

The Drama.



MAY IRWIN IN "THE WIDOW JONES" AT THE CALIFORNIA THEATER

Bernard Bryan, in Dan Mason's new comedy-drama "A Day in June," is a part which unless taken by a finished comedian of the highest class may easily seem vulgar, while if well sustained it gives free scope for the most artistic methods. Daniel Sully would appear to have been born for the role, which he invests with a charm peculiarly his own.

Miss Julia Hanchett as Mrs. Belle Dashington, a frisky widow angling for a husband, might have sustained her part a little better. In some of the more comical situations her acting had a certain air of crudeness almost approaching to burlesque; while Miss Kate Michelena as the deserted wife so harrowing in her portrayal of Helen Farwell's weight of woes as to give one a very uncomfortable feeling every time she appeared on the boards.

There was a smooth, suave villain in the person of Herschell Mayall, who rolled his eyes and clinched his fists according to the most approved methods of antiquity. The subordinate parts might have been worse though they surely might have been much better. As a whole, however, the play is well worth hearing.

Baldwin Theater.
The farewell performances of Rice's "1492" will be given this week at the Baldwin Theater. They will include a Christmas matinee at popular prices. The artists of this organization have prepared several novelties in the way of songs, dances, witticisms and costumes for the festive season. Miss Bonehill's latest success entitled "The Knickerbocker and the Shoe" will be rendered at every performance. The Kilanyi living pictures will be seen as usual.

Next Sunday night Herrmann begins a return engagement at the Baldwin Theater. He will introduce a feature which is said to surpass anything he has yet attempted in this City; in fact, he has attempted the feat but twice before. This act will consist of Herrmann catching bullets fired from the guns of six soldiers.

California Theater.
The California Theater puts forth to-morrow evening for its holiday week a production one of its strongest bills of the season, May Irwin in "The Widow Jones." The company comes direct from a brilliant series of Eastern engagements, among them a run of seventy-five consecutive performances at the Bijou Theater, New York.

Miss Irwin's capacity for fun making, her humor and her magnetic personality are well known. "The Widow Jones," written specially for her by John J. McNally, who also wrote "A Country Sport" and "A Straight Tip," is said to give the new star ample opportunity to be seen at her best. Miss Irwin has introduced in "The Widow Jones" two ditties entitled "The New Bully" and "I Want Yer Ma, Honey," which have proved highly popular in the East.

Miss Irwin will be surrounded by a company which includes John C. Rice, Jacques Kruger, Joseph M. Sparks, George W. Barnum, Roland Carter, Richard J. Jones, Ada Lewis, Anne Sutherland, Sally Cohen,

the influence of Dolly Green, a woman who tries to make her discontented with her lot; but Nancy is shrewd and true-hearted and the French ball teaches her a lesson, by which she profits, though it is not till the last act that the audience discovers that Fanny Rice has been preaching a sermon in her new play.

The holiday company includes: W. H. Fitzgerald, Herman Eurent, John J. Conley, Edward Trautman, Frank E. Morse, Miss Alice Vincent, Miss Reba Height, Miss Grace F. Nolvin, W. H. Frillman and Master Willie Meek.

Grover's Alcazar.
The matinee to-day and the performance to-night will see the last of "The Streets of New York" at the Alcazar.

To-morrow will be presented for the holidays the pageant, "The Great Black Crook." The scenery will be of an elaborate description, and electrical effects will be used in two great transformation scenes and the incantation scene.

The cast will consist of the strength of the company, with some special additions. The ballet will include the French quadrille dancers Heloise, Fantine, Janet and Marie, the Sappho ballet and a comic ballet d'action, entitled "The Chimney Fadden" ballet. There will be a grand Amazon march with armor, costumes and implements of mimic war on the stage.

The specialty performances introduced will comprise Captain Walter Beach, the manfish, who eats, sleeps, etc., in a reservoir of water. There will also be Le Noir, the human nondescript, who ties his legs, arms and neck into the knot of tangles; Delaney and Charmion in an aerial act; Josephine Gasmane and Daisy Grogan. Leonard Grover Jr. will perform the part of Greppo.

Commencing with Christmas day there will be matinees each day during the week, and after the matinees there will be a distribution of Christmas toys, confectionery and presents.

