

MUSIC AND DRAMA.

Gillette's Comedy Hit "All the Comforts of Home."

The "Little Tycoon" to the Front Again—Amusements in the Great American Metropolis—Flashes From the Footlights of Many Theaters.

A. P. Dunlap, writing from New York on the 14th inst., speaks of the amusements of the week as follows:

Four new plays and a shift at many of the playhouses has made the week exceedingly lively, although all combined failed to draw heavy on the amusement-loving public. This may probably be because all the plays were serious in purpose, and had not been "circused," as are the prevailing farce comedies.

An afternoon trial at the Lyceum Theater of "The Old, Old Story," by Walter C. Bellows and Benjamin Rieder, both Americans, was given on Monday. It is another attempt to mingle Wall street speculation with love affairs, but the plot is improbable and the character unnatural.

At Hammerstein's Opera House the first earnest and effective performance of Ibsen's "The Pillars of Society" was given on Monday, although much of the ethical quality of the great Norwegian's composition seems to have proven untranslatable to the stage.

The great master's work, however, was given careful treatment, especially by John B. Studley, Henrietta Vaders and J. H. Ostromeyer, but as the characters represent a people living near the very end of civilization, and a people, too, who are not dead or nearly dead, they are not dead or nearly dead.

"Love and War," an adaptation of M. Chabrol's "Deux Femmes," by C. Haddon Chambers, met its Sedan at the Garden Theater on Monday.

The original work no doubt touched the patriotism of the French in a tender spot, but the clever Englishman has utterly failed to impart its native strength, and "Love and War" has no chance whatever of success.

"Wealth" was on Monday brought out at Palmer's Theater, which has been singularly unlucky this season in spite of E. S. Willard, who has made a success in the central character of the plays produced, which have been financial failures.

He may by his admirable art buoy up in this play also, and draw most of the refund and interest from the "York" players, but it is very doubtful if he can even reach the level of success he did in "The Middleman" or "John Needham's Double."

"Wealth" was written by H. A. Jones, and had its original representation at the Haymarket, in 1889. The pivot of the plot is filial affection contrasted with paternal selfishness, a highly honored theme, not very cleverly worked up.

Mr. Willard, in this play, is too melodramatic, but he demonstrates the fitness of his method of acting surpasses that of any actor England has sent us.

At Daly's, a shift was made from pantomime to farce in the production of "A Night Off" used as a stop-gap until "Love's Labor's Lost" is ready, probably March 21st.

"Milton Nobles" from Sirre to Son" was seen for the first time in New York at Niblo's, and Lawrence Barrett made a shift in playing the Ghost to Mr. Booth's Hamlet.

"Sunlight and Shadow" is still running at the Madison Square, but to very small audiences, and will be replaced on Monday by "Pharisee." "All the Comforts of Home" and "Men and Women" are both adding shekels to Charles Frohman's growing fortune, and the "Nominees" at the Bijou is playing to the capacity of the pretty little house.

"ALL THE COMFORTS OF HOME." To-morrow night at the Metropolitan Theater one of the biggest theatrical gags of the season will be played. It will be the first presentation in Sacramento of William Gillette's much talked of comedy hit, "All the Comforts of Home."

The play has first turned San Francisco topsy-turvy with humorous ecstacy, and scored the biggest light comedy success in the history of the Baldwin Theater. In New York and London it is the "fashion" of the day, and the subject of much critical admiration.

Gillette has proven himself to be one of the cleverest of American dramatists. He has much of the skill of the French in inventing amusing situations and carrying out an absurd plot with facility to life.

In his hands the most preposterous improbabilities become, while the play is progressing, real, and the spectator does not realize until the curtain has fallen that the far-fetched and impossible character of the chain of incidents he had so ingeniously welded together.

"All the Comforts of Home" is of German origin—that is to say, the hint for the piece has been taken from the work of a German dramatist, but treatment, dialogue and incidents are all Gillette's own. The play is the most laughable that has yet come from this clever writer's pen, surpassing in this respect, it is critically conceded, the ever popular "Fashion Secretary."

The chief merit of the comedy is the natural manner in which the situations arise, one out of another. There is nothing in it that savors of the variety hall, and although it is a simon pure farce, some of the scenes, especially those in which Theobald's conduct is concerned, are pure comedy as "The School for Scandal."

