PLAYS and the PLAYERS

(Continued from Page Six.)

change of bill each week and by their work have won a firm place in the regard of Portland amusement lovers. The close of their engagement this week will prove a source of regret to the friends they have made during the summer.

During the coming week those who like to spend their time of recreation out of doors will find much instruction as well as entertainment in the exhibition of Captain G. F. Langley. For some time Captain Langley has been at work putting together the skeleton of a gigantic whale for exhibition purposes at the recreation park. The skeleton of a whale 80 feet in length, which is longer than that of the monster specimen now on exhibition in the Smithsonian institute at Washington, D. C. So remarkable is the exhibition and so perfect the specimen that the officials of the institute have sent their formula for preserving and preparing the skeleton and have offered a large sum for the property, but Captain Langley has refused the offer, for a time at least.

With the admission fee done away with during the day for the remainder of the season it is expected that large numbers of Portland people will take advantage of the opportuity to see this monster curiosity of nature.

★ ★

"Tennessee's Partner" at the Lyric.

Plays may come and go but there are few that hold the public interest like that dramatization of Bret Harte's story "Tennessee's Partner." It teems with human interest and the beautiful romance of the mining camps that sprung up away back in '49 just after the California gold discoveries. The Blunkall company in selecting this favorite play for the week commencing Sunday afternoon has made a move in the right direction. The local theatre patrons are very partial to this play and have always in the past greedily attended any performance of it that has been given here.

One of the most interesting features of the week will be the first appearance of that clever little actress Mamie Haslam in an adult role as she will be seen in the title part. Her impersonation of Tennessee the delightful little heroine will stamp her as one of the cleverest actresses who has appeared here in recent months. The entire company will be cast for parts that suit their peculiar talents and those who have watched the work of the Blunkall organization will be delighted with the work of the entire cast. Ervin Blunkall, Warda Howard, and other favorites will appear. The management has provided an elaborate scenic investure and the whole production will be up to the highest standard.

★ ★

"Comin' Thro' the Rye" Sunday.

It is a genuine pleasure to announce the return to this city of the delightful musical comedy, "Comin' Thro' the Rye," which occurs at the Heilig theatre, Fourteenth and Washington streets, September 27, 28, 29 and 30.

During its former engagements in this city this mirthful and thoroughly diverting work made an impression upon all who witnessed it which will not soon be effaced. Great throngs crowded the theatre in which it was played and it is doubtful if any performance that has been given here in a very long time succeeded in creating such prolonged and hearty laughter. The advance sale opens next Friday at the Heilig.

★ ★

"The Cat and the Fiddle."

In offering "The Cat and the Fiddle," the merry musical extravaganza which will be presented at the Baker all week starting next Sunday matinee, September 27, the author will exhibit the inside workings of a "trip to faraway fairyland" and to the mythical isle of Eye." The opportunities for funmaking are unlimited and have been taken full advantage of. Charles A. Sellon will be seen in "built up" edition of his famous tramp creations, and the dainty Elmore sisters will be seen in the congenial parts of Polly and Molly and will render their famous specialty "Nearly Grand Opera," said to be one of the most laughable satires on the stage.

★ ★

"The Girl of the Golden West."

Portland theatregoers have long and patiently been waiting to see the great Belasco play, "The Girl of the Golden West," and Manager Baker of Baker stock company has the rare privilege of first offering it in this city. The Baker company will give a strong production of it as obtained by special contract with David Belasco, for at least one week's running, opening Sunday matinee, September 27, at the Bungalow. It is the play in which Blanche Bates sprang into such fame and has no peer from a standpoint of success of western dramas today.

★ ★

"Uncle Josh Perkins" Coming.

"Uncle Josh Perkins" is down for a return visit at the Star theatre, week beginning Sunday matinee, September 27. The play is in four acts and the story depicted is never for a moment lost track of while all the introduced features and specialties fit so naturally as to form a component part in the story. New scenery of places of interest in New York city and bucolic sights and places in the Green Mountain state, Vermont, which are said to be not only actual reproductions, but examples of scenic art.

