

# Opera Suffer From Organic Weakness Within and Rain Without

## "TATTOOED MAN" A PASTORAL Frank Daniels, Inimitable in His Way, Struggles Hard to Carry the Burden Alleged Comic Opera Not Funny and Lacks Tune, While the Book Is Inane

By Walter Anthony

**CAST OF CHARACTERS**  
Omar Khayyam, singer, poet and swain of temperance..... Frank Daniels  
Abdallah, an Arab chief..... William Danforth  
Harry Clarke  
Hashish, janitor of the shah's harem..... Harry Clarke  
Nace Bonville  
Munier, a musician..... George Perry  
All court-utensils..... Gilbert Clayton  
A Mezzain, who calls the people to prayer, but they don't come..... Russell  
The "Light" Man..... Louis Harrison  
Lelia, beloved by Omar, but nothing doing..... Lelia  
Alma, daughter of Omar..... Norma Kopp  
Fatima, a wall flower..... Conna Sylvester  
Miss Vandeventer of New York..... Norman  
Miss Penn of Philadelphia..... Elizabeth Grant  
Miss Besant of Boston..... Mabel Powell  
Miss Frink of Frisco..... Clara Frey  
Miss of New York..... Miss  
Star of Evening..... Montague Mahlon  
Bash of Dawn..... Mabel Horton  
Bash of Summer.....  
Bird of Paradise..... Anna Boies  
Selim..... Margaret Warren  
Hassan..... Agnes Grant  
Dancing Slave—Misses Frey, Harrell, Crane, Grant, Drake, Williams, Howard, Powell, Webb, Mercat.

New York has sent me many things for which we shall remain forever ungrateful. It has handed us poor companies in poorer plays and wretched settings, and has charged us \$2 each to find it out. It has done many things amiss which we had nothing to do with, but which we have had to suffer. The "Tattooed Man" is no exception. It is a remarkable performance, but why "The Tattooed Man" should Daniels' humor be temporarily dampened by a cold or his spirit by the rain is not explainable. Every body nearly knows Frank Daniels as one of the most characteristic and original of all comedians. He still is, and will do you good, even in "The Tattooed Man," for you will charitably acknowledge that he has nothing to do with the construction of the book or the music. Victor Herbert assumes responsibility for the latter and the book is the work of Harry Clarke. Smith divides the blame for the book with A. N. C. Fowler, whose first effort, I believe, is this piece. If that is so, he surely "got off bad," and for a piece of music is commended to mercy undeserved.

The story is of a bogus weather prophet, Omar Khayyam Jr., who is an astrologer attached to the service of the shah of Persia. Khayyam has a counterfeit dagger in his pocket, which the shah wants to add to his harem collection. Omar is willing, but his daughter, Alma, loves Alky Cuffs, whom she met in America while getting civilization. Omar almost falls in love and chooses Lelia for his bride, but she, too, has a mind of her own and will wed no one but Abdallah, an Arab chief. Omar has the mark of a scarabaeus on his neck, which he believes links his fate with that of two other men who also have similar marks on theirs. The lovers of his daughter and Lelia get their necks tattooed with the scarabaeus, and Alma threatens to commit suicide if Omar doesn't give them their hearts' desires, which, of course, he straightaway does, because if they die he dies too.

The shah then gets his innings and is going to behead Omar for giving his daughter to another, but at the proper moment an eclipse of the sun takes place. Our poet proudly to it, says he did it like Mark Twain's Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's court, and threatens to keep the lid on the light forever if he isn't given a pardon. He gets it and then "The Tattooed Man" is all over.

The costuming, I have said, is very good, though there are few changes in the chorus gowns; a rain storm scene was well effected, though on another night, less wet outside. It should be better received. Julia Elmer as Lelia sings one song well and one note beautifully—it is very high and clear and susceptible of improvement only in the matter of pitch. William Danforth as Abdallah sings one big number with a rather "white" voice and acts the part of the fervid son of the desert with much fire and impetuosity. Norma Kopp does not sing very much, but dances gracefully, and Louis Sylvester plays a travesty on womankind which is funny at times. Harry Clark as Alky Cuffs dances—that's all. The rest do little and perhaps make the most of Herbert's "melodies," which are the worst he has ever written. Personally, I don't believe he wrote them.

The orchestra was new to the music and will get better acquainted with the chorus before the week is over. Last night there were differences of opinion between those on the stage and those in the musicians' seats, while the leader seemed to be reconciling. But Frank Daniels and Frank Daniels will remain the justification for bringing "The Tattooed Man" clear across the continent. I'll bet he won't bring him again.

