

The World of Amusement



KATHLEEN CLIFFORD, IN "THE DEBTORS", GRAND OPERA HOUSE

vation from his former roles, but the lines are bright and do not lag at any time. The production is put on with much care, the scenic effect depicting the coast of Normandy being of a specially attractive nature. Some of the song hits are: "I Am Looking For a Husband," "That's the Time," sung by Miss Harriet Burt, a very pretty, chic and clever actress; "Banahoe," by Mr. George Mack, a diminutive comedian, and "The Robin and the Wren," sung by Mr. Hopper and Miss Burt. The show is certainly well worth seeing, and is sure to draw big business. The sale of seats opened this morning.

On Thursday next Digby Bell, with Kathleen Clifford and a large company, will be seen in a comedy adapted from the German, entitled, "The Debtors." The play has been running for two years in Berlin, and is founded on Dickens' story of "Little Dorrit." It is in no wise a dramatization of the novel, although most of the characters are taken from a stage picture of the old days in England, when the sending of a man to prison for debt was a usual proceeding. The plot of the play is enhanced by pathetic and comedy features of such methods. There are the prisoners of the historic Marshalsea, the most noted jail of its kind, congregated as "colleagues" with the pompous William Dorrit as the central figure. There is the devoted, modern but resourceful Amy, "the Child of Marshalsea," who develops the greater part of her father's restoration to his rights, and whose love scenes with Arthur Cleman carry the heart interest of the play, as in the loyal John Chivery, the worldly-minded brother "Tip," and the frivolous sister, Fanny. The "Father of Marshalsea" comes into his own, and Cleman wins "Little Dorrit."

Mr. Bell, with Miss Clifford, were selected for the two principal parts after being passed upon by the agent of the German author, Franz von Schoenthan, being cast respectively for William Dorrit and Amy Dorrit. Brandon Hurst and Brothers Sadler, two well-known players, are also in the company. Miss Clifford gained sudden popularity and prominence through her successful impersonation of the child in "The Top o' the World." The sale of seats opens on Tuesday.

General Gossip

Marie Cahill's second season in "The Boys and Betty" opened this week at the Broadway Theatre, Brooklyn, and will take the jovial star through the west, northwest and south.

Low Fields has engaged Louis F. Gottschalk as musical director of his new production, "Old Dutch." Mr. Gottschalk was conductor for two seasons of the original "Merry Widow" company.

E. H. Sothorn and Julia Marlowe, the latter looking very pretty after her rest, arrived in New York on the Majestic last Wednesday. Both players are to begin preparations immediately for their appearance at the New Theatre for a season of twenty-four weeks, opening in "Antony and Cleopatra" November 8.

The announcement that Mrs. Sol Smith, of the New Theatre company, contemplates publishing a series of reminiscences serially before long is interesting and important, since few feminine veterans of the theatre have had careers more notable or distinguished. Her memories of the stage of past years, so delightful in Mrs. Smith's conversation, seem certain to be of value in printed form.

Mrs. William Fitch, the mother of Clyde Fitch, who died at Calons-sur-Marne, France, September 4, sailed on the Grosvenor Kurfurst last Sunday for New York, bringing with her the body of the playwright. Mrs. Fitch is accompanied by Edward Simons, Mr. Fitch's close friend and secretary.

At the Manhattan Opera House Marguerita Sylva sang Nedda in "Pagliacci" for the first time in her career. The music critics received her interpretation on the whole favorably, allowing for the nervousness which was to be expected under the circumstances. She was in excellent voice, and on one point all her hearers were one—that she was a radiantly lovely Nedda, her beauty showing to even greater advantage than in "Carmen."

A big attraction looked for Bennett's the week after next is James and Sadie Leonard and Richard Anderson in a travesty entitled, "When Caesar Sees Her." It is an amusing burlesque on certain scenes from Bernard Shaw's play "Antony and Cleopatra," as presented by Forbes Robertson and Gertrude Elliott.

The six musical Nocturns, in their great musical act, "A Night in Venice," is another important feature looked for Bennett's the week after next. The same bill will include Terry and Elmer in their latest comedy success, and Anderson and Goines, a well known black face team.

Roy J. Harding broke the world's record for continuous piano playing in a contest that ended last night at Richmond, Ind. He played 36 hours and 36 minutes, which is four minutes better than the record. Harding was almost a wreck when the test ended, but it is not believed he will suffer permanent ill effects.

At the Grand

Despite the length of time "The Gay Musician" has been on the road, its appearance at the Grand Opera House last night brought out a fair-sized audience, and the comedy opera was as big a hit as ever. There was but little plot to the show, it consisting mostly of singing, but as the chorus was one of the best heard in this city for some time, the audience came away well pleased. The staging was excellent, the scenery being new and artistic. Harry Benham, in the role of Eugene Dubois, an ambitious young composer, handled the character cleverly, and sang exceptionally well. The biggest hit of the evening was made by R. Gray, as Samuel Lyons, with the song "A Bad, Bad Man." The music was catchy, and the "gods," finding the swing of it, refused to cease their applause until Gray had answered numerous encores. Frances Lee as Maud Granville was the principal lady soloist, and being the possessor of a strong, sweet, clear voice, she was always popular with the audience. Marie, wife of Eugene Dubois, was also a singer of some merit. "The Saucy Sparrow" being especially well received. The remaining members of the company were all good, and, taken on the whole, the show is well worth seeing. The presentation holds the boards again this afternoon and evening.

