

# MUSIC AND DRAMA

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and created so many surprises in his life, that even this class of his friends are getting ready for one surprise more. Mr. Gillette is not a strong man physically, and he finds it necessary to take great care of himself. For this reason his seasons rarely last longer than 25 weeks.

This year Mr. Gillette plays a short season of only 23 weeks. His season closes early in March and soon thereafter he sails for England to complete arrangements for his production of "Hamlet" in New York next November.

The scenery, costumes, and properties for "Hamlet" are almost all under way, and many of them have already been completed, though if Mr. Gillette has any surprises in store he is keeping

them well hidden. Mr. Gillette is now in the fourth year of his success as "Sherlock Holmes." Even he agrees that if the whole dramatic profession of America and Europe had been asked to produce a better ideal of Conan Doyle's great detective could have been found. Mr. Gillette was using the play at odd intervals during the last season of "Secret Service," and he gave that play here five years ago when it was announced that he had "Sherlock Holmes" almost completed. In San Francisco he was hailed out at the airport. The play was among the property destroyed. Mr. Gillette was stopping at the Palace hotel at the time, and his stage manager rushed to him, woke him and told him that the play "Sherlock Holmes" production, which had been destroyed. Mr. Gillette, in his quiet way asked:

"Is there any danger of this hotel being destroyed?"

The stage manager was rather taken aback and declared that he thought it was perfectly safe.

"Then," said Mr. Gillette, "come and see my troubles in the morning, and night."

Mr. Gillette re-wrote the play of "Sherlock Holmes" in ten days, and for years it has proven to be one of the greatest successes ever put on any stage. After its first New York run it was taken to London, where it held the stage an entire season, and where the name of Wales (now King Edward) was stamped on the production, by attending the production half a dozen times.

When Sherlock Holmes smashes the top and throws the stage into total confusion at the theater Monday night, less than 15 other actors represent the famous detective will be doing the same thing in different parts of the world. There are five companies playing in England, two in the United States, and one each in Copenhagen, Stockholm, Budapest, Moscow, Warsaw, and the country districts of Poland. It is stated that so far as the number of different companies are producing it at the same time is concerned "Sherlock Holmes" has broken all previous records. The first performance being that of "Pinafore," which was presented by 12 companies at the same time.

One of the actors who is presenting the character of the detective had the advantage of studying Mr. Gillette in the part during his long stay in London. One of them imitate him in makeup and manner, and whether it is produced in English, in French, in Danish, German, or in Norwegian, the spell of the situation of the play holds the audience as closely as it does in the hands of its creator in the title role.

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Mr. Gillette's leading lady in "Sherlock Holmes" will be Ida Conquest, the well known actress who left such a pleasant impression here after her engagement with John Drew.

Manager Pyper announces that he has three more strong cards up his sleeve after Gillette. They are Nat Goodwin, E. A. Sothern and W. H. Crane, the latter playing "David Harum."

Frank M. Eldridge, who is in advance of little Elliott in the play "When Knighthood was in Flower," writes from St. Jo, Mo., that the Salt Lake dates are March 17 and 18. Miss Elliott is said to be having strong success in the play first made famous by Julia Marlowe.

Sweet Rebecca Warren, who used to be one of the popular favorites at the Grand theater, has been hiding her light under a bushel for some time in a stock company in Toledo, O. She has been wearing of that sort of work and is now arranging to go out at the head of a company playing "Tess of the D'Urbervilles."

Preparations for Nat Goodwin's tour in "A Midsummer Night's Dream" are going on apace, although little publicity has been given the project. A liberal offer was made to Lilian Russell for the role of Titania, but it did not approximate the sum which Miss Russell felt that she was entitled to, and negotiations fell through.

Organist J. J. McClellan left this morning for Denver, where he will spend most of the three days following his arrival in practice on the Trinitas Methodist organ, in preparation for the April festival. Mr. McClellan will also confer with the librettist of the new opera on which he has been hard at work for weeks. The score is half completed, and those who have had the pleasure of listening to excerpts from it are greatly pleased with the musical spirit of the composer.

There is a great mortality in sheet music, and local dealers are cutting prices in two, to stimulate the market. The market stimulates all right. One dealer said today that just one day's order amounted to 170 copies at four bits each on the average, and where he formerly ordered five copies of sheet music he now orders 30. The local price is for music that Anna Held held out for her listeners' delectation. Her combination of limbs, music and saxophone seems to have captivated the local public.

