

# THE THEATRES

#### At the Royal Alexandra

"The Merry Wives of Windsor." According to a tradition better vorthy of credence than some attaching to Shaksperan history. "The Merry Wives of Windsor" was written to command of Queen Elizabeth, who as the knell of a condition of things night; a prodigious thing when all is well contrived and carried on without well contrived and carried off without the least offence." Good Queen Bess was not alone in her appreciation of the inimitable features of the fat old knight but it must be confessed her request betrayed anything but good judgment. To Falstaff, love in the real sense was impossible, and Shakspere's unerring genius felt the obvious fractomatibility. This probably enough led him to dispose of the ungrateful task with the utmost expedition, and may have accounted for his failure to fulfil the expectations suggested by the epilog to Henry IV. But Falstaff I might easily have gone the way of Mercutio in Romeo and Juliet, whose rouden end another tradition ascribes to the difficulty the dramatist found in maintaining that effervescent dethe least offence." Good Queen Bess lineation.

Nevertheless, The Falstaff of "The Nevertheless, The Falstaff of "The Merry Wives" contains an ample mea-sure of the opulence of wit, ingenuity and good humor displayed in his orig-inal setting. Love being impossible to him. Shakspere was constrained to adopt the only artistic alternative-that of making him the victim of his overweening self-confidence. Against the love romance of Sweet Anne Page. To present "The Merry Wives" with

satisfactory degree of dramatic com-pleteness requires a company of play-ers selected on other principles than distinguish current stage methods. Such a company it has been the object of the New Theatre of New York to se-cure and certainly the splendid per-formance at the Royal Alexandra yes-terday afterneon and evening would alone justify its existence. Tho the ex-igencies of the modern stage will not permit the plays of Shakspere to be produced in their literary form, ensatisfactory degree of dramatic compermit the plays of Shakspere to be produced in their literary form, en-ough was left to reveal the essential story of the comedy, and the interpre-tative ability of the artists. The play, too, gained much from the really beau-tion and the difficulties are obvious. And it must not be thought that the part is not well taken. Miss Elisou is real-is not well taken. Miss Elisou is real-to the company taken and gave a splendid per-tative. There is a fulness about her de too. gained much from the really beau-tiful stage setting which was rich without extravagance and altogether sppropriate. As the merry wives, Miss Edith Wynne Matthison and Miss Rose Cogh-an, who took respectively the roles of Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Page, satisfied the

At the Princess. " The Third Degree." In "The Third Degree," at the Princess this week, Charles Klein has given a study of contemporaneous police methods which the public has recognized to command of Queen Enzabeth, which cannot be paralleled short of is said to have "obliged Shakspere to write a play of Sir John Falstaff in write a play of Sir John Falstaff in write a play of sh didon, "I am very love, which," adds Gildon, "I am very well assured he performed in a fort-shadows the artistic quality of the drama and its human interest, quite thigh the performed in a low apart from the police episode, which, strong as it is, is merely incidental. The big thing in the play is the character of Annie Jeffries, played by Fer-nanda Elisou. This young actress takes the part as Nazimova or Kalisch or Mrs. Patrick Campbell might not take it, but with art and skill and interpretation on quite as high a level as any of these great actresses have accustomed us to see. The motive of the play is the psychology of this wo-man's love and the patience and endurance and insight which it generates. Her husband had been forced into a hypnotic confession of a murder which never occurred, and the man who com-mitted suicide is believed by the police to have been her paramour. There to have been her paramour. There was no immorality at all, but the sui-cide had embezzled money, and by virtue of an old love affair had con-strained Annie's step-mother-in-law to visit him on the night of his suiHere's what one subscriber says :-

