

ON THE STAGE



ETHEL JACKSON, STAR THEATER.

CATHERINE COUNTISS AS LYDIA IN 'QUO VADIS' AT THE COLUMBIA

THERE was variety enough at the various theaters to suit the most capricious taste, but no great overshadowing event, as there was in the preceding week.

Edna Wallace Hopper desires to get away from the musical idea and be known as a comedienne who acts rather than sings ditties or dances steps. She brought her chosen vehicle, "A Country Mouse," to the Marquam at the beginning of the week and it must be confessed did not set the river on fire. In "Captain January," which she used as a curtain-raiser, her work was pleasing. She portrayed a very little girl in pinafores, and the illusion was quite satisfactory. It was more Arthur Law's fault that "A Country Mouse" did not suit Portland, for he wrote it. We may not be sufficiently civilized to appreciate the rib which the comedy contains. New York approved when Ethel Barrymore played it, and, of course, with New York's seal upon it the rest of the country should accept it willy nilly. Unfortunately, the rest of the country is not so disposed, and "The Mouse" falls flat in the "provinces." If Mrs. Hopper is in earnest about a change for the better, she made a dreadful mistake in taking up with this piece after it had been used by another star. She should have provided herself with a new play and one that can be witnessed without qualms by decent people. Believe "A Country Mouse," Edna Wallace Hopper, and get something that doesn't need doctoring.

Joseph Murphy, the old-time Irish comedian, gave three performances of his famous "Kerry Gun" and "Shaun Rhee." These plays came like a breath of fresh air after the staid Hopper experience. The star and his plays are seemingly as unchanging as the eternal hills, and the regular Murphy clientele was on hand to enjoy Irish as she should be spoke and acted.

De Paebmann, a piano-playing celebrity, had the house on Saturday night.

"Sweet Lavender" at the Columbia gave the stock company a chance to do its best, and the result was one of the most attractive performances of the company's career.

The Empire kept its customers busy with "Over Niagara Falls," a melodramatic and noisy as they make 'em, and the lesser stock companies at the Bijou and Lyric gave satisfaction. The vaudeville patronage picked up considerably during the week, probably owing to the fact that unusually good bills were offered.

A. A. G.



J. H. STODDARD IN 'THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH' AT THE MARQUAM

'QUO VADIS' AT THE COLUMBIA

Second of a Series of Religious Dramas Opens Today.

Starting with the matinee today, the Columbia Theater will produce the scene of a most magnificent and impressive story of the earliest dawn of the Christian religion. "The Holy City," recently given at the Columbia, was a splendid success, not only in point of attendance but as a grand scenic picture, and true delineation of the events of those first days, the beginning of the Christian religion.

This master-work of the great Polish author is known throughout the civilized world, but brief resume of the story will not be out of place. Lydia, the daughter of a Lygian King, has been sent to Rome as a hostage for her father, and placed in the keeping of Plautus, a Roman General, and his wife, Pomponia. She is followed to Rome by Ursula, who for love of her has conspired himself her guardian and protector. Marcus Vinicius meets her and falls in love with her. Her pagan, she a member of the new sect of Christians, and so has fallen under the ban of the bloodthirsty Nero, who has doomed to horrible torture and death all followers of the Son of Heaven. Petronius, a wealthy patrician, uncle of Vinicius, espouse the cause of the young lovers and determines to save Lydia from the brutality of Nero and the vengeful hatred of his wife, Poppaea. Rome is destroyed by a great conflagration, by order of Nero, who seeks an inspiration for his doggerel verse. Inspired by greed and love of gold, Chilo Chilonides, a rascally Greek, denounces the Christians as the destroyers of the city, and all are condemned to death—some flung to the lions, others wrapped in cloths soaked in oil, bound to pillars, and made living torches, while the unfortunate Lydia is fastened upon the horns of a fierce wild bull, to be gored and trampled to death in the arena before the eyes of the populace of Rome. From this frightful fate she is saved by the faithful Ursula, and restored to Vinicius, who has become a Christian. The mar-



CHARLES B. HANFORD AS DON CAESAR IN 'THE MARQUAM'

J. H. STODDARD IN 'THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH' AT THE MARQUAM

'LOVERS' LANE' AT EMPIRE.

tyre never died in vain, the throne of Nero totters, and a new power arises in the world—the power of the cross.