The Alcazar.
"The Streets of New York" is a very old play, but like an old friend one cannot tire of it when its intenser scenes are not overdone. The acting during its presentation last week was mixed. Some of it was very good and the rest very bad. The palm was by common consent awarded to Frank Armstrong as Badger, the clerk, who made a simply charming hero. Rough, and even a little unorthodox, as his part requires, he sustained it with so much ability and was so purely natural as to move the fairer portion of his audience to tears or rapturous applause at will.

Francis Powers, as the villain, and May Noble, as the villainess, if the term may be employed, did some excellent work, but the remainder of the dramatic personae were nothing wonderful.

Between acts John E. McWade, "the battled King," as he is called, has been ren-



LEWIS WILLIAMS AS COLUMBUS IN RICE'S "1492" AT THE BALDWIN.

dering some of his ever-welcome songs, being applauded to the echo night after night. His rich, sympathetic baritone sounds at its best in the tender, old-fashioned ballads of a quarter century ago, which he renders with exquisite expression and artistic finish. Mr. McWade will be remembered as having sung years ago in "Pinafore" with Jessie Bartlett Davis, now of the Bostonians.

Grand Opera-House.
Manager Morosco's holiday attraction, which will be produced to-morrow night, is a revival of Jules Verne's "Around the World in Eighty Days." Efforts are being put forth to make the adventures of Phineas Fogg and Passe-Partout particularly attractive. New scenery has been prepared, marches and dances, participated in by over a hundred young women, are being rehearsed, and there will be novel mechanical effects.

There are over forty speaking characters in the cast. The eccentric hero will be played by H. Coulter Brinker, and Passe-Partout by the Oakland playwright and manager, Louis Imhaus. Among the prominent features of the production will be a new Amazon march led by Julia Blanc, a high wire performance by the famous Cebellus, a ramboro dance by Florence Throppe, a cymbal dance by the priestesses of the mosque.

At the Orpheum.
It is stated that for months the Orpheum management, with John Morrissey as chief adviser, has been preparing a surprise bill for holiday week—variety, novelty and high-class vaudeville are all to be represented. The Manhattan Comedy Four, Clifford and Huth, Bernard Dyllin, the three De Bolieu Brothers and Newell and Shevete are down on the list of new arrivals. As vocal comedians and eccentrics the Comedy Four are said to be unsurpassed by any in the country. Their methods are original and their business is of their own creation. The songs and sketches are entertaining and their voices are above the average of "team" warblers. Clifford and Huth will appear in dialect



SCENE IN "AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS" AT MOROSCO'S GRAND OPERA-HOUSE.

and character sketches together with songs and dances. Bernard Dyllin will sing songs in his well-known style. The De Bolieus will give an exhibition of acrobatic work and Newell and Shevete will be seen in their great triple horizontal bar act.

Tivoli Opera-House.
The Christmas spectacle at the Tivoli will be "Ixion, or the Man at the Wheel." Ixion, it will be remembered, is credited with being a king of Thessaly who took a trip to heaven as a guest of King Jupiter and fell in love with that potentate's wife, the goddess Juno.

The original spectacle is a good piece of farcical humor, but it has been deemed wise to revise it slightly, and this task has been relegated to John Wilson. The management expresses satisfaction with his work, and to-morrow the public will be called upon to judge it.

Alice Carl is to be the Ixion, and considering it unseasonable to persecute her at Christmas, Mr. Wilson has decreed that instead of being tied to a wheel she shall be the recipient of a bicycle. Laura Millard will be the Juno, and little Gertrude Carlisle will play Cupid. Ferris Hartman, being deemed a necessary ingredient to a holiday spectacle, has been assigned the role of the poet. Thomas C. Leary will appear as Ganymede, Jupiter's cup-bearer, who will incidentally talk about the Chutes. The music of "Ixion" has been rearranged by Adolph Bauer.

There will be a matinee on Christmas day.

"LA NAVARRAISE."

An Opinion of Massenet's Latest European Success.

The New York Herald says: "The most important musical event of the week was the first performance here of Massenet's 'La Navarraise.'"

"If conciseness and rapidity of action were all that was necessary to make a one-act opera a success, then Massenet's work would easily throw even 'Cavalleria Rusticana' and 'Pagliacci' in the shade.

"It is the shortest lyric drama extant. You can sing it, act it and shoot it in fifty minutes. Without the shooting it might easily be done in half that time. That M. Massenet, who has written some really charming music—one has but to think of his orchestral suites, his 'Manon' and his 'Werther'—should have been guilty of such an error of taste is surprising, to say the least. And the story of 'La Navarraise' is as repellent as the music is cacophonous. A man who will commit murder for the sake of love and gain one might not only understand, but sympathize with. A woman, never.

