



GENEVA GIBSON.

Will star in "Sweet William" next season.

Tuesday evening the theatre goes of Lincoln once more enjoyed the rare treat of an evening with America's renowned comedian, Joseph Jefferson. His impersonation of Rip Van Winkle reveals the work of the true artist and despite of his advanced age, the severest critic could hardly conceive of a truer portrayal of the character. As an actor he possesses great power and magnetism. His style is inimitable, there is a charm in the reckless abandon of the drunken villager and his humor is of a character so pure and refined that it is not merely amusing, but is highly entertaining and elevating, and there is hardly a cessation of the ripples of mirth provoked by his derelictions. There is, however, a slight undercurrent of pathos pervading his interpretation of this character which at times gives it a serious, even a tragic tone, but this is quickly dispelled and the audience finds itself trembling between a tear and a smile, the latter predominating. Miss Rosa Rand as Gretchen, the wife of Rip, soon captured the audience by her admirable work but brings out her character to its fullest development in the second act and the scene in which Rip is driven from her home is very affecting. Little Baby Parker and Nannon Fowler, as Meenie and Hendrich, add a charm to the play, but do their best work in this act also and win well merited applause.

The scenery in the Catskill mountains displayed in the third act held the attention of the audience completely and rendered an otherwise commonplace scene doubly interesting. Mr. Edwin Varrey had a chance to "come out" in the last act which he did in a pleasing manner and the interview between himself and his nephew, Mr. Joseph Warren, was very much appreciated, especially their fit of mirth, which proved very contagious. Mr. Jefferson also touches this last act with his magic wand of power and the scene of his meeting with his daughter, Meenie, after twenty years of absence, and the recognition is rendered the more touching because it is done so naturally. All through the play Rip's adoration of his child and his own self-abandonment touches the hearts of his hearers and sets their sympathies at work. In fact, one is almost convinced that he has seen the original Rip Van Winkle, so perfectly is his perception of the character delineated. The house was filled with an intelligent and cultured audience who showed their appreciation early, and every act was followed by a curtain call. His old admirers say that he has lost none of his vigor and performs the part as well as he did years ago. Those who saw him for the first time and went with their hopes built high were not disappointed. The only regret is that the possibilities are slight of a repetition of his engagement in this city.

Few plays of this season have met with a more cordial or heartier reception than did The White Squadron at the Lansing Thursday and Friday evenings. The play was superbly mounted and the cast compared most favorably with the best productions that have been put on at the Lansing. There is a well defined patriotic sentiment running through the whole plot and the interest seems to grow with each succeeding act. The scenic effects are

most elegant, realistic and massive, the uniforms bright and the dresses of the ladies handsome and stylish, the company carrying everything that it uses. The climax in the third act at its close shows the conclusion of the congress of navies, wherein the American representative is most royally defended by England, Russia, Germany, Italy and France's admirals from the insults of the Brazilian captain, a tableau showing the white squadron in the distance and five of their six admirals protecting the American admiral with a pyramid of swords extended over his head. The curtain is run down on the scene and the patriotism of the audience is fired to its highest pitch. There are other scenes fully as strong and beautiful and there is not a dull moment during the entire evening.

Mr. Robert Hilliard assumed the leading role, that of the American admiral, and his manly appearance, easy dignified bearing, graceful carriage and handsome figure added much to an otherwise excellent character. He plays the part to an ideal finish and brings down the house at frequent intervals. Demetrio De-Romano, the Brazilian captain, the dual role, by King Hebbly, was not in keeping with Mr. Hilliard's work. He has not the force of language nor that clear and attractive diplomatic manner, yet his part was very satisfactory executed and particularly more so as the play progressed. Mr. William Harcourt's Paulo Deslevo was manly and most natural, his lines being well executed and the part generally well delineated. There are three ladies in the cast who each take a well defined character, yet there is but little scope left them in which to display much talent, although they certainly possess it in full keeping with the best of the male support. Miss Mary Wheeler, Paula's sister, is of charming personality, a most clever artist throughout, and adds much to the finish of the play. She is ably assisted by Romano's daughter, happily rendered by Miss Tossie Deagle and Victor's sister Hope, a bright little Quakeress full of mirth and innocent mischief at various times that furnishes a bit of comedy at proper intervals. Graham Henderson's role, that of a newspaper correspondent with Kodak accompaniment, although somewhat overdrawn occasionally, was interesting at all times and very funny generally. It would be difficult to criticize any of the characters, but to the contrary praise them almost to an individual.

