About Plays, Players and Playhouses

perturbation in the theatrical puddle. It of Realty, and the wings of Imagination his enemies and justice is meted out to the begins to look as if the Klaw & Erlanger have been clipped at least by the shears of guilty ones while he is once more united portion of the crop of whirlwind for which wildest gyration do not go beyond the matines on Wednesday afternoon. it has been so assiduously sowing the wind, bounds set by daily experience. Fiction to-Many of the houses throughout the country day is almost merged with history and biand many of the company managers, es- ography, and the writer of a novel thinly pecially those who have had to deal with vells the identity of some well known indithe minor attractions, have sedulously vidual under the guise of his hero, surnursed grievances in quiet, biding their rounds him with a group of men and time until an opportunity to strike back women taken bodily from history, envelopshould come. And now they have a chance. Ing the whole in a medium of incidents founder, and of their sufferings after their While the red flag of revolt has not as that are accepted as accurate, lamely proyet been run up in any quarter, the man- posed as prophetic on the part of the bero; ager with a rebellious inclination is in a thus demonstrating the advantage of hindposition to secure attention such as he sight over foresight. The course of the never had before. No repetition of some drama has been prescribed as narrowly as of trickery and fraud. The scenery is said of last season's moves is likely during the that of the novel, and the result has been to equal that of any attraction of its kind. present season, and while the public may a few serious dramas, dealing with certain not note any difference, it is altogether phases of sociological phenomena, some probable that house managers will be able to see some, and that road managers will find their routes laid out with much greater care and adhered to with more fidelity than they have experienced for some seasons past. The announcement that the La Shelle attractions will be booked independent of the Klaw & Erlanger agency is the latest bit or news, but it is an indication of the growth of sentiment. Such an fairs, and to bewalling the decadence of announcement last season would have resuited in putting the La Shelle attractions folks should cheer up. We are not any on the shelf. It will probably secure for them some choice time during the coming have gone before us in the years of the season. At any rate, the next few weeks world's existence; our chief difficulty today in the history of the American stage are is that we realize, perhaps, more keenly likely to be the most interesting, from than did our forebears the limitations that one view point of its career for many hamper us when we wish to take an ex-

The opening of the Krug this afternoon will start what looks like the busiest season in the theatrical line Omaha has ever known. If no calculations fail, within four weeks Omaha will have five theaters in Mokanna, "the heaven of each is but what full blast, each catering to its own particular class of patrons, and each offering a are certain to be the embodiment of his line of attractions that might interest any. desires. Dreams are merely subconscious It may be that this fieres competition will ratiocination, and senius is hard work. If prove too much for the prosperity of some a man be persistent enough to catch the of the competitors, but each of the man- vagrant fancies that flit from time to time agers feels or professes to feel the utmost confidence in the outcome so far as his end of the business is concerned. Next tial fabric, he produces a poem, a play, a spring will determine how far this confidence has been well placed.

The date for the opening of the Orpheum

for the winter season has been definitely fixed at Sunday, September 10, when the first of the season's matiness will be given. There will be no change in the policy of this house, beyond that announced last spring, when Manager Reiter declared his Intention of abandoning the intermission and running the performance through without any wait. This plan is being generally adopted, and has proven most satisfactory. Otherwise the policy of the Orpheum could hardly be improved on. It furnishes the literature will continue to reflect the exbest there is to be had in its line, and its weekly bills are uniformly good and always clean. Some of the attractions listed for the coming season are those that will appany of seven, presenting a tabloid version ture acts, and here are some of the others: dette orchestra of twenty-five women; the Europe's leading athletes and acrobats; in the other functions of the mind. Herrmann the Great; Tortojada, the Spansh dancer; Salerno; Captain Blom with a wireless telegraphy demonstration. This is only a few of the acts booked for the sea-

toward the concrete fad on literature, and it is reported that her husband has been formed some acrobatic feats that were accept as possible anything not fully dem- husband makes his appearance after a

comedies touching similar manifestations of life with the lighter colors of irony and sarcasm, and a multitude of plays that are neither one thing or another, and which merely recite a series of incidents clustering around a central episode, without beginning or conclusion.