"It was generally hoped that in 'La Navarraise' Mile. Calve had found a role which would reveal to us her extraordinary



THE MANHATTAN COMEDY FOUR AT THE ORPHEUM.

talent in a new light. As usual, Mile. Calve achieved a great personal success; for the woman is interesting, magnetic and intense always. But the roles of Santuzza and Ophelia give her much greater scope than the part of Anita. She sang and acted with tremendous energy. And yet one could not help regretting that her wondrous gifts were wasted on such meretricious music, such melodramatic matter generally.

Turned Away Crowds.

Alf Hayman had fun with one of Charles Frohman's agents at the Empire Theater. Boston, the other night, when Olga Nethersole was too ill to play "Camille." Money was being refunded at the box-office and hundreds of disappointed people were streaming out of the lobby when the agent arrived. He was unaware of the star's illness and opened his eyes wide at the sight of the crowds leaving the theater.

"That's the way it has been since 7:30 o'clock," remarked Hayman, cheerfully, "turning 'em away by the hundred."

"Great Scott! what immense business!" said the agent. "C. F. certainly does have luck."

He continued in this strain for ten min-



FANNY RICE AT THE COLUMBIA THEATER.

utes until the truth dawned on him. Then the agent bought the drinks.

Dramatic Brevities.

Clara Morris is still pegging away at "Camille."

And now Sarah Bernhardt declares Jeanne Granier to be Duse's equal.

A Parisian manager has made an offer

asks about "The Queen's Necklace" and leaves the French for his neighbor.

Augustin Daly, whom one would imagine to be as well informed as any one of what is going on in the dramatic world of Berlin, has of late developed a wonderful knack of choosing nothing but the feeblest product of Germany.

Said Richard Mansfield the other day: "Before I was taken ill I came to the conclusion there were too many theaters in New York, and you can judge of my surprise when I recovered to find that a man named Hammerstein had built a whole row of theaters along Broadway."

Yvette Gilbert has arrived in New York. Her nose is not Grecian, and her beauty is not in accordance with any regular rules. She is stouter than one would be led to believe from her photographs, and has red hair of the latest Parisian shade. The Olympian Hammerstein is to pay her \$4000 a week, and she is going to sing her songs just as she did in Paris.

FIELD FOR OLIVE CULTURE

What a Live Mariposa Orchardist Has Done With the Berries.

Some Successful Experiments on the Elk Horn Foothill Ranch.

Four and a half miles from the town of Hornitos, on the direct road to Mariposa, is the Elk Horn ranch, owned by Buffum & Stockton. In early times it was simply a watering-place for the thirsty animals that hauled the heavily freighted prairie-choseurs to the higher altitudes of the gold belt. When it first came into the hands of its present proprietors it was utilized as a stock range, with occasional sideshow, as such as Angora goats and choice breeds of poultry. Then the owners commenced adding improvements, including new buildings, substantial fences and putting in an extensive acreage of wheat. Combining the useful with the ornamental, they planted small orchards of orange, pear, fig and other choice varieties of fruit, and set out a miniature vineyard, so that they have latterly rested in the shade of their own "vine and fig tree." Their wheat-growing was a success in yield and quality, and their fruit and grape crop a joy to their friends, who shared their hospitality and feasted without stint or price.

In 1887 N. S. Stockton, one of the partners in the ranch, made an experimental venture in olive culture. It was the initial step in what bids fair to become an important industry in the foothills. Mr. Stockton, while in the City a few days ago, gave for the benefit of the readers of THE CALL the details of his progress in olive culture up to date.

He began in 1887 by setting out upon an acre of ground 110 two-year-old trees. They commenced bearing at three years, and in 1891 he produced the first olive oil in Mariposa County. From this same one-acre tract in 1894 he gathered over two tons of olives and made quite an amount of oil of most excellent quality, besides picking several hundred pounds. He has added to the area of his olive orchard, which now embraces ten acres, with 900 thrifty, growing trees. They are all bear-

ing, but only the original acre in quantity to justify the gathering, which was commenced during the first week of the present month. From this little patch he expects the crop will amount to about four tons.

