

# Plays, Players and Playgoers--The Week in London Theatres

## COMING ATTRACTIONS AT THE GRAND.

Today at 2:30....."Cinderella"  
Tonight at 8:15....."A Cowboy Girl"  
Wednesday..... Kathryn Osterman  
in "The Night of the Play"  
Saturday, matinee and night "Floradora"

## LARGE AUDIENCE LAST NIGHT.

There was a larger audience at the Grand last evening than any other night of the week. "The Dawn of Freedom" was the play, and it was the best offering of all. Every member of the cast had a part suitable to his ability, and they made the most of it. Mr. Herbert C. Power, Miss Beaumont, Miss Robinson and Miss Gordon, all created very favorable impressions, and were popular with the audience.

There were a number of excellent specialties between acts that were much appreciated, and made a hit with the crowd.  
This afternoon there will be a special matinee for children, the play being "Cinderella." In the evening, Mr. Power will offer "A Cowboy Girl." There should be large houses at each performance.

## KATHRYN OSTERMAN.

As "Nancy Brasher" the ambitious wife torn between her love for her husband and the secret and burning desire for fame as a playwright, Kathryn Osterman is said to be charming in her new comedy, "The Night of the Play."

With the natural tendency to dissimulation, common to the fair sex, the wife conceals the fact that she is writing a play, from her husband, Hubby. She fails to guess this important fact, but gets wise to a lot of other incidents such as secret interviews with managers, scene painters, leading men, etc., and the complications that ensue are enough to furnish several comedies with uproarious fun.

The opportunities for genuine fun furnished Miss Osterman by the role are taken full advantage of by that clever actress. She is the temptress, centre about which revolves all the laughter in the play. Her swift alternations of mischievous tenderness, mock heroics and real feelings are delicious beyond description, and must be seen to be really appreciated.

Partial fate has given Miss Osterman the further advantage of beauty, a rare and radiant type, great personal magnetism, lots of temperament and taste in dress that is a most valuable asset in itself. Her gowns are more wonderful than ever this year and there is one in which she is sheathed in gold from head to foot.  
In her famous director's gown the lovely actress looks like an exquisite statue of gold and ivory.

Miss Osterman, always supported by an excellent and finely-balanced company, will present "The Night of the Play" at the Grand Opera House on Wednesday evening.

## "FLORADORA."

The Imperial Opera Company, which made such a great hit in "San Toy" last month, will return to the Grand Opera House on Saturday next, when they will give two presentations of the musical comedy success, "Floradora." All the favorites will be seen in suitable roles and a splendid performance may be anticipated. By special arrangements with George Edwards, of the Gaiety Theatre, London, the original scenery and costumes will be used in the presentations here.  
Care has been taken in casting the piece, new faces having been added both to the principals and chorus. Agnes Cain-Brown is again at the head of the company, being aided by the well-known favorites of comic opera, Harry Girard, Helen Moystin, Saberry Dorsell, Laura Christopher, W. H. Pringle, Elvia Crox Seabrooke, W. L. Doyle and Harry St. Clair. Miss Florence Burdette, who will play the

part of Lady Hollywood, originated by Edna Wallace Hopper, is a new and valuable adjunct to this organization. Agnes Cain-Brown will be seen in her original part of Dolores, and it is safe to say that this particular role will be handled in a masterly way by this charming prima donna.

Another new and important factor in the cast will be Herbert Salinger, who was so long and successfully identified with the famous New York Casino force songs. Mr. Salinger will be seen in his original role of Anthony Tweedle-punch.

Special tickets will be issued for children for the matinee performance of "Floradora" at the Grand Opera House late last season, and it will be a welcome bit of news to know that the piece will again be seen at that popular playhouse on Friday, March 5, with the same cast as before.

## "FORTY-FIVE MINUTES FROM BROADWAY."

No musical play seen here in years left such a lasting impression as did "Forty-Five Minutes From Broadway," the Cohen comedy presented at the Grand Opera House late last season, and it will be a welcome bit of news to know that the piece will again be seen at that popular playhouse on Friday, March 5, with the same cast as before.

