

## WITH MASK AND WIG

### Personal Paragraphs Concerning Stage Favorites.

#### PLAYS AND PLAYERS

Stage Items of the Season—Gossip of the Green Room—What They are Doing.

Melba has sailed for Europe. Mexico has lady bull fighters. "A Spy of Spain" was acted in New York last week.

"The Clemenceau Case," is to be acted in Boston this week.

Victor Hugo's "The Grandmother," will be performed at Paris.

"Shenandoah" is being acted in New York, Chicago and Denver.

Duse canceled her Madrid engagements on account of the war.

Marie Wainwright and her two daughters will sail for Europe in July.

George W. Cable is giving readings in Great Britain from his Creole stories.

No person is allowed to wear a hat or bonnet in Keith's Vaudeville Theatre, Boston.

Burr McIntosh will be seen in Lottie Blair Parker's comedy, "A War Correspondent."

"The Runaway Girl" is the title of the new piece at the London Gaiety, succeeding "The Circus Girl."

The Emperor of Austria has conferred the title of royal imperial chamber singer on Mme. Lilli Lehmann.

At a London Music Hall the performers include Florence Bingley, the Baggesons, Emma Pollock, Charles T. Aldrich and Wilson and Waring.

Wilton Lackaye will be the Sir Lucius O'Trigger and Otis Skinner the Captain Absolute in Joseph Jefferson's production of "The Rivals" next season.

Helen Bertram has signed a contract with the management of "The Bostonians" as prima donna of that organization for the forthcoming and several ensuing seasons.

Pugilist Tom Sharkey appeared in the "Frisco revival of "The Ensign," Sharkey was for some time master-at-arms on the Philadelphia and knows all about a war vessel.

Japanese theatres have boxes so arranged that ladies can change their dresses, as it is not considered stylish for a lady to appear an entire evening in one dress and with the same ornaments.

Josie Hall, "Eddie" Girard of Donnelly and Girard; Joseph Ott, Jacques Kruger, Ada Lewis, Adele Ritchie and Georgia Caine are among the persons engaged for the new review at Koster & Bial's.

The cast of "Erminie" to be sung at the New York Casino on May 23, will include Pauline Hall as Erminie; Francis Wilson as Cadeaux; Henry E. Dixey as Ravennus; and Lulu Glaser as Jo-votte.

Prandi Marionettes will come to this country next season. The organization includes ten persons, fortified by no less than three tons of special scenery. Their entertainment takes up the entire evening, and the repertoire includes all the standard operas.

Tommaso Salvini was seen again upon the Italian stage the other day at Florence. He appeared as the Saul of Affrica, a character in which he made his mark as a youth of 16, and played it, according to a correspondent of the London Daily News, magnificently.

The news that Sir Henry Irving and Ellen Terry are to end their long professional association at the close of the present season has been the subject of rumor for the last year in London. The actress is, it is said, to play Constance in Beerbolm Tied's projected production of "King John."

A New York stock company including Edwin Arden, Lome Masson, Edward S. Ables, Amelia Bingham and Charlotte Crane, produced "Pink Dominoes" last week. In another organization's revival of "Diplomacy" Blanch Walsh played Countess Zykka, and Aubrey Boucicault acted the role of Beauclerc.

The repertoires of the company headed by Louis James, Frederick Warde and Mme. Rhea will include "Hamlet," "Macbeth" and "Othello." The revival on which the managers purpose spending the most money and pains is "The School for Scandal." Sames appearing as Charles Surface, Warde as Joseph, and Rhea as Lady Teazle.

Among other features of a series of fetes organized at Bangkok to celebrate the return of the King of Siam from his European travels was a "special" theatrical performance, which began at 8 p. m. and ended at 4 a. m. About 15,000 artists took part, not to mention elephants, tigers, horses and other "beasts of the forest." The King, surrounded by the high dignitaries of the State, sat out the performance.

The attempt to abolish the "claque" at the Vienna Opera House, says the London Chronicle, has been followed by some lively times. An instant result was that each performance provided a band of private supporters. Not content with applauding their employers, these hirelings thought it necessary to hiss all rival singers, and the auditorium became almost as lively a place as the Reichsrath. Accordingly the administration posted up a notice forbidding any applause whatever.

Marion Manola Mason is in New York. It was learned from Mrs. Mason that on her way East she stopped in Detroit and instructed her attorney there, J. P. Kelley, to institute proceedings in the Michigan Courts on her behalf for divorce from her husband, the specific grounds given for the action being desertion and non-support. "I am a lonely, desolate woman, and sometimes it seems to me that the only refuge I have is mother earth. However, my health is restored, and I am determined to try and regain my place on the stage."

Charles Klein, co-author of "Heartsease," and librettist of "El Capitan," has written what he calls a "grand opera in a three-act comedy-setting." The cast will include grand opera singers, who will appear in the comedy, but the strictly dramatic members of the company will not step over the boundary line that

separates the theatrical from the operatic portion of the entertainment. Victor Herbert, composer of "The Wizard of the Nile" and "The Idol's Eye" is at work on the score for this curiously designated new work, and Mr. Klein has entitled it "His Imperial Highness."

