

STAGELAND



David Warfield, in "The Auctioneer" at the Heilig

Melnotte Twins, at Marcus Loew's Empress.

Frederick V. Bowers, at the Orpheum



BY LEONE CASS BAER.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT by Manager Pangle, of the Heilig Theater, that David Warfield, who will come to Portland Monday night in his notable revival of "The Auctioneer," has the largest mail-ordered sale of any dramatic attraction that has visited Portland probably will be a surprise to many persons who have become accustomed to hearing the over-worked cry of "hard times," not only in the theatrical business, but in every other line of commercial endeavor as well. But to those acquainted with the business that Warfield invariably does, and who had heard of the tremendous receipts which he has been rolling up in the cities along his route this season, this manifestation of interest is nothing out of the ordinary if Mr. Warfield's business representative is to be believed. However, it is a well-known fact that the theatrical business this year has been fraught with disaster and receipts in first-class theaters have dropped to a point as low as they have ever been. Still there are certain actors and actresses who go through the country season after season, pulling up the profits that to the outsider seem almost incredible.

At the height of his career and continuing up to the time of his death, Richard Mansfield was regarded as the greatest American actor and the most profitable. Since his death David Warfield and Maude Adams have come to be regarded as the two biggest money-makers before the public today, and of these two Mr. Warfield probably is the bigger.

Considerable space has been given to Mr. Warfield's refusal several years ago of a proposal from a certain theatrical manager, Felix Isman, by the terms of which Mr. Warfield was to receive an annual salary larger than that of the President of the United States. But behind his fat refusal lies the fact that for the past eight years Warfield has been earning more than twice the sum that Mr. Isman was willing to pay.

In other words, during the last eight years Mr. Warfield has been receiving from \$300,000 to \$400,000 annually for impersonating the characters of Henry von Barwig in "The Music Master" and Peter Grimm in "The Return of Peter Grimm" in the city of New York. In Cleveland Mr. Warfield played a week's engagement recently at the Euclid-avenue Opera-House to a little more than \$200,000 and the receipts for the first two nights are said to have totaled more than they did for the entire week's engagement when he first played "The Auctioneer" there 11 years ago.

His four weeks' engagement at Powers' Theater, Chicago, brought about a condition that was unprecedented in the history of theatricals, then every seat for the entire engagement was sold at the end of the second week, and it is conservatively estimated that 10,000 persons were turned away unable to be accommodated.

In Los Angeles last month Mr. Warfield hung up a new record for that city when he played to more than \$27,000 in 10 nights, while his two weeks' engagement in San Francisco was just concluded last Saturday night, necessitated dispersing with the orchestra that extra chairs could be placed in the orchestra. It is said that other artist who was able to attract such business in San Francisco was Mme. Bernhardt.

Consequently of all the stage artists, whose earning capacity has made them objects of wonder and envy, David Warfield stands in a class by himself. He is without a doubt the highest-paid artist on any stage in any country.

Mr. Warfield's engagement at the Heilig will open tomorrow night and continue for six nights, with matinees Wednesday, Friday (New Year's day), and Saturday.

"The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary," which was the big comedy success of two seasons ago for May Robson, will be the Baker Players' attraction at the Heilig. Excellent actress that she is, in Miss Robson's famous role of the quaint old-fashioned English woman made young and devilish by a hunt along the gay white way in New York.

Speaking of May Robson brings to mind the date of that charming comedienne's appearance here. On January 4, 5 and 6, she will be at the Heilig Theater in her newest comedy "Martha-by-the-Day," written by Julie M. Lippmann.

Diversity will reign at the vaudeville houses of the city this week. The Orpheum bill will be headlined by Frederick V. Bowers, singing comedian extraordinary, and his company. At the Marcus Loew Empress top honors will be given to the Melnotte Twins, song and dance artists, and "The Bower of Melody," a spectacular musical specialty with 10 people. The Pantages brings The Imperial Grand Opera company with an array of pop-

ular and classic songs in its repertoire. The Lyric theater will feature Dr. Henry George Lorenz, spectacular hypnotist, and he will begin his engagement today although the new bill "The Merry Widow" opens tomorrow. Dr. Lorenz will remain all week showing matinee and night and his performances are said to put him among the great exponents of hypnotic art.

