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able, for she is no longer pleasing to

strained in its efforts to reach the

IDA CONQUEST.

Why was Ida Conquest dragged from

a laudable mediocrity and foisted upon a self-deluded public as an individual



THE GRAND.

Tonight "Lost in New York." Monday "The Mascot" Tuesday "Said Pasha" Wednesday "Chimes of Normandy" Thursday "Bohemian Girl"

Friday "Two Vagabends" Saturday, matinee and night

The Wilbur Opera Company, popular priced aggregation, said to be much hetter than their scale of prices might lead the average theater-goer to believe, will play the Grand five nights next week. The Wilburs have not been seen in London for some years, but there are many people in this city who teens. still cherish kindly remembrances for the company, and who do not hesitate to say that the Wilburs are the best company of this class on the road today. Manager Kormann announces that personally guarantees the leading lady, Miss Emmett, to be a finished and capable artist, and the company an excellent one. The operas they are hilled to produce are well known popular, and if the company are all they are claimed to be, those who attend the Wilbur performances should get

Tonight the Aubrey Stock Company bring their week's engagement at the Grand to a close with a sensational "Lost in New York," With the company is a young fellow, Mr Frank Frayne, who gets along very well as an actor, and who also puts or rifle shooting specialties between the acts. Frayne is really a wonde ful marksman and does some hair-raising shooting stunts. In one of these h places a saucer on the wall high enough to be just above his head when he sits on a chair beneath it. At the opposite side of the stage he places a rifle in a holder, and sights it at the

their money's worth.

Then Frayne returns to the chair and seating himself on it, takes another rifle and fires at the trigger of the rifle across the stage which is aimed at the saucer. He never misses the trigger and the aim of the other rifle is true for the saucer is always shatter above his head. It is a clever trick and one which might easily end in tragedy did anything happen to cause Frayne to raise his head a few inches There is also a pathetic story told regarding this young fellow Frayne Eleven years ago his father, who was also at that time a famous rifle shot was doing turns in Buffalo. One of his tricks consisted of shooting ar apple on his wife's head. One ill-fate night the woman moved her head a little and the bullet lodged in her The shock prostrated the elder Frayne, and it is said he has never since been able to handle a rifle without a shudder. He gave up the bua

In its report of the Hamilton Sym-Times says: "Cyril Dwight-Edwards of London, took the audience by storn he knows how to use. He is an artist and also possesses great dramati power. Few deep baritones can modubers, made up of ten songs, he pleasnot help enthusing him. His first encore was "On the Bonnie, B Banks o' Loch Lomond," and the last Tosti's "Good-Bye," which was rendered so artistically, it was a capital ending to his part of the programme.

"Deacon Brodie," a play full of dramatic situations, and spiced with an enlivening Scottish dialogue, the work of the Y M C A Hamilton.

"Deacon Brodie," a play full of dramatic situations, and spiced with an enlivening Scottish dialogue, the work of the Y M C A Hamilton. ending to his part of the programme. Miss Josephine Egan accompanied the good effect of his solos.

Business conditions impelled

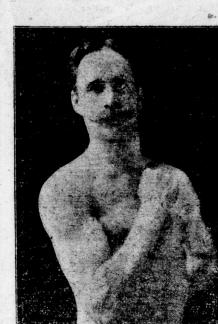
with Eva Flea Tanguay and engaged Bonnie Maginn to play her former role in "The Office Boy."

front with E. H. Sothern in the Paul ;ics. In swordsmanship, however, he al-

period of distress. Even the savage a vaudeville stunt in a Sis Hopkins' appeared in London in the early years ation was evident, and at a subsequent w. S. Gillert wrote to him: "I bear make-up, which proved a pleasant surjudy of the last reign. John Ashton, in his performance the witty matron with a you no malice, but I have a long mem-prise to those present. If there isn't entertaining book of Gossip of the First you no malice, but I have a long mem-ory."

