

HELENA MODJESKA IN OMAHA.

Life Story of the Actress as Related by Herself to a Bee Representative.

SHE IS NOW A GRANDMOTHER.

But Nevertheless Will Restore Juliet in Her Repertory—No Farewell Tour in Contemplation—Preparations for Next Season.

Written for the Sunday Bee by J. F. Riley.

Recall the pretty stage setting in the third act of Camille, representing the country home and grounds near Paris, beloved by the hero and Armand Duval's love as a place of probation to prove her worthiness by an abstinence from sin, remember her as she stepped lithely and gracefully from behind the trees in summer costume, in full view of the audience and you have the picture of the pretty cottage on Burt street near Twenty-third, in Omaha, and of Modjeska as she appeared without ceremony in morning costume, of summer wrap, one sultry day last week in answer to the visitor's card, needed merit and acknowledged supremacy are ever easy of approach. More time is usually consumed in an endeavor to see the head of a government department than would be required to reach the president of the United States. Strategy would be necessary to reach the third-rate comedienne in her hotel parlor at Saratoga. A tap of the bell alone, followed by an inquiry, "Is my baby's ladies upstairs, the grandchild of Modjeska, born a week ago to her son, twenty-six years old, forces the conviction that careful guarding of a vigorous constitution inherited, has stayed the ravages of time and preserved the beauty of her youth. Hence to-day her age, by her appearance, could not be guessed.

"The story of my life," said the actress in response to a desire for the facts in her career, "is a history of many ups and downs and triumph—many of sorrow and defeat."

And in a half dreamy way, as if soothed by old memories, her eyes growing dim and her hand by turns raised to the record of her life, which is but the illustration of patient labor overcoming every obstacle. "There is no secret road to success upon the stage," said she, "its attainment of fame is reached upon the stepping-stones of many a hard action; Demosthenes claimed were the orator's attributes, and toll, toll, toll, must be the head-lines of the actor's precepts."

Helena Benda was born in Cracow, Austria Poland. The aspirations of her childhood tended towards the stage, but her early efforts met with such continued discouragements that she was about to abandon all hope of ever attaining recognition and turn her attention to other pursuits. While playing in an amateur performance for a charitable object at Bochna in 1861, the manager of the Imperial theater at Warsaw was among the audience, and after the entertainment he stepped upon the stage to congratulate her and expressed to her the assuring promise that she would soon be a star in his fame.

"God bless the man's words," she exclaimed, her eyes filling with tears at her recollection; "they were the first of hope I had ever heard, and they fired my ambition to ceaseless labor in the hope of future success."

She was married at this time to her first husband, and he, believing in her ability, became her manager, and the two organizing a theatrical company, began their tour of villages and small towns of Poland. For four years she thus traveled, meeting with continued success.

"It was in those days that you Americans had an 'old found' comedy," said she, smiling. "One night I would appear in songs and drollery, the next in comedy and the third in vaudeville."

After a few years of such appearances she concluded to give up the idea of acting as an art. Her ambition craved wider fields than the provinces of her native country, but she knew that entrance to them without perfection meant dismal failure, and she began preparation by a serious course of study, lasting five years at Cracow. Jarasinski, the supporter of Rachel, was then stage manager of the theater which she selected as her school.

"I don't care how bad it is," he said, "I enjoy the hoop-ia of the girl spinning and the clatter of the loom. It is a life of the down and the children enjoying everything else."

"Which do you consider your best act; the grandest climax in all your plays?" "I don't know," she replied. "The former is emotional in its most intense sense, repetitive in its nature, and it is a life of the down and the children enjoying everything else."