After a career of three years in Europe and two years in America, "The Thief," the most intense, the most human and most absorbing of dramas ever put upon the stage in years, will be presented by Charles Frohman's special company at the Grand on Monday night. Henry Bernstein, the author, who is just now the vogue among French playwrights, made himself famous the world over by writing "The Thief." The play was first produced at the Renaissance Theatre, in Paris, where Madame Le Bargy earned new laurels for herself by playing the wife. The first performance of the play before an English-speaking audience was undertaken at the Lyceum Theatre, in New York, two years ago, where it made a tremendous sensation and was the topic of the town for an entire season.

"A Matinee Idol," the new song comedy in which De Wolf Hopper will appear at the Grand here on Tuesday and Wednesday next, is not only an interesting and amusing play, but is said to have in it some of the catchiest melodies that Silvio Hein ever composed. Mr. Hopper plays the part of an unlucky but talented actor who finds it necessary to pose as a hypnotist in order to get himself out of a disagreeable dilemma, and the outcome of this imposition is said to be exceedingly funny. The part played by Hopper himself on this occasion may be said to be somewhat of an innovation.

Elgar Choir

A matter of musical moment that is creating considerable interest is the visit of the Elgar Choir to Buffalo next March, to give a concert in conjunction with the Buffalo Symphony Orchestra. The conductor of that organization, Dr.



MISS HARRIET BURT WITH DE WOLF HOPPER

Walter Goodale, was in the city to-day, conferring with Bruce Carey. The visit of a Hamilton choir to Buffalo was at one time an unlooked-for incident, in its musical life, but the work of the Elgar Choir has placed the city in the front rank, and caused a demand for its services where artistic singing is fully recognized.

During this week A. J. Bernhardt, a New York concert impresario, was in the city consulting Mr. Carey concerning the quartette of soloists who will assist the choir in the presentation of Verdi's "Requiem." It is the intention to secure four high-class singers.

Says the Woodstock Sentinel-Review, in the report of the Norwich Fair: A special feature of attraction was the appearance of the famous band of the 91st Canadian Regiment of Highlanders, of Hamilton. Their fine musical selections enlivened the proceedings of the afternoon and caused the crowds of visitors to forget the threatening appearance of the skies. No event of the day caught the attention of pleasure seekers more successfully than the band of Highlanders.

At Bennett's

"The Blonde Typewriters," Gus Edwards' charming little operetta, heralded as the greatest of girl acts in vaudeville, and which enjoys the distinction of having been featured in every city of importance on the American continent since it was first placed on the road, is announced as the chief headliner at Bennett's Theatre next week. Like all the Edwards' attractions, this one owes its success largely to the tuneful little songs, bright line and graceful dancing which characterize most of the vaudeville offerings of this well-known composer. Many of his latest song hits will be introduced to Hamilton theatregoers by the blondes. Heading the company is Perry Chapman, a well-known Broadway comedian, who achieved considerable success with big musical productions in the last five years. The title of the little tabloid is "A Picnic for One." The interior of an office is shown, the stenographers romping about with the office boy, "Kid" Dooley. There are six of these girly-girls in the typewriter show, and daintier examples of femininity it is said have seldom been seen in vaudeville.

Gus Williams or "The German Senator," a title he is known by from coast to coast, will be another important feature on next week's bill. Williams is a monologue artist of exceptional worth and a trick pianist of more than ordinary ability. His dialect stories are said to be refreshingly original and amusing, while his work on the piano stamps him as an accomplished musician. He is always considered a valuable acquisition on any bill.

"The Mischievous Brothers" is the title of an amusing little absurdity presented by the McCoy-Fitzgibbon trio, well-known comedians. This clever little farcette is credited with being a cyclone of merriment, and it should add considerable strength to the comedy end of the bill.

There is said to be a laugh every minute in the turn presented by Marlene Navarre and Marene, comedy equilibristas, who have an unusually clever offering.

A singing and dancing team, Swan and O'Day, should prove a pleasing number. The comedy is said to be above the average in acts of this type, and the parodies breezy and attractive.

"The Girl and the Show" is an entertaining comedy skit presented by Mme. Emerie and company. It contains an abundance of sprightly dialogue and laughable situations.

An artistic dancing novelty by Hearne and Rutter and new moving pictures will complete the bill.

Denial at Vatican. Rome, Sept. 24.—The Vatican denies that negotiations are on foot looking to the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and the Holy See. The report that President Taft will visit the Pope is naturally ridiculed.

Uniforms were first adopted by the English military organizations in the seventeenth century.

PARTING MESSAGE.

Strathcona Says Canada Must Soon be One of Great Nations.