At the concert given by Sousa's band at Windsor castle in the presence of the royal family, Kink Edward asked for encores of several of the pieces played. The whole court stood while the band played "The Star Spangled Banner" and "God Save the King." At the close of the concert their majesties advanced and complimented Sousa. The king inquired how long the band had to remain in England, and said: "I shall have you again and I want all American music on the program the next time." An elaborate supper was served to the members of the band.

The idea of an echo addition to the Tabernacle will take part in the favor. Choirmaster Stephens heartily approves of the scheme, and several of the Church authorities have expressed themselves as endorsing it. The echo organ attachment has been developed to a high degree of perfection by American builders, so that the most beautiful and artistic effects are produced, and with the wonderful acoustic properties of the Tabernacle to enhance these effects, Prof. McClellan could produce some remarkably beautiful combinations of music, with the organ humana carrying the melody and the echo organ in immediate accompaniment or in antiphony. The cost is not great; in fact, the cost as compared with the advantages to be gained, sinks into insignificance.

The great Newberry organ, presented to Yale university by the widow of an old time graduate of Yale, as a memorial of her husband, and which will cost nearly \$50,000, is being set up in Wesleyan hall, and will require several months for its installation. It is now planned to have the dedication of the organ Saturday, June 20, the day before President Hadley's baccalaureate address, and for this dedication Prof. Sanford promises a program of great interest. He expects to have three organists of international reputation take part, representatives of the best English, French and German schools. It is claimed for this mighty instrument that it will be the finest concert organ in the world. Every improvement known up to the latest date in organ construction, has been incorporated in this triumph of the organ builder.

Rossini wrote his "Barber of Seville" in 12 days. The average time devoted to his operas was a month. For "Semiramide" his manager allowed him 40 days, and he did it in 33. "But that," Rossini once wrote, "was the only one of my Italian operas I could allow myself to write in a leisurely way. For William Tell, on the other hand, I needed an eternity. So, at least, it seemed to me—five whole months! This opera I wrote in the country, in the villa of my friend Acquaro. We had high trees there, and my special fondness for fishing. I remember one morning having the contractors' scene all ready in my hand while I stood on the bank waiting for a bite. The ecstatic state of mind produced by the thought of Arnold and Gessler lasted until a big carp carried away my rod, which brought me back to consciousness. The ease with which I composed astonished all the world. I deserve no credit for it; it was a natural gift. Just as little ought to be blamed for having stopped writing when I felt that I had lost that faculty of easy composition."

Charles H. Wagener, representing the Apollo piano player company, is in the city from Chicago, visiting with local music houses, and giving performances.

Prof. Anton Pedersen continues to give great satisfaction at the Christian Science church as organist, and he takes rare enjoyment in the instrument he has to play.

Frank Pixley and Gus Luders, the librettist and composer of "King Dodo" and "The Prince of Pilsen" have gone to Santa Barbara, Cal., to write. Mr. Pixley is making the trip to regain his health.

The new instruments of the First Regiment band continue to make a fine showing in the concerts at the Grand. Then "Bandmaster Christensen has some excellent musicians under his baton, and under his care a steady improvement is evident.

The business change of the week is the appointment of Mr. A. C. Strobel.

Following Mr. Gillette at the theater next week comes the well known comedian, Mr. Dan Sully. Since his last appearance here in "The Parish Priest," Mr. Sully has been devoting himself to a play entitled "The Old Millstream." In it he has the character of John Ryan, general store and will keeper of his village, and his quiet humor, his quiet earnestness, and his freedom from stage exaggeration are all said to have excellent opportunities in his new character. The play has a strong religious sentiment, and is excellently spoken of by the eastern press.

Not many attractions are strong enough to put in a full week at the Grand without a change of bill. Murray and Mack, however, are one of the exceptions, and Messrs. Jones & Hammer have no doubt that in their new "A Night on Broadway," they will keep the record of good business going from the first night to the last.

The players bring a whole host of clever people with them, but announce as their special feature the singing and dancing acts of Miss Kittle Beck, who for the past five years has been as strong an attraction of the company as Murray and Mack themselves. A special chorus of 12 young women accompany Miss Beck in her singing acts. The play is said to be a rollicking mixture of mirth, music and merry, simple enough for any child to understand, and yet with a plot intensely funny. The usual Wednesday and Saturday matinees will be given.

