Dramatic and Lyric.

Reflections Induced by the Solter and Fly.—New York Letter.—Daily Announces Hoban as a Star.—Sousa's Hit in San Francisco.—Pinafore Celebrities.

The spectacle at the Salt Lake Theater last Monday and Tuesday evenings was one to make mortals mourn and gods (excepting gallery gods) grow sick at heart.

The Theater, for nearly a month prior to that time, had been ploughing through equity seas, labeling heavily "man endeavor to pull into port right side up. In other words, Manager Hutton had been trying hard, aided by such attractions as Wards & James, Elliott and Coldiock, and the strongest exponent in town for Conkerers, to justify himself in declaring that welcome but unexpected dividend, and maybap blaze the way towards another like it. When he had got through figuring his percentages and closing up his pay rolls, and had laid aside the telescope with which he had been searching for the favored conditions through, he passed his hand over his brow and ejaculated with Macbeth: "Is that an assassinate I see before me?"

Just then here into sight the good ship Miss Leavitt, all sails set to catch whatever financial breeze might be blowing from our native sea, she was allowed to come into port with little or no attention, greeted with rather a sigh of objective than any welcome, and was not even required to show a clean bill of health—more's the pity.

But the manager had misjudged his public. As one man—there were very few women—the public rose to greet Mr. Leavitt's crew of Boniface lassies, these latest one hundredth signed for business to complete the combination. Before the tremendous business the Solter and Fly pulled into the box office, Dame Deficit flew out of the window, and Daisy Divinsky received from her swoon. It was like a breath from the good old home days of '90—bad luck to them. The silver that showered into the house was free coinage recommended. On all sides it was evident that that lady still greatly rued her title over to being the queen of silver—of the big silver.

There has been a vast amount written and said in the last few weeks concerning the evil effects on the juvenile mind of the publication of the details in the Pollard-Breckenridge trial. To the mind of the writer these effects are but as the breath of the wind, compared with the effects of a season's tour of a company like the Solter and Fly. People who read the Pollard-Breckenridge case, saw in it everything to avoid, and nothing to admire. No man who reflects on the tale of the hearty heeded old sagacious Sam, and Shopherd's time thoughtful reminder of his career until he drops out of sight "unnoticed and unsung," will feel any temptation to follow in his footsteps, and no woman will see in the sad tale of the Pollard wayfaring likely to tempt her. Indeed, it will not be surprising if the hanging of this cooking case to the horizon, may not be productive of good, rather than harm. But nothing of that sort can be said of the season exhibition that Leavitt is sending through the land under the guise of a "theatrical" attraction. In every tendency it bad. It leaves a streak of poison in the wake as perceptible and as powerful as the odor of the deadly upas. There is not an artistic thought in its whole make-up. Its sole line is—how to appeal to prurient taste; how to make a stand of pitching that will entice public attention thereby to make a show that will shock decent tastes, and thus—greatest of desiderata—get it talked about; how to secure a bevy of women with shapes, who are not afraid to display them. Volumes—said Talmi, someone! "Tis inside the public wants," says Mr. Leavitt, "and I'm in the business to please them."

We cannot agree with the newspaper writers who argue that because the public turns out in force to an attraction like the Solter and Fly, there is no use concerning ourselves that such shows would act thrice if they were not encouraged, etc., etc. If the press has any duty to perform, it is to be a guide, public opinion, and public morals might, to raise a clamor when public decency is trodden, and to constantly point a warning finger to the sign boards that indicate the ways of right and wrong. It does not in the least matter that a house full of people said their money to see Mr. Leavitt's fleshly and wonderfully made troop of vocalists and dancers depart themselves on the stage. If the tendencies of the "attractions" were vulgar, bad and indecent—as they were—it was the duty of the press to forbidden proceed to "count it." In so doing it would have been excluded by the very audience whose presence it urged as an excuse for giving it a send. Very many, even of those "fine nighters," we fear, would have relished the thought of seeing their boys, or their neighbors' boys, say of the age of 15 or 16, in the the throng of spectators, and the knowledge of people who encouraged the show by their presence, it should be remembered, bears but a small proportion to the city full of people who did not attend, who are the public in reality, and the majority of whom, if their wishes could be learned, are more decidedly against the phase of M. B. Leavitt's business presented in the Solter and Fly.

This question is and by any means continued to be a vexed one. In some eastern cities there is an outcrying against paying out cash and advertisements printing in this country plastered over our walls in the form of cut-in-up or school readings. As for the duty of the press towards the tone of the stage, the New York Sun handles the matter without gloves. In treatment of Willow, the comic opera manager, who was one of the first to offer Mademoiselle Fellow an excuse good enough to cover the "naughty" party, Willow is very open and short hours in his economic answer. Willow a cartoon of his position to the Sun he says that his organization has made $150,000 during the past 12 years and adds: "I am sorry that the public was alone first; but as it is so they are the ones to please, not you or I. I try to give music opera as they want it, and as I am booked solid for two years and stay by it. It all the time you will agree with me, I am sure, that it is business view I am right." At which the Sun remarks: Mr. Willow's reason for putting a dissolute policy, it will be seen, is that it pays. Many legitimate ventures pay, but that is an additional reason for separating them from reputable businesses and exercising them severely." When applied just as emphatically to Mr. Leavitt and all his tribe.