The bear in lake-up, which proved a pleasant sur-prise to those present. If there isn't a place for ner in some first-class musical comedy shortly, it will be because Tommaso Salvani, aged 75 years, will there will be no musical comedies on not revisit America until next year, the road. Beyond any doubt she can his give cards and spades to nine out of American managers to postpone the ten of the soubrettes now in popular Frank Daniels has parted company ties put on were also excellent.

Mr. Ed I. Sifton, of this city. who will meet Capt. Ivan de Malchin, of Russian Imperial Guard, at the Margaret (Peg) Woffington played Auditorium on Wednesday evening Ophelia in Dublin when a miss in her next, in a thrilling assault at arms, is a young Londoner of powerful physique, who upon more than one occasion has Grace Kimball, who came to the won laurels in all branches of athlet-Potter play, "Sheridan," a few years ways was particularly proficient, ago, then married and retired from the it is said of Mr. Sifton and of Mr. Wm.



MR. E. I. SIFTON. CAPT. IVAN DE MALCHIN. THE ASSAULT-AT-ARMS.

The picture on the left is that of Mr. E. I. Sifton, the London swordsman, who is to meet Capt. Ivan de Malchin, whose picture appears at the right, of the Russian army, in the assault-at-arms in the Auditorium, on Wednesday next.

THE WILBUR OPERA COMPANY. With the Belief to Appear at the crown Mar Next Week in Popular Productions.

light's glare as a member of the com- swordsmen Canada has known think it is quite possible for a woman the British army, and master-arms of regiments on service in India.

father left off, and is now one of the best fancy shots in America.

Think it is quite possible for a woman to forget the british army, and master-arms of regiments on service in India.

He won the championship prize do-domesticity, there is no doubt that a woman who has been on the stage and versible in foil fencing in 1895, and again scheduled for presentation at the De-domestic possible for a woman the British army, and master-arms of regiments on service in India.

All who have seen Klaw & Erlanger's nated by Prof. Chappie at Toronto Uniproduction of "Ben-Hur," which is scheduled for presentation at the De-domestic possible for a woman to find the British army, and master-arms of regiments on service in India. phony Orchestra event in that city, the felt the exhibitation of holding an donated by Dr. Needler for both foil felt the exhilaration of holding an audience and carrying it in gales of laughter through a comedy scene, or making it weep with the pathos of a situation, can never get over the feeling of satisfaction which such an experience gives. I do not think an action the second place at the world's amateur games at Olympia Greece. Mr. Sifton late their voices as he can. His voice tress ever could go to a play of the is of good compass, and he sings with type in which she has been accustoned and the stage of an American actress, who did better that the stage of an American actress is the Toronto University Pencing Club. marked expression, his soft passages to act without experiencing a being sweet and clear. Although he was on the programme for three numbers of the mass of the programme for three numbers of the play again. Even a bit of music from the programme for three numbers of the play again. Even a bit of music from the programme for three numbers of the play again. Even a bit of music from the programme for three numbers of the play again. Even a bit of music from the programme for three numbers of the program

of Robert Louis Stevenson, was pro- of the Y. M. C. A., Hamilton. him, adding by her skillful playing to at the Grand last night before the largduced by the Aubrev Stock Company on the wings of improvidence. The Lee and his interpretation, though a maniable character of your average vigorous one was not overdone. Ollie were a development, partly of the darky kind.

stage, like Grandfather's clock, never Love, son of Police Magistrate Love, to go again, is once more in the lime-that they are the two cleverest amateur pany playing in the Hackett production of "The Secret of Polichenelle." many a day. Mr. Sifton's fencing retion of "The Secret of Polichenelle." many a day. Mr. Sifton's fencing retion of "The Secret of Polichenelle." many a day. Mr. Sifton's fencing retion of "Boy Again," and other simple though first named has become a star. She is franker than most women who 1896 he was a pupil of Prof. A. Williams, melodious ballads, including several retire from the stage "forever." Here instructor of Toronto University gymis her way of putting it: "While I nasium, formerly sergeant-major in think it is quite possible for a woman the British army, and master-at-arms

tasted the pleasures of applause and in 1896 won the championship medals

play again. Even a bit of music from the orchestra will set her feet tapping, just as the scent of powder will make on the orchestra will set her feet tapping, just as the scent of powder will make on the orchestra will set her feet tapping, just as the scent of powder will make on the orchestra will set her feet tapping, just as the scent of powder will make on the orchestra will set her feet tapping.

