



THE SAN FRANCISCO STAGE. If there is any reason why theater-goers should fail to enjoy themselves during the next seven days this reason is not easily perceived. The poet argues fairly that "beauty is its own excuse for being," and the same applies to the stage, and the quickener of imagination, the brightener of dull wits, the prince of satirists and the magician which drives dull care before it. Only there are degrees, of course. Sometimes the father of a family shakes a dubious head because the drama conceals its moral purpose. Just now it is only necessary to glance at the best of the comedies to see safety and innocence gamboling hand in hand before the footlights, and it is a refreshing vision. And, by the way, all the theaters are "doing quite well."

Some of the Eastern dramatic writers are complaining that few new plays are coming on. Hilary Bell, in the New York Press, for instance, remarks that the influence of "socialism" has been a bad one on the present apathy of the English drama, and draws a picture at once pathetic and semi-humorous, when Wilde is simultaneously portrayed as thriving and taking on flesh upon the theater, but the same time "getting ready" to exercise an "unnecessary influence" when he shall resume the pen. The truth may be that fewer plays are being staged, but that does not tell the whole story. There are old plays and old operas by the score which survive and solely by the hold they have upon the sympathies of the play-goers, and they will demand and secure hearing and rehearing until the standard of taste shall be radically changed.

Locally the admixture of plays well known and of those less well known is not more or less having seen their fame achieved on Eastern stages to precede them seems well calculated to please. The list of the week embraces: "Two Orphans," "The Masqueraders," "The Irish Artist," "The Great Unknown," "The Huguenots," "The Bohemian Girl" and the numerous attractions of the Orpheum and the Chutes Casino. That is a greater variety than any Eastern city is offering for the coming week. It is to be noted that the belief that San Francisco will some time be the great theater town of the United States, taking the year through from beginning to end, for personal comfort has much to do with box-office finances.

At the Baldwin. A great impression has been made by Henry Arthur Jones' "The Masqueraders" which Charles Frohman's Empire Theater Company is to present for the first time in this city at the Baldwin Theater Monday evening. The play had a great run of over 200 nights at the home theater, and the hit of the company's present engagement is expected to be made by it. The story is as follows: David Remon, an astronomer, becomes enamored of Dulcie Laronie. At a hunt ball, which brings together many ladies and gentlemen in glorious costumes, a kiss is sold at auction for the benefit of the widow of a man who has been killed in the hunt. Dulcie is to furnish the kiss. Lord Skene, a titled libertine, bids for the favor going beyond the limit of his poor resources and secures the kiss for 3000 pounds. More than this, Lord Skene offers to the barmaid the title of Lady Skene and she has always had a desire to shine and enjoy life she accepts the offer. In the bidding for the kiss, the astronomer's opponent was David Remon, an astronomer, who had a feeling of love for the barmaid. In the second act Sir Brice has been a married man for four years and has managed to ruin himself on the turf. Remon is still the friend of the wife, who has been requested by the husband to borrow of David and she does it to the tune of 6000 pounds.

Nine months afterward, at Nice, we find Sir Brice more than just about to start for Africa on a scientific expedition, and has come to Nice to say good-by. Sir Brice insists that his wife should secure more money from him. She refuses, and he threatens to put her in a convent. Remon arrives, and Dulcie confides her troubles to him. When she learns of the dangerous expedition he is about to undertake, she begs of him to give up the idea. He refuses, but the love between the astronomer and Dulcie, with a passionate outburst he renounces all thought of the journey, and declares that their lives are their own. Sir Brice has been a silent witness of this passionate love scene. It does not seem to him that he is least affected upon him, so far as outward appearances go. He suggests to Remon that they play at cards for the money that is owing the astronomer. Remon, angered and desperate, refuses the offer, but offers to take his fortune, 200,000 pounds (\$1,000,000) against Sir Brice's wife and child. Sir Brice acquiesces. Remon wins. The fourth act takes place at Remon's eyrie observatory on the Alps. There the astronomer has taken Lady Skene and it is here that the dramatic story finds the end.

