

The Theater



A new comic opera, built on the good old lines of twenty years ago, was presented in public for the first time at the National Theater last night by Jefferson De Angelis and his company, and met with a very cordial reception from an audience that comfortably filled the house.

"The Girl and the Governor," it is called by the author of the book, Mr. S. M. Brenner, of Baltimore, whose name is new in the short list of American librettists. Julian Edwards, already well known as a composer, wrote the tuneful and pretty score, which is especially rich in good choruses and will have most to do with the success of the opera than repeated performances have given the members of the cast the confidence in themselves essential to attack their numbers with breezy vim.

For a first night, the performance went with remarkable smoothness. There was no noticeable hitch from start to finish, the scene in the cave of the Ku Klux Klan being especially striking in effect.

"MRS. TEMPLE'S TELEGRAM."
Returns to the Belasco Theater with a New Cast.
"Mrs. Temple's Telegram," presented here a year ago, began a return engagement at the Belasco Theater last evening with a cast which included only two of the players seen in the former production. At that time the farce, by Frank Wyatt, proved a genuine surprise, due as much to the excellent acting of the company as to the unexpected merits of the play itself.

The author understands the essentials of good farce. He not only caricatures the circumstances of every-day life in a way to leave the impression of a cumulative series of humorous surprises, and also of the seriousness underlying the humor, but there is a refinement of form in his work which is rare and satisfying.

The plot, though without claims to originality, deals with a theme full of fruitful possibilities. A husband, compelled to hide because the truth of his crime is unbelievable; his wife, both suspicious and trusting; and the accommodating friend, unscrupulous where the truth is concerned, are principals in a tangled web of the comic role of Mrs. Temple.

Sadie Martinot is an actress of experience and temperament, and it is not surprising that her portrayal of Mrs. Temple makes the character the most lifelike and interesting in the play. Miss Martinot's performance is one of the praiseworthy achievements of her varied career. Carey Hastings repeated her success of last season in the character of Mrs. Brown. Samuel T. Klawans, who is well known in Washington, and Viola Adams made a capable pair of young lovers. Allen Murphree works under the disadvantage of a comparison with the most lifelike and successful, but he caught the spirit of the farce and gave an interesting performance.

Varied Entertainment at Chase's.
A vaudeville bill appealing to a variety of tastes is presented at Chase's this week in the Orpheum show. The afternoon performance yesterday was slightly delayed because of a Sunday night concert given in New York by the company, but the audience was well repaid for its patience. An old favorite, Walter C. Kelly, makes the trip in her automobile. The Virginia singing tandem is completed and in use, and the movement of all trains through it to Sixth street southwest is over the completed section of the Virginia avenue viaduct, the north part of which is completed from South Capitol street to E and a-half street.

Washington College of Music.
Among the attractive musical events for the coming season is the series of concerts given by the Washington College of Music, under the personal direction of Sydney Lloyd Wrightson. The college is offering this year of series of fourteen afternoon concerts, to be given at the Columbia and National theaters on the following dates: October 19, October 26, November 2, November 9, November 16, November 23, January 1, January 8, January 15, March 1, and March 8, with the following well-known artists: S. M. Fabian, Clara Drew, Sydney Lloyd Wrightson, Mme. Nordica, Schumann-Heink, Orchestra Club, Harold Eisenberg, Felix Garzista, Gertrude Peppercorn, Edgar Priest, Dramatic Club, Rosenthal, piano recital, and vocal recital.

"THE CLANSMAN" AT COLUMBIA
Large Audience Witnesses Second Appearance of Rev. Dixon's Play.
"The Clansman," the much talked-of play which the Rev. Thomas Dixon, Jr., constructed from his two novels, "The Leopard's Spots" and "The Clansman," was again revealed to local theater-goers at the Columbia last night. In view of the vast amount of criticism—mostly adverse—which has been provoked by this dramatic effort, there seems to be little left to say, except to note the fact that there is apparently no appreciable decrease in the curiosity of the public in this direction.

"The Clansman" is interesting because it is a picture—more or less historically correct—of conditions which existed during a trying and regrettable period. It does not belong to the present. A necessary or wholesome addition to the contemporary drama it cannot be considered. If the author's intention was purely sensational, he has succeeded; certainly it is not probable that he expected to teach the present generation by placing before it past scenes of violence and deeds of perverted zeal. Nevertheless, in its more spectacular episodes and sentimental phases, the play last night was generously applauded, so it would appear that there are many persons who do not find objection to the stirring up of unpleasant and long-buried memories. The humor of the piece, as brought out by the negro characterizations was spontaneous and decidedly refreshing, and furnished a most welcome contrast to the tragic elements.

