

WHAT IS COMING TO THE BUTTE THEATERS IN THE NEXT WEEK

NANCY SYKES' NEW YORK LETTER

Girl Who Has Good Dope Gives the Theatrical News of the Metropolitan--Mansfield Opens in "Julius Caesar" at the Herald Square--Nat Goodwin and Maxine Elliott in "The Altar of Friendship."

New York, Dec. 8.—This is the liveliest week of the present theatrical season, and a week of hustling for the critics. Monday, at the Herald Square, Richard Mansfield started an engagement with what he calls "a sumptuous production" of "Julius Caesar," in which he takes the part of Brutus, and plays it as no other actor living or dead ever did. As to the sumptuousness of the production that is a matter of opinion, and although the equipment of scenery and costumes is evidently costly, it is no better than has been shown on our stage before. Of Mr. Mansfield's Brutus it is enough to say that it is monotonous and not half so good as was given by the late Edwin Booth. The opening

dramatization by Augustus Pitou and Joseph Arthur of E. P. Roe's novel, has been purchased by Jules Murry, who will produce it next year. The new Circle theater, on upper Broadway, was opened last week. Bijou Fernandez has made good as the leading woman of the company attached to the house. Marie Cahill of the "Sally in Our Alley" company, has left that organization to star in a musical comedy entitled "Nancy Brown," which follows "The Mocking Bird" at the Bijou theater. Rehearsals of "The Girl with the Green Eyes," by Clyde Fitch, are in progress. Clara Bloodgood will be "featured" in the leading female part. Edna Wallace Hop-

LILIAN RAYMOND



As Kate in "A Gambler's Daughter," Which Appears at the Broadway Tomorrow.

per is suffering from pink eye; so says her press agent. The new comic opera, "When Johnny Comes Marching Home," opens at the New York theater, December 15, with George Backus as the leading comedian. Mr. Backus is said to have made the hit of the piece. Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Milton Royle, who are again starring in "Friends," will appear here in the spring in a new play of which Mr. Royle is the author.

A monopoly of the weird Carthaginian woman is now being enjoyed by Blanche Walsh, who for several weeks has been acting the role of Salambo in "The Daughter of Hamlecar" with much success. The author is said to make of Salambo a mystic priestess and an alluringly beautiful woman, who has grown up amid abstinences, fasts and purifications, her soul filled with prayers. Snakes and other dumb creatures are her familiars. Suddenly she is overcome with passion for Matho, a barbarian chief, whom history put to death with cruelty. The closing scene in the play is described as gorgeous and the characters pictures people of many races.

Virginia Harned is in her last week at the Criterion, where the sensuous "Iris" has been drawing overflowing audiences for many weeks. Next Monday Julia Marlowe comes in "The Cavaliers," and it is to be hoped that the fair and talented Julia will make a success of it.

Margaret May made her debut in this city as a star Monday at the new West End theater in "Winchester." Edward McWade's popular war drama. The opening performance was witnessed by an overcrowded audience. The play is in five acts, and tells of the love of a Southern girl for a Northern soldier. It is full of the most exciting scenes and incidents, with no dull moments from the first to the final curtain. As Virginia Randolph Miss May showed dramatic ability of a high order and won enthusiastic approval. Special scenery is used in showing a race for a life, in which Miss May rides her thoroughbred horse, Mazappa. The supporting company includes that fine actor, E. L. Snader.

The grand opera season at the Metropolitan Opera house is again in full swing. In the lobbies on opera night are seen high-bred women, dudes of the smart set, boys with vacant faces, swell gamblers and their "lady friends," women with long dark coats, sporting gowns, wine agents, and a lot of well-dressed loafers whose pedigree is decidedly mixed. This is an exact description of the people who rub elbows with the Astor-Vanderbilts at these high-class entertainments. Within the house the boxes are crowded by an overflowing audience. The play is in five acts, and tells of the love of a Southern girl for a Northern soldier. It is full of the most exciting scenes and incidents, with no dull moments from the first to the final curtain. As Virginia Randolph Miss May showed dramatic ability of a high order and won enthusiastic approval. Special scenery is used in showing a race for a life, in which Miss May rides her thoroughbred horse, Mazappa. The supporting company includes that fine actor, E. L. Snader.

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Leading Man and Stage Director at the Le Petit Theater.

Miss Walsh is well qualified physically for such a role as Salambo. She is a handsome woman, symmetrical in figure, and has a face in keeping with the part. New Yorkers will soon see the beautiful Blanche in this play.

The Manhattan theater is holding large audiences at every performance of "Mary of Magdala," which is one of the most pronounced successes of recent years. From present indications the end of the season will see Mrs. Fiske at this house, for she has made a hit in the trying role of Mary, which she acts with skill. To the admirable work of the star and company are added the wonderful pictures of life in old Jerusalem. The success of this play has started the rumor that Laurence Housman's "Bethlehem" will soon be given a production at one of the local theaters. Aubrey Boucault has again taken up the work of play writing. He is the translator of "Alt Heildeburg," a German play which has been seen at the Irving Place theater. It follows Weedon Grossmith at the Princess. Mr. Boucault will act the leading male part assisted by a good company. College songs and glees are to be a feature of the performance.