Manager Charles Frohman has sent all the elaborate scenery, costumes and accessories across the continent for this big production, which will no doubt create great dramatic interest. It contains no end of striking and well-developed situations which call for artistic acting. Its first production to-morrow night will allow us the opportunity of witnessing its many and richly-talked-of card-cutting scene in the third act, where Sir Brice stakes his wife and child against his opponent's fortune. This situation is one of the most intensely dramatic ever put in a play, and as carried out by William Faverham, Robert Edison and Viola Allen is made the very most of.

On Monday evening, August 17, comes the successful comedy, "The Gay Parisians" direct from a run of six months at Chicago. The piece will be presented by the original company, which includes, among others, W. J. Ferguson, James O. Barrows, Charles B. Wells, W. R. Shirley, Eddie Martinot, Mrs. E. J. Phillips, Margaret Gordon.

old Sadler's Wells Theater with a little white rubbered off the walls, a little brown rubbered off a brick from a chimney and a hole in the tights blackened with soot from the blue.

Possibly George Cayvan may revive "Squire Kate," Buchanan's pastoral play, in which her greatest success at the New York Lyceum Theater was achieved.

One of the big melodramatic productions of next season will be "Darkest Russia," which will be sent to the coast with a magnificent company in a few months.

When Otis Skinner appears at the Baldwin early next year he will have for presentation two entirely new plays, entitled "A Soldier of Fortune" and "The Third Dick."

In "Town Topics," which will be seen at the Columbia Theater this season, there are said to be no less than twenty pretty girls, who will be seen in a host of original situations.

Evans & Hoey have returned from Europe, where they went to engage the specialties for "A Parlor Match," which will be one of the principal attractions en route the coming season.

Court Golden State No. 22, Foresters of America, has arranged for a benefit at the Columbia Theater for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights, August 25, 26 and 27, when "A Social Trust" will be repeated.

William A. Brady, who will send Joseph Grismer and Phoebe Davies to the coast in November with a very strong company, will produce among other new plays for the first time "Humankind" and "The Cotton King."

Miss Pauline French, a graduate from the Columbia Theater School of Dramatic Art, will join Augustus Daly's forces next season. Peterson's Magazine has quite an article in this month's issue of her beauty and accomplishments.

Chauncey Olcott will make a run with the Olympic Club Wheelmen on the Cliff House this morning, and will be tendered a breakfast by the latter at the hotel on the beach. He will sing at the Pavilion this afternoon on the occasion of the meeting of the League of the Cross.

Sardon, in his customary manner, in "Madame Sans Gene" depicts the fire and fury of the sanguinary times when the royalty and nobility of France went down in a sea of blood, the cessation of the strife and the rise on the ruins of the old monarchy of the glided, unsubstantial regime of Napoleon.

It's All a Question of Makeup. How Age, Color and Nationality Change in the Dressing-Room.

A star comedy feature is announced at the Orpheum for the week in the person of Professor T. A. Kennedy, the mesmerist and hypnotist. He has just arrived from a very successful trip through Australia and New Zealand, where he made quite a stir among the medical fraternity. In several instances he appeared before their societies and gave exhibitions of his powers under the supervision of the best known physicians of the country. However, one does not have to go to Australia for examples of the wonderful things he has done.

In this city there are a number of cases of quite wonderful cures from the cigarette, drink and opium habit. However, he is not engaged by Gustav Walter to expound any particular theory, but to play the role of fun-maker. With subjects selected from the audience he will give an entertainment quite as mirth-provoking as anything ever seen on the Orpheum stage, which is saying considerable, for some very funny things have been seen and heard through the rocks and mountains and hills of the Pacific Coast, will appear in new sketches. His work is characterized by the lightning-like changes he makes and his powers as a ventriloquist, which combine to enable him to play all the parts of a comedy.