The Heilig theater, temporarily in the moving picture business again, offers a new bill of varied moving pictures today and tomorrow, running continuously from 12 o'clock to 11 p. m.

BIG PLAY IS DUE AT HEILIG

David Warfield Will Be Seen in "The Auctioneer."

David Belasco will present David Warfield at the Heilig Theater, Broadway at Taylor, for six nights, beginning tomorrow, with matinee Wednesday, Friday (New Year's day) and Saturday, in a brilliant revival of his first great success, "The Auctioneer," a complex creature, at once crafty and hard, yet generous by impulse, staunch and loyal in his family affections and now it is said to be more satisfactory for the development and display of all these varied traits in every task for a playwright; to embody them in a living, breathing, convincing personality, as Mr. Warfield does, is a work of artistic genius.

"The Auctioneer" was originally written by Lee Arthur and Charles Klein, but for its present revival Mr. Belasco has made alterations in the manuscript suggested by the changing tastes of the theater-going public, and now it is said to be more satisfactory play than formerly. Its story is familiar to the older theater-goers, but for the benefit of the younger generation it may be retold briefly. It is the story of a man who has a complex creature, at once crafty and hard, yet generous by impulse, staunch and loyal in his family affections and now it is said to be more satisfactory for the development and display of all these varied traits in every task for a playwright; to embody them in a living, breathing, convincing personality, as Mr. Warfield does, is a work of artistic genius.

The supporting cast numbers 50 and some of the prominent names are Marie Bates, Lora Clifton, Harry Lewell, Guy Milham, Louis Hendricks, Eva Randolph, Frank Nelson, Harry Rogers, Esther Sacharoff, Richard Lembeck, Alice Tvery, Leonard Doyle, Giles Low and Tony Bevan.

BAKER PLAY IS BIG COMEDY

"The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary" Is Brimful of Fun.

The Baker Players, starting this afternoon, will be seen in "The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary." May Robson's greatest success for the New Year's week offering. This is a comedy along entirely original lines and is a delightful commingling of buoyant youth and old age, bringing them closer together, making their likes and pleasures meet and showing how entirely natural it is for each to find much of interest and congeniality in the other.

In the beginning, Aunt Mary is a typical New England old woman, with extremely narrow views of life and people, and a strict believer in the old conventionalities. Her nephew gets mixed up in a scrape or two, and she disinherits him in a fit of anger, sending him to New York to make his own way. Here she follows him, repenting of her act and fearing he will fall into bad company. When she arrives in the big town, she falls in with a group of Jack's young friends, who proceed to take charge of her and show her the town before Jack arrives.

It all moves along so naturally and good-humoredly with the whimsical old lady gradually thawing out, opening her eyes, yielding to temptation after temptation, until finally she succumbs to the fascination and excitement, and when she returns to the village rouses the whole place by her unheard-of acts.

Of course, in the end, she forgives Jack for something he never did and with the happy consummation of several highly-interesting love stories among the young people the play comes to a most satisfactory ending. It will be a week of triumph for Florence Roberts, the popular character woman of the Baker Players, who will have the star role of the aunt, backed up by all the splendid players in the or-

ORPHEUM HAS SUNNY BILL

Fred V. Bowers and Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Barry Lead Entertainers.

No matter what the state of the weather over the city, nor that the thermometer will kick the bottom out of the thermometers, it will be a warm and sunny week around the Orpheum, where such noted stage personages as Frederick V. Bowers and Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Barry will lead a splendid list of entertainers this afternoon. There will be old friends on the bill and acts which want to acquire that distinction.

EMINENT HYPNOTIST WHO OPENS SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT AT LYRIC THEATER MATINEE TODAY.

DR. HENRY GEORGE LORENZ.



and the combination promises well for big week.

Frederick V. Bowers, of the Orpheum bill, is the same Frederick V. Bowers whose songs have been sung by every musical throat in Portland, and who has been featured in many of the musical comedies, such as "The Ham Tree," "My Cinderella Girl," "College Days" and "The Sweetest Girl in Paris." He has many imitators but no equals.

