Stories About Plays, Players and Playhouses

gagement at the Krug came to an end dur- S. Elgutter of Omaha. ing the last week, after a more or less tempestuous and not in any sense encouraging experience. The stay of the Lilliputians at the Krug this week will end the activity of that house for the summer. One bright spot locally looms up for the people who are interested in amateur drama, the al fresco production of "As You Like It" at Hanscom park on June 29 undertaking and Miss Lillian Fitch is directing the rehearsals, which are progressguidance of experienced hands, and will doubtless have a very successful presenta-

based on Biblical topics is being heard, with the general trend of sentiment in favor of them. No very good reason why the intensely dramatic stories of the Old Testament should not be used for the purpose of illuminating plays has yet been advanced. It has been thoroughy well demonstrated that an author of ordinary skill produce a play that is not only human in its interest, but pregnant with dramatic intensity, and at the same time abate nothof Job is uncertain, yet for majestic con- taking a strong role. ception, for poetic beauty and for impresof really worthy modern productions.

teresting of modern plays are based on bib- At the Orpheum tonight the Glickman As a matter of fact, some of the most inlical incidents. Heyse's "Mary of Magdala" Opera company of Chicago will present the few years ago (the name of the author is position. The company presenting it is force long after the others have been for- well received wherever it has been seen. gotten, very likely, for the sole reason that it embodies, as none of the others do, the hope and the promise of "the forgiveness of sins and the life everlasting." Byron's "Cain" is one of the most interesting of his information: dramatic poems, "Cain and Abel" is the having counterparts in the lore of other suited to Romeo. peoples than the Jews, corresponding to the "He said he had no idea that people

Up to the present the main reason for not producing a play based on a biblical incident has been the diffidence of the managthe church. It is one of the hopeful signs for the benefit of the playground. The and a decided change in the attitude of the tinct advance in the standing of the stage Omaha Woman's club is sponsor for the public toward the drama. It is not in any sense a suggestion of retrogression of popular taste, for so far as religion is conproduction, and under the experienced di- It probably does not secure the unquesapproaching in which the local public has but it is now supported by reason rather evinced decided interest is that of "En- than by blind faith and superstitious awe the city. chantment," the fairyland spectacle to be and dread, and as such it appeals more diproduced at the Auditorium for the bene- rectly to the higher attributes of mankind. its foremost position is all in favor of the church, and that the stage as such has ad- boy to serve the papers, whose compensa- From distant lands, o'er widespread seas vanced to a place where it can be referred tion was dependent on his success. He sucto as a possible adjunct to the church in ceeded in reaching her as she was passing Some discussion as to the value of plays the general struggle for the uplifting of the race and the advancement of morality is surely a fact of which all who are con- asked, "Are you Miss Anderson?" nected with the theater in any way should pecting his errand, in a spirit of mischief,

Coming Events.

Not a more interesting chapter of French history can be told than that which surrounds the intrigues of Mme. DuBarry, again, but, laughing at him and giving him in the use of his material can approach wife of the Count Jean DuBarry, and an evasive answer, she left him again. The the subject with proper reverence and can Louis XVI, who preceded the deluge that last night, just as she was leaving the hotel washed out in blood so much that was op- for the train, the boy appeared again. There From durance vile our precious selves to pressive in France. The story has been were tears in his eyes and he looked wormost interestingly told in a play in which ried, but determined. He stepped up to har ing of the awe with which the Word of Mrs. Lesile Carter won the highest praise and said, "You are Mary Anderson." She God is customarily approached. The Old and did the most enormous business at the turned to him with the same sweet smile, Testament fairly teems with stories of Belasco theater, New York. Manager Ferdominant strength, whose simplicity and ris has secured the rights to this great directness has an unfalling charm for those play, and it will be offered at the Boyd who take up the subject merely from a theater for four nights and a matinee, beliterary point of view. Many of these ginning with this evening's performance. stories have their prototypes in the legends Miss Marie Pavey will take the part of the of other races and tribes than those of the unfortunate woman, who reigns as queen Jews, so that investigators are not infre- of love in Paris and who is last seen on quently at a loss as to ascribe their her way to the guillotine, there to lay her origin. Take, for example, the latest of pretty neck beneath the knife to satisfy the plays based on the Bible, a dramatiza- the spirit of the mob whom she had never tion of the Book of Job by Marcus La harmed. The strength of the company will Blanche of Detroit; the origin of the Book be seen in the cast, Mr. Ferris himself

