



The tide of the money spenders once having turned away from the places of amusement and set in towards holiday purchases, it looks as though all the king's horses and all the king's men could not divert it again. At the Tabernacle last night in spite of the reduction in prices and the brilliant bill offered, the crowd was as beggarly as ever; in fact the attendance was probably lighter than before. Even the choir failed to show up in its accustomed numbers. At the Grand the house was good, but not full, and at the Theater, where they had expected to turn people away, the house was comfortably filled in the lower sections, but there was a great falling off above. The reason of it all is that Salt Lake is not a good town in which to bunch a big lot of attractions just prior to the Christmas season.

At the Theater there was a whirl of merriment and enjoyment from the time the curtain rose until it fell. Dockstader dominates the performance almost as completely as Wilson does at the Grand. The other house, though his figure does not stand out so prominently, because he is so admirably supported by the other features, which are certainly as brilliant as any ever witnessed here in the utter part of a minstrel organization. Dockstader is famous for the facility with which he picks up local situations and weaves them into verse and gag. He kept the stage for half an hour last night giving a running fire of comment on Mayor Thompson, Mr. Leary, Sunday closing and the Schley decision, which he said he only learned of at 8 o'clock. He was encircled till he simply had to ask the audience in all seriousness to allow him to retire. His partner Pridmore, is as clever a song and dance artist as ever, and in the act with the two little boys, who, by the way, are excellent singers and could well be given bigger vocal parts, he captivated the audience. The rolling hoop act of the Young brothers was something entirely new here. They gave a wonderful succession of feats and were heartily applauded. Neil O'Brien is another strong figure in the company, both as a comedian and a player of all sorts of instruments, and he, too, scored a big hit. The orchestra is good and the music in the first part pleasing, but it does not entertain as the later parts of the bill do. The charming pictures of the sunny south were also new features and were exquisitely handled. The Zenos did some clever work on the elevated bars, and the banjoists, cladias and Carbine gave some renditions seldom heard outside of a full orchestra. The big show goes again tonight and should draw a great turnout.

The great turning point in the career of Lew Dockstader was about 1889, when he went into his first venture as a theater manager. Dockstader had gathered about him many admirers. Of these, one of the staunchest was Frank Siddell, who had no lack of money. He had not Dockstader on a day, and asked him why he didn't open a theater of his own. "Money," was the suggestive answer of the minstrel. He needed about thirty thousand. "I'm going to Europe," the money is in the bank," said Siddell. And he sailed away. And soon the money was out of the bank and the Dockstader theater on Broadway, New York City, was the outcome. Within the next two years, Dockstader had cleared about \$30,000. His fame, too, had grown. He was the most widely discussed minstrel in the country. He went on the road with a company and many and many a continent later, leaving George Francis Train, the noted comic lecturer, at the theater drawing crowded houses to hear his "roastings." Dockstader gave up the theater after a few years. A little behind in his accounts, to the extent of about \$45,000, it is said, and went on the road again when this little discrepancy was straightened out. His last venture, the combination with Geo. Pridmore as copartner, and the forming of the Pridmore and Dockstader Minstrel company, has been one of great success, and the two are said to have arrived at "Easy street" long ago.

At the Grand, George Wilson was again the feature and he kept the laughter going at a fast and furious rate to every moment of the performance. The engagement closes with a matinee this afternoon and a final performance tonight.

The band concerts at the Tabernacle wind up tonight with a miscellaneous program. It was stated last night that the band might adopt minstrel tactics and indulge in a street parade today in one farewell endeavor to draw a public interest. It is a thousand pities that this great organization cannot play to at least one good audience before it leaves us.

"No, I am not in the least surprised," said Daniel Frawley in conversation with a "News" representative, "that our business is so small on this visit. We look for that sort of a fare whenever we come to a town. In the weeks just ahead of Christmas, and inasmuch as we have to accept light business somewhere, I don't know anywhere that I would prefer having it befall us than in Salt Lake. I know that we have a host of friends here, and our engagements, when they have not fallen around Christmas, have been very successful. In fact, our Salt Lake dates in 'Secret Service' were among the most prosperous we have ever known."

