



This week's offering at Bennett's Theatre is a special one, and one that will doubtless attract bumper houses throughout the week. Last evening's performance was witnessed by a large and fashionable audience, that was not slow to express its appreciation of the many excellent numbers on the bill. Those clever amateurs, Miss Leila Lewis and Bernard Jenkins, were on the programme for a couple of songs, and were again well received, their efforts on behalf of the Children's Hospital scheme alone ensuring them of an abundance of applause. Miss Lewis' costumes in this series of amateur turns are almost as fetching as her songs.

The biggest feature of the regular bill is entitled "A Night With the Poets," and proved one of the best of the season's many good head-liners. The scene is set in the library of a bookworm, whose readings of gems by Kipling and whose readings of gems by Kipling, Riley and others, are illustrated by charming tableaux vivants. During the turn the "library" is invaded by a bunch of club friends of the reader, who captivate the audience with a number of delightful songs. The act proved one of the most pleasing seen here during the present vaudeville season. The elaborate staging was a feature of the act.

Stuart Barnes, programmed as the Beau Brummel of vaudeville, made the individual hit of the night, having some good songs, and a lot of mirth-provoking material in his monologue, and he proved exceptionally good-natured in the matter of responding to requests. Knight Bros. and Marion Saville, in an eccentric dancing skit, proved prime favorites with the house, as the former doing some particularly good stunts in the line of freak dancing. Griff, a juggler, with a refreshing line of London juggling, with a lot of burlesque, added to the strength of the bill. Leonard and Drake have a good line of imitations of various kinds. A farce entitled "Too Much Married," put on by Julia Redmond's company, has many amusing situations, which gives Fred Tidmarsh plenty of opportunity of showing his good points as an actor. The Smith duo of trapeze performers do some thrilling work in mid air, and the Bennettograph has some new and amusing pictures.

The Vassar Girls are announced as the headliners for next week.

Theatrical Association.
At the last regular meeting of Hamilton Lodge, No. 25, Theatrical Mechanical Association of America, the following officers were installed:
President, Robt. Stamp; Vice-Presidents, Ed. Lavis and J. Lavis; Financial Secretary, D. Harris; Assistant Financial Secretary, V. L. King; Recording Secretary, Percy Timmons; Treasurer, Wm. Stroud; Sergeant-at-Arms, C. Holmes; Marshal, J. Harper; Trustees, Alf. Strouger, Thos. Bennett and R. Lavin; Physician, Dr. A. E. Hilker.
The organization is for the purpose of cultivating a spirit of benevolence and social affection among the members of the theatrical profession and those engaged in connection therewith, including managers, actors, stage carpenters, ushers, musicians and all employees of theatres. They pay a sick and death benefit to their members and assist all members of the profession in distress. This lodge was instituted in March, 1907, with a membership of 40, and in one year has a membership of 60. There are six lodges in Canada and in the United States there are 79 lodges, with a membership of 10,000. This lodge is holding its first annual benefit on March 20th at the Savoy Theatre at 1:30 p.m., and from the programme it will be a show well worth seeing and entirely new in the city. The souvenir they are giving to every patron is a work of art.

Hurd, the Magician.
Lovers of magic will no doubt be pleased with the coming of Hurd, the man of mystery, who has been so successful in the States several seasons with his wonderful performance, assisted by his own company. Hurd is so different from other magicians and every one of his tricks is new and bewildering and surprising. He has a most pleasing personality, which captivates the attention of the spectator throughout his entire performance and among his startling mystics is the new Mohammed trick and the great chest mystery, which must be seen to be appreciated, in addition to many others of pleasing qualities. Hurd has surrounded himself with an excellent company and presents a programme of novelties, with wit, vaudeville and pleasing surprises. He will be seen at the Grand on Wednesday and Thursday night.