sive simplicity of thought and language it It will no doubt afford delight to the is without a peer in the language. The theater goers of Omaha to learn that the prises. Before his audience he must be story of Job is wonderfully fraught with Pollard Lilliputian Opera company will master of himself, holding the situation and all that is of interest bearing on the life open at the Krug theater with a matinee his art by the firmest grasp. He must simof a man and the aspirations of the culti- today for a week's engagement. The openvated mind for a life beyond this, and the ing bill will be "The Belle of New York." optimistic hope that upheld the patriarch which will hold the boards for three nights. through the vicissitudes and trials that "Pinafore" will be played Wednesday matiof the chief cornerstones of the hope of Runaway Girl;" Friday night, "The humanity for an existence beyond the pres- Geisha," and Saturday matinee and night, ent. Why should it not be turned into a "A Galety Girl." The Pollards are commore living and therefore a more vital posed of exceptionally talented juveniles, force by being presented on the stage? The whose perferomances are perfect in every author who can graphically set forth the detail. The children, whose ages range salient features and central thought of this from 9 to 14, carry themselves and portray great work will have done both the stage the characters in their extensive repertoire and the church a distinct service, not to of comic operas and musical comedies speak of the possibility of adding an in- with all the aplumb of veterans of the tensely interesting play to the narrow list stage. Summer prices will prevail-night, 15, 25 and 50 cents; matinees will be 25 cents all over the house.

is one of the most notable incidents; Sal- opera "Jacob and Esau" in Yiddish. This vini the Elder played "Sampson" here a is said to be a strong and interesting comnot now recalled), and gave one of the most headed by and under the management of impressive performances ever seen in Ellis F. Glickman, for twelve years the Omaha. "Ben Hur" is too modern and al- leading man of a Yiddish stock company most too trivial as a drama to be listed in Chicago. Miss Clara Raffalo is the popular success of all, and will be a living a short summer tour and has been very

Some Actor Stories,

Raymond Hitchcock in his most recent interview gives the following comforting

"I want to assure the public that whattitle of an unprecedented play of strength, ever the future holds for me, I shall not "The Shepherd King" is Wright Lorimer's play 'Hamlet.' Passing a clairvoyant's the successful story of King David, and quite other day I dropped in, handed the woman a list of plays might be cited as illustrating \$2 and asked her to please call up Wilthe advantage writers have taken of the liam Shakespeare. In a few moments I themes afforded by the Book of Books, and was in communication with him. I told yet the supply of material has hardly been him to have no fear, I should not play touched. "Sampson," one of the plays re- 'Hamlet.' He thanked me, and said he ferred to, is properly in the list of stories doubted whether my genius was better

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gressiveness of Omaha's leading plane firm. tory capacity, having been recently en-

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Omaha several years ago in a modest way

largest retail plane business west of Chi-

has simmered down to the condi- ite theme for poets and dramatists is the at this late day. He said he simply wrote and had the curtain rung.' The scene had speak at hazard. I give you figures. We tion we are accustomed to, the story of Jeptha's daughter, whose sad fate them for the times. That, if he were alive been spoiled because the actor had been have in Indiana 22,837 authors, classified as parks and the stock company at as related by the Greeks is told in a beau- today, he'd turn out an epigrammatic, overcome by a sudden flood of real feeling, fellows: Historical novellsts, 8,963; dialect the Boyd theater. The stock en- toful drams, "Iphegenia," by Mr. Charles problematical society play, and a rattling whereas he was to render by his art the poets, 6,37; magazine poets, 1,625; real poets, knew he was a sensible man."

three nights. Her manager had engaged Mantie in the Chicago Inter Ocean.

cossible, the sheriff engaged a messenger lows: from the hotel door to her carriage to go to the theater. He stepped up to her and stepped past him, entered the carriage, and

was driven off. On the second night he approached her but he looked so sad and disappointed that she held out her hand for the papers, took them, dropped a dollar in his hat, which he held in his other hand, saying, "Now,my boy, you have earned your fee," and entered her carriages

In an affectionate tribute to the memory of Joseph Jefferson Henry Watterson cited the appended incident to prove that the true actor must at all times during his presence on the stage be master of both himself and of his emotions. Says Mr. Watterson:

"The actor is supposed to be so familiar with the public as to be proof against surulate, not experience, emotion, the effect referable to the seeming, never to the acplaying Caleb Plummer. In the scene bedreadful result of his dissimulation-at the write such capital verse." very critical moment-there was an awkward hitch, and the climax quite thwarted, the curtain came down.

brushed by me going to his dressing room. 'No,' said I, following him. 'What was it?' Indiana. He turned, his eyes still wet and his voice choked. T broke down,' said he, 'completely said to the publishers. "We are now inbroke down. I turned away from the audi- cubating in Indiana enough manuscript to

would make so much talk over his plays ence to recover myself. But I could not, last you for the next ten years. I do not que was tears, but not Jefferson's."