"To show you that we are by no means discouraged, we shall be back with you next April and shall essay a new venture in booking eight consecutive nights. I firmly believe that we shall make no mistake because we shall have seven strong plays to put on which will give us a change of bill almost every night. Our dates run from the 4th till the 12th of April, which takes in the conference dates, and we shall render the following list of plays: 'Secret Service,' 'The Ensign,' 'The Girl I Left Behind Me,' 'In Mizoura,' 'Madame Sans Gene,' 'The Masqueraders,' and 'Tribby.'"

If Mr. Frawley keeps his company as strong as it now is, with Miss Van Buren in the leading lady's parts, and Mr. Reynolds playing companion roles to himself, there is little doubt of his bright nights venture proving eminently successful.

shall make a little money in our concerts there, yet the weather is so uncertain, to say nothing of the opposition we may have, and other causes that may arise, that we should be foolishly assured in advance of our expenses for the round trip. If we are fortunate in our business there, so much the better, but as I said before, I don't want to take any chances. I feel reasonably sure that we shall get our \$5,000 in hand. Each singer puts up \$15 which starts us out with \$1,000. If we take 200 excursionists, as now looks probable, our profit on them will be between \$1,000 and \$2,000. We have gathered a little, though not as much as we should have done from our recent concerts, and we still have the Nordica event and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra ahead of us to help us out. Then I hope we shall have one more big farewell concert and if the town turns out as I trust it will, we shall reach the goal we are striving for, and sail away to California happy, with nothing in the way of finances at least, to worry over."

The patrons of the Salt Lake Theater



BEATRICE NORMANT, LEAD ACTRESS IN 'YON YONSON'



KNUTE ERICKSON AS YON YONSON



ANNIE MACK BERLIN AS WIDOW LAFLIN IN 'YON YONSON'

will greet an old-time friend in a short visit of the enjoyable comedy-drama, "Yon Yonson," Monday and Tuesday evenings, this being the first time the play has been presented here in two years. Since then it is said to have been given new life and many new features and effects added. The title role is being played by Knute Erickson, a son of Mr. Lief Erickson of this city, who created the character in England, two years ago, with great success. It is said a large measure of the success of "Yon Yonson" can be ascribed to the fact that instead of allowing it to retrograde in any manner, the management has each year improved its production, and this season, is said to offer the best producing company and the most picturesque scenic environment the play has ever received.

Next week Mr. Mulvey breaks away from minstrelsy and farce comedy and presents two plays which must rely entirely on the abilities of the performers to be successful. One is "A Lion's Heart," a play that is said to be strong and well written, and the other is the famous old "Silver King," which has not been seen here since the days when Governor Wells trod the boards. The actor who will present both plays is Carl A. Haswin, whose name has been



MARY MANNERING

identified with the "Silver King" constantly for the last ten years. These two attractions fill the entire week at the Grand.

Few books of recent days have had a more successful run than "Janice Meredith," and its presentation in dramatic form in this city next week at the hands of Mary Mannering and her company is sure to be a distinct event. Miss Mannering is one of the most beautiful women on the stage and her gift as an actress is scarcely second to her personal attainments. Her rapid rise has been a matter of astonishment for this is only her second season as a star. Yet she has accomplished the feat of attracting crowded houses

wherever she has appeared. In some of the cities she has visited, all records have been broken and her tour has been a succession of triumphs. She recently completed a long and eminently successful run at Wallack's Theater, in New York and comes here with the entire production exactly as given there. Miss Mannering was recognized during the five years that she was with Daniel Frohman's Stock Company, as one of the best leading women in America.

THEATER GOSSIP

Willie Collier, in "On the Quiet," has scored a success in San Francisco, standing room being the rule.

"Sherlock Holmes" has been so successful in London that William Gillette will keep it on until late next spring.

