

ACTORS AND ACTRESSES WHO ARE STARTING THE SEASON.



MINNIE ASHLEY.
As Mme. Sophie in "A Country Girl," at Daly's.

JESSIE MILLWARD.

MINNIE DUPREE.
In "A Rose o' Plymouth Town," at the Manhattan,
September 29.

ANNA CHANCE.
At Keith's this week.

une." Nowhere was there greater enthusiasm in his behalf than at the Collège de Pamiers, and when the members of its faculty decided to give expression to their admiration by offering him a large basket of Ariège haricot beans, they chose young Delcassé to make the presentation of their somewhat original testimonial to the famous statesman.

It was under these odd circumstances that Gambetta and Delcassé met, and the former, finding him intelligent, invited him offhand to dinner. Before the meal was over Delcassé had accepted an offer of his host to join the staff of the "République Française," of which Gambetta was then editor in chief, and shortly afterward recommended him so strongly to the Deputy of his department that the latter insisted on his becoming his private secretary and political agent. In the course of a railroad journey, on which he accompanied his deputy and the latter's wife, some ill bred drummer got into the carriage with them and insisted on smoking a particularly atrocious cigar, in spite of the protests of madame. Without a word, little Delcassé whipped the weed out of the man's mouth and tossed it out of the window, the very boldness of his action startling the fellow into abject submission and silence. Madame was so grateful to the young secretary that when she became a widow, not very long afterward, and she thought of remarrying, it was to M. Delcassé that she gave her hand, her heart and a large fortune.

It is not necessary to follow his subsequent career as Deputy, as Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, as Colonial Minister and as Minister of Foreign Affairs, for these are matters of public record. Those who meet him in private life cannot fail to be struck by his southern temperament, by his lively speech, his devotion to music, his rapid thought and his imagery of expression. But this is only in private life. In his public life he is very different. There he is a most silent and discreet person. Nothing will make him speak if he thinks it politic to hold his tongue—nothing will make him say one word more than he thinks necessary. Although he has a real gift of oratory, he reads almost every one of his utterances in Parliament. They are very concise and characterized by sobriety of expression, every sentence being carefully weighed and corresponding clearly and precisely to his thought. The keynote of his policy he briefly jumbled up on one occasion not long ago in a private conversation, as follows: "When a man directs the foreign affairs of his country he is a Frenchman, nothing more nor less, without even party distinction. He does his best to maintain an imperturbable serenity of mind,

always keeping in view first and foremost the interests of France."

Another strong man, whose appearance is not altogether imposing, and who has had to live down some prejudice, and whose political career has been almost equally remarkable, is Signor Prinetti, the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs, who seems to have created a deep impression at Berlin, where people were at first disposed to treat him with indifference owing to his bourgeois birth, to the fact that he had been a successful business man before he turned his attention to politics, and also because he was believed to be lukewarm in respect to the continuance of Italy as a member of the Triple Alliance. He, too, is short, but instead of being slight is stocky, with a stubby black beard and rather coarse black hair, worn brush fashion. Indeed, he looks so thoroughly the successful merchant or manufacturer that he presented a striking contrast to the tall and aristocratic looking dignitaries of the court of Berlin, and likewise to the stalwart military officers who made up the remainder of the suite of the Italian monarch. Unlike Delcassé, Prinetti is a rather hot tempered man, although he comes from a part of Italy where the people are renowned for their cold and calculating disposition, namely, Lombardy, and only a short time ago, having been asked to retract his picturesque denunciation of a politician who had been guilty of some particularly odious insinuations against the government, he declined to do so, expressed his readiness to back up his words on the so-called field of honor, and in the duel with swords which ensued gave additional force to his remarks by slicing a large piece off one of the ears of his adversary—this in spite of the drastic and stringent laws which exist (but only on paper) in Italy against duelling. Prinetti is the son of a rich Milanese merchant, was educated as a civil engineer, and shortly after coming of age founded the great firm of Stucchi, Prinetti & Co., which, after acquiring a European celebrity as a manufacturer of sewing machines, achieved still greater fame as a manufacturer of bicycles. He is a very independent man, thanks, no doubt, in part to his being so rich, the majority of his ministerial colleagues, and likewise by far the greater number of the members of the Chamber of Deputies, being men of limited means, to whom their pay either as officeholders or as legislators is a matter of vital consideration.