"And your farewell tour—is that in contemplation?" "My farewell tour—ah! what a 'gag' that is," she replied. "I was elected on a tour to save my family's honor. The latter scene is a queen without a crown on the scaffold so near the throne, baring her neck on the block and dying like a queen. One is intensely emotional; the other is a life of the down and the children enjoying everything else."

months' honest effort to make the California colony successful, as realized in the work of the husband, and that the scheme was founded on impulse and philanthropy, rather than upon good sense and judgment. Neither of us spoke a word of English and our ignorance of the language of the country rendered us an easy prey for speculative men, while the colonists themselves did not fulfill our hopes of their industry and united action. The Anaheim venture was a ruin and we began life again, poor. I had saved not a ruble of my salary from Warsaw, for realizing that my engagement was for life rendering my old age secure, I lived in a style both in my position. It was pleasant but extensive of my resources. In January, 1877, I stood in San Francisco with few friends, without influence, without means, a woman no longer young, and ignorant of the first rudiments of the language of the country, and with all these drawbacks I proposed to learn English and win once more on the stage the wealth and fame I had lost. In the following August I appeared at the California theater in San Francisco, playing 'Leocouvreur' in English, and winning the applause of the big-hearted, noble, generous American people, who knew my sad story and appreciated my trials. Oh, the days of my life! I was like a bird, a bird preceding my first American appearance! My precept in English was 'Jo Tuscholsky, a girl of Polish descent, whom I met by the merest chance, but whom I have ever since loved like a brother for life. Her efforts in my behalf were ceaseless. She was in my company last season under the name of Hayes and is an actress of much merit. In those days of my early American struggles for the critical recognition of the public, I was indebted to many friends, that can never be forgotten by an ever grateful memory! John McCullough was at that time stage manager of the California theater. He was my best friend, and he was indebted to me for my San Francisco appearance. His words were always full of cheer, and often when despair was clouding hope, his bright words of assurance and encouragement were like a wind, redoubling my efforts and ardor. The stage lost an ornament and the world a friend in his melancholy death. Poor John McCullough!

For several days there has been quite an exciting time on South 19th street, where M. F. Martin, the furniture man, has been paralyzing people with low prices, and just as expected he is busted and is closing out to quit business, and the crowd is waiting every day to see if he is closing out, at the prices and terms he is closing out his store at, he will certainly be busted. The idea of selling all his goods at 65c and 75c instead of \$1.50, bed room suits \$1.00, kitchen \$1.50, wardrobes \$7, chairs 50c, and everything else at people's own prices. It is reported Martin has gone to Canada, but if he has not he will have to go to the city to sell his goods, and most payments. His competitors will run him out of town.

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"Will it be in any way a depository of the city funds or have anything to do with?" "No, sir, not as long as I am a city official. I have a right to invest my private means as I please and I will take no active management in the affairs of the bank."

The location of the bank is not yet determined. It costs 20 cents a line to inform you that elegant residence sites can be had at Benson for \$250 to \$500; that the motor cars can be had here at a nominal price, only one-tenth cash, balance in three years. Call and investigate the lists of the C. E. Mayne, E. E. & T. Co. Bargains in all directions at the attention called to Orchard Hill and Briggs' Place for choice residence sites and South Omaha (syndicate lots) for business and residence purposes.

Even the weather cannot keep Omaha down. The reaction has set in earnest and real estate has assumed a decidedly healthy tone during the last few days. Eastern capitalists are showing interest in the city, and they are investing heavily in business property.

The C. E. Mayne Real Estate & Trust Co. have just closed several large sales to eastern men, among them being the Dr. Mercer property on the northwest corner of 18th and F streets, for \$50,000. The firm reports a steady demand for both business and residence sites and say the prospects in the immediate future is decidedly bright. Their sales in South Omaha for the past few months have been greater than for any week during the past three months, and the demand for desirable business lots there is steadily increasing.

Public Electric Lighting. The managers of the Thompson-Houston Electric company are indignant that no report has as yet been made by the city council to the offer of the company, proposing to light the city with electric lamps at 20 per cent less than is paid for gas, and guaranteeing 20 per cent stronger light than is now furnished. They say that to their repeated inquiries from the council regarding the delay of the invoice in the matter, they have received the invincible reply, "too much business of other kind to attend to."

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Special mid-summer clearance sale of boots, shoes and slippers at Hayward Bros., Range block, Monday.

THE OMAHA FAIR.

Mammoth Preparations for the Great Event.

