

THE EVENING NEWS.

Monday, November 1, 1892.

For the EVENING NEWS.
OLD HONESTY'S REMINISCENCES OF
SALT LAKE THEATRE.

(Concluded.)

Aug. 27th, E. L. Davenport as "Rich-
elien" commanded our breathless at-
tention.

"Mark where she stands! Around her
form I draw the awful circle of our solemn
church! Set but a foot within that holy
ground, and on thy head—yes, though it
were a crown, I launch the curse of
Rome!"

What a "Julian St. Pierre" he gave!

The dial and the sun is shining on it;
the shadow on the very point of twelve. My
case is desperate! Your signature of vital
moment is unto my peace! My eye is on
the dial! Pass the shadow of the point of
noon, the breath of but a hair, as can mine
eye discern, and that unguessed the steel is
in thy heart. I speak no more!

November 14th, Parepa Rosa gave us
that beautiful ballad of "Waiting," and
we waited until the 16th, when we had
the descriptive storm song and the
"Nightingale's Trill."

November 30th, nightly performances
commenced. March 12, 1892, we nearly
split our sides laughing at J. H. Herne's
"Rip Van Winkle," with his

"Being this is the first time that we have
meeted to-day," etc. "Well, here is your
very good health and your families, and may
you all live long and prosper!"

We thought we could smell those
strong oysters of "Handy Andy,"
May 27th, C. Wheelwright with his
"Old Tom" (a boardman), who was
drugged in a saloon, but recovered and
found his way to the underground rail-
way and save his friend.

On the 31st, the Howsons gave us
the "Saber of my Sire." Aug. 18th, the
inimitable Ben. Cotton sang "Love
among the Roses." Aug. 28th and 31st,
the great George Francis Train pre-
sented us with new readings from the Cos-
mopolitan comedy of Officials, Politicians,
Lawyers, Doctors, and Ministers,
not forgetting to administer a strong
dose to the British Government. Sept.
17, Neil Warner dashed on with

"Now is the winter of our discontent
made glorious summer by the sun of
York!"

We beheld him in Desdemona's bed
chamber.

"O, balmy breath! that dost almost per-
suade justice breath to break her sword!"

Once more.

"Be thus when thou art dead and I will
kill thee and love thee after."

And again.

"And this the last,—she wakes!"

When watching his Sir Giles Over-
reach we were more than electrified.

"Shall I then fall ingloriously and yield?
No; spite of fate I will be forced to hell,
like to myself; though you were legions of
accursed spirits, thus would I fly among
you!"

Beheld, that noble Roman, Virginius,
in the Forum, before Appian.

"My dear child! my dear Virginia! there
is only one way to save thine honor, 'tis
this."

The visitor, upon entering this mam-
moth establishment is struck with amaze-
ment in beholding the living ma-
chinery working so systematically and
harmoniously. There are the man-
agers in their private office, corresponding
and negotiating for foreign talent, to
keep the season well interspersed with
a pleasing variety. That solid and
pleasant piece of humanity is the
Treasurer. How busily he seems en-
gaged in posting up his ponderous
ledger, and settling the thousand and
one demands made upon him. The
stage manager is all activity in casting
the plays, prompting, directing stage
business, making up his bills, etc. The
Janitor (some call him Bluff) is seeing
to the stoves, that dirty, dusty room,
the broken furniture, those broken win-
dows, the fire, not forgetting the fire
engine, etc., and the thousand and
two chores, which fall within his province.
There sits the copyist, writing
each part with great care and cor-
rectness. Down in the orchestra is seated
the conductor, getting his music cues
and selecting his music for night,
arranging a march to bring on that im-
posing army! Look out! here he comes
loaded with costume; it looks like a
huge mountain! That was worn last
night. That's the costume. That lady
on the other side of the stage, with her
arms full of muslin dresses, veils, skirts,
etc., has the care of the ladies' wardrobe.
Stand out of the way! The stage
carpenter, with the man mending him,
will run that scene over you if you don't
make way for him! That young man
with those palatial clothes, with his
face all splashed in the article, like
to get up a new scene for tonight. You
see that fellow with his face all black
and dirty, he is making his properties
and mixing up his tableau fires. Be
careful you don't go near that lamp
man, or he will spill oil over you! The
woman passing with her bucket, dust
pail and brush, has the cleaning of
every room every day. The man
sweeping in front is engaged all the
time with his sweeping and dusting.
That young man sitting there resting
has been all over town posting his bills,
mending the paste pocket! "Those actors
and actresses have not much to say to
you; they are intent on their studies
and the rehearsal. What long and tire-
some rehearsal! By jove, near 6 o'clock!
Come customer give us our costume, we
want to get home and study! Here it
is, the rest of the suit I want the tailor
to repair, and put new lace on! You
shall have it at night. Seven o'clock
has arrived, the stage is set, actors and
actresses are dressing, the door-keepers
and ushers are getting their keys and
programmes. There go the musicians into
the orchestra, here come the scene
shifters, there a host of "supers." The
master of the supernumeraries wants
six couple of villagers, eight soldiers,
two servants, two detectives, two po-
licemen and twelve jaymen. Hurry
if you please! get dressed. Hear that
about "First Music!" Hallelu! there is the
call boy with his cry at every dressing
room door "First Act!" "Thank you,
sir!" goes the bell, up goes the curtain,
and everybody at their entrance!

This is the very tollsome and excit-
ing life of the actor and actress of the
Theatre. On all holiday times the poor
careworn actor has to be strutting the
boards, his labors, if possible, being more

arduous on these occasions than of any
other. It is not the easy and lazy life
that many imagine.
Where is there a citizen that is not
proud of our Theatre? Who does not
admire the great ease, the good order,
the gentlemanly deportment, which so
universally characterize the whole es-
tablishment, from Managers down to
the bill posters? We hope, nay,
prophecy, that in the future the
business of the establishment may be
conducted in that same sober, honest
and virtuous manner that has hitherto
attended it, and that the Salt Lake
Theatre may always stand a pattern of
moral as well as artistic excellence.

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d173-3m

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to offer every article at New York prices.

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d18-2m

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