

THE STAGE

Wednesday night, March 25, the Funke opera house is to be given over to the famous Della Fox Opera company, who will produce their new success, "Fleur-de-Lis" for the first time here. The libretto is from the French of Chivot and Duru, the words and lyrics being done by Cheever Goodwin. The music is by William Furst. The scenes are laid in St. Claude, France, during the era of Louis XIV. The plot of "Fleur-de-Lis" centres on a lost will which brings about a feud between a count and a marquis, who are related and culminates in war. The marquis has married a Parisian flower girl whom he deserts before the birth of their child, Fleur-de-Lis. The child when grown up, seeks her father, meets a son of the count, who falls in love with her, although his father has already arranged a union with him and the daughter of a baron. Love conquers, however, and in the last scene the count and marquis end their quarrels and thus ends the comic opera strife.

The cast of characters of "Fleur-de-Lis" is as follows:

DELLA FOX.....
 Fleur de Lis, a flower vender
 The Count des Escarbilles, claimant
 of the Duchy of Turbotiere.....
 Jefferson De Angelis
 Frederick, his son, in love with
 Fleur-de-Lis.....Melville Stewart
 The Marquis de Rosolio, claimant of
 the Duchy.....Alf Wheelan
 Christophe, an inn-keeper, in love
 with Charlotte...Chas. J. Campbell
 The Baron Sasoar, military ally of
 the Count.....Chas. Dungan
 Jacob, Christophe's uncle, an old
 ex-miller.....Edward Knight
 A Notary.....John Dudley
 Baptiste.....Steve Porter
 Isabelle, daughter of the Baron
 Sasoar.....Villa Knox
 Charlotte, god-daughter of the
 Baron Sasoar and betrothed to
 Christophe.....Kate Uart
 Mme. Jacob, ex-danseuse, ex-miller's
 wife.....Alice Cameron
 Therese.....Nathalie Allien
 Nanette.....Laura Wainford
 Margot.....Ada Bernard
 Celeste.....May Outhbert
 In the service of the Marquis.
 Villagers, soldiers, sabot and cloak-
 makers, etc. Location: St.
 Claude, France.

Richard Mansfield has always been an anomaly to the dramatic critic but no matter to what extent he occupies that position he can claim what few actors can, that he is thoroughly understood by his audiences. No one commands so large a clientele of admirers; he is today one of the most prominent figures in his profession. Critics wonder at him because he is guided in his work by none of the formulas of tradition; formulas that are generally accepted as too sacred to be violated or set aside. He chooses to make his own formulas. What he sees to be right he does. Not so many seasons ago, when Mr. Mansfield gave his first performance at the Union Square theatre, New York, of the character of "Baron Chevrial," in "A Parisian Romance," which he is to present at the Funke opera house Saturday evening, his talent was comparatively an unknown quantity. When the curtain fell upon his final scene in which revealing of his last banquet, holding the wine glass in his shivering hand, with the ghastly death stricken face, confronting the bon vivants and the women at the work table, he falls back in his mortal agony, there was a revelation—the revelation that a great and hitherto unrecognized artist was brought into the light of fame. No such example of character acting had ever been seen on the American stage in years. Mr. Mansfield will be supported here by his New York Garrick Theatre Stock company—the organization which he had engaged for his intended long session in the metropolis. In this company there are

such well known players as that artistic, graceful and winsome actress, Miss Beatrice Cameron, and Miss Jennie Eustace, Miss Johnston Bennett, Miss Eleanor Carey, Miss Alice Leigh, Miss Florence Ethel, Miss Harriet Von Ganahl, Miss Nora Lamison; Messrs. D. H. Harkins, Orrin Johnson, Edmund D. Lyons, A. C. Andrews, W. N. Griffith, J. W. Weaver, Louis Dutton, Kenneth Lee and others.

Thursday evening the 26th will witness the appearance of the premier of American stars, Sol Smith Russell, who will present his latest and greatest success, "An Every Day Man," a new three act comedy by the author of "Capt. Letterblair," "Marguerite Merington" and a one act play called "Mr. Valentine's Christmas." This play is meeting with unbounded approval by the press and the public and is said to be one of Mr. Russell's greatest relations of characters. It will be seen at the Lansing. To those who were alternately moved to tears and laughter by the Poor Relation, his new play, "An Every-Day Man" will with peculiar force and the same unctuous humor and simple pathos find employment in the smiles and frowns of Miss Merington's play. Mr. Russell's unique personality places him beyond successful imitation and in consequence he has his own special field all to himself. He is independent of all rules and traditions, treading the boards according to his own fancy, and enjoying the distinction of being the most entertaining man in his profession. His popularity never wanes, but waxes stronger with advancing years, and those who remember him in youth are all the more attached to him in the maturity of his power. There is so much that is new in his characterization that is still entirely different from any part in which he has ever before seen in this city. The following is a cast of characters:

