



AN "Old Timer" writes the Deseret News as follows: "The News" has certainly placed the community under obligations by printing its article on the two opening nights of the Salt Lake thea-

"Don Caesar de Bazan," and the date as Monday, Jan. 17, 1853. He obtained his later data from an indisputable source, the diary of James Ferguson, who kept a daily journal of affairs in those times, and who was himself the leading actor in the dramatic company. The dramatic editor of the "News" has also consulted the files of the Deseret News of Jan. 23, 1853, in which it is stated that the "Public Drama" commenced Monday evening, the 17th inst.

The following number of the Deseret News also contains details of the social party with which the hall was formally opened on the afternoon of Jan. 1, 1853, but it may be taken as certain that the first dramatic presentation was on Jan. 17 of that year, and that "Don Caesar de Bazan" was the bill.

Crocker, comedy acrobats; as the name would indicate they portray rural characters.

Miss Laura Hudson and company will be seen in Merle's one-act melodrama, "The Fend," which tells a stirring and intensely dramatic story of the northernmost Kentucky mountains.

"The American Tommy Atkins" is an attractive character portrayed by Agnes Mahr, assisted by Flora Mahr. Miss Mahr was seen here last year and is assured a warm welcome.

An impersonator and imitator, is La Petite Mignon, a little comedienne who has made good all over the world.

Phinney staged the piece in the east, so that none of the old time strange points of the eastern production will be overlooked.

Manager Grant says he will not be surprised to have "the girl" duplicate its record in the east, and it may remain here two weeks instead of one. The central part will be played by Mr. Willard Mack, who made so many friends here during the presentation of "On Parade" and "A Gold Mine."

Two nearby attractions at the Colonial, following this production will be "Marrying Mary" with Florence Gear in the title role, and Paul Gilmore in a new play, "The Boys of Company B."

One of the members of "The Girl of the Golden West" next week, will be Clay Clements, Jr., a son of the popular actor who made so many friends in Salt Lake some years ago.

Mr. Canning, the famous "fall breaker" and king of conjurers, will be seen all of next week at the Grand. Since his last appearance here, two years ago, Canning has toured the east and Mexico at the head of his own organization and he has achieved wonderful success in mystifying and bewildering his audiences. His program this year is called "A Pleasing Blend of Magic, Mirth and Mysteries," appealing to all

co, it will be remembered, paid a similar tribute to Letitia some years ago.

Daniel Frohman has arranged for Miss Eleanor Robson to follow Miss Burke at the Lyceum theater on Monday evening, Jan. 25, in "The Dawn of a To-morrow," by Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett.

Henry B. Harris, producer of "The Lion and the Mouse" and "The Third Degree," "The Chorus Lady" and "The Traveling Salesman," and other successes, is the only producing manager in New York who devotes two days a week to reading plays.

Julia Marlowe has emphatically denied published reports that she has been engaged for the company at the New theater, New York. Lee Shubert has made a like denial in behalf of E. H. Sothern, who was also mentioned as a member of the company.

Blanche Walsh has purchased the Shoreham estate of 100 acres near Richmond, Va. The actress has disposed of her farm at Great Neck, L. I., and after her present season on the road, will make Richmond her home. She has commissioned architects to draw plans for a home to cost \$50,000.

William Poel, an eminent authority of the Elizabethan drama, makes the statement that the people of America are far more advanced in the study of Shakespeare than are the people of England. This opinion he advanced re-

not concentrate their attention." All of which amply illustrates that not even the great ones can enter the spirit of a part unless the people in front come along. There is no place in the world as lonely as a stage inhabited by an actor conscious that the audience is not giving him its undivided attention.

#### OPERA SINGER GOES INTO BANKRUPTCY

Alice Nielsen's Secretary Says Old Ex-Teacher's Claim Is Cause For Her Petition.

Alice Nielsen, formerly the star of the San Carlo Opera company, of which Henry Russell was director, has filed a petition in bankruptcy, setting forth that she owes \$7,200.50, and has only \$75 assets, consisting of clothing, which is exempt. Miss Nielsen, who is living at the Hotel Willard, on West Seventy-second street, through her secretary, gave a unique explanation of why she has become a bankrupt.

According to Miss Nielsen, one Max Decsi, was her teacher about sixteen years ago, in Kansas City. Decsi, she says, claims she owes him \$1,450. Miss Nielsen, who is Mrs. Benjamin Wentwig in private life, declares she does not owe Decsi this money, and that he has persistently sought notoriety by endeavoring to make her pay through the courts. In order to stop the alleged



LA PETITE MIGNON, At the Orpheum.



SCENE FROM DAVID BELASCO'S GREAT PLAY, "THE GIRL OF THE GOLDEN WEST."

At the Colonial Theater All Next Week.



MISS BLANCHE DOUGLASS.

"The Girl" in David Belasco's Great Play, "The Girl of the Golden West," at The Colonial Theater All Next Week.



WILLARD MACK,

As Dick Johnson, "Ramarez," the Road Agent, in David Belasco's Great Play, "The Girl of the Golden West" at the Colonial Theater All Next Week.

ter in 1852. Now that you have cleared up the conflict which existed in the minds of many like myself as to the performances which really were given on the opening nights, will you not perform a second service in reference to the Social hall? That historic play house opened in 1852 or 1853, but several authorities differ as to the exact bill which was rendered on the opening night, Tullidge's History and Whitney's History of Utah give the date as Monday, Jan. 19, 1853, with "Pizarro" as the bill. John S. Lindsay's "The Mormons" and the Theater does not give the date, but says "The Lady of Lyons" was the play of the night. I have heard other authorities name "Don Caesar de Bazan" and still others say the play was Hulwer's "Money." In the interest of historical accuracy, the point ought to be settled.