Writing of her childhood's friend, Mary One day last week George Middleton, who ers, due to some delicacy of feeling as to Anderson Navarro, Mrs. Harriet Kelly of was a theatrical magnate before many of the propriety of connecting the stage with Louisville relates that the last time Mary the prominent stars of today were born, Anderson played in Louisville she had a was looking through one of his old trunks of the times that the topic can now be little experience which amused her very when he came across a clipping from a pubopenly broached, for it indicates a dis- much. She was to fill an engagement of lication long since deceased, relates Burns

Masonic temple for her appearange. When It contained the prologue to the first theshe learned that she refused to play, main- strical representation ever given in Austaining that the theater was too small and tralia, at Sydney, in 1795. The play was was unsafe besides. This was proved true "The Ranger," performed by a company of ing finely. "As You Like It" is a play cerned the church never had such decided since, as the theater caught fire recently amateurs, all of whom were convicts. The that lends itself very readily to outdoor and unmistakable support as it has now, and burned like a tinder box. Luckily it manager was also a convict. An admission was between performances. When she re- fee of 1 shilling was demanded, and the rection of Miss Fitch it ought to prove a tioning obedience and abject subservience fused to play her manager had to hurry governor and his staff were graciously insuccess. Another amateur performance demanded in earlier years of its history, around and finally succeeded in obtaining vited to free seats. Coin being scarce in Macauley's theater, the best show house in the colony, a shilling's worth of flour or rum was accepted in lieu of money. One As a result he and Miss Anderson were of the actors spoke the prologue from sued for damages, and processes had to be which the line, "He left his country for his fit of the Creche. This, too, is under the That it is able to do this and still maintain served upon her. As she was rather inac- country's good," is often quoted. It fol-

But not with much colat, or beat of drum, True patriots ail, for, be it understood, We left our country for our country's good! No private views disgraced our generous

Sus- What urged our travels was our country's she replied, smiling, "Why, don't you know And none can doubt but what our emigra-Mary Anderson?" and as he hesitated she Has proved most successful to the British He who to midnight ladders is no stranger, You'll own will make an admirable ranger;
To seek Macbeth we have not far to roam,
And sure in Filch I shall be quite at home.
Here light and easy Columbfice are found,
And well trained Hariequins with us
abound;
From durance vile our precious salves to

keep We've often had to make a flying leap; To a black face we've sometimes owed es-

And Hounslow Heath has proved the worth of crape.
But how, you ask, can we e'er hope to soar
Above these scenes, and rise to tragic lore?
For oft, alas! we've forced the unwilling tear,
And petrified the heart with real fear.
Macbeth a harvest of applause will reap,
For some of us, I fear, have murdered

Bleep,
His lady, too, with grace and ease will talk—
Our ladies have been used at night to walk!
Sometimes, indeed, so various is our art,
An actor may improve and mend his part.
"Give me a horse!" bawis Richard, like a drone: drone; Were't one of us he'd help himself to one.

Grant us your favors, put us to the test; To gain your smiles we'll do our very best; And, without dread of future turnkey

lockits,
Thus, in an honest way, still pick your pockets. "The convict who played Filch recited the prologue, and was probably its author," continues the clipping. "We know that it is treading on delicate ground to inquire too tuality, never to the realization. Mr. Jeffer- curiously into the antecedents of the anson held to this doctrine and applied it rig-cientAustralian families; but that feeling bore in so fast and hard upon him is one nee; Wednesday and Thursday nights, "A orously. On a certain occasion he was will pass away there, as it has in Virginia, where England also had convict settle tween the old toymaker and his blind ments. No one need be averse to acknowldaughter, when the father discoveres the edge his descent from a convict who could

> George Ade was among the speakers at a recent banquet of the Periodical Publishers' 'Did you see that?' he said, as he association, and in the course of his remarks he loyally defended the literati of

"I bring you glad tidings of great joy," he

good musical comedy. That last remark feeling of a fictitious character and so to 430; dramatists, 1,216; syndicate humorists, settled my feelings toward Bill. I always communicate this to the audience. Caleb's 574, and short story writers, 3,532" Mr. Ade, in succeeding remarks, enumerated among the "Hoosiers" who had figured as contributors to American literature Senator Beveridge, Schuyler Colfax, Benjamin Harrison, D. W. Voorhees, Charles Major, James Whitcomb Riley, General Lew Wallace, Booth Tarkington, Meredith Nicholas, George McCutcheon, John T. McCutcheon, Maurice Thompson, Witt Thomson, David Graham Phillips, Mary Hartwell Catherwood, John Clark Ridpath, Richard Under-

> ---Gossip from Stageland.

wood Johnson, William N. Chase, John

Hay, "Tod" Sloane and "Kid" McCoy.

