

THEATRICAL TOPICS.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS OF THE PLAYERFOLK.

The Late Augustin Daly Was Not a "Commercial" Manager—Had a Respect for the Sacred Character of the Stage.

Although the current era of theatrical speculative management had forced Augustin Daly from his high position as the leading manager of America, his death, which occurred suddenly in Paris last June, nevertheless deprived the American theater of its leading representative. Despite Mr. Daly's many shortcomings, he was a man who held the stage in too great respect even to make it a matter of mere business speculation. His reckless expenditures of money in matters of art showed that he had a mind far above the box office and doorkeeper standard. His accumulation of a library worth several hundred thousand dollars is sufficient evidence of his aesthetic and artistic interest in the theater. For several years past, however, the trend of the times had been directly away from the classic walls of his playhouse, and to save himself from bankruptcy he was obliged to accept the inevitable and become almost exclusively a producer of melodrama and musical comedy, two forms of theatrical endeavor which he had always dabbled in ever since his embarkation on the sea of management over 30 years ago. In the season just ended, despite his elaborate production of "The Merchant of Venice" and "Madame Sans Gene," his only financial successes were "The Runaway Girl," performed by his musical stock company, and "The Great Ruby," presented by his famous dramatic troupe.

During the past ten years Marie Wainwright has developed, oddly enough, from an actress of classic roles to an exponent of sensational and commonplace melodrama. Last season she starred in "Shall We Forgive Her," and for the coming year she is planning a tour in that or some similar play. Time was when we looked to Miss Wainwright as a coming actress, but it now seems impossible that she can ever arrive at any desirable goal, despite the twenty years of her experience on the American stage. She made her debut in 1887 at Booth's theater, New York, as one of the six Julietts in George Rignold's famous benefit performance. After a tour of six months in Rignold's company, she went to Boston, and made her debut in that city as the Princess Katherine in "King Henry V." In 1878 she became a member of the stock company at the Boston Museum. "When I was negotiating with Mr. Field," said Miss Wainwright once, "I asked him what I should play, and he said, 'a varied line of parts.' In my ignorance I did not know what this phrase might be made to cover, but I was happy because I was engaged as 'juvenile lady.'"

Hilda Clarke is another beautiful girl who has recently made her mark in the comic opera world. She comes from Kansas City, and after completing her musical studies abroad was selected some four years ago to play a small part in "The Princess Bonnie," a short-lived comic opera in which Frank Daniels made merry in the leading role. A short time as prima donna with the Bostonians was followed by her engagement two seasons ago as leading soprano singer in "The Highwayman," a musical piece with which De Koven and Smith hopelessly hoped to duplicate the extraordinary success they had made with their "Robin Hood." This season she appeared as La Pastorella in "The Bride Elect," the part created last year by Nella Bergen.

Although it is now almost twenty-five years since Modjeska first presented



HELENA MODJESKA.
led herself as a candidate for public favor before an American audience, neither her prestige nor her ability shows any diminishing effect of time's dread power. On the contrary she seems to grow in personal charm and in dramatic ability. She has never been a great actress, but she has always stood in the front rank of those players who, aided by temperament and personality, know how to make the most of their gifts. The poetic effect of Modjeska's acting is still more than potent; it is all-conquering and absorbing, and no one interested in the literary drama can regret one hour he has spent under the spell of her art.

The public identification of "C. E. Raymond," the successful novelist, with Miss Elizabeth Robins, the well-known actress, has excited renewed interest in Miss Robins' theatrical record. She

is one of the many Americans who prefer to live in London, but before going to the British metropolis was well known to the stage people of Boston and other cities. She was a member of the Boston Museum stock company for a time, and it was while there, we believe, that she married George R. Parks, the unfortunate actor who met with a violent death some fifteen years ago. Miss Robins' first professional appearance in England appears to have been made in 1889, when she was seen at the Opera Comique in London as Mrs. Errol in "The Real Little Lord Fauntleroy." Her next part, apparently, was Alice Varney in "Forget-Me-Not," at the same theater. Her first original role in London was Grace Hargrove, in a play by Frankfort Moore, appropriately called "Forgotten." Shortly after she attracted attention by her acting of Martha Bernick in Ibsen's "The Pillars of Society," and since then her dramatic reputation has been chiefly based upon her acting of the Norwegian dramatist's heroines. In addition to Martha Bernick she has appeared as Mrs. Linden in "A Doll's House," Hilda in the "Master Builder," Rebecca West in "Rosmersholm," Agnes in "Brand," Asta in "Little Eyolf," and Ella Rentheim in "John Gabriel Borkman."

