## DESERET EVENING NEWS: SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1901.



Lake that makes it especially favorable to the growth and development of dramatte and musical talent. Since Utah was founded, the periods when we did , not have flourishing home organizations have been few and far between; the Tabernacle choir has been with us always, and we trust will always remain; the old Deseret Dramatic association gave the pioneers their theatrical provender for many years, and was succeeded by the Home Dramatic club, which lasted until the people took its strong leading man to make of him a still stronger governor. On its demise, several opera companies sprang up in its steps, and one of them is with us today, engaged in the pleasant task of holding up the old time standards and traditions, and ministering to our pleas. ures at the usual stipend of nothing a

day and board itself. It is fortunate for the public that the Salt Lake Opera company, principals and chorus allke, find their remuneration in the pleasure of their work, and in the pride of keeping a musical association together in the city. But for that, there would be little likelihood of our ever listening to such musical treats as have been accorded in the recent performances of "Fatinitza." The public has given the company generous support, it is true, but at the reduced prices charged, even packed houses can result in no return that would yield any sort of compensation, if those engaged were paid the most modest of salaries. The rents, the royalties, the costumes, the scenery, the orchestra and the advertising all have to be paid for, and when that is done, what is left is divided up among the forty odd people who rehearse almost daily and nightly for six weeks to prepare a single, opera. Such artists as Mr. Goddard or Mr. McClellan-who are the only members with whom music is a profession-frequently earn in a night two or three times the sum they receive for their operatic labors, while if the admirable chorus, always one of the distinctive big features of the company, had to be hired for so much per singer, the company would have to rely on quartette operas or go out of business altogether. There is some talk next year-if the present good times continue-of advancing the prices charged for home opera up to those asked by ordinary traveling companies, and the old home attractions-that is from one dollar downward, and of abolishing the uniform, flat rate of 25 cents at matinees, when a thousand fashionably attired cirls and matrons means only a house counting up \$250; when this time comes, if ever it does, the singers and players may look for a somewhat better return for the arduous services they render, but until then, the public is to be congratulated on the fact that there is enough public spirit, love of music and general good fellowship among princials and chorus allke, to keep the or-

There is something in the soil of Salt There is something in the soil of Salt ake that makes it especially favorable ake that make that make that ake that the part source that the part source ake that the part source solely on that account. It is said that he tried by every means possible to increase his stature for the part, even going to the extent of wearing shoes with heels three inches high and dona pompadour wig that gave him a false forchead three inches above his own, but this threw his face out of proportion and he soon abandoned the task of trying to make Hale taller than his sweetheart, and ceased produc-ing the play. The play then reverted to the owner, Mr. Fitch, and from him it was ob-tained by Mr. Kyle, who had come into strong prominence in New York for his success in "Way Down East' and other" roles. Nannette Comstock succeeded to the part of Alice Adams, and in it she made such a success that she no longer content to go on the road, and this opened the way for Miss Izatt whom Mr. Kyle remembered from h old association with her at the Grand in this city. She has been serving long novitiate in stock companies

now, judging by the press reports, " ' is able to take her place among d most accomplished leading stock actresses of the day. Mr. Wilkinson, manager of Mr. Kyle

is the same man who brought out Ned Royle in "Friends," and who starred the younger Salvini. He is jubilant over the success of Mr. Kyle in "Nathan Hale," and says he has only known two losing weeks in the whole of the past season,

The story of "The County Fair," which will be seen here shortly with Nell Bugess himself in the character of Abigail Prue, can be told in a few words, as follows: Aunt Abble, or Abigail, is a Yankee spinster with a tender heart, with a rather hard and brusque exterior. She is courted by Solon Hammerhead, to whom she has mortgaged her farm and by Otls Tucker, a very bashful wooer, who for fourteen years has longed and dreaded to pep the question. In the first act we see Abbie in her little cottage, where she has given shelter to Taggs, a destitute newsgirl. We watch her going about her simple duties, snubbing old gratulated on at last having adopted a sensible fad. solon, coyly coqueting with Otis and singing her evening hymn with hon-est and very awful fervor before she bolts her doors and retires for the night. The curtain of the second act rises on a cherming rural scone in fact rises on a charming rural scene, in fact, it is said to be one of the daintiest pictures ever seen on any stage. In the next act we have Aunt Abbie's barn, which, by the way, is a genuine well built barn with real stalls for the cal-tle and real live horses. Then in comes a merry crowd of farm hands to shuck Aunt Abbie's corn and dance and sing until they can sing no longer, when they go off to supper, leaving Aunt they go off to supper, leaving Abit Abble to grieve over her mortgage and sob at the thought of her ejection by old Solon. But he don't eject her after all, for Tim has been quietly training Aunt Abble's horse, called "Cold Mo-Aunt Abbie's horse, called "Cold Mo-lasses," and in the last act at the County Fair, and in the greatest race scene ever witnessed, he wins \$2,000, pays off

month. He will have a new play with Ned Royle's work in vaudeville. Mrs. May 19th, and for which extra prepara-lots of sunshine in it. May 19th, and for which extra prepara-tions are being made. Royle's costumes are given special mention

Sadie Martinot is filling Oiga Nether-sole's dates as "Sapho," but she will scarcely fill her shoes.

