

IN LONDON THEATERS.

Special Correspondence.

LONDON, June 22.—If you have any likely melodramas on hand in America, now is the time to send them to London. Surely the shade of the late William Terriss would exult could it revisit the "West End," for transatlantic plays of the old Adelphi pattern are again in high favor. And as surely would the wrath of Sir Henry Irving be kindled could it make a similar excursion, since the first important London playhouse to be devoted to melodrama is the famous Lyceum, the scene of the knight's greatest triumphs, as well as of his eventual vicissitudes.

The new vanguard with London managers, in fact, seems to be "produce melodrama if you would turn a hoodoo house into a profitable one," and certainly the example of the famous Adelphi affords no little justification for such a recipe. It will be remembered that after Irving had assumed himself that Shakespeare spells ruin in London and is gained with "efficiency" in the last degree, the Lyceum was turned into a music-hall and run on the "two shows a night" principle by a wealthy manager from the provinces. Stark failure was the result, however, and a few months afterward the theater stood, untenanted—a melancholy object.

Then it was that a pair of comparatively youthful managers who were previously had been confined to the east—or rather end of London, took over the ancient temple of Shakespeare and announced that "popular melodrama" would be produced there at "popular prices." The latter range, I believe, from 10 cents to about a dollar, and the first production by the new management—a lurid piece called "Herod Against the World," which proved the biggest success known in London in recent years. It has been promptly followed, moreover, by a second production—"The Midnight Wedding"—which is as emphatic a hit as the first, and the fervor with which the hero and heroine at the Lyceum are applauded nightly, and the villain hissed, recall to old Londoners the palmiest days of Terriss and Jessie Millward, as well as of the famous "Surry" across the river.

It may be said too, that melodrama of a sort—imported from America—has given new life to another London playhouse that has been a "hoodoo" for years; Terry's theater having come into its own again with "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch," after a history of back luck as perhaps no other London theater can match. It is evident, moreover, that the "rip" is being taken, for the latest news is that the old Princess in Oxford street, which has stood empty for several years, is now to be reopened—and with "popular melodrama." An interesting feature in connection with this venture is the fact that one of the "parties" interested is no other than Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, who tells me that among the future productions will be a dramatization of one of his novels. Which one, Sir Arthur declined to state, but it may be "The Hound of the Baskervilles," and unauthorized stories of the "hounds" which have been done in Germany.

That he can write a popular play—even without the assistance of William Gillette—Doctor Doyle already has proved for real American "thrillers" are uncommonly good in London, at present. Perhaps one of them would bring fortune to another London playhouse which is under a cloud—the Imperial Westminister, which Mrs. Langtry built at vast expense and which has proved the worst kind of a "white elephant." So far as one remembers there never has been a single success there.

The Waldorf is another playhouse whose "hoodoo" might be banished by an American success of the melodramatic type. May be, in fact, since "The Princess" by the way, is the London theater that B. F. Keith acquired several years ago, with the intention of turning it into a "continuous house," and why this intention was not carried

out remains a mystery in theatrical circles here.

A further instance of the tendency in London toward entertainment of the older sort is to be found in the experience of Martin Harvey with "The Corsican Brothers." For his present season he has selected "The Corsican Brothers," "The Only Way," "The Corsican Brothers," and "Great Possessions," the German Biblical play of which mention was made in this column some time ago. This latter, by the way, did not come up to expectations. It was diffuse, long-winded, and actionless, and failed to "draw the town." The surprise of the Harvey season, however, was the old Dumas play which, in spite of its antiquated form and labored dialogue, succeeded in thrilling audiences to such an extent that it is to be put on for a run at another theater as soon as the Adelphi engagement ends. It was, of course, one of the biggest successes of Irving in his prime, but few expected it to please the faded players of the Strand and Harvey's appearance in it was made largely



Photo by Shipley.

WANDAMERE FROM THE CHUTES.

for the sake of doubling the parts of the brothers. He does this, by the way, extremely well.

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accompanied by Elder J. Sidney Tanner, who lives in Payson.