Jules Murry has engaged Alice Johnson for the part of Kitty Silverton in "The Marriage of Kitty." Marriage of Kitty."

Carl Eckstrom, who has been spending a few weeks in Omaha with his parents, has gone to Hartsvale, N. Y., where he will visit with Wright Lorimer at his Hudson river home.

H. E. Forrester will present next season Florence Sindley in a new musical comedy.

B. E. Forrester will present next season Florence Bindley in a new musical comedy entitled "The Belle of the West." Mr. Harry B. Smith is responsible for the book and lyrics and the music has been written by Karl L. Hoschna.

by Karl L. Hoschna.

Dick Ferris is maturing plans for establishing Florence Stone at the head of a San Francisco stock company next season, offering the best of modern plays. He has already the rights to Sardou's "Sorceress," with the Frohman production.

Creston Clarke, who made a success in "Beaucaire" last season, will again appear in that character next year. Miss Agnes Ardeck has been re-engaged for the part of Lady Mary. The tour will be under the direction of Jules Murry.

The revival of "Hazel Kirke," with Effic Ellsler in the title role, is one of the announcements for next season. Frank Wesnouncements for next season. Frank Weston has been engaged to play the part of Dunstan Kirke and a popular comedian is being negotiated with for Pittleus Green.

"Captain Debonnaire," the new comedy romance in which Paul Gilmore will next season appear, under the management of Jules Murry, will be a big spectacular pro-duction with a large cast. A singing chorus, corps de ballet and the entire mountings, scenery, furniture, properties and electrical effects will be carried. "Bankers and Brokers." the new musical comedy which B. E. Forrester has selected as the vehicle to introduce Yorke and Adams as stars, is the work of George Totten Smith and Asron Hoffman. These new stars will be surrounded by a company of sixty-five people and the season will open in Troy, N. Y., on August 21.

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Music and Musical Notes

with these, and yet it has been the greatest leading woman. The company has been on at Harvard university. Prof. Paine is 66 rup sing song after song in our family years old and will be granted a pension. music room. There was one song of Reuben-Two years ago three of the most famous stein's which all his friends will remember, American composers were at the head of because he did it so well and with so much musical departments in our leading univer- spirit, "Give Me Days of Golden Glory," sities. John K. Paine at Harvard, Edward The memorial service held for Mr. North-McDowell at Columbia and Horatio Parker rup at the St. Mary's Avenue Congregaat Yale. Now Prof. Parker alone remains, tional church was particularly beautiful. Mr. McDowell left Columbia exceedingly to He was one of the charter members and for appreciate genius in their countrymen and leaves many friends who will mourn his like to see the good places fall to them in- absence. stead of foreigners.

g man is 35 years old and his name is or her speak. Louis Coerne He presented a brilliant thesis on the evolution of modern orchestration; also the score of his opera "Zenobla," which was published in Germany, and will be performed at the Royal opera in Berlin. Prof. Paine speaks very well of

It seems odd that there should have been a decided prejudice against music as a college study. Mr. Paine fought for many years against a most discouraging indifference. Professorships have existed at Oxford since the ninth century, at Salamanca, Brescia and Tubingen from the sixteenth, at Bologna and Basel from the seventeenth. At the present day there are professorships of music at Berlin, Munich, Leipsic and other German universities. None of these modern departments are as thorough as the one at Harvard and are not counted for degrees. Opinion is divided as to whether in establishing musical departments in new institutions the German idea should be followed, or the models set by Harvard and Yale.

Prof. Paine has done a magnificent pioneer work. He has created a department of music in American universities. Besides the task of organization and education which he set for himself, he was the first of our native musicians who mastered the larger musical forms and composed works which gained recognition abroad, as well as at home. His principal works are "Azara," an opera, and in the orchestral field his second symphony, the symphonic poems, "The Tempest" and "The Island Fantasy," and his music to the "Oedipus Tyrannus," of Sophocles, and "The Birds" of Aristophanes. By these compositions he will be remembered. The next generation building in which the Mueller Piano is man- strictly high grade instrument for which will probably be much more familiar with them than we are.

