

THE TALE



CHAS. BURKHARDT WITH
"JOLLY GRASS WIDOWS"
AT THE MARQUAM

THIS WEEK AT THE THEATRE.
Marquam Grand—"Ben Hur," all week, closing with Saturday matinee.
Belasco—White Whittlesey and Belasco stock company, in "Why Women Sin," all week.
Empire—"Jolly Grass Widows" (burlesque), all week.
Lyric—Lyric stock company in "Camille," all week.
Grand—Vanderbilt.
Star—Vanderbilt.

THOSE croakers who have been talking of bad after effects of the exposition would do well to drop in on any of the theatres these nights and look around. The fair is over. They are hauling it away in truck loads; that is, all that the hammer and ax have not reduced to splinters. But there isn't a theatrical manager in the city of Portland who has a just complaint. At the Marquam the marvelous production of "Ben Hur," even at largely advanced prices, has so caught the public that its engagement has been extended through the week. At the Belasco White Whittlesey is giving his romantic repertoire before audiences that tax the capacity of that theatre. Melodrama is filling the Empire and the Lyric night after night while the Baker is captivating its large clientele with burlesque. The prospect was never fairer for a theatrical season. And the theatre is the best barometer of trade—the surest indication of a city's prosperity.

The bills from the coming week are promising. "Ben Hur" continues its run at the Marquam. Whittlesey presents "Prince Otto," a fine romantic drama, at the Belasco; the Empire will entertain its patrons by telling "Why Women Sin," and the Baker will put on another of the "wheel" burlesques.

SMALL TALK OF STAGE PEOPLE.

Mrs. Leslie Carter has revived "Du Barry" and "Zaza" at the Belasco theatre in New York within the past fortnight.
Edna May has made a Broadway success of "The Catch of the Season" and will at once begin a road tour, with a prospect of playing on the coast.
James K. Hackett and Mary Manning are filling the Savoy in New York with "The Walls of Jericho."
Eva Tanguay is playing "The Sambo Club" in New York. It is the work of Harry B. Smith and Gustave Kerker.
"The Banker's Daughter," originally produced about 30 years ago, has been revived in New York by the Proctor Fifth avenue stock company.
Sothern and Marlowe are filling the Knickerbocker in New York with Shakespearean productions, "The Taming of the Shrew" being featured.
Frederic Thompson, one of the proprietors of the great Hippodrome in New York, has suddenly branched out as an author. His dramatic spectacle, "The Romance of the Hindoo Princess," has just been produced at the grand playhouse.
Grace George (Mrs. William Brady) will next produce Margaret Mayo's dramatization of "The Marriage of William Astor."
It is said that Josef Hofmann, the pianist, is soon to marry Mrs. Marie Eastis, formerly the wife of George Peabody Rust.

Maudie Elliott has made a success of "Her Great Match" to the extent that she has purchased the English rights from Clyde Fitch and will appear in the piece in London in 1907.
Miss Calve is on the eve of opening her concert tour at Montreal. She is to appear here later in the season.
Joe Cawthon has opened on Broadway as a star in "Frits in Tammany Hall." In so doing he succeeds the Rogers brothers, who have severed their connection with Klaw and Erlanger.
"Miss Dolly Dollars," in which Lulu Glaser is appearing, has turned out to be a decided success and its New York run will be extended.
Maudie Fesley, the Denver girl, has blossomed as a full-fledged star in Broadway, having appeared in "The Truth Tellers" at the Grand opera house.

MONOLOGUES.

"Ben Hur" Run Extended.
Owing to the unprecedented demand



MISS GERTRUDE ST. FRANCIS IN
"WHY WOMEN SIN" AT THE BELASCO



WHITE WHITTLESEY
IN "PRINCE OTTO" AT THE
BELASCO THEATRE

for seats, both in and out of town, the stupendous production of "Ben Hur" will be extended next week, running Thursday and Friday nights, October 26 and 27, and closing with the matinee performance Saturday afternoon, October 28. The advance sale for these performances will begin tomorrow (Monday) morning at 10 o'clock.

