ROYAL ALEXANDRA

SEATS BELL PIANO CO. 146 YONGE

THIS WEEK, BEGINNING MONDAY MAT.

GERTRUDE ELLIOTT

(MRS. FORBES-ROBERTSON)

IN MRS. FRANCES HODGSON BURNETT'S

PLAY OF CHEERFULNESS

THE DAWN OF A TO-MORROW

1 YEAR IN NEW YORK
5 MONTHS IN LONDON
8 WEEKS IN CHICAGO
6 WEEKS IN BOSTON

(LIEBLER & CO., Managers)

EVENINGS, MON. and SAT. MATS.—50c., 75c., $1.00 and $1.50
WEDNESDAY MATINEE—25c., 50c., 75c. and $1.00

NEXT WEEK BEGINNING MON. MAT.

FIRST APPEARANCE IN TORONTO OF

LONDON'S DISTINGUISHED EMOTIONAL ACTRESS

LENA ASHWELL

IN A NEW DRAMA BY C. M. S. McLELLAN, AUTHOR OF "LEAH KLESHNA."

"JUDITH ZARAINE"

(LIEBLER & CO., Managers.)

SEAT SALE BEGINS ON THURSDAY

LIEBLER AND COMPANY'S MANY VENTURES.

In the private office of the silent and secretive gentleman who directs the movements of the inspectors of the post office department from Washington, there is a large map upon which appear many little flags scattered about the broard area of the United States. In some places the map is so punctured that it looks almost like a geographical sieve. As a matter of fact, it is the most useful bit of machinery in the office of the chief. There is not a crook in the country who would not give much and plenty to know the exact location of these little flags, for each one shows where some detective of the government is either on the watch or the ferret.

There is but one imitation of this map, and George C. Tyler, the theatrical manager, has it. It is exactly like the original except that his tiny flags do not indicate the whereabouts of investigating inspectors. Instead his ensigns show just where all his companies are playing.

"So far this season," he said, "Liebler & Company have thirty-two companies in operation, and from present plans the end is not in sight. While my head is used to carrying many details, I do not object to having it relieved. I wanted something to show me where the companies were just at a glance instead of pouring over route books.

"Not long ago, I was in Washington, and meeting P. V. DeGraw, who was formerly general manager of the old United Press, he showed me the post-office map, and I have taken the idea from the government and without royalty but with gratitude."

Mr. Tyler, who is the managing director of Liebler & Company, now finds at his office in New York each morning these fluttering bits of color mounted on pine and each bearing the initial of star or company and stuck in the location they are playing. Before his arrival his secretary moves the flag as the company has moved.

There is one little white flag that the office calls "The Admiral's Pennant," and just now this is waving this side of the border. By it is another flag masked "Pom" which translated mean "Pomander Walls," the new comedy by Louis N. Parker which Liebler & Co produced in Montreal on Monday night. And just a trifle of a distance away is another masked "El" which means Gertrude Elliott, who is now playing in Canada in "The Dawn of a To-Morrow."

Mr. Tyler was asked what he did with the flags of his map if the flag it indicated failed. "Oh," was his quick reply, "I'd send it to the author as a souvenir."

MISS JANE OAKER, IN "THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST, AT THE PRINCESS NEXT WEEK.

Signs of Christ's Coming

Sermon By Elder R. C. Evans.

Permit me to draw your attention to the 14th chapter of the prophecy of Zechariah and the last clause of the 7th verse, where you will read these words: "And it shall come to pass at eventide it shall be light." From a careful reading of the Divine record before us, we conclude that the world is divided into three periods, known in Scripture as the morning, noon and night. In verification of this assertion we desire to draw your attention to the parable of the Lord Jesus, as recorded in the 20th chapter of Matthew, where He says that the kingdom of heaven is like unto an individual that had a vineyard. He declares that early in the morning he went out to hire laborers to work in the vineyard, and he agreed with them for a penny a day. It is stated that he went out again the third hour and found others and hired them for a penny a day; he went in the sixth and ninth hour, and finally his last visit to the market place to hire laborers to work in the vineyard was made in the eleventh hour.