Back in the early '80's, when the Ladies' Musical society was in the hey-day of its fame no performer was more welcome on business methods they have created the ready to induce outside manufacturers to its programs than Mr. Northrup. His locate here, which is necessary to the up- sweet tenor voice was in the zenith of its building of the city. Yet it is just as essen- loveliness and he was most generous with In conjunction with their large store at tial to encourage enterprises that are al- it. Associated with him in the art of mak-1813 Farnam street they have branch houses ready here. Our people should not lose ing music in those days were Martin Cahn, in Council Bluffs, Stoux City and Lincoln sight of the fact that patronizing home in- who now has a flourishing class in Chicago. and are continuously on the lockout for dustry is the principal requisite to the life Mrs. J. H. McIntosh (Miss Claire Rustin), suitable locations in other good towns trib- of the industry. The Schmolier & Mueller at present in New York; Mrs. W. C. Shanfactory is thoroughly equipped for repair non (Miss Elizabeth Poppleton); Prof. The Mueller Plane, which is the product work and is prepared to do overhauling, Sauer, the violinist, who came and stayed in Omaha a little while, besides many oth-

ago of the impending retirement. In those days there was a great deal of of Prof. John K. Paine, who for good music performed at private houses, forty-three years has been at the Many are the afternoons I have curied up head of the department of music in a quiet corner and listened to Mr. Northregret of American music lovers who years the tenor soloist of the choir. He

There is a small paragraph which the Prof. Paine began his work at Harvard Musical Courier has tucked in sundry in 1869 (Yale, Columbia and other of the in- places as a "filler" lately which sets forth stitutions have established their courses the lurid information that in Omaha, Neb., within ten or twenty years). He was the there is a doctor who has fourteen children, first one to make music one of the branches who are all musical and perform on sundry of academic study, counting for the degrees instruments. The skit ends up with the of A. B. and A. M. At first his scheme query: "Does President Roosevelt know of progressed pretty slowly. Until ten years this wonderful family?' The squib also ago he taught without an assistant, but the appeared in some of the New York daily last prospectus included the names of three papers duly emphasized with large headhelpers, while the number of students goes ings. As far as my information goes this beyond 200. This year for the first time tale bids fair to remain in the category Harvard university has a successful candi- with "who struck Billy Patterson?" If date for the degree of Ph. D. in music. The anybody can elucidate the mystery, let him

On Tuesday evening, June 6, Bellevue college had its final musical recital of the year under the direction of Mr. E. M. Jones, assisted by Miss Fawcett, Miss Allen and Miss Fitch. A long and varied program was given, including vocal, yielin plane and elecutionary numbers.

Mrs. W. W. Turner has been spending much time in the last few weeks getting subscribers for next senson's series of re citals, managed by the Concert Promoters. A larger list than last year is earnestly wished for. People who intend joining would help matters wonderfully by giving their names early. The fee is \$10 for five concerts, entitling the holder of a memberahip to two tickets for each concert, That the programs will be first-class the intending subscriber has only to review last year's offerings. Mr. Borglum's and Mrs. Turner's names are sufficient guaranty that everything will occur as promised.

Miss Jessie L. Gaynor of St. Joseph has evolved a system of music study for children, whereby it will cease to be drudgery to them. They will be taught first to listen and talk of what they hear, and the actual reading and illustration by the keyboard will come last. This idea is along the same line with a plan which I have for next winter. Instead of studying the planoforte myself I intend to have some one, very likely Miss Robinson, come and play to me, two or three hours a week, the best compositions by the best masters. Think of the ground I shall have covered in eight months. It is a complete turning about of accepted forms, but seems to me remarkably good sense.

MARY LEARNED. Musical Notes.

An agreement with the Omaha Musicians' union has made possible the founding of a permanent symphony orchestra here in Omaha. Mr. Robert Cuscaden is at the head of the undertaking and has been working for the last year toward this end. Mr. Cuscaden says this orchestra is to be a permanent Omaha institution, having practically the same membership from year to year. The orchestra will be called the Omaha Philiarmonic orchestra and will be composed of fifty-five musicians. Rehearsals will begin about September 15 and a series of two concerts will be given in Boyd's theater during the winter. Mr. Max Baumeister will be concert master and Mr. Alfred O. Mueller is business manager.

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tist and S Sts., So. Omaha, Neb. Tel. FER