Everybody remembers Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Barry. "The Rub" which Mr. Barry is depicting is not the bumpkin so much portrayed, but a bright and witty son of the soil. Their sketch of this year carries a new idea and is cleverly worked out.

Again does Charles F. Seman return. The "marrow fellow" is just as thin and nasal as ever, and has added a

few new articles of furniture to the set, setting from which he extracts music.

Rebia, the unconcerned farceur, is classified among the new faces in this part of the world. The songbook with which he works is particularly pleasing.

The Australian McLeans come to America via London, where they hesitated long enough to score one of the most substantial successes ever made by English dancers.

The Aerial Costas are a quartet of women considered one of the foremost foreign acts recently imported.

Billed as the wonderful boy cellist, Alfred Wallenstein will be found to be a youth in knee breeches. Declared to be a genius, this lad is making an American tour to secure funds for studying under the great masters. He is accompanied by Adele Proebler, formerly accompanist for Madame Yaw.

Thirty minutes of concert precedes each performance.

MELNOTTE TWINS AT EMPRESS

Dainty Favorites Earn Headline Honors by Clever Work.

As a headline attraction on the bill which opens at Marcus Loew's Empress tomorrow afternoon, Portland will welcome back two old favorites, the dainty little Melnotte twins, who are new to headline honors, but highly deserving of the distinction, if popularity is any gauge. The two clever little artists will bring an entirely new repertoire of songs and stunts, and will wear some stunning new gowns.

A spectacular musical production of unusual quality will be Frank Bohm's "Bower of Melody," in which a brilliant scenic background will enhance the effect of the varied musical numbers. A wide variety of instruments, including the giant tuba and the sousaphone, will be used by the ten different musicians, who will play in solo and in concert.

Jack Princeton and Agnes Yale, a clever pair of funsters, will be seen in "Six Hundred Miles From New York," which is a skit with lively action and clever lines done in slang.

Stanley Warner and Pauline Corbett are two song-and-dance artists with a repertoire of catchy new hits and fancy steps. Nipp and Tuck, acrobats and contortionists, who do some startling stunts, will add variety to the bill, and the Aerial La Valls, who do some remarkable feats in the air, will conclude the bill. A good selection of first-run photoplays will be provided for those who are fond of moving pictures.

IMPERIAL OPERA AT PANTAGES

Favorite Musical Organization Feature of Holidays.

Holidays at the Pantages will be celebrated by the advent of the Imperial Opera Company, which is slated for the week commencing with the matinee tomorrow.

New York's favorite musical organization will be heard in the several operas that are best appreciated by the public and the programme will include "Rigoletto," "Carmen," "Il Trovatore," "Lucia de Lammermoor" and others.

The company are sterling soloists who have been heard in the principal music centers of the East and the chorus is one that will be appreciated. The scenery is unusually elaborate, a different set being carried for each scene and the electrical effects and the fireworks will be additional features.

"The Kidnaper," a thrilling story of love and adventure will be presented as the special attraction by Sherbourne and Montfory, who have attained a name for themselves in Atlantic dra-

matic circles. The action of the playlet is rapid and ever enjoyable.

Acrobatic head balancing and other athletic feats that are truly amazing will be shown by The Four DeKock Brothers, who recently came from Europe, where they were one of the big successes of the season. The DeKocks are the cleverest acrobats of their kind in vaudeville and their performance will be enjoyed by all.

The latest songs and the latest sayings will be offered by Ladell and Hughes, whose programme is diversified and clever. Chicago and New York found them admirable entertainers, so they should meet with popular approval here.

Best known to patrons of vaudeville as the Man, the Maid and the Monk, Hatley and Hatley will have some of the biggest laughing hits of the year. Not only are they clever fun makers, but their songs are of the sort that never fail to please. The Pantagescope will show the latest in interesting "movies."

Walter S. Howe and company in "In and Out" will be seen for the final performance at the continuous programme today, the first bill starting at 1:30 and the curtain dropping at 11 o'clock.

HEILIG BILLS NEW COMEDY

"Martha By-the-Day" Full of Wholesome Fun.