Now, I am conscious that this parable has been misrepresented. While the facts seem to show that Jesus is dealing with the different dispensations of the gospel to the sons of men, the world has interpreted this to mean the different periods in a man's lifetime in which he may become converted to Christianity. They tell us that very early in the morning means when a child is brought to God in the days of his youth; that the third hour means when a person is converted in early manhood; the sixth hour means when a person is converted about the middle age of life; that the ninth hour represents a man being converted in his old age, and the eleventh hour means when a dying man finds the Lord Jesus.

Reward for Good Works.

Now I cannot make this interpretation agree with the rest of the word of God because you discover that they all got a penny for having worked in the vineyard. All who have labored in this vineyard received every one a penny, the story goes. Now that would seem unfair from the fact that the whole Scriptures teaches that we are all to be rewarded according to our works, that as a man's deeds are in this life, so his reward will be in the life beyond. The character that he forms here, the work that he performs in this life will meet with a just recompense of reward in the life to come. This idea that a man can serve Satan all the day long until the moment when he stands upon the gallows or lies upon his death-bed, and when he feels that the icy hand of death is laid upon him, then turn and say, "Lord have mercy upon me," and the Lord is going to take him home to heaven and say, "Come, enter into the joy of thy Lord; thou hast been faithful over a few things committed to thy trust, I will make thee ruler over many." It seems to me that God would not be telling the truth to receive the man right from the criminal dock and take him right home to heaven. It seems to me that this individual, if he is rewarded according to his works shall be, whether they be good or bad, as the Scriptures say, that his reward cannot be the reward of eternal life for having kept the word of God. If God rewards a man with eternal life for a single moment's service on a death-bed, and that reward is equally as great as a man's who has served Him all the day long, it seems to me the Bible is not true when it says that a man must give an account for every idle word. It seems to me that this theory would contradict the Bible which so plainly teaches that we are to be rewarded according to our works.

Premium on Crime.

I cannot accept this theory. I do not say that God will absolutely disregard the penitent cry upon the death-bed, but I do say that a man who has served the devil all his life until the last moment and then cries for help should not receive the reward that is laid up for those who have kept the word of God. This idea of offering to the man upon the gallows eternal life for a look, is hurting the morals of our country and it is offering a premium on crime; convert me to the idea that I can serve the devil all my life, that all I must look out for is to have the chance to die with my reasoning faculties unimpaired, so that I can thru my senses cry out, "God, have mercy on me"; teach me that that is all I have to do and you teach me that the gospel is not the power of God unto salvation. This man who cries upon the gallows never obeyed the gospel of the Son of God, he never has complied with the conditions prescribed in the law and therefore cannot rest under the power and sanctifying influence of that law. "Well," says one, "I see plainly that that parable does not mean what the people have said it meant." What does it mean? In my opinion it means just this. God, when He placed Adam in the Garden of Eden in the early morning of this world's history, gave him a law. He broke that law and was at once clothed upon with that dread leprosy of sin. Immediately that he had fallen, he required a Redeemer, not before; it is only they that are sick that need a physician. Adam had no need of a Saviour until he had need of salvation; so it is said that God presented the gospel law to him very early in the morning of the world's history. In process of time the sons of men wandered from God, forsook the gentle leadings of their first love and dwindled into unbelief; but God came down again to the prophet Noah and plead with the sons of men to hear and obey the truth, the same truth, the same gospel that was taught by Adam. Noah's mission was in the third hour of the world's history and the man who would obey the gospel in that age of the world, would receive just as much as the man who obeyed it in the days of Adam, namely, a penny a day, according to this parable, which being interpreted means celestial glory.

Raised Up Moses.

