

Music and Drama.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—What is the true foundation of theatrical enjoyment? Is it to be found in the picture of human life—the play of mind on mind, of passion on passion, of wit on wit? Is it not the spectacle of mental action, which gives to the drama its fascination and power? We think so, and "The Wages of Sin," as produced at the Grand last week, answers in every particular these requisites. In point of moral tone, "The Wages of Sin," belongs to that class of drama which is entirely too rare. From the rise of the curtain to its fall, in each act the terrible and inevitable consequences of a life of dissipation and sin are vividly and unmistakably portrayed. The cast of the play was almost faultless. Every performer seemed perfectly adapted to the part assigned them. Marie Prescott as Ruth is extraordinary, and it seems almost marvellous how a lady with so slight a physique can be possessed of such powers of endurance as the very heavy part demands in its portrayal. We cannot refrain from mentioning Mr. Maubury as "George Brand," the curate. His voice is magnificently deep, rich and full, and he uses his natural gifts as an actor to the very best advantage. Taken all round, "The Wages of Sin" is the best melodrama which Mr. Sheppard has brought on this season.

One evening last week at the production of "The Wages of Sin" at the Grand, and in the fourth act of the play, where "Stephen Marlor" is made to drag his wife by the throat across the stage, a gentleman in the orchestra chairs, forgetting for the moment where he was, rose to his feet, and in a voice and tone that breathed all to the brutal husband, called out, "Look a-here, you just leave go of her neck!"

MONTFORT'S MUSEUM.—The only, and original "Uncle Tom" was the attraction at the Museum last week. The audiences, especially at the matinees, were large, and though the play has advanced from youth to old age, it seems good for another twenty years yet.

Patti Packed in Woolen.

On a damp, chilly afternoon this week I was in a Central park restaurant, writes a correspondent. Simultaneously, two other riders sought the same success from the wet diversion. They were Nicolini and his famous Patti; and you are wondering what the great singer could have to present her in a new phase, considering how many columns have been filled with descriptions of her personally. The fresh point which this view enables me to make concerning the only woman in the world whose wages are thousands of dollars per day, was the care which she took to keep herself from damage. Without her voice, Patti would be a handsome little matron of 40, but of no public value. Therefore her very consequential throat was wrapped round and round with a silk scarf, which she removed on getting into the house. On the way from the carriage she had held a handkerchief to her mouth on saying something, so that no raw air should reach her vocal organ. Her feet were in Arctic overshoes, her ankles in baby like leggings, and her mantle enveloped her figure from neck to hem. But the oddest protection against catching cold was a wad of cotton in each ear.

"She must have the carache," I said to a physician who makes a specialty of throat diseases, who has some of the great opera singers for patients, and of whom I subsequently inquired on the subject.

"Not at all," he replied; "she seldom goes out of doors in the winter without plugging her ears. It is a strange fact that the vocal chords are susceptible to the slightest chill entering through aural passages. There isn't any affectation in Patti's extraordinary precautions. You wouldn't marvel at the fiddler who owned an old treasure of a violin, and carried it in cotton for fear of breakage. Isn't it sensible, then, for a prima donna to guard jealously the only voice she's got?"

I judge, however, that Patti's stomach is

composed of sterner and not less able stuff, for the breakfast and onions which she washed down her rarely sensitive throat with a bottle of ale, were astonishing in quantity.

The Voice as an Instrument of Music.

She who taught the nightingale to sing, she whose early hymn the sweet lark warbles to the morning, she who pours forth the full melody from the deep throat of the thrush, and gives the little sparrow the pleasant, the articulated harmony, she also, when she gave to man a throat and breath, taught him to modulate. This is the work of nature, in harmony to the laws of nature's God. Thus far music is her gift. None of the "sweet-tuned instruments known to human invention equals the natural voice in sweetness; they are all harsh or they are rough, when compared with the pure tone, the mellow softness of the throat. What was the great praise of Martini, but that he made the hautboy emulate the sound of the human voice? Nature has given to man the first and finest of all instruments in his own frame. The ancients were employing their time uselessly when they endeavored to demonstrate in what country music first saw its origin. It is, doubtless, co-eval with the human fabric, and natural to all countries where men have lived.

Jani-h is fulfilling a month's engagement in New York.

Henry Irving's Philadelphia engagement was more than ordinarily successful.