Decade of Victoria's Reign (lately pub- guests.-New York Times. lished), has, however, unearthed from the Illustrated London News a drawing of that which is probably the original British nigger party. The date of the plays. Mrs. Herne was the original paper in question is Jan. 24, 1846, and Helen Barry in "Shore Acres," favor in the high-class productions, and the executants were only five, the prin- her two daughters, Julie and Chrystal, then beat them out. The other special- cipal comedian being the tambourine, have since played this part. Mr. Germon, who sat at one point of the semi-circle, the "bones," of course, being opposite him, while two others played the banjo and a fifth the accoring a revival of "Ruy Blas," under the "Bones" was no vocalist, but his title of "A Queen's Romance." four colleagues sang part and other London press is divided in its praise, songs, mostly of a humorous character, but both stars have made a big hit. including a parody of a chorus from Somnambula, and a part song, "You'll See Them on the Ohio." I fancy that

> uite a novelty. He said, among other daughter. "A party of American minstrels, under the designation of the Ethiopian Serenaders, commenced on Wednesday night, Jan. 21, at the Hanover Square series of concerts for the avowed purpose of affording an accurate notion of negro character and mel-They are painted jet black, with ruddy lips and large mouths, and being capable actors, the deception created is that they are real darkies. They dress in dandy costumes, a la Julien, that is, white waistcoated and wristbanded. turned up the most approved d'Orsay opening of that theater next Septem-

for a long time did well in Liverpool. summer. Then came the Christys, who, toward the end of the fifties, under the management of Moore, Crocker & Ritter, cellence of their part singing, and to man. songs obviously suggested by events in the American civil war.-London Truth.

All who have seen Klaw & Erlanger's spring tour. William Corliss, who was the Bostonians. troit Opera House for the week beginning Monday evening, March 14, and fitting in its service. This scene and The entertainment in the Auditorium the widely advertised chariot race in ordinary power.

If the American drama had done ab-The passing of the Christy minstrels solutely nothing worthy in its long caest audience of the week. There are -for the Moore & Burgess enterprise reer but this; had its fame to rest several interesting characters in the is, it is understood, to be allowed to solely upon this one noble product of critic, who lost his long-time place on the circus ring. It enjoys have the circus ring. It en Clement Scott, the famous London play, notably William Brodie. Hum- lapse after next autumn-will, I learn, Klaw & Erlanger, it has justified its declared that immorality was rampant by Mr. Albert Hall, which was most on the stage, is in poverty and the object of a charity benefit, to be given in the British capital some time this rank of these was given an interpretation history of the burnt-cork movement shown that the stage may be given the stage in order to uses wholly worthy, nighly over to uses wholly worthy, nighly over to uses wholly worthy, nighly over to uses wholly worthy, nighly commendable, and which cannot fail to the purity of the burnt-cork movement shown that the stage is no really altogether fulfill the requirements of humburging itself. There is no really altogether fulfill the requirements of humburging itself. There is no really altogether fulfill the requirements of humburging itself. There is no really altogether fulfill the requirements of humburging itself. There is no really altogether fulfill the requirements of humburging itself. There is no really altogether fulfill the requirements of humburging itself. There is no really altogether fulfill the requirements of humburging itself. There is no really altogether fulfill the requirements of humburging itself. There is no really altogether fulfill the requirements of humburging itself. There is no really altogether fulfill the requirements of humburging itself. There is no really altogether fulfill the requirements of humburging itself. There is no really altogether fulfill the requirements of humburging itself the well-known Scottish writer. John over to uses wholly worthy, nightly indicated the fulfill the requirements of humburging itself the fulfill the requirements of humburging itse

actor is shown in the willingness of Halford made a very handsome Scot- merry-makings on the old slave plan- To every man, no matter what his the men and women whom Scott scan- tish lass, and scored well in the role. tations, partly of single performers of condition, "Ben-Hur" has its appeal.

