

## CHARACTER SKETCHES.\*

[SECOND SERIES.]

NO. 2.

The writer of these sketches was disappointed at the readiness with which the likeness presented last week was recognized. It was not intended that there should be a photographic reproduction of every feature, but merely a suggestion or outline. But everybody named the subject of last week's sketch at once, so quickly that it wasn't amusing at all. The writer feels that he will be compelled hereafter to mingle a bit of Dumasism with his accustomed Zola-like precision and fidelity to the exact truth.

The business depression has borne down heavily on some of Lincoln's most enterprising citizens. The last two years have been a trying test of character for those who are heavily involved or whose business is directly affected by the hard times—and there are few persons who have escaped. There is a striking contrast in the manner in which two of the most prominent victims have struggled with fate.

One, who for years has been an extensive operator, with liabilities running up in the hundred thousands, has been dealt a blow by the money stringency that would kill some men. Daring, sagacious, confident in his own judgment, this man has not hesitated to assume immense obligations. Up to the time of the beginning of the panic he carried the burden with ease, and he spent many thousands of dollars yearly without apprehension of the future. The depression affected him among the first. There was no sale for the kind of property he handled, he could borrow no more money, and those from whom he had borrowed demanded immediate payment. Ruin was inevitable. But he bore up bravely, and creditors, admiring his courage and pluck and enterprise, and confident that he will come out on top in the end, have not swooped down on him. Today he shows some traces of anxiety, but he has never lost spirit, and he is sure of his ultimate success. He is a rare optimist.

The other, with not one-fourth of the obligations, is broken in spirit, his health is impaired by ceaseless worry, and he sees nothing but ill fortune in the future. Melancholy has lengthened his face and soured his visage until he is not pleasant to behold. He has let go his grip and he will never be able to catch on again. He is as greatly to be pitied—pessimists always are—as the other is to be admired.

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# NEW FUNKE OPERA HOUSE

**FRANK C. ZEHRUNG, Manager.**

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**Monday evening, April 15.**

**GILMORE'S**

**BAND . . . .**

**Victor Herbert, Leader.**

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**Thursday evening; April 18.**

**THOMAS'**

**ORCHESTRA.**

**assisted by**

**MISS GENEVIA BISHOP, SOLOIST.**