

FUNKE OPERA HOUSE

FRANK C. ZEHRUNG Manager.

THEATRICAL NOTES

"In Mizoura" on Monday night played to a few old habitués who spend their money at the theatre as people with a shorter-sighted philosophy spend it on bread and butter. The music that the travelling companies make and the capers they cut lighten hearts that need it more than the stomach needs filling. If it were not for the philosophical habitués aforesaid and a few impecunious but appreciative dead-heads the two cheerful young men who manage the local theatres would cancel their contracts with Mrs. Funke and Mr. Lansing. But better times are coming. No one in a hurry these days need go into the American Exchange for there is a long line in front of the receiving teller's window and the chink of silver and gold refreshes the ear, actually refreshes and revives as a spring of water in the midst of a desert restores the spent traveller. What goes in must come out. And when the treasure is emptied from the stocking and safety deposits into the banks, the banks will circulate it, and the actor people and their managers will be rewarded for waiting.

A. S. Lipman, the man who played Nat Goodwin's role of the Missouri sheriff, was not a disappointment to those who have seen the convivial Nat in the part. While Mr. Lipman has copied much of Nat Goodwin's business, he infused an earnestness into the character that is lacking in Mr. Goodwin's reading. The proposal scene in the blacksmith shop is a masterly piece of writing, and Mr. Lipman realized the author's ideal. When, after his sweetheart has told him that her "advantages" have elevated her out of his sphere, the rejected lover picks up the maimed dog and walks awkwardly out of the room, nor makes a moan over his own cruel hurt, there is not a person in the audience who does not think the girl a fool and the man a hero. I think the business of picking up the dog just here is Mr. Lipman's, the action is dramatic and full of meaning, and characterization. It is a stroke of genius, whether it belongs to Goodwin or not. The yellow clay that clings to the sheriff's boots is a bit of local color that Missourians at least appreciate.

Miss Margaret Dibdin—Kate Vernon—had a thankless and rasping part, affected, selfish and seminary—educated—huh! She is out of sympathy with every one else in the play, but Miss

Dibdin overdid it. Jim was in love with her, and she failed to make the part agreeable enough to excuse him for it. The episode, comedy, idyl of Dave and Lizbeth, is charming, and A. J. Edwards and Miss Mamie Johnstone left them as rustic as they were written. The local politicians, Bill Sarber and Colonel Tom Bollinger, do not belong to any time or any place—Shakspeare uses them and Aristophanes.

Dr. Cooke's experiments before an audience at the Funke, composed of seekers after truth, did not convince skeptics that he and the spirits were on intimate terms. But he showed that he possessed what he expressly disclaimed—a marvellous wrist and an educated neck, knees and fingers. His silent assistant was a man of parts also. The committee, which consisted of Messrs. Sizer, Tyndale, Riser and Alexander were placed where they could not watch the cultured right hand of the modest assistant. Nevertheless the experiments were marvellous and probably no one in the audience who did not believe in the supernatural could explain them in any other way. The operator's shortness of breath when the curtain was drawn after his alleged assistance from Samaritan ghosts in tying knots, unlocking handcuffs, ringing bells and tamborines and pounding nails indicated violent exercise of some kind. To be sure he may not yet be used to ghosts in spite of their profitable interest in him and he may have been gasping from fright instead of muscular exertion, yet of all the mediums who have visited Lincoln Dr. Cooke is the cleverest and his entertainment was very much worth while.

Lincoln J. Carter's "Fast Mail" played to light business on Tuesday night at the Funke. The development of the plot called forth storms of applause from the gallery, which is only saying that the situations were dramatic and that persecuted virtue was given a chance to triumph two or three times in every scene. The actors were secondary in ability and importance to the scenery, which was thrilling, realistic and received several curtain calls. A full sized freight train passing a small way station was the heavy villain, and Niagara Falls at night was the beautiful leading lady. The rest of the company—drops and stage furniture—were very good indeed.

Friday evening, November 20, "At Gay Coney Island," a comic play, by Levic C. Teas, inaugurating the initial starring tour of Mathews and Bulger, under the management of A. M. Miller, jr., and Fred Peel, will be at the Funke opera house. The work is designed to divert the mind of man, and is alleged by the author to possess elements of glee. The following is the apportionment of personages:

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Dr. Aiken Payne..... | the cause and effect, | J. Sherrie Mathew |
| Hi Price, a plumber..... | | Harry Bulger |
| Uncle Goodrich Payne, with a fortune in stage money..... | | M. L. Heckert |
| Benson Hurst, the honest grocer..... | | Wm. Gray |
| Mique Le Maque, an arm of the law with one arm..... | | Tony Hart, jr |
| Noyse E. Barker, King of Coney Island..... | | J. Royer West |
| Tom Ginn, a bartender, with musical accompaniments..... | | Basil Booth |
| Abel Skinner, a medicine man, with voice attached..... | | Roy Sinclair |
| Willie Dew..... | not old enough to know, | Jimmie Devlin |
| Earl E. Dew..... | | Clarence King |
| Lay M. Lowe, an undertaker..... | | Theo Romain |
| Phil Sells..... | Policemen—"Hope to die if we ain't," | Wm. Kellam |
| M. T. Sells..... | | Harold Montrose |
| Will I. Ketcham, a collector—"It's your move"..... | | Jennie Whitbeck |
| Daisy Kidder, who knows her place but won't keep it..... | | Josie Dewitt |
| Della Ware, with money to burn, and no matches..... | | Bertie Conway |
| Vera Wiley, who voices Della's sentiments..... | | Alice Montague |
| Miss Ann Teek, alias Mrs. Aiken Payne..... | | Minnie Packard |
| Carrie Beers, a barmaid..... | | Florence Beardsley |
| Ida Claire..... | of the Dramatic School, | |
| Mattie Nay..... | | |

EXECUTIVE STAFF.

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Maurice Levi..... | For Miller & Peel | Musical Director |
| M.L. Heckert..... | | Stage Manager |
| Wm. Kellam..... | | Master Machinist |
| Edward Cromwell..... | | Property Master |

Friday Evening, Nov. 20.

The Musical Comedy,

AT GAY CONEY ISLAND

Introducing

MATHEWS & BULGER.
and a Company of Artists twenty in Number
Under the Management of
A. M. MILLER AND FRED PEEL.
Prices—\$1.00, 75c, 50c, 25c

Seats on sale Wednesday, November 18, 10 a. m., at the Box office.

MONDAY'S THE DAY.



The famous Montana Silver Statue of Ada Rehan will be on exhibition at our store for two weeks, beginning Monday, November 16. This statue was one of the leading features at the World's Fair, and was viewed there by the people of all nations. By hard work and great expense we have induced the keepers to bring it to our store, under guard, and place it on exhibition for the benefit of our patrons.

WE URGE EVERY ONE

to call and see this wonderful work of art, for it will no doubt be your last opportunity, as contracts are made by which it goes to Europe shortly after it leaves our store, and upon its return will go to its native state, Montana, and be permanently placed in the capitol building at Helena.

The statue is worth nearly **\$300,000.** Its actual value at the United States mint is \$64,800 in silver and \$224,000 in gold. With a solid gold base it weighs 6,432 pounds.

This is, no doubt, the largest piece of precious metal in the world today.

Souvenirs Free.

Souvenirs in the shape of a handsome photo of the statue will be given free with every purchase during our **Gold and Silver Sale.**

Watch daily papers for announcement of this sale.

Herpolsheimer & Co.

THE COURIER—\$2 PER YEAR