**CENTRAL**  
"Bunco in Arizona," a drama, which, as its name indicates, is a story of life in a border state, was presented by the Central theater players last night and was well received by the patrons of the house. The play bristles with exciting situations, captures, pistol duels, Indian fights and heroic rescue following each, with bewildering rapidity. The plot of the play deals with an attempt by unscrupulous persons to wrest the Rainbow mine from its rightful owner. This circumstance is woven with the romance of a miner and an English orphan girl who is given the nickname of "Bunco."

**GLASS' CONDITION SERIOUS**  
Louis Glass, convicted telephone man, who was removed from the county jail to Lane hospital Sunday evening because of threatened pneumonia, was said last night to be in a serious condition, though he is in no immediate danger. His temperature remained practically the same all day yesterday as when he was taken to the hospital Sunday night, but his general condition was slightly improved.

**TAKES CHARGE OF BANKS**—St. Paul, Jan. 20.—State Bank Examiner Schaefer today assumed charge of the State Bank of St. Paul and its adjunct, the Citizens' savings bank. Both banks were removed from the county jail to Lane hospital Sunday evening because of threatened pneumonia, was said last night to be in a serious condition, though he is in no immediate danger. His temperature remained practically the same all day yesterday as when he was taken to the hospital Sunday night, but his general condition was slightly improved.

Sketches made by a Call artist of scenes in the comic operas presented last night. Daniels and his supporters in "The Tattooed Man" at the Van Ness appear on the right. On the left is Powers, who holds up "The Blue Moon."



part of the lovelorn miner. T. N. Heffron as the scheming and haughty Englishman makes an acceptable villain, while the character work of Frank Bonner as a half breed Frenchman, deserving of especial mention. The principals are well supported by the rest of the company and the play should draw well for the week it is to run.

**ALCAZAR**  
Rida Johnson Young's comedy, "The Boys of Company B," receives excellent treatment at the hands of the Alcazar people, who enter thoroughly into the spirit of the play. The comedy is a bright one, full of amusing situations, and with an ingenious plot that reveals constant surprises. A love affair is at the basis of it, and a designing mother and a rich suitor, combined with a wrongly interpreted letter, threaten to part the lovers. The troubled ones, who at last have their path made smooth, are impersonated by Bertram Lytle and Thelma Lawton, the latter of whom is especially good, assuming with great success the girlish attitude necessary. Lytle does fair comedy work and is good in the love scenes.

A good character part falls to the part of Howard C. Hickman, who plays the self-sufficient young millionaire with remarkably good effect. Daisy Lovering is cast as the helping girl, and there is a lisping man impersonated by the versatile John Maher. The principal scene between these two is one of the best things of the play.

**PRINCESS**  
At the Princess this week "The Belle of New York" enters its final performance. Last night's audience, in spite of the storm, was gratifying to the manager in point of size and appreciation. The musical comedy goes with fine dash. Joe Barnett as Pif is one of the best in that role that San Francisco has seen, and Cecelia Rhoda continues to charm as the Salvation Army lassie. The ensembles are spirited and the whole piece goes with a vim. "Floradora" is in preparation and will be presented Monday night.

**DALTON WAIVES INTEREST**  
OAKLAND, Jan. 20.—Suits filed by County Assessor Dalton to recover \$4,600 interest from the county, which he claimed accrued when his salary was held up for four years, were dismissed today by his consent. The salary, which in that time amounted to \$17,250, was held up by advice of District Attorney J. J. Allen, in view of Dalton's refusal to pay over 15 per cent of his poll tax collections, to which he claimed to be entitled by law. The 15 per cent amounted to \$18,000, which Dalton paid into the county treasury under protest, and which has been refunded to him since the decision of the supreme court last summer. The final payment having been made on the delayed salary, Dalton dismissed his suit for interest.

**FOR OLD PEOPLE**  
After reaching the age of fifty the human system gradually declines in virility and strength and becomes less able each year to combat the ailments which beset mankind. It is then that the accumulated poisons in the blood make themselves manifest by numerous aches and pains in the joints, muscles and back. Although painful, these symptoms are no of themselves dangerous, except that they indicate a liability to attack at any time to serious maladies. An authoritative and safe remedy for people to heed these warning twinges and supply to the blood an acid solvent and stimulating tonic. He also magnanimously gives a prescription which for years he says has worked wonders for persons of declining physical vigor. It is as follows: One ounce compound of Sarsaparilla; one ounce Tonic Root compound; half pint of high grade whisky. This is to be mixed and used in tablespoon doses before each meal and at bed time. The bottle to be well shaken each time. He says that although this is a very simple remedy, it will be found especially efficacious in cases of rheumatism, neuralgia, and other ailments which are the result of impure blood. The ingredients can be gotten from any well stocked drug store and easily mixed at home.

