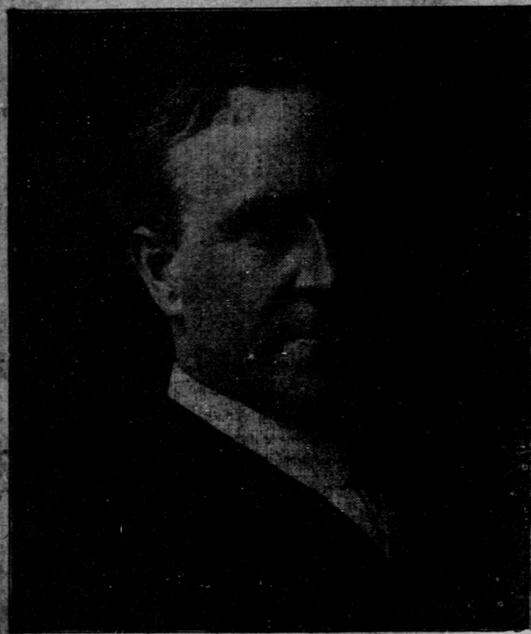


# WITH the PLAYS and PLAYERS



**THEODORE ROBERTS,**  
One of America's great character actors, with Klaw & Erlanger's original New York company in Sir Gilbert Parker's great drama, "The Right of Way."

**"The Right of Way."**  
Sir Gilbert Parker's stirring drama, "The Right of Way," under the management of Klaw & Erlanger, with Guy Standing and Theodore Roberts will pay a visit to Pensacola for one performance on Tuesday night, Dec. 22nd.

This work has created a great impression on the theatre-going public for the past year, and it is now acknowledged to be one of the finest acting triumphs ever presented.

In the first act of "The Right of Way," Guy Standing as Charley Steele presents a study in acting which more completely displays the remarkable versatility of this actor than any work he has ever done on the stage. The cynical, reckless and tarnished personality of "Steele" is thrown into bold relief in a series of encounters with the Judge whom he flouts, the wife whom he has wronged, the murderer whom he has saved, the lover whom he defies and the drunken par-

son and boyish reprobate whom he has led to ruin. These incidents of the story of the first act are shown in swift sequence and are very effective. Mr. Standing artistically displays every feature of the character most convincingly. His work in this act is in sharp contrast to his work in the following three acts, in which the generation of Steele is shown after the attack on him at the Cote Dorjan, which leads to his complete loss of memory of his own personality.

Theodore Roberts as Joe Portugals, the Canadian riverman, presents a character which so completely in its contrast that, notwithstanding its strength, it does not in any way detract from the splendid work of Mr. Standing; even though it is generally accepted as a fact that a strong character part of the type which Mr. Roberts plays will usually overshadow all others in a cast, even though the play may be but "A bit." In this production, however, Mr. Roberts plays a role which is co-important with that of Mr. Standing and fully as conspicuous in the development of the story. The company has been highly praised by the entire press of the United States and the organization is regarded by competent critics as being one of the most capable aggregations of talent ever presented.

#### Spanked for His Success.

Lee Kohlmar, the young actor who will be starred next season by Messrs. Martin and Emery in a new play, made his theatrical debut at the early age of 10 years, in Germany. It is the custom in his home city to present a play at Christmas time for the delectation of the children. That season the play of "Cinderella" had been selected, and having always had a desire to appear on the stage young Kohlmar applied for a place in the cast.

"The woman directing," says Mr. Kohlmar, in relating this early experience, "was an old ballet mistress. She seemed pleased with my appearance and engaged me to play the role of the prince, a coveted part. I rehearsed as best I might, on the quiet, as I was in the Latin school then and did not wish to let my parents know about my theatrical venture. The night of the play arrived and I went on and made a big success. I was very much pleased with myself and hastened home, but my fame had preceded me.

"So," said my father to me, "you have become a play actor, eh? I'll teach you to act, sir!" and with that he laid me across his knee and gave me one of the most vigorous spankings that it was ever my lot to experience.

"It always seemed a very unjust thing to me, that spanking, for I had met with so much success, and then to be whipped for it. But it did not cure me of the bankinging, as you see, even though I still feel the tingle of that vigorous hand."

#### Some Chicago Successes.

Among the plays that have been produced in Chicago, and which so prove that Chicago is fast becoming a theatrical producing center, may be mentioned "The Man from Home," which has been a great big, bounding success in New York, after breaking all records for a dramatic attraction in Chicago, and "The Melting Pot," which was practically produced in Chicago, and where it first received the stamp of approval and success. "The Round Up" was another play that received its premiere in Chicago, and it went to New York where it duplicated its Chicago success. "The Twins," a musical comedy that was produced in Chicago, is now running in New York at Lew Field's Herald Square theatre, and seems destined for a very long run at that house. Even in the old days when the late David Henderson was actively engaged in producing Chicago was widely known on account of the success of the great extravaganzas brought out at the Chicago Opera House.

