

THEATER

"BEN-HUR" and "The Passing Show of 1912," the two conspicuous theatrical attractions of the past week, are apt illustrations of the extremes of entertainment for theatergoers. The one represents the inspiration of high ideals and reverent reverence, the other the current fancy as interpreted by the metropolitan box office. In the absence of specific particulars from the respective ledgers it is difficult to compile the popular verdict of preference; but that there should be any doubt upon the subject furnishes food for study. Purveyors of the doubtful shield their productions behind "the popular demand." Yet the popular demand for genuine and serious merit is undoubtedly great.

And while "The Passing Show" is in mind, let it not be forgotten that very large audiences applauded immoderately large numbers of the individual, if brought to bay, might feel called upon to resent. The types of the review were made to say the performance taxed "the properties." But there are some, doubtless, who believe that the proprieties were also a bit forewent, even though there was much genuine and enjoyable entertainment in the performance.

The song of the stock company is loud in the land and the summer program already is usurping the interest in productions that have cost much in time, labor and money to produce, to say nothing of the efficiency of their presentation. "The Girl With the Green Eyes" pleased the audience and "Mandarin Walk" found new friends and admirers. This week the Academy enters the lists with a stock company to cater to those who love the drama of thrills and suspense. Washington managers are not slow to catch the popular desire and cordially cater to it.

WARFIELD PITIES SHYLOCK—When David Warfield was touring California in "The Return of Peter Grimm" he was requested by the faculty of the University of California, located in Berkeley, across the bay from San Francisco, to present his first impersonation of Shylock at the famous open-air Greek theater of the university.

Should he do so, he will realize an ambition that has been in mind for a number of years. In speaking of Shylock, Mr. Warfield said recently: "I want to play Shylock. I intend to play Shylock. I have read the play for years. I have dreamed about it. I have formulated in my mind a conception of the part of Shylock. He was, first of all, a human being, and as such he should be played. In time I think he became deranged. His determination to have his pound of flesh was the obsession of insanity. You can conceive of a normal man stabbing a man in a rage, a sudden threat of death, a sudden desire to kill his enemy, but a lust for a piece of flesh, however great the provocation to obtain it, is the mark of a deranged mind. "From the time he runs through the street, shouting and screaming the loss of his daughter, you perceive the dying way of his mind. The loss of his money, the loss of his daughter, the taunts of his Christian persecutors—all these circumstances combine to unhinge Shylock's mind. As an insane, made through persecution, he is a creature to be pitied, as I should present him."

COMING ATTRACTIONS.

New National.
The National Theater tomorrow night David Warfield will begin an engagement in David Belasco's play, "The Return of Peter Grimm." David Warfield's name brings to mind a procession of characters, each one of which has appealed strongly to the heart and mind. "The Return of Peter Grimm" is regarded by many as David Belasco's greatest play and Peter Grimm as Warfield's best role. The play in all its fine details bears new testimony to David Belasco's skill. Mr. Belasco is sending the company and production seen in New York to the Lyric Theater in Washington. The cast includes: Joseph Brennan, Thomas Meighan, Walter D. Greene, William Hoagy Carmichael, Webb Pierce, Helton and Tony Bevan are in the cast.

Belasco.
The offering this week at the Belasco Theater will be Sam Bernard in his musical farce, "All for the Ladies," which has been played for the past five months at the Lyric Theater in New York. It is said to be one of the best French farces which lend themselves to acclimatization without paying toll to their wit. As Leo von Laubenstein, the world's greatest designer of woman's clothes, Mr. Bernard is taken into the firm of Panter, Clements & Co., and as the star attraction of this firm has every opportunity to keep his audience in a roar. Born to be pursued by all women, he claims to be the one man who knows what Don Juan must have suffered and tries to govern himself accordingly, winning much laughter with the jocular manner in which he exercises away over his adoring subjects. In "All for the Ladies" not only has the humor, but many intricate situations been utilized, but advantage has been taken of the opportunity to display all kinds of smart and gorgeous costumes.

Columbia.
A. H. Van Buren and Helen Holmes will appear in the roles made famous by John Drew and Margaret Livingston when the Columbia Players this week revive "His House in Order." The play is a masterpiece of French comedy, written by Edmond Rostand, and played by George W. Barber, bereaved of his first wife, who married the young girl, the daughter of his child—the only impulsive or socially indiscreet act of which he has ever been guilty. The first Mrs. Jenson was a model of domestic virtue and kept his house in immaculate order. Distressed by the irregularity of the second wife's housekeeping, and perturbed by her mercurial temper, he has installed a cold-natured sister-in-law, Geraldine Ridgely, played by Carrie Thatcher, as a substitute of ceremony, to the natural discomfort of Nina, the young wife, who finds herself practically superseded as head of the establishment. Her life is made unbearable by being continually compared with her extraordinary predecessor. Miss Holmes will play the role of Nina. The story is told in four acts, the first two being laid in a room at a Paris hotel, the third in divorce and admiralty division of the high court of justice in England and the fourth in the home of the Rt. Hon. George Adamston, plaintiff in the divorce case of Adamston vs. Adamston. The play is given at the Lyric Theater.