Frank Mordaut, one of the best actors on the American stage today, has been specially engaged for the title part in "The Village Postmaster" which is to Philadelphia papers just at hand give glowing accounts of Mr. and Mrs. "The Village Postmaster" which is to have a long run in Chicago beginning

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### FENCING, SOCIETY'S LATEST FAD.

After all James A. Herne will not abandon the stage. He had made up his mind to do it, but reconsidering, he has decided to keep on with "Sag Har-bor" next season. Meanwhile the play is going on with an understudy, and Herne will have a chance to recover his health this summer.

News comes from London, in rumon shape, it is true, that Robert Taber is to take unto himself a new wife in the person of Miss Lena Ashwell. There will be some delay in the wedding, ow-ing to the fact that Miss Ashwell has not yet succeeded in getting a divorce from her husband, Robert Playfair.

It is said that Mr. E. S. Willard intends to resume management in Lon-don and to build a theater for himself. Theatrical property is held at a very high rate, apparently, in London just now. Not long ago a rent of \$1.250 a week was demanded for a house of moderate size.

T. Daniel Frawley has been in New York this week looking for plays and players. His stay at the Lambs' club has been made very pleasant for him, but he will cut it short in order to spend a week in Washington with his mother before he rejoins his stock company in the West.

Like most beginners in stage life, the late Roland Reed's first profession il ambition was to play the classic trag-edy roles. Once he confided this dear dream of his to Mrs. John Drew, under whose management he then held the exalted office of call-boy. "Pooh!" she replied. "God gave you the greatest nose for comedy I ever saw on a man. Follow your nose."

The cast of "The Land of Heart's Dea Balcony" on the Skinner-Robson-Le-Moyne tour, will be as follows:

Father Hart (the Priest of Kilma-

London curiosity has been piqued by a troupe of musicians calling them-selves the King's Musketeers. They dress in the picturesque King Charles costume, wear masks on the stage have no names on the program and refuse to reveal their identities to the reporters. The trick is old. A similar troupe, years ago, first disguised themselves to sing at street corners for chariev, and found the "fake" so profitable that they became professionals,

the old force several recruits from his

WOMEN TO STRIVE FOR GOLF HONORS.



# OLD SALT LAKERS.

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### WILLIAM PITT.

This name, so distinguished in English history, was borne by an old Salt Laker who was widely and affectionately known to the people of the last generation in this city, and who is still well remembered by many of his surviving associates.

William Pitt was one of the ploneer workers in musical circles here, and was also a well known house painter and decorator. His old paint shop in the Seventeenth ward on North Temple street, was the familiar rendezvous of the boys in that section thirty years ago. He had been a member of the old Nauvoo brass band, and played the violin both under Prof. Thomas and Prof. Careless in the pioneer orchestras; he was also a good performer on the flute, He was noted for his quaint, genial and humorous characteristics, and on account of these traits was held in affectionate regard by all of his associates. Mr. Pitt was born August 16th, 1813, in Dymock, Gloucestershire, England, and died in this city, February 21st, 1873. His funeral, which occurred in the Fourteenth ward assembly rooms, was a notable one, and well testified of the regard in which he was held in the community. It was attended by Capt. Croxall's brass band and Beezeley's martial band, and several surviving members of the old Nauvoo brass band served as the pall-bearers. Prest. D. H. Wells and Elders Wilford Woodruff, John Taylor, and Bishop Nathan Davis were the speakers of the occasion,

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nesday afternoon in Troy, New York, | too. Miss White was taken suddenly ill and Miss Fisher had to fill her place at a moment's notice. She writes to say that she was almost overwhelmed with fright, having no time for preparation, but that after the performance all the company thronged around her and as-sured her that she had made an undoubted success.

A New York Herald letter from Lon-don says: Miss Alice Nielsen's enthu-siastic reception with "The Fortune Teller" has quite fulfilled the hopes raised by American notices of this piece. I saw Miss Nielsen yesterday at the Savoy, when she discussed freely her ideas of her reception. "Did you ever see anything like a London gallery?" she asked. "It nearly scared me to death the first night, When I heard the shouting I couldn't for the life of me make out what the was about. I felt so nervous 1 could scarcely see. Friends behind, to be afraid, but all through the first act I was simply bewildered with their bravos.

