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We are to have a splendidly constructed play with a consistent plot, a heart story which strikes home, and brilliant comedy in "Slaves of a Mine," which is the joint authorship of Daniel L. Hart and C. E. Callahan, both prominent in the ranks of popular dramatists, as is attested to by their respective success in "The Parish Priest," and "A Romance of Coon Hollow," etc. A law peculiar to most mineral states, and certainly so to the state of Pennsylvania, which invalidates a claim to title in sub-surface ores not specifically mentioned in the deed conveying land on which they are discovered provides the theme for an ingenious plot, and this joint production of two celebrated writers is permeated by the same character of brilliant and natural dialogue so and "coon Hollow," joined to which are vigorous climaxes, strong dramatic situations, and a remarkable scenic catastrophe in which a mine is shattered and fired by an explosion of fire damp. A select metropolitan cast the celebrated Eagle Quartette, and beautiful and special scenery by James Fox of New York, including a real elevator or cage in actual operation, are features of "Slaves in the Mine." It comes to the Grand Opera House Friday. Seats on sale at box office, Friday, March 4 at 9 a. m.

CHARLES B. HANFORD IN RICHARD III

Charles B. Hanford has long expressed a desire to present "Richard III" on the same scale of scenic magnificence as has characterized other Shakespearean revivals in which he has participated. So thorough and elaborate have been his preparations for a realization of this ambition, that they have extended far beyond the limits of the summer interim in theatrical affairs which is usually sufficient for the most elaborate productions. Only the latter portion of Mr. Hanford's season will be devoted to "Richard III." The production has scored a success which fully compensates the producer for the care and effort which he has bestowed upon it. The reports which precede the company being such as to leave no doubt of the brilliancy of Mr. Hanford's success, or the justice of the exceptional claims made by the management on behalf of the supporting company the scenery and the costuming. Mr. Hanford will present the traditional Colley Cibber version of the play, which preserves all the ringing speeches and stirring climaxes which were sanctioned by the great tragedians of by gone generations. Mr. Hanford although one of the most modern of actors in spirit and method of reflects the visibility and intellectual of the classic stage in a manner which compels the auditor to go back many years to find a subject of comparison. The sincerity of his art is beyond question, but it is art without pedantry, as those who have seen his dashing humorous portrayal of "Petruchio" in "The Taming of the Shrew" or of "Benedick" in "Much Ado About Nothing" will testify. Miss Marie Dronah whose charming work of last season made her a favorite with an assured welcome awaiting her, remains with the company and the supporting company has been organized with the special view of securing an efficient cast for this production. The liveliest interest is manifested in Mr. Hanford's appearance at the Grand Opera House here.

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OHIO PAPER'S FIND

Cincinnati Commercial Tribune Makes a Discovery and What It Says About It

Undoubtedly the bonds of peace and amity and mutual alliances, offensive and defensive, will be strengthened between the sovereign commonwealths of Oregon and Kentucky upon the reading of the address of Woods Hutchinson, B.S., A.M., M.D., and secretary of the board of health of the commonwealth of Oregon. During the present session of that august body Dr. Hutchinson came out boldly into the very open, as it were, and declared that whisky was a good thing and so was its consumption. As for malt and vinous liquors Dr. Hutchinson was not fully prepared to say—thereby avoiding wounding the susceptibilities of the sovereign commonwealth of Milwaukee, beg pardon, Wisconsin—but when it came down to the properly extracted essence of the vintages of the Kentucky cornfields there was, in the opinion of Dr. Hutchinson, nothing but that joy would be unconfined and strenuous health revealing in a sound body sustained by a sound mind.

Admitting that there were objections to whisky as a steady beverage in certain quarters, Dr. Hutchinson insisted that it was but the creature of narrow prejudice, urging that "alcoholism, so to term it, is an index of racial instability, and its chief action is an eliminator of the unfit." There can be no gainsaying that the doctor has facts to back him. Not even the most strict prohibitionist of them all would go to the lengths of denying that alcoholism is a producer of instability in the underpinnings, with the patrol wagon as an eliminator of the unfit—that is when the alcoholist is unfit to navigate of his own volition, or legs. But it is only fair to let Dr. Hutchinson speak for himself, especially in these days of war, when an outbreak might happen between the two sovereign commonwealths, and this is what he adduced in part to sustain his contention.

The role of alcoholism in the production of crime has been greatly overrated. The nations of Southern Europe, through continued consumption of alcohol, have gradually attained a level of comparative sobriety. Romans in the zenith of their power and the Greeks in the days of Cyrus were all drunken and hard drinkers. Their degenerate descendants are comparatively sober. Today the races in the van of progress, the dominant factors in the world's work, the American, English, Irish, Scotch and North German, are those in whom drunkenness is rampant.

Of course, it is barely possible that the ancient Greeks, the antique Romans and even Cyrus himself were partakers of the same brand with

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which Dr. Hutchinson regales himself—and his friends. But, be that question as it may be, if there is anything in old Kentucky that Mr. Hutchinson wants, even to a grandly hilarious time delving among the distilleries, and sampling until he has grown to the heights of strenuous, progressive manhood, and doesn't care whether school keeps or not, he ought to have it, or else Kentucky has grown ungrateful. — Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

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