It has often been claimed that the play of "Ben Hur" was subservient to the scenery and mechanical appliances, and that without the sumptuous production provided by Klaw & Erlanger the play would be uninteresting. That this is a wrong impression any one who has seen a rehearsal of "Ben Hur" can testify. For these rehearsals no scenery is used, and only the lines of the play stand out. One would not think that "Ben Hur" in flannel trousers and negligee shirt, a Messala in smartly cut tuxedo and derby hat, a Simonidea easily walking about when his scenes did not call him to his chair, with pretended twisted limbs; an Arrius in turned-up trousers, and an Egyptian Iras in modish gown and hat, could carry him back to the days of old Rome and give him the atmosphere of the Nazarene. No, one would not think so; but they do.

One peep at a rehearsal carried out with the intensity of those of the "Ben Hur" company will show that after all the play and the players are the thing, and the scenic investment, no matter how elaborate it may be, is but an adjunct to the work of the author and the illustrious artists, too. In spite of constant breaks, the desperate battle in the gallery, for instance, is in progress. The hammer of the horator beats out the ringing time; the slaves carry him back to the days of old Rome; sword clashes on battle ax; really one can see the gallery leave, in spite of the fact that before his eyes are only men in nondescript clothes and back of them only a row of white. Not at all. Again in a minute the gallery is rolling, and the battle is raging just as before. A special effort is apparent in "Ben Hur" to preserve the perfect letter of the text; long speeches are repeated because the stage manager imagines he detects a single interpolated word.

"Prince Otto" at Belasco.
White Whittlesey, than whom the coast has no more popular actor, will begin his third week as a stock star with the Belasco stock company tomorrow night in a magnificent production of the widely read "Prince Otto," which is one of the most beautiful romantic dramas in English.
The story was evolved by the prolific pen of Robert Louis Stevenson and was dramatized by Otis Skinner for his own use. He starred in the play with great success; in fact, he made a small fortune out of it before it was turned over to the use of stock companies. Belasco & Mayer, with customary enterprise, were the first to obtain it for production on the coast.
"Prince Otto" is the romantic tale of a young prince, who, transpiring in a mythical kingdom. It is of the James K. Hackett type of drama, with the rapier always in the foreground, the prince as a hero, the princess as a heroine and a prima minister, using all his power to separate the ardent lovers. These three characters afford splendid opportunities for Mr. Whittlesey. Mr. Sainpols and Miss Lawrence, while Edna Bond, the ingenue, comes into one of those sweet peasant girl roles that have done so much toward making romantic drama.

The new bill will be produced with gorgeous scenic embellishment, and the scenic effects are veritable triumphs of finery in dress may be expected.
A matinee this afternoon and tonight's performance will bring to a close Mr. Whittlesey's profitable week in "Sheridan." Paul Potter's treatise of the life of the great poet.

"The Sultan of Sulu" Coming.
Playgoers can laugh with a clearer conscience at "The Sultan of Sulu" than at any other musical comedy. The Ade-Wathall melange is now in the fourth year of its existence and public patronage is increasing. There are many reasons why this merry musical satire has a strong hold on popular favor. In the first place, the words are written in George Ade's best vein and the lyrics have a jingle to them worthy of W. S. Gilbert when that brilliant writer and Sir Arthur Sullivan were at the zenith of their fame. The music is also delightfully catchy and the scenic effects are veritable triumphs of stage realism. "The Sultan of Sulu" will be given at the Marquam Grand theatre October 31 and November 1. The advance sale of seats opens next Saturday morning at 10 o'clock.

"The Baker's Bill."
Managers Fulton and Hagan, whose attraction, the "Jolly Grass Widows," will be the offering at the Baker theatre all this week, commencing with the usual matinee today, are reaping a golden harvest from their pick in raking an enormous amount of money and placing their company on the road with a burlesque in the highest sense of the word. The program includes two new and original burlesques entitled "The Widow's Wedding Night," and "The Sign of the Red Light," introducing Miss Jeanette Gutchard, queen of burlesque. These two burlesques also tend to serve to introduce the jolly coster girls, the girls from gay Mobile, the emerald queens and the Spanish beauties, all of whom have created a sensation wherever they have appeared. In the execrably funny burlesque entitled "The Sign of the Red Light," the entire company will participate, including the two funny Hebrew comedians, Murray Simons and Charles Burkhardt, and a chorus of 30 beautiful girls. The low priced matinee will be given Wednesday as is the habit of this theatre.

