

PLAYS AND PLAYERS

Della Fox and Gilmore's Band at the Metropolitan This Week.

STOCK COMPANY'S SUCCESS

Morrison's Faust the Attraction at the Grand This Week.

SALVINI'S DEBUT IN HAMLET

What Is Going on in the Theatrical World—In a Play Gossip.

The theater-going public of St. Paul will be glad to learn that arrangements have been perfected whereby the "Shore Acres" company will not leave for Minneapolis until tomorrow, and will remain over and give an extra performance at the Metropolitan tonight. It is needless to go into detail upon the merits of Mr. Herne's pastoral play, because by this time every one in St. Paul should be thoroughly familiar with it, as the press each day has devoted a great deal of space to the dramatic construction of "Shore Acres." When the play was first produced in New York it not only set the press and critics to thinking, but the entire public. It is a play that has received the highest recommendation from the pulpit all over the country, and yet it is not a sermon, but simply a picture of the better part of human nature. The company should be greeted on its farewell performance here by a large audience.

DELLA FOX IS HERE.
Her Engagement Will Begin at the Metropolitan Tomorrow Night.

Della Fox and her company will appear at the Metropolitan opera house tomorrow night in a comic opera entitled "The Little Trooper." This will be the first appearance in St. Paul of this popular artist at the head of a company, for upon this occasion she is the sole star of the organization. When she first announced her determination to start this season the wisecracks all shook their heads, and advised her not to do so. She had identified herself so thoroughly with DeWolf Hopper



DELLA FOX.

that she was practically a co-star with him, and as Hopper was the popular idol of New York, and played long engagements there every season, it meant for her very little travel and a handsome salary—generally considered as the most comfortable and substantial position in which an actress can be placed. Her friends urged her not to travel the same path so many had done before her—give up such a position for the uncertainty and expensive glory of stardom. But she would not be swayed from her purpose. According to the records of her engagements this season, she acted wisely, for it is asserted that large audiences have greeted her in every city.

The advance notices assure us that the supporting company was selected with great care, and judging from the names of several well-known and capable performers included in the list, this would seem to be the case. The principal members of the company are all tried and experienced people. After the prima

bringer, the most important individual in a comic opera organization is the comedian. In this respect Della Fox has been particularly fortunate and wise in engaging the services of Jefferson D'Angelis, who was for many seasons the chief comedian with the McCaul and Casino opera companies. Mr. D'Angelis is unquestionably one of the funniest men on the comic opera stage. His role in "The Little Trooper" is Gibbard, a lieutenant in the Hussars. All accounts of his performance agree that it is irresistibly comic and clever.

"The Little Trooper" is said to be replete with catchy tunes, pretty choruses and amusing situations, and the management promises that it will be handsomely staged. The engagement is for three nights only—Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

IT IS A SUCCESS.

What the Stock Company Has in Store for Next Week.

The Giffen and Nell company, in "The Jilt," closed a very successful week at the Grand last night. The opening of the stock season has been so auspicious that it will doubtless be continued after the original tea weeks contracted for by Mr. Litt have expired. The company will play the present week at the Bijou, in Minneapolis, returning to the Grand next Sunday. During its second week the Giffen and Nell company will present two very attractive bills. It will open in Augustin aly's laughable comedy, "Nancy & Co.," which will be continued until Friday night, when "The Lord Fauntleroy" will be presented. The latter play is too well known to require any mention save the fact that it is exceptionally well cast. Annie Blanche will play the title role.

"Nancy & Co." was adapted by Augustin Daly from the German of Julius Rosen. So surprising was its reception by metropolitan audiences that it has been revived several times since the original production, March 29, 1886. The cast at that time contained such players as James Lewis, John Drew, Otis Skinner, George Farkes, Ada Rehan, Virginia Dreher, May Irwin and Edith Kingdon, now Mrs. George Gould. By special arrangement Mr. Nell has secured the handwriting, with all the attendant stage business and situations, and will be presented at the Grand exactly as it was in Daly's, New York. Many St. Paul people have undoubtedly seen this noted comedy in the East, and therefore a list of the dramatic personae might serve as an invitation for renewal of acquaintance. The persons are: Ebenezer Griffing, a caution and warning to parents and guardians, George W. Denham; Kiefe O'Kiefe, Esq., in thrall to the "Griffing"; Charles Kent; Capt. Paul Tenseller, United States army, laying siege to "Griffing's" daughter and to the "Griffing" himself; James Nell; Young Sikes Stockslow, a lamb from the "street"; John B. Maher; Tippy

Kiefe O'Kiefe, of New York, an author of some repute, upon a play, afterwards produced successfully in the latter city, and the presentation of which soothes the jealousies of wives and lovers, at the same time destroying the intrigues of designing parent and uncles with sap-headed young men of means.