Secretary McShane when asked yesterday about the next fair, which begins September 3 and continues through the week, said that nothing was being neglected which would add to the interest and merit of the exhibit. He was daily in receipt of many applications for space and for booths. The number was far in excess of that of other years, and among the applicants were many from Iowa—a large number from points in that state heretofore not represented in this city.

The Liberal of the market, he thought, in opening competition to the world in all matters, except trials of speed, would result very beneficially in the present instance. This was shown as before stated in the unprecedentedly large number of prospective exhibitors and again in the representation from new territory. As to speed, there was much to be said. In a few words he could say that with the exception of fifty horses already on the track and with daily additional entries there was every reason to look forward to a good season of enjoyable sport.

The association has expended a great deal of money this year in well-directed improvements. The stock stalls, if there is another fair ground anywhere in the western country that can compare favorably with this in Omaha. Every building has been repaired, rejuvenated and put in perfect order. The stock stalls and pens are proof against wind and water, the grounds are tile drained, city water mains are on tap in the inclosure, the street cars run to the gates and the architecture is commodious, comfortable and metal-roofed. The grounds have been greatly improved, so that it is more than ever entitled to the name of one of the fastest in the country. The management looks forward to a successful season and the subject of the fair is being discussed in all previous years. The manifold attractions are being duly considered and will be announced when definitely arranged.

"ANOTHER FIRM GONE UP." "M. F. Martin Busted." For several days there has been quite an exciting time on South 19th street, where M. F. Martin, the furniture man, has been paralyzing people with low prices, and just as expected he is busted and is closing out to quit business, and the crowd is waiting every day to see if he is closing out, at the prices and terms he is closing out his store at, he will certainly be busted. The idea of selling all his goods at 65c and 75c instead of \$1.50, bed room suits \$1.00, kitchen \$1.50, wardrobes \$7, chairs 50c, and everything else at people's own prices. It is reported Martin has gone to Canada, but if he has not he will have to go to the city to sell his goods, and most payments. His competitors will run him out of town.

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N. B. FALCONER.

Madras Curtains, Children's Dresses and Children's Caps

At Less Than Half Price—These Prices Are Only for Monday, Monday, Monday, Monday.

MADRAS CURTAINS, 300 PAIRS OF FINE MADRAS CURTAINS AT \$5.00, WORTH \$7.50. 100 PAIRS FINE MADRAS CURTAINS, NEW COLORINGS AT \$5.00, WORTH \$12.50. MADRAS CURTAINS AT \$7.50, WORTH \$15.00. ODD PAIRS OF SILK MIKADO CURTAINS AT \$10.00, WORTH \$25.00.

ALL THE CHILDREN'S WHITE DRESSES THAT WE HAVE BEEN SELLING AT FROM \$1.15 TO \$2.25—ON MONDAY ONLY—75c.

THESE DRESSES WILL BE SHOWN ON THE EMBROIDERY COUNTER. CHILDREN'S FINE LACE AND MULL CAPS.

TO CLOSE OUT ALL OF OUR MULL AND SWISS CAPS WE MAKE OUR PRICES ON ALL CAPS THAT WE HAVE BEEN SELLING AT \$2.25 TO \$3.50 ON MONDAY OUR PRICE—AND THAT IS 15c EACH.

N. B. FALCONER.

A Celestial Visitor.

A remarkable proelite fell in Orchard Hill last night. It is about eight feet in diameter and composed of a dark glossy substance, the surface of which is covered with curious inscriptions. The faculty of the C. E. Mayne Astronomical institute visited it this morning but were unable to agree as to the exact meaning of the writings. Prof. Border maintained that they were Hebrew and translated them: "This stone falls on a lot that will double in value in 1888. C. E. Mayne has it for sale and has a large stock of desirable property in all quarters."

Prof. Patrick, (who, by the way, understands no language but English and Irish) coincided in this view. The subject of the lecture insisted that they were Cheyenne hieroglyphics intended to convey the idea that South Omaha syndicate lots, of which Mayne is agent, are snags, and prophesying that Briggs Place is destined shortly to be the bon ton residence section of Omaha, and Benson to become a thriving city as soon as the Motor line starts. The faculty will visit Orchard Hill again to-morrow and endeavor to ascertain whether the stone is a genuine proelite or only an advertising dodge of Mayne's. Whatever their conclusion may be, it is an undisputed fact that the C. E. Mayne Real Estate and Trust company offer superior inducements to invest either in real estate or business property, and always have gentlemanly salesmen and free carriages on hand.

