

THEATRICAL.

THE OLIVER.

It will be pleasant news to a good many of our theater-goers to learn that that exceedingly spirited musical comedy, "The Telephone Girl," will return to the Oliver theater next Saturday night. At the request of numberless patrons of the house, Manager Zehrung made it an object to the proprietors of the attraction, undoubtedly one of the very best we have had this season, to cancel elsewhere and put in one more night in Lincoln. For real fun, pretty young women, elegant scenic effects, dainty musical gems and "fetching" gowns, to say nothing of the excessively comical dialogue and the puzzling dialect of Hans Nix, "The Telephone Girl" is indeed an enjoyable play. No doubt it will be even better appreciated on its return than it was before, and it did make a decided hit.

Frohman will present one of his best companies here on New Year's day, matinee and evening, introducing the brilliant romantic actor, Howard Gould, in the great New York Lyceum theater success of a year ago, entitled "A Colonial Girl." Mr. Gould has been playing the star part in the "Prisoner of Zenda," and his success in his new play is likely to eclipse that of "Zenda." "A Colonial Girl" had a long and prosperous run at the Lyceum theater, New York, in the fall of 1898 and since then it has been given in many of the principal cities, and always with unvarying success. The authoresses are two clever American women, Grace L. Furniss and Abby Sage Richardson. The latter was the adapter of Mark Twain's "Prince and Pauper." Her collaborator, Miss Furniss, has written "A Box of Monkeys," "Smouldering Fires" and "The Fly in the Web." The story is laid in 1776 among the stirring events of the Revolutionary war. There is a flavor of the military about it, which is suggested by the scarlet uniforms of the English soldiery, but the story is purely one of love and romance.

For years American theater-goers have associated "Rip Van Winkle" with Joseph Jefferson. Now the public has the opportunity of seeing a thoroughly American stage production by the Jefferson Comedy Company. The three sons of Joseph Jefferson, who are so well recommended by their father and by ex-President Cleveland, make up a most interesting company. Thomas Jefferson, who takes the part of Rip, has evidently taken his father as his model, but where could he find another so perfect? When he comes on the stage it seems as if it were the elder Jefferson himself. His voice is that of his father and his laugh recalls old associations with dear old Rip. The other sons, Joseph, jr., as Derrick von Beekman, and William, as Cockles, are excellent. The play is given with elaborate scenic effect. This clever company will present "Rip Van Winkle" in Lincoln January 2d, at the Oliver.

The dainty French farce, "M'lle Fifi," which plays here at the Oliver on Thursday evening, January 4th, is often mistaken for a vulgar and racy performance. This is a very grave error. True, this comedy did make a sensation at the Manhattan theater in New York city, where it ran for nearly two hundred nights. Its success did not consist of its not being fit to be seen, but because it was the daintiest and brightest of French farces. The little love story is a pleasing contrast to the laughable situations. The company is an unusually strong one, headed by Miss Maude Granger, whom every one knows as a successful star and a clever leading woman. Among the other notable people are Edward Adeles, Harry Allen, Theo-

dore Brown, Richard G. Williams, Emile Collins, Frank Murtha, Miss Lottie Mortimer, Pearl Erellynn, Leon Harold and Pauline Polausky. The company is under the able management of Mr. Edward Rosenbaum.

William Gillette takes his time in writing a play, and does not give his work to the public until he has polished it. He has not been heard from in the shape of a new play since he wrote "Secret Service," whose tremendous triumph is a matter of record in both hemispheres. The first work from his pen since that famous play is the comedy, "Because She Loved Him So," which will be presented at the Oliver theater, Friday, January 5th. It ran through a whole season at the Madison Square Garden, New York, and was an all-summer success in Chicago. It is an adaptation from the French, of Bisson Leclercq.

THE FUNKE.

Gus Bothner's comedians will be the attraction at the Funke on New Year's day, matinee and evening, in Hoyt's best comedy, "A Bunch of Keys," a play that has achieved a remarkable success wherever presented. Mr. Hoyt has endeavored to portray incidents without prejudice, and produces a satire on hotel life without offense. The company that will present "A Bunch of Keys" here is one admirably suited to the proper interpretation of the comedy, including such favorites as Carlotta, John Marr, William Gardiner, William Smith, Taylor Williams, John P. Kennedy, Aurie Dagnell, May Orlette, Aida Revis, Vallie Egar and a host of bright lights, including the Acme Quartet. Remember, January 1st, 2d, 3d. Prices, 15 to 50 cents.

