# Gossip About Plays, Players and Playhouses

The control of the co Woodward & Burgess during the

of the relations between the man and the at her summer home. The Hales are most who naturally adores her beauty, designs woman. The sex question, which is not the talented and delightful people. Last year the most lovely costumes for her to wear. most important that confronts humanity, Mr. Hale played with Crane in "Business She does not appear in the old time-worn, has in a large degree given an answer to is Business." Omaha people will remember routine clothes. Her latest departure in itself, since all the ingenuity that has been his fine work with Otis Skinner and Ada dress was for her debut in "Aida." Even applied to the search for a different solu- Rehan during their Shakesperian revival Nordica has never managed to keep her tion has failed to discover any but the one here a year ago. Mrs. Hale (Louise Clos- beauty in this part. Eames was a picture conclusion. Plays that deal with other ser) made her great "hit" as "Prossy," the --barbaric, picturesque, and not in the manifestations of the inter-relations of the typewriter, with Arnold Daly in "Candida." human family may easily be made as in- Not content with making a success in the teresting as the sex problem plays that theatrical field, these people turn their at- with a fine voice which makes her great. have now apparently ended their vogue, tention in the summer to writing and It will be most interesting to have a chance Such attempts as have been made in the sketching, mainly for Harpers. Last year past to take up purely sociological or eco- they were ambling around Italy, doing up nomic questions for literary discussion have "Marion Crawford's Rome" and "Gabriele been to a great extent fallures because d'Annunzio and his work." Incidentally they have been approached from a purely Mrs. Hale nearly ripped her golf skirt off sentimental viewpoint and have not been trying to climb over the wall that surtreated either practically or logically. Iosen and Tolstoi have awakened much in- quite unnecessary, as D'Annunzio had the terest in some of these questions, but the keys to her gate, and cheerfully took the utterly impractical views of the one and Hales through. the unsatisfactory deductions of the other fail to satisfy. It is not at all probable that any definite answer will be reached by abode in an old medieval chapel, rehabitianother dramatist, for the few facts the tated, just outside of Florence; his exotic cientists have evolved stand on no too sure personality that showed itself at every a base. But the field would seem to invite turn, his passion for green (the degenerate the reapers just now and a play dealing color) and the wonderful signling drink with a commercial or industrial problem in which he mixed for Mrs. Hale in the midst a reasonable way, emphasizing some of the of a luxury that was barbaric. But this is suggestions recently made by the president a musical column, and I must return to and others who view these things from the Madame Eames and her famous husband, higher plane of thought, might easily win whom the Hales in their wanderings met, for its writer more than mere money.

The national play is still to be written. Italian home. In the Apennines, not far Sectional plays are many, and effective, distant from Vallombrosa, stands the plebut the great American drama has not yet come forth. The complexity and variability Eames' resting place after her labors of of American national life appears to be an the winter. A request to share with her insurmountable obstacle in the way; rather, the informal country life is a great honor, the author whose grasp is sufficiently comprehensive and whose knowledge of his own country is sufficiently broad and detailed to properly deal with the subject has not yet piled the fact that nothing was lacking if appeared. Along this line the following from Mr. Burton T. Beach in the New York Commercial is of interest:

Commercial is of interest:

At this date, it seems probable that the coming theatrical season will not present features of sensational originality. There will be fine display, but nothing novel—our nothing novel—that will be also great. Neither London, Paris nor Berlin is expecting its playwrights to initiate new departures, if the dramatic journals of those capitals are any indication of the conclusions of people most likely to know what is going on among the authors.

It means that, if the American stage is to strike into virgin territory in the autumn, the path must be blased by the American dramatist. So far as foreign plays are concerned our immediate future will be a replica of the immediate past.

ture will be a replica of the immediate past.

Unfortunately the likelihood of dramatic revolution—or of such evolution as amounts to revolution—is not strong among our own writers. There is no sign as yet of that "great, his American play," which Duniel Frohman, with a faith splendidly indifferent to repeated disappointments, believes to be in the air.

"How would it do," asks Mark Klaw, just returned from Europe with a budget of attractions to be added to the list recently announced by Messrs. Klaw & Erlanger, "how would it do if we stopped bothering about that wonderful production and went ahead trying to get as much enloyment as possible out of what we have?"

enjoyment as possible out of what we have?"

At all events we may count upon something better than last season's percentage of work from native pens; and if no other ground of encouragement can be found, why of make the most of this? Bo far as I ave been able to ascertain by indirect inquiries among Metropolitan play brokers the American total of manuscripts submitted this summer is considerably above the figures reached at the end of June last year.

In an article on "The Play Brokers of New York," published in the current issue of the Theater, an illustrated magasine of merit, the statement is made that Miss Alice Kauser, "now has 100.30 plays stowed away in her offices." From other sources it is ascertained that she has computed the American average for 136 as a sharp improvement upon former averages."

