

Stage

STAGE RETROSPECT

WITH MUSICAL NOTES

"THE LION AND THE MOUSE."

In one way it is unfortunate that the stage name of the rather weak "lover" in this play is christened by the author of this play "Jefferson" for when at the end of the first act his sweetheart broke down and cried, in the depths of despair, "Oh Jeff! Jeff! where are you Jeff!" an irreverent Philistine just behind me suggested that he had probably gone out to buy a new hat to replace the one last smashed by Mutt. Jeff, however, in this case is not remotely related to Matt's habitual victim, he is Jefferson Ryder, the son of John Burkett Ryder, unscrupulous grabber—just a dominating lump of unpleasantness, himself dominated by the mono-idea of amassing more wealth than he can use. Shirley Rossmore crystallized him in the illuminating verdict that he was "the most men who have amassed money—they are afraid of death because death is the only thing that can separate them from their money."

These three then are the chief protagonists in the play—in the usual relations of the pair of sweethearts and the stern father. In this case, the stern father is made more stiffly opposed to Shirley, as is often the case under similar circumstances, by the fact that he had previously plotted to succeed in ruining the career of her father, Judge Rossmore, who stood on the side of justice in the way of some of his financial schemes. It is a curious fact that few things make a man so bitter in enmity to another as when he has succeeded in doing him deep injury. So when the action commences we find the judge and his devoted wife awaiting the return of their daughter from Europe, in a small, cheap house, and trying to decide how they are to break the news of their downfall and poverty to her. They have with them an old friend, ex-Judge Stott, who is standing by them in their trouble, and when Shirley arrives they attempt to break the news gradually. Shirley, however, has all the quick intuition of her sex, grasps the situation at once, pluckily laughs the disaster to scorn, and, of course, directly her father and mother have left her for a moment alone with her old friend Stott, she, being a young woman, breaks down utterly, then quickly recovering, asserts, with some determination, her intention of "fighting money," clearing her father's name, and generally making things uncomfortable for the plutocratic John Burkett Ryder. It is certainly not an easy task. Jeff, the weak, has been already engaged to Kate Roberts, daughter of Senator Roberts, the engagement having been forced upon the two by their respective parents, and when Shirley comes to know this she forces herself to dismiss him. Clouds, black clouds, are banking up for Shirley, but she is out after John Burkett Ryder, and secures the position of companion to his wife. In this capacity, and unknown to them, she rapidly wins the confidence and affection of both, and she forces some degree of respect upon John Burkett Ryder, the publication of her novel "The Octopus," in which he is drawn, with considerable satire, as the man he is. Incidentally, she tells him the story of his treachery toward her father, as having come casually to her knowledge in her newspaper work.

Before this interview ends "Miss Green," the pseudonym under which she wrote her novel, and which she continues to use in the Ryder household, has as entirely won Ryder himself as she had previously conquered his wife, and, desiring that his son shall be entirely cut away from Shirley and her influence, he, not knowing that Shirley and "Miss Green" are a sort of "2 in 1," begs Miss Green to marry Jefferson. Naturally and really she is not averse, but the small matter of Jeff's previous engagement has to be settled up. This little knot is cut by the lady, Kate, eloping with the Hon. Fitzroy Bagley, a discharged secretary to Ryder, and then, things coming, all at once, Shirley's way, she manages to get possession of a letter which clears her father, and, her end accomplished, is disposed to disappear, notwithstanding her interest in Jeff.

John Ryder's creed however is that she's human, and she'll come round—they all do—and herein he shows that his study of the money market has not altogether precluded some little research into feminine human nature. Some little persuasion, some little coaxing is necessary to induce her to do as she ardently desires—very often a difficult task with young girls—but in the end this is accomplished, and the curtain falls on an arrangement, quickly arrived at, which gathers up every loose end and allows the audience to disperse in that comfortable knowledge that everyone, even that old lightwad, John Ryder, is to be made comfortable and happy.

The whole cast consists of sixteen characters, and those sustaining these parts were in all case equal to their opportunities. In the case of the more outstanding roles ability was more markedly shown. Miss Keim, as Shirley, had a long and not easy piece of work to do, and was equally charming and intelligent in its presentation. As John Burkett Ryder, Mr. Arthur Byron gave a finished drawing of the man subordinate to money, and, in the outcome, made his partial regeneration appear possible. His son Jefferson (Mr. Will Denney) had an unsympathetic part but played it convincingly. Ex-Judge Stott (Mr. Wayne Arey) showed as a manly, self-reliant, kindly man of the world, and as Kate Roberts Miss Kathryn Roy's did well in a small part. All the others in the large cast were, in their respective capacities, fully qualified, and the play—thoroughly enjoyed and secured for the company a quite enthusiastic reception. Next week Marie Corelli's "Thelma" is to be shown, and, if the book itself may be accepted as any standard for judging the play, a very fine show should result.

