

IN AMUSEMENT LINES

If attractive lithograph advertisements and expensive costumes make a good show, then Minnie Sartelle's "Plum Pudding" which was opened at the Lansing Monday night, is an excellent attraction; but the public has somehow got in the habit of expecting something else, and the public, or that portion of the public that was present Monday night, was visibly disappointed. Of the play the less said the better. It is a



BEATRICE.
In "The Limited Mail."

mer's; "Jane" at the Standard theatre; Hallen & Hart in "The Idea" at the Fourteenth Street theatre; Russell's Comedians in the "World's Fair City Directory" at the Bijou theatre; vaudeville at Koster and Bial's vaudeville at the Imperial Music Hall; William Barry at the Park theatre; "A Trip to Mars" at Niblo's; "Hands Across the Sea" at the Grand opera house; "L'Enfant Prodigue" at Daly's; "Dan's Tribulations" at Harrigan's theatre; English Military Tournament at the Madison Square Garden.

Says a London correspondent: The theatrical and musical world of London

Zola. The plot is laid in France at the present time, and deals mostly with the lives of two people who are ruled more by their nerves and feelings than by their reason. There are several startling situations, one especially in the 4th act where a paralytic tries to expose a murder, and another in the third act, in which the portrait of a dead man figures conspicuously. Tuesday night Miss Merli will present her version of "Therese Raquin," the play in which Mrs. James Brown Potter and Kyrle Bellew appeared last season and which provoked so much discussion. "Therese" is decidedly realistic, and Miss Merli's version is said to be quite as startlingly "realistic" as any that has been presented. Seats are now on sale for the Merli engagement.

"The Limited Mail," which returns to the Lansing theatre next Wednesday October 4 is of the comedy drama order, and was written by Elmer E. Vance, a former Columbus telegraph operator, who has utilized his training to introduce many startling and wonderful inventions in stage effects, many of which are produced by the aid of electricity, and serve to work the spectators up to a high pitch of excitement. A railroad train two hundred feet long and twelve feet high dashes at lightning speed across the stage, occupying just six seconds to do it in. A wreck scene, a saw-mill scene, and some unique features of telegraphic manipulations are among the other triumphs of realism. Unlike most plays of its class, it has a well defined plot and around this is woven the interesting situations that go to make an enjoyable performance.

While a night operator at the Union depot, Columbus, Mr. Vance conceived the idea of writing a novel depicting in a truthful manner the many incidents and episodes by which he was daily surrounded. "Nellie Harland; A Romance of the Rail and Wire," was the result. And the little volume had such a large sale, and the critics were so enthusiastic over his maiden effort, that it was finally decided to dramatize the work which was done, and it was christened "The Limited Mail." The royalties from the book bring him an income of several thousand dollars a year, while from the play he derives, it is said, no less than \$5,000 a month. The sale of seats opens Monday.

The lovers of sensational drama, and they are legion, will greet with delight the return to Lincoln, for one night, of Harry Williams' spectacular production of Katie Emmott's great play, "The Waifs of New York."

"The Waifs" will hold the boards at the Lansing theatre Thursday, October 5. The sale of seats begins Tuesday.

This American melo-drama has been a pronounced success, and it has coined money for There seems to be a fascination to see the darker side of life, and more especially of New York life, and this play might have been christened "In Darker New York." There is a strong vein of contemporaneous human interest in "The



"THE WAIFS."

Waifs" which seems to be infected and which takes with all classes of our people. The company is an excellent one, Manager Williams having given much time and care to its selection. The Harlem river bridge railroad scene, with its passing trains; the Tombs police court; old Trinity church, Castle Garden and the ultra sensational fire scene at the Five Points, in which scene is introduced a genuine Watrous fire engine operated by firemen and drawn by trained horses, are the salient features of scenic effect in this popular play.

The following is the cast of characters:
Willie Rufus, a New York bootblack..... Florence Roberts
Hans Schneiderkopk..... Andrew Amann
Herbert Singleton..... W. F. Granger
Harry James..... Conrad Cantson
Pietro Bama..... Edward Clifford
Judge Rogers..... W. K. Wilkerson
John Jordan..... R. G. Thorpe
Prosecuting Attorney..... James Lester
Lawyer Russell..... W. S. Butterfield
Officer O'Kafferty..... Edward Cole
Alice Baldwin..... Virginia Bray
Katrina..... Josephine Amann
Little Gerlie (a waif)..... Little Virginia
Buddy McShane..... Mrs. Edward Clifford

Charles Dickson will appear at the Lansing Friday and Saturday night, next week, and Saturday matinee. On Friday night the bill will be "Admitted to the Bar," Mr. Dickson's new play. Matinee and evening Saturday he will present "Incog"

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hodge-podge of everything in which there is nothing of particular importance. The members of the company presented a picturesque appearance. Some of them were built, physically, on an original plan. But there were some good voices in the company and the songs were on the whole, very well received. Minnie Sartelle in "Plum Pudding" carries too heavy a burden. In a more appropriate piece she would appear to much better advantage. She has cleverness, sings as well as the majority of soubrettes and is sufficiently attractive to give her real value in an adequate play. Spence, "Hobo Bill," in his own line, is a capable comedian.

