

## ABOUT PLAYS, PLAYERS AND PLAYHOUSES

season there is, just at the height, but the managers of theaters are getting busy, and their winter's activity. Within a month, two of Omaha's houses will be open for the winter, and before six weeks all three will be running as if there were never any such thing as a "closed" season for theaters. Word that comes from New York, the great throbbing center of the theatrical world of the United States, is not much to boast the most robust in London, but it is not a war play. Paul Gillette has finished his production, and it seems to have a new foot-note play by Madame Louise Ryer. Drew will open the Empire theater in "The Duke of Albermarle," which is still running in London. Miss Anna Russell will play at the Grand Opera House. Miss Anna Russell's play, "William Tell," comes in "The London Theater" to "Finisterre's play, "Lady." Miss Virginia Lee's comedy, "The Girl Next Door," is also being written for Miss Barrymore for America and England by H. C. Carter. She will play at the Garrick theater in Clyde Fitch's play, "The Coronet of a Duchess," and Mrs. Gilbert will appear in a play by Fitch called "The Girl Next Door." It is in town, the scenes being laid in Massachusetts.

Francis Wilson's season will begin prob-

ably without music. Henry Miller will

come to the Garrick theater later in the

season with Henry Arthur Jones' play,

"The Girl Next Door," and then go to

London to play this place and "On the Quiet" at Wyndham's theater.

Why this should be so can

not be known, but the men who

the management enterprises are not will-

ing to change until the public has

readied for the actors after having wit-

nessed a declaration of the voters in favor

of a continuation of that policy that has

been so successful in the conduct of the

affairs of the nation. Therefore, until after

election, he prepared to meet some old

friends in the way of attractions at the

theaters.

The Krog will be the first Omaha house

to open its doors for the winter season. It

sounds a bit odd to talk of opening the

winter season in August, but on Sunday,

August 1, the Krog will start with "For

the Girls." This is about the only one

of the new plays that Omaha did not get

a chance to see last season, and for this,

if for no other reason, it will be welcome.

On Sunday, August 1, the Boyd will start

with that good old standby, "The Bur-

glamor," which will be here for two nights.

On Tuesday, August 2, and Wednesday,

August 3, Ethel Barrymore and her com-

pany will be at the Boyd in "The Marriage

of Kitty." From that time on the coming

and going will be steady. Among the early

musical comedies that will be at the Boyd

are "The Wizard of Oz" and "Baby in

the Attic."

Mr. Wodehouse is now in New Or-

leans, and will be joined here by Mr. Har-

per, who will arrive after August 1.

For the opening of the Orpheum has not been

given out, but it will probably be the first

week in September. Manager Carl Reiter

is still on the Pacific coast with his wife,

but will be in Omaha during the early part

of next month. No announcement has yet

been made as to who will have the local

management of the Krog.

It is reasonable to expect, with all the

managerial caution, a fairly active season

in the world of drama. Last season was

unique in one regard, and that is that

nearly all the plays presented were re-cre-

ated as failures, while almost without ex-cep-

tion the big revivals were soon shamed

because the public would have none of

them. "The Virginian," with Dustin Farnum

in the leading role; "The Dictator,"

with Willie Collier at his hand; "Sweet Wil-

liebelie," with Miss Crozier in the

star part; and "Her Own Way," Maxine

Adams' gem, are the only real undi-  
minated successes of the whole lot that were

tried last season in the play line. The

Quality success, "The Star," has been

produced until late in the year, but was

wholly from the start. "The Star," with

Willie Collier at the head of the com-

pany, was kindly received as a success,

but some reason exists for doubting that

it will be a wonder hit, and the same

is true of "The County Chairman," in which

Maxine Adams scored a personal hit,

but to which death could be brought at any

time the house was open. "Checkers" is

another of those once-successful plays, in

that there are several of them, and on

these the managers build some hopes for

the coming season. All the plays that

were even moderately well patronized will

be put up again, in the hope that the pub-

lic will accept them, and some success of

former years are to be revived. In one or

two instances plays that were acknowledg-

ed failures last season are to be put

on again in the hope that they may meet

a more kindly reception during the com-

ing months. All in all, the manager has

little cause to get excited over his pro-

gram during the first few weeks of the

season of 1904, and that he plans to keep

in the show in the short run, will be looked

up as an exhibition of ordinary gen-

eralities.

"Gowanus," the old friend Bert

Williams would say, the advertisements

will be put up in a way, and

the curtain, where he speaks me now

of his youthful days, and all he had

in view of his own career features in the

show business is contained in the following interview, published in New York during

the week.

Augustine Thomas will deliver to me in

September a new comedy for autumn produc-

tion, and will complete during the

first week of October John Drew, Sr.,

who has completed his work on

the comedy, "The Mountain Climber."

Henry Guy Carleton is at work on a romantic play, and I have obtained William Gillette's new play, in which he will appear after his tour in "The American." The new play will be a comedy, and will be set with the scenes laid in the south, but it is not a war play. Paul Gillette has finished his production, and it seems to have a new foot-note play by Madame Louise Ryer.

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which is still running in London. Miss Anna Russell will play at the Grand

Opera House. Miss Anna Russell's

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