Given a young man who, while in charge of his absent and furnished dwelling, turns it into a lodging-house, the whole series of funny incidents revealed in the story become at least possible. Gillette's ingenuity is displayed in the incessant evolution of new complications and surprises. His talent in this respect resembles that of the French master, Labiche.

For the interpretation of the comedy we are to have the original New York Company, which is the special pride of Manager Charles Frohman, and considered one of the best companies ever organized. It includes Henry Miller, Frank E. Lamb, Samuel Edwards, Kate Dennison, Wilson, Mand Haslam, Marie Greenwald, Lulu Klein, T. M. Hunter, Josephine Humphries, J. B. Hollis, Herbert Ayling, Kate Stevens, James Ricardo and B. T. Sherwood. The original scenery, the same that graced the Baldwin Theater engagement, will be brought on for the occasion. Unless the signs fail, tomorrow night and Tuesday night at the Metropolitan Theater will be conspicuously brilliant, prosperous and happy.

"THE LITTLE TYCOON." Willard Spenser's comic opera, "The Little Tycoon," will be revived at the Metropolitan Theater on Friday and Saturday evenings. The opera has been seen here before and rivaled in popularity any operative production of its class. It has been received with extraordinary favor everywhere, especially when presented by the excellent company which will appear here this week.

STAGE NOTES. E. E. Rice left San Francisco for Australia March 20th. Fanny Davenport opens at the Broadway Theater March 20th in "Cleopatra." Helen Westens is dangerously sick at her sister Jennie's house in Harlem. Manager T. A. Meece has been re-engaged by Robert Downing for the next year. Fred. G. Maeder, who has been in invalid for some time, will shortly start on a trip to Europe. Nellie Farrer, Fred. Leslie and the

Gaiety Company leave London for Australia April 24th. The Marquis Giuliano Capranica del Grilla, husband of Adelaide Ristori, died recently in Italy. Henry E. Dixey will play in New York for six weeks, beginning at the Grand Opera House in April. A. P. Dunlap's Stage News is the best and most useful paper that comes to the hand of the dramatic editor.

Sam Harrison is soon to leave for Europe, where he goes to secure the novelties for Russell's "City Directory." Minnie Palmer will shortly return to London, and, under the management of Charles Abud, appear in comic opera.

Marie Carlyle will be the star lead in a new farce-comedy by Eugene Wood, of Chicago, which is to take the road next season. Sadie Martinot has not gone to Europe after all. She only wanted \$800 a week to create a new part in one of the numerous farce-comedies.

Sarah Bernhardt has adopted a young New York girl, whom she will send to Paris to be educated. She is said to be a very distant relative of the great tragedienne.

James C. Duff has won his suit against Lillian Russell, and that volatile young lady will have to pay heavy damages. It is evident that the Judge did not believe that the writing of lights would affect any singer's tonsils.

Manager Mart W. Hanley has engaged Amy Lee to play the part of Eveline Gale, in "Heally and the 400," at Harrigan's Theater. Miss Lee was, up to three years ago, a prominent member of Mr. Harrigan's company.

H. G. Britton Donnelly's farce-comedy "Fashion" will go on the road next season under command of W. A. Thompson. Ben Futhill and Harry Sellers are jointly to work the boom in advance. Bob Fitzsimmons, long champion middleweight of the world, has been engaged, and will make ten complete horsehoes in ten months. What next?

"Glean and Men, or from Mount Olympus to Washington," its original in Washington, D. C., last week. Its original is "Lumpaci Vagabondus," an original in London, and the author, J. H. Pratt, introduced many well-known United States Senators. It failed to catch on in its present shape, and is to be rewritten and sent on the road.

"Thou Shalt Not," which Max Freeman has dramatized for Wm. A. Brady, and which will be brought out at the New York Union Square Theater March 28th, will doubtless be the *ultima Thule* of the suggestive drama of which Mr. Brady has lately become the high priest.

Among other queer things in it is a thing at women's virtue, likely to bring a rebuff to the author and manager, if it does not also bring Anthony Comstock.

Lowdown—"Who is that homely girl over there with Van Broke, De Harpud and Du Lendine around her?" Wazup—"She's the daughter of Mr. Astor, and 800,000,000 of 'em." Lowdown—"Who's that pretty girl, by jove!"—Echoes of the Week.

Railroad Time Table.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY

(PACIFIC SYSTEM) JANUARY 19, 1891.