The world went far from God again and in the sixth hour of the world's history, God raised up Moses to whom He again committed the gospel law; Moses plead with the people to keep God's gospel but they would not. In process of time they wandered from God, far from the law and finally God added the Mosaic economy, the Mosaic law with all its types and shadows; an expensive law, a law of carnal commandments; He established a kinder-garten school—if you will allow me the expression—by these types and shadows prefiguring the great Christ and the atonement and the law of adoption into the kingdom. Who can look at the pascal lamb, at the blood on the the doorposts, at the scapegoat, at the serpent in the wilderness and all the ordinances under the Mosaic economy, and not see Christ upon the cross? not see baptism? not see the laying on of hands? Not point forward with the finger of hope to the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment? But friends, in process of time this law was added, not for their salvation, for the Bible is very explicit upon this when it says, "The law was added." What to? To the gospel. Why? Because of transgression, until the promised seed should come, which was Jesus Christ. The people, it is said, could not to be made perfect by this law for it was the law of sin and death, it was a law of bondage. This was the sixth hour of this parable, but in God's own time He sent Jesus, John the Baptist and the twelve apostles, and again the great truths of the Gospel as taught in the days of Adam, in the days of Noah and Moses, were preached to the sons of men in the ninth hour. Many obeyed it then, but in process of time there came a falling away. Jesus recognized this when He said in the eleventh chapter of Matthew, that the kingdom of heaven would suffer violence, and the violent would take it by force. Paul saw the dark hand of apostacy in his time and could say: "The mystery of iniquity doth already begin to work and men of their own selves will arise and preach perverse things and many will follow their pernicious ways." The apostacy of the church as established by Jesus is so plainly outlined in the New Testament that it needs no further comment at this time from me, suffice it to say the whole reformation as started and carried on by a Wickliffe and a Luther, a Ridley and Latimer, a Knox, a Calvin and an Alexander Campbell and all those reformers point to this one grand truth, that Rome, the mother church, apostacized from the grand truths disseminated by the stainless Christ in the ninth hour of the world's history.

Gospel to Be Restored.

In the eleventh hour, just before the end, in the hour of God's judgment, in the harvest time, in the evening time of the world's history, at the closing of the day, the gospel was again to be restored for the last time by the hand of an angel. We have tried to show you during our last visit here that that angel has come with the same everlasting gospel, called in the record the everlasting gospel. That it has been restored, that we are living in the eleventh hour, in the hour of God's judgment, in the evening-time of the world's history. This is a fact acknowledged by almost every religious denomination which take the Bible as a standard of its faith. There are many signs by which we may know that we are living in the last time, that we are living in the evening-time of the great day of probation here. Jesus declares that it is our privilege to discern the signs of the times. He tells us that when we see the fig tree put forth her leaves, we see that summer is nigh; so, He says, when you see these things come to pass, know ye that time is nigh, even at the very door. What things?

War and Pestilence.

A few of them are: Nations shall rise against nation, kingdom against kingdom, there shall be war and pestilence and famines and earthquakes and the sea waves shall roar and heave themselves beyond their bounds; men's heart's shall fail them for fear looking forward to the terrible things that are coming upon the earth. Are we living in these days? Are these signs before us? Within the memory of men living under the sound of my voice to-night has not the war fiend gone aboard spreading his broad wings over the entire civilized earth, even since you have been born? Almost every nation under heaven, chief among them, England, the United States, France, Germany, Italy and Egypt have during the last fifty years been engaged in bloody conflict upon the field of battle and to-night there is not a nation under the broad canopy of heaven that is not either preparing for war or in actual war.

Pestilence and famine are abroad in the land. In this great age of rapid transit thousands and hundreds of thousands have perished from starvation in the last fifty years. Pestilence has gone out over the land until there is not an oak in the forest, not a blossom in the floral garden, not a vegetable in the field that has not its standing enemy in the shape of bugs and worms of a thousand different species.

Evening of World's History.

