



FRANK E. ROBERSON.

The all absorbing topic of amusement circles for the past two weeks was the Nordica Concert, and now it is a thing of the past and instead of hearing a jubilant prospectus discussed we hear praise and pleasing comment on every hand regarding the delightful program that was furnished a large and enthusiastic audience at the Lansing Thursday evening. It was a great night, musically, in Lincoln and a great audience composed of the elite and most prominent people of the city were out in large numbers. In fact at no time since the Lansing first opened its doors has a more representative or a more appreciative audience sat within its walls. It was not what might be termed a classical concert, yet such was liberally shown on the program, and the fact that much of the vocal work was of a catchy and popular order was all the more appreciated. A program exclusively made up of classical numbers would not have met with the hearty applause that greeted each member Thursday evening, and the management is to be congratulated on the arrangement offered. In the west we have but a limited supply of lovers of the higher order of music, while nearly all enjoy the popular run, or medium grade of song.

The participants in the concert were Mme. Lillian Nordica, soprano; Mme. Sofia Schalchi, contralto; Miss Louise Engel, mezzo soprano; Italia Campinini, tenor; Giuseppe del Puente, baritone; Isidore Luckstone, pianist and musical director. Of the program might but praise can be said and the writer finds himself fully incapacitated to say anything but pleasant and commendable words for the entertainment. Mr. Luckstone opened the festivities with a solo, Hungarian Rhapsody No. 6 by Liszt, which was a most excellent demonstration of his most clever ability, a recall being given and second number was given. Then followed "The Minstrel Boy" by Moore in which Miss Engel acquitted herself with a fair degree of credit, yet her work is not to be compared with the merits of her associates. When Mme. Schalchi appeared there went forth a loud and cheerful applause which must have been most pleasant to that talented lady. She sang "Nobil Signor" from the Huguenots during which the audience breathlessly listened to the flow of melody with unabated interest. At the close a storm of applause was given her and a recall was answered. Schalchi may not be beautiful, but she certainly makes up in vocalism what nature may have omitted in beautifying her face and form. Del Puente sang a romanza from Verdi's Traviata and was accorded a full applause, following his first number with the Toreadors song from Carmen which was likewise received. Del Puente has a good voice, but he is liable to over exert himself, which was the case in his first number, and his dramatic ability is certainly lacking in minor details. Next came Nordica and the welcome accorded her was nothing short of a grand oration. But when she began singing—my what silence in the house. Between admiring her beauty and her voice, the audience was fairly dazed. Such sweet, pure, clear, and harmonious strains never left the mouth of a singer before in this city. It was a treat in every sense of the word and every anticipation of the audience was certainly far more than realized. Nordica has a pleasing stage presence, and when she sang Thomas Mignone she thoroughly captivated the "whole mob" from pit to dome. Of course after this member a recall and another recall was demanded and the fair Lillian graciously re-appeared both times. Campinini, a favorite in Lincoln, followed the diva and sang Tosti's "Vorie Morir," and to say that it was simply grand would fill the bill, as the famous tenor has been heard and admired here several times before this

In answer to prolonged applause he sang "Good-bye Sweet Heart, Good-bye," and the result was another hearty applause. The quartette which includes Nordica, Schalchi, Campinini and DePuente was then heard and the beautiful blending of the four excellent voices showed remarkable smoothness and harmony of the combined efforts of the company. The selection was Verdi's "Rigolitto" and proved one of the most enjoyable treats of the evening.

This was followed by selections from Mascagni's beautiful opera "Cavaleria Rusticana," in which the quartette appeared rendering a delightful half hour's entertainment in which two acts—music and drama, were both liberally and most excellently furnished. This was the first appearance here of the entire company except Campanini, and if the applause given each and every artist may be taken as an indication of how they will be treated in the future, should they return, there would be no house in the west large enough to hold the audience. As a musical event it was the grandest heard here in years, and there has probably never been a more enjoyable concert given in the city. Such entertainments have a beneficial effect on musical circles everywhere, and as a promoter of the beautiful, nothing could have been given Lincoln that would enhance the cause more. In the opinion of this humble scribe, the effect of the Nordica concert will benefit music here in this city than any other course that has been or could be pursued. It gives the student higher aspirations and creates new love among the masses for this, one of the most beautiful accomplishments of life.