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Oct. 20th, 1910

cide. Annie, to shield her namesake, allows it to be thought that the letter addressed to Mrs. Jeffries, senior, was really addressed to Mrs. Jeffries, ju-nior. The lawyer in the case, the husthat of making min the victum of mis overweening self-confidence. Against the conspiracy of the virtuous Windsor dames, even Falstaff's inventiveness and assurance only lead to his more complete disconfigure. But his collapse Annie's character. Her father died in prison, not guilty of anything, but true to friends he would not betray. She had lived honestly, and as a restau-rant waitress, was beloved and mar-ried by Howard Jeffries, a useless scion of a wealthy family. She never swerves in her belief in his innocence. For a month she comes regularly to the office of the lawyer she thinks can supports the main story with the sub-ordinate motives and in the charm of the love romance of Sweet Anne Page. To present "The Merry Wives" with prison, not guilty of anything, but true to friends he would not betray. She of feeling, the sustained interest in the development of the weaknesses and the sympathies of the other characters, constitute the elements of strength which carried a long series of closely knitted dialogs to a satisfactory close The company as a whole is cast with fine consideration of fitness. If any thing is lacking it is, perhaps, that there is rather more artificiality in the

reading of Richard Brewster's part than is necessary. But the part is purely that of a foil to Annie Jeffrica,

troubles of two families in the same

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house. The one has as its nominal head a "hen-pecked" husband, in the other the wife has no will of her own. The way in which affairs are com-pletely revolutionized in each family is intensely humorous. Harry Lindley is an old-time Toponto actor, and he was warmly welcomed at yesterday's performances. He showed that he has by no means lost his cunn in the nic art. Other features of the bill includ crobatics, dancing, singing and joking. The clog dancing was distinctly clever, and the work done in that same line on roller skates deserves especial mention. It was as good a stunt in its way as anything given ecently in Toronto.

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Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Page, satisfied the most exacting ideal. Shakspere did not markedly differentiate between them. Indeed, they almost inevitably occupy the relation of twinship. But as play-ed by Miss Matthison and Miss Coghian the parts are subtly distinguished without disturbing their conceptional harmony. The interpretation was a veri-table triumph of dramatic particularization redolent both of domestic virthe abandonment of natural tue and liveliness. Miss Helen Reimer was no less happy in the role of Mistress Quicky, and pictured to the life the fussy, meddling oid gossip, who wants to be everything to everybody, but still favers the gallant who rewards her with his purse as well as his confidence. Miss Leah Bateman-Hunter made a charming Anne Page, rendering the part with delightful naivete and suflicient coquetry.

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The part of Sir John Falstaff is one of the most exacting in the whole range of Shaksperean character, and to those who know its fulness, the difficulties are rather enhanced than diminished when placed in the atmosphere of the merry wives. Louis Calvert would have won deserved praise for a less finished interpretation than that he gave, but he did far more by erving a real harmony between the Falstaff of Henry IV. and his later exposure, as the butt of those who would but have given him occasion for the excellence of the sport. This is the excellence of the actor's art, and Mr. Calvert's best tri-bute. Ford, the jealous husband, and sport. Page, the embodiment of the old Engcountry gentleman, were finely lered by A. E. Anson and Lee rendered by Baker. Ben Johnson's Justice Shallow was good, and as Slender, next to Faltype staff, the most finished sketch in the play, Ferdinand Gottschalk was a de-Mr. Morrison's Dr. BUCCESS, Caius was a clever piece of characterization, and the famous trio of followers-Bardolph, Nym and Pistol-had good exponents in John Sutherland, Stewart Baird and Pedro de Cordoba. The other roles were filled with equal regard to artistic symmetry, and, deed, no more satisfactory presentation of "The Merry Wives" could be looked for than that given at the Royal Alexandra. The crowded audiences at both performances showed hearty ap- harrowed by a performance which is preclation and the engagement is already assured of unusual success.