Is Clyde Fitch overworking his play factory? This question is being asked frequently of late. He is writing too much, if one may judge of his last two plays, "The Stubbornness of Geraldine," in which Mary Manning is acting at the Garrick theater, is not entirely satisfactory; and now comes the story that his latest effort, "The Bird in the Cage," is even more of a disappointment. It is reported that both of these plays have been resurrected from a lot of old stuff that has been laid away for years in his trunk. Speaking of the piece in which Miss Manning is appearing, it is safe to say that the personal popularity of that actress has saved it from utter condemnation.

They are having a hard time of it at Mrs. Osborne's play house. "Fad and Folly" has not caught on to any great extent and seems doomed to an early death. The piece is called "a musical melange." It is a melange all right, but there is not enough music and too much melange. The eight musical numbers by as many composers will never be heard outside of Mrs. Osborne's theater. Blanche Ring continues to be the star of the company. She is pretty and chic and has won the approval of the public. Harry Conroy is reminiscent of the good old days of Charley Hoyt. He is an excellent comedian and has added materially to the strength of the organization. The costumes used in the piece are pretty and the girls are young, handsome and alluring.

A letter brings the information that Louis James and Frederick Warde, in Wagenhals & Kemper's spectacular production of "The Tempest," are doing a great business in the South. It is said that they are actually turning people away in every city. James and Warde have long been favorites in that section of the country.

Elizabeth Tyree and her company are rehearsing "Gretina Green" at the Madison Square theater.

"Yours merrily," John R. Rogers, has commenced suit against a theatrical firm in this city for false imprisonment. Johnny spent seven days in the insane ward at Bellevue and wants \$200,000 for it.

Shapes are shown off in several stunning gowns worn in "Fad and Folly" at Mrs. Osborne's. The tags are dazzling, eloquent and amorous. They fit like a glove and the lack of covering at the top is put into the trains at the bottom. As an exhibit of feminine charms and clothes it is interesting.

Ralph Stuart begins a starring tour February 15 in San Francisco.

Ben Stern sends word that Richard Golden in "Foxy Quiller" is playing to capacity audiences everywhere.

"SIDE TRACKED." Will Open for Three Nights at the Grand Tomorrow.

Beginning at the matinee tomorrow and for three nights the comedy novelty, "Side Tracked," will hold the boards at the Grand. Jules Walters and his "Side Tracked," seems doomed to go on forever, as this is the eleventh season of this laughing success. In the new edition opportunity has been made for the introduction of specialties and Manager Fulton has secured for the Western country some of the best vaudeville people that Butte will see this season--Kraft and Daly, Clarence Oliver, Musical Kraconst, Madge Daly, Minnie Walters, the toe dancer that cre-

PERT ST. C. FRANK.

MADGE DALY



Eccentric Dancer With "Side Tracked," Which Appears at the Grand Tomorrow

ated such a sensation on the Keith and Orpheum circuits, and others. Madge Daly with her eccentric dances will be a surprise to the lovers of vaudeville. During the visit of "Side Tracked" to the Bijou, Pittsburg; Haydn's, St. Louis; the Bijou, Chicago; Henck's, Cincinnati, it received the most favorable notices. It is not claimed that "Side Tracked" was ever written as a literary gem. It is simply constructed for laughing purposes, and that it has pleased people is shown by the fact that it is now in its eleventh season and has made for its owner more money than any comedy-drama of its kind in America. The regular popular prices of the Grand will prevail during its visit.

"A GAMBLER'S DAUGHTER."

Lilian Hayward Heads a Strong Company Coming to the Grand Tomorrow.

That the public really loves good melodrama, presented by a good company of players and with just enough comedy to enliven it and the proper scenery to make it as near real life as a stage production can be made, is evidenced by the success which has everywhere attended the new and stirring melodrama by Owen Davis, "A Gambler's Daughter." The piece is to be at Sutton's Broadway tomorrow and Monday nights, and in view of the exceedingly favorable comments that have been made upon it as a production of true dramatic merit by critics of Chicago and elsewhere and the large and enthusiastic audiences it has played to, there is every reason to believe it will attract splendid houses here. The original company, scenery and all which made the hit when the play was first presented will be here intact. It is headed by Miss Lilian Hayward, the talented leading woman, than whom no more accomplished and clever actress is on the American stage today. She plays the role of the gambler's daughter referred to in the title of the piece. The supporting cast is of equal merit, including as it does such footlight favorites as Camilla Crater, James Norval, C. W. Goodrich, Walter Stanhope, J. J. Hyland, Allan Foster, F. K. Wallace, Andrew Quirk, Louis Epstein, L. P. North and many others.

The play is immensely exciting and the startling climaxes as the piece progresses are enhanced by the elaborate scenery that is used in reproducing such scenes, for instance, as the Chicago board of trade, the swell Michigan avenue gambling house, or the old warehouse by the river, in which latter place a villainous attempt is made upon the life of the heroine. A special car is required to transport the great amount of scenery necessary. Clever specialties are introduced at various stages of the performance.