The Nelson sisters have made quite a stir among the athletes of the City, as no such acrobatic work has ever been seen here, and what adds to the novelty of their act is the fact that they are a group of young women. Drummond Stakey and Belle Birbeck, the musical blacksmiths, will appear in new specialties. Herr Techow's cat show is one of the unique and pleasing features of the Orpheum. In our present repertory I play parts ranging in age from 19 to 90. Very youthful parts, like Sam in "The Queen's Shilling," for instance, require but small grease paint for a groundwork, heightening the cheek-bones with carmine rubbed in with a little brown, and using blue and black for the eyes, blue on the upper eyelid close to the lash, and the lash blackened with black grease paint warmed over the gas and applied with a pencil; that's very simple. It's called the straight make-up.

Jeremiah Jarraway, Harry Corson Clark (rather a large-sized mouse, likewise a somewhat awkward mouse, but offering a lively illustration of two familiar fables); Ned Bremer Cousin, Frank Worthing (Ned who went away a Methodist and returns a "Daisy"); The O'Donnell Don, Wilton Lackaye (with a proverb for every occasion); Tom Proude, George W. Leslie (in the musical line as a penitent for his pupils); Patrick, Wilton Emos (an indispensable in the Jarraway household); Eina Lusua, Miss Blanche L. Baies (the combination of mouse and puss—no other specimen known to exist); Pansy, Miss Hope Ross; her sister, Mrs. Arabella Jarraway, Miss Madge Carr-Cook (the feline article of the Orpheum); Mrs. Frank Worthing (catch the frolicking rodents); Aunt Penelope, Miss Phoebe McAllister (a protecting angel as well as an evening spirit); and taking a deal of enjoyment out of both); Shirley Munkittrick, Mrs. Thornydyke-Boucicault (her niece, a young widow with historical aspirations); Miss Twitters, Miss Lansing Rowan (mentor and guide to the Demoselles Jarraway); Miss Agathe, Miss Alice Pleyel.

The entire action of the comedy passes in the Jarraway reception and sitting room. Ten days are supposed to intervene between the first and second acts; the third act follows one day later.

Grand Opera House. "The Danites," with James M. Brophy as Sandy McGee, has drawn crowded houses all the past week. There will be no diminution of the crowds this week either, as the "Two Orphans" will occupy the stage with a splendid setting. The management say that such a setting of melodrama has never been seen before in San Francisco.

The full depth of the stage of the Grand is to be employed in the second act. This will be when the scene is in the Gardens of Bel-Air. Seventy people will be on the stage at that time. Professor Charles F. Groeber's Mandolin and Guitar Club, consisting of forty well-known ladies and gentlemen, will assist.

The management has engaged a number of well-known artists especially for this performance. Among those who will reinforce the stock company of the Opera-house are Miss Anita Fallon, Kate Dalrymple, Montrose Snow, and Carl Smith. Mr. Brophy, who in his first week was a dashing young New Yorker and the past week has been a sturdy Westerner, will during the coming week be the dashing young cavalier of the last century. The part of the seventy Maurice de Vandy will bring Mr. Brophy's talents as an actor into play.

Grand Opera Season. Meyerbeer's classical work "The Huguenots" will be presented at the Tivoli Opera-house next Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday evenings as the offering for the sixth week of the season of Italian and English grand opera, now

NEW TO-DAY-AMUSEMENTS. AL HAYMAN & CO.'S THEATERS. AT THE BALDWIN TO-MORROW (Monday) Aug. 10, LAST WEEK. CHARLES FROHMAN'S EMPIRE THEATER COMPANY, FROM THE EMPIRE THEATER, N. Y. The Masqueraders! THE GREAT DRAMA by Henry Arthur Jones. Author of "The Dancing Girl," "Judah," "The Case of Rebellious Susan," "Saluts and Sinners," etc. A production on the same magnificent scale as seen for 200 nights at the Empire Theater, N. Y. GORGEOUS AND COSTLY COSTUMES!—ELABORATE SCENERY! A Play of Intense Interest, with Brilliant Dramatic Situations, including the THRILLING CARD SCENE!

