

BY W. E. BURLOCK, JR.

"THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN." A rural drama without a single "I or "b' gosh" in it, with no tearful heroines who have been wronged, and no snow storms into which the young mother and her babe have been driven by a stern but godly parent. Incredible! is the cry, but nevertheless it has happened, and George Ade, in his comedy drama, "The County Chairman," is responsible. Such an upsetting of theatrical tradition was never before heard of, unless it was when Ade brought his "Sultan of Sulu" to Breadway without a single chorus girl who had been named in a notorious divorce suit, a single Tenderloin joke or immodest suggestion, and had it running to packed houses for months after farces and musical comselles, supposedly reaking with the sort of thing Broadway demands, were pro-duced, had their little vogue and passed "The County Chairman" Ade has written a play which should duplicate the run of the Sultan. Its scenes are laid in a small Indiana buchle atmosphere. It is the real true country too, as Ade knows, for he lived twenty years of his life amid just such that the visue of being free? Have the run of the Sultan. This scenes, and is single that work all the time anyly purgent is the County Chair-mar's remark when the candidate. "Would only whome such visues and scenes, and to whom such visues and scenes. The here atmosphere, and it is said that even the New Yorker who has never been anywhere except across the occan, and to whom such visues and scenes. The build rearms of imagination can real-ize the truth of the picture and under-stand the emotions which sway the ac-tions of people such as these. The first act of the days of his bey and distinctly thus a foeling of such the we have the bay again and yet staffaction stails over him that he weaths to see the play again and yet staffaction stails over him that he weaths to see the play again and yet staffaction stails over him that he weaths to see the play again and yet staffaction stails over him that he may monthe such be has achieved and distinctly thus a foeling of such the works does not keen in scenes, and the write splay which are successes. The first act of "The County Chairman." In Hackler the County Chairman. For the antipe him that he may months a such sees. The first act of "The County Chairman" and work to capacity for a year store hat hat you his knowledge that the works a line is had in front. of the general store the antipe his move the prosecuting at the works all in front. of the general store hat hat you his knowledge that the works all in front. of the general store hat hat you his knowledge that the works all in front. of the general store hat hat you his knowledge that the work that his you which are works to the san already pla edies, supposedly reeking with the sort of thing Broadway demands, were pro-Hackler the County Chairma. a Hackler the County Chairma. ed by Macklyn Arbuckle, brings i that his young law partner, Till-Wheeler, was chosen after forty its, and that the opposing candidate o be Judge Ellas Rigby (Charles er), and the father of the girl eler had that afternoon asked to v him and who had promised to o. eeler had that afternoon asked to thin and who had premised to the him and who had premised to the him and who had premised to m. Hackler is a big, bluff, rough but the old countryman, with a fund of the wat and shrewdness which gen-the in the part was delightful. He med born to the role, and bis per-al snecess was quite as pronounced that of the piece. Earth Brown, as for d Wheeler, was the weakest spot the entire cast. He was insincere, the and mamby-pamby, even when the against the traunts of Judge Ris-In his love scene with Lucy Risby acted as though he were frightened death. Mr. Brown may be a death. Mr. Brown may be a death. Mr. Brown may be a the scene of the second act is the instructions from some up-to-date in a joint debate. Wheeler hid withe a Wheeler and daring him to trake a Wheeler and daring him to trake a stand it no longer and re-the actions from some up-to-date in the victime to be sadi- in need of a but How is act when in love. The scene of the second act is the int How is act when in love. The scene of the second act is the act of the piece and daring him to trake in a joint debate. Wheeler hid winsed Lucy he would not pay any tenton to her father's words, but at the can stand it no longer and re-the holds, as hodly in fact that the the can stand it no longer and re-many of children and one of young the mind act four days before elec-mind and man proof that Rigby stander the usual participants in the find act four days before elec-ment wears hefore Richy had won by most undals and disnonest trick tho with whom they were both in love. The how Hackler sees a chance to both affeat him at the election and wipe

out partially the old score by the pub-lication of these facts. Mrs. Rigby hears of his determination and in a scene eloquent by its simple pathos prevails upon him to forego his

election night. After the tide of returns has swayed the advantage from one to the other. Wheeler is finally declared

The last act shows the Town Hall on

some, decided fellow that he one with a drop of good red blood in his veins can withhold a feeling of admiration for him, and this is intensified by Mr. Richman's refinement and good breed-ing. A gentleman is a gentleman de-spite dualness or disguise, and conso-omently, no matter what his role. Mr. Richman lends to his parts an atmis-phere of manihess and dignity which few men on the stage equal and mone

"WINSOME WINNIE."