Certainly I have been fortunate in battle, though that is nothing of which to boast. I don't know whether the flag on my breast did it or not."

Soldiers are often superstitious as well as sallors. A premonition before a battle often comes true, as shown by letters from members of the First Nebraska during the Spanish war. It takes bravery for the man who knows he is to die before sundown to go into battle without flinching, but several of the First Nebraska did that very

thing. Alfred Morris' charm is the American flag. He carries no other protector or amulet. He is a born soldier and was on the firing line on numerous cam-paigns during the fighting in Cubs.

A. Sala Society has at last come to recognize fencing as being one of the most fascinating and useful of sports for the fair sex. Society women by hundreds are now patronizing fencing schools and learning how to use the folls. The benefits of this noble exercise for women are so great that society is to be con-

Quite a number of changes are on foot for the Empire Theater Stock company next season. It will be headed by Charles Richman and Margaret Ang-lin, but Charles Frohman will add to

ganization together. Two strong attractions come to the theater next week; our old friends, How-ard Kyle and Jessie Izett, appear in the play of "Nathan Hale," which it is al-most needless to say, is founded on the life of the Revolutionary patriot, who, at the age of 21, gave his life for his country; following them comes Nell Burgess in "The County Fair" for two

Theer has been considerable comment over the fact that Howard Kyle should Nathan Hale," the play written for and produced by Nat Goodwin and Maxine Elliott. The facts, as learned from Mr. Kyle's advance agent, seem

Clyde Flich, the author of "Nathan Hale" wrote it for Mr. Goodwin with the understanding that he should pay a certain percentage as royalty, and that his rights to it should terminate entirely if he did not hear it mentale entirely if he did not keep it regularly in his repertoire and give it a certain number of presentations each week or month. Mr. Goodwin brought out the play and made an emphatic success of it at the start, but it soon developed that Miss Elliott's role, that of the school mistress, Alice Adams, was al-most as prominent as that of Nathan Hale, enacted by Mr. Goodwin, and as Miss Elliott's stature is five feet eleven inches, while that of her distinguished

the mortgage and makes everybody happy. Otis at last summons up courage to propose. Taggs discovers her long lost mother and the curtain falls on a scene of general rejoicing.

Last Tuesday's New York and Philadelphia papers just at hand are speci-ally interesting to people here who follow eastern musical and dramatic news. First they contain accounts of the initial production of "Miss Bob White," Willard Spenser's new opera

produced last Monday night in Phila-delphia. The papers of that city bubover with enthusiasm about it and think that the composer has shot ahead either of his "Little Tycoon" or "Prin-cess Bonnie." Jennie Hawley, who had the contraito role, is handsomely men-tioned by the Item, the Press and the Ledger, the Press paragraph reading as "Throughout the evening eyand car were both gratified in an equal

Miss Jennie Hawley made a egree. big hit at the beginning of the per-formance with her 'One Only Dame' song, the chorus of which was whistled by the galleries during the encores. That was doing pretty well for the third of twenty-six musical numbers." In New York the long expected re

vival of "Diplomacy" took place at the Empire theater, with Faversham in the part of Henry Beauclerc, Charles Richman as Julian, Miss Millward as Zicka, and Margaret Anglin as Dora. Fashionable New York was out to see the performance, but the criticisms say the impression it left was hardly up to the big renditions of previous years.

follows:

### THEATER GOSSIP.

The Cummings company and Laura Nelson Hall are playing "The Little Minister" in Los Angeles.

interested in the big woman's golf tournay which is to be held at Baltu-rol next August for the championship of Ameri-

Played Next August.

Henry Miller will try for another suc-cess in New York the last of this

CYCLING SEASON TO HAVE MANY STARS.



other companies until it will number at least 50. Of the old members to be re-engaged are Guy Standing, W. H.

Thompson, Edwin Stevens, Jos Wheelock, Jr., Lawrence D'Orsay, Joseph wald Yorke, Sidney Herbert, Miss Mar-garet Dale, Mrs. Thomas Whiffen, Mrs. Jessie Busley, Miss Margaret Gordon and Miss Sara Perry.

MISS GENEVIEVE

### MUSIC NOTES.

Melba is reported very ill. She has given up her proposed tour in Austranext season, and will remain in Europe.

It is a matter of general regret among lovers that Mr. Weihe's enlarged orchestra, which did such beautiful work in "Fatinitza," could not be made a permanency at the Salt Lake Theater.