## SPARKLE LACKS IN "BLUE MOON"

English Comic Opera With Lot of American Jokes Fails to Repeat London Success

James T. Powers Is the Same Old Laugh Maker, but the Rain Had Damp Effect

By Harry Davids

**CAST OF CHARACTERS**  
Major Vivian Callabone, head ofarrison at Nara..... Louis Franklin  
Captain Jack Ormsby, Lady Brabasham's nephew..... Harry Clarke  
Bobbiwicks, the musician..... Edward Earle  
Moolraj, idol maker, juggler and marriage broker..... Stanley McDonald  
Private Charlie Taylor, acting bandmaster of Royal Musserverger native band..... W. H. Risley  
The Prince Badshah Santashin, of Kharkar..... Robert Broderick  
Hon. Nara..... Louis Franklin  
Lady Brabasham..... Myrtle Cosgrove  
Evelyn Ormsby..... Leslie Leigh  
Chandra Nil, the Blue Moon singing girl..... Nanon Jacques  
Millicent Leroy, Evelyn's maid..... Clara Palmer  
Oma, a native..... Lucy Jane Johnston  
Gina, a native..... Carrie Miller  
Miss Lovell..... Daisy Leighton  
Miss Lillian Moore..... Florence Franklin  
Cappi..... Donald Archer  
Taggerman..... Max Sharpe  
Boggs..... W. H. Risley  
Clive Mansfield..... W. H. Risley  
Leslie Arbuthnot..... Thomas McKnight  
Dance, a girl, with lines and Blanche Wilmet  
Teetoo, the dancing doll, imported from England by Moolraj..... Jennie Prager

An English comic opera with American jokes is an anomaly and "The Blue Moon" presented at the Novelty theater last night is of that type. Some there are who might apply harsher names, but—well, blame the rain! Water, ever since the flood, always did have a depressing effect, and if "The Blue Moon" did not shine with its London brilliancy—if there was lacking that undefinable sparkle which marks one comic opera a success and places it above the scores and scores of mediocre ones—let us be charitable, remembering that in cocktails, musicals or otherwise, the water and spirits must be in proportion to make it enjoyable. And "The Blue Moon" lacked the spirit.

Yes, it lacked the spirit with James T. Powers in the leading role, and if there were those who might apply harsher names, but—well, blame the rain! Water, ever since the flood, always did have a depressing effect, and if "The Blue Moon" did not shine with its London brilliancy—if there was lacking that undefinable sparkle which marks one comic opera a success and places it above the scores and scores of mediocre ones—let us be charitable, remembering that in cocktails, musicals or otherwise, the water and spirits must be in proportion to make it enjoyable. And "The Blue Moon" lacked the spirit.

**MRS. HANBURY DENIES CHARGES OF HUSBAND**  
Files Answer and Cross Complaint to His Suit for Divorce.  
Answer and cross complaint were filed yesterday in the case in which David T. Hanbury, owner of Island No. 2, near Vallejo, sued his young wife, Marie Eleanor Hanbury, for divorce. Mrs. Hanbury denies all the allegations of cruelty and misconduct made by her husband, saying it is untrue that she was unduly familiar with Joe Dewey and Bradley Sargent. She charges that Hanbury treated her in an abusive, profane, cruel, overbearing and inhuman manner, threw scissors at her, twisted her wrists, stuck pins in her and burned her back with a lighted cigarette. She also alleges misconduct on his part with Gussie Mason.

**BEGINS MRS. McDONALD'S TRIAL**—Chicago, Jan. 20.—The trial of Mrs. Dora McDonald, widow of Michael C. McDonald, for the murder of Webster S. Guerin, was begun today in the criminal court. Mrs. McDonald, while in a jealous rage, shot Guerin at his office in the Cana building. The defense will be insanity.

**SKULL FRACTURED**—Santa Barbara, Jan. 20. James H. McCormick, a second class passenger on the steamer Santa Rosa, bound from San Francisco to Los Angeles, was probably fatally injured here his head struck by a door which fell from a port hole of the vessel and was struck on the head by a swinging rope, which fractured his skull.