GILMORE'S BAND COMING.

The Famous Organization at the Metropolitan Thursday Night.

Gilmore's band, that most famous of all the military musical organizations, is the musical attraction of the week in the matter of consequence. The concert is arranged for Thursday evening at the Metropolitan. Were not the band itself a powerful magnet to draw public interest, the reputation of the special artists announced is sufficient to create a stir, for there are three any one of whom might properly fill the theater. The prima donna is Mme. Louise Natall, of grand opera fame, well remembered in connection with the great National Opera company, of which she was a reigning star. Victor Herbert, who, though director of Gilmore's band, has not thrown aside his virtuoso work as a cellist, will also appear as an artist that night in two numbers, 'cello solo and duo with piano and 'cello. Musical people will readily recall Victor Herbert through several seasons as the 'cello soloist of the Theodore Thomas orchestra.

Little Frieda Simonson, the child pianist, is the wonder of the musical world at present. From all accounts she is a marvel for whom it is hard



VICTOR HERBERT.

to account. No child of her age (eleven years) has ever been known to play with such maturity of comprehension, technical skill and artistic brilliance as does this wonderful child. She has played in concerts with Patti, Albani, Melba, Plancon, the Philharmonic orchestra, and in concert in Berlin and St. Augustus Harris' St. James hall grand concerts in London. Rubinstein embraced her and called her "wonderful," after hearing her play his own works and some from Liszt, Beethoven and Chopin. She will play from Moscheles, Schubert, Liszt and Chopin Thursday evening.

The grand old Gilmore band is said to be doing remarkable things. Under Victor Herbert's able direction it is more of a great orchestra than a band. Its present tour has been brilliantly successful from New York to Jacksonville, Fla., and thus far back. A splendid programme is provided for Thursday evening, one that will present both the big band and the special artists at their best. The sale of seats will open tomorrow morning.

The programme will open with the majestic Tannhauser overture. The Spanish serenade "Lolita," the overture band numbers will be Lange's "The Lion's Love," from Verdi's "Traviata," and Bemberg's beautiful waltz song, "Nymphes et Sylvains."

FAUST AT THE GRAND.

A Spectacular Dramatization of Goethe's Great Work.

Louis Morrison's dramatic production of Goethe's immortal "Faust" will be seen this week at the Grand opera house, beginning tonight. The merit of this production the theater-going public has long ago conceded. The adaptation of "Faust" closely follows the original, and is therefore quite similar to the opera founded upon it. The only notable difference between the opera and Mr. Morrison's



ISABEL MORRISON.

version is the introduction of the Broken scene in the fourth act. The play opens in Dr. Faust's laboratory, where Mephistopheles appears in answer to his invocation. Faust is made young again, and the vision of Marguerite at her spinning wheel follows. Then comes the beautiful garden scene, the episode of the Jewels, the meeting of Faust and Marguerite, the comical love-making of Mephisto and Martha, and the final yielding of Marguerite to her love for Faust. In

the next act occurs the duel between Faust and Valentine, and the pathetic death scene of the latter, who dies cursing his wretched sister. After the



MARGUERITE.

duel with Valentine, Mephisto takes Faust to the summit of the Broken, where he beholds fearful and horrible visions of distorted demons and weird, uncanny shapes that defy description. This spectacle is most effective, produced, as it is, by the ingenious employment of startling electric appliances illuminating devices. The closing scenes of the play represent the death of Marguerite in prison, followed by the opening of her tomb, forming a beautiful contrast in its heavenly radiance with the darkness of her earthly despair.

The company is headed by Miss Rosabel Morrison, the daughter of Louis Morrison. Her impersonation of Marguerite is familiar to the public. She imparts to the character of the innocent maiden a sweetness and pathos that appeal to every heart. The supporting company is said to be competent.

YOUNG SALVINI AS HAMLET.

He Makes His Debut in the Role at Philadelphia.

Alexander Salvini has made his debut as Hamlet, and his success has already given him a new status among the stars of the period. The event was merely heralded as an ordinary change of repertoire, but nevertheless the leading dailies of New York city, in nearly every instance, attached sufficient importance to the occasion to send special reviewers to Philadelphia. "He held his audience to the end," says the New York Herald, "and sometimes electrified it—Salvini's Hamlet is altogether a worthy effort by an intelligent, ambitious and painstaking actor, much the best since the days of Booth."

