Ysaye before an audience which was more than filled from pit to dome. The other soloists were Louise Homer, Paul Plancon and Frank V. Pollock. This latter is an American tenor who has been studying in Europe with Jean de Reszke. Mr. Pollock made his debut upon this occasion, and in the Cujus Animus he established the fact that he could hold his own with the other singers, which is not by any means an easy thing to do, taking into consideration the exceptional merits of the rest of the cast. The work was sung in Latin, and it was conducted by Arturo Vigna, who conducted in true Italian spirit.

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With wives, families and friends, the heads and employees of Elers Piano House gathered at the store, corner Park and Washington streets, last night, to see the old year out.

Invitations had been extended to the heads and employees of all the branch stores in the city, and there was also present Mr. E. G. Erbes, the manager of Boise, Idaho; Mr. E. E. Larimore, the Seattle manager; the Salem manager, Mr. A. L. Lovelace and his bride; also Mr. E. S. Johnston of the San Francisco house, and during the evening a number of very cleverly-worded replies were read from those living at a distance who found it impossible to attend. Dancing was indulged in in the big main saleroom; a number of musicians connected with the house gave a very fine programme, which was greatly enjoyed, and a sumptuous spread laid by the ladies in the hours to speed. At midnight everybody gave the New Year a rousing welcome, after which gaieties were indulged in until the wee sma' hours.

Unfortunates in the Mr. Elers were detained in San Francisco by business, much to the regret of every one present.

NEW YEARS AT Y. M. C. A.

Bishop David H. Moore Will Speak This Afternoon.

This afternoon at 3 o'clock at the Young Men's Christian Association is to be given a special programme of music and address. Couler's orchestra will render the following numbers: Overture—"Heather Rose".....Birley March, characteristic—"Dixie Land".....The "Brilliant".....The "Shepherd Boy".....Serenade—"Au Revoir".....Robert King Capriccio—"Au Revoir".....Sacred—"The Lord is My Shepherd"..... The Association Glee Club and Male Quartet will assist in the opening concert. Bishop David H. Moore, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, will give a New Year's address to young men. Admission is entirely free and all men are invited.

A Warning. The Snake—You're the king of beasts, are you? The Lion—Yes, and I want you to understand that I shall consider missing as lese majeste.

EMPIRE THEATER

SEATS CAN BE ORDERED BY PHONE, MAIN 117. Carriages Can Be Ordered for 10.30. No More Than 10 Seats Sold to One Person. Beware of Speculators.

ONE SOLID WEEK STARTING TONIGHT

Special Matinee Tomorrow—Legal Holiday Regular Matinee Saturday

B. C. WHITNEY Presents the Musical Tom Foolery

THE BIGGEST THEATRICAL BARGAIN EVER OFFERED

With HILDA THOMAS, and a Metropolitan Cast of Fifty People Headed by Sam Mylle.

40—New Song Hits—40 Girly-Girly Chorus of 30

PRICES—ALL MATINEES, 10c, 15c and 25c EVENING 15c, 25c, 35c and 50c.

TAKE A TIP AND SECURE YOUR SEATS EARLY. NEXT ATTRACTION... RUDOLPH AND ADOLPH YOU ALL KNOW THIS ONE

MARQUAM GRAND THEATER

NEW YEAR'S ATTRACTION Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Nights, Jan. 2, 3, 4 Special Price Matinee Wednesday Commanded "Befo' the King," Edward VII, Buckingham Palace, June 23, 1903 First American Tour Since the Return from Europe of WILLIAMS & WALKER

THE ROYAL COMEDIANS and Company of Colored Artists in their Latest Success

INDAHOMEY

A Colored Musical Comedy of Amusing Beauty, Harmony and Irresistible Humor. Music by Will Marion Cook. Lyrics by Paul L. Dunbar. Book by Jean A. Shipps. Additional Lyrics by Alex Rogers. BEAUTIFULLY STAGED. EVERYTHING ENTIRELY NEW. DIRECTION OF MESSRS. HURVIG AND SEAMON.

EVENING PRICES: Lower floor except last 3 rows, \$1.50; last 3 rows, \$1.00; balcony, first 3 rows, \$1.00; second 3 rows, 75c; last 3 rows, 50c. Gallery, 25c. Boxes and logs, \$3.00. SPECIAL MATINEE PRICES: Parquette, \$1.00; parquette circle, 75c; balcony, first 3 rows, 75c; last 3 rows, 50c. Gallery, 25c. Boxes and logs, \$3.00.

SEATS ARE NOW SELLING

MARQUAM GRAND THEATER

W. T. FANGLE, Resident Manager Phone . . . . . 565

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AFTERNOONS AND EVENINGS, JANUARY 6 and 7 SECOND RETURN VISIT

THE BEN GREY PLAYERS

Friday and Saturday Afternoons at 3 o'clock—The XV-Century Morality Play

EVERYMAN

Friday and Saturday Evenings—Shakespeare's Delightful Comedy TWELFTH NIGHT

Acted in the Elizabethan manner.

NOTE—Friday, January 6, is Twelfth Night, an entertainment for which celebration Shakespeare undoubtedly wrote this comedy.