At the Savoy.
The funniest burlesque seen at the Savoy this season is "The Jay Circus," which is one of the features of this week's bill at the Merrick street play house. It kept the audience in roars of laughter at the opening performances yesterday and was pronounced, "to be the goods." It is a clever travesty on the road circus, and was presented in quite a pretentious way. Special scenery and a large company of regulars and super are used in the production. Dan Sherman, the author of the piece, and Wm. Andrews, both comedians of repute, supply most of the fun. They play the part of country bumpkins visiting the circus, and they are very clever. Mrs. Mabel De Forest, as the proprietor of the circus and ringmaster, was pleasing and James De Forest did well in the role of a clown.

The Rappo Sisters, Siberian dancers, made a big hit in the dancing act which was a real novelty. Wearing costumes appropriate to dances which they gave, they exemplified the national dances of the Russians, Caucasians, Cossacks, and Siberians. Their artistic steps were a revelation to many.

Another good European act was that

given by Sadi Alfarabi, a Russian equitrist. He did some sensational feats on a revolving pyramid, which was brilliantly illuminated with vari-colored electric lamps. His balancing feats were really clever.

Wallace, the mimic, was given a good reception. He gave something new in imitations and showed himself to be an actor of no mean ability, in addition to his wonderful vocal powers.

The other numbers on the bill were quite enjoyable and were as follows: Linkert and Keif, hand balancers; Carl and Otto, German comedians; Arlington and Helston, dancers and singers; Fitzgerald and Wilson, singing comedians and new motion pictures. Linkert and Keif, are local artists who are ambitious to go on the stage, and Manager Appleton did not weaken the bill any by giving them an opportunity to "break into vaudeville," they did well.

One of the big drawing cards next week will be Minerva, Queen of Hand-cuffs, who is said to be the only lady handcuff artist appearing before the public to-day. This dainty little lady is said to give a wonderful exhibition. She has escaped from some of the most celebrated prisons in the States and the old country and defied the police wherever she has appeared, to handcuff or shackle her so securely that she could not get free. Francis Owen and company that presented the clever sketch "The Benediction," will be another of next week's attractions.

A Clean Comedy.
"The Girl Who Looks Like Me," which is the attraction at the Grand on Friday and Saturday next, has been fittingly termed a "merry game of laughter," for there is a good, hearty laugh in every line, and with Kathryn Osterman as its star, the comedy will doubtless win favor. While being of the nature of "Charlie's Aunt," "My Friend from India," and a few others, it out-distances them by far in merit. The entire cast is excellent, the comedy runs merrily along without any errors and has a fine climax. Miss Osterman as a comedienne is unaffected, vivacious and charming; back of it all is a splendid dramatic talent. Seats will be on sale to-morrow.



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APPEAL DISMISSED.
Dixon vs. Garbutt Advanced a Stage at Toronto.
At Osgoode Hall, yesterday, in the action of Dixon v. Garbutt, G. Lynch-Staunton, K.C., and E. F. Lazier for defendant William Garbutt, appeared from the order of Teetzel, J., allowing plaintiff's appeal from the report of a special referee. The plaintiff is the administrator of the estate of Isabella Brown, who died intestate, leaving an estate of the value of \$24,345, or thereabout, and brought the action for an account by defendant of moneys received by him from the intestate prior to her death, and from her estate after her death. The referee found in favor of defendant's claim to a gift of \$1,350.42 from the deceased, but this was reversed by Teetzel, J. Appeal dismissed without costs, and without prejudice to appellant making a claim against the estate for services.

Bell Telephone Co. v. Windsor, etc., Co.—J. R. Marshall (Hamilton) for plaintiffs. Motion to continue injunction enlarged pending negotiations for four weeks. Injunction continued meantime.

SLUMP IN DIAMONDS.
Kimberley, March 17.—Owing to a slump in the Du Toits Pan mine in Cape Colony, which is a part of the De Beers property, with a small output of the choicest diamonds, it has been decided to close down on April 24th, until there is a revival in the demand.

FOUND.
We find it a mistake to hide our light under a bushel. Our union label working shirt we guarantee to be absolutely fast in color. Try us for a working shoe, pant, overall, shirt or apron. We have what the worker wants.—M. Kennedy, 240 James street north.

