

A ROMANCE OF THE STAGE.

Husband and Wife Brought Together After Separation.

They Play Camille and Armand Duval on the Same Stage—Are Not "On Speaking Terms."

The peculiar demands which the histrionic art imposes upon its disciples and the unquestioned obedience which generally follows, constitute a spectacle which forms one of the principal charms of the modern drama. These demands often play upon the most sacred sentiments and require sacrifices of personal feeling rarely otherwise imposed. These reflections are suggested by a romantic episode now being spun by two histrionic artists prominent on the Dawson stage—George L. Hillyer and Babette Pyne.

To go back a few years, it is learned that Miss Pyne is the daughter of Jack Sutherland, a famous cow king of San Joaquin valley and owner of the "scizzars" brand so well known among the Western stockmen. Babe and Dot were heirs to a large fortune when Jack passed in his checks, but his thousands have long since disappeared, the girls having remaining of the fortune only a beautiful home at Kingston, California. But this is digression.

George Hillyer met and loved Babe and four years ago they were married. After two years of married life they separated—it is no business of ours why and have since been following individual paths, though, by one of the inscrutable plans of fate, continuing in the same orbit. When Frank Simons began to organize his present company he had for his assistant Mr. Hillyer, and among the actresses engaged were Babe and Dot Pyne. Thus the two were again thrown into close association, making the long trip to the Klondike in each other's company, and were together when the company opened.

During all this time, however, the two held no communion with one another. Whether it was obstinacy or whether the grand passion which once enthralled them had lost its warmth is another thing which belongs to them alone. Suffice to say, they never spoke as they passed by, and George finally left Simons' employ to take the position of stage manager at the Grand.

Then came the interesting incident which laid the foundation for these reflections. Charlie Meadows needed a leading lady and needed her badly; he wanted to cast "Camille" and the success of the venture depended upon the qualities of the leading lady. His choice finally resolved upon Babe Pyne, and by offering a salary of most tempting proportions, he secured her services. "Camille" was finally presented to the public, and the spectacle was seen of George Hillyer playing Armand Duval, the lover, to the Camille of his former wife, though neither had spoken to the other off the stage for two years.

No one observing the skill of the two could possibly guess at the relations between them and of the consummate art with which they cover their real feelings; but much could be guessed at by one whose privilege it might be to see the actress, as some have, leave the stage in a condition of nervous prostration as a result of the strain, and possibly indulge, woman-like, in a sudden flow of tears. What is the real story these tears tell and how do they effect the man on whose account, it is said, they are shed?

The Bear and the Miners.

An episode in which were mingled the laughable and the serious, transpired a few days ago at the hill claim opposite 74 below lower discovery on Dominion, when William Prendergast, while engaged in cutting hay, unexpectedly struck the point of his scythe into the tender nose of a huge bald-face grizzly. Prendergast was extremely

sorry for having made the mistake and would probably have been willing to give \$5 rather than have it occur. But the bear didn't take a mild view of the matter at all; on the contrary, he appeared very angry—reared up to a height of seven or eight feet, roared and spluttered a moment and then locating the cause of his misery, made a terrific bolt for Mr. Prendergast. These details were not all noted by Mr. Prendergast before he formed a well defined determination to get out of the neighborhood as quickly as he could; to think was to act, as the novelist would say, and without waiting to apologize to the bear, he lit out for home with all the speed at his command. Fear served as a spur to his willing legs and he flew over the ground like an antelope. The bear also exhibited sprinting qualities of a high order and was rapidly gaining on his intended dinner when the latter, with a cleverness of thought worthy of a general, suddenly bounded on the top of a stack of hay upon which he was unable to secure a hold.