rooted, religious feeling in the human have the principal parts. the simple lessons and divine truths that every man born in a Christian land learned at his mother's knee. Special rates are being given on all rail-

Sir Henry Irving's recent appearance in the Windy City recalls an incident of his last visit, during which a clever young matron won for herself actor. Being the wife of a college pro- the first of the year, was recently marfessor, she was able to afford only a ried to John Lesmoir Gordon, of the throughout the performance she kept opera glasses glued to her res, loath to miss any play of form or feature. Sir Henry was the guest of honor at a social affair the next day. Among those bidden was she of the gallery seat. With more or less inane speeches the throng passed. When her turn came to clasp the great artist's hand

"I am glad. Sir Henry, to see you face to face and not through a glass darkly." His instant appreciation of the situ-

Mrs. James A. Herne directs the rehearsals of all of her late husband's

Mrs. Patrick Campbell and Lewis

Little Alfred Klein, the comedian who played so successfully with De-Hogarth, Dickens' father-in-law, Wolf Hopper some years back and was at that time musical critic of the was taken to an asylum with paresis Illustrated London News, and he seems to have considered the entertainment day night. He leaves a widow and

> Robert Dailey, a brother of Peter Dailey, has been signed as one of the comedians in the support of Josephine Hall in "A Chinese Doll." Next season Mr. Dailey goes out with Bert son Mr. Dailey goes out with Bert In August, says the London Chronicle, Leslie in a farce comedy called "Men the Grenadier Guards Band will visit the of Mark.'

Contracts were signed during the great that wagers have been offered week whereby Madge Lessing, now one company, becomes the leading woman of the New Coliseum, London, at the

The first part of the entertainment consisted of songs and the second of a farcical sketch, on this occasion, "The Railway Overture," which caused a good deal of laughter, Indeed, the Ethiopian deal of laughter. Indeed, the Ethiopian Elliott Allen, leading man in one of Davis, Willowdale, near Crown Point, Serenaders proved quite the fashion, and Punch burlesqued them, giving also the Bennett-Moulton companies now a picture of the blacked-up Lablache playing the bones, with Mario as tamcurine, and Tamburini as banjoist, and is a popular and rising young lead- she is at her Grand boulevard home or Next in order in the early fifties, I be- ing man. Miss Daniel played as leadlieve, came a party of minstrels, who ing lady with Mr. Allen all of last

> C. M. S. McLellan and Gustave Kerker, the authors of "The Belle of New Ca

and "The Ameer" and will take the eloquence of the poet Eugene Field to two operas through the south for a induce her to go into light opera with

appeals to the deep-grained, firm- with Frank Daniels several years, will

While Maxine Elliott was presenting "Her Own Way" in Chicago recently. a celluloid rose on a table caught fire and for a time the audience was very much excited. R. C. Herz, who was playing with Miss Elliott, snuffed out the flame and the play proceeded with-

Nina Farrington, who has been playa special mark of favor from the ing in a musical comedy in Paris since seat in the topmost gallery, and First Life Guards of London. Miss Farrington's last appearance in this country was in "The Hall of Fame."

> Perhaps no form of industry has so much improved in the last half century as that of writing plays, unless it is forming trusts and amalgamating oil As her ambition grew, the quality of companies or railroads, says the Phila- her work grew less, and today, to delphia North American. Something in the nature of competition also comes able, for she is less than ecceptable, for she is no longer pleasing to from the "grafting" politician and fa-vored public contractor. But on the whole, the modern playwright, when successful, is an exceedingly for the baight of the baight of the successful, is an exceedingly for the baight of the bail of the baight of the bail of the baight of the bail of successful, is an exceedingly fortunate height of tragedy.