On Friday Miss Ida Savage accompanied the Eccles party to Boston and Sharon; she will return to New York within the week. Mrs. and Miss Eccles are now on their journey homeward.

There has been considerable registered mail stolen lately in New York. Philadelphia too has suffered some. And among those affected was Mr. Horace Merrill, studying at the Jefferson Medical college. Mr. Merrill was somewhat delayed by the non-appearance of a \$100 draft, which the bank had forwarded. He left for home last Wednesday.

Miss Sallie Fisher and her mother spent the week touring New Jersey in an automobile with friends.

During the week Mrs. and Miss Vida Eccles entertained Mrs. Earley, Mrs. Herrick and Miss Savage at luncheon and at the Willie Collier matinees. The Eccles were registered at the Hotel Astor.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gillespie have been of the number who have made Miss Ida Savage's week in New York exceedingly pleasant. Mr. Gillespie loves Salt Lake and Salt Laker, and Utah people generally, he thinks the finest in the world, so some of his friends here inform us. He asked a hundred questions about his friends out here. He first met Mrs. Gillespie, who is a native of Williamsburg, Penn., in Old Mexico. It was in this place that Mr. Gillespie met his wife. He said that probably home folks have not yet heard of. His leg was caught in an elevator and every bone in the ankle fractured. Surgeons advised amputation, but Mr. Gillespie refused to consent. During the very strenuous operation of bone setting, he declined an anesthetic for fear they might cut the limb off in spite of him. While convalescing he met the lady he made his wife. They were married in August, and spent the winter in Bermuda. Mr. Gillespie has built up a good business in realty and investments. His

ready, judging from William A. Brady's decision to present "Way Down East" at the Aldwych. Neither this place, however, nor "In the Bishop's Carriage" is of quite the order of the pieces which have "saved" the Lyceum, and which are expected to "save" the Princess. What London is yearning for is manifestly another "Blue Jeans," "Heart of Maryland" or "Fatal Wedding," so whoever is possessed of such in the United States will do well to send them across forthwith.

CURTIS BROWN.

SALT LAKERS IN GOTHAM.

Special Correspondence.

NEW YORK, June 30.—Miss June Mathis and her mother are at 299 W. Eighty-eighth street, where Miss Mathis will rest quietly until August, when "Brewster's Millions" opens.

Elder J. J. Larson, president of the New England states mission, left yesterday for his home in Cleveland, Utah.

home is the Hotel Irving, Gramercy park.

Mr. William J. Willes of the Willes-Horne Drug company, says that already they are writing him that business has increased during his absence. And he looks for great things on his return. He is now on his way to England on a mission. With him is Mr. Joseph Shephard, nephew of Arthur Shephard, who is bound for Turkey.

the voters, depending on whether the consent is sought in a city or a county. The plan is practically local option and high license. Prohibition exists in 55 of the 99 counties in the state. I believe that there is a continuous growth of the temperance sentiment, and also that it can safely be said that the less liquor sold and consumed the better the morals.

BIGGEST "DRY" CITY.

Gov. E. W. Hoch writes entertainingly and instructively about conditions in Kansas. He says:

"The state was never so free from saloons and joints as it is at this time, and by the way, the state was never so prosperous materially and financially. I do not believe that there are anywhere on earth 1,000,000 people maintaining a higher standard of morals than is maintained by the 1,600,000 people who constitute the population of Kansas, nor do I believe there is a similar number of people anywhere on earth enjoying a greater degree of material prosperity and among whom poverty and pauperism are so little known. We have not only proven the wisdom of the prohibitory policy so far as the moral and intellectual interests of the people are concerned, but we have established its wisdom from a financial standpoint. Incidentally I might remark that Kansas City, Kansas, is the largest city in the country without a saloon, and that Topeka is the only state capital where liquor is not sold."

PROHIBITION IN TEXAS.

Local option prevails in Texas. There are 147 counties that are absolutely dry, 55 that are partially so, and 47 that are totally wet. Governor Campbell writes:

"Nearly all the counties that are totally dry and the 51 that are partially dry have become so since 1892, and something like fifty of the counties and many of the precincts in other counties have adopted prohibition in the last four years. The effect has been to greatly decrease the consumption of intoxicants. It has decreased the state revenue to a considerable extent, and greatly decreased the amount of crime in dry counties. After the law has been enforced long enough to accomplish its legitimate results, the saving of court expenses for decrease in crime is believed to fully offset the loss of revenue from closing the saloons."