Mrs. Ish's Guardian Sale.

On the 31st day of September Mrs. Martha M. Ish will sell at guardian sale an acre of ground on 20th and Locust st. Joining the Kountze property on the south. The highest bidder takes the terms. The sale is one-third cash, balance in one and two years, or all cash.

Mrs. Ish will also place on sale at public auction the same day her beautiful residence and six lots on another lot.

Wholesale Auction.

Kohn & Wells Open a Wholesale Auction House in this City. A wholesale auction house has been established in this city and the opening sale is set for Wednesday, August 31, 1887, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon. On that date there will be auction sales every Tuesday and Wednesday. Messrs Kohn & Wells are the gentlemen in charge and by all appearances they have come to stay. Nos. 208, 210 and 212 South Eleventh street in the Paddock building and already have a large stock of clothing consigned to them to sell at auction.

Personal Paragraphs.

J. C. Heagan leaves for Des Moines this evening. Miss Elsa Kolbeneyer, from St. Louis, Mo., is visiting Mrs. E. Koenig. J. H. Miller, president of the Omaha National bank, leaves this evening for Chicago. Rev. C. A. Shirley, pastor of the First Christian church of Chicago, is at the Planters hotel.

Teachers Wanted.

Any teacher desiring a situation in the public schools of West Point, Neb., would do well to attend the examination of teachers to be held in that place August 19th and 20th. Only good teachers need apply. Address: S. D. DENBERRY, Chairman Examining Committee Board of Education, West Point, Neb.

New Boot and Shoe Store.

Is not over. Buy a "Perfection" gasoline stove and take comfort. Be sure and examine the "Perfection" before buying, as the best is the cheapest. Jno. Husse, 2407 Cumine street, agent for Omaha.

Call on Fleming & Overholt for a good driving or business horse. Constantly new arrivals, among which are horses to suit all. Cor. 20th and Miami streets, next to base ball grounds.

Fruits in quantities. Lightning preserving jars. Best picking cider vinegar. Hammond & Co., grocers, 121 N. 16th.

Henney Buggies at Armstrong, Pettis & Co.'s 1308 1/2 1st st.

Sulphur Springs. Have a customer for a good lot in Sulphur Springs at reasonable price.

For Sale—Ice, car lots. Booge Packing Co., Sioux City, Iowa.

Omaha Commercial College. Write Rohrbough Bros. for circulars and specimen of penmanship. Over 500 students last year.

DOUGLAS PROHIBITIONISTS.

Opening of the Fall Campaign in the County Yesterday.

A meeting of Douglas county prohibitionists to choose delegates for the annual convention to be held at Lincoln on August 16 and 17 was held yesterday afternoon in the Omaha business college, corner of Sixteenth and Capitol avenue. G. W. Wallace presided and D. W. Parker acted as secretary. The delegates were largely attended, among the assembly being Revs. J. B. Hilton, pastor of the First M. E. church, South Omaha, and E. B. Graham, of the First United Presbyterian church, North Eighteenth street. Upwards of forty delegates were chosen and resolutions denunciatory of the liquor traffic, coupled with an appeal for the co-operation of all christian people in the city and state, were adopted.

The resolutions comprise in their "whereas" clauses these two sentiments not always found in similar arrangements of "the rum power" and more closely calculated to define a local issue than the average of the kind. "Whereas, high license is wrong in principle and fails to reduce the consumption of liquor and the evils resulting therefrom, and

Whereas, both of the old parties are controlled by the liquor power, and all men who vote for either are thereby giving comfort and aid to the enemies of the people. A committee was appointed to nominate candidates for the county offices in the fall election, and a subscription list generally signed to furnish money for campaign purposes.

One Price Shoe Store.

Norris, Wilcox & Ribbel, 1517 Douglas Street. Full line of Boots, Shoes and Rubbers, Norris, Wilcox & Ribbel, 1517 Douglas Street.