Trains Leave and are Due to Arrive at Sacramento:

Table with columns: LEAVE, TRAINS RUN DAILY, ARRIVE. Lists various train routes and times for Sacramento.

Richard Gray, Gen. Traffic Manager. T. H. Goodman, General Passenger Agent.

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Good Agricultural Land for \$10 to \$20 per Acre.

The Pacific Improvement Company has recently purchased twelve thousand acres of land in the heart of Tehama County, for the purpose of promoting subdivision and settlement.

This land embraces the best first class Sacramento Valley agricultural land, to land of fair average quality, and is offered at from \$10 to \$20 per acre, in subdivisions of 40, 80, 120, 160 and 200 acres.

The terms upon which these lands are offered are especially attractive. They will be sold in subdivisions, as above indicated, by the payment of interest only for three years, at which time the purchaser can begin the payment of principal by paying the first of five equal annual installments. Thus no part of the principal is to be paid for three years, and then the purchaser is to have five years in which to pay the equal annual installments, with interest at the rate of 7 per cent per annum, making payments extending over a period of eight years.

Intending purchasers are assured that this is an opportunity to purchase land of fair average quality at \$10 per acre, and good agricultural land at \$20 an acre, with other grades of land at prices to correspond between these figures.

The assertion is frequently made that good lands, suitable for general farming and especially adapted for fruit-growing, cannot be had in California for less than from \$60 to \$100 an acre. An examination of the land described in this advertisement will prove to home-seekers that this is an opportunity for the purchase of good agricultural land at \$20 an acre, and for qualities grading down to fair agricultural land at \$10 an acre, on terms of payment which should make the disposition of these lands to actual settlers a result easy of accomplishment.

The primary object of the purchase of this body of land was the breaking up of a large holding for the purpose of promoting its settlement in smaller quantities and its devotion to diligent husbandry.

For further particulars call upon, or address, Land Agent of the C. P. R. R., Fourth and Townsend sts., San Francisco, Cal. 1614-2m.

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The place has been renovated, and the stock is first-class in every particular, and will be sold at cash prices which will defy competition.

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The Capay Valley Land Company is offering the most fertile lands in this beautiful valley upon terms which enable the purchaser to pay for the land out of its own product, viz: Interest only for five years at 7 per cent.

The only condition imposed is, that a reasonable proportion of the land purchased shall be planted to fruit trees or vines. Land may be bought without this condition on payment of 20 per cent. cash and remaining 80 per cent. at the end of five years, with interest annually in advance, at 7 per cent.

The various tracts owned by the Capay Valley Land Company have been subdivided into 10 and 20-acre lots, which are for sale at prices varying from \$50 to \$150 per acre. Similar unimproved land in Vaca Valley has recently been sold at \$100 and \$500 per acre.

These Capay Valley lands are under the most favorable climatic conditions for the prosecution of profitable fruit growing, and the locality has proved itself to be one of the earliest in the State. The grape crop of 1890 from the company's vineyard at Cashmere was picked, dried and shipped to Chicago and Philadelphia before the Fresno County grapes were ripe.

The railroad passes through all of the tracts owned by the Capay Valley Land Company, thus insuring excellent shipping facilities; and land may now be purchased in the immediate proximity of either of the following stations: Capay, Cadenasso, Surrey, Guinda, Sauterne, Cashmere or Rumsey.

At many of these places fine orchards of the choicest and earliest varieties of peaches and apricots may already be seen, and during the coming season considerable additional acreage will be planted out. One of the recent sales made by the company was that of the Tancard Tract, containing 600 acres, to a colony association.

This tract has been subdivided into forty holdings, all of which will be planted to fruit trees this season.

The fine orchards on the Guinda Tract, where 400 acres have been sold, are especially worthy of mention, and it is a significant fact that several of the blocks are owned by successful Vaca Valley fruit-growers, who expect to make their earliest shipments from here.

FOR MAPS AND ALL INFORMATION REGARDING THE CAPAY VALLEY LANDS, APPLY TO OR ADDRESS W. M. MILLS, Fourth and Townsend Streets, SAN FRANCISCO.

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THE NEWS OF THE WORLD IS CONTAINED IN THE WEEKLY UNION.

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THE NEWS OF THE WORLD IS CONTAINED IN THE WEEKLY UNION.