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### AMUSEMENTS.

**NORMA**—The first production in Salt Lake of Bellini's melodious opera Norma, and the last appearance of the Abbott Company drew an enormous audience to the theatre last evening, one that overtopped all previous gatherings, and raised the total of the engagement to within a few dollars of \$5,000. The opera was a decided novelty even to those who have sung "Hear Me Norma" and played "Casta Diva" from their childhood up, the story, the costuming and the surrounding music being heard and seen for the first time. Norma is essentially an opera of the older fashioned school, and it is somewhat cut down to suit the stage of today, but its divine and original melody remains unimpaired and stands as the sweetest and most beautiful instance of that peculiarly melodic Italian school of which Bellini was an unobscured master. Had Miss Abbott been in good trim the performance would have been a notable one, and as it was, with the prima donna so obviously indisposed that it was at times painful to see her struggle to keep up, the opera aroused a good deal of enthusiasm, and though there was no furor, it was obviously enjoyed. The plucky little singer won the heaviest applause for an achievement not down in the hills—that of coming before the curtain, and in a true and earnest little speech—which told how her voice was afflicted by her cold—thanking the audience for its forbearance and relating how much pain she felt at being unable to do justice before an audience which had always been so charmingly cordial to her as that of Salt Lake. She was seized with a severe cold, she stated, the severest she had ever experienced since she had been on the stage—on the first day she arrived here, and only a sense of duty to the public had kept her on the boards. She was tremendously applauded for her effort—which was taken to be something of an answer to the almost brutal attacks of a certain element of the city, the reports of which have been written of her as if she were imposing on the public instead of being really and seriously afflicted—and when she had retired she was again brought before the curtain in the most beautiful manner possible. The biggest hit of the night was made by the male chorus, which, costumed as Druids, did some noble work. Montez's delineated Pollio, the faithless and finally repentant Roman—better than he has yet done anything, and Annanda's singing the part of Adalgisa with fervor and true feeling. Broderick was majestic as the old Druid and sang in his fine effective style. The orchestra did some beautiful work. The settings were fair, but not striking, and the stage manager who acted for the interior of Norma's ancient dwelling—which should have been a grove or cave effect—the handsome modern oak and tapestry we have seen do service in a hundred Fifth Avenue comedies and London dramas of to-day—must have been hard pushed for ideas or scenic material.

The matinee of the Bohemian Girl yesterday afforded a very strong contrast to the conscientious labors of the evening performance. The house was full, a big proportion of the audience being the Stephens Opera Company and their friends, all of whom went out of curiosity and to get some "pointers." They must have gone home with a number of idols pretty badly shattered. Stephen's class had clung to the old-fashioned tradition of learning and rendering the entire opera, and the thought of omitting an entire solo, duet or chorus, would have been almost a sacrifice to them. What must they have thought then to see a professional company tear through the work, ripping, cutting and slashing, and where it did not do this—taking movements meant to be the tender and most sentimental—at a rate which suggested Firenze and Jay Eye See, but suggested very little of what Balfe meant to portray? Choruses were split in two in the middle, sometimes quitted; the duo between the Queen and Devilshoof was not sung at all; one of Thaddeus' sweetest bits in the last act, "Fity for One," was never hinted at; the beautiful duet between Thaddeus and Arline was abbreviated and taken at a galloping speed that sent its tenderness galley westward; the "Silence" choruses of the gypsies was sung like they were announcing a fire; the prayer was rendered with about as much feeling as a twelve-year-old girl gets out of Czerny's exercises. As for the character actors, only Pruetie, who is the artist always, whether the house be great or small, matinee or night—did anything notable—his heart "Bow'd Down" being full of feeling. Michelena was not the ideal Thaddeus till the close, where his "Fair and of Poland" caught the house. Miss Abbott's place was filled by Miss Bertini, who sang respectably it must be said, and acted like a school girl. As for Annanda, it would not be amiss if some manager who had the pure strings were to give her a few lessons on the way to treat an audience; either because it was a 50-cent matinee, or that something had gone wrong, this lady went through her part something after the vivacious manner of a sleep walker, only waking sufficiently to now and then utter some audible remarks to someone off the stage. Her one song of "Bless Forever Pass" was well done, but not perfect; her acting, where she is supposed to be filled with jealous fury on hearing Thaddeus avow his love for Arline, was reminiscent of nothing so much as of a lady who has been informed of a rise in the current price of tacking down carpets. Mr. Broderick's Devilshoof was a decided contrast, well acted and well sung.