If Anna Held continues to visit us every year there is hope that she may in time develop into a full-fledged American. At present, however, she is French of the French and is liked immensely by our American play-goers



ANNA HELD.
solely for that reason. There is prospect of an American tour for her next season.

Clement Scott has taken the stand in the Bernhardt-Hamlet controversy that Bernhardt's conception of the melancholy Dane is one of the most exquisite he ever saw. He points out that this is largely due to the magnificent ideas she has, such as crossing herself before she follows the ghost, the speaking of the speech to the players on the miniature stage making Hamlet for a moment an actor addressing his audience; the feeling of his father's picture on the walls when the ghost has gone and the materialism comes again; the effect of the poison in Hamlet's veins when his hand is scratched in the duel with Laertes; the kissing of the dead mother's hair; all said to be new points never shown before. It stamps the whole thing imaginative, electrical and poetical.

Ellen Terry is said to have "achieved her first stage distinction by screaming." In a play having the outlandish title of "Aitar Eel" she had to take a snake around her neck and scream, and so realistic was her simulated horror at the situation that her scream brought down the house.

Clement Scott, the English critic, writes thus extravagantly of Henry Irving's "Robespierre": "I have been a play-goer, man and boy, for over fifty years, and I say never have I seen on any stage in this world anything to equal this vivid, pulsating, astonishing and wonderful last act—never, never!"

The family of Emile Augier has recently complained to the directors of the Comedie Francaise that that dramatist's plays are too infrequently acted.

Florence Warden, the novelist, has written a play called "The Guinea Pigs." It is in four acts and its most exciting scenes are laid in a gambling hell.

The German Lilliputians, who have done well as comedians in this country for a number of years, are to make their first appearance in London soon.

May Irwin will enact a western village schoolmistress next season in "A Busy Woman," by Harry B. Smith. The theme should yield the Irwin kind of humor abundantly.

George Broadhurst, who won favor in London with two of his farces, will courageously produce there "The Last Chape," acted here last spring at the Garden theater, New York.

It is not "The Children of the Ghetto," but "The Ghetto," a play by Herman Heyermans, that Mrs. Potter is to create in London. Blanche Bates is to appear in Zangwill's play in New York.

An English actor who died on the road was shipped in his coffin to London recently by his manager as "theatrical properties." This cost \$4, whereas if he had gone as a corpse the cost would have been \$60.

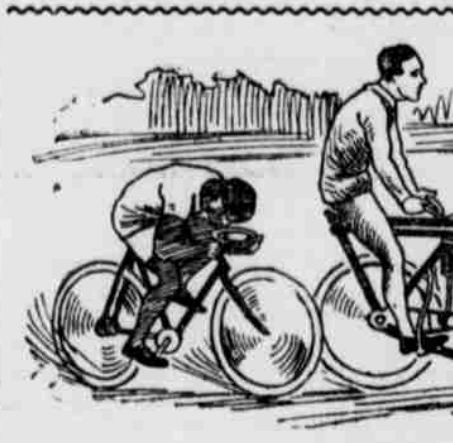
A Terrible Fall.
In St. Paul recently a boy fell from a wall 60 feet to a railroad track below, and escaped without serious injury.

NOTES OF THE WHEEL.

MATTERS OF INTEREST TO DEVOTEES OF THE BICYCLE.

Hansen's Sensational and Record Breaking Match Against England—Chicago and New York Wheelmen Not Interested in Good Roads.

Hansen Breaks 1,000-Mile Record.
The United States has wrested a new laurel from England. This time it is the 1,000-mile record. A. A. Hansen, of Minneapolis, is responsible for this, having completed his self-imposed task after covering 1,000 miles in 92:44:00. This reduces T. A. Edge's time by 12:35:00. The C. R. C. may find the fact that Hansen's ride was made over a twenty-mile strip of cycle paths and boulevard an obstacle to allowing the record, however. Edge's ride was the more meritorious for being made over the ordinary turnpike roads from the south of England to the north of Scotland, yet the English roads are more like boulevards than like the American country highway. Hansen is no longer called "Rainmaker" nor "Old Man." These have been superseded by the appellation of "Rhubarb Pie" Hansen. The former nicknames no longer fitly apply, as by some astonishing oversight of the weather man he failed to have it rain when Hansen went for the record this time, and instead of retiring permanently with the honors he has already won, the "Old Man" is growing younger and more ambitious with every year that passes. But on this last ride he developed an abnormal appetite and, like "Oysters" Waller and "Ice Cream" Egloff, dined principally on one article of food throughout. His craving took a turn that made the doctors shake their heads dubiously, but as he finished his 1,000 miles in excellent condition, after disposing of several rhubarb pies per day, he deserves



TAYLOR BREAKING THE MILE RECORD.

the applause of thousands of loyal Americans for having vindicated the American pie.