GOVERNOR FOLK SHARES THIS VIEW.

Governor Folk, of Missouri, takes the same view as Governor Campbell, as to the saving of court expenses. He says with reference to temperance in his state:

"Local option and high license prevail in Missouri, no liquor being sold in 33 of the 76 counties. The decreased sale and consumption of intoxicants have had a tendency to reduce crime, and by consequently reducing the criminal cost fund, to effect a saving to the state. The closing of saloons on Sunday had reduced crime 60 per cent."

GOVERNOR CUTLER, OF UTAH.

Expresses largely the same views. Local option and high license prevail, with partial prohibition in many counties. He writes:

"There has always been a strong sentiment in Utah against the liquor traffic. The Mormon church requires total abstinence of its members. Other churches are also insistent on this point. It is a foregone conclusion that the morals of a community are improved by a decreased sale of liquor. The revenues of the state are increased, because temperance leads to frugality and thrift and the accumulation by citizens of taxable property."

NO JAILS IN NORTH DAKOTA.

Governor Burks of North Dakota, laconically writes concerning prohibition in his state:

"We have had prohibition in North Dakota so long that in some counties there are no jails. There is not much crime in this state."

Governor Warner, of Michigan writes that the state has local option, but that while there has been a marked growth of temperance sentiment, there are not many dry counties.

Local option prevails in every one of the eight counties in Connecticut, and each of them is partially dry. Each of the four districts in Delaware will decide for itself this fall whether liquor shall be sold or not.

Florida has local option and high license with prohibition in 24 of the 45 counties. There has been a marked growth of temperance sentiment; but no appreciable effect has been shown on the revenue records.

Kentucky prohibits the sale of intoxicants in 96 of the 119 counties, and it is predicted that several more counties will go dry. Maine has prohibition, but a correspondent says that there are three or four counties which "nullify" at times, though there has been a better enforcement of the temperance laws recently than there had been.

Maryland has local option and prohibition prevails in many counties. Montana has local option laws, but there are no dry counties. There was one dry county a few years ago, but it has since gone wet.

Neb. reports that under local option no intoxicants are sold in eight of the 90 counties, and in 500 cities and towns, with prohibition sentiment developing rapidly.

New Hampshire reports show that whiskey is sold in only about one-fifth of the counties. New York, New Jersey, and New Mexico have high license, but are represented as showing no important growth of temperance sentiment.

SALOONS AMONG TARHEELS.

Local option in North Carolina has almost wholly eliminated the saloon from the country districts and from many of the towns. The dispensary exists in several counties. A great growth of temperance sentiment is reported.

Alabama has license of from \$200 to \$350. No statistic have been furnished as to the prevalence of local option.

A decided growth of temperance sentiment is reported from Indiana, where the sale of intoxicants is prohibited in several counties. A great growth of temperance sentiment is reported.

Governor Gooding says that there has been no marked growth of the temperance sentiment in Idaho during recent years, and that there is no local option, licenses ranging from \$100 to \$500.

Vendors of liquor pay a license tax of \$100 a year in Indian Territory. Ohio has local option. A few counties are dry. A uniform license of \$1,000 prevails.

NEWSPAPER MAKES DRY COUNTY.

The power of the press has been well exemplified in Oklahoma, where a whole county was made dry by one newspaper. The law requires that notice of application for license shall be published in a newspaper in the county where the whiskey is to be sold. The newspaper refused to print the notice and the county is dry. Thirty signatures are required on petitions for license in incorporated towns. Two-thirds majority of freeholders in a township must sign petition in order to secure license in rural communities.

Governor Chamberlain writes that four of the 33 counties in Oregon are dry, with partial prohibition in other counties, and that there has been a growth of temperance sentiment.

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WHAT GOV. CUMMINGS SAYS.