The unanimous verdict seemed to be after the performance, that the amateur presentation, even with its occasional slowness of action, was vastly to be preferred to the professional, for in the former we at least had the satisfaction of knowing that we received the work in a shape that the composer would not have to have identified, if by any chance his departed shade happened around while it was being sung.

Success in life is the result of push and energy. If the blood is impure and sluggish, both body and mind lack vigor. To cleanse and vitalize the blood and impart new life to the system, nothing else has such a marvelous effect as Ayer's Sarsaparilla.

**Anticipated Indian Fight.**  
**PIERRE, Dak., October 26.**—About 200 Sioux Indians, under White Ghost, from the Lower Bonh Agency, passed up Bad River to reinforce the Standing Rock Indians in the rumored coming

fight with Crow Indians. It is expected that about 300 Indians will join them at Cheyenne. The Crows were out in force, and it was expected to strike the blow while the Sioux chiefs were at Washington, but they were late. The latter have returned.

### THE FEVER.

**A Yellow Fever Death in Brooklyn.**—Report from Florida

New York, October 26.—Considerable alarm has been occasioned over the death in a hospital in Brooklyn, of Captain John J. J. J., of yellow fever. Health authorities, however, assert there is no cause for fear, as everything possible to prevent the spread of the disease has been done. The steamer *Caren* immediately returned to the lower quarantine, where she will be thoroughly fumigated. A portion of her cargo discharged was also disinfected. The pack in which J. J. rode to the hospital has been thoroughly disinfected. Officers are at work trying to locate the passengers.

**JACKED TO GLORY.**  
 JACKSONVILLE, Fla., October 26.—Nine cases of yellow fever at Enterprise, six of which are critical. Only one physician there.

**Little Rock, Ark., October 26.**—Hugh Luckman (colored) was hanged at Toledo today. Luckman killed a negro known as Big Six, in a quarrel over a game of cards two years ago.

**RAWLINS, Wyo., October 26.**—Ben F. Carter was hanged here this morning. His neck was broken by the fall and death was instantaneous. Carter was a cowboy of the hardest character. The crime for which he suffered was the unprovoked assassination of a boy named John Jeffrey, in the fall of 1887.

### A Prize Fight.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., October 26.—Jack Ashton, of Providence, and Jim Fell, of Grand Rapids, Mich., fought twelve rattling rounds here last night. Ashton won on a foul. Fell was badly used up.

The mark of premature age may be effectually obliterated by using Buckingham's Dye for the Whiskers. It colors uniformly, and always gives satisfaction.

### The Daily Disaster.

PARIS, Ky., October 26.—A train on the Kentucky Central this afternoon, left the track near here. Engineer Robert Black and Elmore Bryan a passenger of London, Ohio, were fatally injured. John Ryan, a brakeman, and J. Allen, an engineer on the Chesapeake & Ohio road, who was a passenger, were severely injured.

Rheumatism is caused by lactic acid in the blood, which Hood's Sarsaparilla neutralizes, and thus cures rheumatism.

### King Milan's Divorce.

ST. PETERSBURG, October 26.—Papers here express indignation at the manner in which King Milan, of Serbia, secured a divorce from Queen Natalie and denounces the divorce as illegal. See urges Queen Natalie to appeal to the Patriarch of Constantinople and other chiefs of the orthodox church to annul the action of the Metropolitan Theodosius.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria

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