The "News" is aware of the confusion that exists on this point, and takes pleasure in clearing it up. The authorities named do conflict, but in later works, notably volume 4 of the History of Utah, in the biography of James Ferguson, and in a history in one volume now in course of preparation, Bishop Whitney corrects the first statement and gives the play as

The charming comedienne Corinne, who scored one of the hits of her career in George M. Cohan's "Forty-five Minutes From Broadway," will come to the Salt Lake Theater next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights and a Wednesday matinee in a new musical play "Lola From Berlin," by John J. McNally, with music by William Jerome and Jean Schwartz. Klav & Erlanger produced the play last season in the Liberty Theater where it remained four months to the largest receipts in the history of that house.

The company is a large one including the following well known people: Mark Sullivan, Hazel Carlton, Franklin Vail, Henry Carl Lewis, Lillie May White, Frank Woods, Osborn Clemson, Lillian Wilson, Freddie Stott, Pearl Revere and Bunnie Ingeborg. The chorus is said to be one of exceptional beauty.

"The Girl of the Times," a one act play, which Mr. Hall McAllister and his company will present, is the headline attraction at the Orpheum next week. Mr. McAllister is not unknown here as he appeared in Margaret Anglin's company, when he acquitted himself with distinction.

A trio of opera singers comes next, Italians from Naples whose repertoire is one of very high standing. "The Three Rubes," is the title usually given to Bowers, Walters and

When she was 4 years old she had her first stage experience and she has been growing and developing ever since.

A cure for the blues and a dispeller of sadness will be the laughing success presented by Bob and Tip's company. The usual novel kindred pictures will be a feature as well as the orchestra in new numbers.

Next week is counted on as one of the biggest of the year at the Colonial. Not only have the management bought the rights to produce David Belasco's "The Girl of the Golden West," at a royalty of \$500 a week, but they have brought the well known actress Blanche Douglass from the east to interpret the part of "the Girl." Miss Douglass has many old time friends in Salt Lake who remember her career at the Grand. In private life she is Mrs. Harrington Reynolds.

An added element of strength will be brought in the presence of Mr. Ramsey Wallace, from the late "Devil" company, which disbanded in Ogden, Mr. Wallace the leading man, Mr. Phinney, stage manager, and four others of the company returning to Salt Lake to take part in the cast of "The Girl of the Golden West." Mr.

The principal character shown in the picture entitled "The Wolf Hunt," at the Lyric this week, is John R. Abernathy, who was appointed marshal for the western district of Oklahoma by President Roosevelt. Abernathy captures wolves with his hands. The wolf in the picture is an enormous male, weighing 135 pounds, and was originally captured by Abernathy bare handed in the Madison Creek canyon in the Wichita mountains northwest of Fort Sill, Okla., last summer. The picture was shown at the White House the evening of Dec. 5, and so pleased the president that he recommended it to the Army and Navy club of Washington.

#### THEATER GOSSIP

Belasco's theater, Los Angeles, opened last Monday as a stock house with "The Easterner," in which Nat Goodwin failed conclusively last season.

A movement is on foot to build and erect a drinking fountain in Trenton in honor of Rose Stahl, San Francisco.

cently in the course of a lecture advocating the ultimate establishment of a national theater. And yet we got so little Shakespeare on the American stage.

The presumption is that "The Chaplain" will have a fairly prosperous run at the new Maxine Elliott's theater, says a New York writer, because there is in it a good deal of the cheap and obvious humor which appeals to the ordinary theater-goer. And the new house will be an attraction in itself for some time to come. In the simple and rich beauty of its appointments it has no superior, if any equal, in this city. It is, moreover, exceedingly comfortable, and in this respect is an almost ideal home for comedy. Whether it is large enough to meet the expenses of heavy spectacular pieces is a question. But the stage facilities appear to be ample. These will be tested when Julia Marlowe brings her "Goddess of Reason," which is reported to be an ambitious production.

The weekly theatrical reviews and criticisms of the "News" appear regularly in the Tuesday issues.

#### THE LONELIEST PLACE IN THE WORLD.

When she was a very little girl in Philadelphia, Ethel Barrymore used to go behind the scenes at her grandmother's theater to see Edwin Booth act. One night Mr. Booth stopped in dead silence in the middle of a speech. For a few seconds the crowded house was absolutely breathless. Every eye in the audience was strained on Booth's blank Hamlet face. When he resumed and finished the act he was recalled over and over again. After the play he picked up little Ethel Barrymore to talk to her as she sat in his arms—an almost nightly habit with him. "My! but I am a good actor to-night, eh?" said Booth with a little laugh.

"You stuck dead," the child answered. "I had to," was the actor's answer, partly to himself and partly to the child. "The audience was dead until I did. If they show signs of dying again I'll tumble over a chair; they'll think I've been drinking and they will watch me like cats and help me out." Some years later Miss Barrymore sat in front one night, watching Booth's performance of "Richelieu." She still remembers that he played one entire scene crossing and recrossing the stage many times, supporting himself by holding to the back of a heavy chair. Miss Barrymore naturally went back to see whether the great man would be able to finish the performance. He met her with a hearty laugh.

"You thought I had been drinking or that I was ill," he said. "Why, I had to hold on to that chair. I was aching that whole audience, the dearest weight in the world. I tried sticking for what seemed like five minutes in the second act, but it did

attempts of Decsi to make capital out of the matter, Miss Nielsen had the bankruptcy papers filed.

Among the creditors mentioned are Samuel S. and Lee Shubert, \$1,900, for money loaned, and Charles Joseph, of No. 3 West Thirtieth street, \$2,290, for goods sold and delivered to the petitioner.—Musical America.

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