Gov. Cummings, of Iowa, the formulator of the "Iowa idea" in tariff matters, writes concerning temperance in Iowa: "Our regulation is known as the 'millet law,' which, while not licensing the sale of intoxicants, does prohibit the sale of the tax is paid and the provisions of the law are complied with. This law allows the citizens of a community to decide whether intoxicants shall be sold, requiring a statement of consent, with a majority of the voters, to be secured."

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LIQUOR AND LAW.

Governors of Many States Write Concerning Temperance Legislation.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 2.—

Virginia has a law that prohibits the sale of liquor except where there is police protection, and anywhere else that the people vote for local option. This makes nine-tenths of the area of the state dry. Tennessee has only four towns and cities in all its borders where whiskey can be bought at retail. And even Kentucky, with its ancient and honored reputation for the making, distilling and drinking of good liquor, has stopped its sale in all but 23 of its 119 counties.

These facts are so striking that they led the writers to investigate the subject in all the states, to ascertain how far reaching the temperance movement is, and its effect upon the morals and finances of the different states. This has been not as a temperance advocate but as a devotee of the cup that cheers, but with as much of that "cold, calm neutrality of the upright judge" as he could command. The governors of the various states were asked to furnish information as to the status of the movement or to designate some one who could give unbiased information. These replies form the basis of a most interesting study, showing as they do that in a large majority of the states there is a rapidly growing sentiment in favor of the restriction or prohibition of the sale of intoxicants. In most of the states absolute prohibition prevails in many counties. The "local option" idea has been a striking feature of the development of the temperance movement. Only a week or more ago Charlottesville, Virginia, and a town of some 7,000 inhabitants, went "dry."

The movement to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquor is stronger in the southern states than in any other section, through Kansas and other western States make strong showings. Yet the remainder of the nation has figures which show that there has been no falling off in the amount of intoxicants used despite the growth of the temperance sentiment and laws prohibiting their sale. The amount of tax-paid spirits withdrawn from distilleries and bonded warehouses for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1906, was 12,677,943 gallons, which was about seven

drawn in 1905. This increase is said to be fairly representative of the average increase from year to year, and of the proportion of intoxicants consumed. The increase in the face of prohibitory laws is not explainable from the data at hand.

ARKANSAS GOING "DRY."

Arkansas is rapidly becoming one of the great prohibition states. Today the sale of intoxicants is absolutely prohibited in 52 of the 75 counties. Seven years ago there were 45 wet counties. There is a general local option law. Where the sale of liquor has been authorized it may be by petition prohibited within three miles of any church or school.

GOVERNOR BUTCHER'S VIEWS.

Gov. Henry A. Buchtel, of Colorado, writes: "We have recently passed a very fine local option law, which makes it possible for us to create anti-saloon territory. With this new law we shall be able to make all our agricultural counties absolutely dry. We have many towns where liquor is not sold except where it is sold for medicinal purposes. It is a continual growth of the temperance sentiment in this state, as there is in every state."

TEMPERANCE IN GEORGIA.

Local option prevails in Georgia, with high licenses in several cities ranging from \$500 to \$1,000. In two counties the license is \$20,000, which, of course, means that there is no chance to wet a whistle within their boundaries. There is no whiskey sold in 125 out of the 137 counties of the state. Gov. Terrell writes that the decreased sale of intoxicants has not decreased the revenue, but has very perceptibly improved the moral tone in the prohibition territory.

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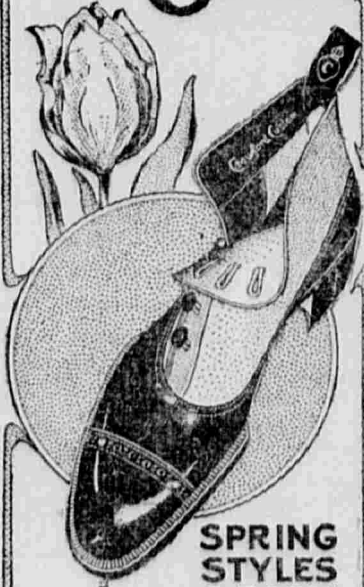
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