"Peggy From Paris."
The musical comedy success, "Peggy From Paris," will be the attraction at the Marquam Grand theatre Thursday, Friday, Saturday nights, November 1, 2 and 4, with a special matinee Saturday.
"Why Women Sin."
"Why Women Sin" said to be the strongest play of the present season, and produced by a company of unequalled excellence, which played to the largest business of the season at the Alhambra theatre, Chicago, last month, will be the attraction at the Empire theatre all this week, starting with the matinee today. The piece is said to be full of human interest to young and old. It is in five acts, and holds the attention of the audience. The scenery is the most magnificent ever seen with a popular priced company. It is said that no melodrama so deeply thrills the human heart, none so affecting, none more beautiful, none so mysterious and puzzling in plot, none that will be remembered so long or with more pleasure. In this production will be seen little Margie, and who recently made a pronounced hit at the Carnegie Lyceum, New York, where she played the leading roles of the Children's theatre. The usual ladies' and children's matinee will be given Saturday.

"Dora Thorne" Coming.
Lovers of the good and beautiful in fiction will no doubt be gratified to learn that an opportunity will be given them to follow the career of gentle "Dora Thorne," the story that made Bertha M. Clay famous, in a dramatization which has been put forth for the first time this season. This play may well be termed "pure as the lilies," refreshing and wholesome, and is surely a play for all, reaching all and pleasing all in its direct touches into the hearts and home life of the rich as well as the poor. The splendid production will be seen at the Empire theatre the entire week of October 28.
"Washington Society Girls."
The problem of dressing the chorus of a modern burlesque company is perhaps the most important that comes up for consideration in the course of making a production.



JOSEPH MORSE AS THE MOTHER OF BEN HUR

WRECK OF THE 'ASTREA'



BEN HUR AT THE MARQUAM GRAND THEATRE

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More than 100 gowns are worn by the "Washington Society Girls" who will be seen at the Baker theatre the week of October 23, and no fewer than 40 people, including designers, cutters, fitters and sewing women, were employed in preparing the wardrobe.

Santell, the strongest man in the world and a man more perfectly developed physically than the equally famous Sandow, will close his engagement at the Grand today. The performances will run from 2:30 to 10:45.

Commenting tomorrow afternoon, a complete new vaudeville program is to be rendered the patrons of the house. It is a remarkably attractive entertainment that has been prepared. Thomas Meegan and company have the headline act. They are eastern stars and come to this city well recommended. Real good canine acts are rare, but Madame Wanda has something new and above the average. The act is entertaining to old and young. S. Kantanell has a long name, but he is a wonder. He is called King of the air and is as much at home on a slender line of metal as other people are on the solid ground. The Malcoms have been secured by the management to contribute to the marriage.

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Novelties at the Star.
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This is the last day of the current bill at the Star. The performances today will be continuous from 2:30 until 10:45. With the matinee tomorrow the Star will present a bill replete with novelties. The same high-class vaudeville always found at this temple of mirth will be maintained. At the top of the list is the Fredericks trio of wheelers and cyclists. They come to America from the varieties of France and the music halls of London. The McDonald trio are bicycle experts and their act is said to be unlike that of any other in the business. Bill Durant, a Chinese instrumentalist, has one of the unique acts in vaudeville. He plays typical Chinese instruments and sings Mongolian love songs, as well as popular ditties to the accompaniment of the odd melody boxes. Leonard and Bernard are jugglers and good ones. Lola Fawn is a charming comedienne and vocalist. Her selections are new and timely. The Staroscope is prepared to flash an amusing film called "The Young Tramp," which tells the story of how a small boy confiscated a duck, and of the pursuit which follows. The illustrated ballad will be rendered by Franklin Conner and it will be one of the latest published. There are daily matinees and two night performances at the Star.

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