EVENING PRICES—Lower floor, except last three rows, \$1.50; last three rows, \$1.00; balcony, first three rows, \$1.00; second three rows, 75c; last 3 rows, 50c. Gallery, 25 and 35 cents. Boxes and logs, \$3.00. SPECIAL MATINEE PRICES—Entire lower floor, \$1.00; balcony, first six rows, 75c; balcony, last six rows, 50c; gallery, 25 and 35 cents. Children under 14 years, 25c to any part of the theater. The advance sale of seats will open next Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock.

COLUMBIA THEATER A. H. BALLARD, Lessee and Manager A \$1.50 PLAY FOR 50c. NEW YEAR'S OFFERING, STARTING TODAY, JANUARY 1 Regular Matinees Sunday and Saturday. THE COLUMBIA STOCK COMPANY In Augustin Daly's Scintillating Comedy THE LAST WORD Special New Year's Matinee, Monday, January 2 PRICES: Evening, best seat in the house, 50 cents. Balcony, 25c, 35c, 50c. Gallery, 15c. MATINEE, best seat in the house, 25 cents; balcony, 15c. Gallery, 10c. Down town box office, Daily Garden candy shop, 327 Morrison, open all day. Phone Main 110. Evening at theater, Main 211. NEXT WEEK . . . . . THE HOLY CITY

BIJOU THEATER

Sixth st., opposite Oregonian. Programme Commencing Week Jan. 2

O'Connell & Summers The dancing newboys.

Jimmie DeWeese Musical novelty.

Mamie Morris Singer, dancer and bomb-thrower.

Jennie Colborn Vocalist and comic-soubrette.

The Bradfords Singers and dancers.

Edna Foley Illustrated songs.

Bijougraph Moving pictures.

Afternoons . . . . . From 2 to 4:30 Evenings . . . . . From 7 to 10:30 Sundays . . . . . Continuous from 2 to 10:30 Admission, 10c.

BAKER THEATER

Third and Yamhill Streets KEATING & FLOOD, Managers Largest Vaudeville House in America.

Week Commencing Jan. 2.

Athon, Wilson and Clark In their latest production entitled the "Coming Man."

Dick—Hamlins—Louise First appearance in Portland in their staging and dancing comedy Specialty.

The Great Stanfield Monologist.

Prof. Hunt's Great dog and monkey show.

The Fishers Marvelous contortionists.

J. W. Wood In Illustrated songs.

The Biograph New Pictures.

Admission, 10 cents. Performances 2:30, 7:30 and 9 P. M.

ANOTHER GREAT ALL FEATURE BILL

STAR

THIS WEEK. NEW BILL STARTS MONDAY.

THE OKABES The World's Greatest Troupe of Japanese Jugglers, acrobats and Magicians.

THE MOLASSOS Return Engagement of the Parisian Favorites, in Their Magnificent Spectacular Whirling Dances.

AHNER & BAXTER Comedy Acrobats, Who Accomplish Many Seemingly Amazing Impossible Feats.

GUS LEONARD "The Man With the Medals," a Prize-Taking Juggler.

ZAMPA A Very Smart Novelty Musical Act by an Artist to the Manner Born. Not a Doubt Moment.

ROBERT ELLIS A Singer of Spirited Pictured Ballads.

PROJECTOSCOPE Showing the Count's Personal, the Biggest Success in the History of Moving Pictures.

Continuous Bill Sunday, 2 to 10:30 P. M. Week-day Shows, 2:30 to 4:30, 7:30 to 10:30 P. M. Admission, 10 cents. Reserved Box Seats, 25 cents.

NOVELTIES AT THE Arcade

—THIS WEEK—

NEW BILL STARTS MONDAY.

THE GARDEN TRIO Commanders-in-Chief of the Army of Fun.

LEONARD AND HELD Novelty Roman Ring Artists, Whose Feats Are Most Surprising.

STANLEY & AILEEN Pleasing Singers and Graceful Dancers.

LILY PALOMA An Operatic Soprano, Who Has Made Her Name by Singing Them With Much Spirit.

ARTHUR LANE Portland's Favorite Singer of Illustrated Ballads.

AMERICAN BIOSCOPE New and Amusing Moving Pictures of Real Sights and Scenes.

Continuous Bill Sunday, 2 to 10:30 P. M. Week-day Shows, 2:30 to 4:30, 7:30 to 10:30 P. M. Admission, 10 cents to any seat.

GRAND THEATER

Continuous performances Sunday and Monday from 2 to 11 P. M.

Week Commencing Monday, January 2

10—NEW ACTS—10 STARTLING NOVELTIES

SID PHILLIPS AND HIS 3—ENGLISH DAISIES—3 High-Class Novelty Singing and Musical Surprises.

DA GROSS Latest European Spectacular Novelty Radium Dance and Mystifying Act.

TED E. BOX Great Australian Specialty Artist

CHRISTY AND WILLIS Comedy Tramp Jugglers and Premier Dancers.

THE HAMLINS In Their Great Eastern Successes.

TEGGE AND DANIEL The Jolly Irish Provokers.

THE MELLENOTTE SISTERS Specialty Artists.

MR. ALF BONNER New Song, "Down in the Vale of Sheenodah."

THE GRANDISCOPE Latest Parisian Film Story, "Life of Louis XIV."

Don't fail to see the Arabs. Last chance to see the wonderful Admission to any seat, 10c; box seats 25c.