The cast, a large one, was for the most part more than usually capable, especially Phillips, Alsace and Lorraine, the Carroll-Eller company, the McCall Trio, and the Four Nelson Comiques.

cially so far as the feminine members were concerned. Alleen Godwin, as the heroine, Elsie Stoneman, gave a winsome interpretation of a somewhat trying part. Her youth and naivete were particularly fitting to the character. Violet Morayreau as Flora, a child of thirteen, won a round of applause for a finished bit of emotional work. Mrs. Craig as Eve, the old-fashioned negro mammy, carried off her comedy scenes in a commendable manner.

The Ben Cameron of Maurice Freeman was a capable effort. A slight inclination to extravagance of speech, and gesture is attributable, no doubt, to the high key in which the entire drama is pitched, and Mr. Freeman, who is physically equipped for a heroic part, conducted himself satisfactorily. Albert Lovorn, as Gus, the negro, who confesses his crime, under the spell of hypnotism; Wallace Owen as Nelse, and Lawrence Eddinger as Dr. Richard Cameron, were among the most notable of the supporting company. Murray Woods, as the Governor, and James J. Ryan, as Silas Lynch, the negro Lieutenant-Governor, while greeted for the most part by groans and hisses from the audience, deserve credit for their faithful and natural portrayal of thankless roles.

The scenery and appointments of the present production of "The Clansman" were provided by a lavish hand, the scene in the cave of the Ku Klux Klan being especially striking in effect.

ABOUT STAGE FOLKS.
Richard Golden is playing an engagement he hopes will be very brief with intermittent fever. He is doing it so far concurrently with his engagement as chief comedian of "The Tourists," at the New York Majestic.

Adele Ritchie, playing the New England cities this week in "The Social Whirl," will make the trip in her automobile.

Miss Cleo Graves has completed in London the new play she was commissioned some months ago to write for Eleanor Robson.

London cables say that Phyllis Dare, Edina May's successor at the Vaudeville there, made a big hit on her first appearance Saturday night. But Ethel Newman, who was Edina May's understudy, has got out an injunction against the Vaudeville management, requiring them to show cause why she should not be allowed to play Miss May's part, as per her contract.

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"A Rocky Road to Dublin."
The sterling Irish comedian, Mr. Barney Gilmore, assisted by a uniformly clever company, entertained a representative audience at the Academy last night.

"The Rocky Road to Dublin" is a comedy, sparkling with wit, intermingled with touches of pathos, just enough to form an interesting theme for the story. Mr. Gilmore's quiet humor, and the easy manner in which he handled his serious lines, won him the warm good will of his audience. The ballads he sang during the evening were received with marked appreciation, and, at the end, each one was taken up by a little girl, with a marvelous voice—Miss Frances Little—who added materially to the evening's amusement. Quite a treat, as well as a novelty, was the dancing of an old Irish reel to the music of a genuine bagpipe in the second act. The play affords several good characterizations, the principal one being made by Arthur E. Sprague, who will be remembered as the Colonel in "Old Kentucky." He was most effective as the future Mayor of Walla Walla, playing hand-in-hand with Miss E. Maynard, who portrayed an American widow. Hugh Cameron, Will Long, John Griffin, and Miss Eva Myri Lewis created favorable impressions in their respective roles. The performance is above the ordinary Academy attraction, and will doubtless meet the approval of the public, as a relief from the usual thrills of the melodramatic offerings.

Burlesquers at the Lyceum.
"The Fay Foster Burlesquers," a clever company of variety artists, hold the boards at the New Lyceum this week.

"In Merry Old England" and "Kelly's Hotel" proved suitable vehicles to exploit the charms of a score of beautifully gowned chorus girls. Sandwiched between the two farces was an olio offering of more than ordinary merit, and included

Leon Cavallo coming. Famous Italian Composer Will Be Seen in Washington. Mr. S. Kronberg and John Cort, who were associated last year as managers of Mme. Calve's concert tour, have contracted to take Leon Cavallo, the famous Italian composer, on an eight weeks' tour in the United States this winter. Leon Cavallo, who is best known here by his "Pagliacci," has never visited this country. With Leon Cavallo will come ten singers and the sixty-five players in the orchestra of La Scala, Milan. Leon Cavallo will conduct his own works. "Pagliacci," "Zaza," "Roland von Berlin," &c., will be the program in each of the cities visited. The first American performance will be in the Carnegie Music Hall, New York, October 5. Leon Cavallo will conduct his own works. Only one performance will be given in this city, on November 29, at which time the entire La Scala Orchestra from Milan, with sixty-five players, will give a concert in the National Theater, Leon Cavallo conducting. On this occasion the Choral Society will sing one of the large choruses from "Pagliacci," and are rehearsing the work now. Mr. Wrightson, conductor, on that afternoon will hand his baton over to Leon Cavallo.