Terpsichore reigned supreme at the Theater last evening, and the crowded hall of the season, under Professor Youngers direction, proved most enjoyable. The entertainment was not what such occasions have called out in the past, showing that the season is well over. The fancy dances of the young people were a spectacle enjoyed by the lookers on even more than the general dance that followed. The afternoon the program is being repeated, and the evening will extend well into the morning.

"Did Never strike you how many members of the old Salt Lake Pinafore company have made their mark since since they have gone up? Yes, I was asked a reporter. "Do you remember that company that toured the country under Mrs. Kimball's management when the Pinafore craze was at its height? To begin with, there was little Cothran—in those days a precocious six-year-old Buttercup. The Josephine was Ida Malk. She's with Hoyt now. The Sir Joseph was Fritz Williams. Everybody knows how he has turned out. Another graduate of that company was Annie Bunch. And then the Cousin Hebe—you remember Hebe, don't you? A little wee of a girl with wonderfully expressive eyes. The other night I saw her play Juliet, and all through the tragedy sense I kept saying: "Great Scott! Little Ann Marie, this is the little girl who used to sing:

"Tiddle de de de tiddle,
Tiddle de tiddle,
Ahd ah hem."

There is nothing that exceeds like success, and Sousa's band is a marked example of the fact. He is playing at the Midwinter Fair in San Francisco has been attended by such remarkable popularity, and has so increased the coffers, that the treasury of the fair has let the efforts of the attractions, and efforts have been made to prolong the engagement of the band. But little has been found an impossibility, as Sousa has before him over forty weeks of continuous concerts, consisting of his Marlboro Square Garden, Coney Island Beach, St. Louis Exposition and other engagements and concert tours, and he can only stay to this city for the single concert at the Tabernacle with the chief day he can see way to his easiest work. What the Midwinter Fair is going to do for drawing music after Sousa has gone, is one of the problems which the fair management is seriously wrestling with.

Our dramatic correspondent in New York writes the following, under date of the 15th, evidently before Miss Tyler made up her mind not to waste her overtones on the inappreciative Gotts:

The presence in this city of four very big successes all under a single management and all running between only about a week of each other, and far ahead of all other attractions, is a good fortune that no theatrical manager has ever before experienced in the metropolis or perhaps elsewhere. They are big, important attractions, too. The lucky man who is reaping a fortune of money and prestige from the quartette of successes is Charles Frohman. His fortunate possession is so many profitable properties is not an accident. Mr. Frohman applies an exact and intelligent to the selection of his plays and he very seldom makes a mistake. His career at the Lyceum Theater has been a succession of triumphs, culminating in the present great success, Rosina the Wise. This week Liberty Hall, Gentlemen and The Conquered Wife, will be in the repertoire of the Charles Frohman Stock company. Where it will be the Gaiety stays. It was in the hope exactly that Oliver Twist, now playing in The Girl I Left Behind Me, at the Academy of Music here, and was to be performed going forty weeks thereof Hoyt's Hotel, the young enthusiasts has planned to be the finale, and some of the Kind work. Playing the West has now been running for nearly twenty weeks at the Empire theater, and from the beginning was thought to be the weeks of least it takes a success hold but the management is now reaping to be more nightly. Accordingly to leave as a play, the general the management thinks there and the evening performance, which is given to it, there is not one but each of its friends, interest in the "one night" question which the manager has made to them. The Poland-Brooke strange season at Wanamaker, has shown how a woman can be made to suffer by an unfortunate wife, and the sympathy for the unfortunate woman which Bernhardt, Sydney Grundy's heroine, was so in point in the play, "Why should a woman be virtuous? Is it a sin?" Mr. Grundy's play and Wanamaker making and the theme has made it possible for all fashionable New York to visit the Empire and listen to the discussion, and much sympathy has been manifest at every performance, for the poor and unfortunate woman who has sinned and whose heart is made to bleed at the sight of a friend. There are incidents of wet eyes in the House during the "Why should not woman be virtuous?" Mr. Grundy, who attended the first night, said to his friend: "I know now to the audience have been in my city. The audiences now at the Empire is better than it ever was, and if Mr. Frohman's Wilderness Stealing the Wind is the middle of May, as we say we expect, to produce Gaiety, he will be acting it off to the very height of its success. But then he will repeat the Empire success again with it.

John Drew and his new play, The Rehearsal, is Manager Palmer's second repeat success. Both have received the warmest indorsements of Palmer's theater, where they have drawn crowded houses for four months. The performance outlined Drew's for The Rehearsal has made it impossible for John Drew to repeat The Master Hall, which will be in his repertoire when he visits California, or to use a new play which Mr. Frohman has ready for him. Assisting Mr. Drew is pretty Maud Adams Wheatley and everything in the season is well over. The many dances of the young people who a specialty enjoyed by the lookers on even more than the general dance that followed. The afternoon the program is being repeated, and the evening will extend well into the morning.

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Among the new productions, it is rumored that in the fall there may be a party, who are at work writing the author, Carroll, Manager Barton, Gilbert, Sullivan, Jones, Pinero, Grundy, Sydney Grundy, Wilde, Shaw, Shaw, Shaw