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most careful study and an elaboration which everybody may see of the portrait which only stops when the artistic effect requires it. Instances could be multiplied. During To miss seeing "Checkers" is to mis treat. The regular Wednesday and Saturthe interview in the lawyer's office day matinees will be given this week there were many. "I'm going to move heaven and earth till I've brought his At Shea's father round to my way of thinking,"

she says, and then there is a glance Harry Williams and Jean Schwartz, lawyer, the slyest, drollest, most pitiful look in the world, timidity and the well-known song writers, are the courage, hope and fear, tragedy and headliners at Shea's New Theatre. strength all in one, as she ventures-"I ve got you already." The dignity of They sing and play a number of their

sium woman as she walks latest efforts, among which may be across the stage wiping her eyes after mentioned "Did You Ever Go Home In the passionate outburst in the lawyer's the Country?" "Oh, You Dream," and office-"Why don't some of you do a complex piece of ragtime called "The something?" shows another phase of Whitewash Man." Their most famous her devotion, but there is a breathless hit. "What's the Matter With Fath ent when she steps with as much er?" is sung as no one else can dignity but with a subdued conscious-They made a big hit with yesness that the last card is to be played terday's crowded audiences.

to hand the letter to the detective, and "The Rolfonians" present a com is intercepted by the lawyer, a very clever stage device of Mr. Klein's. pany of ten accomplished musician and vocalists, headed by Mr. Rolfe Another natural note which brought himself, who displays unusual skill down the house was one of many reon the cornet. The ensemble work by ferences to her father-in-law. "I only this company is marked by great rehad one interview with him, and it finfinement of expression, such as one ished him for all time with me. He's could hardly believe obtainable from not a father (a pause, then conclusivebrass instruments. ly, but without emphasis, and the most The Kemps have a new turn in the

natural expression), he's a fish." ness as well as of endurance and shrewdness in the little woman, and Miss Elicou misses nothing and ec-trained animals includer way of coon shouting and eccentric fine scenic effects trained animals, including an elephant Elisou misses nothing. James of wonderful intelligence. The Bound-Miss Elisou misses hounts. Frazer ing Gordons do gymnastic stunts Seely acts with much dignity. Frazer ing Gordons do gymnastic stunts Coulter, the father, is excellently na- which are notable chiefly for some tural. Dr. Bernstein, by Walter Cra-ven, is particularly good. Capt. Clinvery amusing byplays, and Charbino Brothers have a good acrobatic turn. by Alfred Moore, represents a Claude and Fanny Usher present the which is perhaps too common. same playlet they had on the occasion and Mr. Moore resists many natural of their last visit, and it is as funny temptations. Lyda MacMillan does all as ever. The Dolce Sisters have the that can be done with the weakness of most novel act on the program. It the step-mother. The part of young consists entirely of trio singing, and some very pretty and original effects Jeffries is very cleverly done by Ralph Ramsay, and it is the fault of the are obtained by singing, with new setdramatist and not of the actor that he tings, a variety of songs, which range is such a bounder. The piece is spien. from the semi-classical "Sweet didly and solidly mounted, and is alto- Low' to the current hit, "That Mesgether a dramatic treat. The humor merizing Mendelssohn of the play is quite adequate to relieve kinelograph, with some fine new picthe strain of its intensity, and play- tures, concludes the bill.

goers must not think that they will be sure to elicit their deepest interest.

#### At the Grand.

" Checkers." For the blues, see "Checkers," the tale of love and luck, which opened an engagement at the Grand yesterday to two crowded houses. It is an explay from many a point of view. It pleases all classes of people. Those who go to the playhouse simply for the entertainment, to kill an otherwise weary evening; those who go with critical purpose; those who are coy about venturing theatrewards until well assured that the offering is quite proper for the young person as well as for the particular in such things smong the old, and those who are habitues of the theatre-all seemed to glad to see the play again.

The company presenting the play this season is an exceptionally good one. The title role is in the hands of Harry D. Beaumont, a capital young His rendition of the manly and actor. sportive young fellow of the races as a distinctly praiseworthy piece of work. The race-track tout is again work. presented by Dan Braham, Jr., whose connection with "Checkers" has never eased from the first season of the p'ay.