Now we are living in that generation, and the generation is nearing its close, or in other words, it is the evening-time of the world's history. Now another sign He gives us, that "knowledge shall be increased," "many shall run to and fro in the day of His preparation." How will they do it? Well He tells us that they will do it because knowledge shall be increased; He tells us the effect produced by this knowledge, for instance, that we shall have railroads in this generation. "Oh," says one, "bless my heart, I never read that in the Bible." Well, it is here, and you will certainly not blame me for inserting it for there are many people in this audience who read this Bible before I was born, He tells us over here in the second chapter of Nanum, in the plainest language possible, that we will have railroads, and mark the thought, they are to come in the generation when He will prepare the people for His second advent. Now let me read it to you: "The chariots shall be with flaming torches in the day of His preparation, and the fir trees shall be terribly shaken. The chariots shall rage in the streets, they shall jostle one against another in the broadways, they shall seem like torches, they shall run like the lightnings. He shall recount his worthies, they shall stumble in their walk, they shall make haste to the wall thereof and the defense shall be prepared. The gates of the rivers shall be opened, and the palaces shall be dissolved."

Modern Railroad Train.

If this is not a complete photograph of the railroad, I don't know what it is The chariots shall rage in the streets, they shall jostle one against another in the broadway. Don't the railroad trains rage in the streets and put forth their steam as tho some ponderous animal in his rage was coming down the land and they jostle one against another in the broadway. He continues, "They shall seem like torches." Go out to-night and watch the evening express as it thunders thru the land and you see the the headlight, it seems like a torch. "They shall run like the lightning." Do they run like the lightning? We now have them going sixty to eighty miles an hour, and frequently we hear people saying: "Here comes the lightning express, the cannon-ball," etc. "He shall recount His worthies." Who? The conductor. "Tickets, please." "Why, I showed you my ticket away down there sixty miles below." "Don't matter, I want to recount and see who is worthy to ride."

The Second Coming.

The Lord has delayed His coming, as Paul stated, but notwithstanding all this, friends, the fact of the truth of the second coming of Christ remains the same, and as the wolf came, even so the Saviour will come in the hour that they look not for Him. He has given us the signs of His coming, and they are well nigh fulfilled. We say, "O my, but the Jews were a blind set, that they could not understand the mission of Christ in His first advent," but I fear, my friends, that we are as blind, that is as a nation, we are as blind to-day with reference to the prophecies concerning His second advent as the Jews were concerning the prophecies touching His first advent. He tells us that before He comes the Jews will find favor in the eyes of the nations. It has been fulfilled. The nations signed a treaty in 1856 removing the disability from the Jews and they are now preparing to return to their promised land. He tells us in the prophecies of His second coming that the former and latter rains shall be restored again to Palestine and it shall be again a fruitful field. For hundreds of years it laid a barren waste, but in 1852, the spring and fall rains were restored to the land and it has become a fruitful field.

The Second Coming.

Now considering this and then recognizing that they are fast finding favor, we have no hesitancy in saying that in a short time the Jew will be the richest of the world, and what does the history show? A careful reading of the 12th, 13th and 14th chapters of Zachariah shows that after all these nations shall be at war and the treasuries shall be depleted, they will then make a covenant to go and rob the holy people, trere shall be a great struggle which shall be the closing scene of this world. You know when Jesus came before the world was about to be crushed by the Roman power. History, it is said, repeats itself and when the Jew is about to be crushed again you may look for the coming of Christ, and the nations are fast preparing for that great event.

Now this is how Jesus is coming. Says one, "There is just one thought that troubles me about that. One time it says that He shall suddenly appear at His temple. Who shall be able to abide the day of His coming when He appeareth?" "He shall purify the sons of Levi." Another says, "When He comes He is to come at Jerusalem, and when He comes every eye shall see Him." Another says, "When He comes He is coming as a lion of the tribe of Judah to take vengeance on them that know notGod and obey not the gospel," and said one, "These conflict and I cannot understand them." When He comes He is going to fight that battle and win for Israel her rights and redeem her, and while this is true, it is equally true when He comes He will come to Zion and suddenly appear at His temple. It is equally true that when He comes He is coming as a lion to the tribe of Judah to take vengeance upon those that knew not God and obey not the gospel.

