

BELASCO HAS STRONG BILL

HADDON CHAMBERS' PLAY GIVEN FINE PRESENTATION

MISS STODDARD ADMIRABLE IN TITLE ROLE

Other Members of the Company Share in the Triumph—Drama Has No Fewer Than Seven Good Parts

BY SIDLE LAWRENCE

In nothing that the exceptionally capable Belasco company has presented this season have the individual members of the cast appeared to be at advantage than in "A Modern Magdalen," Haddon Chambers' play, first produced in this country by Amelia Bingham. The drama itself has been skillfully written and doubly skillfully constructed. It displays good literary ability and fine stagecraft. Probably it is the best thing from a critical standpoint that Mr. Chambers has given to the stage, and I say this with a full realization of the fact it never can hope to attain to the popularity accorded the same playwright's more melodramatic offerings.

Doubtless many of the excellences of last night's presentation are due to Mr. Hobart Bosworth, the Belasco stage director. Mr. Bosworth himself is not in the cast, but his influence is very much in evidence. "A Modern Magdalen" is by no means a one-act play. Obviously it was not written to order for the exploitation of any one star. It tells an interesting story in a sane and convincing manner and its characters are flesh and blood people who comport themselves just as such persons might be expected to do off the stage. Probably the most unjust adjective that could be applied to the play is the one used by a local reviewer who termed the drama "naughty." It is not naughty. There is not a naughty line in it, nor a naughty situation.

Not a Problem Play

The drama propounds no problem. It asks no embarrassing questions. On the contrary it asserts plainly and uncompromisingly that a woman may, in the circumstances shown, sacrifice her good name and still be a virtuous and noble person, and still be the object of the admiration and of the love of a good man.

This modern Magdalen is a young woman with an invalid sister, a disagreeable stepmother and a Pecksniffian father, who leaves her home to her home to turn her money into a fortune. She may acquire money to provide her sister with what are to her the necessities of life. This motive is so forcibly shown that the audience never loses sympathy for the character, though the girl becomes what the title of the play indicates.

In the end the man who had taken advantage of her need is compelled to flee in order to escape arrest for a defalcation, and the woman, declining an offer of marriage and luxury made to her by a second and wealthy suitor, departs with a young student who had confessed his love before she left her home, to be an army nurse and, ultimately, to marry him who had kept her enshrined in his heart through the vicissitudes of life.

This is a bold and incomplete outline of the plot and it falls to show the delicacy with which the theme is handled and which redeems it entirely from the stigma of the frivolous "naughty."

Many Good Roles

There are no fewer than seven roles in "A Modern Magdalen," which provide excellent acting opportunities for the players cast in them, and in addition there are several good "bits." Miss Blanche Stoddard, in the title role, presents an exceedingly good interpretation of the part. It is rather a complex character, this; much more so than appears upon the surface, and Miss Stoddard handles it admirably. She depicts with fidelity and clearness first Katinka's contemptuous aversion for her stepmother; her indignation at the man who followed her into her home to turn her from it; her pitying affection for her incapable father, an affection in which respect and admiration have no place; her love for the invalid sister; her strong determination that this sister shall not be the cause of her ruin; her tolerance of the mode of life into which she is forced, together with a repressed resentment against her fate; and, at the last, her love for the man whose own love has been strong enough to make him disregard conventions and seek her for his wife. All these things and more are realized with apt art and consummate skill. In this role Miss Stoddard is seen at her best, and how very good that best is only you who see the play this week can realize.

Murphy as the Father

John Daly Murphy is the hypocritical father, a man to be despised and pitied—not hated. Mr. Murphy seems to fit into the role as though it had been built for him, which is most certainly not. Miss Eleanor Carey is the stepmother and has no small share in the success of those scenes in which she has a place.

Richard Vivian does the best acting I have ever seen him do in a character part as a stammering reformer of not over-nice personality. William Yerance is excellent as the wealthy suitor for Katinka's favor, and Howard Scott is natural and unaffected as the girl's accepted lover. Lewis plays the role of the young mechanic, whose love for Katinka is strong enough to surmount all obstacles and who, in the end, reaps his reward. The part is comparatively unimportant from an actor's standpoint, though of vital importance to the story. However, Mr. Stone gets out of it all that is possible and redeems the character from any suggestion of priggishness. He has two big scenes and is admirable in both of them.

