THIS WEEK AT THE PLAY

THE WEEK'S THEATERS.

Olympic.....Babes in Toyland
Century.....Mrs. Leffingwell's Boots
Garrick.....Grace Van Studdiford in Lady Teazle
Grand Opera-house.....The Paraders
Columbia.....Minstrel Maids and Vaudeville
Havlin's.....Queen of the White Slaves
Imperial.....Robert Fitzsimmons in A Fight for Love
Standard.....Burlesque
Gayety.....Burlesque

Poor Sir Henry!

No actor ever brought to his public the affections that were lavished, and none better than he knew their worth.

Yet, with all of these sweet things that were a shield for his trade, he was one of the biggest of all actors. He knew the business of the theater, as well as its arts. He wrote well, talked well, dined well, made friends and kept them, knew the literature of his profession, and worked consistently, for the betterment of his calling.

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After a long absence from America, Miss Olga Nethersole is here again for a season that will take her from coast to coast. Miss Nethersole is in the United States this time under the management of Mr. Charles Bancroft Dillingham, who, oddly enough, was her first advance agent in this country.

Dillingham was at that time a young reporter on the Chicago Tribune, and his services were secured by Mr. Frohman when it became necessary for Mr. Daly, who had "discovered" Miss Nethersole, to surrender his contract because of the fact that he could not well manage two women stars—Miss Rehan being the other.

Mr. Dillingham worked very hard, but the business was not good until St. Louis was reached, where, at the Grand Opera-house, under the management of John W. Norton, Miss Nethersole made a decided success. From that time she did not for a moment want for patronage. In two or three years she became the most prodigious of feminine stars, and but for illness she would have continued in this country. She has been at her English home for many months, and is said to have entirely recovered her health. It is likely that Miss Nethersole's brother, Louis, now widely known among professionals, will have direct charge of his sister's tour, as Mr. Dillingham's representative.

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Mrs. Van Studdiford had a great audience at the Garrick yesterday afternoon—one of the biggest that she has known in her career as a star. It was an audience of women. Looking over the great crowd, it was difficult to see a masculine head.

Many of the ladies wore horse-show gowns, with a result that was as charming as it was unusual. Between the acts there rose a chatter of comment that made the efforts of the musicians in the orchestra quite futile. This evening Mrs. Van Studdiford will begin her second week with all promise of a continuance of the applause that has been hers from the start.

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"This box office," said Charles Macfeeley, the business manager of Charles Frohman's company in "Mrs. Leffingwell's Boots," at the Century Theater, "is on the actual site of the box office of the old-time Pope's Theater, which once existed on the corner of Olive and Ninth streets. And it was in Pope's Theater box office that I first met Gus Thomas, author of the piece I am now concerned with. He was then the gallery ticket seller of the house and I the treasurer of the local Heidelberg Juvenile Popsicle Opera Company. Gus Thomas is now Augustus Thomas, the distinguished playwright and author of the comedy Mrs. Leffingwell's Boots, that you are to see here at the Century Theater, the site of Pope's.

"And some of the Pinafores in that early company were William Collier, Marlowe, Julia Marlowe, Ida Conquest, Laurie Brooke, Anna Russell Gray, Eugene Henry Woodruff, Arthur Dunn and his sister, Jessie, who is now Mrs. Fred Kennish, and Willie Newman, now business manager of the Herald Square Theater in New York. Willie was the Captain Corcoran of the Pinafores. Arthur Dunn is Deadeye, Jessie the star Josephine. Willie Collier the Hon. Marine. Julia Marlowe, as Cousin Hebe, is a young girl, for a short while, in the beginning. Anna Russell Woodruff, sister of the Gray, who afterwards became the stage name, was one of the sisters, and married Mr. Gray, Fanny Rice's brother.

"Fanny Rice was one of the sisters and married. She is now the wife of Commander Maris of the United States Navy. The Hebe of the company was Ida Conquest, the Buttercup Laurie Brooke, Little Buttercup Rose Hill, Dick Deadeye Harry Woodruff, Sir Joseph Arthur Dunn, Josephine Jessie Dunn, Cousin Hebe Julia Marlowe, Captain Corcoran Willie Collier, Ralph Rackstraw Willie Newman, Dick Dauntless Frank Kennish, Mrs. Cripps Anna Russell Gray, Tom Tucker Fanny Rice, Bill Bobstay Arthur Wilkes, Bill Bobbin Harry Fairfax, Mrs. Partlet Ida Conquest, Cousin Josephine Jessie Dunn, Mrs. Bobbin Ida Conquest, Mrs. Bobstay Anna Russell Gray, Mrs. Deadeye Fanny Rice, Mrs. Dauntless Ida Conquest, Mrs. Cripps Anna Russell Gray, Mrs. Tucker Fanny Rice, Mrs. Partlet Ida Conquest