Some of the fainthearted have devoted their time to deploring this state of afthe drama and literature in general. These worse off now than were the people who cursion into the realms of the unreal. Man's capacity for imagining things has always been bounded by his experience and his efforts at creation are invariably merely human concepts projected over a little broader range. In the words of old each desires," and the creations of each through his brain, and industrious enough to weave them together into a substannovel or an opera, and maybe he is halled as a genius. If he has worked hard enough he may have achieved something that will entitle him momentarily to the head of the column. But when his achievement is reduced to the final analysis, it will be found to be based entirely on what is known. Man's imagination is "cribbed, cabined and confined" by his daily contact with life, apparently, and is incapable of forming any really great conception of what is beyond the narrow beaten path of experience. It may be that sometime more attention will be given to this, and a new turn will be given to thought. Until then, perience of the race, whether it be realistic or romantic in its tendency,

It will be admitted that the paucity of peal strongly to the local public for they imagination is responsible for a loss of London Saturday Review, "that 'One Day promise the return of old favorites, and much that is delightful. Untutored man More,' which the Stage society produced, also present the names of a few who are is in a measure to be envied because of is not the only aims that Mr. Conrad will not unknown, but who have never been his lack of understanding of the things bestow on our needy drama. Mr. Conrad seen here in vaudeville. One of the most around him. The capacity of seeing God is just the sort of person who ought to be welcome announcements is that of Lillian in the clouds and hearing Him in the coaxed into writing plays. It is awful to Burkhardt and company. It has been two winds is a distinct advantage in a great remember that every day throughout the Burkhardt and company. It has been two seasons since Miss Burkhardt visited company and been been two seasons since Miss Burkhardt visited company. It has been two seasons since Miss Burkhardt visited company. Charles Frobman will should the fellowing American plays: "Clarice." Charles Frobman will should the fellowing American plays: "Clarice." Charles Frobman will sho "Carmen." Mrs. Stuart Robson is that her baby is destined to become a monbooked, with a supporting company, in a umental liar, so free from facts are the might really help to improve our drama Odette Hyler, names that have shed their And that mistaken mother thereupon be- respectable Americans brilliancy over the "legit," and are now gins the work of undoing all that nature alouf from politics. That American politics shining for the first time in the vaudeville has done for the child by striving to in- are a hotbed of corruption is the excuse world. Zelie de Lussan, the great singer, culcate a "proper" regard for absolute always pleaded by respectable Americans is booked, and Edna Wallace Hopper will truth. A good story is told of Rudyard for their aloofness. That the English theado her little stunt. Amelia Somerville and Kipling in this connection. He discovered tre is a hotbed of stupidity and artificiality Marshall P. Wilder are among the others the wife of one of his friends punishing is the excuse always pleaded by English whose names carry weight at the box office. her little daughter, and inquired the rea- masters of fiction for their alcofness. It is Sophic Brandt and the "City Giris" from son. "She told a lie," answered the a very poor excuse. Just as the obvious "The Prince of Pilsen" is one of the fea- mother, aftre with righteous indignation, answer to the respectable Americans is "Why, that's nothing," said Kipling, "I Mme. de Serris' living statuary; Colonel told 'em when I was at her age, and politics by dashing into them in the full Bordeverry, who was the sensation at the now I make my living telling them." In- armor of their respectability, so the obvious New York Hippodrome; "The Globe of stead of repressing the child's natural answer to our masters of fiction is that Death," a great hazardous act; the Fa- bent in this direction, it really ought to they cannot expect the English theatre to be encouraged along rational lines, so be other than bad so long as they refuse to Yankee Doodle Boys, a spectacle; Rossi's that the faculty for imagination will have help it." musical horse; the Patty-Frank troupe, the same expansive growth that is sought

Coming Events.

