Dramatic and Lyric.

Success of the Magistrate—The World Tonight—Chat About Warde and James—Mrs. Florence's Bad Taste—The Minstrels—Stage Jots.

The Home club seems to have made another hit in the Magistrate, and last night it was witnessed by a second large turnout, composed more largely of lovelocks than before. The six principal parts, in the hands of Spencer, Wells, Young, White and Meadames Claridge and Wells, were admirably sustained, and it is hard to say to whom first praise belongs. A difficult comedy of this character should be played for a week to enable the people to feel perfectly at home in it and to bring out all its possibilities, and it is the usual fate with home productions that just as plays are getting into good running order, their run is at an end. The improvement last evening over the first production was very marked, especially on the part of Mr. Spencer; it would only take a few more performances to cause his Pashet to stand out like his Blizzard.

Tonight and Monday night the club revive the World, a play of a totally different character. It was a strong success on its original production.

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The Tabernacle concerts continue to draw a generous share of the public patronage, last night's program being witnessed by 1300 or 2000 people. The attractive international features go again tonight, and Monday evening the adult artists of the city will be given an opportunity and later in the week the B. Y. Academy chorus from Provo, numbering 300 and headed by the enterprising Giles, will be given an evening at the Tabernacle by the Church authorities. Tuesday evening, the Deseret Minstrels make their farewell appearance for the season at the Theater.

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The Warde and James engagement was a surprise even to the stars themselves. They had reckoned on doing a fairly prosperous business in Salt Lake, but when on arriving here, they found they had run into the conference and dedication season, it was to be imagined that they did not due marvelling habilimente. Mr. Warde said to the writer that for the past six weeks their net profit would be $15,000 to each business in Salt Lake held up with that done elsewhere on the coast. The three nights here amounted to nearly $4500, which is considerably in excess of any business done on the coast, except on the closing night in San Francisco, when the receipts amounted to $1575.

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Mr. Warde said that both he and James were so well satisfied with the result of their partnership thus far, that he had engaged Mr. James for a period of five years, and his present impression was that the partnership would be perpetual. It is not generally known, but it is a fact, that the partnership between the firm exists in name, and for advertising purposes, only. The truth is that Mr. James is engaged by Mr. Warde at a handsome weekly salary, and that he is subject to the same rules of discipline that govern all other members of the company. He presently means to confine himself to supporting Mr. Warde but his name should be features in the same way as that of Warde himself, and without doubt Mr. Warde was more than ready to concede the point.

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From all accounts the present connection will be as valuable to Mr. James as it is to Mr. Warde, even if he does not make the same money out of it that his manager does. Mr. James was not a successful star, and when he ended his season a little over a year ago, he was very heavily in debt. He has no business ability and like many others in his profession, his dollars are spent before they are received. He always needed just such a check rein as he has now found in Warde, who is as keen and shrewd a business man as he is a capable and successful artist. James is the soul of honor, and every salary day, to per cent of itself, or what he reserves is such, if to diminish the volume of his debts. Fortunately he is blessed with a happy, sunny disposition and the traits, financial and domestic, under which he has struggled so long, while they would have been enough to crush another man, have rolled away from him unheeded, and left no mark of care on his laughing brow. Some of his nearest friends aver that this joviality of disposition, forms his greatest drawback, and we have heard Mr. Warde say that if he had to name Lewis James' one fault, he would say, it was his all pervading impulse to see fun in everything, and his uncontrollable disposition to "guy" in his profession.

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Warde himself relates an instance of how reckless James becomes when this "guying" spirit takes possession of him. A few weeks ago they were playing Othello before a mountain audience, and when James reached the point where he kills Desdemona, he placed her on the couch, and while his back was turned to the audience, and he was giving vent to the emotions of grief that filled his soul he deliberately blackened his fingers by rubbing it over his dusky countenance, and painted a moustache and goatee on the lifeless face of Desdemona. When Emilia entered a few minutes later and turned the cover down on from the face of her mistress she should have been racked with lamentations, but when she saw the decorated countenance, she could not control herself, and went off into a burst of laughter. Warde, who was standing in the wing, saw what had happened, and as soon as the curtain fell, he fined Mr. James $50 on the spot and that actor paid the fine without demur.