Grogna Defeats Tommaselli.
Grogna, the Belgian, defeated Tommaselli, the Italian winner of the Grand Prix de Paris this year, very fairly and decisively in a match race run at Liege on July 23 to determine the supremacy between the best two riders of Europe for 1899. It has been many years since two riders have ridden such close finishes as these two. The match was run in heats of 1,200 meters. In the first Grogna took the lead, and on the second lap Tommaselli went to the front and remained there until he started his sprint on the last turn. Grogna followed easily and in the home stretch sprinted past his rival and led him to the tape by more than a foot. The Italian took the lead in the second heat and held it until Grogna started for home on the last turn.

With all the widespread interest that has developed from Atlantic to Pacific coast in cycle path construction it is one of the inexplicable vagaries of metropolitan existence that Chicago wheelmen take absolutely no interest in the matter, notwithstanding that the thousands who love to journey beyond the smoke and dust begrimed confines of the city know that only during July, August and September can they count on smooth highways to adjacent towns, and that during those months the mud of former months has been converted into inches of impalpable dust. Cycle dealers could well afford to lend their assistance to the agitation for better streets and for cycle paths, as every added mile of good riding increases the number of bicycle purchasers.



GROGNA.
Tommaselli put up a hard fight, with little hope of winning, but lost by half a wheel length.

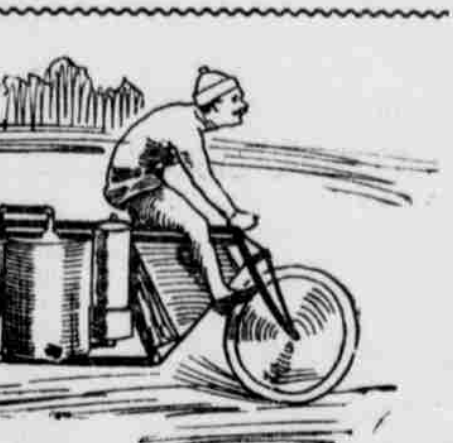
What Ails Metropolitan Elders?
It has been a matter of speculation why it is so difficult to arouse wheelmen of the metropolitan districts to enthusiasm for any reform, improvement or innovation. Perhaps it is because their aggregate number is so large that the body is unwieldy; but, whatever the reason, the fact remains that if one wants to find wheelmen working together enthusiastically for the common good he must go to the smaller cities and the villages. If Rochester, Detroit, Minneapolis, Denver, Portland and Seattle can build miles of exclusive cycle paths to nearby pleasure resorts and along impassable stretches of road, why cannot the wheelmen of Chicago and New York,

with their greater number and presumably more wealthy and influential members, take up similar work and make cycle paths where they are sorely needed? Why not shake off the lethargy, rise superior to natural conditions, and improve certain popular routes to neighboring places so that they may be traversed more than two or three months in the year? Agitate the subject of free storage rooms in office buildings and the accommodation of patrons' bicycles at the large stores; do more public spirited work, such as boulevarding Jackson street, building a cycle pathway over Brooklyn bridge, causing the universal lighting of vehicles at night, paving the streets with asphalt. It has been repeatedly shown that when the wheelmen make a universal demand that is reasonable and for the benefit of a large class instead of in the interests of a few youths who are possessed of the idea that they are coming Eddie McDuffee and Harry Eikes, their requests are granted.—Age.

Surpass All Previous Attempts.

When J. S. Johnson, paced by a running horse with wind shield attached to the sulky, at Independence, in '92, cut Zimmerman's record of 2:06 4-5 to 1:56 4-5 on his second attempt, he clipped off ten seconds, but these records were not allowed, and it will be conceded that there is more difference between horse pacing and tandem pacing than between motor pacing and human pacing. Not only that, but during the intervening years, the time has been steadily reduced, and as the figures get smaller the time should become correspondingly harder to lower.

