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MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

To-night, at The Victoria, will be presented one of the most thoroughly enjoyable entertainments of the season in the interpretation of "Innocent as a Lamb" by Roland Reed and his excellent company. Since the death of John T. Raymond Roland Reed has stood at the front of the comedians of the country and has won fame and fortune and the unstinted, unqualified praise and indorsement of the press and public generally. He is no star made by flaming posters and fake advertising, but has won his position by clean, conscientious effort and his wonderful conception of what a genuine comedian should be, never relying on his heels or contortions to produce amusement. He is a comedian of the highest order, one who adorns his profession, and not a professional barnacle who stoops to subterfuge and "horse play" to make his productions please and be successful. One beauty about this excellent artist is that he is not jealous; he seeks to please his audiences without taking all the credit of good acting to himself, therefore wherever Roland Reed is seen a supporting company of great superiority is invariably found. This is the case now. The company is one of marked strength and at its head stands a woman who, as a leading lady, takes no second rank; this is Miss Isadora Rush. Miss Rush is a woman of lovely character both on and off the stage; she is a woman of marvelous beauty, her sweet face and gentle manners the pictures of a perfect heart and soul and the unmistakable signs of pure womanhood. Her art is her love and she has

studied it with marked attention and remarkable success. Her costumes are elited as showing the perfection and delightful taste in which stage gowns can be made. The comedy "Innocent as a Lamb" is Mr. Reed's best production and will doubtless attract a large and fashionable audience here, as it does everywhere.

Mr. H. B. Emery, well and favorably known here as an artist who has never yet failed to keep faith with the public, and whose reputation as a clever actor can not be questioned, will be seen at The Victoria next Tuesday evening, in the great success "The World," with its



marvellous scenic effects and realistic scenes. The play has won fame and fortune for its managers. Much is promised and much can be expected from the production in a scenic way, as all the scenery used in the play is carried by the company, and a managerial guarantee given of every scene being faithfully produced as advertised. The steamer leaving port; the wreck at sea; the wonderful and realistic raft scene and rescue in mid-ocean; the lunatic asylum scene, with its beautiful moonlight panorama; are especially worthy of mention, and alone well worth the price of admission. Messrs. Morris and Emery bring an unusually strong company with them for this engagement, and it is said that the play is a particularly enjoyable one, being full of sparkling situations and strong climaxes, and replete with fun, pretty music, and bright and attractive specialties.

Last evening, in Victoria West Hall, the Victoria West amateurs, produced the three act drama "Comrades," with the following cast: Royal Manning, T. F. Gold; Matt Winsor (a tramp), A. W. Semple; Marcus Graves, E. J. Etherton; Simon Stone (a Jack of all trades), A. E. Cave; May Manning (Roy's wife), Miss C. Ure; Bessie Bradley, Miss S. Green; Nancy Nipper, Miss M. Chapman. A short musical programme preceded the play.

Dumas' famous story, Monte Cristo, was well told in five acts, by James O'Neill and a capable supporting company, at The Victoria, last Thursday evening. This story containing as it does many very powerful and realistic scenes, loses none of its force through dramatisation, in fact in several instances the effect is considerably intensified, especially in those scenes in which Monte Cristo himself is the central figure.

The following are the soloists in the Erl Kings Daughter, to be given by the Choral Society, Wednesday evening, May 9, at the Institute Hall: Miss Heathfield, soprano; Mrs. Rickaby (formerly of Montreal), contralto; J. G. Brown, baritone; F. Victor Austin in violin solos, and Miss Agnes Dawson in piano solos.

The amateur operatic company which recently produced the Mikado at The Victoria, will give a performance at Vancouver on the evening of April 28. The cast will be the same and an equally en-