"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH"

J. H. Stoddard Supported by Reuben Fax and Company at Marquam.

A dramatic event of prime importance is announced for tomorrow, Tuesday and Wednesday nights, February 13, 14 and 15, at the Marquam Grand Theater, when "The Bonnie Briar Bush" will be offering at that playhouse. This is the fourth year of this stage adaptation of Ian MacLaren's tales and its exceptional success is known to the majority of theatergoers.

The favorite actor, J. H. Stoddard, and the quaint comedian, Reuben Fax, will again head the cast, which with a few minor exceptions, is said to be the same as has been seen here in the two previous engagements of this charming play. The story mainly treats of how the old shepherd, Lachlan Campbell, whose life and home are controlled by the sternest

religion, discredits the "Scotch marriage" of his daughter Flora and Lord Hay, driving the girl from his home in a tremendous outburst of anger, afterward blotting her name from the family Bible.

Mr. Stoddard's interpretation of Lachlan Campbell is known to be one of the great portraits of the American stage, and he gives to the part a rendition that is wonderful when it is remembered that he is in his 80th year. This is announced as Mr. Stoddard's farewell tour of the country, making his engagement the last in which he will be seen here as the old Scotch shepherd. Reuben Fax, who created the role of the tipping, philosophical postman, Archibald McKittrick, will again portray this lovable character, contributing much of the comedy with which this play abounds. The same beautiful scenery seen before, is promised in the coming appearances, including scenes of the glens of Drumtochty and the interior and exterior of Campbell's cottage.

In support will be Irma La Pierre, E. Palmer Collins, Carlisle Moore, Louise Rutter, F. Elliott Jenkins, Robert C. Easton, Adelaide Cumming, William Hall, W. S. Gil, Edith Talbot, Robert Ireland and M. D. Stepper. Seats are now selling for the entire engagement.

Spain. A large and competent company will insure complete and efficient performances. Interest in these engagements will be particularly directed to Miss Marie Drotzsch, who, in a remarkably short time, has achieved a prominent place in the theatrical world by her portrayal of such heroines of the classic drama as Beatrice and Katherine. Miss Drotzsch will be seen as Desdemona, a role in which she has commanded the warmest critical admiration, and as the singer Maritana, whose charms inspire Don Caesar to his gallant enterprises.

The advance sale of seats will open next Wednesday morning, February 15, at 10 o'clock.

Believes Isadore Rush Alive.

Although Isadore Rush has been dead for three months, her aged mother, who has for a long time been in feeble health in Wilkesbarre, Pa., has read to her each week a letter supposedly written by the actress-daughter, who was killed while surf bathing in California.

It was feared that the news would be such a severe shock to the aged invalid that she could not survive it. The family arranged a system by which it will be almost impossible for the news to reach her. When she inquired anxiously why her daughter had not come to spend the holidays with her as usual she was informed that the company was making such a successful tour of the West that it would not return that for some time.

It was Miss Rush's habit to write weekly to her mother, and as these letters could not be discontinued without exciting the old lady's fears, letters purporting to be from the actress are read to her each week.

CHARLES B. HANFORD IS COMING

Eminent actor will present "Don Caesar de Bajan" and "Othello."

"Othello," the majestic Moor of Venice, and "Don Caesar de Bajan," the volatile hero of Spanish court life, are two of the most conspicuous characters in Charles B. Hanford's repertoire. Likewise the two plays he has decided to produce at the Marquam Grand Theater, Friday night and Saturday matinee, February 17 and 18. "Don Caesar de Bajan" will be given, and on Saturday night "Othello" will be the bill.

Mr. Hanford's interpretation of the role of Othello is one of the standard creations of the modern stage. The play is familiar to every playgoer and every actor's art. It is a drama of powerful human passion, requiring the dignity of bearing and intensity of emotional expression for which Mr. Hanford is distinguished. Mr. Hanford's version of the play will be the one used by Edwin Booth, who held "Don Caesar" in high esteem. Mr. Frank Hennig will have the responsibilities of the villain role in each play, being cast for lago in "Othello" and Don Juan in "Don Caesar." Mr. Edward D'Oise will play Casio and the King of

COMING ATTRACTIONS.

Carlisle Moore as Lord Brier.

When "The Bonnie Briar Bush" comes to the Marquam Grand Theater tomorrow (Monday), Tuesday and Wednesday nights an old Portland favorite, Carlisle Moore, will return as Lord Brier. Mr. Moore was stage director of the Baker Stock Company for several seasons, playing a wide range of parts during the time in a decidedly artistic manner. His many friends and those who have come to know him through his professional duties here will be glad to know of his brief visit with this delightful Scottish play.

