

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

JAMES J. CORBETT, although the acknowledged champion heavy-weight pugilist of the world, is an unusually modest man, considering the position he occupies. His irreproachable domestic habits have done much in drawing immense audiences. He is much devoted to his stage work, and his appearance in his play of Gentleman Jack at the Victoria Theatre next Thursday evening will be one of the events of the present season. The story of the play is an exceedingly interesting one, and the third and fourth acts give admirable opportunities of displaying Corbett at his best. In the third act he is shown in his training quarters, in which he punches the bag with almost marvellous dexterity. In the fourth act, he appears in the prize ring, and competes for honors with Prof. Donaldson. All these incidents are introduced in a reasonable and natural manner, and have to do entirely with the unravelling of the story of the play. He is supported by a carefully selected company. In the Madison Square roof garden scene, many attractive specialties are introduced, including the performances of Dagmar and Decelle, two remarkable Danish warblers. In this scene there is one very striking line addressed to the champion by his sweetheart. Corbett as Jack Royden, speaks of his friends advising him to become a pugilist. She says: "You could not be a gentleman and be a pugilist," and the hero replies, "Oh, yes, I could; a gentleman at heart is a gentleman at anything."

Mrs. W. J. Florence will be seen at The Victoria on the evenings of May 29 and 30, in two plays—The Old Love and the New, and the Mighty Dollar. As Mrs. General Gilflory, Mrs. Florence has made her name famous throughout the world as a comedienne. The Mighty Dollar abounds in bright wit and excellent practical suggestions. As the merry, gossipy, but with all warm-hearted widow, Mrs. Florence is humorous and pathetic by turns, shading off the changes from lively to severe with the nicety of nature. In the Old Love and the New, Mrs. Florence is equally at home.

\* **W. H. PERRY,** \*

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Cinderella was greeted with a fairly good house. The performance was up to the average, the scenic effects very good, and the specialties were novel and entertaining. The Clorinda of Kitty Belmour was highly amusing, and in fact there was nothing that could be really called inferior throughout.

The Seattle *Dramatic Star* says that the theatre-goers of Victoria will soon have an opportunity of witnessing some fine acting by a new stock company.

Our Boys, with the cast which produced it two or three weeks ago, will be repeated at The Victoria on the evening of May 25.

Madeline Merli is looking for a November date at The Victoria, for a production of The Story of a Kiss.

I. E. Philo, has left for New York City, where he will take a course in voice culture.

Nat Goodwin and The Gilded Fool will soon be seen at The Victoria.

Bobby Gaylor comes to The Victoria June 3.

A Boston jury has granted a woman whose husband divorced her, that he might marry another woman, \$10,000 damages. The verdict is directed not against the errant husband but the woman who succeeded to the first

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wife's place, and the cause is given as alienation of the husband's affections. If this verdict stands in law ladies marrying divorced men will be obliged to do so subject to the claim of a sort of chattel mortgage held by the first wife. All of which will complicate matters considerably, but can't be expected to deter a woman who is bent on marriage.