Francis, "A Modern Magdalen," as presented at the Belasco this week, is easily worth twice the money. It is a bargain in theatricals.

PRaise SURPRISES MAN WHO RETURNS \$5 PAID BY ERROR

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 8.—"Any honest man would have done the same thing," said Martin A. Franke, 234 Miami street, who has burst into fame because he returned a five-dollar gold piece he received by mistake for a nickel. "I don't believe that I am any better than the average person, just because I turned in the money. The five dollars didn't belong to me, though I might have kept it. The only thing for me to do was to give it up." Franke, who has charge of a Broadway car, discovered the gold piece when counting up his day's receipts Monday. He reported the find to the street car company's office, and learned that Frank Rotter, 217 South Seventh street, was the owner of the money.

Rotter, who is a butcher, recently injured his hand, and the five dollars represented a payment by an accident insurance company. Incidentally it was the last five dollars the butcher possessed. When he called the office later tears of joy were streaming down his face, and he emphatically expressed his gratitude to the honest conductor.



MISS ETHELYN M. HARRISON, Noted pianist, latest addition to Los Angeles' musical world

The Musical World

By Geneva Johnstone-Bishop

MISS ETHELYN M. HARRISON of New York, whom Brunner, the great Berlin teacher, has designated as one of the coming great pianists of America, has arrived in Los Angeles and will make this city her home. She will be one of the most valuable additions to the famous and ever increasing colony of musicians in Los Angeles.

Miss Harrison is a thorough master of the piano. Practically all of her twenty-three years of life have been devoted to studying the instrument and her teachers have been the best of the old and new worlds afield.

Not only will musicians welcome Miss Harrison and music lovers be delighted to hear her in concert and recitals, but her accomplishments will gain her an enviable place in Los Angeles society.

She left yesterday for a two days' visit with friends at Long Beach, but will return Thursday, and for the present will make her home with the family of Charles A. Fellows, 148 West Forty-sixth street.

When the opera company arrived yesterday the census taker threw up his hands in despair. The Milan opera company travels en famille, and some of the families are enormous. Nearly every member of the chorus has a few little Italians clinging to her skirts, and when they didn't have children they had parrots or dogs or big boxes of lunch.

As soon as they got off the train yesterday morning they wanted to see the Auditorium, where they will open the grand opera season tonight. They were accompanied by Manager Sparks M. Berry, who had eaten a tamale and a dish of macaroni to give his voice the proper flavor.

Signor Alessandro Arcangel is the star tenor of the company. He will sing in "La Tosca." He is very versatile in his interpretations, and is said to be admirable both in the Italian and German operas.

Maria Gonzales, dramatic soprano with the Milan opera, makes her first appearance before a Los Angeles audience tonight in "Aida." She is young and beautiful and is said to have a voice of wonderful range and quality.

Bernice Holmes, the contralto, well known in Los Angeles, is with the Iodora Park opera company, near San Francisco.

Mackenzie Gordon has opened a studio at the Mosgiel, in San Francisco.

Frank Damrosch thus praises Edwin Lockhart, the American bassist: "You're a magnificent vocalist. Monday night, Carl Haydn, the handsome young tenor, has become the greatest of all oratorio singers. The music world has been waiting a long time for a voice like yours." Edward Lockhart was born in California at San Jose.

A cable to R. E. Johnston, the American manager of Jean Gerardy, the Belgian cellist, who is to tour this country, beginning next November, announces the coming marriage of the famous young artist to Baba MacQuade, a famous beauty and heiress of Australia.

Gerardy is just now on an automobile trip with his beautiful fiancée and her mother, Madame MacCarone, who is the owner of nearly all the principal playhouses in her native land.

Gerardy's American season will begin with a recital at Mendelssohn hall November 8. Subsequently he will appear in connection with the Volpe Symphony orchestra in Carnegie hall November 21, and with other leading orchestras. Then he will tour the principal cities of the United States and Canada.