Lotta is still popular, and is playing in the Western States to good business.

"Hazel Kirke," the original company, is doing a good business in the west.

Rhea appeared in New Orleans last week in her new play, "An American Countess."

Minnie Palmer, fresh from her European triumphs, is playing "My Sweetheart" in Chicago.

It used to be said of McKee Rankin when he was leading man at the Union Square that he was the only actor on the American stage who could put on a kid glove gracefully.

Theatrical business was never at so low an ebb in the interior of Pennsylvania as now. Demian Thompson played before an audience representing \$42 in Lancaster last week.

Another two years' engagement has been settled for Minnie Palmer in Europe by the ever faithful John R. Rogers. This will include the Vienna engagement and possibly one in Paris. But the most of her time will be passed in London and the English provinces.

Mr. Howe, the veteran actor of Mr. Irving's company, said the other day: "You may talk about Booth, or any other actor you choose, but after all the best all-round actor America ever sent to England was E. L. Davenport. I knew Davenport's wife when she was Vining on the English stage. She was one of the most magnificently formed women I ever saw. I had not seen her for twenty years until the other day, when she came to town with the Madison square company to play in 'Hazel Kirke.' I called to see her at the hotel. She happened to be in the hotel parlor, and I recognized her instantly, although her back was turned to me. Though twenty years had passed I had not forgotten those magnificent shoulders and that handsome waist."

Dr. Leopold Damrosch, the distinguished musician, died Saturday afternoon in New York, aged 53. The event was unexpected. On Monday evening previous Damrosch conducted a performance at the Metropolitan opera house, and seemed in his usual health. The next evening he undertook to direct a rehearsal of the oratorio society. In the middle of the rehearsal he was taken with a chill and was taken to his home. Pneumonia set in, but no unusual symptoms appeared until Saturday, when a sudden change for the worse occurred. About one o'clock Saturday afternoon he dropped off into a sleep in which he continued until two, when he died. Damrosch came to America in 1872. While in New York he organized oratorio and symphony societies. Latterly he had been engaged as musical director at the Metropolitan opera house.

An Almanac of Ye Olden Tyme.

Concerning an almanac in the possession of Mr. Hall, of Chicago, the *Inter-Ocean*, of that city, says: "It is entitled *Riders 1660* Britton Morlin. Bedecked with many delightful varieties and useful varieties fitting the Longitude and Latitude of all capicities within the Islands of Great Britain Monarchy, and chronological observations of principal note to this year 1660, being the second after Leap-year. With notes of Husbandry, Ffific, Fairs and Marts, Directions and Tables to all necessary uses. Made and compiled for the benefit of his Country by Schardanus Riders.

The Almanack is in a fair state of preservation. The leather covering is crude, but substantial; the paper yellow but of good strength. In a Geographical Description of the World, this country is alluded to as America the fourth part of the world, and of the latest discovery consisteth of these two parts Mexicana and Peruana. A table of some length is given, showing a computation of the most remarkable Passages of the times, from the creation to this present year, 1660. The following are some of the passages: The creation of the world according to chronology 5615; The creation according to verity 0000; Noahs flood 3659; Sodam and Gomorrah destroyed by fire 3568; Julius Cæsar conquered this Island 1077; The Bible translated into Greek by the seventy interpreters at the command of Ptolomy Philadelphus 1931; Tamerlane the Seythian flew 20000 Turks took Bazaret the Emperour, bound him in fetters of gold and carried him about in an iron cage 295; London bridge with thirty three years labor finished with stone 457; A great Plague whereof died in one year in London 3078—63; The Bailiffs and York the Constable of Huntingdon seized Sir Robert Osburns ragged colt for a sturgeon 42. Under the terms of court, the following appears:

Cuffcus fues at Law for Gaudens Land And Fox the Lawyer takes the cause in hand.

In the marginal notes of the calendar months certain observations are made, such as The best Physic is warm clothes, good Fires, warm Diet, and a merry honest Wife; Now advise with the honest and able Astrological Physician; it is good to purge and let blood. The benefits to be derived from total abstinence appear to have been regarded in the sixteenth century, as the following remark shows: The use of Physic becomes now feasonable, as also Purging and Blood-letting. It is good to abstain from Wine, for many diseases will be taken thereby to the use of many.

