



**T**HIS week has surpassed all previous ones in point of big houses at the Imperial Theatre. This house is becoming more and more popular as a family resort, and the company well deserves the patronage it is receiving from the people of Victoria. For the first three nights of the week that great emotional drama, *East Lynne*, held the boards. The dual role of Lady Isabel and Madame Vine was admirably portrayed by Miss Dalgleish, while the Barbara Hare of Miss Damaris was highly appreciated by that lady's many admirers. Miss Marshall as Miss Cornelia could not have been better, and Miss Wheeler made an excellent Joyce. Little Carrie Franks is a pleasant little lady and her acting of the part of Willie was indeed pleasing. Mr. Armstrong as usual played his part for all there was in it. The character of Old Dill was taken by Mr. Gray and he is seldom seen to better advantage than the character is given by this clever comedian. Mr. Belmour, as Sir Francis Levison, the villain, was worthy of special mention, as was also the Lord Mount Severn of Mr. Summerfield. Mr. Bennett is improving and while there is not much to the part of Richard Hare, Mr. Bennett made it interesting.

Beginning Thursday night, *The Little Detective* was the bill. This is a play abounding in thrilling situations and affords Miss Dalgleish a first class opportunity of displaying her versatility. Miss Marshall is doing some excellent work as Madame Ritzdorf, as is also Miss Wheeler and Miss Damaris. The male members also acquit themselves creditably.

The bills for next week at the Imperial are: Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, *The Ticket-of-Leave man*; Thursday, Friday and Saturday and Saturday matinee, *Lost in London*. Both plays are among the best in the repertoire of the Imperial Company.

Norville McGregor who has a first-class reputation as a heavy

man has been engaged by the Imperial Company and will appear for the first time in this city on or about February 1. This addition will render it possible for the Imperial Company to produce almost any play.

Miss Kittie Belmour is enjoying her visit to San Francisco. Since her arrival in the Bay City she has been offered several good engagements, which she declined, as it is her intention to resume her position with the Imperial Company in a short time.

It is announced that the Victoria will, beginning February, be conducted as a stock theatre on the nights when not occupied by travelling combinations. It is said that Mr. John E. Rice, has signed a contract with Mr. Collins to place in that house a first-class stock company, and with that end in view the latter gentleman is now securing material for the new organization. Among the features promised is a first-class orchestra and good scenery. Of course popular prices will rule.

#### 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.

#### MUSIC.



**T**HEODORE THOMAS, the great musician, has filled every position in the concert room, from that of a prodigy of four, in 1839, to that of conductor of grand opera during the eighties. In the intervening period Mr. Thomas has been solo violinist and leader of concert and opera orchestras, and during the fifties he was a member of the various organizations supporting Henrietta Sontag, Jenny Lind, Grisi and and Mario. For many years he was the first violinist and director of a chamber music quartette in New York. It was he who made classical as well as the best works of modern composers popular on this continent.



THEODORE THOMAS.

and when he engaged the best musicians and paid them liberal