Although they were married last spring. Henry Ainley had had but three days of honeymoon when he again joined his wife. Susanne Sheldon, on Sunday. Mr. Ainley is leading man in Maude Adams's company, and Miss Sheldon is leading woman in Charles Richman's company. leading woman in Charles Richman's company. Three days after they were married in London Miss Sheldon was summoned by a cablestram from Weber & Fields and left at once to begin rehearsails in "Can-tain Barrington." Mr. Ainley was de-tained in London, and only arrived here in time to begin rehearsails for "The Freity Sister of Jose." "Captein Barrington" has been play-ing in Boston, and Miss Adams's com-pany has been on the road since they opened, and it was not until Sunday, when Miss Sheldon arrived with the company from Boston, that the bridtil pair were reunited. Liebler & Co. will organize another company to produce "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch" about Jan. 1. The second organization is made necessary on account of the spiendid success this homely play of optimism has scored all along the line. The prediction is freely made that its New York engagement will occupy the remainder of the sea-son.

has swayed the advantage from one to the other. Wheeler is finally declared elected, and Lucy, who had quarrelled with him over his words to and about her father, completes his happiness by forgiving him and all ends happily. Although Macklyn Arbuckle is featured and plays the title role, it is doubiful whether he contributes more to the suc-cess of the piece than does Willis P. Sweatnam as Sassafras Livingston, who on the programme is described as "the local touch of color." Of color (black) he certainly had enough. More could not have been seen no matter how much there might have been, and his observations, delivered in a genuine down-South darky accent, were as fine a plece of character work as has been seen on Broadway for many a day. Miriam Nesbitt as Lacy Rigby and Grace Fisher and Rose Beaudet also scored.

could play to the capacity of the Belasco Theatre in a new drama of equal strength to "Du Barry" and "Zaza." Mr. Belasco has promised we shall have an opportunity to test the matter next year, but with Mrs. Carter's business continuing as it does it would not be sur-prising if it was the fall of 1960 instead of 1964 which saw her in a new role.

MISS ELIZABETH'S PRISONER

William Faversham, Mr. Charles Frohman's "mystery" star, so called because few people can see any reason for his occupying a stellar position in the theatrical firmament, opened his annual New York engagement at the Criterion Theatre last Monday in a play

Mr. PICHMAN in Capt Bennington

"Capt Bennington" ween a Colonial backwoodsman and an English trooper of to-day, the role would have been much insproved. The whold that are is devoted to allowing Peyton saddle-horse on plea of the urgency of war, and to the horse's brinking him arek in a few moments woulde. — Miss Elizabeth is a reduct Tory, and how sees a chance to revenge herself house by holding him prisoner and turn-ing him over to the British, who, as he had at one time here in their army, will ang him as a traitor. — Breacordingly sends for the British troops, but before they can arrive Pey-ton, in the most rapid love scene we have seen in some time-fouriees min-when they have gone and her charce for revenge is pask Miss Elizabeth dis-covers that Peyton's pretense of love and for revenge makes him fall genu-huely is love with her and then fouries in each agrees to forgive and forget. Forwards the baptly ever after. Mr. Synew York's theatre-goers, and he will and have some the read the fouries in each agrees to forgive and forget. Forwards the baptly ever after. Mr. Synew York's theatre-goers, and he will anothers the will probably not gain and the some the read then the some the sourt covers have baptly ever after. Mr. Forwards the baptly ever after. Mr. Forwards the baptly ever after Mr. For these therefore have a profitable dis-tions but he will probably not gain and the will probably not gain and the will probably not gain and the sourt for the will probably not gain and the sourt her will probably not gain and the sourt her will probably in the fails. The seen her for her and her the fails the sourt her will probably not gain and the will probably not gain and the will probably not gain and the sourt sourt her will probably and gains the sourt her will probably her gains and the sourt her will probably her gains and the sourt her will probably her gains the sourt her will be will probably her gains the sourt her will probably her gains and ther her will probably her gains th phiv Percy Lyndall, as Major John Colden.

and Charles Avery, as Cun, a slave, deserve mention.