"Forty-Five Minutes from Broadway" has a real plot of interesting development and just enough catchy music to introduce some striking songs. It is one of those plays in the comedy genre, thrilling in its melodrama, and heart-breaking in some moments or real pathos. Frances Gordon impresses the versatility of her art more strongly on her creation of the role of "Plain Mary," than anything she has undertaken. It is a great character as played by her, this plain, loyal, hearted domestic, and especially convincing in some of the pathetic scenes. Scott Welsh as ex-sports, "Kid Burns," with wonderful slang phrases, so expressively given, and with his honest-hearted ways, made an immense hit with Londoners. The music principally containing two songs by Miss Gordon, "Mary Is a Grand Old Name" and "So Long Mary," and the title song, "Forty-Five Minutes from Broadway," has gained the popular fancy. The supporting cast includes Mary Curran, Elizabeth Drew, Susan Chisnel, Ninon de Varenne, Eugene McGregor, James H. Manning, James H. Davett, Harry Gwynette and Archie Mackenzie, Jun.

## THE POWER STOCK COMPANY.

The plays presented by the Power Stock Company at the Grand Opera House during the week have met with the approval of the large audiences that have been in attendance nightly. Such good appreciation was given, and one in particular, two young colored ladies, who do one of the nearest singing acts seen locally in some time. The play to be presented at the matinee today will be the greatest to the little ones, who will be taken into fairyland with "Cinderella" or the Little Glass Slipper.

At the matinee all children will be admitted to any seat for ten cents.

## AL. H. WILSON.

Golden-voiced Al. H. Wilson in his latest play, "When Old New York Was Dutch," is the combination which manages to give the audience a play of the Grand Opera House at an early date. The play is a love story, with the sweetest of songs. The scenes are descriptive of a period antedating the revolution when the Dutch and English were alternately in possession of New Amsterdam (now New York City), and then there were hardly any distinctly American characters, which is clean and interesting, deals with the enemy existing between the British governor and the old Dutch patriots. The time is a romantic and gives opportunity for attractive stage setting and quaint costumes. During the action of the play Mr. Wilson's useful voice is heard to great advantage in the rendition of the following songs arranged for his production: "Wien, Wien, Wien," "Fraulein," and "Tom Moore's Believer Me," all of which endearing Young Champs.

## PAGANINI INTERPRETED BY YOUTH.

Music-lovers in London and vicinity are at last to have an opportunity of hearing Marie Hall, the world-famous violinist, who will appear in the Auditorium on the evening of Friday, March 4, under the auspices of the Woman's Music Club. It is expected that large contingents will be present from St. Thomas, Woodstock, St. Marys, Ingersoll, Strathroy, Petrolia, and other surrounding towns.  
A recent number of the London Daily Mail said of the playing of the marvellous young violinist whose life-story reads like a fairy tale: "Then the melodies begin to unfold, with a purity and sweetness never heard before. It is Paganini interpreted by youth, with hopes, ideals, unclouded. Alas! but that strain of melancholy—youth has surely not fathomed the depth of utter pathos." When Kubelik plays it, too, it is only a tune; but when Marie Hall plays it, it is a world's living sorrow. And now the world's living sorrow is in the fiddle. Gay mocking laughter thrills from it. There is a scintillation of little demons that have not been loosed since Paganini himself first conjured them out of his horn and catgut.  
The music club has shown much enterprise in securing this war of magnitude for the second artists' concert promised for this season. Harold Bessie, and Louis Bessie, pianist, will be the assisting artists.

## An unusual compliment was paid to Annie Russell in Austin, Texas, recently, when both Houses of the Legislature adjourned their night session in order to attend a performance of "The Stronger Sex." The motion to take this unusual proceeding was made by J. R. Elliott, and was carried unanimously. The compliment was unique.

## Forrest Halsey, author of "The Panic," has just completed a new novelette. He has already sold the dramatic rights to Klaw & Erlanger, who, it is said, will produce it in the future as a medium for Fannie Ward. Lee Arthur will aid Mr. Halsey in the dramatization.

## AGNES CAIN-BROWN, As Dolores in "Floradora" at the Grand Opera House, Matinee and Night, Saturday Next.

Adelaide Kelm has been playing in "The Other Girl" in Chicago.

George Ade and Gustav Luders will collaborate on a new musical play which Charles Dillingham has in con-

templation for Montgomery and Stone. The locale of the new piece will be America.