Taking all these points into consideration it is plainly evident that Taylor must be given credit for the most remarkable speed performance in the history of the one-mile record. If he is content to let it stand, it is not improbable that this record will stand



TAYLOR BREAKING THE MILE RECORD.

longer than the fifteen months that Hamilton held his 1:39 1-5, or, on the other hand, if he breaks it twice more before winter, the year of '99 will be remarkable by reason of the record having been broken more times than in any year since 1894, when it was broken eight times. Another notable point is that this is the first time the mile record has been broken in Chicago. New figures have been made five times in London, but they have never been altered in New York.

Not Interested in Cycle Paths.

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"Zimmy" Discouraged by Defeat.

Zimmerman has canceled all engagements made by him for races. His defeat by Bald evidently discouraged the ex-champion, for in a letter to Earl Kiser the "Skeeter" says he will race no more, but will confine his attention simply to promoting his series of summer meets at Asbury Park. Zimmerman and Kiser were to have met at Dayton, O., for a series of three races, August 26, and sanction had been issued for the contest. The Jerseyman had also scheduled a series of three contests with Orlando Stevens for a side wager of \$500. He failed to cover the money put up by Stevens and has informed the latter that he will not run the races. Among the racing men it is the consensus of opinion that Zimmerman made a mistake in declaring everything off in this manner. They believe he was unduly nervous in his race with Bald and that the future held something for him. His evident turn of speed shown in training impressed the racing men favorably. Among them it is considered that Zimmerman's intentions were not fully made known in his letter.

Long and Dreary.

Father McSweeney—Dennis, if you keep on in this way you will shorten your days. Dennis—O! was 'tinkin' that same meself, father. O! was sober two days last wake and they war the longest days of me loife.—Chicago Times-Herald.

Every woman thinks that when she is dead and her husband has married again he will begin to appreciate her.

BASE BALL TOPICS.

CURRENT NEWS AND NOTES OF THE GAME.

The Backset for the Schemes of Lending and Trading Players Gives General Satisfaction—Manager McGraw Is Popular in Baltimore.

Lending Players.

Section 44 of the Constitution of the National League forbids clubs of that organization to "lend or exchange players to or with each other for any game played during the championship season." The penalty prescribed for a violation of this section is a fine of \$100. Bona fide deals for players are not forbidden and experience shows that they are generally beneficial to the clubs and players involved. The pretended transfer of players from one club to another is clearly illegal. The formalities required by baseball law were complied with when Catcher Schreckengost was sent to Cleveland by the St. Louis club, but that player was loaned to the Cleveland club and when the St. Louis club needed him the string was pulled and back he came. This and similar evasions of the constitution of the National League by the magnates can not be defended. To accomplish their selfish purposes the club-owners falsify the records with bogus transfers of players and find pleasure in bumping each other. According to report, Casey was loaned by the Washington club to the Brooklyn club until Aug. 1 with the understanding that if he were not returned on or before that date, his price would be \$3,500. He was really the property of the Washington club until Aug. 1, and the games in which he took part prior to that day as a member of the Brooklyn team, were illegal under section 44 of the constitution. If such swapping of players is indulged in by one or two clubs, others will resort to it and in time the championship race will degenerate into a juggling contest, players being transferred from club to club at will. Public opinion is the best protection the game has from this and other evils. This swapping of players is more prevalent since the syndicate era began, but it has been practiced more or less for years. It is high time that its spread be stopped.

Case of Demont and Nops.

Manager McGraw, backed by the Baltimore press and public, forced the members of the syndicate which controls the Orioles, to live up to their promise not to run that team as a sideshow to their Brooklyn club. All the cards which Mr. Von Der Horst may issue and all the explanations which Mr. Hanlon may give, will not satisfy the public that the Demont-Nops-Jennings "trade" was not a departure from the policy which these gentlemen and their associates solemnly declared would be followed in the operation of their two clubs. Aside from the syndicate feature the "deal" was not so bad for Baltimore. Jennings' days as a ball player are not over and he has a large following in the Monumental City, where he made his reputation. Demont's habits are not what they should be and Nops is equally unreliable. Manager McGraw made his fight and won because a principle was involved. He had been promised by the owners of the club, which under his management has developed unexpected strength, not only that none of his players would be taken away from him, but that his efforts to strengthen his team would meet with their most cordial co-operation. He had engineered a good deal with the Chicago club for Demont and declined to part with that player and protested against being deprived of the services of Nops, whom he considers, when in condition, the best left-handed pitcher of the period. With the press and public of Baltimore siding with the Orioles' manager, the syndicate did not dare to



PITCHER DEMONT.