Out of the twelve turns on the program of the largest vaudeville house in Berlin last week nine were American.

Miss Nellie Boyer, who is now acting in the east, made her start as a member of the amateur University club of this city.

"Pudd'nhead Wilson" is experiencing quite a revival. A number of stock

companies in the West are preparing to put it on during December.

To settle a wager, the "News" announced that the recent appearance of Jefferson De Angelis was the first time he has ever acted in this city.

"Petitcoats and Bayonets" closed its season at Elmira, N. Y., and the members of the company returned to New York. Arthur Byron, formerly leading man with John Drew, was the star of the piece.

An interesting fact in connection with Maude Adams' appearance in Quality street is that Nov. 11, Miss Adams' opening date at the Knickerbocker, was also her birthday. After the play some of her friends gave her a birthday supper. This is from the

though Mrs. Fiske has been seen to better advantage in other and lighter parts.

The comic opera "Florodora" began its second year of continuous performances in New York City, when it was acted for the 414th time last month. Only three longer runs are recorded in that city—the run of "Hazel Kirke," which was played 466 times at the Madison Square theater in 1890-91; that of "Adonis," which was acted 603 times at the Bijou theater in 1884-85, and that of "A Trip to Chinatown," played 655 times at the Madison Square theater in 1891-92—Dramatic Review.

Henry Clay Barnabee celebrated his 81st birthday in Philadelphia Nov. 14.

Alice Nielsen has returned to London and is singing at private entertainments. She will make her debut in grand opera at Covent Garden in April.

Ogden is the next place on the list of cities to be stormed by Miss Emma Lucy Gates. The stake authorities

Mirror, which doesn't name the particular birthday that Maude celebrated. Our recollection is that she was born in this city in the old Schofield house, opposite the old city hall, in 1871 or 1872, which would make her now either 29 or 30 years of age.

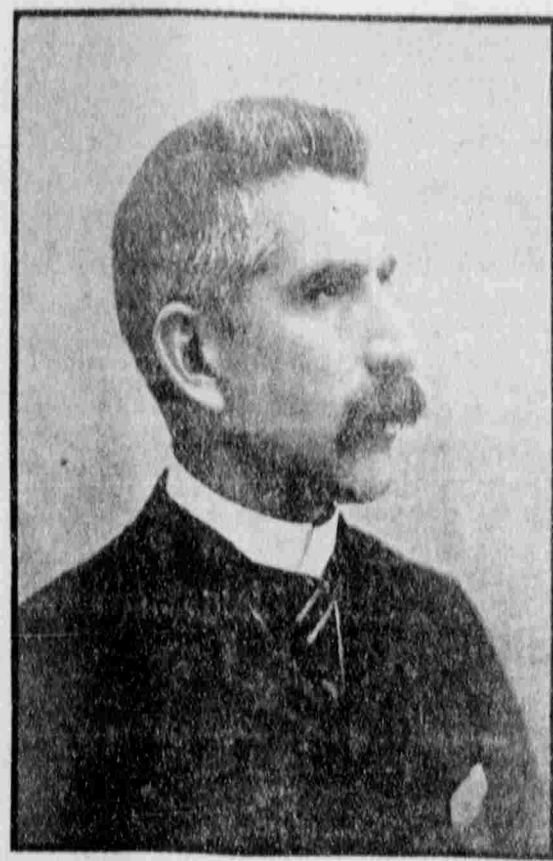
Mr. Anton Schott, the famous German tenor, whose "Hienzi" and "Lothengrin" are still given in the memory of the old opera-goers, has returned to New York and has opened a studio at the Boreley Lyceum.

News comes from London that Nat Goodwin is playing to losing business in the city, in spite of the success that attended his opening in "When We Were Twenty-one." In some quarters the failure is attributed to the supper scene, which is said to be a gross libel on real London club life.

