



the eighth and final presentation of "Arizona" will be given tonight. The office records tell an entirely satisfactory story, the business having come from very heavy on the opening, sets to more than half on the closing, average forming totally strongly alike to the visiting attractions.

The manager of "the company said that it was headed in the right direction, but he was not satisfied with its progress. He has been working in two well defined fields, the Syndicate keeping out of the cheaper priced lines of amusement, and State & Haydn on their part confining their energies to the attractions that roam the country over, playing at 50 and 75 cent rates. Now, however, the latter threatened to invade the domain of the Trust, alleging that great concern had been made with it by sending cheap attractions into some of the eastern centers.

State & Haydn have certainly commenced to mobilize their troops on the enemy's frontier. They have secured the Grand Opera House in San Francisco, are building a new theater in Denver, and they have just opened the Majestic in New York. They control 18 first class theaters in the big cities besides the 54 popular priced houses strung from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the Hudson bay to the Gulf of Mexico. They will doubtless make an alliance with the several independent companies headed by James K. Hackett, Mrs. Fiske, and Henrietta Crosman. Mr. Paul Hammer says that it contracts place his house in the State & Haydn chain and should that firm send to the west any high class attractions, they would certainly play at the Grand. On such terms the referees would be advanced just as Mrs. Fiske advanced them on her memorable visit here. There would, of course, be a reluctance on the part of certain high class companies to play in a cheap priced house, but they would have no alternative, as they would be barred out of the Salt Lake Theater which is knit with hooks of steel in the Hayman Frohman chain. Then Mr. Hammer rightly figures that such occasional high class attractions as might stop at his house would be "boomed" as Mrs. Fiske was, by the very fact that they were kept out of the theater. This fact, added to the popularity of that actress, caused her to play to something like \$3,000 in her three nights at the Grand.

The next moves on the big theatrical chessboard of the country, will be viewed with decided interest by all concerned, not alone in Salt Lake, but all over the country. The managers of several giants are about to enter upon their struggle. That State & Haydn are amply provided with the shrews of war is undoubtedly, as Mr. State himself is a many times millionaire, a banker, and the owner of the Detroit Journal.

#### THEATER GOSSIP.

Nance O'Neill has ended her San Francisco engagement, and pushed on to Los Angeles. "Magda" remains the feature of her repertoire.

Murray & Mack, who can always be relied on to jam the Grand, put in a full week there commencing March 2, producing "A Night on Broadway."

Maxine Elliott celebrated her 26th birthday in Providence, a week ago last Friday. She will be in Salt Lake, Mar. 9, to be the guest of her sister, Gertrude Elliott, and Nat C. Goodwin will continue in "The Altar of Friendship," with Zeffie Tiffey as her successor. Miss Tibury is expected to return from Europe early in April.

At Thursday's meeting of the Actor's fund, the benefit for A. M. Palmer shall be given early in May at the Metropolitan Opera House. A play with an all-star cast will be presented, and a committee consisting of Daniel Frohman, Joseph Brooks, Frank McKee, and William Harris was appointed to select the piece and arrange the cast. Mr. Willard has started the subscription list off with a check for \$500.

It is a long time since the theatrical world was dull and unprofitable at this period of the year, says the New York Post. The beginning of the season is already broken before the winter is finished, and the promise of spring is by no means abundant. Half of the theaters are occupied by the most frivolous forms of entertainment—variety, musical farce, or spectacle—and in the remaining half there are not to be found more than three plays which possess any substantial merit.

A staff of workmen are busily engaged at the Salt Lake Theatre making the necessary changes in the stage to accommodate William Gillette's production of "Sherlock Holmes." Charles Frohman, Mr. Gillette's manager, is sending the entire production here just as was seen in New York and London, and there are some surprises in store for those who see the performance, especially in regard to the peculiar electric lighting effects which Mr. Gillette has produced in his play, and which are said to be the most startling ever seen on stage.

J. H. Stoddart celebrated his 56th birthday recently by playing at Stockbridge, Canada, in "The Bonnie Brier Bush." It was in that town that Reuben Fax, playing Posty in Mr. Stoddart's support, was born. The leading local minister called off the Wednesday evening prayer meeting in order that the congregation could witness the performance of Mr. Fax, who had been a parishioner years ago. After the performance, when it became known that it was Mr. Stoddart's natal day, the occasion became almost a jamboree, and both of the actors were given rousing receptions by the audience.

#### MUSIC NOTES.

The First Methodist church is to have an orchestra, with Mr. Winnans as leader.

Masagni, with an orchestra of 50, opens in Los Angeles next Monday for a week's engagement.

The Woodmen of the World are talking of taking a band with them to Los Angeles at the coming convention.

Dudley Buck has decided to cease writing church music and to retire as church organist, devoting himself to other lines of musical work.

The demand for the talking and writing machines continues, and manufacturers are steadily improving them so as to lessen the shrillness of the upper registers and the hoarseness of the lower ones. Some very excellent devices are now on the market.

Miss Sibyl Anderson, one of Prof. Weil's pupils, is reported as doing especially well in New York under Prof. Richard Arnold, and Mrs. Reiners, another pupil, has done so well with her violin studies in Chicago that she has been given a free scholarship.

There will be a meeting of the Salt Lake Symphony orchestra at the Franklin Hall on the afternoon of Sunday, March 1, in preparation for a concert to be given some time later, perhaps in May. The fact that this fine body of musicians are to appear again this season

is very gratifying to lovers of fine orchestral music.

Choirmaster Evan Stephens has composed and published a fine anthem entitled "In Our Redeemer's Name," especially for the dedication of the meetings of the Latter-day Saints in Copenhagen. Prof. J. J. Daynes has also composed and published an excellent anthem entitled "Glory to God on High."

Prof. Anton Pedersen is doing very well with the All Hallows College band, and has got the boys all interested in their work. Prof. Pedersen and his Arthur took prominent part in Thursday night's concert in the Ogden Tabernacle, and the young man especially won commendation with his solo. He played "A Souvenir" of Haydn.

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Prof. J. J. McTellan, who had charge of the musical part of the three nights' reading of Bishop Whitley's poem, deserves special commendation for the way the work in his department was executed. Every song had a special flavor.

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