A movement in favor of a so-called "moral theatre" has begun to have effect in Italy. The Pope is said to have contributed \$12,000 for the building of such a theatre in Rome, and \$100,000 has been promised in Milan for the same purpose. Not alone "moral" dramas will be given in Milan, but operas of the same sort, and a priest has already composed one for the purpose. Most of the Italian plays written today are pessimistic, psychological, and in many cases flagrantly and unnecessarily immoral. The dramatists of that country in their discussions of social problems have gone much farther than the French.

At Sousa's concert in New York on Sunday last, says the New York Telegraph, in one compartment the robust caustic, Nella Bergen, sat with De Wolf Hopper, whose extreme animation appeared to be a source of great satisfaction to his companion. Just above them another box was occupied by Edna Wallace Hopper and Tod Sloane, the immaculate young man who electrifies large crowds on the race track with his startling feats of horsemanship. A little further around the circle still another box envired George C. Boniface, the comedian, and Bertha Walsinger, the prima donna, in whose affairs the newspapers and Mrs. Boniface have recently developed a keen and untiring interest.

At Keith's vaudeville theatre, Boston, Monday last, Rose Coghlan impersonated for the first time the Widow Custis in "Washington's Surrender." Washington's surrender was to the Widow Custis, Mr. Clamberlain's daughter. Washington was then but a stripling officer, a subject of King George, and this was his first visit to the home of the Virginia patriot. She offers him a feast, "To the Future of the Colonies, May They Be Free," and Washington replies: "Here's to His Majesty King George." The persistent widow says: "No; to the future freedom of the colonies," and thus the half serious badinage continues, until George Washington finally surrenders to the beautiful Widow Custis, and avows himself a supporter of the cause of the American colonists. Some of the furniture and props were taken from Washington's own home.

#### A WOMAN MAYOR.

Kendrick, Idaho, Has the Only Woman in the Country to Occupy Such a Position.

Kendrick, Idaho, has a young lady mayor who proudly bears the distinction of being the only woman in this country who occupies that position.

Her name is Miss Jessie Parker, and she is a very prepossessing young woman, with just enough dash to color her dignity. With twenty-two years to her credit she bears all the freshness to which her age entitles her, and, above all, she possesses a keen intellect, with admirable faculties of discernment. All these attainments were weighed when Miss Parker was nominated.

It must be borne in mind that in far off Idaho, where beautiful valleys between the sun scorched sage bush plains and the jack rabbit and mining promoter hold high carnival, women are entitled not only to participate in politics, but to vote, and while for a year they have exercised the franchise, outside of school positions none of them has held office.

Miss Parker talks very interestingly about her campaign and her plans for the future. "When the question of my candidacy was first broached," she said, talking with a mixture of debonair of the college girl and the crafty politician, "it's very boldness staggered me. I really stammered my surprise, and awkwardly asked for time. But as I thought over the matter my self-possession returned. I reasoned it all out, and finally determined to allow my name to be used, but when the delegation of ladies and gentlemen waited on me for my answer I experienced much the feelings of the graduation girl when she faces her admirers to demonstrate her fitness for the honor about to be conferred upon her, and when they went outside and the air rang with cries of "Hurrah for Miss Parker, our next Mayor!" and all that sort of thing, I shrank back in horror, and then I realized more than ever that I was only a girl, until the thought coursed through my feverish brain that after all woman's sphere did not embrace politics.

"How awful it all seemed, with young men and old charging through the streets crying 'Hurrah for Parker!' and then I imagined I could hear some of them in a fit of absentmindedness demand in stentorian tones to know 'What is the matter with Parker?' and to hear proclaimed with equal vehemence that 'He's all right!' It was terrible. But after a time I became more calm, and even laughed at my fears. I was no longer a weak girl, but a woman, filled with all the aspirations that may fill the breast of any ambitious daughter of Idaho. Emboldened by the reaction, I made a vow to face it, and I did.

"The men were very kind to me all the way through. And that counted a great deal. I think I should have been tempted to have given it up in the very middle of the campaign if there had been any disposition shown to make suelght on me as I had known to be conducted between man and man. Strong arguments were used against me, and my supporters and myself essayed to answer them. I say strong arguments; they were only strong arguments when viewed through the opposition eye, for they all resolved themselves into the simple objection that women did not have as much sense as men, and, therefore, were not qualified to hold office.

Of course they did not say that in so many words. They were very polite about it, and we as politely informed them that our humble judgment was that not all the knowledge of the world was to be found beneath unfeathered hats.

"As to my plans for the future, I have not yet had sufficient time to fully determine. I am only one of five, and while I expect to exert an influence with the Council, still my duties are limited. I will have a voice in all matters looking to the advancement and improvement of the city and will appoint policemen, etc., but I am without a vote of course, excepting in case of a tie. However, the

Council and myself are in harmony on the general policy of our administration and I anticipate no dissention. Should it come, however, I will exercise vigorously the prerogative given me by law.