Billie Burke, the star of "Love Watches," is back in New York and is stopping at the Knickerbocker Hotel. Her tour has been suspended for a month to enable her to recover from a commencement of blood poisoning, following a slight cut on the finger. Miss Burke will resume her tour the 22nd of this month at the Hollis Street Theatre, Boston.

"Counsel for the Defence," the drama recently produced in Columbus, has been secured by Thomas E. Shea and made part of his repertoire. The piece is a dramatic effort of Henry Irving Dodge, a magazine editor and writer. This arrangement means that Mr. Shea will return to the legitimate stage after a season of fifteen weeks in vaudeville. His tour will start this week in Detroit. The repertoire will include "The Bells," "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," and the new piece.

Charles Dillingham is to place John Barrymore at the head of a musical farce company this spring. George Hobart and John Gooden are to write the piece, and already William Rock, Maude Fulton and Frank Laly have been engaged for important parts. Mr. Barrymore is now playing "A Stubborn Ciderella" in New York.

Julia Marlowe says that "When Knighthood Was in Flower" may be revived when the time is appropriate.

When Dave Jarrett was a hotel clerk?

When John E. Rogers was an old man?

When Channing Pollock had his hair cut?

When Frank J. Wilstach was a book agent?

When Louis E. Cook was a contracting agent?

When Augustus J. Ross was a light-weight jockey?

When Charles Klein wrote a successful play?

When William Deming was a Chicago newsboy?

When John T. Slocum was a dining-car conductor?

When Sport Horman carried a bucket and brush?

When Kenneth Wolf was a dog fancier in Buffalo?

When Henry Pennell was in Howard City, Mich.?

When George M. Cohan was born in Providence?

When Clark Hinkley drove the "pick-up" wagon?

When Harry Daly was manager of the Pool House?

When Arnold Daly had a punch in either hand?

When Frank Behring was clerk at the old Tremont?

When Louis Muhlenberg starred in Clara Morris' part?

When Edward Marsh was an usher at the Academy?

When Lorraine Buchanan starred in "The Billionaire's Daughter"?

When Bill Roddy cleaned out a booze camp in Kansas?

When Lew Hunting used to appear in one of the "Ballets"?

When Frank McKee was the boy ahead of the Hoyt farces?

When E. M. Barnes booked for Piskey Barnett at Spokane?

When E. D. Price was a page in the "Milk White Flag"?

When Charles H. Booth was the corpse in "The Milk White Flag"?

When Fred W. Bert first hired William A. Brady as a call boy?

When Lydia Thompson was one of Lydia Thompson's burlesques?

When Will J. Davis managed a church company?

When W. E. Franklin was James A. Brady's right hand man?

When John Havin managed Minnie Madden in Fogg's Ferry?

When John Havin played Linnie, Ohio, and rode in the canoe?

When Joseph R. Grimmer was the matinee idol of the Pacific coast?

When Charles L. Warren was the general in "The Milk White Flag"?

When Russell Bassett was Russell Sages and clerked in a hotel?

When Solomon Ambrose was christened by the rabbi as Amelia Einstein?

"Ganton & Co., the new Shubert play in which George Fawcett is starring, is one of modern life and character in which the miserable working people in the Chicago stockyards and the luxurious existence of the social butterflies who flit about the clubs and drawing-rooms of the western metropolis are brought into sharp contrast. The second act of the play is laid in a Chicago clubhouse during a fashionable reception. The Shuberts in mounting the play have taken advantage of this opportunity for elaborate costuming.

Charles Dillingham is soon to launch in Chicago a new musical comedy with the title "The Candy Shop."

Henry E. Dixey, who is starring in "Mary Jane's Pa," is writing his memoirs. Dixey has had an experience of 41 years on the stage.

Florence Roberts has made a big hit in San Francisco in a play called "The House of Bondage."

Little Marguerite Clark has left De Wolf Hopper's company, and has returned to New York, where she says she will remain until she can start out again at the head of her own company. She was promised a star part for this season, but no suitable play could be secured.

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## The Vaudeville Stage

Neil Burgess is in vaudeville with a version of "The County Fair."

Harry Le Clair's version of "The Devil" is said to be very amusing.

The Two Roses get sweet music from "The Devil" and a cello.