There is, of course, another aspect of the matter. Miss Kauser's library of 100.000

rounds Duse's villa. This in the end proved

I would like to tell about D'Annunzio's

and from whom they received the much

appreciated invitation to visit them in their

turesque villa of the Storys. It is Madame

On this occasion fortune seemed to smile.

Victor Harris was of the group also, which

deep in the consciousness of the party, sup-

Madame should in a moment of exuberance

decide to sing. Of course no guest would

dream of fracturing all the rules of prima

donna hospitality by asking her. After

three or four days of rambling over the

hills, driving and quietly enjoying the heavenly beauties of Nature, there came a

its magic radiance which is never equaled

in the concert room. No sordid "arrange-

ments" marred the spirit of the night. In-

epiration held high carnival and romance

The Hales felt as if their sojourn in the Italian hills had been rich with many hap-

penings. Mr. Hale took some fascinating

pictures of Madame Eames in her short

skirt and walking hat. They looked odd

to me, for I always picture her as the

saintly Elizabeth, or at any rate in some

stately character, "trailing clouds of

glory." To behold her in the the garments of the summer wayfarer was almost a

We in Omaha are to hear Madame Eames

in concert next winter. To me she is always lovely, her voice is beautiful, but I

never could seem to discover a great soul.

I was in Paris the night that she made her debut in "Romeo and Juliet" at the

Grand Opera. All the world knows of her

pluck in choosing this particular place. It is not one where young, untried singers ap-

pear, but Sybil Sanderson, the orchid-like,

sweet-voiced .Californian. had by her influence secured the Opera Comique for her

own first appearance. Emma Eames determined not to put off her debut, did a

most bold and unprecedented thing. She engaged the Grand Opera house and set all

threw her cloak of stars over the listeners.

least degree repellant. It is her fascina-

tion as a complete and satisfying picture

Mr. Brigham to come here and give his

"Folk-Lore" lecture so that we may listen

A great storm has been raised over Sir

Edward Elgar and the degree which Yale

conferred upon him, because President Had-

ley in giving it spoke of him as "the fore-

most living composer." When, cry the outraged ones, did Saint-Saens, Grieg, Gold-mark and Strauss die? The profession

seems to be more or less down on the col-

leges. With McDowell replaced at Colum-

bia, John K. Paine leaving Harvard, and now an Englishman receiving extraordi-

nary honors at Yale, it does seem as if

our native musicians-and composers were

not receiving their due. It would be in-

teresting to know just how much Presi-

dent Hadley knows about music. Not over-

much, apparently, from such a sweeping

assertion, or else his feeling of hospitality

Mr. Phillip Hale the famous Boston critic,

has made a collection of songs in two vol-

name. Should it be so?

Mr. Hale's collection evinces a fine as well as a broad knowledge of the song literature of France, as also does his preface, which is the most delightful essay yet written for the Ditson publications. There are sketches of the composers and potraits, but these are of small interest compared with the historical study of French song reaching back to the days when Caeser wrote 'Onnia Gallia,' etc. The preparation of the volumes was plainly a work of sympathy akin to love. Here is the French roster: Herman Bemberg, Claudius Blanc, Jules Bourval, Plerre de Breville, Cecile Chamirade, Ernest Chusson, Hedwidge Chretien, Arthur Coquard, Achillie Claud de Bussy, Leo Delibes, Henri Dupare, Gabriel Faurs, G. Ferrarri, H. de Fontanailles, Cessar Franck, Alexandre Georges, Benjamin Goddard, Charles Gounod, Raynado Hahn, Auguste Holmes, Georges Hue, Vincent d'Indy, Edouard Lalo, Gaston Lemaire, Xavier Leroux, Jules Messenet, Emile Paisadihe, Emile Passard, Gabriele Pierno, Guy Goparta, Baroness Willy de Rothschild, Camilie Baint-Baens, Ambroise Thomas, Francis Thomas, Francis Thomas, Charles M. Wider, MARY LEARNED.

Notes and Personals.

Mr. Borgium expects to teach all during the summer. He has about twenty pupils who keep their enthusiasm through the warm months.

Leonard Liebling says that nearly all the automobiles in Herlin are provided with horns that sound a triad, C. E. G., instead of the discordant single squawk that scares pedestrians helf out of their wifs.

Mr. Kelly will not go away this season but will continue his work at his residence

outweighed his discretion.

name. Should it be so?

moonlight sight. It wove its spell over umes, representing the modern French comthe whole party. Madame Eames gave the posers. The following comment from the magic signal to Mr. Harris and an hour of New York Tribune is of interest. Some of

song followed in the quaint, lovely old these composers we are familiar with.

music room, with the pale moon shedding How many are strangers to us even in

to observe Madame Fames in concert.

in Rome has been completed.

to him again?

plays is the growth of ten years. If one play in ten is American, then there has been an annual average of 1.000 American plays since 1896. If the annual average of American plays that have seen the light of the stage in New York since 1896 is 160—and we know it is not so good as that—as many as 2.000 American plays are lying unufflied in the pigeon holes of a single office.

