



THE Ticket-of-Leave Man is without a doubt the strongest play in the repertoire of the Belmour-Gray Company. Nearly every theatre habitue has sometime in his life witnessed this play, but it rarely happens that anyone has an opportunity of seeing a more finished presentation of it than that produced by the Belmour-Gray Imperial Stock Company. There was not a weak point in the cast, but there were very many strong ones. For instance, the Bob Brierly of Mr. Frank Armstrong was the best piece of work that gentleman has done in this city, which is saying a great deal. The Lancashire dialect, so difficult to acquire, was spoken like a native by Mr. Armstrong, and nothing that would intensify the interest of the play was neglected by him. Miss Dalgleish was at her best as May Edwards and enlisted the sympathies of the audience in her trials and tribulations. Ella Damaris was in high favor with the type of a young 'un she portrayed, in fact so natural was her acting that they looked upon her as being one of themselves. Miss Wheeler made a good deal of her part, in fact she always does. The character of Melter Moss is scarcely ever seen to better advantage than it is given by Mr. Gray, and in the concert hall scene particularly did he gain round after round of applause. Mr. Belmour as Hawkshaw, the detective, gave by far the best presentation of the part we have ever seen. Mr. Summerfield as Mr. Gibson had not much to do, but made the very best of his part. Mr. Robinson as Jim Delton, the burglar and counterfeiter was equal to the situation and cracked cribs, heads and everything else that came in his way, apparently with as much pleasure to himself as the audience.

Lost in London was the bill for Thursday and Friday nights, and will again be seen at the matinee this afternoon and the regular Saturday night performance. In this play Mr. Armstrong also takes a dialect part, that of Job Armroyd,

the Lancashire miner. His portrayal of the wronged old miner is powerful, especially in the street scene, where through the blinding snow he sees his run-away wife at the window. Miss Dalgleish, the truant wife, has what would be difficult lines to almost anyone else, but she, with her sweet voice and graceful and artistic movements, completely gains the control of her audience. Benjamin Blinker (Mr. Gray), who had an uncle in the P. R., you know, kept the audience in a continual roar of laughter from the time he appeared on the stage until he made his exit. Mr. Belmour as Gilbert Featherstone the villain took the part well. Tiddy Draggelthorpe (Miss Ella Damaris) is a dialect part, and was well taken by the little lady who is earning for herself an enviable reputation for her hard work. Miss Wheeler, during the progress of the play, sang, "Since Nelly's Gone Away," and received a thundering encore.

The bills at the Imperial for next week are, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, May Blossom; Thursday, Friday and Saturday and Saturday matinee, Kathleen Mavourneen.

The Devil's Auction will be at The Victoria on the evenings of Monday and Tuesday.

On Friday and Saturday and Saturday matinee, Katie Putnam will make her appearance at The Victoria. On Friday night, Love Finds a Way will be produced, Saturday matinee, The Old Curiosity Shop, and Saturday night, Erma the Elf. Katie Putnam is one of the most popular actresses on the American stage. During the many years she has been before the public she has made both money and friends and this season so far has been more successful than any previous one. She always draws well in Victoria and no doubt she will have no reason for complaint at the houses she will have next week.

On Tuesday, February 2, the Guild of St. Saviour's, Victoria West, will give an entertainment in Victoria West Hall in aid of the church seating fund. The entertainment will include a farce, by Robertson, entitled "Breach of Promise," by the same young

people producing "Declined With Thanks" last November.

The mechanical effects and stage settings at the Imperial this week are magnificent, particularly the coal mine scene in Lost in London.

A dramatic entertainment for the benefit of the organ fund of the new R. C. Cathedral will be given at the Victoria on Thursday evening, January 28. The entertainment will be under the auspices of Y. L. I. No. 33, assisted by Seghers' Council, No. 85 Y. M. I.

A minstrel company is being organized by several young men in this city. Already 75 persons have signified their willingness to take part. Rehearsals will start next week and an entertainment is promised at an early date.

The opening date of the Victoria Stock Company has not yet been announced, but it is believed that it will not be later than Feb. 9.

AT THE VICTORIA.

Kate Claxton.
Devil's Auction.
Katie Putnam.
Bella Golden.
Hanlon's Superba,
Corinne Opera Company.
Spider and the Fly.
Casino Opera Company.
Frank Daniels.
Modjeska.
Cora Tanner.
Frederick Warde.
Thatcher's Minstrels.
Two Johns.
Blue Jeans.
Nat Goodwin.
W. H. Crane.

AT THE VANCOUVER OPERA HOUSE.

Kate Claxton—Jan. 20 and 21.
Katie Putnam—25 and 26.
Devil's Auction—27.
Garrick Dramatic Club (local)—13.
John L. Sullivan—19.
Nanaimo Amateurs—Feb. 10.
Sport McAllister—29.
Hanlon's Superba—April 4 and 5.
Frederick Warde—11, 12 and 13.
Ole Olsen—15.
Spider and Fly—18 and 19.
Corinne Opera Company—20 and 21.
Marie Wainwright—May 9 and 10.
Fred Daniels—11 and 14.
Cora Tanner—27 and 28.
Lillian Lewis—June 1 and 2.
Thatcher's Minstrels—10 and 11.
Rhea—16 and 17.
Two Johns—22 and 23.
Natural Gas—July 20 and 21.
The Cruisheen Lawn—29 and 30.
Sol Smith Russell—Sept. 21 and 22.