At the conclusion of his vacation, now being enjoyed near Paris, Gerardy will be heard in concerts in Berlin, Stuttgart, Cologne, Brussels and London, and will sail for this country, accompanied by his fair bride, on the Kron Prinz Wilhelm, arriving October 23.

R. E. Johnston, concert manager of Nordica, Gerardy et al., announces that Albert Spalding, the young American violinist son of J. Walter Spalding, the noted athletic authority, will fill engagements in London, Paris, Berlin, Stuttgart, St. Petersburg, Brussels and Vienna the present season. The following season (1908-1909) Spalding will be heard in seventy-five concerts in America, and this will be his introduction to American audiences, for, curiously enough, though the young artist is well known abroad, having scored successes in the Queen's hall, London, and the Nouveau theater, Paris, he has yet to make his professional debut in his native land. There is already considerable anxiety on the part of American music lovers to see and hear the new genius of the violin, and general public interest is sure to be aroused when the young man's accomplishments and achievements are better known.

A native youth who, as a child, goes abroad and performs so well as to be honored by an Italian university, claiming him as its most precocious pupil since Mozart, cannot fail to invite serious attention in his home country. Spalding's American tour will begin immediately.



MARIA GONZALES, DRAMATIC SOPRANO, WITH MILAN OPERA COMPANY

after the next presidential election, and Manager Johnston will present him at about a dozen concerts in New York city.

Padewski is bringing to America this year two very important compositions for the piano which he has played with much success in England and on the continent. One is a theme and variations, and the other is a sonata. Those who have heard him say that they are quite equal to any work of this kind he has ever done and that they are most valuable additions to the literature of the piano. They will appear on his American programs. Padewski's first concert in America will be in Bridgeport, Conn., on Monday night, October 28. On Tuesday night, October 29, he gives a recital in the Lyric theater in Baltimore, and then on Saturday afternoon, November 2, comes his first recital in Carnegie hall, New York city. He will play fifteen times in the month of November.

The San Francisco opera company gave a good performance of the comic opera, "The Idiot's Eye," Monday night. Carl Haydn, the handsome young tenor, has a beautiful voice, resonant in its depth and bell-like in its height. It is a perfect delight to see and hear how carefully he uses his voice. One would know he was a pupil of an Italian teacher. Mr. Haydn has been studying with Vannucci and Vannioli of Florence the past summer, also coaching with Thorne and Messent in Paris, but he is indeed loyal to his New York teacher, Signor Dessert, under whose teaching he made rapid advancement. Mr. Haydn is an Austrian by birth. The score of this opera gives Mr. Haydn little opportunity to show us what he can do. His solo, "The Secret," he sang with ease—good diction—which proves him to be a conscientious artist. In the duet between Miss Hemmi and Mr. Haydn, Miss Hemmi forced her high tones and fell below the pitch. I understand, however, she is suffering from a cold, and no wonder she sometimes shows fatigue, singing every night. She is a charming singer, and her interpretations of all her roles is always artistic. Mr. Cunningham's "Subana Solo" made a hit. He has a remarkable voice, always refreshing and not a sign of any vibrato. Pure rich tones alone make him one of the best baritones (with an immense compass) I have ever heard.

Dr. Hastings and his bride will leave immediately after the ceremony for Los Angeles and will be at home at Hotel Del Sol, Portland street, after November 1.

Miss Brawn, who is the granddaughter of former Governor Owensley of Kentucky, has visited in Los Angeles at the home of her friends to welcome her among the ranks of the matrons. Alfred B. Hastings, brother of the groom, will go on to Louisville to act as best man at the wedding.

Dr. Hastings has been east some months.

Morgan-Phillips
Miss Sude Phillips and Thomas E. Morgan were united in marriage Saturday afternoon at the home of the bride's brother, Prof. T. J. Phillip, 1111 Burlington avenue. The ceremony, which was performed by Rev. Wade Hamilton, was witnessed by immediate relatives only. Mr. and Mrs. Morgan are passing their

LAD OF ELEVEN, MOTHER'S SOLE SUPPORT DISAPPEARS
David Friedman, the 11-year-old son and sole support of his mother, Mrs. Fanny Friedman, wandered away from his home at Adams and Jerome streets Monday night, and his parent is almost on the verge of insanity over the lad's disappearance.