EXTRA—Beginning Monday, August 17—EXTRA Direct from Chicago, where it is now running. THE LAUGHING RAGE! THE GAY PARISIANS Now running at the Vaudeville Theater, London. Reigning Hit at the Nouveaute, Paris. W. J. FERGUSON, JAMES O. BARROWS, CHAS. B. WELLS, W. J. SHIRLEY, THE ORIGINAL GREAT CAST, AS SEEN 200 NIGHTS IN New York, and in Chicago and Boston. MISS SADIE MARTINOT, MRS. E. J. PHILLIPS, MISS MARGARET GORDON, and Many Others.

AT THE CALIFORNIA TO-NIGHT—LAST TIME! MAVOURNEEN! TO-MORROW (Monday), Aug. 10—Second Week THE SWEET-INGREDIENTS IN THE SUCCESSFUL COMEY-DRAMA, CHAUNCEY OLCOTT, THE IRISH ARTIST, Under the Management of Augustus Pitou. HEAR OLCOTT SING: "My Beautiful Irish Maid," "Katie Mahone," "Olcott's Irish Serenade," "Look in My Heart," and Tom Moore's Beautiful Lyric, "Believe Me If All Those Endearing Young Charms."

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T. A. KENNEDY! A RECOGNIZED EXPONENT OF THE SCIENCE OF HYPNOTISM. In a Session of Fun and Merriment with Volunteer Subjects from the Audience. Under his magic spell the subjects perform antics so ridiculous that all beholders roar with laughter. The Famous South American Wonders, THE FOUR NELSON SISTERS! In the Greatest and Most Pleasing Acrobatic Act Ever Seen in This City.

THE NEW SENSATION, HERR TECHOW, And His Marvelous Troupe of Performing Cats. LAST WEEK BIONDI, The One-Man Italian Opera, in New Surprises. Last Week VAIDIS TWIN SISTERS on Revolving Electric Wheels. MATINEE TO-DAY (SUNDAY), AUGUST 9. Parquet, one seat, 25c; Balcony, any seat, 10c; Children, 5c, any part.

MOROSCO'S GRAND OPERA-HOUSE. The Handsomest Family Theater in America. ONLY TO-NIGHT AND TO-MORROW LAST PERFORMANCE OF THE DANITES! NEXT WEEK, MONDAY, Aug. 10—A Marvelously Elaborate Production of THE TWO ORPHANS! THIRD WEEK OF JAMES M. BROPHY, California's Favorite Roman le Actor. MANY ARTISTS SPECIALLY ENGAGED. ENGAGEMENT EXTRAORDINARY OF PROF. CHAS. F. GROEBER'S MANDOLIN AND GUITAR CLUB OF Forty (40) Well-Known Ladies and Gentlemen. BEAUTIFUL SCENERY. SPLENDID COSTUMES. NEW PEOPLE. ONLY THE USUAL POPULAR PRICES!

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TIVOLI OPERA-HOUSE Season of Italian and English Grand Opera Under the Direction of Mr. GUSTAV HINRICHS. To-Night—Last Time Leoncavallo's Tragic Opera, "PAGLIACCI!" To-morrow Evening and Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, "THE HUGUENOTS!" Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday, "THE BOHEMIAN GIRL." Popular Prices—25c and 50c. AND BETTER AND FUNNER THAN "THE TWO ESCUTCHONS"—Presented by the Superb FRAWLEY COMPANY WILTON LACKAYE AND MISS ALICE PLEYEL. New Sets of Scenery! Elegant Toilets! Monday, August 17. A SOCIAL TRUST

Columbia Theatre. PHILANDER GOTTLOBA & CO. LESSEES AND MANAGERS. And To-Morrow (Monday) Evening—A REAL SENSATION! Augustus Daly's Great Comedy Success. THE GREAT UNKNOWN! Better and Funner than "THE TWO ESCUTCHONS"—Presented by the Superb FRAWLEY COMPANY WILTON LACKAYE AND MISS ALICE PLEYEL. New Sets of Scenery! Elegant Toilets! Monday, August 17. A SOCIAL TRUST