the family by appearing in a bright red gown and refusing to attend the ceremony, she is alone with the little boy, playing with a bag that was once his mother's. Nina discovers therein four letters from her departed Anabelle from Mad. Maureward (played by Stanley James), an old friend of the family and a particular favorite of the little boy. The letters prove that Anabelle was anything but the model wife she had pretended to be. Hilary enters to urge Nina to reconsider her refusal to attend the ceremony, and she thrusts the letters into his hands, at the same time announcing her intention of revealing the facts to her tormentors—to every one, in fact, except her husband. Hilary persuades her to abandon this revenge, and Nina in a demure gray frock, attends the opening of the park. When the letters finally fall into the husband's hands and he learns of Nina's sacrifice he politely informs his deceased wife's relatives that, having honored the dead, he now proposes to honor the living—and Nina comes into her own. The costumes and scenery will be in keeping with the established standard of the Columbia Players.

Chase's.
Two of the most successful and novel of the Edison talking picture plays will be the extraordinary features of Chase's continuous bill this week, commencing tomorrow at 1 p. m. Foremost will be the adventurous "Dick, the Highwayman," a comedy of love and incident, filled with tense action and humorous episode. Another attraction will be "The Politician," a comedy of the vicissitudes of campaigns. Both are acted by especially selected casts of prominent players engaged for the Edison productions. They will head every bill during the week. Supplementing them, with a complete change every day, will be beautiful and interesting kinematograph plays. Numerous black and white picture plays of comedy, adventure, travel the nature will lengthen and diversify the bills. The performances run from 1 to 11 p. m. daily and from 3 p. m. to 10:30 p. m. Sundays.

Academy Stock Company.
Although "The Cowboy and the Thief," the play at the Academy this week, is a

story of western life, it does not depend upon "gun play" or starting climaxes to keep its audience interested. It is a wholesome story of the land west of the Rockies, telling of the rivalry of a rood and a bad man for the love of a girl. Nor is the "girl" the type of supposedly "western" girl seen in the average melodrama, but a girl who is as polished as her sisters of the east.

This will mark the opening of the stock season at the Academy and the management plans to give the theater's patrons an opportunity to see a number of high-class but thrilling offerings at popular prices. The seats will be sold for 10 cents, 20 cents and 30 cents.

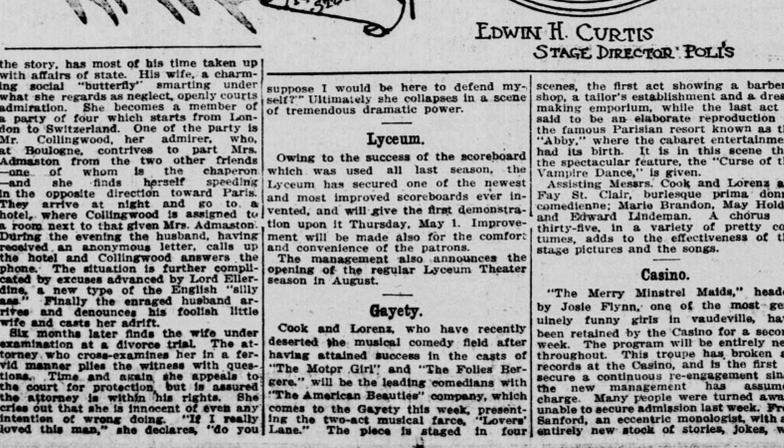
Chicago Grand Opera Friday.
The farewell operatic performance of the season of the Chicago Grand Opera Company will take place at the Belasco Theater Friday afternoon, when Humperdinck's fairy opera, "Hansel and Gretel," will be sung with an excellent cast.

Miss Marie Cavan, an American prima donna will be heard in the role of Hansel, in which she has gained laurels in all the principal cities of the country. Miss Mabel Regelman, the California contralto, will be heard as Gretel, a part which she invests with superior vocal and dramatic excellence. Armand Crabbe, baritone, will sing the role of the Father, and Mme. Louise Berat, the French contralto, will be cast as the Mother.

The part of the Witch will be sung by Francesco Daddi, a celebrated Italian buffo, and Miss Helen Warrum, who is heralded as a rising star of the first magnitude, will have the dual roles of the opposite direction toward Paris. Ettore Perozzi will direct the orchestra. The production will be lavish and replete with spectacular and beautiful opera, which will be sung in English. It will be given at popular prices.