NO PLOT.
Lisbon, March 17.—The reported discovery of a plot to establish a military dictatorship here is officially denied.

LAXA-FOOD.
Relished by all for breakfast or tea. A large number of Hamilton citizens are getting great benefit from it. Nature produces nearly all the medicine we require when her products are properly used. Leading grocers or A. W. Maguire & Co.

SAVE THE CHILDREN

Insure Them Good Health

Ninety per cent. of children, under twelve years of age, are being poisoned and parents don't realize it. Irregular bowels are the chief cause. You parents know that your bowels should move every day. You know you must be as regular as clock-work, or the blood will become tainted.

Don't you realize that the children must be as orderly in getting rid of the waste matter of their system? Then, if you find that any of your little ones go two or three days without action of the bowels, don't run to doctor or, senna tea, calomel, cascara, or harsh "liver pills." They simply purge the child—strain the bowels.

"Fruit-a-tives" are the ideal medicine for children. They are fruit juices and tonics in the form of a pleasant tasting tablet. "Fruit-a-tives" stimulate the liver, causing more bile to flow. It is the bile, given up by the liver, which moves the bowels. "Fruit-a-tives" regulate the liver and bowels, and thus completely cure constipation. They sweeten the stomach, and are the finest tonic in the world to build up the system and make children plump and rosy. 50c a box—six for \$2.50. Sent on receipt of price, if your dealer does not handle them. "Fruit-a-tives," Limited, Ottawa, Ont.

C. C. C. YOUNG MEN

Had a Good Debate on Municipal Ownership.

Christ's Church Cathedral Young Men's Club held a debate last night that drew a large number of the members. The topic under discussion was "Resolved that Municipal Ownership is a Menace to Public Utility," and after a spirited debate, Dr. Gerald S. Glasco, the only judge, awarded the victory to the affirmative side. Messrs. Collins and Larkin upheld the winning side and put forth their arguments very fully. They mentioned many examples of municipal ownership that were panning out very unsatisfactorily to the public. They had been relinquished in favor of the companies from which they had been obtained. Municipal ownership, they declared, was a bright and shining mark for grafters of all kinds and until it had been tried and shown up in some of the bawby cities, there was going to be trouble.

The negative was upheld by Messrs. Harvey and Brown. Their argument also was very complete. They dealt with the way in which municipalities with no control over the public utilities were called to pay sums of money that would be seen to be ridiculous in the event of public control. There was no chance for grafting, they held, as the whole system in vogue in municipalities was very complete and no lit of nothing went unnoticed out of the coffers of any city well governed.

The judge summed up in a few remarks and awarded the debate to Messrs. Collins and Larkin. Songs were sung at the close of the debate by Messrs. Dickinson and Brown and Messrs. Gouling and Hardley contributed recitations which were very much enjoyed. The president of the club occupied the chair.

TODD'S MONEY.

Judge Does Not Consider Mrs. Jordan's Suit Frivolous.

At Toronto, yesterday, Mr. Justice Riddell enlarged the motion of the Trusts and Guarantee Company to dismiss the action of Mrs. Margaret A. Jordan, which the movers claimed to be frivolous, and urged also that it has not been brought to trial with due energy. The action is for the recovery of \$53,100 from defendants, as administrators of the estate of the late George W. Todd, who died at Hamilton, March, 1903.

The plaintiff claims that prior to his death Mr. Todd made the following note in her favor: "\$53,000, Hamilton, March 21, 1903. Four months after my death I promise to pay to Margaret Jordan, of Brockton, Massachusetts, the sum of fifty-three thousands one hundred dollars, with all interest due up to the time of application for value received."

"7, 5, 15, 18, 7, 5-29-20, 15, 4, 4." Witnesses: Otto Frinck, Israel Cooper.

On the same day Mr. Todd gave instructions to give another note to plaintiff. This new note ran: "A note on demand, Hamilton, Ontario, March 21, 1903. For value received, I promise to pay Margaret Jordan fifty-three thousand one hundred dollars, with interest on demand. \$53,100. 7, 5, 15, 18, 7, 5-29-20, 15, 4, 4."