The Russell Brothers are the headliners at the Majestic in Des Moines this week.

Coelia, left in a saloon, recovered from a severe attack of bronchitis.

Oliver Labadie has some tempting offers to appear in vaudeville.

Ellen Terry has refused an offer of \$200 a week from William Morris.

Karl Emmy and his pets were very well received at Winnipeg last week.

Ben Fagan is in the south, where his black-faced work is receiving praise.

Maxie Harsh is telling stories and singing songs down in Mobile. She was well received at Mobile last week.

The Three Edwards do some clever singing and dancing in their act. The Captain and Company.

Guy Bartlett & Co. are reported to be meeting with success in the new act, A Welsh Harp.

Vesta Tilley will come to America shortly and her husband says she will get \$200 a week salary.

Ritchie Ling has replaced Malcolm Adams as leading man with Amelia Bingham.

Harry Lauder sailed for Europe Wednesday, leaving America a day or two earlier than was originally planned.

Moira Ryan, a former resident of Denver, is making her first appearance in singing songs down in Chicago this week.

Pauline Fielding & Co. the new name of the act formerly known as the Fielding & Fielding Company.

Amelia Bingham lays off this week, so Morris bookings don't always insure steady work.

Andrew Mack won't go into vaudeville until next week. Andrew Mack won't go into vaudeville.

Valerie Bergere produced the Lion Tamer for the first time on any stage.

Cleveland and aroused genuine interest. When they reach Chicago in a week or two, they are now playing the Sullivan.

Newton & Homan laid off in Chicago last week owing to his having an attack of the flu. They are appearing in "The Romance of the Rose."

The La Auto Gliss broke the house record at the Bijou in Austin, Minn., last week. The Musical Four and The Barretts are this week's features.

Jack Younger has been very low with pneumonia for four weeks past, but is now able to be out.

He expects to resume stage work shortly.

Will Bradley and his company in "The Gypsy Wayfarer" made a big hit at the Family in Davenport the first half of this week.

It is more than probable that James O'Neil will be Charles Frohman's selection for the title role in "Israel," the new play by Henri Bernstein which he is shortly to produce. Negotiations between Mr. Frohman and Mr. O'Neil have been in progress for several days.

Constance Collier, now playing in "Samson," is to act the character which went to Rejane in the Paris production.

One of the surprises of the season came to light last Thursday in New York when Charles Frohman announced that he had placed Minnie Aguilera, the star of the Sicilian players, under contract for a period of five years.

Chief interest in the engagement attaches to the plan to present Mme. Aguilera in English plays. A clause in the contract provides that the actress is to devote herself to the study of English for the ensuing twelve months.

Frank Sylvester, Helen Macbeth, Arthur Matland, Marion Labouch, Josephine Brown, Austin Webb, Addison Pitt and Mark Smith have been engaged for Mary Manning's new play, "Maxie Step."

Maxine Elliott will go to London this spring to fill a contract with Lewis Waller to appear with him in a new play by Constance Fletcher. The actress is offering a prize of \$50 for the best substitute title sent to her. She will produce the play in America next season.

David Belasco left New York last Sunday for California to pay his first visit to his native state since he came east, twenty years ago. He will spend most of the time with his father in San Francisco.

Ida Waterman, who has an important role in Henrietta Crossman's new production, "Sham," was a member of Miss Crossman's company two years ago. Since that time she has been estimated from the official records of births and deaths and other documents, but it has now been arranged to make a municipal house-to-house investigation, commencing at Kobe.

There were 800 fewer marriages in Boston last year than the year before. It is thought that the decrease is due to the financial worry more than to lean year, however.

Hitherto the population of Japanese towns of the empire as a whole has been estimated from the official records of births and deaths and other documents, but it has now been arranged to make a municipal house-to-house investigation, commencing at Kobe.

Influenza Coming from Europe

IF A WAVE OF THIS DISEASE SWEEPS OVER CANADA, THOUSANDS WILL DIE.

Be prepared—now is the time—to say you should commence to protect yourself.

Influenza or "la grippe" invariably seizes upon those who have coughs, colds and sore throats.

An important Montreal physician states that the epidemic can be minimized if the people will only guard their colds—stop them before they grow large. Nothing better for the purpose is known than "N