Thus he does not make any attempt to conceal his warm friendship for the Cardinal Archbishop of Milan, with whom he maintains pleasant social relations, and while Minister of Public Works he put a sudden end to the innumerable claims for damages put forward by contractors of rail-

roads and of public works of one kind and another by establishing a hard and fast rule that no contractor should be allowed to tender for any kind of government work who had any pending claim against the State either in the courts or otherwise. The wisdom of this somewhat arbitrary decree, which only a strong man would have dared to issue, was speedily demonstrated by the fact that hundreds of claims were hurriedly withdrawn, this going to show that they were based not on any valid grounds but on the hope that by means of bribery or influence they might be used to get the treasury to consent to the payment of a sum by way of compromise. Like the sensible man that he is, he makes no pretence whatsoever to belong to the patriciate, and has a very charming wife, who was a childhood friend of Countess Bülow, the Italian born wife of the German Chancellor, and who has remained on terms of the closest intimacy with her ever since. The relations between these two clever women are not without exercising a certain amount of influence upon the political intercourse of their respective husbands, who have known one another for more than twenty years past.

Spain's Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Duke of Almodovar, is a gorgeous individual, who when at school in England was known by the nickname of "Golden Sherry," owing to the fact that his father was one of the wealthiest owners of the sherry producing vineyards in Andalusia. He in those days bore the name of Sanchez Romall, which was likewise that of his father. His title of Duke of Almodovar and his grandeeship came to him later through his marriage with the only daughter and heiress of the late Duke of Almodovar del Rio, of the illustrious house of Fernandez de Cordova, who played so prominent a part in the events of 1868 that culminated in the overthrow and exile of Queen Isabella. The Duke is about forty-eight years of age, very genial, sunny tempered and good looking, accustomed to make the best of everything and to look at life from its rosier side. His boy is one of the intimate friends, former playmates and present cronies of the young King and, from an American point of view, the foreign relations of Spain could not be in better hands, since the Duke has a predilection for the English speaking races, is in sympathy with English and American ideas of sport, retains a pronounced taste for football, for polo and for hunting, and conveys far more the idea of being a whole souled, jolly Englishman than a grave Spanish hidalgo.

Lord Lansdowne, the British Foreign Minister, as well as his marchioness, are portrayed by Lord Beaconsfield in his novel "Lothair," and they were married in Westminster Abbey on the

same day and at the same hour as Lady Lansdowne's sister Alberta and Lord Blandford, who died as Duke of Marlborough. Of the two bridegrooms who stood before the altar Lord Blandford was accounted far and away the more brilliant, and the highest destinies were predicted for him, whereas few dreamed that there was any future in store for Lord Lansdowne, who, with his peculiar looking hair of a scrubbing brush type, appeared to be the personification of titled mediocrity. Yet Lord Blandford failed to realize any of the expectations entertained concerning him and died, in spite of his dual title of Marlborough, without ever having accomplished anything and shunned by the greater part of his fellow countrymen, whereas Lord Lansdowne has been promoted to the highest offices of state, having held in turn the Governor Generalship of Canada, the Viceroyalty of India and the Secretaryship of State for War, is now a Knight of the Garter and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the British Empire.

The scrubbing brush hair has long since given way to baldness, which the Marquis doubtless inherited from his French maternal grandfather, the Comte de Flahault. The latter was distinguished even in his younger days for his lack of hair, and it is on record that when once in the course of a conversation with the great Talleyrand he expressed a desire to present something really valuable, by reason of its rarity, to a lady as a mark of his respect and esteem, Talleyrand remarked: "Present her with a lock of your hair." Lord Lansdowne knows this country well, having visited it on several occasions during his sojourn at Ottawa as Governor General of Canada, and he is keenly alive to the advantages to be derived by England from the maintenance of friendly relations with the United States. I may add that he is a most perfect French scholar and a particular favorite of Empress Eugenie, who was wont to regard his mother, the late Marchioness of Lansdowne, not only as a dear friend, but also, by reason of the Flahault blood in her veins, as a near relative of Napoleon III. EX-ATTACHE.