> Formerly makers of plays sold them outright to managers, who gave all the way from \$20 to \$2,500 for the work, everything depending on the fame of the writer. "The Lady of Lyons" was sold of more than ordinary importance? by Bulwer Lytton to Macready for \$50. The aforesaid public hugged the deluwhile Goldsmith, for "She Stoops to sion for a season, and then opened the Conquer," got \$4,500. Dr. Johnson re-windows of its soul and let the wintry ceived \$5,000 for a drama that was a blast chill the budding life of the world of genius. only \$750 for the perennially popular 'Ticket-of-Leave Man."

individual.

The fifties marked the absolute lowwater mark of the craft of the dramatist as a money-making medium. The modern ortable income to Dion Boucicault. his play is acted, the percentage, of course, varying with the fame of the

writer. This system was inaugurated by Boucicault in this country, and was, as a ever, whatever our delusions concernmenter of fact, the result of an accident. ing them may be, are easily managed. A certain American manager was unable It is the delusion with a tradition that to pay Boucicault \$1,000 for the rights of one of his pieces, and it was agreed that as an alternative the playwright should accept a proportion of the receipts. The the possibilities that there were in this form of payment.

nited States to play at the St. Louis Ex-hibition. This will be the second time this kand has been in America, the previous occasion being in 1872, whe of the stars with the Francis Wilson appeared at the International Music those first crude lessons that are sup-Festival at Boston,

> Mrs. Jessie Barton Davis, who was late-Ind. Although a horn actress and lov-ing the stage as dearly as anyone could life, and she never was so happy as when If she were so minded Mrs. Davis could

ward became famous as the Moore & York," and who have not worked toward became famous as the Moore & Burgess minstrels. The Moore & Burgess minstrels. The Moore & Burgess minstrels. The Moore & Burgess party, beyond question, owed a great deal of their popularity to the excellence of their part singing, and to man.

York," and who have not worked together since "The Girl From Up
There," are said to be collaborating on
a musical comedy for Charles Frohman.

Will J. Davis. After her marriage to Mr. which were derived from America.
Many middle-aged men and women will have pleasant reminiscences as children of such things as "Rosalie, the Down of the same company, are Davis she studied in New York and Paris, Then she began again on the stage, appearing in W. T. Carlton's company as production of "Mother Goose," and John Hyams of the same company, are Davisshe studied in New York and Paris, dren of such things as "Rosalie, the Prairie Flower," "Come Where My Love Lies Dreaming," "O Would I Were a Boy Again," and other simple though These were two years of hard work and Otis Harlan and John B. Dunn have secured the rights to "The Idol's Eye" of money, and she came back to Chicago tired, sick and discouraged. It took the

ISABEL IRVING. Isabel Irving was wise. She knew her public as she knew herself and her limitations, and, with her sensiplaywright owes his exceedingly com- tive fingers upon the pulse of New York audiences, she recognized a mo-The modern system is for the dramatist ment when it was ready to awaken to receive a certain percentage of the from the dream of her loveliness and gross receipts of the theater at which arristic calibre. She departed at once artistic calibre. She departed at once for out-of-town tours, and we are still dreaming that she is a comedienne and lovely. These young women, howing them may be, are easily managed.

is difficult of honest treatment. RICHARD MANSFIELD. Again, how many are willing to adlucky accident led Boucicault to realize mit that Richard Mansfield is something of a bore, and that John Drew does not by any means convey even the average American's idea of a fine gentleman or of an ordinary man in fine clothes? As for his stage drawing room manners, when he represents the it gentry, they could hardly serve as posed to save one from premature disaster in high life. John Drew as the stage gentleman par excellence is a ly seen here in "Erminie," has been for twenty years the representative contralto

LILY LANGTRY.

