MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

LAUGHING little Bessie Sanson and inimitably funny Frank Daniels will begin a two nights' engagement at the Grand on the 9th May. Miss Sanson has a way that always wins a warm place for her in the affections of the profession and public. She always looks pretty and she never offends; she has a pair of bright eyes and a sunny smile; she is invariably well gowned, and her dresses often show genuine originality in their design. She is, in dress and style, quite different from the rest of the farce-comedy soubrettes, and this makes her refreshing. Bessie Sanson was born in Scotland 27 years ago. She drifted into the London theatres when but a child, and played in the big English pantomimes. Then she went into the St. James Theatre with the Kendals and played the rough comedy parts. From the Kendals, she went to Charles Wyndham's Criterion Theatre, and then to America with the original Vokes family, playing the roles formerly played by Rosina Vokes, who had already gone a-starring. The little Scotch girl liked America, and so accepted an engagement from Hoyt and Thomas to play Venus in "The Rag Baby." Here she met Frank Daniels, and the two have been together ever since. Miss Sanson's relatives all live in England, and she spends her summers over there. She has never been married. "Little Puck" has been re-written by Frank Daniels, who has this season introduced many new features. The cast is a large one and embraces Misses Hilda Thomas, Annetta Zelva, Julie Kingsley, Minnie Miller, Nellie Buckley and Myra Smith and the Messrs. Bert Coote, Tony Williams, Robert Evans, Harry Porter, D. L. Don, George Campbell, J. C. Canfield, W. S. Belknap and the original Clipper quartet.

The following is the cast of "The Pirates of Penzance," to be presented at The Victoria on the evenings of Tuesday and Wednesday next:

Richard (a Pirate chief).....Mr C. Rowlands
Samuel (his lieutenant).....Mr. Martin
Frederick, (a pirate apprentice).....Mr. White
Major Gen. Stanley.....Mr. C. A. Lombard
Edward (serg't of police).....Mr. H. Kent
Mabel.....Miss M. Heathfield
Kate } daughters of Gen. Stanley { .....Mrs. Goepel
Edith } daughters of Gen. Stanley { .....Miss Pauline
Isabel } daughters of Gen. Stanley { .....Miss Johnson
Ruth, (a piratical maid of all work)..Miss Wolff

Conductor.....Prof. E. Pferdner
Stage Manager.....Mr. C. Rowlands

A number of rehearsals have taken place, and it is confidently believed that the performances will be the most successful ever given in this city. Special costumes are now on the way from San Francisco.

"Leah the Forsaken," which is to be produced Monday, May 2nd, at The Victoria, by the Hebrew Amateurs, promises to afford a treat to the lovers of the music and the drama. Miss Maud Howe, who has the amateurs in hand, is a very talented actress and hus scored many a "hit" with "Leah," which role she plays to perfection. The amateurs are rehearsing nightly, and no doubt will surprise the Victoria public. The cause is a worthy one, and it is hoped that the Victoria public, will do justice towards it. Mr. J. C. Philo, who has charge of the stage, plays alsc the leading man, and no doubt success will crown his efforts.

The Spider and the Fly might be called a spectacular burlesque, from the fact that the features of the entertainment are scenic effects and catchy music. It is certainly without plot, but is taken as an idea upon which to weave one of the cleverest pantomimes that has visited the coast for years. The ballet is excellent, and the several comedians, one or more of whom are constantly on the stage, keep the audience in a roar of laughter from beginning to end. The songs are mostly new and popular. Altogether, the performance is good.

Marie Wainwright has purchased a play from Clyde Fitch and will produce it next season. The heroine is a celebrated historical character, and Miss Wainwright regards the piece as likely to achieve great success. During the balance of the season she will appear in "Amy Robsart."

A nice list of attractions have dates at The Victoria in May. Frank Daniels will be there with "Little Puck" the 9th and 10th; Eli Perkins, 12th; Ovide Musin, 14th; and Gus Williams, the 16th and 17th in "Keppler's Fortunes."

Professor Baldwin, of the Butterfly Company, has bought a business property on Cordova street, Vancouver, from Douglas & Co., for $14,000, an evidence of his confidence in the future of that city.

Corinne, in Carmen up to Data, drew well at The Victoria. Her company has been carefully selected, and every one composing it seemed animated with a desire to please.

Financial difficulties will prevent the appearance of the Emma Juch Opera Company at The Victoria this season.

The Imperial Comedy Company are drawing well in Vancouver.

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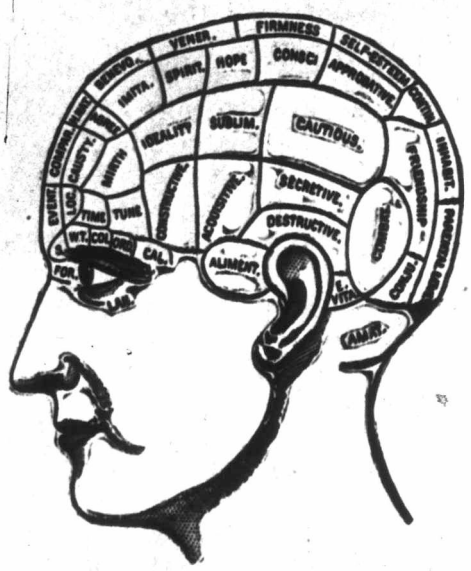

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