"The disreputable element cannot run this city while I am in office. There is no question about that. Law and order will be maintained and all necessary improvements will be made, and that without placing too heavy a burden upon our people."

Miss Parker was elected as an independent on the first Tuesday in April and has taken hold in a manner that fully justifies all the claims of her supporters.

#### DEATH IN A NEW FORM

Gun That Will Throw a Dynamite Shell Nine Miles—Novel Idea in Projectiles.

Hudson Maxim announces that he has discovered a gun that will throw half a ton of dynamite nine miles, wrecking everything within an area of 47,000 feet.

The invention which is to do this pleasant work embodies new things in gun, powder and projectile. To make his invention perfectly clear to the reader, it must be premised that, aside from the torpedo tube on the warships, the only weapon now in use that will throw dynamite of serviceable charges to any considerable distance is the dynamite gun, of which type six are mounted in forts in the United States, and which are represented afloat by the batteries of the Vesuvius and Niechroy.

These weapons are worked with compressed air, and as a result their range is limited strictly. They cannot throw a charge of dynamite more than two and one-half miles at the most, and their most effective range is one and one-half miles. Compressed air is used, because it alone, as far as known up to this time, could discharge the terrible projectile without exploding it inside of the gun.

Hudson Maxim's invention starts with the discovery of a form of powder and a manner of using it that will discharge a dynamite projectile as safely as the common powder gun fires a solid steel shot.

The range, too, is to be equal to any that may be attained with an ordinary projectile, and this will wipe out the one great objection to the dynamite gun of today—that a ship could lie out of range of it and shoot the battery to pieces.

No ordinary powder has been found until now that would throw a charge of dynamite from a gun without exploding it in the weapon nine times out of ten. Hudson Maxim declares that a smokeless powder made by him is so sure and reliable in its burning that it can be used with perfect safety.

The torpedo to be thrown with the enormous charge of half or even one ton of dynamite or other high explosive is, as may be imagined, made with the utmost care. It must be absolutely proof against shock and its fuse must be sure not to explode at the wrong moment and sure to explode at the right moment.

The torpedo is 24 inches in diameter and more than 12 feet long for a ton charge, and 12 inches in diameter and more than six feet long for a half-ton charge. The ton charge can be thrown five miles and the half-ton charge nine miles. The torpedo is made in two sections, telescoped together, and the explosive is forced into it under pressure.

The shells of the torpedoes are thin, and one reason for putting the explosive into them under pressure is that the charge thus saves the torpedo from collapsing under the effect of the powder charge.

The explosive is so treated that it will not explode under any condition of shock, and it is set to burst through the explosion of a fuse which is so arranged that it acts when the torpedo has penetrated a certain distance into earth, water or steel, its detonation being dependent on a certain amount of retardation of the projectile.

When it is placed in the projectile it is to prevent the fuse from setting off the explosive through accidental detonation. As long as the fuse is in the air chamber its detonation would exhaust itself in the clear space and there would be no premature explosion.

Springs prevent any movement of the fuse, no matter how violently the torpedo may be handled previous to its discharge. But as soon as the gun is fired the rapid rotation of the projectile frees the fuse and it moves into the body of explosives.

As soon as the projectile strikes the shock hurls the fuse violently forward and explodes it.

The gun to throw this destructive projectile, as designated by Maxim, is much thinner than the ordinary high-power rifle gun, because, instead of having to withstand a powder pressure of 35,000 to 40,000 pounds, it has to support simply a pressure of 10,000 pounds to the square inch.

The reason for this is that the object of the dynamite thrower is not to get armor piercing velocity or flat trajectory, but merely range.

The explosives that may be used in the gun are any that will withstand the shock of discharge and of an ordinary explosion. They must not go off except on direct detonation. Gun cotton, nitroglycerin, maximitis and picric acid could be used with equal safety and with almost equal result.

#### Curacao.

Everyone is talking about the Spanish fleet and incidentally about Curacao, its present lurking place. Curacao (ku-ra-so-a) is the largest of the Dutch West Indies. It is 40 miles long, 10 miles wide and has an area of 212 square miles. The soil and climate are dry. At times it is very hot, but relief is given by the north and southeast winds, so that the average temperature is 72 degrees. Salt, lime-phosphate, straw hats and dividends are shipped hence; and the island gives name to the well-known liquor called curacao.

The chief town of Curacao is Willemstad. It is on the south coast of the island, on St. Anne's bay. It is a clean and well-built town. It has a town house, Government house, two hospitals, a lazaretto, a lunatic asylum, several churches, a bank and a savings institution. Population 8000.

Auzzie Hynes and family are the guests of friends at Earlville, Md.

J. Irving Hoffecker of this city, reported for duty yesterday as an electrical engineer on the Vermont.

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