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AMUSEMENTS TODAY. SEATTLE THEATRE—"The Nominee."

SEATTLE, SUNDAY, MARCH 4. The Last Reform Campaign.

The older residents of Seattle have not forgotten a municipal campaign in this city which resembled in its main features the one now on hand.

When J. T. Ronald was nominated for mayor of Seattle eight years ago it was under a precisely similar combination to that which is now undertaking to control the city government.

The play in question, as the dramatic critics describe it, and by the intrinsic test of its origin, is absolutely unfit for public representation.

The confidence of those investors has been gained largely through the fact that during the long period of hard times, coincident with the outbreak of the free silver craze which swept over the far West, Seattle was the one city whose municipal affairs never passed under Democratic, Populist or Fusionist control.

All this is very gratifying to the student of social conditions, but it must be embarrassing for Mr. Garland. How can he act the part of champion if the oppressed heroine won't play? You can't do anything to release a victim who says she's having a perfectly beautiful time just where she is.

THE PEOPLE. GREAT ISSUES AT STAKE. Seattle, Wash., March 3, 1900. To the Editor: Although living just outside the city limits, I am deeply interested in the city election soon to take place.

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but an even greater favor has been showered upon plays made up of improper suggestions, or composed of link upon link of situations which even a lax police regulation could not permit to be interpreted in words.

While it is true that the theatrical syndicates which rule the Eastern stage are directly responsible for this, and while there is not one word of honesty in the plea that the stage has suffered because the manager must "give the people what they want," the large and final responsibility must be placed upon the people themselves.

The reasons for the failure of the Ronald administration are precisely the same reasons which apply against the selection of Cotterill for mayor today.

The cry of "Reform" then, as now, was adopted to catch the votes of the innocent good citizens, simple as children in political matters, who think that vice can be extirpated by the passage of city ordinances.

Then, as now, a figure-head mayor was selected, who could be relied upon to attract votes from the so-called law and order element; and then, as now, behind the whole movement was the gang of sharp and unscrupulous ward politicians, who were exploiting the whole thing for their own personal and pecuniary advantage.

The people of Seattle will not be caught twice in the same trap; and the memory of the Ronald administration is fresh in the minds of the taxpayers, who are still paying for their unpleasant experience with the last reform administration.

Those who are familiar with the quality of dramatic performances in the East during the past few years, and especially the plays that have ruled in New York city, are pardonable if they at first conceived the hubbub over the performance of Miss Netherole in "Sapho" to be only a variation of the methods of advertising which ingenious press agents have devised.

Whether sincere or affected, however, the incident will be helpful if it serves to bring an effective public sentiment to bear upon the influences that have sought to transform the educating and elevating power of the stage into mere opportunities for indecent suggestion and aids to moral debauchery.

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