John Empey, An Every-Day Man...
 Man.....Mr. Russell
 Oliver Baxter, John's silent friend
Robt. Lowe
 Dwight, John's wife's cousin...
Chas. Mackay
 Saltonstal, John's wife's father...
Alfred Hudson
 Tom, John's wife's brother.....
Edwin Earl
 Dr. Fulton, M. D.....Geo. Denham
 Rev. Lathrop, D. D.....Geo. Woodward
 Rufus, John's footman...Stewart Allen
 Mary, John's wife...Miss Minnie Radcliff
 Elizabeth, John's sister.....
Bijou Fernandez
 Hitchison, John's wife's house-
 keeper.....Fanny Addison Pitt

In addition to this comedy, Mr. Russell will also give a one act play called "Mr. Valentine's Christmas." The prices will range from 25 cents to \$1.50 and seats will be on sale at the Lansing pharmacy Tuesday, March 24, at 9 sharp.

POINTS IN POLITICS

John B. Wright will not be a candidate for renomination for the senate.
 A. R. Talbot, will have the Fourth ward for the senate.
 Jerry Woods is a candidate for the house.
 Harry Reese is a candidate for county attorney in the first.
 Fred Woodward will contest with Jim Caldwell for the support of the Second ward for county attorney.
 F. W. Collins is, of course, a candidate for county attorney.
 Tom Munger, now of the Third, is a candidate for county attorney.
 C. M. Parker is a candidate for county attorney.
 L. C. Pace's political enthusiasm is in the bloom of youth. He is a candidate for the senate.
 Tom Kennard and C. A. Atkinson

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both want the Fourth ward for district delegate.

J. E. Houtz is a candidate for delegate-at-large. He is now in the Fourth ward.

W. D. Robinson will consent to take another whirl at the legislature.

L. L. Lindsay is a leading candidate for district delegate. He has the undivided support of the Third ward, and has a great deal of strength throughout he county. Lindsay has been an outspoken McKinleyite from the first.

J. C. F. McKesson, of Emerald, is a candidate for renomination for the senate.

E. R. Spencer, of Firth, is a candidate for the state senate.

C. O. Whedon is a candidate for district delegate. He has explained his position, and the McKinley men of the Fifth ward are satisfied.

J. D. Knight, of the Fourth ward, may be a candidate for the legislature.

George Woods has reconsidered and will not be a candidate for the house. Burkett of the Fifth is a candidate for the house.

THE STATE AND THE PRESS.

"A gentleman who has traveled over the state considerably of late," is reported by the Norfolk News as saying: "Eugene Moore is gaining ground rapidly as a gubernatorial candidate in every locality. People appreciate the fact that in the character of Mr. Moore are sterling qualities of honesty and integrity, and that he would make a governor who would look strictly after their interests."

Somebody signing himself "Stalwart," writes from Milford to the Butler County Press, and in a discussion of Secretary Morton's last report says: "Balaam's ass reproving the madness

and folly of his master, has found a parallel in Mr. Cleveland's secretary of agriculture. I can almost imagine the stuffed prophet crying out in his wrath: 'Would to God there was a sword in my hand, for then would I slay thee.'"

The republicans of Pawnee county have been sending delegates to the state convention every two years, since the Sun can remember, to vote and work for Wortham for state treasurer and they did their duty; but Wortham was never nominated. Now Wortham is still a candidate, but it seems a large per cent of the republicans down there feel like giving some other man a chance, and they are booming Charley Casey for state treasurer; and the Sun does not know of a man in southeast Nebraska, or any other part, for that matter, whom it would rather see nominated, or who would make a better or more popular officer when elected, than Charley Casey.—Sterling Sun.

"The people who went away from Nebraska when the state needed friends are nearly all back now," says the Fremont Tribune. "These prodigals journeyed into far countries, many of them, looking for a better one than Nebraska. They squandered their substance in doing so and were finally reduced to the condition of the historical prodigal who lunched with the swine and who walked home on the ties with holes in his shoes and cankers on his heart. The prodigals are reasonably welcome back, but though sheep and oxen are very cheap these democratic days, we do not feel like slaughtering any of them for a barbecue in honor of the home coming. The ninety and nine who went not astray but safely in the sheep fold lay, are of the opinion that these wanderers got the worth of their money in experience. They will therefore please excuse us if we do not pass them the tapioca pudding."