Next season Warde and James will add the play of Henry IV and Virginius to their repertoire. In the latter Mr. Warde will probably have the better opportunity, while Mr. James will fairly excel in the part of Falstaff in Henry IV. James said to the writer on the night he was playing the jester in Francesca da Rimini, that he never knew what enjoyment was in acting until he had some part like that of Pope or Falstaff. His soul delights in merriment, and it is one of the foundest things imaginable, after he has come off the stage and delivered a tragic speech as Othello, to see him execute a Highland fling in the wings, while the house is thundering its applause in front. One reason for James' exceptional happiness on this trip, is the pleasure of his young wife, whom he recently married in Philadelphia. Time has evidently dried the wounds he suffered by the desertion of Marie Wainright, and as bridegroom of twenty-five could expect more happiness out of his honeymoon than James is gaining from his at fifty. Warde is also accompanied by his wife and his two sons, one of whom plays small parts while the other presides over the box office, so that the entire combination is more like a happy family than a theatrical troupe.

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Mrs. Nettie Shell, who recently passed through New York, on her return from Europe, visited Miss Viola Pratt and Mr. H. S. Goddard, who are still studying under the noted teacher, Sewell. Mrs. Shell speaks glowingly of the progress both Miss Pratt and Mr. Goddard are making, and says great improvement has been made in both. Mr. Sewell personally said her both were admirable voices, and he said if Goddard could stick at it long enough he would make not only a good, but a great artist. Miss Pratt retains her position in a quartette choir, and has had other offers which she has declined.

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Mrs. W. J. Florence has just been guilty of a shocking piece of bad taste, the following paragraph from a Chicago paper almost sounds incredible:

In common with many people who should know better, Howard Chenery—who for purposes of identification shouts for uncouthness as the young husband of Mrs. W. J. Florence—recently continues the West as wild and woolly as to be incapable of distinguishing between an old and a new play. Under the title of The Old Love and the New Mr. Chenery produced a play at the Union Opera House, Kansas City. The local critics had no difficulty in identifying the alleged new play as the familiar comedy, The Governor. This is bad enough, but to make matters worse, Mr. Chenery announced himself as the author of the work, with the additional information that he had written it especially for his wife. Few people, however, will be either surprised or shocked at Mr. Chenery's lack of moral sense in this matter. The excessive bad taste which permitted him to appear with the former Mrs. Florence in the Mighty Dollar, and in the role so inseparable from tender memories of the late comedian and genial prince of good fellows, could exist only in a man whose moral perception was defective. The thousands of friends and admirers of the late W. J. Florence will be delighted to learn that though that comedian's widow has seen fit to adopt Mr. Chenery to the part of his successor, the public has refused to accept him as such in a professional capacity.

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Those of Utah's amateur musicians who have imagined that large chances will be a novelty at the World's Fair, should note the following bulletin, just issued by Theodore Thomas, the musical director of that Fair:

"The I. Hal choral performance at the Exposition will be given in Festival Hall, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, May 31, 32 and 33. Mendelssohn's Elijah will be sung by the Apollo Club of Chicago, numbering 300 voices; Haydn's creation, by the Chicago Festival chorus, numbering 1200 voices, and the Exposition Children's chorus, numbering 1000 voices, will give programs of songs and part songs. Mrs. Lillian Nordica and Mr. Plunkett Greene have been engaged."

Mr. Thomas also issues the following announcement: "The following named American concert organists have been invited to give organ recitals, using the Exposition organ now being built by Messrs. Farrand & Votey of Detroit, or Festival Hall: Samuel P. Warren, William C. Carl, Frank Taft, New York; George E. Whiting, S. B. Whitney, Boston; H. Huntington Woodman, Brooklyn; David D. Wood, Philadelphia; Samuel A. Baldwin, St. Paul; Clarence Eddy, Hartford; M. Wilk, Louis Falk, Walter E. Hall and William Middelschulte, Chicago."

