

THE DRAMA.

A NEW PLAY AT THE LYRIC.

"The Secret Orchard."

In the discussion of a new play the duty of a reviewer to his readers can, usually, be fulfilled by the following questions: First, What does it contain? Secondly, What does it mean? The new play called "The Secret Orchard," made by Channing Pollock, on the basis of a novel, bearing that title, by Agnes and Egebert Castle, contains a story of a man and a woman, a husband and wife who have been to his marriage vow, and whose agony of repentance impels him to use every means to keep his secret from his wife's knowledge.

With an opera that afforded ample scope for interpolation and byplay, and its principal part, Gaspard, taken by an actor who won fame in it years ago, it was only to be expected that the Opera Company would make a success of "The Chimes of Normandy" at the Lincoln Square Theatre.

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"St. Paul" Sung at Albany Cathedral.

St. Paul's performance of "The Chorus Lady" occurred last night at the Hudson Theatre, where Miss Stahl is in the last week of a prosperous return engagement in this city.

"Chorus Lady's" Souvenir Night.

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Miss Macdonald to Be Miss Hook.

Miss Christie Macdonald, who will be recalled as the leading female performer in the "Billie of Mayfair," has been engaged by Charles Frohman for the part of Miss Hook in his next musical offering, "Miss Hook of Holland."

Ludlowe as Richard III.

Montreal, Dec. 16.—Henry Ludlowe made his first appearance here to-night at His Majesty's Theatre as Richard, in "Richard III." The play was produced with great attention to every detail, and Mr. Ludlowe's performance was kindly received.

FOR HOSPITAL REFORM.

CITY PLANTS CONDEMNED.

Charity Organization Society Makes Sweeping Criticism.

The Charity Organization Society condemned the present medical administration of the municipal hospitals, with the exception of Bellevue, in an unqualified manner yesterday, in recommendations to the commission appointed by the Mayor to submit plans for the reorganization of the hospital system.

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Boosters See Lew Fields.

A group of men gathered together under the banner of the "Boost Club," witnessed last night's performance of "The Girl Behind the Counter" and said kind things of Lew Fields and Edna.

Save City Parkways.

Don't put chains on your automobile wheels if your journey takes you through any of the macadam or gravel roadways in the city's park system.

No Automobile Chains on Tires Permitted While on Gravel Roads.

Don't put chains on your automobile wheels if your journey takes you through any of the macadam or gravel roadways in the city's park system.

What is Going on To-day.

Sale and exhibition of the work of the Greenwich Handicraft School, home of Mrs. E. H. Harriman, No. 874 Fifth avenue, 11 a. m. to 5 p. m.

THE ST. GAUDENS COINS.

V. D. Brenner, Medallist, Says Valuable Precedent Is Set by Them.

To the Editor of The Tribune: Sir: Much has been said for and against the new \$10 and \$20 gold pieces designed by our late master, Augustus St. Gaudens. As a medallist, and having had experience in producing coins, I beg the privilege of space in your esteemed paper to state some facts on the subject.

The commission met in the United Charities Building, 4 Clinton L. Bagg presiding. The recommendations of a special committee of the Charity Organization Society, consisting of Dr. Edward T. Devine, Dr. C. C. Janeway, Dr. S. P. Hallcock and Dr. J. H. W. C. G. Gaudens, were read by Dr. Devine and Dr. Janeway.

Objectionable Light Rays.

To the Editor of The Tribune: Sir: Your article on the nuisance of signs and billboards is timely. Will you allow one who objects to them to say that he has no objection to them as long as they do not cast objectionable light rays into the highway or on private property?

Will of Miss Zela Gibbs.

St. Luke's Hospital Chief Beneficiary, Receiving \$100,000 and Residue of Estate. (By Telegram to The Tribune.) Newport, R. I., Dec. 15.—According to an unpublished copy of the will of Miss Zela Gibbs filed here to-day, St. Luke's Hospital, New York, is the chief beneficiary, receiving \$100,000 and all the residue of the estate after the other bequests are paid.

Obituary.

Joseph T. Owings, vice-president of John N. Stearn & Co., silk importers, at No. 63 Greeno street, died yesterday afternoon of a brief illness at his home, in East New York, Conn. Besides his wife, he left two children, a son and a daughter.

Obituary.

Mrs. Elizabeth Angel West Gould, wife of Frederick L. Gould, of Cambridge, Mass., and a descendant of Admiral Hopkins, of Revolutionary days, died suddenly yesterday from appendicitis while staying at the Hotel Hopkins homestead in Providence, R. I.

The Weather Report.

Official Record and Forecast.—Washington, Dec. 16.—There has been light snow in the middle and south Rocky Mountain region, and the southern plateau; elsewhere the weather has been fair with slight temperature changes.

Local Official Record.

The Weather Bureau shows the changes in the temperature for the last twenty-four hours, in comparison with the corresponding 1907, 1906, 1905, 1904, 1903, 1902, 1901, 1900, 1899, 1898, 1897, 1896, 1895, 1894, 1893, 1892, 1891, 1890, 1889, 1888, 1887, 1886, 1885, 1884, 1883, 1882, 1881, 1880, 1879, 1878, 1877, 1876, 1875, 1874, 1873, 1872, 1871, 1870, 1869, 1868, 1867, 1866, 1865, 1864, 1863, 1862, 1861, 1860, 1859, 1858, 1857, 1856, 1855, 1854, 1853, 1852, 1851, 1850, 1849, 1848, 1847, 1846, 1845, 1844, 1843, 1842, 1841, 1840, 1839, 1838, 1837, 1836, 1835, 1834, 1833, 1832, 1831, 1830, 1829, 1828, 1827, 1826, 1825, 1824, 1823, 1822, 1821, 1820, 1819, 1818, 1817, 1816, 1815, 1814, 1813, 1812, 1811, 1810, 1809, 1808, 1807, 1806, 1805, 1804, 1803, 1802, 1801, 1800, 1799, 1798, 1797, 1796, 1795, 1794, 1793, 1792, 1791, 1790, 1789, 1788, 1787, 1786, 1785, 1784, 1783, 1782, 1781, 1780, 1779, 1778, 1777, 1776, 1775, 1774, 1773, 1772, 1771, 1770, 1769, 1768, 1767, 1766, 1765, 1764, 1763, 1762, 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