NIGHT-15c-25c-50c-75c SUNDAY MATINEE-10c-25c-50c WED. and SAT. MATINEE-All Seats 25c

NIGHTS AND TWO MATINEES TODAY

LINCOLN J. CARTER'S

THE SEASON'S MELODRAMATIC SUCCESS "TOO PROUD TO BEG" A HEART STORY OF INTRINSIC MERIT-A CAST OF UNUSUAL ABILITY, INCLUDING THE FAMOUS CHILD ACTORS AND ACROBATIC MARVELS.

Arthur BOYLAN Mildred

3 Nights and Saturday Matinee Aug. 17

THE GREAT LABOR PLAY,

"A HUMAN SLAVE"

cerned is willing to admit the is inexcrably directed? It will scarcely be starts at once to find them. Being a de- Mr. Moriey went to rehearsal, where he fact, a blind man can see that denied that much of the beauty has been tective himself he locates their hiding place was fined \$10 for tardiness. There will be the Balesco-Fiske-Shubert combi- driven from literature by the demand for and rescues his babes. The story finally no more gymnasium "in his" for a time. nation has occasioned not a little realism. Romanos is prostrate at the feet ends by the hero making himself known to combination were about to reap at least a Fact, so that flights are limited and their to his dear ones. There will be the usual

"A Human Blave," a four-act melodrams, will be the attraction at the Krug theater for three nights and Saturday matines starting Thursday night. August 17. The play tells of the steadfast and supreme it ought to prove a strong one. "A Human Blave," a four-act melodrama, love of an honest young workingman for a girl who is the daughter of a wealthy iron founder, and of their sufferings after their marriage through the persecution of a heartless scoundrel, who was made a junior well known star at the head of the cast. partner in the firm by the girl's father, and who secures his partner's wealth by means

Written in London. The London Times in a brief general review of the pant season, says: "One hopeful eign has been the advent of saveral new There is Mr. W. W. Jacobs, who has successfully transferred his jolly Thamesside humor from his books to the stage in Beauty and the Barge." There is Mr. Laurence Housman, whose 'Prunella' (written in collaboration with one of the most brilliant among our younger actors, Mr. Gilbert Barker) offered a choice blend of the funambulesque and the macabre, which may or may not have been inspired reminiscences of Musset and Theodore de Banville, but was certainly new to our own stage. There is Mr. Louis Fagan, author of two very different works, "The Prayer of the Sword, a romantle 'Italfanate' drama in blank verse, and 'Hawthorne U. S. A., a camedy of the 'Rurltanian' variety, neither of them first-rate works of art, but both full of promise for the future. But the most conspicuous of the newcomers is Mr. Alfred Sutro. whose 'Walls of Jericho' has been, from the box office point of view, the success of the season. This is a typical specimen of what our dramatic idealists are fond of calling the 'commercial' drama, and the irony of the case is that Mr. Sutro was once a dramatic idealist himself. There is something more than quaint in finding English translator and apostle of Maurice Maeterlinck coming upon the town with a work which, for spirit and style, might be signed 'Marie Corelli,' "

Mr. William Archer says in the London World: "The most popular authors of the season, if we judge by the number of their plays presented, have been William Shakspere and his candid friend Bernard Shaw. Twelve plays of Shakspere have been acted. and we have had no fewer than three Hamlets almost simultaneously in the field. The most notable Shaksperean performances, beyond a doubt, have been the masterly Shylock of Sir Henry Irving-certainly as great a performance of the part as he ever gave in his best years-and the thoughtful, graceful, and dramatic Hamlet

"I hope," says Mr. Max Beerbohm in the mother is much concerned over the fear patched to the various managers, while, wonderful tales with which he regales her. hold themselves aloof from it as surely as that it is their duty to redeem American

Some Actor Stories.