Manager Church has been confined to his bed during the past week with a severe attack of the grip and when seen yesterday at his home by a Courier reporter was in quite a precarious condition. With the disposition of which Mr. Church is possessed, one of active and bustling proclivities, his detention at home during the busy season at his popular theatre can well be imagined. He is receiving every attention from legion of friends and devoted wife who are doing all they can to make him comfortable. It is to be hoped that Mr. Church will rapidly recuperate and his patrons will look for him early in the coming week at his accustomed post about the Lansing.

In presenting the Ward-James combination Monday evening Manager Church has gone to more expense and

given greater inducement than for any other attraction this season. These two great stars in one program are now considered the acme of legitimate theatrical amusements and it is only in the largest theatres that they are giving dates. Not since the Booth and Barrett combination has so strong an attraction been presented here. In the presentation of Othello, the entire scenery and trappings of the Lansing will be removed, the company furnishing all their own accessories and stage pictures. Desdemona's bedroom scene is said to be the acme of stage painting and magnificence and all other scenes are especially and equally attractive. Two cardinals of scenery is used in the production here and it is the only city with one exception that has been able to secure this attraction for a one night stand. The event will be a society one of much brilliancy, and the sale of seats which opened yesterday is already indicative of a large house.

Uncle Tom This Afternoon and Evening.
Sutton's Uncle Tom's Cabin company presenting this well known and continuously popular drama of humanity, will give two performances at the Lansing today. A grand street parade will be given about noon and will pass over the principal streets. Speaking of a recent Hastings engagement the Nebraska says: "Sutton's Uncle Tom's Cabin company did last night for the management what he has failed to do this season with gift-edged attractions and star combinations. It packed the open house. The audience was sympathetic, the players inspired. Boars of laughter and hand clappings filled the auditorium, and the sounds stole out into the night air, making people outside feel that they were missing a big thing." At the matinee today school children will be admitted for twenty-five cents to any part of the theatre.

A Noted Horseman.
Quite a noted personage is amongst us in Prof. E. T. Warriner, the most noted horse educator in the world, associated with his little sunbeam, Miss Edith. The professor and daughter are here in the interest of the citizens who admire and desire to perpetuate the education of these fast friends. He works directly with the elite and will probably assist in organizing a riding party of our fair young ladies and their escorts. The professor has promoted the organization in all the large eastern cities, and the probability of having such a delightful pastime in Lincoln should have the heartiest co-operation of all admirers of fine family horses. His wonderful electric bit is decidedly the finest piece of mechanism pertaining to horsemanship and should be seen to be appreciated.

The James Ward Company Monday.
At the Lansing theatre on Monday the Ward and James combination will appear in a sumptuous production of Shakespeare's "Othello." This is now the leading company of its kind, taking and filling the place of the famous Booth-Barrett combination of two years ago and has made a great impression in every city in which it has



appeared. The two stars are popular favorites and are supported by a strong company. Mr. Ward will be the Togo and it may be confidently asserted that we have now no actor in service to whom the character could be confided with assurance of better results. He proceeds on the assumption that Iago was moved by revenge to his hellish purpose to compass the ruin of the Moor, thus making a radical departure from Hozlitz's well known theory that it was mere wantonness and lack of moral nature.

Mr. James is said to act Othello in a manner of convincing sincerity, with tragic might, with due authority, with profound and passionate feeling and grand effect. He is exceptionally gifted in voice and reads the swelling Shakespearean lines with musical utterance.



Charles D. Herman makes a conscientious, well considered, clean-cut and thoroughly acceptable Cassio, while Howard Ugle is excellent as the Duke. Miss Edythe Chapman presents a sympathetic Desdemona. The sale of seats is now in progress and are selling quite rapidly.