How many others lie dermant in the offices of Miles Marbury, Mrs. H. C. Detailed in the pigeon holes of a single office.

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How many others lie dermant in the offices of Miles American plays are lying unauthor—judged by the manuscripts he is now placing with Manhattan plays I have plodded through during the last forty days, "results and dialogue.

As to these characteristics the American only life his hands sky ward in a gesture of intense surprise.

"My God!" he exclaimed, "and he didn't have been an intense of the int

William Collier triumphed so signally in London that he will play "The Dictator" all summer at the Comedy theater.
William Gillette is finishing a new play in London and on his return will take a cruise on his houseboat the Aunt Polly. Having seen all that is new in the dra-matic line in London and Paris Ethel Barrymore is resting at one of the German

Maude Adams is alternating the weeks of her summer between her country place at Ronkoncoma, Long Island, and her moun-tain home in the Catskills. Helen Hale, who first came into prominence in "Peggy from Paris" and later did such creditable work in "Woodland," will be seen in one of Henry W. Savage's new productions the coming senson.

E. H. Sothern is taking but a short va-cation, as he begins preliminary rehearsals shortly of the Shakespearean repertoire in which he and Miss Marlowe will appear next season. Miss Marlowe is now abroad. The million-dollar endowment fund for the maintenance of the American academy The presence of Mr. Nat Brigham in town last week must have called up delightful memories of "Annie Laurie" and Strelezski's "Dreams" among the people only, as the author will write but one play who used to love to beer him town the contract is that it is for three plays only, as the author will write but one play who used to love to hear him sing. I a year.

don't believe there has ever been a singer in Omaha who could, to the thorough satisfaction of his or her audience, sing the same songs so many dozens of times. Why does not some enterprising person engage Mr. Brigham to come here and give his and will be on the road all season.

Grace Griswold, a character actress of ability, was engaged last week by Henry W. Savage for an important role in "Easy Dawson." Miss Griswold, besides being an exceptionally elever actress, is a magazine writer of ability and is the author of that successful playlet, "Billy's First Love."

Anne Sutherland was engaged last week Anne Sutherland was engaged list week by Henry W. Savage for the leading femi-nine role in the new Edward E. Kidder comedy, "Easy Dawson," which will in-troduce Raymond Hitchcock as a "straight" comedy star. Miss Sutherland will have the role of Mrs. Churchill-Bren-ton, an auto enthusiast.

Edna May has just returned from London, where she has been preparing for her forthcoming appearance in The Catch of the Season at Daly's, New York, in September. While abroad she secured her gowns in Paris and spent a fortnight in Switzerland. Miss May will rest on Lake Ontario until rehearsals begin. George Marion, general stage director for the Henry W. Savage attractions, is hav-

ing a busy time of it in the New York offices of that manager. The personnel of all the older Savage attractions was completed some weeks ago and Mr. Marion is "up'to his ears" in rehearsals looking after the new George Ade comedy. "The Bad Samaritan" and the Edward E. Kidder comedy, "Easy Dawson."

Robert B. Mantell and a strong supporting company, under the management of William A. Brady, will be one of the season's earliest attractions at Hoyd's theater. Mr. Mantell last spring created a perfect furore in New York, where the critics were unanimous in declaring him the finest Shakespearean actor of the day. This success was duplicated in Pittsburg and later on in Chicago. Mr. Mantell will be seen here in "Richard III," "Othello." "Hamlet" and "Richelleu," Mr. Brady having furnished a complete and massive production for each play.

Wagenhals & Kemper announce that

Wagenhals & Kemper announce that Blanche Walsh will begin her tour in Cincinnati on Labor day, Monday, September 5, with Clyde Fitch's greatest play, "The Woman in the Case," which was the reigning dramatic sensation for four months at the Herald Square theater, New York, last season, Her tour will include runs in Chicago, Philadelphia and Boston and during the season she will appear in Omaha. Nearly all of the original cast will be retained, including Miss Dorothy Dorr and Bleanor Carey, and the production will be the same as seen during its long run in New York.

the same as seen during its long run in New York.

Richard Outcault, the cartoonist and creator of "Buster Brown," is now abroad, spending the summer in London and Paris, where his drawings are as well known as in America. On his return in September Mr. Outcault will enter on a lecture tour that promises to be unique in the history of the platform. Starting from New York he will travel west, opening his tour in October in the western country. He will fill an engagement at the Lewis and Clark exposition at Portland, Ore., afterward visiting San Francisco, Los Angeles and either Pacific coast cities. Then he will lecture in Texas cities, New Orleans and the squth, reaching New York about January 1, after having delivered 100 lectures. These lectures will consist of drawing, story telling and narratives of adventure and will be of especial interest to children, for whom many matinee engagements will be filled.

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