The second note is said to have been intended as a substitute for the first one. The figures with which the notes are signed represent the number in the alphabet of the letters composing Mr. Todd's name, George W. Todd. Mrs. Jordan died last year on March 10, and her heirs have intimated that they intend to proceed with the action.

His Lordship enlarged the motion to allow Mr. Edward Meek, for plaintiffs, to examine Mr. Warren, general manager of the defendant company, for the purpose of discovery. Mr. Justice Riddell said he did not accept the view that the action was frivolous after reading the material put in.

SEARCH FOR VESSEL.

Liquique, Chile, March 17.—The British cruiser Shearwater has arrived here from Vancouver to search for possible survivors of the missing British barque *Severn*, reported as having been buried at sea last August off the Chilean coast. The cruiser Shearwater was ordered from Esquimaux by the British Government to prosecute the search among the islands of Chile.

JAP PRINCE TOUR.

Honolulu, March 17.—It is reported that the Crown Prince of Japan will make his long contemplated tour of America and Europe this summer. Prof. Beckenlong has been recalled from Germany to accompany the Crown Prince.

J. P. DOWNEY

AT LORETTO.

M. P. P. From Guelph at St. Patrick's Celebration.

Made a Witty and Patriotic Address Last Night.

Bishop Dowling and Other Dignitaries Present.

The celebration at Loretto Academy last evening in honor of Erin's patron saint was of a character calculated to make the hearts of every true son and daughter of the land of shamrock throb with fond emotion or thrill with joy, hearing the traits and character of its people described by a brilliant speaker or listening to the sweet melody of old Ireland's native music.

Everything in connection with the entertainment, from the dainty little hand-painted, souvenir programme, displaying the four-leafed clover and tied with a bow of green ribbon, to the flower-banked platform, resplendent with its Irish decorations, adorned cherished memories of the little isle.

His Lordship Bishop Dowling graced the occasion with his presence. On his right sat Mayor Stewart, and on his left the speaker of the evening, Mr. J. P. Downey, M. P. P. of Guelph. The clergy present included Rev. Dean Mahoney, rector of St. Mary's Cathedral, Rev. Father Coty, of St. Patrick's, and Rev. Father Brady, of St. Lawrence's.

For half an hour Mr. Downey delighted the audience with an eloquent address, bristling with patriotism and brilliant with sparkling wit. He was introduced by Dean Mahoney as a "talented journalist, an able statesman and an eloquent orator, a type of Canadian spirit, who by honesty, ability and industry, rose to a noble position in his country."

Mr. Downey announced that he had no intention of delivering a lecture or making an oration. He proposed making a few remarks about some of the characteristics of the Irishman. After a brief reference to this festive season, when the thoughts of Erin's sons the world over turned to the land of their birth, of their forefathers—dear old Ireland—he dealt with the Irish character, complex, many sided and contradictory, a character that many men of great knowledge and insight had up to the present, been unable to understand. Great men, said Mr. Downey, such as John Wesley, had observed that no place in the world was these such courtesy, such hospitality and such chivalry as that displayed by the people of Ireland. The speaker touched briefly on Ireland's checkered history, of the invasions and strife, "that culminated when Henry II, Roman Catholic ruler of England, set his desecrated foot on her," the misery and tribulations that followed, the ill-fate of the Irish people, by the most brilliant flashes of genius the world had ever known, and by glorious heroic acts of devotion to principle, to nationality and faith such as no nation on God's green earth had ever shown.

Mr. Downey referred to those who pictured the Irishman as simple minded, green and easily imposed upon. The caricatures and comic papers fastened on him every blunder and made him the butt of every ludicrous situation created out of their imaginative brain. Ready wit and fine sense of humor were characteristics of the Irish. The intense patriotism and devotion to country of Ireland's people was another phase touched on by the speaker, who emphasized the many striking incidents in the history of Ireland and the British Empire, showing that Irish patriotism had been tested and not found wanting.

