# THE STAGE

The theatrical events of the week will be the reopening of the Baldwin Theater for the winter season and the departure of the Frawley company after a long and successful run at the Columbia. Most managers of local stock companies, either for reasons of prudence or economy, seem to have a horror of novelties. The offerings they spread before us consist by preference of operas we know by heart or plays that have been tried on every other important city of the Union, if indeed they are not hoary-headed chestnuts worn threadbare even here. Frawley has set the example of letting San Francisco see some brand new productions, and he cannot be too much commended for proving that even from a box-office standpoint it is not necessary to try new plays on Eastern canines before offering them to the intelligent public of this City.

Oscar Hammerstein has written the book and music of an opera called "Santa Maria." He has also staged and costumed it, designed the scenery and produced it at his own Olympia. After such an exhibition of industry the New York critics did not like to go away from the first performance and say unkind things about "Santa Maria," so with one accord they lauded the performers to the skies, and said that Hammerstein's versatility was something remarkable. "Versatility" was considered a happy word, because it did not commit the critics to any definite opinion about the opera, and yet when Hammerstein read it in the morning he could not but feel flattered. Some of the critics went so far as to say that they had seen worse operas, but they also admitted that they had been called upon to review better works than "Santa Maria." However, everything that Hammerstein touches turns to gold, and it is said that the new opera is drawing big houses at the Olympia.

## Baldwin Theater.

To-morrow night the Baldwin Theater will reopen for its winter season with "The Prisoner of Zenda," a dramatization of Anthony Hope's well-known novel, in which Daniel Frohman's Lyceum Company met with great success in New York last season.

The story is in a prologue and four acts, the prologue being supposed to take place in 1733, and the story proper in 1894. The first act opens in a forest near Zenda, with the English artist at work beneath the trees. The coronation of the King's double occurs in the second act, and during the third act the bogus King meets young Hentzau at the castle of Farlenheim. The last act passes in the dungeon at Zenda, where Rassendyll rescues the real King and returns him to the throne.

James Hackett plays the part of Rudolf Rassendyll, the young Englishman who impersonates the King of Ruritania and saves the throne, and Isabel Irving is the Princess Flavia, who loves the impostor. Besides these two the cast will include: Maude Odell, Charles Walcot, Arthur Elliot, Howard Gould, Walter S. Hale, Marvyn Dallas, R. J. Dustan and John Findlay. The costumes, etc., will be those which were used in the original New York production.

## Columbia Theater.

Palmer & Brady's "Trilby" company, which has just returned from a successful tour in Australia, will open its return visit to this City at the Columbia Theater to-morrow evening.

The personnel of the company has changed to some extent since "Trilby" was first heard at the Baldwin Theater, but it is stated that the new people do their parts as well as their predecessors. In order to make the production as perfect as possible Brady has sent on Charles Kent expressly for this presentation. Kent has been playing Svengali in the East with great success, and a good deal of interest is centered in his appearance here. Zou Zou is to be played by George H. Trader. Miss Edith Crase still plays Trilby, a part in which she won considerable praise from the Australian critics. The company includes Jennie Reiffarth and W. E. Morrison.

After "Trilby" the new farce-comedy, "Town Topics," will come to the Columbia Theater.

## At the Alcazar.

Monday evening will witness a revival of Buckstone's funny farcical comedy, "Married Life." The piece will be carefully staged and the cast of the company will be distributed as follows: Samuel Coddle, Frank Doane; Lionel Lynx, John T. Sullivan; Frederick Younghusband, F. B. Clayton; George Dismal, Carl Smith; Henry Dove, J. B. Polk; Mrs. Samuel Coddle, Mrs. F. M. Bates; Mrs. Lionel Lynx, Amy Lee; Mrs. Frederick Younghusband, May Buckley; Mrs. George Dismal, Hattie Foley; and Mrs. Henry Dove, Mrs. Henry Vanderhoff.