"CAPTAIN BARRINGTON."

Victor Mapes's play, "Captain Barringion," the best American Revolu-tionary war play which has ever been presented, was shown at the Manhattan Theatre on Monday with Charles Rich-

Theatre on Monday with Charles Rich-man as the star. This Mr. Richman's first appear-noce in New York as a star, although for the past two years he has, as lead-ing man of the Empire Theatre Stack Company, so far overshadowed his as-sociates that he has been a star in all but name. That Richman has far more legiti-mate right to stellar honors than many of those now wearing them every one who has ever seen him is convinced, and in "Captain Barrington" he does as is but right that he should the best work of his entire career. The scenes of the play the laid during the Revo-lution.

of the finest numbers in the score. few men on the stage equal and none

ELEANOR ROBSON.

From out-of-town criticism of Eleanor Robson's "Merely Mary Ann," New York is quite prepared to see one of the

greatest bits of acting as well as one of

York is quite prepared to see one of the greatest bits of acting as well us one of the most interesting plays of the year when she begins her engagement at the Garden Theatre in January. Even Mr. Charles Frohm thinks well enough of it to hold unlimited time for Miss Robinson. It seems only a year or so ago that she first began to attract attention in the winsome role of Bonita in Augustus Thomas's "Arizona," and yet to-day she is in the first rank of stellar actresses and one of the few who in this dis-couraging season have scored an un-qualitied success. Since her "Arizona" days Miss Robison has been a member of the Mrs. LeMoyne-Otis Skinner-El-eanor. Robson combination, leading woman for Kyrle Bellew and the Juliot of hast spring's remarkabe company pre-senting "Romeo and Juliet." Her suc-cess as Juliet lead Liebler & Co., her managers, to decide that the time was rive to launch her at the head of a dramatic organization, deepite her youthfulness, for sho is only about twenty-two years old. "Merely Marr Ann." the vehicle which the management chase for this purpose, has just closed an engagement in Chi-cago which presages a highly profitable soanon for the management and one marked for the artistic achievement of the star. ..." Werely Mary Ann." wrote one Chi-

season for the management and one marked for the artistic achievement of ""Merely Mary Ann." wrote one Chi-ergo critte, is a chupter from the best of Dickens. Seasoned with a dash of Thaskeray and produced so well that one's favorites live before his eves. There is the humar of Mrs. Bardwell the pathos of the life of a Sidney Car-ton, and a bit of 'Vanit's Fair." And through all was the influence of the girl from 'son country.' who brought into the gloomy, dark, miserable London boarding-house something of the fra-grance of the bluebells of her beloved country." And it was the critte of the Chicago Evening Post, who wrote: "Miss Adama in her ingenue days could not have painted Mary Ann so finely as Miss Robson does. Here, indeed is a wel-come addition to the stellar list. Think over the names of the stellar list. Think over the names of the granes. To her the public may reasonably look for achievements of importance." Miss Robson, however, comes from a stock in while eventures in histrionic art nas tong conceded. Her father is Angualus Conk whose Napoleon in "Miss Robson, however, comes from a stock in while eventures in histrionic art nas tong here acanceded. Her father is Angualus Conk whose Napoleon in "Miss Robson, however, comes from a stock in while experiments of importance." "Miss Robson, however, comes from a stock in while experiments in histrionic art nas tong there internets in histrionic art has tong here acanceded. Her father is Augustic Conk whose Napoleon in "Miss. The rease is a work wore here in the acan be a conceded her father is Augustic conk whose Napoleon in "Miss. The maiss of the Stabage for the Cable of the Stabage in the title roke in "Miss, Wisgs of the Cabbage Then," too, in "Merels Mary Ann." "Then, too, in "Merels Mary Ann."