Polli's.
"A Butterfly on the Wheel," the play with what is pronounced to be the most wonderful court scene ever staged, will be the offering of the Polli Players this week. It was a success in London as well as in New York.

The story is told in four acts, the first two being laid in a room at a Paris hotel, the third in divorce and admiralty division of the high court of justice in England and the fourth in the home of the Rt. Hon. George Adamston, plaintiff in the divorce case of Adamston vs. Adamston. The play is given at the Lyric Theater.



and humor; the De Palma Sisters in an artistic posing act, with all new features; the National Comedy Four, one of the best singing quartets in vaudeville, in popular and ragtime numbers of the hitting and rollicking kind with three exceptionally fine photoplays of the censored class, will appear at each performance.

Cosmos.
An oddity of song, story and comedy promising fifteen minutes of laughter is "Who's Who," which will be presented by Foster and Lovett at the Cosmos Theater this week, in a bill which will aim at general excellence throughout. A hilarious feature is promised by Charles Kenna, in "The Street Fakir," an original character monologue in which an itinerant curbside merchant, with a grip sack, a gasoline flare and a magic powder, is the funny feature. Kendall's Auto Girl, "the most puzzling human doll novelty in vaudeville," like Mr. Kenna, from the big vaudeville circuit, will be another big attraction. The Three Italian Troubadours in an operatic offering of song and exceptionally beautiful instrumental music will be another striking number, and Norton and Ayres, in a refined offering of song, comedy and gentle humor, will fill a return engagement. The Patie Weekly

been crawling all over it for the past eleven years, with the object of securing good pictures. When they began preparations to make their trip through the rapids of the Colorado river canyons they were unable to get men to go with them on account of the difficulties that had been encountered by others. Many of whom had perished in their attempt to duplicate Maj. Powell's famous journey. Leaving Green River, Wyo., September 1, 1811, with two open rowboats, a stack of cameras and one assistant of the eight who had been engaged, they arrived at Needles, Cal., January 18, 1912, after passing over 300 rapids in 1,400 miles, through six states and descending 6,000 feet. The hardships encountered, the smashing of the boats, the narrow escapes from death, are all plainly shown in the motion pictures and colored slides with the story told by Emory Kolb tonight at the National Theater.

Paulist Choristers Tuesday.
The Paulist Choristers of Chicago will appear in concert at the Columbia Theater Tuesday afternoon, under the local management of T. Arthur Smith. This remarkable choir of men and boys has been making an extended tour of two continents, beginning with a series of concerts in Paris last May, where they were participants in the international choristers' contest, in which they received marked honors. They were also honored by the Pope, before whom they sang on various occasions. The excellence of this choir is said to be due principally to the fine taste and discrimination of its conductor, Rev. Father William J. Flinn, who knows what the human voice can do in choral singing and how to get it out of his people.

Potter Recital Wednesday.
Louis A. Potter, Jr., will be heard in a piano recital at the New Willard Hotel Wednesday evening, April 30. Mr. Potter was born in North Carolina. His father was a senator in the state legislature. The pianist is a member of the recently organized North Carolina Society of this city. Much has been said of Mr. Potter's artistic abilities. His program will be as follows: "Etude de Concert, op. 36," MacDowell; "Intermezzo," Schaf Sauti; "Moin Kind," Brahms; "Etude Symphonique," Schumann; "Sonata in E flat major, op. 21, No. 3," Beethoven; "Ballade, G minor," Chopin; "Nocturne, G major," Etude, minor; Chopin; "Faust Valse," Gounod-Liszt.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT.
Minnie Palmer is to produce tabloid attractions.
Paul Gilmore is to appear in a romantic

Review, with its famous life pictures of international events, will lead a series of exceptional film features.

Garden.
As an added attraction, beginning tomorrow, the Garden will feature Niblo Traveltalk, illustrated, in connection with the showing of feature photoplays. A musical program will also be rendered by the Garden Orchestra of ten. Performances are continuous from 11 a. m. to 11 p. m.

Cosmos Concerts Today.
Blended with selections from Meyerbeer's "L'Africaine"; Allen's 45th, "Sleepy Hollow"; Salzer's novelette, "Spring Thoughts," and Puccini's "Madama Butterfly," the Cosmos Theater full orchestra, under the direction of Prof. Arthur Maxwell, will play at the Cosmos Theater concert today, beginning at 8 o'clock and continuing until 10:30 o'clock tonight, the Argentine Tango, "I come to you," by Valverde, the original tango music. Other orchestral features will include Myddleton's characteristic, "Down South"; Rollinson's overture, "L'Amal"; Calbulka's pastorella, "Woodland Whispers"; Scott's valse nocturne, "The Night Owl"; and other selections of enjoyable music. In addition there will be varied offerings of song and instrumental music by specially engaged performers.

