

PHIL SHERIDAN'S New "MARATHON GIRLS" PRESENTING JACK BURNETT'S GREAT MUSICAL TRAVESTY "A RUN FOR YOUR MONEY" PRETTY GIRLS--40--REAL COMEDIANS

GAZETTE DAILY MATS. LADIES-10¢ BARTLESQUE & VAUDEVILLE PRICES: NIGHT-15c, 25c, 35c, 50c, and 75c MATINEE-15c, 25c, 35c, and 50c

CHORUS GIRLS' CONTEST EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT AFTER THE REGULAR PERFORMANCE EVERY FRIDAY AMATEUR NIGHT CASH PRIZES AWARDED BEST CONTESTANTS NEXT WEEK--WEBER & RUSH'S "PARISIAN WIDOWS."

Concerning English Plays and Players

Breezy Gossip of London Theatres--Successful Plays and Plays That are not Successful.

LONDON, April 30.—An hour ago, not a little to my astonishment, A. E. Erlanger and Joseph Brooks walked into the room in which I am now writing. I had imagined them both in the United States and was naturally eager to learn the reason of so unexpected a visit.

"The fact is," said Erlanger, "we wanted to shake hands with Charlie Frohman, and so we came here to be in readiness. Having accomplished what we set out to do, we sail again for New York on Sunday." That, of course, is only pretty Fanny's way: two busy men like Erlanger and Brooks do not travel six thousand miles, coming and going, merely for an interchange of courtesies. Their real object in making the trip was to discuss a new scheme with Frohman for the establishment in four of the principal American cities—New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Chicago—of what they describe as a European theatre, that is to say, a theatre devoted to the exclusive performance of English plays by English actors. Frohman at once approved the project and it is more than probable that it will take tangible shape next autumn. It is not the intention of these managers to build special theatres for the purpose. They will simply set aside in each of the cities specified one of the many at present under their control.

"It will be for Frohman," said Erlanger, "to supply the necessary material. This he will be able to do, partly by drawing on the resources of his London Repertory Theatre, partly by engaging talent in other quarters. In the cities mentioned there is, of course, a large fluctuating public, mainly composed of English travellers who, conceivably, will be pleased to find their native tastes and wants catered for in this way. The patronage of these is assured beforehand, while the success of actors like Charles Wyndham, Forbes-Robertson and, in the old days, Henry Irving, may be regarded as a guarantee that American playgoers will also interest themselves greatly in the scheme." Personally I have not the slightest doubt that it will prove popular, but if the United States are to drain London of so considerable a number of its competent actors and actresses what in the end is to become of us? Erlanger further alluded to another scheme in which, however, he is not personally interested. This appears to be that Roland Oswald Stoll has been quietly preparing for the Oliver-Alfred Butt and Martin Beck. Stoll, it seems, has acquired, or is on the point of acquiring, a number of well-known vaudeville theatres in the north-western States. He has also determined to build others in New York and elsewhere to link up the circuits of the seaport towns. The project is to have his personal supervision, and with this view he will spend a portion of each year on your side Stoll. It is to be remembered, however, that the project is not a purely financial one, and that the result of the contest may be time will show.

Louis Waller's production of "The Rivals" has settled down into a genuine success. Of course there is al-

America A Grand Country Says Forbes-Robertson

Eminent Actor Chats Entertainingly to Sunday World Representative—Mary Anderson and Modjeska two of the greatest actresses he has known.

A representative of The Sunday World had the pleasure of a short interview with Mr. Forbes-Robertson recently in Buffalo, who will present "The Passing of the Third Floor Back" at the Royal Alexandra Theatre this week. The eminent actor took occasion to remark that he is looking forward with great interest to his coming engagement in Toronto, as on former occasions he has always been treated with so much kindness that his visits have become one of the pleasant memories of his stage career.