This will be one of the greatest musical events of the season, and is another of the many musical attractions being brought to the city by Sydney Lloyd Wrightson. Subscriptions for seats can be had now with T. Arthur Smith, in Sanders & Stayman's, 127 F street northwest.

Upton Sinclair as an Actor.
Upton Sinclair, author of "The Jungle," has decided to take an acting part in the dramatization of the story which he made in collaboration with Margaret Mayo, and which will be produced by George H. Brennan on November 5, at Trenton, N. J. While getting the materials for his novel Mr. Sinclair lived for nearly two months with the Lithuanians in Chicago's Packingtown, and made a close study of their racial characters and customs. With a view to realizing these upon the stage as he knows them in actual life, Mr. Sinclair has decided to abandon literature for the present and devote himself entirely to the production of the play. Accordingly, he will not only accompany "The Jungle" on its initial tour, but will himself play the part of a young Lithuanian workman whom he sketched from life, and believes himself able to realize to the life. While this is Mr. Sinclair's first appearance upon the professional stage, as a student at Columbia University he was prominent in college dramatics.

INTO NEW UNION STATION.
Engineer Hunt's Report Shows that It May Be Occupied in June, 1907.
In the report of Engineer of Highways C. B. Hunt, submitted to the District Commissioners for the fiscal year, it is said that it is expected that the Sixth street station of the Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington Railroad will be abandoned in June, 1907, and use made of the new Union Station, if street car facilities have been provided by that time.

The Virginia avenue tunnel is completed and in use, and the movement of all trains through it to Sixth street southwest is over the completed section of the Virginia avenue viaduct, the north part of which is completed from South Capitol street to E and a-half street. To date about 75 per cent of the total work on the area, including the station, terminals, and yards north of Florida avenue, has been completed.

MAY BE RESTORED TO ENTRY.
If Lands Are Not Underlaid with Coal Order Will Be Recalled.
Secretary Hitchcock, of the Interior Department, had a conference yesterday afternoon with the President in regard to the withdrawal of lands in the West, supposed to be underlaid with coal.

The President will issue a proclamation, drafted from memoranda left by the Secretary, in a few days. Secretary Hitchcock said after the conference that if, after the withdrawal, the investigations by the Geological Survey show that the lands are not underlaid with coal, they will be restored to public entry.

WILL INVESTIGATE CHARGES.
Death of Engineer Murphy Last September Will Result in Trial.
As the result of the charges made by members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers against Captain W. H. Matthews, Lieut. J. E. Mulhall, and other officers under their command respecting their conduct on the occasion of the overturning of a locomotive engine at Sixth street and Maryland avenue, September 11, which resulted in the death of Engineer Hugh S. Murphy, Commissioner West has recommended that Charles Blendheim, attorney for the Brotherhood of Engineers, be notified to submit to Maj. Sylvester formal charges against the officers concerned, together with the names of witnesses, and that the accused officers be placed on trial before the trial board.

It is alleged that the officers named failed not only to do their duty, but actually hindered in the work of rescue.

The matter was recently brought to the attention of the Commissioners, a report of the hearing being submitted to Major Sylvester, who will summon the necessary witnesses.

AGNES FRENCH IS DEAD.
Woman Who Robbed Postmaster General Payne Dies in Prison.
Word was received at police headquarters yesterday from the Moundsville (W. Va.) prison, telling of the death of Agnes French, who was sent there two years ago for perpetrating a big jewel robbery on the family of the late Postmaster General Henry C. Payne. The case aroused a large amount of interest at the time, owing to the prominence of the people and the clever detective work of Lieut. Charles T. Peck, who apprehended the woman and brought her back from Brooklyn, N. Y., for trial.

Agnes French, thirty-eight years old, was nursing Mrs. Payne and had been employed about three months. One day she disappeared with \$1,800 worth of jewelry and \$100 in cash. Maj. Sylvester put his men to work and the woman was traced to New York city.

