

MUSIO AND THE DRAMA.

ACTORS have always been great practical jesters. Garrick used to be fond of mystifying his friends. One evening, when he expected Dr. Monsey to call on him, he asked the servant to conduct the doctor into his bedroom. Garrick was announced for King Lear that night, but the doctor found him stretched on the bed, with his night-cap on. He was really dressed, but the quilt covered him completely. Monsey expressed surprise, as it was time for the actor to be at the theatre to dress for his part. Garrick, in whining, languid tones, told him he was too sick to play himself, but that there was an actor named Marr so like him in face and figure, and so excellent a mimic, that he would impose upon the audience. As soon as the doctor had left the room, Garrick jumped out of bed and hastened to the theatre. Monsey attended the performance. He was bewildered, sometimes doubting and sometimes only wondering at the extraordinary resemblance between Garrick and Marr. At the end of the play he hurried back to Garrick's house, to discover whether or not a trick had been played upon him. But Garrick had been too quick for him, and was found by Monsey in the same apparent condition of illness.

The sacred concert at The Victoria last Sunday evening was not nearly so well patronized as the merit of the entertainment deserved. Of course the principal reason for the lack in numbers is that many people needed rest after the holiday. Madame Laird's solos were artistically rendered, and were highly appreciated by those present. Mr. Kent never sang better and was loudly encored. Miss Goddyn sang very sweetly, while the violin solo by Master Richardson surprised many.

Mr. Chas Craig and wife, Miss Frankie Craig, here with the Capt. Swift Company, will go for a vacation to their home at Glen Craig, Canada, after which they commence a thirty-five weeks engagement in Shore's Acres, opening at New York, where they remain three months, and then completing the season in the principal Eastern cities.

The Fringe of Society, a dramatiza-

tion of Alexander Dumas' great French story, "Le Demi Monde," was produced for the first time in this city Tuesday night by Maude Granger and a very clever company. The play deals with the demi-monde and in a truthful manner reflects the inner life of these unfortunate people.

Miss Belle Inman has closed her engagement at Morosco's Theatre, San Francisco. She has been filling a successful engagement as leading lady and left for Chicago, her former home, July 1.

A recent addition to the Ca'houn company is Arthur Donaldson, of the Grand Opera House, Stockholm, who will be given an important role in the "Bohemian Girl."

Charles Dixon, who met with such success in Incog, has a splendid comedy entitled A Young American, which he will play in connection with Incog.

Urania, the most wonderful spectacular of the century, will be seen at The Victoria for three nights in October.

Henry Irving and his complete London company will begin their American tour in San Francisco.

French's stock company have telegraphed Manager Jamieson to secure The Victoria for July 12 and 13.

Marie Heath, the twenty-three o'd soubrette, only weighs 85 lbs, but can create a ton of fun.

The prospects are that many first-class attractions will visit Victoria in the Autumn.

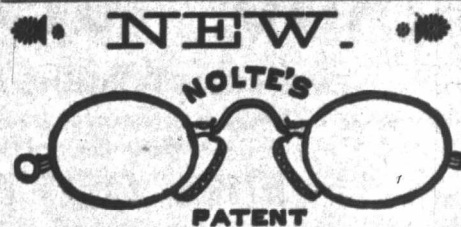
John Cort opens the Alhambra, Portland, on the 15th.

Mark Muphy in O'Dowd's Neighbors July 26.

SUPERSTITION.

What is palmistry, and to what extent is the practice of this method of fortune-telling illegal? The question was raised in the British House of Commons by an honorable member who was anxious to learn whether any steps were taken to put a stop to the prac-

tice. Mr. Asquith's reply was clear enough. By an Act passed in 1824, known as the Vagrant Act, it is provided that every person seeking to impose on Her Majesty's subjects by palmistry or otherwise can be dealt with as a rogue and a vagabond, with imprisonment as a penalty on conviction. But there is an explanatory clause which defines the offense. The main object of the Act is to protect young and ignorant persons from the craftiness of the professional soothsayer. The essence of the offense consists in the intention to impose on the victim for the purpose of gain, and does not, of course, apply to the mere harmless form of fortune-telling. The law has been illustrated in two cases in which women are charged at the Liverpool Police Court with obtaining money from various persons by pretending to tell their fortunes, the credulous victims being young women. Each of the defendants was fined 40s. and costs, with the option of a month's imprisonment, and a useful suggestion thrown out by the stipendary that if one of them had foretold her own fortune she might have anticipated the action that would be taken against her, and, presumably, have avoided it by not committing the offense. This should be interesting reading for Mayor Beaven, who believes that witches should be licensed.



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