During his early career on the stage Raymond Hitchcock played a small part For four nights and two matinees, start- in a Shakespearian tragedy. The star, ing with a matinee today, "Too Proud to one of the greatest of his period, was an Beg" will be the attraction at the Krug austere individual and had few friends theater. The heroine who is thrown on her among the members of his company. In What effect has the tendency of the age own resources with her two children after a death scene the eminent tragedian perespecially the literature of the stage? Has murdered, spurns with contempt the smooth garded as wonderful innovations by the not the general demand for facts, the polite villian's advances for her heart and hand younger and more inexperienced members scenticism with which any departure from and his offer of gold, preferring starvation of the cast. Wishing to compliment the experience is received, the unwillingness to and death to a loathsome marriage. The great star, Hitchcock stepped up to him and said: "That was a splendid back fall enstrated, been an active agency in the serious iliness as a result of being dragged you made in your death last night." The placing of stiff and formal bends on the out of a fire into which he was trapped. great actor looked at the flatterer with a drams, and prescribing for it a certain At this junction his two children are stolen suspicious giare. "Yes," he said, "and I'd like to lay hands on the blithering idio: who soaped the stage floor.'

> Of the stories told at the expense of the late John Stetzen of Boston there apparently is no end. Most laymen have forgotten the identity of this theater owner, whose personality was firmly stamped on his friends, but anecdotes concerning him. though credited to other people, continue to be printed from time to time. De Wolf Hopper relates a tale which may be un-

Stetson employed as manager of the Tre mont theater a man whose name was Sharp. This individual had little power. and his wage-giver was jealous of that One day Stetson hurried into the office of the Tremont with the angry inquiry: "Mr. Sharp, I should like to know who gave you authority to sign your name o announcements concerning this house?

"I never do," replied the man. "You don't ch?" snaried Stetson, "Wel then, will you please explain to me the sign on the sidewalk?"

Employer and employe repaired to the There stood a board on which was painted: "Evening performance at 8:30. Mutinees at 2 o'clock sharp."

"There!" exclaimed Stetson, triumphantly pointing to the last word on the board. 'I should like to know what you call

Victor Moriey recently decided to give up athletics, temporarily at all events. Mr. Morley belongs to one of the Y. M. C. gymnasiums in New York, and has been wont to indulge himself in an hour's swim there every morning before reporting for rehearsals. While he is in the water, Mr. Morley's clothes repose securely in a closet with a combination lock.

One day last week Mr. Morley came of the water to discover that he had forgotten the combination. People came and people went, but the outlook was that the young actor would sit still forever. No one had any idea of the combination, and, of course, without the magic figures and his breeches, Mr. Moriey could not go into the street. The atmosphere in the room was none too warm to a nude man, and the teeth of the would-be athlete chattered. It was nearly noon when, as suddenly as it had gone, the recollection of the combi-

HLE none of the parties con- clearly defined course, along which its flow by the rejected suitor, and the husband nation returned. Then, vexed and chilly,

Gessip from Stageland. The Hanlons will have a new attraction this year, having revived "Fantasma," which they announce has been booked for this city during the season.

The new Belasco play for Blanche Bates will be laid in the far west, and parts of Bret Harte and Joaquin Miller will be liber-thus used in its make up. Robert Hilliard will be just a plain ordinary leading man, not a star. He is to play a western gambler

Miss Clo Graves' play for Miss Lena Azhwell is concerned with events in Paris during the reign of Louis XIV—about 1860. The heroine is not either Louise de La Vallers or Henriette d'Orieans. King Louis is to be a prominent figure. The one scene of the three acts is a salon in Versailles. of the three acts is a salon in Versailles.

John Luther Long and Edward Childs
Carpenter have collaborated in producing
"The Dragon Fly," a romantic drama in
which Minnie Seligman and William Bramwell will act together next season. The
first production will be in Philadelphia.
After trial on the road the piece will be
brought to New York.

brought to New York.

Miss Lillian Richardson, whose stage name is Queena Stewart, will leave this week to join "Habes in Toyland" for the fall presentation, Miss Hichardson joined the chorus when the company was in Omaha last season and was soon advanced to a part, singing the role of Bobby Shaftoe when the season ended.