"Married Life" will be preceded by Sidney Grundy's one-act comedietta, "In Honor Bound," which will serve to introduce to the professional stage Miss Rosella la Faille, a young lady well known on the amateur stage and in society circles.

## Grand Opera-House.

"The Big Bonanza," one of Augustin Daly's plays, is to be produced at the Grand to-morrow night. It is a satire on stock gambling, and though it has not been seen in this City for a number of years the hits will no doubt be just as appropriate as they were in former days.

The story is of two brothers, one of whom becomes a student, and in his old age is a poor professor, and the other goes into business and gets rich in Wall street and becomes a banker. The poor brother scoffs at wealth and derides money-getters as men of a lower grade of mentality. The banker brother, to prove the falsity of this assertion, gives the professor $30,000, declaring that the student at the end of thirty days will again be penniless. The action of the play shows how the professor is fleeced right and left in Wall street, and, incidentally, is saved from ruin by Bob Ruggles (Howard Kyle), a young miner who falls in love with Eugenia (Victory Bateman), the banker's daughter, and wins her by his manliness and devotion to her uncle. L. R. Stockwell is the student, Professor Cadwallader, while the banker is to be played by Frank Hatch.

"The Big Bonanza" will be elaborately staged.

## Tivoli Opera-House.

The Tivoli will this week present a scenic revival of Balfe's romantic opera "Satanella," or "The Power of Love." Elvia Crox Seabrooke, who is said to be a talented and vivacious soubrette, will make her first appearance in the title role. The tenor part of Count Rupert will be intrusted to Rhys Thomas, the new tenor who appeared in "Aida." The fine basso cantante role of Arimanes, the king of the lower world, will be rendered by Sig. Abramoff, who has been especially engaged for the production. Maurice Darcy, a light comedian barytone, will be Karl, the young attendant; W. H. West will appear as Hortensius the tutor, John J. Raffael will be seen as the pirate chief; W. H. Tooker, Katherine Kreig, Anna Schnabel and Katherine Loomis will sing the remaining roles.

The next production will be Ferris Hartman's operatic, spectacular burlesque, "The Babes in the Wood." The latest songs, dances and skits upon the late successes and popular fads will garnish this offering. Much care is being given to the preparation for "The Babes in the Wood," which is said to be in the style of "Ship Ahoy," "Ixion" and "Blue Beard."

## At the Orpheum.

The Hawaiian Band and Glee Club have proved so successful at the Orpheum that Gustav Walter has re-engaged them for one more week, but next Sunday's matinee will positively be their last appearance. During this week they will appear in a change of programme nightly, and will also be heard after the performance in the Orpheum annex. The selections chosen for the week include a large number of Hawaiian airs. Professor Liborni will render several saxophone solos, and Samuel Kamakaia, Joseph Kaaua and Charles Pall will all be heard in new selections.

The vaudeville show will have several new features, among which are Gertie Cochran, who will display her memory powers, and C. H. Unthan, the European armless celebrity, who will give an exhibition of skill with his feet. Richard Pitort will return for a short engagement and will appear in local impersonations. Master Walter Leon has a new repertoire in rehearsal. The Carpos Brothers have new acrobatic feats to perform, and Riley and Hughes will appear in a new sketch. A special matinee will be given to-morrow, Labor day.

## At the Chutes.

The pleasant weather has been fully appreciated by the patrons of the Haight-street grounds, and the dozens of attractions out there have been rushed to their utmost capacity. The open-air concerts have been very popular and the Mullen sisters, cornet soloists, are becoming great favorites.

So great was the demand for Antonio Pirri and his exciting ride down the chutes on his bicycle that he was sent for to Los Angeles and he reopened on Friday evening.

This afternoon, in addition to Pirri's ride and a big open-air bill, there will be a balloon ascension and parachute drop at half-past 4 by C. W. Vosmer, the young man who made such a clever sky trip last Sunday. He combines grace with a great amount of daring.