A Breezy Time.
That funny rollicking comedy which made such a run in the east last season entitled "A Breezy Time," will be put on at the Lansing Saturday evening of next week. Catherine Webster

and W. A. Tilt head the list of comedians and a strong company of fun makers will present the piece. It is full of good and new music, some fine specialties and above all good wholesome comedy.

"The Lost Paradise" Company.
If you want to take a lesson in love making, you must see Reuben Warner, the superintendent of Knowlton Iron Works in H. C. DeMille's comedy drama, "The Lost Paradise" Wednesday evening at the Lansing. He is a love maker from Louisville, as the saying goes. The tender passion protrudes from him at every point and the sincerity and warmth of his love making would make the coldest heart glow like an aurora borealis. The object of his affections is Margaret, the daughter of Edwin Knowlton, proprietor of the Knowlton Iron Works. She spurns him at first, haughtily, and informs him that the difference between their stations in life makes it an impertinence for him to ask or hope for a return of his love; and then she turns to another and wealthier suitor and accepts him. For a moment Reuben Warner's heart drops. Then he plucks up courage and loves Margaret all the more desperately. He ascertains by accident that the property whose income keeps Margaret in puerile luxury, belongs to him, but his love for the girl seals his lips. The sacrifice he makes is richly rewarded later on when Margaret, who has learned of his true worth and the honest and earnestness of his manhood, offers him her heart and hand with a love that is all the purer and stronger because it has been cooled and chastened in the fire of experience. This beautiful heart-story has a splendid setting. Around it are fixed thrilling incidents of a big strike in the Knowlton Iron Works, the sudden cessation of movement in the ponderous machinery are pictures that once seen cannot be forgotten. They are strong fragmentary sketches from the battle field of the world in which the war for bread is constantly waging between labor and capital.

The superintendent is the champion of the men; a strike follows and violence is threatened. At this particular period the history of the stolen invention comes out, the young superintendent is vindicated, the engagement made at the beginning is broken, and the girl makes amends to her former rejected lover by confessing her love for him.

The second act of "The Lost Paradise" shows an iron foundry in full swing, and it is everywhere confessed as being one of the most effective stage pictures ever seen on the stage. The play will have the benefit of a cast of unusual excellence under the management of Charles Frohman. The sale of seats opens at the Lansing box office Monday morning at nine o'clock.

A Society Event.
Lincoln people will receive a musical treat in the coming of the Glee and Banjo Clubs of Michigan University on next Tuesday evening. Arrangements are being made to make their appearance in our city quite a society event. These clubs stand second to none of their kind in the country, and the entertainments they give are in every way first class. It will be remembered that a few months ago when the Princeton Clubs were in Omaha, it was made the society event of the season; extra prizes were charged and the New Boyd could not accommodate the crowd. The Alumni of the Michigan University, which includes many of our most prominent men, are using every effort to make the attraction a grand success and with the interest which is being manifested in their appearance it is safe to predict that the clubs will be greeted with an overflowing house. Chancellor Canfield and wife will tender at the close of the concert a reception in their home to the clubs, the patronesses and their husbands, and the members of the alumni.

The Lincoln Light Infantry will attend as a company in full uniform. Many college societies and Greek Letter fraternities expect attending in bodies. Altogether a grand ovation is being prepared for the boys and they will undoubtedly enjoy a good time in our city. The following ladies have been chosen patronesses: Mesdames J. H. Canfield, A. S. Raymond, L. C. Richards, E. H. Chapin, C. H. Gere, A. J. Sawyer, P. V. M. Raymond, C. B. Newnam, J. L. McConnell, J. R. Clark, C. E. Bessey, A. H. Wehr, W. J. Bryan, F. Strong, R. B. Oakley, O. B. Howell, C. J. Ernst, W. J. Lamb, J. Fitzgerald, D. L. Love, D. P. Dungan, W. M. Cronin, J. H. Wilt, J. F. Saylor, J. W. Laughlin.

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