Society

The marriage of Miss Olivia Lewis and Walter Cunningham, which has been announced to take place October 23, will be solemnized at her home, 1205 West Fortieth street, and is to be an evening affair, the ceremony taking place at 8 o'clock. Miss Myra Keller, of West Thirty-eighth street will entertain with a linen shower in the near future, and Mrs. Walter Bryson is also planning an event in her honor.

Mr. Earle Returned
Henry Edward Earle, the pianist and singer, arrived Sunday from a three-months' stay in New York, where he has been studying new methods, and visiting his parents. Besides New York, Mr. Earle has made short stops at Washington, D. C., Denver, Cincinnati, Indianapolis and Albany, visiting various musical friends.

Miss Beatty's Return
The many friends of Miss Beatty, a charming and very clever little lady, who was formerly a member of the Herald staff, will be interested to learn of her return to Los Angeles after a protracted absence.

Miss Beatty, whose success as a newspaper woman only stimulated her ambition for a wider field of activity, went to Nevada last year, and, with Goldfield as headquarters, entered upon the somewhat arduous undertaking of collecting material for and the subsequent publication of a book which, even before it was started, was named "Who's Who in Nevada," and which was to contain the biographies of about 75 of the leading men of the state, and also much descriptive matter.

Soon after the young business woman arrived on the field selected, she discovered an enterprising young business man about to enter upon the same project. As neither party had taken decisive action in the matter it was decided to meet and "talk it over" and decide which one should quit the game.

Miss Beatty, who is an exceedingly pretty life to be in jeopardy, Miss Belle Crouse, daughter of the Rev. N. F. Crouse, of Stanhope, N. J., was forced yesterday afternoon to accompany her frantic and discarded wooer, Percy C. Bissell, also of Stanhope, to the residence of the Rev. Charles N. Griffin in Asbury park, where she was saved from an unwilling marriage by calling upon the minister for protection.

Miss Crouse has been stopping with her parents at an Ocean Grove hotel. Her father is the pastor of a Presbyterian church in Stanhope. They were forced to leave their North Jersey home in order to protect Miss Crouse from Bissell's unwelcome attentions. The youth, who is a student at the state normal school, Stanhope, N. J., was forced yesterday afternoon to accompany her frantic and discarded wooer, Percy C. Bissell, also of Stanhope, to the residence of the Rev. Charles N. Griffin in Asbury park, where she was saved from an unwilling marriage by calling upon the minister for protection.

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honey-moon in Santa Barbara. On their return to Los Angeles after November 30 they will be at home on Avenue 49.

Press Club to Meet
The first meeting of the year of the Woman's Press club of Southern California will be held this afternoon in music hall in the Blanchard building.

Woodlawn Whist Club
Judge and Mrs. Joseph Chambers entertained the Woodlawn Whist club Monday evening at their home on East Thirty-sixth street, the prizes going to Mrs. Ernest Taylor and Judge Chambers.

The club was organized twelve years ago and has today very nearly the same membership when the club was organized. The members are Messrs. and Mesdames Joseph Chambers, John Alton, Dr. W. M. Garnett, C. C. Fife, William Earhart, Grant Talbot, Remell, Fox, P. E. Ernest Taylor, James Shaw, Jr., Miss Kate Garnett and Charles Mandell.

Best-Fleming
Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Fleming of 707 Valencia street are announcing the marriage of their daughter, Miss Cecil, and George S. Best of Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Fleming left immediately after the ceremony for Chicago, where they will reside.

JUST ESCAPES BEING AN UNWILLING BRIDE
SUITOR FORCES GIRL TO GO BEFORE MINISTER
Saved at the Last Minute—She Appealed to the Pastor for Protection and He Seized the Bridegroom

OCEAN GROVE, Oct. 8.—Believing her life to be in jeopardy, Miss Belle Crouse, daughter of the Rev. N. F. Crouse, of Stanhope, N. J., was forced yesterday afternoon to accompany her frantic and discarded wooer, Percy C. Bissell, also of Stanhope, to the residence of the Rev. Charles N. Griffin in Asbury park, where she was saved from an unwilling marriage by calling upon the minister for protection.

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