LE PETIT THEATER Is Drawing Well and Will Be a Big Hit Very Soon. The second week of the Le Petit stock company will open with tomorrow's matinee, presenting the four-act border drama, entitled "Nugget Nell, or the Pet of Poker Flat," under the direction of Mr. Bert St. C. Frank, and the full strength of the company. The Le Petit Amusement company is filling a long-felt want in opening this theater with a strong entertainment at cheap prices. "Nugget Nell" is full of comedy and strong dramatic situations and will no doubt pack the house at every performance. New specialties will be introduced between acts, making it a continuous entertainment, with no waits.

"ALPHONSE AND GASTON" Are to Open at the Broadway Theater Next Thursday.

"After you, Gaston!" "No, after you, Alphonse!" These expressions have become as common almost as "not on your life," "you can bet your bottom dollar" and other phrases equally slangy. The two foremost originated from the series of "Alphonse and Gaston" illustrations which have appeared for nearly two years in the New York Sunday Journal and which have made Cartoonist F. Opper better known than any of his other creations.

With the permission of W. R. Hearst, proprietor of the New York Journal, the illustrated story of the vicissitudes of Alphonse and Gaston, which have caused them many unhappy moments and the readers of that paper much fun, these two characters are seen on the stage now for the first time.

"Alphonse and Gaston" have not been made the pivotal characters in a farce comedy, but in a musical farce—a good farce, full of wholesome fun, which has much more of a plot than most plays of this kind and with a musical setting in songs and choruses, composed by Ben M. Jerome and Harry von Tilzer, two of the foremost song writers of the present time.

A company numbering forty people, including a chorus of thirty handsome girls who can sing and solo numbers of the principals, both men and women, who will give voice and melody to the thirty-six musical numbers, will make this one of the most to be enjoyed musical comedies that has been introduced to the public this season. It will be at Sutton's Broadway theater Tuesday and Wednesday next that "Alphonse and Gaston" will appear here.

Warde's Company. For the Christmas festival the management of the Grand opera house has secured an exceedingly strong attraction in the Warde company, presenting Mr. Chas. Hermann, supported by a large and talented cast, who will appear in a repertoire of classic plays, embracing "Romeo and Juliet," "Othello," "The Lion's Mouth," etc. These plays will be presented in magni-

cent stage settings. The costumes, scenery and properties have never been excelled by any similar organization.

DISILLUSIONMENT

Concerning One Davy Garrick Has Reached the Stage at Last.

The prevalent epidemic of disillusionment has reached the stage at last. David Garrick is presented by Frances Aymar Matthews in "Pretty Peggy," which is being acted by Grace George, as a man not without good qualities, but penurious, self-satisfied and far from steadfast in his loves. Notwithstanding the fact that it is sad to find Garrick—the Garrick over whom matinee girls have shed oceans of tears—going the way of George Washington and William Tell, Miss Matthews undeniably has the best of authority for her treatment. J. Fitzgerald Molloy, in his biography of "Peg Wadlington," tells many stories which illustrate the mercenary side of the actor's character—one of them sufficiently amusing to be repeated. Steele and Garrick were walking together, says Molloy, when the player lost a shilling. He groveled in the road for the coin until Steele, becoming impatient, asked: "Where can it have gone?" "To the devil, I think," was the gruff reply.

"Ah, Davy, Davy," rejoined Steele, "you always could make a shilling go farther than any other man!"

GREEN ROOM GOSSIP.

Amelia Bingham played her annual engagement at the Alvin theater, Pittsburg, opening December 1, in "A Modern Magdalen." In two weeks she will put into rehearsal Clyde Fitch's "The Frivolous Mrs. Johnson," in which she is to open at the Princess Theater, in Broadway, on February 9.

Kirk La Shelle has reports from his English representative that "Arizona" is playing through the British provinces to business that compares favorably with that achieved there by that other tremendous transplanted success, "The Belle of New York." The tour began the middle of August and will last until the Christmas pantomime season. After that it will resume and continue until June.

Fred Whitney has reports from the Hot Springs of Virginia, where Lulu Glaser is recuperating, that she is progressing steadily toward health, and there is practically no doubt that she will be able to resume her tour in "Dolly Varden" at Buffalo Christmas week.

Dan Daly in "The New Clown" is playing to what the old-fashioned advance agents call banner business in New York state.

Blanche Walsh in "The Daughter of Hamlecar" plays to \$3,000 in three weeks at McVicker's theater in Chicago. Thomas Jefferson in "Big Van Winkle" is making an uncommonly successful tour of the important cities on the Pacific coast. He is popular in that section of the country.

Charles Henry Meltzer, the well-known playwright and critic may next season give a series of readings from Hauptmann, Ibsen and Suderman's plays in the chief cities of the East and Middle West.

Chauncey O'Leary might have made a fortune as a song writer, had he not proved such a delightful comedian and singer that he need not write songs for a living. As it is, his pretty bits of melody set to tenderly sentimental words, earn him a nice income every season.

Advertisement for Mrs. J.M. Powell, Kansas City, Missouri, featuring a portrait and text about Wine of Cardui.

WINE of CARDUI