Colorado River Canyons.
The Grand Canyon of Arizona is one of the scenic wonders of the world, and has been an attraction for thousands of visitors yearly. The Kolb brothers have

Colin Kempner are to enter again the theatrical field as producing managers.

Arthur Forrest is dramatizing one of George Barrington's stories called "What's His Name?"

Robert Drouet will be with the Lubin Picture Company as leading man and also as director for some of their films.

It is reported that Maxine Elliott will return to the stage next season with a new play.

Blanche Yurka, who has been playing the title role of "Evora's Woman" with success on tour, is to make her appearance in the part in New York.

Brandon Tynan has been engaged by the Liebler Company for an important role in Zanawilla's play, "The New Religion."

Frank Moulton is to have the leading comedy role in "My Little Friend," by Oscar Strauss, under the direction of Fred Whitely.

Winthrop Ames has accepted for production at his Little Theater, in New York, a serious play by Mark Swan called "Her Own Money."

It is said that Anna Held may return to western country to star under the management of George C. Tyler, of the Liebler Company.

Valerie Bergere, who has been popular in vaudeville for years, both as a star and as a comedienne, is to appear in a dramatic production next season.

Cliff Gordon, the well known German comedian, died suddenly in Chicago last week. He was partner with Bobby North in a burlesque production.

Lily Cahill, who won note by her acting in "Man's Friends," is to have the principal feminine role in Zanawilla's play, "The Next Religion."

Early in May "The Reckless Age," a play around a midnight joy ride, will be produced in Atlantic City. The author is Lee Wilson Dood, author of "Speed" and "The Return of Eve."

The grandson of the famous actor, Lester Wallack, a young man with the same name, made his stage debut recently in the revival of "Rosalind," with which the elder Wallack's name is associated.

Arthur Hammerstein has engaged Snitz Edwards as one of the principal comedians in his production of the musical play "High Jinks." Elizabeth Murray also is to be a member of the cast.

John Glendinning, father of Jessie Glendinning of the Columbia Players, closed his season in the all-star cast of "Rosalind" Saturday night and is expected in Washington today to visit his daughter.

Rowland Buckstone, the veteran Shakespearean comedian, with the Southern-Maryland Company, is in a hospital in New York suffering with melancholia, with which he has been afflicted since the death of his wife.

John Herne, son of the late John A. Herne and brother of Chrystal and Julie Herne, is to appear in the revival of "Arizona." He made his debut as an actor with William Hodge in "The Man From Home."

Harrison Grey-Elske has acquired the rights to "The Child," which Margaret Angler once owned. She has made a tentative production. Mr. Elske will produce the play with Emily Stevens in the leading role.

A new comedy by Frank Lord and Hugh Ford, called "Gopher Hoy Inc.," was produced for the first time in Atlantic City last week, with Douglas Fairbanks as the star. Irene Fenwick is a member of the supporting company.

Weber & Fields will make a production of a show called "The Latch Key," in which the women in the cast will outnumber the men. It is by Edgar R. Sullivan, the stage director of "Kismet," and Orlis Skinner will superintend its staging.

Mary Young, who in private life is the wife of John Craig, manager of the Castle Square Garden Stock Company in Boston, is to star in the fall in one of the Castle Square's prize plays, "Bellamy Me, Xantippe." The tour will be under the management of W. A. Brady.

The Monkey Cabaret, one of the greatest of juvenile novelties, featuring trained monkeys and dogs, Jessie Keller and her company in "Venus on Wheels," a noted cycling act, and Dorothy De Schelle and her company will be seen at the Casino next week.

Among the new Edison talking picture productions which have been secured for presentation in the near future at the Lyric Theater are "The Singing Society," Edmund Bruce and company in "The Master Mind" and "The Worm Turns."

Two Washington girls who have won fame as higher vaudeville, and whose offering is very similar to that of Muriel and Frances, will come to the Cosmos Theater next week. In the bill also will be the Ellis-Nolan Comedy Company of fourteen people and Mme. Jules Panfocier's imported Royal Marionettes.

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From the National Press.
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One of the most exciting times on a western ranch is when the dinner horn blows. It means a race from wherever the band of men are working to the ranch for the special benefit of the cowboys. The place of honor at the table. This is a daily occurrence of ranch life and one of the scenes depicted in "The Cowboy and the Thief."

Thurston entertained the children of the Kendall School at the matinee Thursday and Mr. Thurston added a number of extra features to his regular program for the special benefit of the cowboys. Some years ago Mr. Thurston first entertained the Kendall School children at the Lyric Theater. He has continued his custom on his yearly appearances in Washington.

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