THIS WEEK AT THE THEATRES.

PRINCESS—
"THELMA."
ROYAL ALEXANDRA—
"OLD HEIDELBERG."
GRAND—
DARK.
SHEA'S—
DARK.
MAJESTIC—
VAUDEVILLE.
STAR—
BURLESQUE.
GAYETY—
DARK.

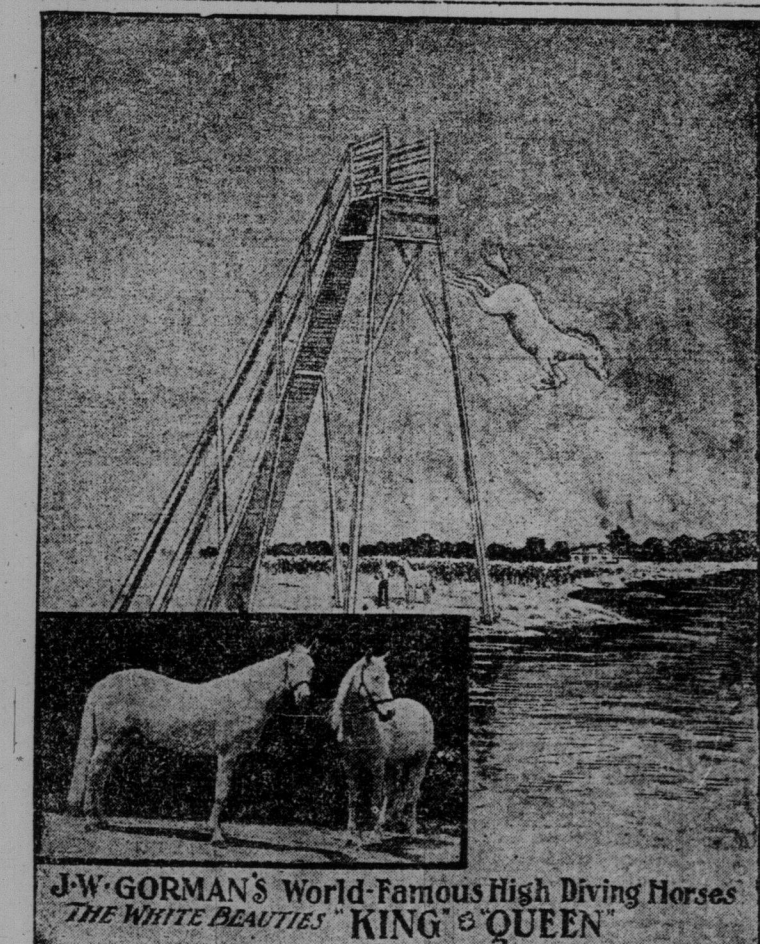
ties fully qualified, and the play—thoroughly enjoyed and secured for the company a quite enthusiastic reception. Next week Marie Corelli's "Thelma" is to be shown, and, if the book itself may be accepted as any standard for judging the play, a very fine show should result.

"AN AMERICAN WIDOW."

Because Miss Percy Haswell chose for her second week's show a play that is loosely strung, is unconvincing and has a story which is not interesting to not, in the same degree, in accord with her as it was when enjoying her acting in "The Cottage in the Air." To put it frankly "The American Widow" is a stupid play, quite unworthy of her talent and her company. It has here and there, a burst of smart lines, but the general and average level of construction is wobbly, and it lacks almost every good quality a sound play needs, if it is to be acceptable to an audience possessing average judgment. It is to be said for Miss Haswell, as well as for those associated with her, that they themselves are responsible. In very much greater degree than is the author of the play for such success as it achieved, but the combined efforts of everyone concerned with its staging drew applause only in recognition of those efforts, for their success was personal and not derived to any noticeable extent, from any merit of the alleged comedy. Miss Haswell is certainly the best actress, the most sprightly and most natural I have seen in Toronto—and yet with all her inherent artistry she failed to get me with her. The she acted as the widowed Mrs. Killgrew with fine ability she did not succeed in conquering my impression that thru the whole action she and the rest of the cast were equally able to realize the shortcomings of the play. Mr. Tiden, who played Mallory, a musician, and Mr. Crimmins, as Teddy Bacon, were able to show again that they were capable of handling the baldest of situations, but the rest of a large cast had practically a minus chance of scoring, for the simple reason that the playwright has given them only uninteresting lines, flat and slow in arriving. There are just a few smart sentences, there are just a few which are mildly risky—and there are practically none that I would care to hear again. It is not a good play and even with all Miss Haswell's charm and unquestionable ability—even with all the added cleverness of her able company—it seemed to me to be clear that such small success as the play had, the author had no part in.