A special recital was tendered Mr. Seton-Thompson this morning at the Tabernacle by the courtesy of Presi-dent Snow. Organist McClellan played several selections to his noted auditor

plimented the Opera company very highly on their work, adding that he had enjoyed the "quartet" hugely and congratulating the chorus on its attack and smoothness. These words of commendation were highly appreciated by the members and the management

They are booming Alice Neilsen in London as "the only woman in the world with an opera company of her own." There is some more news for New Yorkers in the assertion given out to the British public that Eugene Cowles is "the best paid singer in Amerhis salary being placed reverentfca.'

Miss Sallie Fisher, who is singing with "The Burgomaster company, - under-study to the leading lady of that com-pany, Miss White. A week ago Wed"But when we found out what they meant-well, it did make everybody feel good "Next night I was ready for them. I

thought, but when somebody up in the gallery shouted 'Bravo, Alice!' it simply took my breath away. "It seems to me a London gallery gets

familiar mighty quick. I had been told that people over here were chilly, but if this is a sample of their chilliness I am afraid they will get pretty warm when they thaw out.'

# THE LIONS OF VENICE.

Mysterious Inscriptions That Have Puzzled Scholars Deciphered.

A Danish scholar has at last succeeded in deciphering the mysterious inscription found upon one of the two stone lions that guard the gate of the old armory of Venice. The inscription encircles parts of the shoulders and flanks in letters reminding one of the cuneiform characters of the Babylonlan handwriting. The lions, sculptured by an Athenian artist of the fifth or sixth century, B. C., were carried from the Piraeus to Venice by Francesco Morosini after his victory over the Turks in 1687. The inscription, however, dates from the eleventh century and is a Norman script. It reads: "Hakon, with Alf, Asmund and Arm, has captured this port. At the command of Harold the Long, they levied a contribution upon the Greeks as a

penalty for their rebellion. Dalk was absent in distant lands; Egil and Ragner were on an expedition in Moesla and Armenia. Asmund engraved these runes, with the assistance of Asgir, Thorlief, Thor and Joar, upon the order of Harold the Long and despite the vigorous protestations of the Greeks." History records that Harold the Long. n 1040, during an expedition in the

in 1040, during an expedition in and Mediterranean sea, was called to aid the Byzantine emperor, Michael IV., in order to punish the rebellious Athen lans, whom he reduced to obedience Two years later he appeared before Constantinople, deposed the emperor's successor and installed the dual re-gency of Theodora and Zoe, with the former of whom, in 1056, the Macedon-ian dynasty of the Byzantine empire anded Twority pears later the windiv ended. Twenty years later the mighty viking fell at Stamford bridge in a fight with his English namesake, only a few weeks before the battle of Hastings, which established Norman rule in

# SOLDIER KNOWS NO FEAR.

England.

Alfred Morris, Who Went Unscathed Through 151 Fights, has a Protector.

Veteran of 151 actual engagements Alfred Morris, now living in Omaha with his brother, at 2204 North Twenty-fourth street, has never been touched by a bullet, says the World-Herald. Upon his breast is tattooed the Stars

and Stripes of Uncle Sam. On the firing line while a shower of shell and load has rained about him. young Morris, a stalwart soldier, has been devoid of feur. All the time the bullets sang about him he coolly sighted along his trusty Krag, conscious that

on his bosom was the American flag. "It was while I was a sailor." says Morris, "that the design of the mag was tattooed on my body. An expert com-rade did it for me. You know sallors are superstitious, and perhaps I am

with the Snaniards and Filipinos during the Spanish-American war In appearance he is a tail, swarthy young fellow, very modest and disin-clined to talk of his experiences. Morris considers Omaha his home, he having had enough of war. He will engage in business there.



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The coming bleycle season will be a noteworthy one. All the big stars of the cycling world are preparing themselves for a contest for middle-distance championship honors. Jimmie Michael, Johnnie Nelson, Willie Stinson, Walthour, Downey and Eikes are a few of the men who will be seen on the track this season. All are now hard at work fitting themselves for a supreme effort. The first big event will be at Charles River park, Boston, Mass., on April 19th, when Walthour will meet Nelson and Stinson. After that date many big races are to be pulled off and lovers of the sport will be treated to some fine exhibitions of record-breaking wheeling, this season.

JIMMY MICHAEL.

HARRY ELKES

JOE DOWNEY

and his party.

At the presentation of "Fatinitza" the other evening, Prof. Stephens com-

BOBBIE WALTHOUR

PHOTOS BY HOPNER - BOSTA

F. J. CADWELL