The Wise Weather Clerk.

The Funnyland clerk of the weather
Doesn't waste his time finding out whether
Tomorrow'll be blowy,
Or sunny or snowy,
Oh! he's wiser than that altogether.

He carefully studies the past,
And runs up a flag on the mast,
So that people can see
If there's going to be
A thunderstorm week before last.

And when yesterday promises fair
When the sun will be hot and aglare,
People hitch a balloon
To the edge of the moon
And dive off and swim round in the air,
For they never get drowned in the air.
—Albert W. Smith, in the January Ladies' Home Journal.

FASTER THAN EVER.

Effective Oct. 15. The Union Pacific will inaugurate new train service, and will reduce the time of the Overland Limited Train No. 1, between Chicago, Council Bluffs and San Francisco, 3 hours and 15 minutes. Only 57 hours Missouri river to Pacific coast. Buffet Smoking and Library cars with barber shop. Chicago and Council Bluffs to San Francisco and Portland. Three trains daily, to and from Pacific coast. Elegant palace sleeping cars, dining cars, chair cars. For full information call on

E. B. SLOSSON

Leave Chicago every Thursday via Colorado and Scenic Route to San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Southern Route leaves Chicago every Tuesday via Kansas City, Ft. Worth and El Paso to Los Angeles.

These Excursion Cars are attached to Fast Passenger trains and their popularity is evidence that we offer the best. Accompany these excursion and save money for the lowest rate tickets are available in these popular Pullman Tourist cars.

OLIVER

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
O. T. CRAWFORD & F. C. ZEHRUNG
Corner 13th and P. Phone 354

TONIGHT
Big Special Event, December 30

By request of thousands, return of the famous New York Casino attraction,

The Telephone Girl,

Just the Same as Before--The Last Chance to See Her
The same grand company. Regular prices. On sale Thursday,

NEW YEARS DAY.

Matinee and Night.

Mr. DANIEL FROHMAN presents with the talented romantic actor, Mr. HOWARD GOULD, the great New York Lyceum success,

"A COLONIAL GIRL."

A stirring tale of old New York! First time here! Magnificent costumes of the period. Superb scenic environment. A typical Lyceum production.
Prices, eve., 25c to \$1.50; mat., 25c to \$1.00. On sale Friday

Tuesday, January 2.

Jefferson Comedy Company

—Presenting—

"RIP VAN WINKLE."

Introducing THOMAS JEFFERSON, JOSEPH JEFFERSON, Jr., WILLIAM JEFFERSON

And a carefully selected company. Entire production carried in scenic effects.
Prices \$1, 75c, 50c, 25c. Seats on sale Saturday morning.

Thursday, Jan. 4--One Night Only.

Brady & Ziegfeld present the Manhattan Theater success, the vivacious French farce,

"M'LE FIFI."

A splendid company, including Miss MAUD GRANGER, Pearl Evelyn, Lottie Mortimer, Frank Munt a, Harry Allen, and Edward Abeles and a company of twenty-five. Bright and sparkling, with nothing to offend.

Friday, January 5.

Mr. CHARLES FROHMAN presents the Madison Square theater's big success,

Because She Loved Him So

That ran all last summer at Hooley's theater, Chicago. The Little Minister of farce comedy. Nothing better will be seen in Lincoln this season.

FUNKE

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
O. T. CRAWFORD AND F. C. ZEHRUNG
COR. O AND TWELFTH. PHONE 355

New Year's Matinee and Night.

Also Tuesday and Wednesday

It's a corker! The evergreen success, the amusement bargain of the season; the original and only one,

HOYT'S

A BUNCH OF KEYS

(Or the Hotel). Character artists who conceive new ideas and execute them in the most brilliant manner. Jokes and methods that are fresh and bright. A screaming farce bubbling with merriment, originality and wit. Everything right up to date.

Prices, 15c, 25c, 35c and 50c. Seats now on sale.