carry out their purposes and the "trade" was declared off. The National League must rid itself of syndicate ball to retain the confidence of the patrons of the game. It is unsportsmanlike and breeds suspicion. The transfer of players between the St. Louis and Cleveland clubs, has caused comparatively little criticism throughout the country, and no concern in Cleveland because there is neither pride nor interest in the game in that city. Conditions are different in Baltimore. The success of the Orioles has earned them a larger and more loyal home following than the Hanlonites had in 1897 or 1898. This revival of interest would have been followed by a return to the era of indifference, which resulted in the Baltimore-Brooklyn deal, had the syndicate succeeded in switching players between the teams. McGraw's arguments were, it is said, accompanied by threats of retirement in case he was overruled and he had the assurance that Capt. Rob-

inson would act in concert with him. Hanlon and his associates could not afford to strengthen the Brooklyn club at any such cost to their Baltimore plant and the scheme was sidetracked. McGraw and Robinson were the only parties to the transaction who came out of it with credit.

Violation of Rules.

Col. Rogers very innocently inquired after the game if the coaching rules could be enforced. 'S'prised at you, colonel, 's'prised at you. Don't you know all the rules passed by the league calculated to add to the decorum and decency of the game are more honored in the breach than the observance? The umpires know the rules, but how many of them would hold their positions if they were to enforce them? In every inning yesterday Tucker violated both the letter and the spirit of the rule governing coaching and yet neither Gaffney nor Latham appeared to notice it. And for that matter it must have escaped Capt. Cooley's attention, for he did not make a single protest. The very idea of Col. Rogers seriously thinking that any of the league rules were meant to be enforced is amusing. By and by the colonel will try to persuade himself to believe that the magnates are on the level with each other.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Louisville's M. J. Kelley.
M. J. Kelley, the Louisville club's new first baseman, was born at Otter River, Mass. He acquired such a repu-



M. J. KELLEY.

lation as an amateur that he was enabled to secure an engagement as a catcher with the Augusta club of the New England League in 1895. He played first base for that team the following season. He was with the Newport, R. I., club of the New England league in 1897 and a part of the season of 1898, which he finished with the Ottawa club of the Eastern League. The latter city lost its franchise and Manager Barnie secured Kelley for his Hartford, Conn., team for 1899. His release was recently purchased by the Louisville management. Kelley has become a great favorite with the Falls City fans. His batting has been timely and consistent and his fielding first-class. In the opinion of experts he is the best first baseman the Louisville club has had since Harry Taylor played that position for the Colonels. He is 23 years old.

An Exciting Finish.

The score stood 3 to 2 in favor of the Senators when the Bostonians went in for their last inning. Long was first at bat and slammed the ball over the left field fence, but it was unfortunately a foul. He then fled to O'Brien. The ball then just grazed Collins' uniform, and he was allowed his base. Duffy got his base on balls, and Stahl was squarely hit by a pitched ball, filling the bases. The stands were full of hope when Lowe came to the bat, but hope turned to despair as he tried to drive the ball over McGann, and only succeeded in fouling directly into that individual's hands. Bergen, who had twice struck out, now came up, and with two strikes on him the chances were blue, indeed. Atherton, the Washington third baseman, ran to third to hold Collins there for some reason or other, and in doing so left his position vacant. Weyhing pitched and the ball was driven right through the hole left by Atherton, and Collins and Duffy came running over the rubber with the tying and winning runs, while many of the rooters followed Bergen and patted him on the back as he strove to reach the dressing-room.—Boston Herald.

Hulbert's Tombstone.

The grave of William A. Hulbert, in Graceland cemetery, says a Chicago paper, is perhaps the only one in the world which is marked with a tombstone in the shape of a baseball. Mr. Hulbert was the president of the old National League, and when he died in 1882 some of his old associates set about to show their love and respect for him, and the result was the monument in Graceland. The baseball is made of red granite, about twenty inches in diameter, showing the seams as they appear upon one of the balls used in regulation games. Across the top appears in raised letters: "W. A. Hulbert, President National League, P. B. C. C., 1876, 1882." On one side appears the names of four clubs in the league—Boston, Providence, Worcester, Troy—and on the other those of the other four—Chicago, Cleveland, Buffalo, Detroit. Also there is a headstone of white marble, upon which appears the name, together with the date of birth, Oct. 23, 1832, and the date of death, April 10, 1882.

The Degree.

Tommy Wag—'Pa, what does 'M. D.' after a doctor's name mean?' Mr. Wag—"Perhaps it refers to his patients, my boy, and stands for 'many dead.'"—Milwaukee Stand.