Who Shall Abide.

The closing thought is who shall be able to stand? Who shall be able to abide the day of His coming? Let us to-night ask ourselves the question individually, are we prepared to meet our God? Are we ready should the summons come to-night? If the cry were to come at midnight, "Behold the Bridegroom cometh, go ye out to meet Him." Oh, whot an awful question. How many are prepared to answer in this audience. "Are you prepared?" "Have you oil in your vessels?" "Are your lamps trimmed and burning?" if not, think of your condition. "O," says one, "I know I ought to obey the Gospel." "I know I ought to be prepared to meet God. I see that we are living in a momentous age of the world's history, I recognize that the signs bespeak His near approach; that the omens of the day tell us in words louder than thunder that He is liable to come at most any time,, but O, the sacrifice that I must make in obeying the Gospel. Look at the sacrifice--friends, relatives, associates, schoolmates, all will forsake me, I will be despised, down-trodden, forsaken." This may be true, but while it may be the case, there is another thought that should engage our attention, it is this: Were the Soviour to come to-night, your school-mates, your friends, your associates could not help you. You must meet either the smiles of Christ, because of your love and obedience, or His frowns and judgment because of your disobedience; you must go thru that ordeal alone; you must stand alone at the tribunal bar and meet the scrutinizing gaze of the Stainless One who to-night perchance you are ashamed of before your friends.

I ask you to-night, friends, as you discover that the coming of Christ is near at hand, do not let the hours glide unimproved away, but seek to make your calling and election sure; seek to prepare yourself by perfect obedience to a perfect law that emanated from a perfect God to meet that perfect Christ as He comes to number up His jewels. "At eventide it shall be light," and amid the darkness and gloom and amid the conglomerated mass of religious confusion, the light has come; the day star has risen; the sun of God's true gospel beams again; rest under its effulgent glow and bask 'neath its radiant light, and prepare yourselves for His coming is my prayer, in Jesus' name. Amen.

NOTICE

See the Huge Display "Ad" for the Grand Opera House on Last Page of Illustrated Section

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Mr. O. B. Sheppard takes pleasure in announcing that his Christmas attraction at the PRINCESS THEATRE will be MAY ROBSON—direct from her distinguished success at Terry's Theatre, London, Eng., in the most successful comedy of modern times, "The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary," by Miss Ann Warner.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MATINEE TO-MORROW

HAPPY NEW YEAR

SPECIAL NEW YEAR'S ENGAGEMENT!

CHARLES FROHMAN OFFERS HIS NOTABLE REVIVAL OF OSCAR WILDE'S COMEDY

"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST"

DIRECT FROM LYCEUM THEATRE, NEW YORK, WITH

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AND EXCELLENT CAST INCLUDING:—

HAMILTON REVELLE IRENE FENWICK JANE OAKER
ETHEL WINTHROP FLORENCE EDNEY ALBERT TAVERNIER
AND OTHERS

MATINEES MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY.

Snow Cake.

This is my cook's recipe for snow cake. It is very good. Two cups of sugar, one cup of butter, one cup of sweet milk, one-half teaspoonful of soda, one cup of cornstarch, two cups of flour, one teaspoonful cream tartar, whites of five eggs; flavor and frost with chocolate frosting.

Mr. John F. Scott, New South Wales is the guest of his sister, Miss Scott, 309 St. George-street, late of 85 St. George-street.

Mrs. Routledge, wife of Major Walton H. Routledge, R.N.W.M.P., Regina, Sask., arrived in town this week with her little daughter, Helen Isabel, and will visit her mother, Mrs. J. J. Kerr Coulter, during the winter months.

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DR. HERMAN

Electrical Anatomist.

VALERIE BERGERE PLAYERS

In "What Happened in Room 44."

THE NICHOLS SISTERS,

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JANE COURTHROPE & CO

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