Tony Farrell presented James A. Hearne's play, "My Colleen" at the Lansing Wednesday night. Mr. Farrell and his company gave an adequate representation of Irish life, such as we are used to seeing on the stage, and there were some particularly taking features in the play. Nellie Claire made a distinct impression by her winsome cleverness. The company gave Mr. Farrell efficient support, and the entertainment, as a whole, was very cordially received, and it deserved the recognition accorded.

CHICAGO, Aug. 28.—[Special COURIER Correspondence.]—The theatres are all doing big business. At the Auditorium, "America," with its gorgeous pageants and charming ballets, will continue to be the attraction.—At the Chicago opera house "Ali Baba" holds the boards till "Sinbad" comes.—At the Grand opera house Mr. Sol Smith Russell presents his revised edition of Mr. Kiddler's "Peaceful Valley."—At the Columbia theatre Mr. Daniel Frohman's Lyceum theatre company presents "The Wife" all of this week.—At the Schiller theatre the celebrated Coghlan company continues to present Sardou's famous comedy, "Diplomacy."—At McVicker's theatre "The Old Homestead" gives place to William H. Crane in his recent success "Brother John."—At Hooley's theatre Evans and Hoey appear in their latest edition of "A Parlor Match."—Troadero; Sandow, Jules Levy and Mrs. Alice Shaw are still the chief charms.—Custer's Last Charge, the grand historic scene, is still presented at Buffalo Bill's Wild West performances every day.—The Haymarket; "The Span of Life."—Havlin's; John L. Sullivan.

NEW YORK, Sept. 26, 1893.—[Special COURIER Correspondence.]—The following are this week's attractions in New York: Vaudeville at Tony Pastor's; "A Temperance Town" at the Madison Square theatre; vaudeville at Proctor's; DeWolf Hopper, Broadway theatre; "The Other Man" at the Garden theatre; "The Prodigal Daughter" at the American; E. H. Sothern at the Lyceum, Warde-James company at the Star theatre; "The Black Crook" at the Academy of Music; "Liberty Hall" at the Empire theatre; "1492" at Pai

is anxiously awaiting the new Gilbert and Sullivan opera at the Savoy theatre, which it is hoped will be produced early in October. Mr. Gilbert has discovered a "jewel" in the way of a prima donna, and it is almost needless for me to remark that she is an American. I have heard Miss Nancy McIntosh sing at concerts frequently, and I can be pretty safe in predicting that, by reason of her really splendid and cultivated voice, her charming presence and her great vivacity, she will take London by storm. She is a sister, by the way, of Burr McIntosh, known as "the blonde Adonis" in Philadelphia and elsewhere. Miss McIntosh is favored in being a special favorite, both of Mr. Gilbert and Sir Arthur Sullivan, who have practically written their opera "round" her as a central figure. Of course, the subject and the period of the new piece by the "old team" is kept a profound secret as usual, but I have heard a whisper of the scene being laid in the time of Queen Elizabeth; Sir Walter Raleigh and the Earl of Leicester forming the two principal parts for the men. Whether the "comic opera" is to become a tragedy by the introduction of Miss McIntosh as Amy Robsart, I know not, but perhaps Mr. Gilbert's fertile brain may even have discovered some "comic relief" in that ill-fated danseuse's career.

"A Temperance Town" had its first production in New York the other night. The critic of *Town Topics* says: "The wit and intellectuality of Mr. Charles Hoyt have grown thick and apoplectic, apparently, by feeding too long upon the luxury of success. Mr. Hoyt's new play, 'A Temperance Town,' seen here for the first time on Monday night at the Madison Square theatre, is to dramatic comedy what a turnip is to fruit. It drops upon one's intelligence like pulp. It is dull, deadly dull, and not a bit like Mr. Hoyt."

"Venus" has turned out to be a phenomenal success in Boston. The papers there published the most extravagantly lavish encomiums upon it. The Park theatre, at which it is playing, is packed nightly. Rice's mounting of the opera is a dream of loveliness, and the cast is about as strong a one as could be put in a comic opera. Camille D'Arville, than whom no more magnetic woman is seen on the stage, is simply delightful as Prince Kam. Her shapely form is seen to great advantage, the music precisely fits her lovely voice, and she has the dash and magnetism that betoken a genuine artist.

Coming Attractions.
With the beginning of October the theatrical season in Lincoln assumes a lively gait that will be kept up till spring. Manager Church of the Lansing, will have his house open every night next week, with a matinee on Saturday.
Madeline Merli comes to the Lansing next Monday and Tuesday, October 2 and 3. On Monday night she will present "The Story of a Kiss," a new play from the French, from the pen of Emile