Lieut. Peck, who was then a detective sergeant, picked the woman out of the crowd on Fulton street from description and passing himself off as a real estate agent effected her arrest on February 22, 1894, and secured a confession. She pleaded guilty and was sentenced to six years.

At the time of her arrest the woman had the jewelry concealed on her person, and all of it was returned.

LABORER IS ASPHYXIATED.
Charles Hay Found Dead on Bed With Gas Turned On.
Charles Hay, laborer, 6 years old, was found dead in the third story back room of his boarding house at 57 Fourteenth street, S. E., at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The gas was turned on full force and both windows and doors were locked and packed with paper to prevent the escape of gas.

Coroner Nevitt after viewing the body gave a verdict of death by inhaling illuminating gas. Nothing is known of his family and nothing of importance was found on his body. He was a very peaceful and reticent man and the motive for his rash act could not be determined.

MAY DISAGREE ON STATUE
Marble Likeness of Confederate Officer Placed in Capitol.
First to Be Honored, and It Is Thought G. A. R. May Take It Up Through Congressmen.

The marble statue of the late J. L. M. Curry, which has just been placed in Statuary Hall at the Capitol, the tribute of the State of Alabama to one of its distinguished sons, may be the subject of a lively debate in Congress this winter.

Curry is the first Confederate soldier to have his statue placed in the reservation set aside to the several States. Dante Sordani, of Florence, Italy, was given the contract for the work, and last week delivered the statue at the Capitol. It is one of the most imposing and expensive pieces of work in the group.

Is Given Prominent Place.
The Capitol authorities have given it a prominent place in the Statuary Hall, and all that remains is the official acceptance of Congress. This is accomplished by joint resolution, a member from Alabama offering it.

It is now claimed that there is a probability of a number of Grand Army posts throughout the country protesting against the acceptance of the statue. Curry having served throughout the civil war with the Confederate army, and attaining the rank of lieutenant colonel. There is no reference on the work to Curry's civil war record. The only words which appear on the base of the statue being "Statesman, Educator, Patriot, Orator."

Statue Has Crossed Trousters.
Curry is sculptured in conventional Prince Albert attire, the modernism of the work being further indicated by crossed trousers, a new departure in Statuary Hall art.

Curry served in the Thirty-fifth and Thirty-sixth Congresses, but is best known through his philanthropic and educational work, especially in connection with the Peabody Fund, on account of which he had frequent occasion to visit this city until his death, three years ago.

Never Too Late to—
Father—Let me see, John, how old are you now?
Son—Just thirty.
Father—Don't you think it about time you took your medical degree and started to work?
Son—Oh, no, father; people have so little confidence in young doctors!

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MACHINISTS WALK OUT
Six Hundred Southern Railway Employees on a Strike.

Break Is Caused by Refusal of Company to Grant Increase of 2 1-2 Cents an Hour.

At 11 o'clock yesterday morning the 624 union machinists employed by the Southern Railway Company laid down their tools and walked out in a strike. The order for the strike was issued in the morning by the officers of the International Association of Machinists.

The cause of the strike is due to the rejection of their new wage scale, which called for an increase of 2 1/2 cents an hour, a total increase in their day's wages of 25 cents. They had also demanded a work-day of nine hours.

Their demands were presented to the Southern officials the latter part of the summer by a committee, representing the machinists employed by the railway. This committee was here more than a month, and during that time many conferences were held with the officials of the Southern.

The request by the men for an increase was met by a counter proposition from the Southern, which was submitted to the committee, which turned it down.

The men referred their grievances to the executive committee of the International Association for investigation. The committee sought without avail to open the case, with the hope of an amicable adjustment, but to no purpose, and last week the negotiations ended as far as the executive committee was concerned.

Officials of the international association stated yesterday that a week's time was given the Southern Railway officials to make a move that would indicate to the men that a compromise might be effected, but the men were disappointed. It was on account of this that the International Association decided to act, and yesterday morning the order for the strike was issued. While there are but 624 union machinists involved, it is said that the number of mechanics who will walk out will reach nearly a thousand.

P. J. Conlon, first vice president of the International Association of Machinists, stated last night at his home, 410 K street northeast, that the men could not possibly be blamed for the strike, as they had done everything in their power to avert it, and would have been willing to have the matter submitted to the Interstate Commerce Commission for arbitration.

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