Creator's Italian Band Coming.

Creator and his Italian band, with Mme. Barilli as soprano soloist, will be heard at the Marquam Grand Theater

"The Mummy and the Humming Bird"

From the standpoint of art and the higher drama the appearance of Paul Gilmore and his company in "The Mummy and the Humming Bird," which comes to the Marquam Grand Theater shortly, will be one of the best things that local theatergoers will have a chance of seeing this season. This will be Mr. Gilmore's last season in the role of Lord "Jack" Lumley, the "Mummy," his new vehicle for next season having been chosen already. A crowded house is certain to greet this talented young actor.

Jiu-Jitsu Tomorrow Night.

The advance sale for the big jiu-jitsu performance at Ringler's Physical Culture Hall tomorrow night opened with a rush, and indications point to a full house. General Nil and the Royal Troupe of Japs, assisted by Professor Ringler, will give a wonderful demonstration of the secret art known as jiu-jitsu. Of special interest to the women will be the overcoming of a burly ruffian by a small Japanese woman. Seats on sale at Ringler's Hall, 309 Alder street.

THE GRAND.

A Number of Eastern Novelties on Next Week's Bill.

A number of Eastern novelties are on the new bill at the Grand Theater, Danny Mann made such a hit last week that he has been retained for a second week, but he will offer a new sketch "Mrs. Grogan's Birthday." It is a farce that has made a hit everywhere. Hyde and Heath, direct from Eastern triumphs, will present "A Load of Hay," very funny and replete with special scenery and electric effects.

The Sidonias, the new artists on the wire, will offer a comedy act. They are very fine. The minstrel King, Robert Whiggin, will give black minstrelsy in a putahall and prove his title to champion as the trick bone soloist of the world.

Few have not heard of the wonderful Clem McGee, the crayon artist. All the newspapers in the land have bought his pictures and have exploited him. He will positively appear at the Grand and will show as much cleverness with his feet as his hands. Hyde and Lewis will appear in a comedy sketch, which is said to be clever.

"Good Bye, Little Girl, Good Bye" is the name of the new illustrated

song which will be rendered by Alf Bonner in his usual happy and effective style. Two absolutely new and absorbing pictures will be done by the grandioso, "The Auto Race Suicide" and the "Bee Hive." The bill is the most varied and attractive one which the Grand has ever had and the house will undoubtedly be packed all week.

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GREAT MILITARY DRAMA.

The Lyric Stock Company Will Present Famous Comedy-Drama.

Beginning next Monday afternoon, the Lyric stock company will produce for the first time in Portland the sensational romantic comedy-drama, "Rio Grande," which tells a thrilling story of frontier New Mexico during the last great Apache outbreak. The play is one of the best combinations of all the strong dramatic features that any author has succeeded in originating for stage production and the splendid success it has enjoyed in the East is the best possible recommendation it could have. The characters are all well drawn with remarkable fidelity to life. There is the haughty Spanish-American villain, the dashing army officer, the eccentric old frontier lawyer, who thinks that the Rio Grande Valley is the garden spot of the earth. The bluff old Colonel, the New York swell who is in New Mexico to find adventure, and who succeeds; the beautiful daughter of the Colonel, a typical army girl; the slinky boarding school girl, her enthusiastic brother, who wants to be a dime novel desperado; the old Indian fighter, and the many types familiar to a frontier army post. The scenery is elaborate and the costumes rich and correct. "Rio Grande" will be one of the most stupendous productions ever made in Portland and the public is fortunate in having an opportunity of seeing it at popular prices. Don't forget that the present bill, "A Cheerful Line," will be seen for the last time tonight.

"THE BRAZILIAN WIDOW."

Farce Will Be the Offering of Bijou Stock Co. the Coming Week.

Just to laugh all the time; to scream with mirth until apoplexy is threatened; to be thankful that you are alive just to be able to laugh—these are the sensations that are in store for those who witness the matchless Bijou Stock Company in their coming bill, "The Brazilian Widow," which will be given its first performance tomorrow afternoon. The clever farce has stood the test of the most critical audience in this country and Europe, and has been justly accorded the highest place among laughing shows. The company has carefully rehearsed the piece under the direction of the veteran stage manager, A. R. Thoms, and is prepared to give a great performance of it. Special scenery has been painted for the production, and every detail has been arranged with the utmost care.

As a big, extraordinary inducement to the public to patronize the Bijou, the management has decided to offer a prize of \$5 at each night performance next

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