

Many muckrakers are arising among the Soothsayers and howling ruin for Rome. The woods are full of evil portents, according to the Evening Journal. Last Wednesday the Oracle of Apollo went into a trance and delivered the following utterance: "A starved Cow gives no Milk." An Augur interpreted this epigram as meaning that Rome, if plundered dry, would cease to be a money-making investment to its owners. How irritating! Last Monday, when Senate was in session, a tabby cat was heard howling dismally in the basement of the Capitol. This prodigy was witnessed by a passing Augur who read the portent as meaning that Women would be in politeness ere the Ides of March blow in again. These Augurs are great bores. I trust them not. They are like Eskimo guides in a Polar controversy. For \$5 they would say anything.

In the Senate recently Scragulus Juniper, Insurgent leader from Gaul, arose and criticized my administration as "a period when Vice is a Captain of Industry and Virtue has the hookworm." The gray-haired Senator from the Island of Rhodes retorted with the now famous remark, "Hush! Such talk will hurt business."

Our well-wishers are chiling our Administration for its lavish waste. Somebody in the Board of Supervisors has leaked on my deal with the Contractors in the Temple of Minerva building scandal. Critics seem to be rising up faster than I can kill them off. Gifford Pinchotus, a barbarian wood-chopper, ran amuck in the Forum last week and would not be silent until he was buried in mud, head down. As far as I could see, he seemed to have the Conservation Bug, too.

"Where," shouted this misguided slave, "Where shall our unhappy Country find new forests, new waters and new mines after what we now possess have been ruined and drained by the greed of a debauched nobility? Harken, ye people of Rome—Greed must be supplanted by Wisdom and Frugality or we must perish utterly!" Just then the Cous came up and the Boy Reformer took a ride in the Trouble Cart.

Wisdom and Frugality! My old teacher, Seneca, encouraged me to admire wisdom and frugality, and I do admire them—in others. Like all the Virtues, they should be enforced among the lower classes. I do not mind seeing millions of merry beggars wearing rags in a worthy effort, no doubt, to save their Sunday Clothes. I even like to see the Nobles pinch a little, so long as I and my Gang are permitted to make a Roman holiday whenever and wherever our sporting blood dictates, to turn our working-classes into gladiators and flood the corn-fields of Italy to make artificial lakes whereon the Big Boss may float his pleasure-barges of ivory and amaethyst. When I discourage Greed in others I remind myself vividly of John D. talking to his Bible class.

Said the Big Hog to the Little Hog, "Don't be a Hog."

Philadelphus the Thespian blew in recently from the Provinces where he has been making short stands in all the Syndicate theatres. You know Philadelphus—took the comedy part in my great dramatic effort "Tessie of Troy." Philadelphus came up to the Palace for lunch and stayed a week. Did we have a good time? Don't mention it, my head aches.

He has been running around with a lot of Mystic Shriners during his trip, and he naturally picked up a few Literary Treasures. Here's one of 'em:

The Tale of Johannus, the Johnnie, and Calliope of the Chorus.

Now this befell in the reign of Caligula. There dwelt in Rome a certain young Patrician who was not only a Pinhead, but a Walking Wad as well. He was, by name, Johannus Simplex; and to say that he was Theatrical in his tastes would be merely expressing it

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The Theatre

"THE PASSING SHOW OF 1912"

"The Passing Show of 1912," which will be seen here, of August 10, at Moore Theatre, is the first of the regular New York inter Garden shows to be presented in this part of the country. The organization is in every particular the same as the one that was seen at the home theatre in New York for six months and which played for seventeen weeks straight at the Garrick Theatre in Chicago.

This show is a genuine theatrical review, the gamut of most of the successful plays of the entire season and poking fun at the characters therein and at some of the principal scenes of each, with considerable wit and humor and some little satire.

There is no end of ginger and girls and the piece is really a melodramatic, for, with the exception of ten minutes between the



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no acts, there is not a moment when it is not going at the speed of light and drifting or jumping from one idea into another.

The plays burlesqued include "Kismet," "Bunt Pulls the Strings," "Bought and Paid For," "A Butterfly on the Wheel," "The Return of Peter Grimm," "The Typhoon," "The Quaker Girl," "The Pirates of Penzance," "Oliver Twist" and "Officer 66," with allusions to politics and events of the year.

Most of these burlesques are clever and interesting with many an amusing turn on the idea involved and there are moments when the entertainment is quite brilliant and none when it is dull.

In the many and varied characterizations involved there are

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