Critics there were who would find fault with such men as Lord Fitzgerald, Robert Emmett, who sacrificed his life on the altar of his country, and others who arose in arms to resist conditions in their native land. It was true that they were rebels. They rebelled against a condition of affairs which any men who appreciated the title of liberty would rebel against. He referred to D'Arcy McGee, who, when taunted in the Canadian House of Commons, declared that he was a rebel, and that he was a rebel against the conditions in Ireland. That was the attitude taken by Ireland's people. It would be well, declared Mr. Downey, to have some of the Irish people in this young Canada of ours, there were more men of this stamp who would rebel against wrong and stand for principle whatever it might be, and step aside from the chase after the almighty dollar, the mercenary motive that was crowding us on and on, and our brothers off the track. Mr. Downey spoke of Protestant noblemen who had fought for Ireland's rights, and no matter what any man's opinion might be about these great defenders of Ireland's cause, he did not think any apology was necessary, for it must be admitted that they were noble characters.

The speaker told of the part Ireland took in the empire's battles down to the South African campaign, when the Irish Fusiliers, with a ringing shout, charged the trenches, and Erin's slain lie side by side with the flower of Britain's troops. "We can say we have done our duty and our whole duty to the British flag," he added.

The Irishman was a deeply religious man, although it was true there were examples of those who did not live up to their faith. The whole history of the race had been one of intense devotion to the faith, regardless of the sacrifice involved. It was something to be grateful for that the sons and daughters of the race had shown such adherence to the faith implanted on its shores by St. Patrick. There was no country that had given so many eminent sons to the church.

The wit of the Irish was proverbial. In literature, poetry and so on he might elaborate, did time permit. In closing, he referred to the changes that had taken place in the old land and the good conditions that existed in Canada. Commenting on this striking contrast with the troubles of times of old, he thanked God for the change that a man regarded his fellowmen as a brother even though they did not worship at the same altar. In Canada they had reason to be grateful for the word of toleration in the sense that it is generally used," he said. "We have reason to feel thankful that in this country the barriers that existed have been broken down."

This was largely due to such men as the immortal D'Arcy McGee, Lord Dufferin and others. Mr. Downey prayed that this little continue and that they might go on adding store after store to the great national edifice they were building, a happy, peaceful, prosperous, man.

The Right House

"HAMILTON'S FAVORITE SHOPPING PLACE"



Exquisite new net blouses

Exclusive styles—Extraordinary values

HUNDREDS and hundreds of fresh, dainty, new net and lace blouses are here—scores and scores of charmingly pretty and distinguished styles, and very many great exceptional values.

Four specially purchased lots go out on sale to-morrow—four of the kind of offerings that have made this blouse store famous. Fascinating, exclusive styles that are at once practical, exquisitely dainty and wonderful values. In order to appreciate the quite extraordinary savings on these blouses it will be necessary to see them and note the becoming styles, the perfect fit, the good making and the fine materials, then you will be as enthusiastic as we are.

How do the savings run? Just read—

\$5 net blouses at \$3.50 **\$6 "Mikado" blouses \$4**

New Fillet Mesh, Coin Spot Nets and Point d'Esprit, beautifully trimmed with insertions, lace edgings and medallions. Many have the new "Mikado" sleeve. Others are in Gibson style. Would be good value here at \$5.00. Opening sale price \$3.50 each.

\$6.50 coin spot fillet blouses \$4.50

Fillet Nets with the new large coin spot designs. The front in surplice style and finished on each side with wide insertion, and down front with bands of silk in V-shape. The new butterfly sleeves are silk and insertion trimmed. They are worth \$6.50 anywhere. Opening price only \$4.50 each.

\$8.50 ecru net blouses at \$6 each

Fillet Nets with Fancy Brussels Nets. Some are trimmed on front and back with heavy Guipure insertion, which extends over shoulder in the new "Mikado" effect, edged with folds of silk. Others are trimmed with insertions, edgings and heavy Guipure medallions; ¾ sleeves. Splendid value at \$8.50; special opening price \$6.00.