GILLETTE WILL ACT ONLY AMERICAN PLAYS

New York Dramatic News.

A conference between Charles Frohman and William Gillette recently was followed by the surprising announcement that hereafter Mr. Gillette will devote but half the usual theatrical year to acting. The rest of the year Mr. Gillette will give to playwriting or recreation.

The announcement was accompanied by the statement that, at the actor-playwright's request, Mr. Frohman has agreed that the six months Mr. Gillette does act will be devoted entirely to the American stage. This means that William Gillette will appear only in the principal cities of America and never again on the London stage. In view of the fact that Mr. Gillette is one of the extremely few really profitable stars that can be safely sent to London from America, and that he has already been announced as certain to act the Bernstein play, Samson, in London, the statement given out by Mr. Frohman is like a bolt from the blue.

William Gillette in a new play by the author of "The Thief," and adapted to the American stage by Mr. Gillette, certain therefore to bristle with typically Gillette stage effects, has been acknowledged by Mr. Frohman as the most attractive bill he has to offer the American theater-going public this fall. What makes especially unexpected Mr. Gillette's purpose forever to forego the London stage, is the news that came to light that, during his visit to London this year, Mr. Gillette met King Edward and was personally requested by the king to hasten his return to the London stage.

That Mr. Gillette's decision was final was made plain last night when Charles Frohman completed arrangements by cable for Arthur Bourchier to act Samson in London at the same time Mr. Gillette is performing the role in America. The same version of the play will be used in both countries. The adaptation was made this summer by Mr. Gillette in Paris, in conference with the author, Henri Bernstein.

The text of Mr. Gillette's adaptation contains careful direction as to the acting of the different characters, which number eight. On reading Gillette's written idea of the way the chief characters should be played, Bernstein in delight wrote on the manuscript "so to act 'Samson' will be not to interpret, but to collaborate." The Gillette version of "Samson" is such an unsparing indictment of the mental and moral fatty degeneration of a certain stripe of modern society that it cannot but create a sensation, if not actual protests. The theme of the play is money. Money will buy ease, power, luxury, learning; but Jacques Brachard, brought up in poverty, has it forced upon him that money will not buy love. He sacrifices his whole fortune to bring about a panic on the exchange, to the ruination of the man who has robbed him of the love of his wife. Like Samson of old, he pulls down the walls of ill-gotten wealth upon his enemies, upon the destroyer of his home and, like Samson, too, upon himself.

As the manuscript has left Mr. Gillette's hands, it is notable for sarcasm that is keen, irony that is grimly humorous and unflinchingly condemnatory of modern society, and eloquence that is powerful and certain to strike home. The moral of the play has been unhesitatingly applied to the weaknesses of a well-known grade of modern American society.

SHALI'S ESCAPED WIFE NOW PETTED ACTRESS

From the Chicago Tribune.

Mlle. Varvara Leturin, who lately has arrived in Russia after escaping from the harem of the shah of Persia, has had a strenuous and exciting time for the last few months. Escaping from the harem in Teheran, she made her way across the mountains and deserts of the country notheast of that town until she reached Astrabad. From there she proceeded to the coast of the Caspian sea, where she took a boat to Astrakhan, in Russia.

Mlle. Leturin is a beauty, and beauty is worth money in Persia. She has dark brown eyes and is slender and graceful.

The little Varvara opened her baby eyes upon an unfriendly world when she saw the light of day. But as she grew older and began to show signs of great beauty her parents nudged each other and said: "Ah, the little Varvara; she is like money in the bank. Some day we will cash her in."

About the time she was 14 years old, Varvara's parents began to fatten her for the market, for in Persia the fatter a woman is the more she is desired. But the obstinate young Leturin refused to grow fat, in spite of the great quantities of candy with which she was fed. Finally, when she was 16 years old, the parents sold her to a slave trader, and Carvara soon was delivered to the harem of the shah.

When she was installed in the shah's harem Varvara found that life as the one hundred and thirty-seventh wife of the country's ruler was no lovely dream. She was virtually locked up, and whenever she went into the street servants accompanied her, shouting to all the men they met: "Look the other way; turn your faces to the wall; the wife of the shah approaches."