"The Crust of Society" by John Stetson's clever company of players from the Globe theatre at Boston, was seen by a large and thoroughly interested audience at the Lansing Wednesday evening. The plot is on the order of Camille and the story of the established Sardon type. In it a female adventuress plays the leading role and her endeavor to become respectable and marry into good society is seen with most clever and natural effect. This important role was most cleverly done by Mrs. Stetson who represented Mrs. Eastlake Chapell, a bewitching and handsome creature. Mrs. Ernestine Echo by Mrs. Isabelle Evesson another gay damsel, separated for ten years from her husband, but as yet undivorced, was a rollicking, happy-go-lucky sort of a female with a smile and a laugh at all times. Mr. A. S. Lipman who has been seen here several times, latterly with the Burglar company presented an ideal character of the man of the world in upper ten society. As a protector of his friend Capt. Randall Northcote, who was in love with, and about to marry the adventuress, blind to her every fault, Mr. Lipman's work was both delicate and affective. His manner and bearing is genteel and unassuming, while his speech is easy and his general delineation of the part very commendable. As for Capt. Northcote, which was done by Mr. Mark Lynch, so much cannot be said. He was too apt to become stogy at critical times and often permitted himself to rant when strong points were brought to bear. The costuming of the company was most beautiful—in fact the ladies claim they were the handsomest dresses seen here this season. At every appearance of the actresses they were gowned in different costumes, each being the very latest and of the most costly materials, a fact which the Lincoln ladies certainly enjoyed and proved a rare treat in this regard. The performance was put on by as fine a company as has been seen here this season and the audience enjoyed every act.

This has been a prosperous week at the Association hall and Prof. Reynolds, the famous mesmerist, has met with flattering success. His feats have been more than marvelous and the fact that he has been here two weeks and is still drawing full houses attests the meritorious entertainment that he furnishes. No other man, within the history of the city, has met with such undaunted success. The professor closes his two weeks' engagement at Association hall (Y. M. C. A. building) tonight when nearly all of all old subjects are expected to be present. It will be the best entertainment of the season and it behooves one and all interested in good clever fun to be present. A big matinee will be given at 2:30 today when the ladies and everyone else are invited to attend. Remember today and tonight are the last performances.

"Bob" Graham's "Larry the Lord." Those of our theatre goers who have seen R. E. Graham in "The Little Tycoon" may rightly anticipate a musical treat when his new musical comedy "Larry the Lord" is produced at the Lansing next Tuesday and Wednesday. Mr. Graham is one of the most popular comedians that visits Nebraska. His "Little Tycoon" performance and that great topical song, "I Can't Do It, You Know," will always linger as pleasant memories to our many play goers. Mr. H. Greenwall who is conducting the tour surrounded Mr. Graham with a company of sterling people. Messrs. Walter Ford and Chas. Graham, who are well known to most of the play goers as capable actors and clever singers are two of the most important members of the company, which is a very large one numbering over twenty people. There are twenty-two musical numbers, all of them bright and catchy. The comedy is free from all horse-play and buffoonery. As a special feature, Miss Edith Craske, a beautiful and talented premiere dancer, is introduced in the second act. Her marvelous evolutions have excited an endless amount of comment from both press and public by their extreme grace. The sale of seats opens this morning at regular prices.

Return of the "Fair Rebel." Next week's attraction at the Lansing will be Harry P. Mawson's thrilling new play, "A Fair Rebel," which made such a pronounced success in this city last season. Dealing as it does with the experiences of a Northern Colonel, who on a mission of mercy from the battlefield, falls in love with the daughter of a Confederate General whose dying message to his child the Union officer has volunteered to deliv-

During an absence of three years in which time he circled the globe Mr. Roberson spent three months in India going leisurely from place to place and securing pictures of everything of interest.