## STRICKEN WITH CONSUMPTION.

### Alexander Salvini Will Probably Never Act Again.

News comes from Italy that Alexander Salvini is stricken with tuberculosis at his father's villa at Vaglioli, near Sienna, and that in all probability he will never live to appear before the footlights again.

For some time past the young tragedian has been in failing health. Since his visit to his father in Italy his agents have denied that his illness was of a serious nature and have constantly sent announcements of his coming return to America for the purpose of beginning his winter tour. According to the Italian papers, however, poor Salvini's theatrical career is ended.

Great sympathy is expressed for the illustrious tragedian, Tommaso Salvini, who is tenderly watching over his son and is doing all in his power to fight off the terrible disease that has attacked him. Speaking of the old man's care for Alexander, l'Italia says: We hope with all our hearts, both for his sake and for the sake of art, that the threatened mourning in the house of Salvini may be averted.

## Work and Degradation.

J. Cheever Goodwin, the author of the book of "Lost, Strayed or Stolen," and also the adapter of "Half a King," does not like topical songs, without which no comic opera nowadays appears to be complete. Francis Wilson, who has made a very emphatic hit with his song, "If I Were Really a King," in "Half a King" at the Knickerbocker Theater, asked Manager Canby to request Mr. Goodwin to send him several new verses to the song, as his audiences were demanding encores for every one of those he now has. Mr. Canby received the new verses and enclosed with them was a bill reading:

FRANCIS WILSON,
To J. Cheever Goodwin, Dr.
To two verses of topical song, and the labor and sense of degradation in writing them.....$50

## La Loie's Patent.

According to the New York Sun, Loie Fuller is on the warpath against Papinta, Mrs. Hermann and others, who are said to be borrowing her spectacular thunder.

Papinta, says the Sun, may not be so direct an offender as Mrs. Hermann, but she's been at it longer, and it may be that she will claim a counter right on Miss Fuller. Papinta used a stageful of mirrors in her dances, and has for several years. Their arrangement was a device of the late Count von Prittwitz Palm, who was also the inventor of the crystal maze. The claim was made that the device was patented, and as a result of an exhibition of it to managers at Miner's People's Papinta began to dance at Madison-square in the then current Hoyt farce. Her dance at that time was an ordinary serpentine reflected in mirrors, but at the Olympia last winter she adopted the method of lighting from below and above, using the mirrors as well, and being reflected as a gorgeous stageful.

Zaeo, at Koster & Bial's, danced in much the same manner, though her mirrors seemed to be in separate sections. At the Standard Loie Fuller also used mirrors, and she had one big frame of plain glass. It may be that the patent on the mirror device is merely for a certain arrangement, and that the other dancers get around this by arranging them in another way, but wherein Miss Fuller's exclusive rights come in is not clear. Mrs. Hermann claims that in her dances she follows plates from Rider Haggard's "She," etchings of East India virgins worshiping at Delhi and pictures of Peru's sun-dancers. She claims, and correctly, that the trick of lighting the dancer from below was done before Miss Fuller's use of it. She admits that "Miss Fuller's appearance in her novelty skirt-dancing, with its accompanying adjuncts of calcium lights in colors and minor effects, first suggested to her the idea of using similar dances."

## Dramatic Brevities.

Nat C. Goodwin will play at the Baldwin during Thanksgiving week.

Kathryn Kidder has completed a comedy which she calls "Loves at War."

John L. Sullivan says he will never again go on the stage. This is good for the stage.

Chauncey Olcott having finished his tour of the Pacific Coast is now en route to the East.

Modjeska sends to market in the fall honey from 600 hives of Italian bees on her California estate.

There is some chance of John Drew going to Australia in the early spring with "Rosemary."

"The Old Homestead" is again on a tour and will be heard at the California during the coming season.

Maurice de Vries will be the vocal soloist at the opening Hinrichs-Beel symphony concert on the 16th inst.

Louis James will make a production of "Spartacus" the leading feature of his repertoire for the coming season.