stinted price present playing the fills Carr Cook, at present playing the fills role in "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbaga Pates." Then, too, in "Merels Mary Ann," Israel Zangwill, the author, has done much for Miss Robson. No more cham-ing story can be found in contem-peraneous fieldon. It is full of the pathos of real life, and is told with the styld-ness of description that makes Mr. Zangwill foremost among the brilliant writers of the day. Mr. Zangwill him will for Miss Robson's use, and in its present of Miss Robson's use, and in its present shape it is a genuine comedy hit. "Next sensor Charles Frohman will throw onen the doors of one of his Lon-eurgagement there both her managers, Liebler & Co, and Mr. Charles Froh-man expect he to be as valuable a star on the other side of the ocean as she is already here.

Thomas Q. Senbrooke surprised an in-

Thomas Q. Sectoroake surprised an in-sistent female book agent the other day. A friend of his tells the story: "Mr. Seabrooke was just sitting down to study a new song when a pretty woman rang his door bell. No one would have supposed that she was a book agent. Mr. Seabrooke told her, ho would not buy the book even if he really wanted it, which he did not.

Son.
Son.
Dan Daly has been led into vaudeville that F. F. Proctor's Twenty-third Street meatre, beginning his engagement last.
Monday night.
Daly's unique method of commending initiation of himself. Daly's act consists, in brief, of an appearance in a stara dreasing-room, attired in conventional dinner garments. He has a dreaser who may be reforred to as the atume dreaser who may be referred to as the atume, at others.
The lang from the control of maske him self up in the character be has affected.
The lang drooping mustache, the thin ford wild, and the draw were all if evidence by degrees. While the make were all the vidence by degrees. While the make were were all the vidence by degrees. While the make were all the vidence by degrees.

Despite the howls of "bad business" Despite the howls of "bad business" on Broadway, the management of "Babes in Toyland" and the Majestic Theatro have decided to give mathees daily during Christmas week in order that the children may have an oppor-tunity of seeing their piece. The mat-inees at the Majestic recently have been unconfortably crowded, it is announced, and this is another reason for the de-cision

Wednesday evening of next week, Dec 2. Klaw & Erlanger will present their intest Drury Lane spectacle, "Mother Goose," at the New Amsterdam Treate for the test time. This will be the largest production this firm has ever Treated for the first time. This will be the largest production this firm has ever made. The company will number over the people, Klaw and Erlanger have im-norted the entire production from Drury Larce and the prediction is confidently made that it will eclipse in maxifulde and maxificences of scenew and coa-tumes the two previous Drury Lane suc-cesses in this country. "The Sleeping Beauty and the Beast," and "Mr. Blue Beard," John J. McNally has entirely re-written the book and Frederick Solomon has provided a new score of brilliant nuese. The beavy humor of the Elevish brace the clever Mr. McNally has in-troduced that snapov wit and fun and outekness of action so well liked by will be played by Jee Cawhorne, who will be played by Jee Cawhorne, who will be played by Jee Cawhorne, who will play 'Mother Goose." Hurry Bal-ger, Viola Gilberte and Leila McInture, King, Prince Charming and Princess Beauty will only fact, Jil and Colin Mass Gellette, the mast beautiful formed will be in the scenar Beauty and the peast, will play Hack, Jil and Colin Mass Breach Beauty and the rest, will play hack, Jil and Colin Mass Beauty in the Scenar Stars will have prove a great by Jee Charming and Princess Beauty will be mast beautiful formed will be and the Beauty and the peast, will be mast beautiful formed will play 'Mother Goose. There will be also made streat successes of the beauty in ''The Sleeping Beauty and the peast, will be beautiful formed will be and the American stars will have in colin a 'boy's' purt, a role in which she excels.

"The Eternal City," with E. J. Mor-gan at its head, is proving a verifable gold mine. The production is booked for a tour across the continent and return.