The effect on his audience is not so much that they have seen a scholar attempt to discover hidden depths in Shakespeare's sublime characterization, but that they have seen a very noble prince, whose very soul is racked by three contending emotions—his reverent love for his murdered father, his passionate longing to avenge his fate, and his love for Ophelia, which he tries in vain to conceal. He is essentially a very lovable Hamlet, and the feeling of sympathy for his unhappy life in the court of Denmark is not obliterated from the mind of the spectator when the final curtain descends, but recurs ever and anon with unabated vividness when retrospection or reverie lays at all in the direction of such vital sentiments.

FOOTLIGHT FLASHES.

"Linsay Woodley," Joseph Arthur's new comic drama, will receive its first presentation at McVicker's in Chicago tomorrow night. Little has been said about the nature of the new play by the author, but he takes responsibility for the statement that it is a comedy drama, pastoral in tone, with an atmosphere clean and wholesome and characters that are quaintly humorous. The scenes are located in the little village of Parnack, in Dutchess county, New York, a locality famous for its associations of Revolutionary days. Mr. Arthur also says that the play contains incidents and situations and one or two surprises in the way of mechanical effects. He claims a new and unconventional villain for his plot.

When the Masonic Temple Roof garden is opened May 15 in Chicago Manager George A. Fair will take the initiative in a campaign against the bill which the window lithograph habit into which all the theaters have fallen. It is Mr. Fair's idea that too much money is spent and too many passes issued for this kind of advertising and that better results can be obtained for less cost by using the daily papers and he proposes to do so. He believes that whatever good there might have been in the fence and window display of theatrical papers when it was first adopted by the circus men years ago has been lost since the practice has become universal.

In Paris there is a theater for every 22,000 citizens; in Berlin one for every 22,000; in Bordeaux one to every 84,000; in Buda-Pesth one to every 85,000; in Hamburg one to every 138,000; and in London one to every 145,000. The proportion of theaters to population is greatest in Italy, where there is a place of amusement for every 3,900 citizens in Catania, Sicily; one for every 15,000 in Florence; one for every 20,000 in Bologna; one for every 24,000 in Venice; one for every 30,000 in Milan and Turin; and one for every 31,900 in Rome.

Charles H. Hoyt's latest farce comedy, "A Black Sheep," will be seen at the Grand opera house in Chicago this evening. "A Black Sheep" has met with considerable success in the East, having accomplished a run of several months in Boston. It has also been played in a number of the principal Eastern cities.

The Lyceum Ideals, a concert company containing St. Paul's most talented musical people, will be sent out shortly for a tour of Minnesota and Wisconsin towns, under the direction of Manager George A. Kingsbury.

Robert Downing will produce next season "The Lion's Love," a romantic drama by Herman C. Merivale, the author of "Forget Me Not."

Manager Litt has a splendid list of both high class and popular class attractions booked at his Grand opera house the next season.

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The most stylish Bicycle Suits to be had at J. Deere's, 46 East Third street.

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SEIBERT EASTER CONCERT.
3 P.M. THIS AFTERNOON.
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Mrs. CAROL STEWART, Contralto.
MR. FRANK SEIBERT, Violin.
The Augmented Orchestra and Military Bands.
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Admission, 50c, 15c, 10c.

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Greatest Concert Band in the World.
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Frieda Simonson, Most Wonderful of Youthful Artists.
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Sale of Seats Opens Monday, April 15.

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Beginning Tomorrow Night, April 15
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To ladies and gentlemen.
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To ladies only.
Lectures at 4 o'clock each afternoon, under the auspices of Young Woman's Friendly Association. Tickets for sale at various Book, Drug and Music Stores. Tickets to one lecture, 50c; both lectures, 75c, each person.

DIED.
GIBBONS—In St. Paul, Friday, April 12, at 7 p. m., at family residence, 482 Partridge street, Thomas Gibbons, aged sixty-one years. Funeral from above residence at 8:30 a. m., Monday, April 15. Services at St. CLEAR church, at 9 o'clock. Mourners: At Graceville, Minn., Saturday, April 13, at 4 a. m., Mrs. Mary Clear, mother of seven, ty-three years, mother of seven, F. J. O'Hara and Mrs. D. O'Neill. Funeral from the residence of her son-in-law, F. J. O'Hara, No. 282 Lisbon street, Monday, April 15, at 8:30 a. m. Services at the cathedral at 9 a. m.

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