Miss Annie Hughes is engaged upon a play for Miss Ellen Terry, in which that popular actress will appear as Mary, Queen of Scotts, in her younger days. Miss Hughes tells a fanciful story of a fictitious lover, who has to give place to Robert Darnley, with whom Mary enters into a "marriage of convenience."

Joseph Brooks is to send out "Home

Joseph Brooks is to send out "Home Folka" with the production utilized during its runs in New York and Chlongo on a tour of the country. "Home Folks" is a pastoral comedy-drama by C. T. Dazey, the well known author. Mr. Brooks announces the engagement of a company including Edwin Arden, Archie Boyd, Mary Ryan and seventy-two others.

Wilton Lackage or country his third.

wilton Lackaye opened his third season as a star in Duluth, Minn., on Friday, August II. He will appear this year in "The Pit." the dramatized version of Frank Norris' famous story of the west; in a great revival of "Trithy" and in Ibsen's "Pillars of Society." Mr. Lackaye is on his city shortly. He will produce a new play in New York next February. "Jean Valjean." his own dramatization of Victor Hugo's masterpiece, "Les Miserables."

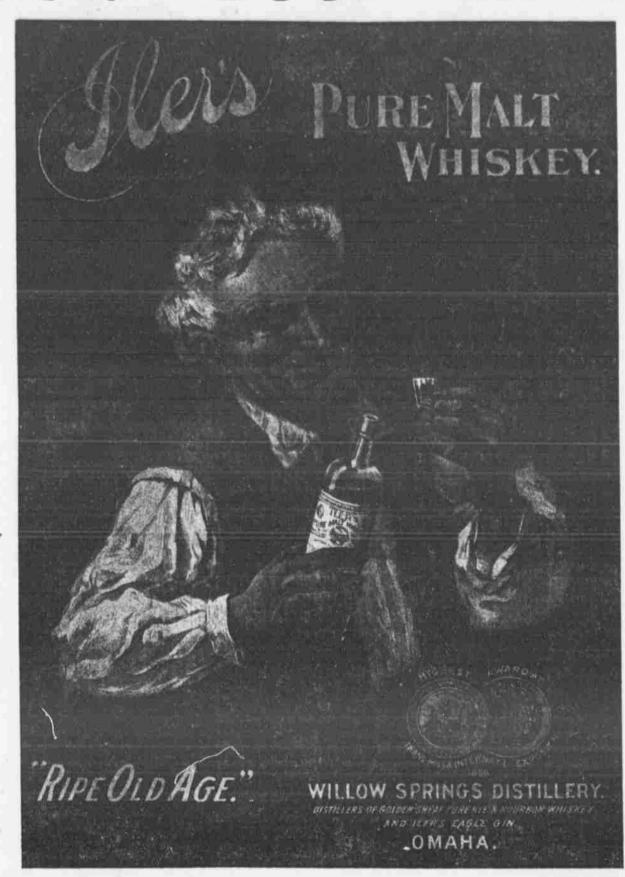
Hugo's masterplece, "Les Miserables."

There are a number of competent actors in the company which is to interpret Hall Caine's play "The Prodigal Son." Among them are J. E. Dodson, Edward Morgan, Aubrey Boucleault. Ben Webster, W. H. Thompson, Charlotte Walker, Drina Wolfe, Marie Wakuwright and Ida Waterman. The scenery is to be particularly elaborate. Three of the sets will illustrate Icelandie features, a fourth will represent the Casino at Monte Carlo. Evidently, the spectacular pretensions of the plece will be considerable.

Managers Wasenhals and Kemper announce that Blanche Walsh will play a limited engagement in New York at the Madison Square theatre commencing Monday, August 21. She will again be seen in Clyde Fitch's play "The Woman in the Case," in which she closed a brilliant run of four months at the Herald Square theatre last season. At the close of her second engagement with this play in New York she will go direct to Cincinnati and from thence to St. Louis, Kansas City, Omaha, Chicago, Beasten and Philadelphia.

Charles Frohman will shortly produce

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