Montreal, Sept. 24.—"This is an revival and not good-bye. I love Canada and the Canadian people. To one who but a few years back knew the Northwest as a wilderness it seems like a dream now to recognize it as one of the most progressive and prosperous countries in the world in agriculture, in education, as well as in all the other industries which go to make a great people. Canada as a whole must soon be one of the great nations, but mark you, only as a nation united as one man in its loyalty and devotion to the mother country and the empire."

This was Lord Strathcona's parting message to Canada as he left for Great Britain to-night. His lordship left on the private car "Earlscroft," which was attached to the Ocean Limited, on which he will travel to Rimouski, where to-morrow afternoon he will board the C. P. R. steamship Empress of Ireland. His lordship still wore his arm in a sling, and the effect of the energy he has shown during his short stay in Canada was visible, but he clearly appreciated the gathering of Montreal's most prominent citizens who had met to say farewell to him.

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(Signed) JAMES DINGWALL.
Williamstown, Ont., July 27, 1908.
50c a box, 6 for \$2.50 or trial box, 25c at dealers or from Fruit-a-tives, Limited, Ottawa.

BANK ROBBERS.

The Chicago Police Are Looking For Three.

Chicago, Sept. 24.—Three bandits, who have been sought since July for the robbery of the Bank of Nova Scotia at Rainy River, Ont., are believed to be hiding in Chicago, and the police here have been asked to renew the search for them. There is a standing reward of \$1,500 for the arrest of the trio offered by the Bank of Nova Scotia. Wacław Winiński (alias John Pykow), one of the men said to have been implicated in the robbery, formerly lived in Chicago, and it is said that he has been in this city since July 2, the date of the robbery. The other two men sought are Władysław Szymanski and Andrzej Slander. Each has many aliases.

DONATIONS.

The committee of management of the Aged Women's Home gratefully acknowledge the following donations for September: Mrs. LeRiche, 4 bottles fruit, also 3 baskets peaches; Mrs. C. Grey, 1 bottle fruit; Mrs. I. McIlwraith; peaches, plums and grapes; Miss Stock and Miss Ogilvy, 3 dozen bananas; Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Thompson, fruit cake; Mr. Adam, Brown, Christian Herald; Dr. Bates, magazines; anonymous, fifty cents; W. Lees & Son, discount off bread account.

"Why do you call that horse Summer Boarder?" "Because," answered Farmer Corntossel, "he don't do nothing but eat 'n' kick."—Washington Star.

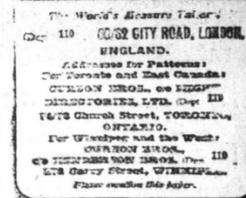
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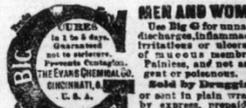
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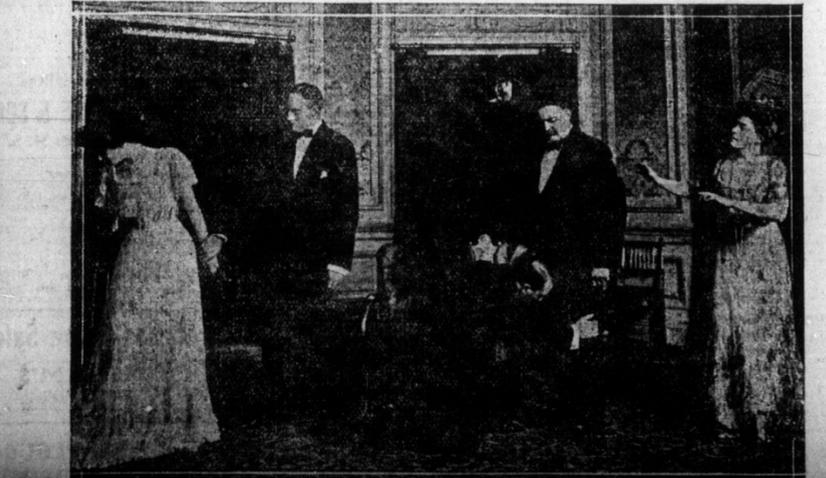


AN UNLUCKY TRIO.

They Met With Innumerable Accidents in Montreal.

Montreal, Sept. 24.—Three men accused of a conspiracy to defraud railway companies by fake accident claims were found guilty to-day. The three were experts at their job. Whenever an accident occurred, one of them was mixed up in it, while the other two were nearby to give evidence as witnesses. In this way they secured damages from both the C. P. R. and the G. T. R., and also from the Montreal Street Railway. Nathan Aloof, the leader of the gang, was shown to have been in the way of innumerable falling icicles, pillars, beams, etc. He also fell off innumerable cars and sustained all kinds of fractures. The trio were found guilty and will be sentenced later.

Skimmed milk has been proved a valuable food for laying hens, according to experiments at the Virginia experiment station.



SCENE FROM "THE THIEF," GRAND OPERA HOUSE



GUS EDWARDS' BLONDE TYPEWRITERS AT BENNETT'S NEXT WEEK