But even if some Lothario had been bold enough to peep out of the corner of his eye, all he would have seen would have been an animated flour sack, for the women of Persia are required to wear a long robe that covers them from head to feet and which covers all of the face except a small opening for the eyes.

Varvara, as soon as she was entered on the roll call of the harem, decided that she would become a favorite. Although the mother of the shah is the boss, and there generally is a chief wife in all Persian harems, a woman may rise to great importance by mere capability and excellence in mental powers.

Wife No. 137 had the brain capacity, all right, and she had for a second string her extraordinary beauty, so that within a short time she was the first favorite of the shah. But when she had become ruler of the ruler of the knigdom of Persia she looked for new worlds to conquer.

The life of the harem grew tedious to the young girl, so she decided to escape. For a long time she was unable to escape the vigilant harem guards. But finally she managed to enlist the services of an old physician in the city, whom she was allowed to visit. In Persia a doctor is considered a privileged character, and, although other men are not allowed to enter the harem, he may come and go frequently. The wives of the shah also are allowed to visit the doctor whenever they feel like it.

Varvara, because of this privilege, was enabled, by means of the doctor, to make arrangements for her escape, and she made her way out of the city some months ago.

After she had escaped from the harem guards and left the city she was yet in danger, for the shah would be certain to search for her. He wouldn't stand tamely by while a beautiful young wife who was worth at least $1,200 in the open market was running away. Besides the ever present danger of recapture, there were the numerous hardships of a wild country to be met.

In spite of the difficulties and dangers of the way, Mlle. Leturin reached Astrabad, where she rested for a time with friends of the Teheran physician. Learning that servants of the shah's household were in the city searching for her, she again started on her way.

Owing to its peculiar formation the country is exposed to broiling heat on the sandy wastes and to terrific cold in the mountains. Through all this wild country Mlle. Leturin traveled, having as her objective point Ashkabad, on the Transcaspian railroad. She swam the river Atrek and climbed the Miseno mountains. All this time she was afraid to let her guide guess her identity, for, being a true Persian, he was not above treachery. He probably would have returned her to her lord and master to gain the reward that would have been paid for her.

Finally, surmounting all the difficulties of the rough road and worse weather, she reached the railroad, and from there it was easy for her to travel to Krasnovodsk. Arriving in this place she took ship across the sea to Astrakhan, where she finally felt safe.

Since Mlle. Leturin has been in the Russian city she has become a society pet, for it isn't every day that society can take up and make a lion of a beautiful young girl who has been the favorite wife of a monarch who has seen the inside of that mysterious place, the harem.

The fair Varvara, although at present in no danger of being cast into a well which the Persians reserve for inconvenient wives, has discovered the necessity of money, and to obtain it has decided to go on the stage, where she will produce scenes representing the mysteries of eastern domestic life. These scenes are to be worked out for the music hall stage in Russia, and will show in detail the inner life of the harem and other phases of the Persian life she knows so well.

THEATRICAL OUTLOOK WORSE THAN EVER

New York, Sept. 19.—For theatrical managers and players, the season of 1908-09 is going to be the worst that has been experienced in over a decade. This is the prevailing opinion among the members of the profession, and though the season has just begun the prediction is already being borne out by the facts. While the depression that has existed since last fall appears to be lifting for other lines of business there has not appeared as yet any signs of returning prosperity in the theatrical business. Several Broadway shows that were put on for a run only a week or two ago have closed on account of poor business, and the managers are hustling to find attractions that may meet with a greater degree of public favor. Many shows, of course, have started on the road with the opening of the season, but the number of players who have been unable to find engagements is still surprisingly large, and it is predicted that before the snow flies the ranks will be increased through the failure of shows that will be unable to weather through the season.

The City Park.

From Puck.

A fair oasis in the heart
Of greed and stress and teaming mart,
A sanctum where the tired feet pass
From stone to turf—"Keep off the grass!"

How beck the boles of yonder trees,
Breathing of woodland mysteries!
Amidst the cool, green aftermath
We wander freely—"keep the path!"