TRAFFORD

Usually, Willie—I see Mr. Highgrip has died I wonder what his family will do. Gillie—As usual, I suppose. The wife's a monument and the nurse will raise the children—Judge.



J.W. GORMAN'S World-Famous High Diving Horses
"THE WHITE BEAUTIES" KING & QUEEN
THE BIG SENSATION AT HANLAN'S POINT CORONATION WEEK.
THESE WONDERFUL EXHIBITIONS ARE GIVEN FREE EVERY AFTERNOON AND EVENING.

"Thelma" This Week At Princess Theatre

Baldwin-Melville Stock Company Promises Rare Treat to Patrons of the Drama.

"Thelma," the elaborate scenic and beautiful costumed production will be presented at the Princess Theatre all this week, with matinees Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday by the Baldwin-Melville Stock Company. This play is a dramatization of Marie Corelli's world-renowned novel. Doubtless thousands have read this beautiful story of the land of the midnight sun and as produced by this excellent stock organization, a rare treat is promised to the theatregoers of this city. The management desire to call attention to the fact that every scene used in this production is painted new from special photographs of the locale of the play. The management will spare no pains in carrying out every detail making this beyond a doubt the most beautiful and perfect stock production ever presented in this city. Elaborate electrical and mechanical effects combined with beautiful scenery, picturesque and correct costumes, and elegant appointments will furnish a stage picture seldom attempted by a stock organization. Miss Adelaide Keim, will appear in the title role, "Thelma." This part affords her an excellent opportunity to add to the already great impression she has created in this city. Mr. Arthur Byron as Sir Philip Bruce Errington will again demonstrate to his many admirers his wonderful versatility as an actor of high standing. Mr. Will J. Deming as George Lorimer will be at home in a comedy role that affords him a wide scope for delicious humor. The balance of the cast is as follows: Olof Guldmar, Mr. Wayne Arey; Lord Winsleigh, Mr. Hugh Gibson; Rev. Dwyerworth, Bob McClung; Sir Francis Lennox, Mr. Allan Munnane; Valdemar, Mr. William Delmar; Sigurd, Mr. John H. Carroll; Briggs, Mr. E. O. Hart; Britta, Miss Kathryn Key; Violet Vere, Miss Augusta Singleton; Lady Winsleigh, Miss Leah Baird; Livia, Miss Frances Murdoch. Matinees will be given Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 2:15 p.m.

Ashley—Every time I buy a new automobile I deposit \$500 in the bank. Seymour—Why do you do that? Ashley—So as to have a fund to draw on to pay for repairs—Chicago News.



SHOW GIRLS WITH THE STAR THEATRE BURLESQUE STOCK COMPANY.

woman is, of course, a species which is varied as there are men. She who is generally beloved as well as followed, and imitated, reserves her moods for her boudoir and has only smiles and an original cheerfulness with which to regard her friends; she must dissipate others' bad tempers, bluntness and general unpleasantness; she cannot indulge in the pettiness which common people do. Something is expected of her; that is the penalty of being popular. The few books which try to dissect woman's hearts, are very treacherous to any woman who has a moderately clear understanding of that sort of emotion. Even to think of the infinite variety of the eternal feminine is a bewildering process. If men's characters are complicated soil, you get to know them after a while; but a woman's tangled mind, her chaotic brain; her knotty opinions and prejudices; her clear or hasty instincts, which men say take the place of judgment; the fair sex; her perfectly logical ideas on some subjects and her directly contradictory opinions, are too inexplicable a subject to occupy the attention of any serious student of rational ideas. Leave her with her manifold inconsistencies to the friend who has a mania for statistics. Balzac ranted exquisitely when he mounted his feminine hobby, and few eyes have viscerated with sharp instruments and a courage born of wonderful interest in their subjects, but when women can't even account for their own eccentricities, why try to explain to the public?

Wife a Menace. "Do you think a jealous wife is a hindrance to a man?" "Yes," replied Miss Cavenne, "she is likely to get him to thinking that he is a woman and a nuisance as he considers him."—Washington Star.

The Moody Woman

By Angela Ogden, of the Percy Haswell Company

"It takes an exceptional to be moody. The ordinary woman is not a success in that role. She may be pretty and even have that indefinable suggestion of romance about her, but she will not be interesting when moody to the truly said that no woman is so blindly self-absorbed that she is indifferent to affection or devotion. The hardest hearts are not perfectly cold and popularity is something in which there is more than the 'skimmel milk' of comfort for earthly woes. But the



ANGELA OGDEN, WITH THE PERCY HASWELL COMPANY AT THE ROYAL ALEXANDRA THIS WEEK.

moody woman will not be popular. She will lose her public liking, and of course, her popularity. She must be unselfish in order to claim the best that she will receive from the world, and so paradoxically everything will return to her tenfold. The popular

Revival of "Old Heidelberg"

Charming Play Will Be Presented By Miss Percy Haswell's Company This Week.