When asked how conditions on the stage in America compared with the prevailing theatrical affairs in England, Forbes-Robertson said: "You are progressing faster than we are, I think. There is more enterprise over here. My first visit to this great country was made twenty-five years ago, when I came over to play leading parts with Mary Anderson. What a beautiful woman and really excellent actress she was. I do not think that the void she left when she retired from the stage has ever been filled. Miss Anderson had what is so rare in these days among actresses—a great classic intuition, and the declamatory sense, which is not nearly so common as one would think—I mean the real sense and sensibility or feeling, of course. She was one of the most intelligent and cultured women I have ever met and a great student. She was always studying. Besides being beautiful, she was the fortunate possessor of a very charming and sympathetic personality. Miss Anderson combined so many remarkable qualities that her success was not surprising. During my first season with Mary Anderson I played Romeo, Orlando, Claude Melnotte, Pygmalion, and breathe it softly, Ingomar. I shall never forget how bad I was as that barbarian chieftain. Her stepfather, Mr. Griffiths, I remember, came to me after the first performance and said encouragingly: 'You play the part very well, young man, but you ought to be dipped.' At first I thought he meant 'drowned,' but it was subsequently explained to me that he meant I ought to be fattened out to look more like the embodiment of a savage chief, something like the progress undergone by a tall-owl-eagle, which in the days of my youth (and I do not acknowledge that they are even yet over) was called a 'dip.'"

Another even greater actress of whom Forbes-Robertson speaks in terms of the highest praise is Modjeska, whose leading man he also was, while she was the first Juliet to whom he played Romeo. He has many reminiscences to tell of this famous actress, and recalls the fact that together they first inaugurated the now popular custom of presenting Shakespeare out-of-doors during the summer time. "It happened," he said, "that there was a reactor down at a little place called Cudworth, in Cornwall, near where we were playing, who was very anxious to secure a new organ for his church, and he induced Madame Modjeska to give an open-air performance of 'As You Like It' in the garden of the rectory for the benefit of the church. The performance was so successful in every respect that we had to repeat it at different places because of the demand to see Shakespeare out of doors, which was the beginning of the open-air theatre. Think of what we could save in rents if only we were sure of the weather."

Asked as to the play in which he is appearing here and has already played for over 200 times in New York and London, England, Mr. Forbes-Robertson said that he preferred "The Passing of the Third Floor Back" should speak for itself, and believed that it would be found to possess an individual message to everyone. "It is a marvellous little work," he said, "and as simple as it is sublime. There is nothing mawkish about it, however." Mr. Forbes-Robertson spoke with enthusiasm and gratitude of the warmth of his reception, and re-echoed the words of Shakespeare, whose greatest interpreter he is universally acknowledged to be. "I count myself in nothing else so happy as in a soul remembering my good friends."



MISS RITA OLCOTT, WIFE OF THE POPULAR IRISH COMEDIAN AND THE AUTHOR OF "RAGGED ROBIN."

Francis Starr In "The Easiest Way"

A Play That Fits the Actress, An Actress That Fits the Play.

David Belasco will present Francis Starr in "The Easiest Way," Eugene Walter's greatest play, at the Royal Alexandra Theatre during the week beginning May 3, with usual matinees. It is almost superfluous to say that this will be one of the most notable events of the local theatrical season. Scarcely a play has been so much discussed in the past decade as "The Easiest Way" and the brilliant success of Miss Starr in the leading role is a matter of record. For a year Miss Starr appeared at Mr. Belasco's stupendous Theatre in New York, in this remarkable play, to crowded houses. It was one of the few cities visited in Miss Starr's spring tour; Miss Starr will have for her support the original New York company, including Joseph Kilgour, Edward H. Robins, William Sampson, Beatrice Morgan and Violet Rand, and the elaborate and rarely beautiful scenic equipment will be identical with that provided by Mr. Belasco for the New York run of the play.

"The Easiest Way" depicts that aspect of New York life which is concerned with the tragedy of the women who are so wedded to luxury that they will pay any price for its enjoyment. The theme is handled in so serious and convincing a manner that the play becomes, as one eminent writer said, "better than a sermon." Eugene Walter has painted with a strong brush a certain phase of New York life and little is omitted in emphasizing the hollowness of that life. It is a subject worthy of a Sardou, and it has been handled in masterful, yet delicate manner. The intensely dramatic situations are relieved by exceptionally bright comedy incidents. While tragic in part it is far from a gloomy play. In view of the fact that



MISS GLADYS VAN, AT THE MAJESTIC MUSIC HALL THIS WEEK.

stage blocked, a gentleman, sitting behind them, demanded in no very courteous tones that the "ridiculous" things should be removed. This the ladies refused to do. During the entrance they were invited to step into the vestibule and there found themselves confronted by Curzon, who politely refused to allow them to return to their seats. At the same time, refusing them their money. The sympathies of all sensible people will certainly be with Curzon and the outraged playgoers who might, however, have made his request in more courteous terms.

