

MISS ZABELLE'S DEVOTION TO HER FATHER.

A cordial reception was arranged by Mr. Savage, who had admired the young woman's motif from the beginning, but Miss Zabelle was high heartbroken owing to the Pacific Coast tour she was in duty bound compelled to make after having seen her father for only a few hours.

This is Miss Zabelle's first appearance in San Francisco and while she would under no circumstances intimidate the plans of her present employer, who was instrumental in placing her in a position to free her father, she displays an obvious nervous disposition to hasten the end of the season.

While a theatrical career was probably as far removed from her ambitions as one of domestic mien, Miss Zabelle has become quite reconciled to her choice and appears to be fascinated with her work.

Since she formerly appeared with the Castle Square Opera Company Mr. Savage has conceived the idea of founding a school of opera, in which he desires to train young men and women for the chorus as well as positions of more importance. He prefers to select his chorists from musical colleges, societies and schools, as well as the social walks of life, rather than engage them from the ranks of professional women, who overrun Broadway every day in the year. He points to Miss Zabelle as an example of the chorus girl who rises in her profession, and announces with considerable satisfaction his intention of sending her to Europe next year to have her voice cultivated for his grand opera organization.

At present Miss Zabelle is 23 years of age; she is not tall nor short, but of me-

bring national power to bear with Turkey's Sultan.

Miss Zabelle continued to sing and dance and dance and sing with no thought other than that of freeing her father, from whom she had not heard for three long years.

Many of her former admirers, scions of wealthy families of the smart set in Philadelphia, had heard of the Mangasarian's plight. Each offer of assistance was firmly refused; each proffered hand in marriage which might bring untold wealth into the family was as firmly rejected. Zabelle Mangasarian worked on and on.

Finally some slight encouragement was in sight; the Sultan was beginning to feel the power of Uncle Sam's far reaching protection.

The "King Dodo" company completed its New York engagement and was to be again presented in Chicago. Miss Zabelle's mother accompanied the company and on the second week of its run a cablegram advised them of the successful effort which had been brought to bear to free Dr. Mangasarian.

The usual complications arose in the matter of arranging details, indispensable



FLORA ZABELLE THE ARMENIAN SOCIETY BELLE.



MISS ZABELLE ON THE STAGE.

Heroic Struggle of a Beautiful American Society Girl Who Won Fame on the Stage Just to Earn Enough Money to Get Her Father Released From a Turkish Prison.

BEWED by nature with a pretty face and form, an uncommonly magnetic personality and a pleasing soprano voice, Flora Zabelle, one of the most attractive of Philadelphia's smart set, adopted a stage career three years ago in order that sufficient money might be earned to free her father, the Rev. Dr. Mangasarian, from a Turkish prison.

Dr. Mangasarian with his wife and daughter migrated from Stamboul, Turkey, some fifteen years ago to take up his residence in the Quaker City, where he later became pastor of the Episcopal Presbyterian Church. His intelligent readings, orations and services were sufficiently impressive to place him on a high scale of excellence, and the name of Mangasarian soon became known in the exclusive society of Philadelphia.

Dr. Mangasarian, however, advanced from the Presbyterian sect to a study of ethical culture, with Dr. Felix Adler, whom he later assisted at Carnegie Hall, in New York. During one of his lectures he was thoroughly carried away by his own emotions in defense of the Armenians who were being massacred and his denunciations of Turkey's Sultan were of a strenuous nature.

The Sultan in some way was informed of Dr. Mangasarian's public denunciation, and expressed in loud terms his displeas-

ure against the man who had formerly lived under his flag.

About three years ago Dr. Mangasarian was commissioned to execute a secret mission in Constantinople. Considerable care was observed to conceal his identity, as he traveled incognito and even shaved his beard and mustache. Through some mysterious channel known principally to Orientalists news of the pastor's visit was carried to the Sultan, and when Dr. Mangasarian landed at Constantinople he was immediately arrested and thrown into prison. All efforts at the time on the part of the American Consul were apparently futile. His family was left in an almost destitute condition, and they were unable to communicate with him.

Through the kind offices of Dr. Felix Adler the wife and daughter, Zabelle, were brought to New York. The girl was pretty and had often afforded much entertainment at home by her clever amateur work. What little money they managed to realize on the effects which they were compelled to dispose of soon dwindled to nothing, and with great reluctance Miss Zabelle's mother finally agreed to allow her daughter to adopt a career on the stage, which might eventually provide the requisite funds to assist in freeing Dr. Mangasarian.

Inexperienced, unsophisticated and with much timidity Miss Zabelle made an ambitious tour of the various theatrical

agencies in New York, and every application was met with the same cold reply—to the effect that an inexperienced girl was practically useless.

At about this period Henry W. Savage was organizing a second Castle Square Grand Opera Company to present one in English, and the young woman approached the manager with little hope of securing work. Mr. Savage tried her voice and finding it satisfactory gave her an engagement in the chorus.

Her refined ways, quiet deportment and ambitious application to her work was obvious to her associates and while it was impossible to give her work of sufficient importance in grand opera which might command a more remunerative stipend than chorus work provided, Mr. Savage did not fail to recognize that Miss Zabelle was above the average chorus girl who infest the Broadway agencies. It was not long before her story became known to the members of the company and little by little she gained that knowledge of stage craft, which is almost impossible to acquire outside the chorus, to qualify her for something better.

One season with the Castle Square Opera Company's chorus fitted her for better work and the following season she was engaged to sing the title role in "San Toy," the English-Japanese musical comedy brought to Daly's Theater, New York,

from London. She experienced considerable difficulty in this work, as she was compelled to undergo comparison with Marie Celeste, the original of the role.

During this period of her stage career Dr. Mangasarian was unconscious of his daughter's advent into the theatrical profession and while she was supporting her mother and herself she managed to put away each week enough to eventually contribute to an attempt to release her father from the terrible clutches of the Sultan of Turkey.

No summer vacation was to be thought of. An engagement with a musical organization which played Atlantic City was the next step and then a winter engagement in "The Messenger Boy" with James T. Powers brought her into metropolitan favor.

When Henry W. Savage brought his "King Dodo" company into New York for a run at Daly's Theater he just about for metropolitan favorites and, remembering the work Miss Zabelle had done in his chorus two or three seasons previously, together with her work in several other productions, he engaged her to sing the role of Annette.

The question of salary was easily settled, since Mr. Savage was familiar with her mission on the stage, and the young woman made a pronounced "hit" with her fascinating eyes, cultured voice and pleasing stage presence. At about this pe-

riod she had earned sufficient money to engage a reputable attorney of international connection, who set to work, armed with a retainer of no small proportions, to

international matters and on the last night of "King Dodo's" Chicago run Dr. Mangasarian arrived to see his daughter for the first time on the stage.

dium height, plump, and possesses a pair of jet black eyes, which must needs attract the most biased theater-goer by reason of their luster.