NOTES OF THE STAGE.

Daly's opens on September 22 with the light opera "The Country Girl," by J. T. Tanner, music by Lionel Monckton. The leading parts will be played by William Norris and Miss Minnie Ashley.

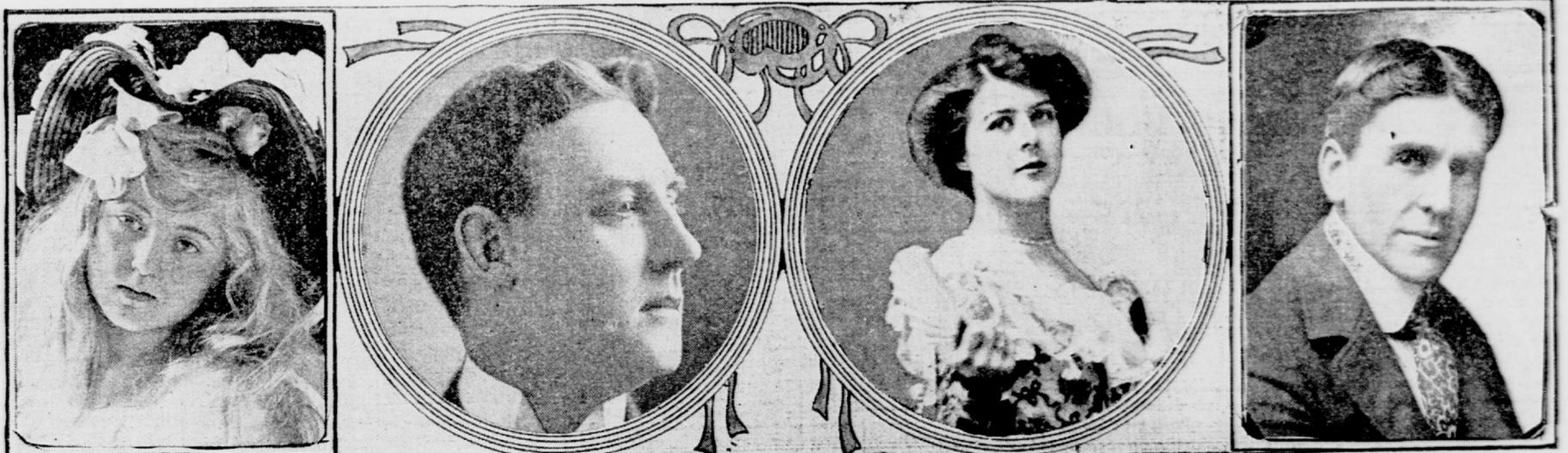
Miss Anna Chance will be one of the features on the Keith bill this week.

At the Garrick "There's Many a Slip" has brought out some good acting; from Miss Jessie Millward, as was expected, and from Miss Beatrice Irwin, a charming young actress from England.

On September 29 Miss Minnie Dupree will appear as a star in "A Rose o' Old Plymouth Town," by Beulah Marie Dix and Evelyn Greenleaf Sutherland. Miss Dupree's personality is favorably known to New-York audiences.

Effie Field, a little miss of seven years, is the latest addition to the Children's Theatre Company. She will be cast in plays from Dickens.

Robert Drouet, recently leading man for Julia Marlowe, is putting the last touches to his latest play, "The Captain's Interference," which will be produced in the spring.



EFFIE FIELD.
At the Children's Theatre.
(Photograph by Rockwood.)

ROBERT DROUET.
Actor and playwright

BEATRICE IRWIN.

WILLIAM NORRIS.
Principal comedian in "A Country Girl,"
at Daly's.