It is doubtful if E. H. Southern would leave New York for months but for the fact that the attraction booked to follow him at the Garden theater is his wife, Virginia Harned, in "Alice of Old Vincennes." Southern has the bit of his career in "If I Were King," but even to proving his metropolitan run—which is the first desire of all stars—will not consider the postponement of his wife's stellar debut on Broadway. Reports agree that Miss Harned, in "Alice of Old Vincennes," has scored a gratifying success.

From all reports, J. H. Stoddard and "The Bonnie Brier Bush" have stood the quiet town of Toronto up on edge. The opening performance there was attended by the lieutenant-governor, by the officers of the Highlanders' regiment, by the officers of all the curling clubs, and of all the Scotch societies, and by their rank and file associates in such numbers that the Princess theater was like unto a box of sardines specially hard-packed. The triumph of the MacLaren play, and the dear old actor J. H. Stoddard, were

OLD SALT LAKERS.



FRED SIMON.

Poor, genial, indefatigable, generous, visionary, but hard-working Fred Simon! Seldom has there been a death in our community where one felt more strongly impressed with the idea that it came all too soon. Without a note of warning, Mr. Simon, one of the best known business men of the community, was stricken down with apoplexy on the tenth day of May, 1899. He was in the prime of life, being forty-six years of age. He had almost grown up with the West, having been a merchant in the days of the Dry Canyon boom and later coming to this city and engaging in business. He occupied many positions of note and took an active part in the founding of the old Chamber of Commerce in this city; for a time he was its president.

Mr. Simon was born in Thorn, Prussia, and he landed at Castle Garden, New York, a boy of fifteen, a stranger in a strange land. For two months he passed through some extreme hardships, but at the end of that time he obtained employment in the office of a German journalist, where he probably imbibed the literary bent which remained with him through life. He reached Salt Lake City in 1876 and was always afterwards prominently identified with the commercial life of the Territory. At his death he left a wife and three children, and two of his brothers are the Messrs. Louis and Adolph Simon, of the well known Paris Millinery company of today.

there will tender her a concert in the Tabernacle in the near future.

Frank Daniels, who is working this way with his new opera, "Miss Simplicity," seems to have scored the biggest hit he has made since the days of "Little Puck."

There are no less than twelve companies now playing "Florodora." There is one in Melbourne, Australia; one in Cape Town, one in Bombay, one in New Zealand, five in Great Britain and three in the United States.

Prof. McClellan, who took part in the Grand concert at Provo last Tuesday night, is full of praise for the Tabernacle choir of that city under Prof. Boshard. He states that their work in "Noble Chief" was especially admirable.

The New York enthusiasts who have been so often berated for their "hysterical" appreciation of Paderewski may take comfort. The staid Germans—even the north Germans—are no less excited when they come into contact with his glowing genius. Ferdinand Prohl, the best of the German critics, wrote in the Hamburger Nachrichten of November 2, regarding Paderewski's playing in that city: "The audience rushed from their seats, crowded forward and besieged the stage in dense masses. A storm of applause reverberated through the hall, ladies waving their handkerchiefs. It was like a Nizich concert; the same exultation, the same enthusiasm." "Never before," adds this veteran critic, "did an evening at the piano of about two and one-half hours seem so short. His Chopin

playing fairly electrified his audience, even such small compositions as the 4th and 5th major stude inspiring his hearers to a degree of enthusiasm bordering on intoxication." But the greatest of his achievements was that he compelled the critics to admit that he was a great Beethoven-player. That was a miracle.

By request, Mr. Heber Goddard will sing "The Holy City" at Heber's New Military Band concert at the Grand Theater Sunday night, with band accompaniment. He is also to render Sullivan's "A Lost Chord" with band accompaniment. Mrs. J. H. Moore will sing a soprano solo entitled "The Angelus of Old." Director John Heid has a program for his band for the occasion that, he declares, is a gem. Several instrumental solos will be given, and taking all into consideration, we would say that the program will be about the most interesting one that has been offered. No doubt a large audience will be in attendance as these Sunday concerts seem to be just what the Salt Lake public have long been wanting.

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