May Robson will be seen in a new comedy, "Martha-by-the-Day," on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, January 4, 5 and 6, with a special Wednesday matinee at Taylor. It has the advantage of most promising reports of its value, from all of the cities in which it has been presented. The character of the heroine is in pose and gesture and an ease and fluency of quiet delivery that are in the better spirit of polished experience and original comedy.

In "Martha-by-the-Day" humor and pathos are skillfully blended, and Miss Lippmann is said to have been rarely successful in having selected from her novel the most telling incidents, infectious comedy and homely sentiment for her play. The character of the heroine is in pose and gesture and an ease and fluency of quiet delivery that are in the better spirit of polished experience and original comedy.

Stanley Warner and Pauline Corbett are two song-and-dance artists with a repertoire of catchy new hits and fancy steps. Nipp and Tuck, acrobats and contortionists, who do some startling stunts, will add variety to the bill, and the Aerial La Valls, who do some remarkable feats in the air, will conclude the bill. A good selection of first-run photoplays will be provided for those who are fond of moving pictures.

STARTLING HYPNOTIST HERE

Dr. Henry George Lorenz to Be Extra Attraction at Lyric.

The Lyric Theater will offer its patrons with its regular programme this week, beginning today, an act which has proved a sensation all over the Pacific Coast. Dr. Henry George Lorenz will be the stellar attraction, coming direct from a two weeks' engagement at the Grand Opera-House in Seattle, where his sensational performances broke all records for crowded houses. Dr. Lorenz has not appeared in this city before, and judging from press reports from all over the country his act will cause a sensation.

Dr. Lorenz is one of the most impressive hypnotists appearing on the stage today. He presents a programme that is startling as well as a screaming hit.

During the week he will present a complete change of programme daily. One of his stunts is his famous audience-sleep, in which he causes a hundred or two persons to fall off their seats while he is on the stage. He will present the audience-sleep here and also the lip test, in which he will sew the lips of a dozen men together with an ordinary needle and thread without an anesthetic.

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer said last week:

"Never in the history of theatrical events in Seattle has the Grand been packed nightly as it has the last two weeks, with Dr. Henry George Lorenz, the hypnotist, as the feature attraction. Lorenz presents a performance so far ahead of other hypnotists that there is no comparison. Lorenz keeps the audience either spellbound or awestricken at some of his uncanny work or has them falling off their seats with side-splitting laughter at the funny stunts he presents under hypnotism. Dr. Lorenz stands at the head of his profession and broke the house record at the Grand for big business."

Dr. Lorenz is the first person to use hypnotism successfully in extracting teeth. He is a licensed physician and is praised by the fraternity. Dr. Lorenz will open with the matinee today. A matinee will be given every day and special performances will be given Friday (New Year's).

"BLINDNESS OF VIRTUE" DUE

Baker Players to Be Seen in Noted Social Play Next Week.

One of the most widely discussed subjects of recent years has been along the lines of parents' duty to their young children in properly instructing them to meet problems and conditions that are bound to be encountered later in life. Cosmos Hamilton has written a powerful play with this in mind and which proved one of the modern successes.

It is entitled "The Blindness of Virtue," and will be offered by The Baker Players for the week immediately following "The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary," opening next Sunday matinee, January 5. The production will be a powerful play with this in mind and which proved one of the modern successes.

The action takes place at the home of the year, deals with a highly compromising situation brought about by the girl's lack of knowledge of the world, its results and the lesson brought home to her parents by the incident. "The Blindness of Virtue" will be given an excellent production by the Baker Players and there will be a special matinee performance for mothers and daughters only on Thursday.

PEN IS GIFT TO STATE

Relic Used in Admitting Washington to Union Is Presented.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Dec. 26.—(Special.)—The pen used by President Benjamin Harrison when, in November, 1889, he signed the proclamation admitting Washington to statehood, has been presented to Governor Lister, on behalf of the state, by Mrs. John L. Wilson, widow of the late Senator Wilson. Senator Wilson, then Washington's first Representative-elect in Congress, was present at the signing of the proclamation and claimed the pen. The relic will be placed in a cabinet in the rotunda of the Capitol.

A gold inscription plate, from the government mint, for the painting of the cruiser Olympia, also was sent by Mrs. Wilson. The Olympia was so named through Senator Wilson's efforts during the time he represented this state in Congress.