On his return he prepared several lectures one of which is "India and the East Indians." The lectures are illustrated by one hundred magnificent views of cities, palaces, temples and people. No finer or more beautiful views have ever been thrown on canvas. The people of Lincoln will have the pleasure of hearing Mr. Roberson and seeing his views next Wednesday evening at Association hall and a rare treat awaits all.

Lottie Collins and Mrs. Leslie Carter. "Miss Helyett" backed by Lottie Collins of "Ta-ra-ra-boom-de-ay" fame, Mrs. Leslie Carter of Chicago divorcee fame and a strong New York company of Charles Frohman fame, will be seen at the Lansing Monday evening, March 13. While it is true that this comedy has been seen once before in Lincoln and thoroughly enjoyed by a large audience, yet its cleverness and intrigue has never yet been seen like it will during the coming engagement. In Chicago the papers spoke of it as a great and drawing novelty and the best of the season, while Lottie Collins, fresh from her European success, is the sensation of the hour. The play is produced under the personal direction of David Belasco, whose version of the comedy will be given. The argument is as follows: When Miss Helyett appears a rehearsal is progressing for an entertainment to be given by the guests of the Hotel del Norte in aid of the families of guides who have perished amid the glaciers. Miss Helyett is thoroughly imbued with the stern moral precepts inculcated by her Quaker father. When she tumbles down the mountain side, enveloped in her cloak, she is carried to a place of safety by an adventurous youth who does not see her features, closely hidden in her hood. She conceives it to be her duty to find and marry this unknown one who has held her in his arms. It is her search for "The Man of the Mountain" that causes the complications which follow. The sale of seats opens next Friday morning at nine o'clock.

Burlington Route Playing Cards. New design, round corners flexible linen stock, permanent colors, worth 50 cents. We sell them at 15 cents. Good scheme to buy a few packs; might need them this winter; euchre, whist high-five, etc. A. C. ZIEMER, City Pass. Agt.



A SCENE FROM FRANK ROBERSON'S ILLUSTRATED LECTURE ON INDIA. er,—the story of "A Fair Rebel" affords ample opportunity for the skillful commingling of romance and dramatic incident. The scenic artist is also given the widest scope for spectacular and realistic display, and some remarkably correct pictures of dramatic incidents in the civil war are the result. Chief among these is the escape of Union officers from Libby Prison by means of the celebrated underground passage, used in Mr. Mawson's drama for the liberating of the hero, through the daring of his Southern sweetheart. A Court Martial scene, with its stern realities; the tapping of wires and the sending of dispatches to headquarters, together with many other episodes familiar to the student of that memorable conflict, are illustrated in "A Fair Rebel." The first meeting of the Yankee Colonel with the dashing Southern beauty, their love-making, interrupted by the necessities of war and the plotting of an unsuccessful rival for the hand of "A Fair Rebel," and the subsequent happy termination of true lovers' trials, are made use of to great advantage by the playwright. The cast employed in the coming production is identically the same as that engaged in the notable run of "A Fair Rebel" this season in New York, and the roles of the Union Colonel and the devoted Southern maiden, are in the hands of Mr. Edward R. Mawson and Miss Fanny Gillette, who created their respective characters. The sale of seats opens Tuesday morning.

India and the East Indians. THE COURIER is pleased to call the attention of its readers to the views on this page of today's issue which were made from photographs taken by Mr. Frank R. Roberson while in India.

Ask your groceryman for the "Wilber Rolling Mills" Flour, Chas. Harvey, proprietor. Enquire for "Little Hatchet," "Nickle Plate," and "Baker's Constance." Every sack warranted.

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Admission 25c and 50c. Seats reserved at Y. M. C. A. Office