#### Actor's Comical Mistake.

Lee Kohlmar, the young actor who won so much success as August Poons in "The Music Master," tells the story of a German actor who was playing with him in "Joan of Arc" in the Court Theatre, Darmstadt: "This actor has the line, 'Le roi est mort, vive le roi,' or, as we say it in English, 'The king is dead; long live the king!'"

"The actor became excited when the time came for this line and shouted at the top of his voice: 'Long live the king; he is dead, and his sounds are even funnier in German than in English,'" chuckled Mr. Kohlmar.

#### Belasco Resigns.

Immediately following the expulsion of Mr. Harrison Grey Fiske from the National Association of Theatrical Producing Managers, David Belasco sent in his resignation, considering the decision a rank injustice and characterizing the action of the association as petty and puerile. It was decided that Mr. Fiske had a perfect right to produce "The Devil"; that his version was authorized, and that he had the prior rights to the piece. The board also decided that Mr. Fiske had not made unwarranted statements which would tend to prejudice the public and injure Mr. Fiske's business reputation or entail upon him financial loss.

Mr. Belasco said "The National Association of Theatrical Producing Managers was organized obviously for the benefit of the founder. The decision rendered in the case of Mr. Fiske was not on its merits, but early resolved itself into a personal issue. I feel that Mr. Fiske's fight is my fight, and that I am as guilty as he, having given my theatre over for the production of the piece. I do not care to have anything to do with an association guided by such narrow-minded personalities and such small minds overwhelmed by big ones and who do not dare to render justice for fear of giving offense."

#### Floresam and Jetsam.

L. Frank Baum, the creator of the "Wizard of Oz," will give his fairy-tales and radio plays at a series of matinees at the Hudson theatre, beginning December 14th. Mr. Baum illustrates his talks with stereoscopic views and moving pictures of scenes

created by him. Not alone is this entertainment interesting to children, but affords much amusement for "grown-ups."

The touring company of "The Travelling Salesman" will begin its season Monday, Dec. 7th, and will open the season on Christmas Day, at Trenton, N. J. The part of Bob Blake will be played by Herbert Corthell.

James Forbes's comedy, "The Travelling Salesman," is now in its fifth month of its New York run, and it would seem that the record made by "The Chorus Lady" would be duplicated by this the latest contribution of Mr. Forbes.

If the prosperity of this country can be gauged by the interest manifested in theatricals, it would appear that we are in the flood tide of good times, judging by the business being done by the attractions of Mr. Henry B. Harris.

Charles Klein's latest play, "The Third Degree," which Henry B. Harris produced for the first time on any stage at Atlantic City, November 16, and which is now playing at the Hollis Street Theatre, Boston, is from all accounts the biggest theatrical success of the century. The critics in Boston unahimously acclaimed it the biggest play that Charles Klein has written. In support of this statement the theatre-going public have fairly crowded the Hollis street theatre, and the box office records of "The Lion and the Mouse" have been broken by this new play of the same author. It is the intention to bring "The Third Degree" to New York, opening at the Hudson Theatre on January 18.

#### Facts Not Generally Known.

Robert Edeson, who is touring in "The Call of the North," has long been an ardent collector of books dealing with Shakespeare. The other day, in Salem, Mass., he happened in an old antique shop and came across a volume that bore the imprint of 1679, the same being a series of brief personalities on famous characters contemporary with the Bard of Avon. He purchased it, and glancing through it, was very much surprised to read that Shakespeare was designated by his close friends as "left-handed Will," a name given to him by reason of his using that member to write with. Comment was also made of the peculiar way in which he prepared his quills for writing.

George Barrum, one of the principal members of "The Third Degree" company, Charles Klein's latest play, was for many years an umpire in the old Union League, and also in the National League.

Oliver Doud Byron, who is playing John Burckett Ryder in "The Lion and the Mouse," is the father of Arthur Byron and a brother-in-law of Ada Rehan.

Rose Stahl, who is starring in James Forbes's comedy, "The Chorus Lady," is known in the profession as the best extemporaneous after-dinner speaker that we have among women stars.

That Gertrude Coghlan, who is appearing in James Forbes's comedy, "The Travelling Salesman," crossed the ocean forty times before she was six years old. Her father, the late Charles Coghlan, fearing for her health, was advised by his physician that it would be best for the child to live on the ocean until she grew out of her infantile weakness, and arranged for her and his wife to live aboard a transatlantic steamer, and for three years the child never set foot on land.

That Gertrude Coghlan, who is appearing in James Forbes's comedy, "The Travelling Salesman," has the middle name of Evelyn. This was given to her by her father, who on the night that she was born, made his first pronounced hit in London in a play called "Money," which, by the way, was the first drama that ever ran two years in London. The part which Mr. Coghlan played was that of Alfred Evelyn.