Ne every Garden and Hedge affords the Food and Physic, Rise early, walk the Fields by (treem, the North and West sides, Sees and sweet butter an excellent breakfast. Clarified Whay with Sage, Scury Grafs, Ale and Wormwood Beer are wholesome Drinks. Green Whay excellent against cholera. Get Rue, Wormwood, and Gall, to throw on your Flores to destroy Fleas. "The garments you last month hung on your backs in jeft, now Button them clofe in good earnest. Consult with your Tailors, as well as Physicians.

Boxing the Compass.

A vessel from America was at one time off the coast of Ireland in a heavy storm. She hoisted the signal for a pilot, and in the course of a couple of hours a rough man made his appearance, saying in very broken English that he could take the vessel into the harbor. The captain had his doubts as to the nautical lore of the pilot, and asked him if he could box the compass. Poor Pat knew only in a general sort of way that there was a certain jingle in boxing the compass, and if he began the work in English he would get the northwest and northwest by north, an west ne'west inextricably mixed, so he told the captain he could do it in Irish, and began in the unknown tongue: "My grandmother, my great-grandmother's mother, my mother; my mother's father, my grandmother's father, my great-grandmother's father, my father." At this point the captain declared himself perfectly satisfied, and the ship was delivered into the pilotage of Pat, who carried her in with perfect safety.

Home Politeness for Children.

As soon as children begin to lip "and "mamma," parents should teach courtesy, good manners, and correct language, guiding their efforts with loving attention. Everything vile, clownish, impolite, uncouth, ungrammatical, and all slang phrases should be closely guarded against, and all things honest, pure, just and lovely carefully and inculcated. In teaching children little sweet courtesies of life the same must be repeated over and over for a few years—"precept upon precept upon line," with, it may be, "seventy seven" corrections; but never fear, reward will come at length, when the laboriously taught will voluntarily accept the principles instilled, for courtesy have become a habit, than which nothing stronger. Said Dr. Johnson, "The five chain of habit is scarcely heavy to be felt until it is too strong to be broken. It is never safe for parents to overlook formation of bad habits, consulting selves with the thought that it can be readily abandoned as children older and go out into the world. Seduction is fatal. Unless, therefore, it is one they are not willing to see children form for life, the only rule is not to begin. Parents and all should remember that

"habits are soon assumed, but when To strip them off, 'tis long and hard."

Who wants eternal sunshine or Who would fix forever the cloud-wed Autumn sunset, or hang over him a lasting moonlight.

To our Readers.

If you suffer from headache, backache, biliousness, or humors of the body Burdock Blood Bitters. It is a tested cure for all irregularities of the liver and kidneys.

The world is a looking-glass, and back to every man who reflection of the face. Frown at it, and it will in turn surlily upon you; laugh at it and it is a pleasant, kind companion.

Mr. G. W. Macully, Pavilion No. B. C., writes: "Dr. Thomas' Ede is the best medicine I ever used for matism. Nearly every winter I suffer with Rheumatism, and have tried every kind of medicine without great benefit, until I used Dr. Thomas' Ede Oil. It has worked wonders for me, want another supply for my friends."

The great underlying basis of all the unity of human attainments, all the actor, ever has been and ever must abide and ever active idea of religion. This must be the germ from all worthy motives emanate.

The rock on which many a certain goes to pieces is Dyspepsia. The vigor which this disease involves, ladies which accompany it, or is aggravated by it, the mental depression which it entails, are terribly exhausting stamina. Its true specific is Dr. Lyman's Vegetable Discovery, a peptic Cure, which likewise cures various maladies, female ailments, coupled with impurity of the blood.

Value the friendship of him who by you in the storm; swarms of insects surround you in the sunshine.

Give Holloway's Corn Cure a trial moved ten corns from one pair of feet out ten pain. What it has done will do again.

The more honest a man has, the affects the more of a saint.

The disfiguring eruptions on the face, the sunken eye, the pallid complexion, that there is something wrong within. Expel the lurking foe by Ayer's Sarsaparilla was devised for the purpose; and does it.

As you cannot avoid your own company make it as good as possible.

A Good Record.

Among the many thousand bottles of Yellow Oil sold annually in the United States not one has ever failed to give satisfaction. It cures rheumatism, colds, and all complaints and injuries.

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