**MONDAY NIGHT SKATING CLUB MAKES MERRY**  
Despite Rain, Members Rally to Bright, Big Rink and Enjoy Winter.  
Of course it was still raining furiously, and rather cold, too, but they didn't care. What is a trifle like the heaviest rainfall of the season to the members of the Monday Night skating club? They put on their overshoes, bundled up and dragged parents and guardians away from the cheery fire last night and all appeared at the rink at 8 o'clock, just as if the balmy skies in the world were overhead. And the contrast that the bright big rink made, with its flags and banners and music, put everyone into the highest spirits at once. Never have 200 or 300 members of the club had a better time or a noisier. They left their rubbers in damp heaps everywhere and buried their mothers under superfluous furs and took possession of the rink like a lot of merry children. From the first twopost until long after the last they gave the little rollers not a moment's rest and drowned out the steady patter of the rain. The club members were there last night and at least five or six girls who will come out next year. In the group were Miss Frances Reed, Miss Edith Lowe, Miss Ernestine St. Gonor, Miss Augusta Pointe, Miss Helen Baker, Miss Helen Jones, Miss Marian Miller, Miss Dolly MacGavin, Miss Eleanor Cushing, Miss Leslie Page, Miss Louisiana Foster, Miss Eliza Partridge, Miss Helen Wilson, Miss Alexandra Hamilton and Miss Hannah Du Bois.

**NAMES TEMPORARY RECEIVER**—Providence, R. I., Jan. 20.—Justice Sweetland in the court today named Edward Eyril Hilton, treasurer of the New England trust company of this city, as temporary receiver of the institution. No statement was given out by the trust company as to the cause of the difficulty.

## Army and Navy Orders

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Major Rudolph G. Ebert, surgeon, is relieved from duty in the Philippines division and will proceed to San Francisco on the transport which will sail from Manila about March 15.

Captain Willard D. Newbill, commissary, upon arrival at San Francisco will proceed to Fort Riley, Kans., and report to the commanding officer of the mounted service school for duty. Captain Jesse R. Harris, assistant surgeon, will proceed to the Presidio, San Francisco, and report to the commanding officer of the general hospital for observation and treatment. First Lieutenant Jerome G. Pillow of the Thirtieth cavalry is detailed at the Carlisle military academy of Arlington, Tex., and will relieve First Lieutenant Kellon L. Pepper of the Twenty-third infantry, who will proceed to San Francisco and report to the commanding general's department for duty. Upon the arrival of the Twenty-third infantry at San Francisco, Lieutenant Pepper will proceed with the Twenty-third infantry to the First Lieutenant James E. Abbott of the signal corps is assigned to duty in charge of the signal corps general supply depot at Benicia barracks, relieving First Lieutenant Paul W. Deck. Navy orders: Ensign F. A. Todd is detached from duty on the Colorado, and when discharged from treatment at the United States naval hospital at Mare Island will proceed to his home. First Lieutenant James E. Abbott of the signal corps is assigned to duty in charge of the signal corps general supply depot at Benicia barracks, relieving First Lieutenant Paul W. Deck.

**Californians in New York**  
NEW YORK, Jan. 20.—The following Californians are registered in New York hotels:  
San Francisco—Mrs. H. R. Clement, at the Ansonia; J. Liphman, Mrs. Liphman, at the Marie Antoinette; J. Fresh, at the Wellington; W. L. Randolph, at the St. Andrew; D. H. Young, at the Hermitage; J. J. Gouth and wife, Mrs. H. Hecht, Mrs. H. Sinshelmer, Mrs. Sinshelmer, Mrs. Stone, at the Gregorian; H. L. Whipple and wife, J. S. Dinkelpiel, H. Alexander, E. D. Sachs, P. Selig, F. Belasco, at the Hotel Astor; Dr. J. R. Davidson and wife, at the Breslin; J. W. Cuthbert, M. Marcus, at the York; A. Hamburger, at the Albert; E. H. Dortmund, W. H. L. Fransen, at the St. Denis; L. S. Jones and wife, at the Holland; A. F. Torsteger, at the Herald Square; J. G. Sutton, at the Imperial.

**Oil Steamer Adrift**  
Word was received late last night that the Standard Oil steamer Ashtabula had broken her moorings off Point Orient and was drifting in the storm. Tugs were sent in search of the steamer by the Spreckels tugboat company.

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