**Sparklets.**  
It is rumored that the Sicilian actors are headed toward Chicago with their hot, panting and palpitating love-making. Affinities please take notice.

Gatti-Gazzaza is the simple and euphonious name of a new opera director in New York, in order to pronounce correctly it is always necessary to take a pinch of snuff.

One of the great Chicago papers had a notice of "censored" burlesque in one of its local houses. This must be the real stuff.

It appears that an operation for Parisianitis was performed on "Cora," the new play in which Bertha Kalich is starring, before it was submitted to the American public.

It now transpires that Isadora Duncan, the barefooted dancer, is a Chicagoan. This is a flatfooted refutation of the libel that Chicago women all have large pedal extremities.

It must be a source of great satisfaction to Donald Robertson to know that he has the critics with him, at any rate.

George M. Cohan would better hurry or he will not have a play ready to take the place of his present one at the Colonial, when its run is over.

**Belasco Notes.**  
"The Devil," with George Arliss in the role of the ingratiating and fiendish wrecker of the conventions of society, continues to hold potent sway over the capacity audiences which fill David Belasco's 42d Street Theatre at every performance.

David Warfield, the eminent Belasco character actor, brings his remarkable Chicago engagement to an end with one week more of "The Music Master" and "A Grand Army Man." After a fortnight in Cincinnati and Pittsburgh Mr. Warfield returns for a limited season to New York at the Academy of Music, "A Grand Army Man"

has not as yet been seen at that historic play house and it is expected that its presentation there will mark another record for the 14th street theatre.

There is no cessation in the heavy patronage at the Belasco Stuyvesant Theatre, New York, where Blanche Bates is so successfully appearing in "The Fighting Hope." Prosperity perches on the threshold of David Belasco's 44th street "temple of art" and Miss Bates will begin the new year in "The Fighting Hope" with every cause for rejoicing.

"The Warrens of Virginia" is scheduled for a return engagement at the Academy of Music, New York, shortly. Mr. Frank Keenan and Miss Charlotte Walker, who appeared with such marked success during the fall season, will be seen in their original roles at the head of the same strong cast which shared in the honors of the long metropolitan career of the Civil War drama.

**Live Items.**  
Another company will play "The Revelation" under the direction of Messrs. Martin and Emery, beginning with January 1. Margaret Ralph will play the role of Vera, now being played by Miss Mary Shaw.

Great success has attended the tour of "The Revelation" through the south, and the play has attracted wide attention. The piece has been received with marked enthusiasm everywhere.

Lee Kohlmar, to be starred by Messrs. Martin and Emery in a new play next season, was one of the notable features of the T. M. A. benefit given at the Great Northern Theatre in Chicago last week. Mr. Kohlmar recited one of his own stories in German dialect and was received with great applause.

"Parsifal" in English, as offered by Messrs. Martin and Emery of Chicago, has been breaking all records for big business in the west and south this season. Miss Winifred Burke is playing Kundry.

William Lynch Roberts, who prepared the stage version of "Parsifal" used by Messrs. Martin and Emery of Chicago, is the author of several melodramas that have been big money makers on the road.

Not in years has a play received the publicity and secured the attention that has fallen to the lot of "The Revelation" now being offered on tour by Messrs. Martin and Emery. News-papers in all sections of the country have devoted columns to the play and to Henry Knot, the author and playwright.

Messrs. Martin and Emery are preparing a splendid production for "The Revelation," which will be sent out with the beginning of the year. The company will be headed by Miss Margaret Ralph.

#### Vaudevillettes.

Ruth Allen, who is featured in Jesse L. Lasky's latest production, "The London Johnnies," is a remarkable whistler, and should occasion ever arise, could continue her theatrical work as a bird imitator and warbler. In this new Lasky production Miss Allen is expected to make one of the most pronounced successes since she came east from California with Florence Roberts in "The Strength of the Weak."

Alfred Kappeler, featured as the Prince in Jesse L. Lasky's Viennese operetta, "The Lore Waltz," is an all-round athlete, and an amateur swimmer of ability. Mr. Kappeler enjoys the distinction of having served in the United States senate as a page for three years, and at one time thought seriously of entering West Point and following a military career.

William C. Gordon, one of the Lasky "Hoboes," a vaudeville feature that is way from the usual run of acts seen in greater vaudeville, is the possessor of a remarkable baritone voice, which results in much favorable comment on Mr. Gordon's work with the "Hoboes." At the conclusion of the present season, it is Mr. Lasky's intention to feature Mr. Gordon in an act to be written especially for him.

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**MISS MAY BUCKLEY,**  
Leading lady with Klaw & Erlanger's fine production of Gilbert Parker's great drama, "The Right of Way."