Those who remember the production of "Old Heidelberg" given at the Royal Alexandra some four years ago, will doubtless be pleased to learn that Miss Haswell has decided to present a revival of this charming play as her attraction for the third week of her engagement. A most elaborate production is promised and a large corps of scenic artists and stage mechanics have been laboring night and day to have everything in readiness for Monday night.

"Old Heidelberg" is a translation from the German and was used by the late Richard Mansfield. It might be termed "a modern fairy tale" so simple and sweet is the story and the characters so lovable. The principal characters are so likeable, especially Karl and Kathie, that they soon win the sympathy of the audience. Prince Karl Heinrich, the nephew of the emperor, has grown tired of the stiff formal, ceremony-bound court life. He is a diffident, backward, tactful boy, who has never been permitted to develop his youthful spirits, as he has always been surrounded by court lackeys, chamberlains and dry old dignitaries of all kinds. The only bright spot in his life has been his dear old tutor, Doctor Guttner, a graduate of Heidelberg. Tutor and pupil have often talked of the wonders of the famous university.

At last the day arrives when Prince Karl must go to Heidelberg to finish his education and fill him for the position he must at some time do as ruler of the principality. He arrives at Heidelberg and there among the students he finds a girl who has been his first glimpse of the joys of living. He falls in love with "Kathie," the maiden of the Inn, and she returns his affection. "Kathie" is the pet of all the students. Karl soon becomes a favorite and leader in all the student larks.

Owing to the illness of his uncle, Karl Heinrich is recalled to become regent and bids good-bye to his merry companions and Kathie. He promises to return, but she has a premonition

PRINCESS MATINEES TUESDAY, THURS., SAT.

3rd Week Commencing Monday, June 19
BALDWIN-MELVILLE CO. Seats 1000 Every 100 Matinee

Prices, Mats. 10, 25: Eve's. 10 20 30 50
PRESENTING A SUPERB SCENIC PRODUCTION OF MARIE CORELLI'S FAMOUS NOVEL

"THELMA"

Subscription Books Open For Entire Season

All Star Company of Burlesquers

Two Ripping Good Burlettas Included in Bill at the Star This Week.

This week's attraction at the Star Theatre will be the All Star Stock Burlesque Company in two new musical extravaganza which are the biggest and two of the best to be produced here this summer. The production from first to last is entirely new and elaborate in every detail. The first burlesque is entitled "A Day in the Country," and the second is a farce on "Madam Excuse Me." The performance goes with a dash and there is not a dull moment during the entertainment. The company is composed of real clever comedians and principals such as Billy Spencer, Sam Hawley, Lou Christy, Maurice Abrams, Beatrice Harlowe, Jeanette Lewis, and a chorus of twenty-five pretty maidens who have been selected for their ability to sing and dance. The paragon scoreboard will show all plays on the diamond during the absence of the home team.

Adelaide Keim

Adelaide Keim, who is now making the acquaintance of Toronto theatregoers as a stock leading woman, has a remarkable career in home organizations. After a wide experience in a variety of productions she entered the stock field and rose rapidly to the highest class by virtue of her extraordinary intellectual gifts as well as her beauty, charm and special skill in acting. She has been a great favorite in several cities, especially in Chicago, where as a star of "The Play-ers," a stock company of special distinction which occupied the Bush Tem-

ple Theatre and made itself conspicuous in the theatrical field of the country for a number of seasons, she gained a following never equalled by any leading woman in stock in that city. Her experience there and elsewhere comprised all kinds of plays, from light comedy to the classic and she even went so far as to include the role of Hamlet in her repertoire. Miss Keim has a femininity and grace which appeals strongly to the women of her audience and she has beauty combined with gen-



THOMAS V. EMORY

Light comedian with the Percy Haswell Company at the Royal Alexandra this week.

ality and intelligence which make her most interesting to the other sex. Whatever parts she undertakes she grasps with her natural intelligence completely and always has the technique at her easy command to act it out in a finished manner. Miss Keim is now appearing with the Baldwin-Melville Stock Company at the Princess Theatre.

STAR THEATRE

NOW PLAYING
ALL STAR STOCK BURLESQUE
FOR ALL SUMMER

COMMENCING MONDAY MATINEE, JUNE 19th
LOOK! and LISTEN!

2-NEW BURLESQUES--2
25-CHARMING MAIDENS--25
5-ALL STAR ACTS--5

EXTRA!---ATTRACTION---EXTRA!
PARAGON SCORE BOARD

EVERY PLAY MADE ON THE DIAMOND WILL BE SHOWN ON THE BOARD DURING THE ABSENCE OF

THE HOME TEAM