George Edwards has been successful in luring Handley Wright back to the fold. Since he left Daly's, some years ago, the droll little comedian has been something like a derelict, tossing about on the stormy waters, playing here for one manager and there for another. It only wanted a mutual friend to bring him and Edwards together and that, fortunately for both, has now been effected, for undoubtedly, Handley Wright was never seen to such advantage as under Edwards' banner. At the foot of playing the old important question of salary. While Wright thought he was worth some many dollars a week Edwards could never be prevailed upon to share his views. Each, in the end, has been persuaded to give way.



MISS BAILEY, WITH THE MARATHON GIRLS, AT THE GAITY THIS WEEK.

days later, received a scenario from one of the inmates who had been confined for twenty years. The play was called "The Microbe Detective" and the writer urged Mr. Hitchcock to assume the title role, promising to divide his royalties if the comedian would agree to do so. In the scenario, the detective hides behind a huge piece of cheese and, while thus ambushed, overhears the plot of the villain and his accomplice in crime. After several narrow escapes from being run over by a railroad train, being hurled into a blazing furnace and being hypnotized into a spell from which he is with great difficulty brought back, the hero turns the tables on the villain and is triumphant.

Altho, to be quite sure, this is an exaggeratedly ludicrous scenario, as may be granted when its source is taken into consideration, Mr. Hitchcock asserts he has received, others from allegedly saner quarters, that have been almost as peculiar.

ATHLETIC WEEK

WE WILL HAVE YOUR OLD FRIEND

"SHAD" LINK

THE POPULAR AND WELL-KNOWN WRESTLING CHAMPION WHO WILL MEET ALL COMERS AND IF THEY STAY FIFTEEN MINUTES WITH HIM WILL FORFEIT \$25—COME AND GET THE CASH AT THE

STAR

TWICE DAILY A REAL BIG SUNBURST OF STARS THAT WILL DAWN FOR YOUR DELIGHT, TO SAY NOTHING OF A GARDEN FULL OF THOSE REGULAR ROSY-POSY GIRLS, THE ORIGINAL BRIGHT EYES BUNCH FROM SUNSHINE ALLEY. COME AND SEE THE

25 GIRLS 25 WITH THE BIG SHOW

MONROE NIGHT

COME AND SEE THE BIG DOUBLE SHOW TELL YOUR FRIENDS

Wilson Will Here Four Weeks

Singing Comedian to Make
Extended Visit at the Grand
Opera House.

ing ambassador of German
ent position in the front
autonic comedians, and who
up a clientele that equals the
of that enjoyed by the
net, of pleasant memory,
the next attraction at this
then he will give his mas-
in this city an opportunity
his new musical play,
Ireland." Mr. Wilson, who
of a magnetic personality,
ways certain conquest of an
aided and accentuated this
an uncommonly bright
sing play.

uction will be under the
supervision of Manager Sid-
and the plot affords Mr.
of that particular kind
which he is noted; also
erpolation of several new
bers that are said to be
and tuneful as any of his
successes.

of the play, which is in
is laid in Ireland and Mr.
trays the character of
young German born and
Bernard, but whose father
his birth. On obtaining his
letz journeys to the native
father, where he becomes
corrie with the Irish lad
who love him for his
man dialect and his mar-
ing voice.
thoughts. "Erin's Isle,"
sings. "The Nightingale
new songs that Mr. Wil-
this season. In addi-
new songs he will also sing
you Back Again Kathleen
Me of All Those Endear-
Charms."

Olcott's Dog

panion of the Actor
Enjoys the Play.

one man has learned that
to equal in the animal king-
dom, in any world when in
consideration of the per-
sonality and faithfulness
with which dogs have
themselves with those
been noted at times in
his everlasting credit.
has read the Scott story
of "Battie," and remem-
bered the dog's central
story. The story of "Battie,"
shepherd's dog, has also
place in the classics. But
after acquainted with the
Van Winkle's dog is the
quickest to mind. Since
Jefferson, Schindler has
said as frequently as he
Jefferson was alive.

Olcott's dog "Comrade" is
place that was held with
function for a long time by
the basis that "Comrade"
honors are his appearance
Robins' the play that his
sing this season.

the play does "Comrade"
st, when the curtain rises
act. It is the dog and
in who are asleep, as the
ut. They (the dog and the
for ten minutes before
arried. Should "Comrade"
and during that time the
be ruined. But he knows
other chance comes in the
an her found with the
live in the dog country.
ones whom Ragged Robin
find, and in finding them
old pal "Comrade."



BLUE BURKE, IN "M.P.R. DOT," AT THE PRINCE OF WALES.