This week only, we will make, lay and line all carpets free

ALL this week we will make, lay and line all carpets free of charge. This great offer applies to all our vast new stock of imported carpets, to all the specially priced lots—in a word, to every piece of carpet in the store. Will you share in the splendid saving?

A straight saving of 12c to 14c a yard

HUNDREDS of pieces of new spring carpets are here and in the sale. Scores and scores of new pattern and design ideas. Dozens and dozens of rich colorings, and combinations. Select the new spring carpets now while the showing is freshest—while such good values rule, and while you may save 12c to 14c the yard by having them made, laid and lined free.

The sale is for this week only and includes every design, coloring, make and weave that is good for spring. Wednesday or Thursday will be the best days for selection. Supply every spring carpet need now and profit by this remarkable offering.

Brussels Carpets, 95c, \$1.05, \$1.15, \$1.25, Axminsters, \$1.65, \$1.75, \$1.90, \$2.25, \$1.35 to \$1.50.

Tapestry Carpets, 45c, 58c, 68c, 90c, \$1.10. Wiltons, \$1.75, \$2.25 and up to \$2.35.

\$1.00 hardwearing Brussels carpets 77c

SAVE 23c the yard in addition to getting them made, laid and lined free, a total saving of 35c to 37c the yard. Think of that! It is an opening special of rare merit. If you have a need in carpets, buy them now.

Four handsome patterns in bronze, crimson, fawn and rose shades; borders and stairs to match. These good hardwearing English Carpets will look well on any floor and give every satisfaction. On sale all this week. Regular \$1.00 value. Opening sale price 77c.

THOMAS C. WATKINS

HAMILTON ONTARIO

SOVEREIGN BANK.

Committee to Help Directors in Winding Up.

Toronto, March 17.—At the special general meeting of the shareholders of the Sovereign Bank, at the Temple Building, yesterday, a committee was appointed to consider the reports of the directors and to co-operate with them in their duties. The committee comprises: Mr. A. F. MacLaren, M. P., Stratford; Mr. William Wallace, manager of the Crown Life Insurance Company; and Senator Baird, Perth Centre, N. B.

President Aemilius Jarvis was appointed chairman, Mr. Jemmett was elected secretary, and Messrs. A. C. Macdonnell, M. P., and R. H. Temple, secretaries.

President Jarvis, in opening, said: "In a general way, you all know what has taken place. The directors' report, which will be read to you, explains the situation in detail, but before submitting it I should like to say a few words."

"On the 8th of January last, the general manager, and myself went to New York to discuss the situation with our friends, Messrs. J. P. Morgan & Company. After laying the whole situation before them, it was concluded that the best course was that they should help us in a temporary way to meet our clearings, while we were endeavoring to carry out a plan, which ultimately proved successful, for the liquidation of the

bank with open doors, by the assistance of the Canadian banks."

After a lengthy discussion, Mr. J. G. Martin, of Stouffville, moved for an enquiry into the affairs of the bank by the Dominion Government. This was lost.

It was explained that Mr. D. M. Stewart, the former general manager, had held 347 shares, to purchase which he had created an overdraft on the bank. The directors had 299 shares which Mr. Stewart had bought outright, as security for the amount unpaid, and they also took Mr. Stewart's notes as additional security. The bank still held this stock in trust for Mr. Stewart.

The directors refused to give out details as to loans made, as their publication was contrary to the Banking Act.

NOT THE MAN.

Dead Body Not That of the Earl of Leitrim's Brother.

Kansas City, March 17.—After an interchange of cable despatches between Lord Leitrim in London and Richard Walsh, of Paducah, Texas, the Earl's American representative, it was decided yesterday that the body awaiting identification is not that of the brother of the Earl. The dead man was Herbert Donahoe, of Manchester, Eng., and his identity was established by Donahoe's brother in Manchester, who communicated with Earl Leitrim. The resemblance between Donahoe and the Earl's brother is said to be remarkable.