A proof that cornice nor facade
By human brain and fingers made
Equals the work of sun and show'rs,
Shown in a rose—"Don't touch the flowers!"

Ah! sweet with one we love to sit
In shaded nook: our Eden it.
The robin and the thrush anear;
But they, alone—"No spooning here!"

Aye, sweet, again, neath open sky
Guest of the velvet night to lie,
Face to the stars, and naught about
But Nature's self—"Hey, bo! Clear out!"

Two noblemen of the British peerage have the privilege of standing covered before the king. These are Lord Kingsale, the premier baron in the peerage of Ireland, on whose ancestor the privilege of appearing covered in the presence of his sovereign was conferred by King John; and Lord Forester, on whose ancestor, William Forester, a commoner, the like privilege was conferred by Henry VIII.

The Westralian gold output from 1886 to the end of last May amounted to 19,504,095 ounces, and dividends amounting to $87,376,640 have been paid to stockholders in that period. There are 4,000 stamps in western Australia in use and the machinery employed at the mines is valued at $20,000,000. Over 20,000 men are employed in the mining industry.

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14th and Washington
Phones Main 1, A1122
All Week Beginning Tonight 8:15
Special Price Matinee Saturday.
THE FAVORITE COMEDIANS
KOLB AND DILL
SUPPORTED BY AN EXCELLENT COMPANY IN THE MERRY MUSICAL COMEDY
"LONESOME TOWN"
BY JUDSON C. BRUSIE
Based on a Story of "Watts," a Boom Town in Southern California.
IN THE CAST
Billy Clifford, Carlton Chase, Ernst Van Pelt, Harris McGuire, Charles McGaffney, Maud Lambert, Charlotte Vidot, Edith Whitely, Zada Mansfield, Hazel Gottung
BEAUTIFUL CHORUS WITH VOICES
PRICES
Evening: Lower floor $1.50, $1.00; Balcony $1.00, 75c, 50c; Gallery 35c, 25c
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THE REGULAR SEASON OF BIG MUSICAL COMEDY AND DRAMATIC SUCCESSES OPENS
Sunday Matinee, Today, Sept. 20, '08
All this week—note the matinees Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.
H. H. FRAZEE'S
ORIGINAL PRODUCTION
The Musical Cocktail with a Menu of Music Direct from a 36 Weeks' run in Chicago.
The Royal Chef
WITH
WM. H. CONLEY
And the Following Big Cast, Including
KARL STALL, HERBERT CARTER, DONALD M'KENZIE, WALTER B. SMITH, MARY MALATESTA, JULIA CURTISS, LABELLE LAURETTE, MABEL WILSON
AND THE FAMOUS
60—People—60 BROILERS 80—Song Hits—80
A PERFECT PRODUCTION PRESENTED IN PERFECTION
Evening prices—25¢, 50¢, 75¢, $1.00. Matinees, 25¢, 50¢.
Next Week, "THE CAT AND THE FIDDLE"

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Portland's Fashionable Popular Playhouse. Home of the Famous Baker Stock Company.
All Week, Starting Sunday Matinee Today Sept. 20, '08
NAT GOODWIN'S GREAT COMEDY SUCCESS
"A GILDED FOOL"
Clean, wholesome comedy, lively plot, laughable scenes and situations.
Entire Strength of the Baker Company.
Special Scenery and Stage Setting.
Produced Under the Direction of Donald Bowles.
Matinee Saturday.
Evening prices, 25¢, 35¢ and 50¢. Matinee, 15¢ and 25¢.
Next Week—First production here of the great Belasco success,
"THE GIRL OF THE GOLDEN WEST"
Seat Sale for Entire Week Opens Tomorrow

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Phones—Main 5496, A-1496
Playing only the Stair-Havlin Eastern Road Attractions
Commencing Sunday Matinee, Sept. 20, '08
J. G. HARPER AND GLENN HARPER PRESENT
GEORGIA HARPER
IN THE FOUR-ACT DELIGHTFUL COMEDY DRAMA
Nell Gwynne
AN ELABORATE PRODUCTION
NEW AND ELEGANT COSTUMES—SPECIAL SCENERY
Matinees Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday
Night Prices—15¢, 25¢, 35¢, 50¢ Matinees—15¢, 25¢
Next Attraction "Uncle Josh Perkins" Sunday, Sept. 27