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of Chicago as manager of the music house of D. O. Calder's Sons Company. Mr. Strobel was born, reared, and educated in the music business, and taken hold literally, "to the major morn." Stockholders of the company are much pleased with his selection.

Mr. Edwin M. Hoff, who was the leading tenor with the Bostonians and the McCall Opera company for many years, has been engaged by William D. Stewart, as business manager for the American School of Opera. Mr. Hoff has been away from the operatic business for the past five years, devoting all his time to the insurance business.

It is pleasant to note that the health of Prof. Thomas Radcliffe, the veteran organist of the First Congregational church, has been improved this winter. The professor has been suffering from asthma, and it is feared that he would have to leave his instrument and seek refuge in southern California. But he has been pleasantly disappointed, and his many admirers are congratulating themselves that he remains as active as ever.

Manager Pyper of the Salt Lake theater expressed himself this week as decidedly hopeful of the raising of the \$100,000 necessary to place the Salt Lake Symphony orchestra on its feet. There will be a rehearsal of the orchestra tomorrow afternoon, with a view to another concert which is demanded by the local music loving public. Conductor Shepherd has made one of the greatest hits in his career this year, with his symphony orchestra.

Mr. Donovan declared he would raise \$100,000 as soon as the first million was raised.

Joe Sanders sat on an unopened barrel of sugar while he watched the storekeeper and Al pound off the crating of sugar. Al was breathing loudly through his teeth as he bent to his work, and the storekeeper's back was turned. Joe found it an auspicious time to help himself from the half-open box of sugar at his side.

"Tell you, Teddy did most everlastingly wait for them!" he remarked with enthusiasm, "slightly favored with pinches. 'Ain't nothing like an ole hunter to more'n lay to an' settle things."

Joe suddenly sidetracked a prune on his journey to his mouth as Al unbent from his work.

"Seen Thomp's new rickety?" he resumed. "'S got a Jim dandy, green with yellow wheels"—and Joe's hand stole toward a box of ginger cookies.

Al carried the box off to the front of the store, and Joe aimlessly ambled after him.

"If this country don't look out, vot with strife and vot with the tariff and vot with the trusts, it's goin' most everlastingly ter smash!" he cried as he leaned against the counter, and dexterously transferred an early russet to his coat pocket. "If I was in the president's chair I'd take the heads of the coal an' the ole an' the steel monopolists and most everlastingly knock 'em together."

"What you want is to come straight home an' split up that kindlin' for supper!" an energetic voice came from a wiry, calico-clad figure in the doorway. "If you'd stop pellishin' that counter with your vest and put a little elbow grease into second!" he said, "you'd find your family you'd know vot you want, an' let the president mind his business an' you mind yours!"

Al watched the deflected figure of the street as it disappeared up the village street.

"Needn't grudge that poor cuss an apple," he said, "Ain't got much to be thankful for!"—Chicago Post.

The kind-hearted fireman dropped two pieces of money into the Salvation Army jassie's contribution receptacle and furtively wiped away a tear of sympathy for the poor he was doing his little all to help.

The lynx-eyed inspector spoke to him, saying: "How much money did you leave in that box?"

The fireman, wonderingly, replied: "Had you asked anyone if you might give that amount?" continued the inspector sternly.

"I had not," replied the fireman, still wondering.

"Then you must go before the chief for reprimand, on the charge of leaving quarters without permission!"—Baltimore American.

I met her on the Umbrian Hills; Her hair unbound, her feet unshod, As one whom secret glory fills She walked alone—with God.

I met her in the city street; With heavy eyes and weary feet She walked alone—with men.

—E. M. B. U., in St. James Gazette.

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Money Subscribed for Establishment of Opera in Philadelphia. Philadelphia, Feb. 27.—The sum of \$200,000 has been subscribed for the establishment in this city of an American academy of dramatic art. This was done at a dinner party just held at the Hotel Bellevue and which was given by William F. Donovan, president of the Eastern Steel company for Mr. Geo. Clark, formerly leading man of the late American Daily's company.

Nearly all of the donors were millionaires and most of them multi-millionaires. P. A. B. Widner and John M. Mack subscribed \$10