Gents' Wigwam Slippers at Hayward Bros.

SOUTH OMAHA NEWS.

C. A. Melcher will move his stock of druggery from Mr. Hunt's new store rooms as soon as they are completed. The men engaged in grading Twenty-fourth street to the limits of Omaha have their work almost done. The Western Presbyterian society, Rev. G. M. Lodge pastor, will hold services in the school house this morning.

Mr. W. Esterfield, the commission man, was thrown from his horse yesterday and received a severe injury. The opening of bids for the construction of the new high school building was postponed until Monday. D. B. Waugh has added to his hennery some fine bred fowl from Canada. The subject of Rev. J. B. Hilton's lecture this morning will be "A Demonstration that High License is a Failure."

R. T. Maxwell and W. T. Whittlesey are building new store rooms on the West side of the city. Good sidewalks are being put down on the west side. A prominent real estate man was heard yesterday to suggest that the city authorities should compel those who are laying out lots, additions to the city, to invest in the city property conforming with those of the city proper, and thus avoid expense and trouble when the city becomes larger.

The plat of ground on N street between the livery stable and the Stockman office, which was owned by Mr. Whitney, of Michigan, was bought yesterday by McMillan & Richards for \$80,000. The real estate transfers yesterday amounted to \$8,365. A large attendance is expected at the K. of L. picnic to-day. John R. Reynolds, Mayor, and W. A. Miller, of Atlantic, Ia., were in the city yesterday.

Friday evening, as two carriage loads of South Omaha people were returning from the funeral of John W. Erd, the team attached to the rear buggy ran over a hole in the road, and the wheels of the carriage collapsed and unceremoniously dislodged the occupants. No one was hurt. Rev. J. B. Hilton and the editor of the Stockman had a meeting yesterday at which they amicably settled a difference of opinion on a question that had troubled both, but was given subsequent to Mr. Hilton's having given a series of lectures on the evils of intemperance and the Stockman remarked that Mr. Hilton had solicited and received a contribution from a saloon man. Mr. Hilton yesterday said that he was not aware of the man's proposition when he ascertained the fact he returned the amount. After this explanation the ties of friendship between the Stockman and the minister were renewed.

Personal Paragraphs. J. C. Heagan leaves for Des Moines this evening. Miss Elsa Kolbeneyer, from St. Louis, Mo., is visiting Mrs. E. Koenig. J. H. Miller, president of the Omaha National bank, leaves this evening for Chicago. Rev. C. A. Shirley, pastor of the First Christian church of Chicago, is at the Planters hotel.

George Dickinson, brother of the general superintendent of the Union Pacific, is in the city on a short visit. Adolph Meyer left last night for Spirit Lake, and will return on Tuesday next. He was accompanied by his family and there for the last several weeks. They will reside at the Millard.

Rev. Dr. Joseph H. Foy, of Omaha, lately delivered an address at Drake university commencement, before the literary assembly of the institution. It is spoken of as a masterly effort. Count Reynard de Chambrere and family were in the city yesterday. He is on his way to succeed Count Le Bruin as minister plenipotentiary and envoy extraordinary to the United States in the Central American states.

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New Boot and Shoe Store.

Is not over. Buy a "Perfection" gasoline stove and take comfort. Be sure and examine the "Perfection" before buying, as the best is the cheapest. Jno. Husse, 2407 Cumine street, agent for Omaha.

BENNINGSON BROS.' SALE

Once More to the Front with Bargains for Monday.

A Great Benefit Sale—Five Thousand Yards of Dress Goods in All Desirable Shades—Remember Benningson's Monday Bargains

5,000 yards of goods in all desirable shades, consisting of Nun's Veilings, Bindings, Canvas Cloths, Eftimie Brocades, Boucle Cloths, all nice and desirable goods. We will close the entire lot Monday at the ridiculous price of 5 cents per yard.

Ladies, this is the greatest bargain ever offered in Omaha. Come early and avoid the rush. These goods will be on sale at prompt 8 o'clock. Monday—100 pieces Satteens, Foulards, Cambrics, Cretones, Se