One goes to see Lily Langtry beshe always has been fond of her home cause she is the "Jersey Lily," and beautiful. She never pretended to an actress, and merely selected the stage as a setting. How many are If she were so minded Mrs. Davis could write a good history of light opera in America, all from personal experiences. As long ago as 1875 she was on the stage, being a member in that year of Mrs. Caroline Richings Bernard's Old Folks actress

And thus we go on year after year, a victim of our own delusions, and the delusions of our neighbors and our mothers and fathers before us, and without the courage to tear ourselves from bondage, and to admit once and for all that a good actor has become passe, that a bore is a bore, and that we are disillusioned of our illusions.

Two Little Ones Born in India and Raised on

AMERICAN CRITIC ROASTS FAMOUS THEATRICAL STARS

Not Far From Has-Been-Ville.

going public is illusioned beneath the spell of famous stars John T. Cramer

ticle in the Broadway Magazine: The average well-dressed, cultured certainly acknowledge that what the will show its teeth and snarl like theater patron is called upon to admire sleeping dog too rudely awakened.

in many of the so-called artists of magnitude is the exhibition of great mannerisms rather than the genuine article, great art.

SIR HENRY IRVING. There is Sir Henry Irving, for instance, Irving was a great man in his generation, His work for the stage has won him a knighthood. He is a man of high ideals and manifold accomplishments. His interpretation of certain roles was dignified, conscientious, and eminently interesting. All these things in his prime were admirable manifestations of an admirable purpose. But are they worth what we are called upon to offer in incense and worship at the shrine? The crowds that flock into the auditorium of an American theater to witness a muchheralded performance of "Shylock," labor under a self-inflicted illusion, if they do not frankly admit, at the close of the play, that they are painfully disillusioned. Irving is a man whose art has become absorbed in his mannerisms, who except for flashes now and then of his poet genius is story of memories and not of fact.

ELLEN TERRY. Ellen Terry is another illusion. She has been before the New York public frequently during the past ten years. Those who saw her ten years ago have some legitimate excuse for tracing in her work some of the charm of archness that gave to this actress fame and wealth as a comedienne. The Ellen Terry of today is a wearisome fact. If she had not already a great reputation not one of those who, for the sake of an illusion, purchase a high-priced ticket, would accord her even a mediocre stipend of praise.

THE GREAT SARAH. The great Sarah is a mere phantom of her own past-of what she was in those days when she was making history of herself. Yet a certain insincere class stampedes to the theater, stand for hours in line at the boxoffice, to sit through a highly advertised performance of a truly great play, which, if the truth was told, was more convincingly given by a little Sold by C. McCallum & Co.

Maude Adams. ANNIE RUSSELL.

Annie Russell is an artist-one of the few; but once we begin to put her in a massive frame of a Titian or a As an evidence that the theater- Rubens, we are creating a delusion. We are hanging an exquisite miniature on the same line as a big canvas. It takes courage to contradict one's writes the following interesting ar- quaking neighbors, and to declare that there is no reason in the world why that charming silver-voiced young wo New York audience has, strange to man should occupy so exalted a position as the leading woman of one of say, that same weakness as the throngs New York's crack organizations. Viola mankind—that of bringing home with why the theatergoer of today should be highly indignant if this paltry truth the British capital some time this who are playing leads in first-class tion on the subject.

markind—that of bringing home with spring. Scott earned a great deal of money in his time, but it flew away money in his time for the but it flew away money in his time. artificial and superannuated. One must quired it must not be disturbed, or it

> VIRGINIA HARNED. Virginia Harned as a star is win-



Three Stomachs on a Week's Vacation.

Bat, drink and be merry while giving the digestive apparatus a healing, wholesome rest! It can be done by the use of DR. VON STAN'S

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Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway, has
been placed in service, Chicago to Kansas City, this company offers the best of train service to the west through three important gateways—Kansas Omaha and St. Paul. The Pioneer Limited, Chicago to St. Paul and Minneapolis, for years has been the most popular train between these cities. The Overland Limited, Chicago to Omaha and San Francisco.

is the most famous of transcontinental trains through Omaha.

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