Georgia Cayvan makes her debut as a star on the 5th inst., at Palmer's Theater in New York in a play entitled "Mary Pennington, Spinster."

It is said that Martha Morton is to be congratulated on the success of "A Bachelor's Romance," the new play recently produced by Sol Smith Russell.

The Imperial Opera Company will open in a few weeks in New York and after playing an engagement of four weeks will start upon a tour which will include this City.

The next public entertainment to be given by the Columbia Theater School of Dramatic Art will take place at the Columbia Theater on Thursday afternoon, October 29.

"There are two courses open to you!" shouts Pirate Melville Stewart to Caliph Jeff De Angelis, at the Broadway.

"Soup and fish," sadly replies the comedian.

Wilton Lackaye and his company are now in New York hard at work rehearsing for the coming tour of the new hypnotic play, "Dr. Belgraff," in which Lackaye will star supported by Marie Wainwright.

"Humanity" has never been presented west of Pittsburg, but this year a tour will be made of the Pacific Coast and the Northwest, where Mr. Grismer and Miss Davies are great favorites. They won their first great success in that section.

Aubrey Boucicault, the clever young actor, is engaged to be married to Miss Nellie Holbrook, the only child of the late Isaac Holbrook of Pittsburg, who died about two years ago, leaving a large fortune to his daughter and widow.

George Lederer amuses himself by keeping count of the number of applicants for engagements with Lillian Russell that bombarded his door. He says that the daily average is 27 prima donnas, 16 tenors, 3 contraltos, 20 comedians and 58 soubrettes.

# Baird's Life of Myers

Continuing my biography of L. E. Myers, the champion runner of ten years ago, I now reach that period which marks an era in his life. Last week we saw him defeat W. G. George, the champion distance runner of England, in the half-mile run, the first of the series of three races.

The second race was a mile and was held on the old polo grounds in New York City, November 11, 1882. Let it be remembered that the three weeks in November in the East is the loveliest season in the year for active outdoor sports. It seldom rains, is generally sunshiny, and always clear and crisp. Omitting the sunshine, such was the weather in which George and Myers ran the mile.

As usual Myers dropped behind his antagonist's shoulder, remaining there until the last furlong was reached. Then it was seen that however great Myers was at the half mile he could not stay with George for a mile. As an official timekeeper, I was stationed with another to catch the time for eleven-twelfths of a mile; this I did, the latter passing ten yards ahead of Myers.

Having caught the time, I did not stop to compare notes with my constituent, but, gripping my timepiece in my hand, rushed down the homestretch a little in the rear of George and about on a level with Myers, and this I saw: George finished in 4:21 2-5; Myers came to a full stop ten yards from the tape, a spectator getting in his path, then, recovering himself, walked over the line in order to make a record. When George finished Myers was eighteen yards behind. As the former's time was 4:21 2-5 one has only to calculate to see that the American would have finished in 4:25 had be been allowed to finish—at least that was the opinion which we, that is, a number of the officials, arrived at in discussing the matter at the time.

However, his time was actually 4:27 3-5. Thus was the American record beaten by both Englishman and American, being held by Myers in 4:29½. In reflecting on these times remember that Myers had run 100 yards in 10 seconds. No living man has ever made such a showing.

The three-quarter mile race, which was to have completed the series, was forfeited by Myers on account of illness, but his over-enthusiastic friends patched up a race for the distance named, to be held on Thanksgiving day. They must have left the elements out of their calculations, for it turned bitterly cold and began to snow.

There were a few additional races, and as I was the winner of the walk I speak from experience when I say that after I had finished it took me half an hour to get the numbness out of my feet. Such was the day when this great race took place. The temperature was 15 degrees, and there was an icy wind blowing, although the sun was shining brightly.

In this race Myers clung closer to George than in former races, even forcing the pace at times. Up to fifty yards from the tape the race was undecided; Myers was then expected to go past him on the finish, but his wonderful speed was compelled to succumb before the stamina of the Englishman, and George crawled ahead amid a perfect whirlwind of applause.