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Bill Nye has been seen in Peter Jackson and the Baroness Blanc. He thus details his impressions:

Peter Jackson I had been led to believe would elevate the stage. People told me that he resembled Salvini on the stage. He does not. They belong to two different schools of acting. Salvini is more in rapport with the audience.

I have never seen Corbett act, but I judge that he will rank with Jackson and Sullivan whose manners is noticeable even from the back seat.

Peter Jackson is a good looking man and amiable. Morose than he is Quixotically, I may say. He has long arms, with rather slender wrists and small hands and feet. He is well arranged for fighting purposes, but his interpretation of Uncle Tom won't do. We have been playing between Peter Jackson and the Baroness Blanc for some weeks in this writing. Artistically they differ in only one particular. The baroness has good clothes—or did when prior to Ogden—while Peter has not.

The baroness has already sacked $40,000 into the opening which admiring friends thought they saw for her. California is not a good state to visit with a poor entertainment unless one has return tickets.

The baroness did not get her title to descent. She assumed it for it, I think, and got it that way.

Her husband's name was Hirn, instead of Pete of Texas. I have a neighbor in North Carolina named Jesse West. He was named that same way. He is the owner of the celebrated mule Mary.

The baroness followed us hermitally as far as Ogden, and there the conscientiary at the depot had violent hands on the baggage of her company. It was sad to witness the scene.

It is bad enough to enter San Francisco and compete with a great city full of talent when one has all the clothes he can get, but to undertake a difficult role there while one's clothing is in Ogden is said to be one of the sad of things in stage life.

This is especially true where the clothes constitute the motif of the play.

In Salt Lake City we received at the door a $2 bill, which we have since learned is not negotiable. Will the man who paid it in at the window please make it right should these lines meet his eyes?

It is a pale green bill for $2 and seems to have been issued by the First National Bank of Salt Lake. In the hurry and rush at the door I took it while relinquishing my piece to myself.

I would not ask to have the amount made good under ordinary circumstances, but we are so far from home and carriage idle is so steep here in California that we feel a little crippled by the loss.

STAGE AND CONCERT NOTES.

Nicolini, Patti's husband, is said to be the inventor of pomade.

Harry Dixey has gone back to his old love, Adonis, at his old home, the Casino.

Charles Frohman has scored a failure at last. The Silent Battle was taken off the boards after a case of one week.

Frohman's comedians have revived Wilkinson's Widows in New York.

Dune has been playing in Chicago during the past week.

Warde & James will produce the Lion's Mouth in New York next September.

Salvini played this week in Portland, Seattle and Tacoma.

Mr. Carolan has a new clarinettist, a non-union man, who has taken the place of Mr. Sims, who left the Theater orchestra to join the union. The new man shows promise of being a valuable addition.

The new scene painted by Anderson for the Magistrate was greatly admired by the audience who saw it.

There is more mourning in our musical circles. Judge Fyfer, as secretary of the B. A. M. society, is going to spend six months in Chicago, aiding in the management of the Utah building. There is a vacancy for some good tenor in the various musical bodies with which the judge is connected, and it is hard to say what will become of the proposed revival of the Light of Asia.

Campanini is now singing as part of a vaudeville entertainment inaugurated at Proctor's Theater, New York. The house is open continuously from 10 a. m. till 10:30 p. m., and the ears famous tenor sings a ballad every morning at 11.

Daly's regular season closes tonight. Beulah Vokes takes the house for a run.

Young Salvini opened in the Manhattan Opera House in New York last Monday evening.

Men and Women has been done in London under another name.

Rudolph Dekorne, composer of Robin Hood and musical critic for the New York World, says that France has at last submitted to Wagner's sway, and that France is now a Wagner-made as England or Germany.

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