As soon as he realized that he was safe, Mr. Prendergast metaphorically hugged himself over his good fortune and cracked a few witticisms at the expense of the chagrined animal that was walking restlessly around the haystack. As time began to grow, however, and an hour had been lost in the mists of the hoary past, the gentleman began to experience visions of a cold night out of door with nothing but an incensed bear for a companion, and he determined to call for assistance. It hurt his pride to do so and there was the fear that a kodaek fiend would pop up in answer to his calls, but it was the lesser of two evils and it went. In response to his appeals, Messrs. Sutherland and Smith, his partners, went to the rescue with guns and a great display of determination; but the evil face which bruin showed them chased away all their ambitious thoughts and they quickly showed two pairs of heels to the enemy. The latter chased them into the cabin on the gulch claim and then returned to his victim on the haystack; but after keeping him up there an hour or so longer he concluded that his vengeance had been complete and quietly walked away.

In the future, Mr. Prendergast will cut hay only after he has had his mother-in-law and hired man beat the grass or during the season when bears are supposed to be hibernating; it is said that he has also conceived high notions of his prowess as a sprinter and is already figuring on participating in the contests on the queen's next birthday.

Typhoid on the Increase.

Dr. Alfred Thompson, successor of Rev. Dr. Grant as superintendent of the Good Samaritan hospital, arrived this week from Halifax, N. S., and at once assumed his new duties in a manner suggestive of both energy and aptitude. The doctor is a young man, a graduate of Dalhousie university, N. S., and is a most agreeable personage.

In response to a query by a Nugget reporter, Dr. Thompson said that typhoid fever has been on the increase for the two weeks just past. On Thursday the institution held 29 fever patients, which was a majority of all the patients in the hospital.

Two New Safes.

The Canadian Bank of Commerce are just in receipt of two handsome Taylor safes from Toronto. They are of chilled steel, burglar and fire proof and are operated with time-locks. Each of them weighs nearly four tons, and it required the combined efforts of six good horses operated by Lancaster & Calderhead to get one of them to the up-town bank.

Mrs. J. H. Thomas' cottage on Fourth street, near Third avenue, wherein she gives Turkish, electric and tub baths, together with massage is elegantly appointed and supplied with every modern convenience.

You can get your eyes tested and glasses fitted at Pioneer Drug Store, E. Shoff, chemist.

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Don't forget opening of Cafe Royal Wine Rooms, Monday night, Aug. 14.

HOT RACE FOR A RICH CLAIM.

Five Men Participate in the Exciting Contest.

The Event Winds Up in the Gold Commissioner's Office—Fulfillment of a Scriptural Quotation.

The details of a race for a rich Dominion claim, the parallel of which is not often heard of, came out before Gold Commissioner Senkler this week in a contest for possession of the hill-side claim opposite the lower half of No. 36 below lower, left limit, on Dominion. The title of the suit was Williamson vs. Rule, and Attorney Wilson appeared for the plaintiff, while Rule looked after his own interests and Attorney Pattullo represented another interested one named Mooney.

The facts brought out by the evidence were that the claim, because of non-representation, became subject to relocation on June 27 last, and five men who had been watching it, joined the contest for its possession. A man named Davis staked it at 12:01 o'clock, and was followed at 12:02 o'clock by Williamson.

At 12:05 o'clock a man named Mooney joined in and added his stakes to the others, and at 12:15 he was followed by one named Ainsley, while at 12:30 the final staking was done by Rule. A peculiar feature of the affair was the fact that none of the men except Davis and Williamson saw one another at the claim.

After the staking came the race to the recorder's office at Dawson, 45 miles away. Rule proved to be the champion sprinter, arriving in Dawson at 11 o'clock the same day he staked; the others followed at varying times, Davis not reaching town until July 3, which carried out the scriptural quotation that "the first shall be last and the last shall be first." Williamson also got in on the day of the staking.

Of course the claim couldn't be awarded to all, and yet each believed he was entitled to it, hence the recourse to the judgment of the gold commissioner. Judgment has been reserved.

Prize Waltzing.

A prize waltzing contest was given at the Grand on Tuesday night. There were six couples in the contest and the honors were carried off by Frank Hudson and Pearl Hall. The prizes were two beautiful gold badges. Prof. A. F. George, the Duke of Skookum and George Noble acted as judges.

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