The time of the winner was 3:10½, and although Myers was only five yards in the rear when the leader broke the tape he slowed up and finished in 3:13. These times remained the best on record in America and the best by an American until within a few years.

Two weeks after this race Myers beat another record, and I only mention it to demonstrate the wonderful ability of the man as an all-round runner. In a sixty-yard run he started in a race on a sawdust path, more or less soft, though it may have been as hard as a roller could make it, which is not saying much. Under such adverse circumstances, with very little training if any, for the cinder paths were all buried in snow, he ran the sixty yards in 6 2-5 seconds. Ask any friend posted in athletics what he thinks of such a performance from a man who had run a three-quarters of a mile in the snow in 3:13 but a fortnight before.

The year 1883 was what might be called an "off year" with the subject of our sketch—that is, he did not do anything particularly great. In 1884 Myers once more went to England. On June 5 he made his first public appearance in England for that trip and won the quarter-mile with absurd ease in 49 3-5 seconds. The next day Myers distinguished himself in the half-mile, for which he was probably reserving himself the day before. In this he really let himself out, but having no one to push him won by over thirty yards. At any rate the time was 1:55 2-5, the best amateur record in the world.

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SPECIAL SALE '96 HIGH-GRADE Bicycles $45.00

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Painful diseases are bad enough, but when a man is slowly wasting away with nervous weakness, the mental forebodings are ten times worse than the most severe pain. There is no let up to the mental suffering day or night. Sleep is almost impossible, and under such a strain men are scarcely responsible for what they do. For years the writer rolled and tossed on the troubled sea of sexual weakness until it was a question whether he had not better take a dose of poison and thus end all his troubles. But provisional inspiration came to his aid in the shape of a combination of medicines that not only completely restored his general health, but enlarged his weak, emaciated parts to natural size and vigor, and he now declares that any man who will take the trouble to send his name and address may have the prescription of this wonderful remedy free. Now when I say free I mean absolutely without cost, because I want every weakened man to get the benefit of my experience.

I am not a philanthropist, nor do I pose as an enthusiast, but there are thousands of men suffering the mental tortures of weakened manhood who would be cured at once could they but get such a remedy as the one that cured me. Send me your name and address to-day. Do not try to study out how I can afford to pay the few postage stamps necessary to mail the perscription, but send for the remedy and learn that there are a few things on earth that although they cost nothing to get they are worth a fortune to some men and mean a lifetime of happiness to most of us. Write to Thomas Slater, box 2283, Kalamazoo, Mich., and the prescription will be mailed in a plain sealed envelope.

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All of Our Great Comedians in the Cast. Preceded by Sidney Grundy's One-act Comedietta, "IN HONOR BOUND." Debut of MISS ROSELLA LA FAILLE.

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From U.S. Journal of Medicine.

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Prof. W. H. Peeke, who makes a specialty of Epilepsy, has without doubt treated and cured more cases than any living Physician; his success is astonishing. We have heard of cases of 20 years' standing cured by him. He publishes a valuable work on this disease, which he sends with a large bottle of his absolute cure, free to any sufferer who may send their P.O. and Express address. We advise anyone wishing a cure to address Prof. W. H. PEEKE, F.D., 4 Cedar St., N.Y.

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HOWARD KYLE, VICTORY BATEMAN,
In Augustin Daly's Refined Comedy,
"THE BIG BONANZA."
COSTLY GOWNS! A SPLENDID CAST! BEAUTIFUL SCENERY!
SPECIAL LABOR DAY MATINEE MONDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 5.
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THE PRISONER OF ZENDA!
With JAMES K. HACKETT and Isabel Irving, Maude Odell, Charles Walcot, Howard Gould, Walter S. Hale, Arthur Elliot, John Findlay, Mervyn Dallas, R. J. Dustan, Albert Gran and others of the original Lyceum Theater cast.
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In Their Splendid Performance of
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COME AND SAY "GOOD-BY."
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