He will pickle not less than 900 pounds. The exhibit of Buffum & Stockton in olives and oil took the third premium at the Midwinter Fair. No irrigation is required for the olives, nor for other orchard and vine products. It is the intention of these progressive gentlemen to extend the area of their olive orchard, and as they own about 2500 acres of land, 1500 acres of which is agricultural and specially adapted to olive culture, the possibilities in this direction are grand.

In this connection, it is the deliberate and published opinion of expert olive orchardists that the region known as the "foothills," including the territory lying along the gold belt from 600 to 1500 feet in altitude, is the "natural home of the olive." The altitude of the Elk Horn ranch is 1095 feet. There are other localities, within a few miles, possessing the same characteristics of soil and climate. The trouble is that, as a rule, the olive-grower has to wait a few years for a profitable return, as the olive ordinarily commences to bear fruit at six or seven years of age, and only comes into full bearing at the age of 8 or 10 years. It is a very hardy and long-lived tree. There are trees growing in this State, planted by the mission fathers, which have long since passed their centennial year, and it is stated upon good authority that in the neighborhood of Jerusalem there are olive trees over a thousand years old.

W. H. MILLS A SUFFRAGIST

His Letter to Mrs. McComas, in Which He Avers His Allegiance.

Ladies Who Desire the Franchise for Their Sex Welcome Him to the Ranks.

William H. Mills has declared unequivocally for woman suffrage, and the ladies who desire the franchise for their sex are rejoicing greatly in securing such a champion.

The Pacific Ensign quotes the following from his letter in reply to Mrs. McComas' inquiry whether he was a suffragist:

"To this I beg leave to reply that I am in favor of equal rights and the imposition of equal duties upon all responsible people. Intelligence and accountability are inseparable. Woman has intelligence, and therefore she is accountable. The possession of civil rights imposes civil duties. Civil rights are conferred upon woman, and they are not unaccompanied by civil duties. Our government is founded upon the doctrine that all governments derive their just power from the consent of the governed. Woman is subject to those influences to law; therefore, her consent is necessary to the establishment of just government. Equality before the law is a fundamental maxim of our institutions, and this necessarily implies equality of the right to participation in the formation of law.

The genius of republican institutions is derived from the selfhood, the self-control and the self-ownership of humanity. Each accountable individual has a right to control his or her destiny; and since the enactment of law influences alike the destiny of the men and women of a country, it establishes to the equal right of men and women to control their own destiny.

Woman possessed of all the inherent attributes which belong to man. The crowning attributes of mankind are reason, conscience, sensibility and immortality. Woman is possessed of these, and has a right to an equal round of being which not only entitles her to that right of consent which makes her subject to government, but imposes upon her the full measure of the duties of citizenship. Having a destiny, she has an equal right to a voice in the formation of those influences which direct and control that destiny.

Her intelligence, accompanied by her accountability; her civil rights, attended by civil duties; her objection to government, resting in her right of consent; the nobility of her destiny, growing out of the moral and spiritual nature of her being; all combine to impose upon her the high responsibilities and solemn duties of the elective franchise.

In the same letter you ask: "Do you think the constitutional amendment now before the people of California, relating to woman suffrage, will carry?"

I beg leave respectfully to represent that it is quite too early to have an opinion on this matter. If the election were to take place in the next thirty days, in my opinion the amendment would not carry. What the result will be in November, 1896, do not claim to be possessed of sufficient foresight to hazard an opinion. Yours very truly,

WILLIAM H. MILLS.

THE HERVATSKA SLOGA.

Editor Piskulich of the Croatian Journal Issues a Finely Illustrated Holiday Number.

The Hervatska Sloga, the Croatian journal published in this City, has issued a splendid Christmas number of twenty-two pages. It is owned and published by L. W. Piskulich at 629 Washington street, and is the only publication in the Croat tongue issued in America.

Editor Piskulich came to the United States a few years ago, and after a close study of the English language, launched his paper on the sea of journalism. His holiday number is a creditable issue, the cover being printed in colors and handsomely illustrated with pictures of prominent people of the Slavonian race in this country and Europe.

There are over 20,000 Slavs in this City, and the Hervatska Sloga has a wide circulation among that people.

Croatia is to the Austro-Hungarian empire what Ireland is to the English Government; consequently this Slavonian journal teems with strong utterances against the Teutonic power that finally brought the Croats under subjugation forty years ago.

It is stated that coal is only 7d per ton at the pit's mouth in China.

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FERRIS HARTMAN AS ACROPOLIS AT THE TIVOLI.