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BILL CHANGES MONDAY
ADVANCED VAUDEVILLE—STARS OF ALL NATIONS
Week Ending Today—Four Musical Hodges. Maud Rockwell. The Melstons. Barney First. The Mysterious Tatum. Hall, Staley & Co. Elliott Beamer, and Motion Pictures.
WEEK BEGINNING TOMORROW—Engagement Extraordinary of
MLLE. LOUISE
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Sweetest Singers in America.
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Eminently Satisfactory Vaudeville, Headed by
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Special Added Feature
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Big Novelty Singing and Dancing Act
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Portland's Favorite Singer of Pictorial Lyrics
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Free Gates All Week
Largest Whale on Exhibition
In the world. See the skeleton of monster from North Pacific, 80 feet long. Lecture at exhibition. Open all day today and all this week. Last time tonight to laugh with.
"Jakey, Mikey and Ikey"
All late song hits and Whangdoodle Quartet by clever Curtis players.
Skating, Dancing, Swimming Pool, Coaster, "Tickler", Scenic Mill
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LOUVRE GRILL, 4TH AND ALDER

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10 to 12—EVERY NIGHT—10 to 12

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7th and Alder Sts.
COMMENCING THIS AFTERNOON
THE BLUNKALL STOCK COMPANY WILL PRESENT
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MAMIE HASLAM IN THE TITLE ROLE

25th & Raleigh Sts. Friday and Saturday SEPT. 25 and 26
On Horseback Across Two Continents
COL. WM. F. CODY ("Buffalo Bill") Ex-Chief and Last of the Great Scouts, U. S. Army, Has Led His Care-Conquering Hosts Allied Under the Standard of
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ENTERTAINMENT ALWAYS NOVEL,
Always True to the Fundamental Genuine; a Mirror of History, Retours Abroad, the Fourth and last has made the Name and Fame of is to his Fellow Countrymen, have been Made Familiar with AMERICAN HISTORY, for Delighted Gaze the Living viction Straight and True,
Facts Upon which it is Based. Authentic and FLECTING SCENES OF OTHER DAYS. Four of which has Occupied the Past Four Years, "Buffalo Bill" as Familiar to Europeans as it Through these Migrations Foreigners some of the most HEROIC CHAPTERS IN "Buffalo Bill" has Spread Before their Object Lessons which Have Carried Conviction Authentic, Picturesque and Abiding.
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Is This Year Signalized by a Compilation of Amusement Features Surpassing Anything ever Known in the History of this World Famed Exhibition. Under the Gonfalon of Buffalo Bill's Wild West and Congress of Rough Riders of the World has been Marshalled a Host of Hero-Horsemen, WARRIORS FROM EVERY CLIME, and Exponents of Dauntless Courage and Manly Deeds; an assemblage of Muscular Manhood the Equal of which has Never been Known, Constituting what has been Aptly Termed
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Here is an Academy of Equestrianism where Rough Riders Graduate and those Schooled in Hardship Participate in the Hazardous Sports and Pastimes of which the Broad Plains are the Natural Playground. Here is Realised in Vivid Pictures the Imperishable Deeds and FEATS OF FEARLESS SKILL Fashioned in Necessity's Mould. Here are assembled Brave Men who have Faced Death in all Forms and Successfully Contended with Fearsome Foes and Fearful Odds.
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Is Depicted with Realistic Vividness, Showing one of the Deciding Conflicts Between the Indians and Government forces in the Long Drawn Out Conquest of the Western Wilds. With Savage Display of Frightful Warfare, History is Recalled in Thrilling Scenes.
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Pictures the Heroic Deeds of "The Bandit Hunters of the Union Pacific", fearless men who have Rescued the Railways of Commerce from the Loot and Depredations of the Desperado. It is An OPEN-AIR MELODRAMA, set in the Scenic Vastness of the Mountain Wilds.
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