Hon, C. tarlo, N. Burwash, D.D., President I Rev N. Burwash, D.D., President I Victoria College. Rev. Father Teefy, President of St. Michael's College, Toronto. Right Rev. J. F. Sweeney, Bishop of Toronto. Dr. McTaggart's vegetable remedies for the liquor and tobacco habits are healthful, safe, inexpensive home treatments. No hypodermic injections, no publicity, no loss of time from busi-ness, and a certain cure. Consultation

At the Star

## The Empire Burlesquers, as seen at

the Star Theatre by two crowded audiences yesterday, proved a revelation in burlesque. The performance is clean and comical, presenting a variety of music, comedy and funny situations cleverly put on. Frank Damsel has provided under the title of "O, You Lemon," an opening skit that is abso-lutely new. He, himself, takes the star role of Lem. N. Taker. The skit is bristling with originality and gives splendid opportunity for chorus work by a clever aggregation of beauties, both in light and heavy costume. The olio, too, is worthy of praise. Miss Catharine Ross set the ech oes ringing with three catchy illustrated songs-one burlesquing Teddy Rooseveit's jungle hunt; one sentimental, and one

comic. "I won't Be Home Till August," will be whistled from this morning on Young Bros, as Chinese acrobats, lvely bit of comedy work, and Mike McDonald and John Price are capabl Irish and Dutch comedians. "Tempta-tion," is a very artistic and fetching Irish and Dutch comedians. pantomime, based on the oriental dance in which Miss Blanche Martin shows exceptional grace and art. "A Night on the Roof Garden," is the closing burlesque and treats gloriously of life in New York. "high

#### At the Gayety.

"Vanity Fair" at the Gayety this week is right up-to-the-minute in burlesque production. On the whole the entire company is above the average, and individually the members leave little to be desired in their various departments. The chorus, altho in places, scantily attired, are a fair aggregation of girlies, and sing well. "A Night At the Roadhouse" is a one-act farce that is the cause of

and

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Tune.

At the Majestic

Liquor : Tobacco Habits

A. MCTAGGART, M.D., C.M.,

One advantage patrons of vaudeville considerable laughter, and Billie Ritchie is the big feature. Dorcas generally have over other theatregoers is that they can tell just about what kind of a show they will get at any Huxley, Rena Lacouvier and Winnifred Francis were best received in the songs "Mine, All Mine," and "The Hollanders." particular theatre. The Harry Lindley Stock Company, however, which is at the Majestic this week, is decidedly Rena Lacouvier's Red Raven Cadets,

better in some respects than the aver-age concern of its kind. twelve pretty girls, were well elved in their military drills and There is a distinctly clever farce. "When They Flared, Up," it might very well be called, dealing with the tactics

In the last part entitled, "Fun In a Music Hall," the highest notch in burlesque comedy, is reached, and the mimic theatre that is presented on the stage is equal to a half an hour's joyride

#### Recital To-Night.

75 Yonge Si., Toronio, Canada. References as to Dr. McTaggart's professional standing and personal in-tegrity permitted by: Sir W. R. Meredith Chief Justice. Hon, G. W. Ross, ex-Premier of On-A program rich in variety will be presented this evening in Association Hall by Miss Ethel Cocking, assisted by Messrs. Percy Redfern Hollinshead, tenor, Frank Blachford, violinist, and Dr. Harvey Robb, planist. Reserved seats. 50 cents, can be had at Mason & Rich's warerooms, 32 West King-st.

#### Three Killed in Auto Wreck

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Oct. 21 .---Three men were killed and two badiy injured when an automobile in which they were riding plunged into a ditch Miss Florence Heston as "Pert," no publicity, no loss of time from busi-whom Checkers fails in love, or correspondence invited, night.



**EDDY'S MATCHES** 

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## SOCIETY NOTES

Mrs. James P. Hynes (formerly Miss Anna O'Brien) will receive for the first time since her marriage, in the drawing-room of the Prince George Hictel on Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 2. from 4 until 6 o'clock.

Mrs. George R. Donovan, formerly Alice E. Stirrett, will receive for the first time since her marriage at her ome, 564 Dufferin-street, on Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 2.

Miss Margaret Mary O'Brien, daugheastern points, after which they ter of James O'Brien, Bleecker-street, was yesterday morning at 8 o'clock, in Our Lady of Lourdes Church, united in marriage to George Gerald Carroll of this city, Rev. Father Morrow officiating. The bride, who was given away by her father, was attired in an imported traveling suit of duchess cloth, braided and trimmed with velvet of same shade, while her head adare ent was a large green picture hat with white satin top and orna-

means, when white French plumes. She carried a bouquet of white mums tied with white satin ribbon. She was NEW YORK, Oct. 31 .-- After making attended by her cousin, Miss Florence last plea to her husband to return in pale blue M. O'Leary, costumed Mrs. Anne Davis of Brooklyn mitted suicide, and took with her to the grave her two children, Ellis, 5 chiffon over pale blue satin, and wearing a large grey slik picture hat triinwith pink and grey Richmond years old, and Elsie, 3. All were found asphyriated by gas. For the last two years Mrs. Davis roses. She carried a large bouquet of pink niums tied with pink satin ribbon. Miss Emma O'Brien, sister of the bride, had supported the family by sewing.

was attired in white embroidery and LAYMEN'S ANNIVERSARY wearing a large black hat with The best man was D.S. Roach Third Year of the Movement to be of this city. During the cerem Mendelssohn's wedding march Celebrated To-day. Was

con

played by Miss Ethel Menzies, and The third anniversary of the Laysolos were sung by Miss Nellie Har-court and Miss Pelletier. The groom's men's Missionary Movement will be favor to the bride was a diamond jewel; to the bridesmaid a gold brace-let with diamonds and rubles, and to celebrated to-day with afternoon and evening meetings in St. James Cath-

the groomsman gold and pearl suff dral Parish House. links. After the ceremony breakfast The afternoon meeting will open at was partaken of at the St. Charles 2.30 with a devotional service conduct-The young couple will spend ed by Bishop Sweeny. Fletcher S. their honey moon in New York and Brockman, national secretary of the Y.M.C.A. for China, will speak on "The will take up their residence in this city. The Triumphs of Faith in Non-Christian bride was the recipient of many pre-Lands," and John R. Mott of New York, and Rev. R. Wardlaw Thompsents. Among those noticed was a statue of the Virgin Mary, from the son of London, Eng., on "Impression of the World Missionary Conference Ladies' Sodality of St. Michael's Cathedral, of which society she was an N. F. Davidson, K.C., will read the reofficer; a chair from the directors of the Rex Tailoring Co.; cut glass from the employes of that firm, and an enports will be received from the denomgraved sliver fern pot from the mem-bers of the Arbuthnot Social Club, inational committees

At 6 p.m. a reception will be tendered Drs. Thompson and Mott and W. B. Millar, new general secretary of the International Committee. At 6.30 there will be a supper, with J. A. Paterson K.C., presiding. Dr. Thompson will speak on "The New World Claim Upor the Christian Men of To-day," and Mr. Brockman will also give an address

Fire in brush and leaves at Park and Avondale roads gave uptown firemen a run yesterday afternoon.



Kills Herself and Children,

THE ONLY PREPARATION HAS RECEIVED AS MANY WRITTEN ENDORSEMENTS 3. P. Bic the marked Wheat-I and contini-vere again vere again vere again term and built supplies and demand built affile on a visible mark safely. covi-being feeb as weak leading the latter mark country a there is nor mand, buy at a highe quoted can lower. This in centive a comporting thrength incentive a Corp-Th strength market. were high days, the continue t all good r but one uil Oats-Fr