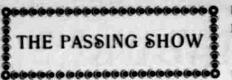
THE COURIER.



Angels and Ministers of Grace! No wonder Mme. Melba avoids London. not Lady Ellen?" Why not, O great Because of her last visit there the Duke and righteous court of England? of Orleans was confined to his room for eight days in hunting season, and during her stay carefully avoided all public resorts. If this thing keeps up Melba will be forbidden to enter English ports and exiled like poor Modjeska. I am sorry for the Duke. the must be a gentleman of a susceptible and romantic temperament to die so hard, and the susceptibles are always to be pitied. But there are a few things in this world which to have had and lost are quite enough to keep the Duke of Orleans indoors a week, even in hunting season.

So Julia Arthur will be with us this winter and will probably receive the recognition which was denied her before Romola is the most tedious and imposshe went to London. Miss Arthur is sible as it is the most studied of all one of those talented women of whom George Eliots novels. It is great in its there have been several in America, way, but not as a novel. Then what who seem to have every desirable thing will it be as a play? There are playbut success. She has a voice, such a voice: the face of the tragic muse, and eyes that might have been Niobe's, so full of anguish are they. But for some little and make it alive. Tito Milema reason, probably the same old everlasting reason, on this side of the Atlantic not so learned and even Romola herself she had never brilliant or pro- might be persuaded to care more for nounced success. In America we do not seem to have the faculty of developing great actors. We have no great national schools of acting like those abroad, where the severe training Savonarola, all of which the theatre mercilessly divides talent from vain assumption, giving to the great man all When the gentle and reflective Mr. the secrets of art and putting the little men where they belong. We have no managers who have elegance of taste or fine discrimination; who are actors, playwrights, critics, artists all in one; who can select the gold from all that 'Scutcheon" and "Romola." Great arms glitters and purify and chasten it. It of Juno, what a repertoire! If Miss is an art to manage an artist, and our Marlowe would only revive "The Jew of managers are for the most part guiltless Malta" and Wycherly's "Love in a of all art, heaven knows. Then we Wood" and a few of the miracle plays have no precedent. In this country she would be perfectly consistent. whoseever wills and can find a backer may star, may even rent a big theatre and play to the metropolis, yes and receive respectful attention and consideration as if they had a right to be there. With us training is not requisite to a "star," to say nothing of talent; only "nerve" and money. Of course in spite of all this we have had some great actors, men in whom the God sent madness of genius raged so riotously that Fannie Edgar Thomas, the Paris Corthey developed without our help, in respondent of the Musical Courier, a spite of us, in defiance of us, were their young lady supposed to be endowed own school, their own managers and with good sense and even with good their own traditions. But we have had taste writes a touching lament that the many more like Miss Arthur who go "truthful lines of Ella Wheeler Wilcox very well until they reach the point are so seldom set in music." She says where they need the guiding discipline they are "so tuneful and lyrical that of the strong arm and do not find it. they almost sing themselves." Almost training. Since then she has made sure and there is no escape, none. Mrs. back of his business cards. She always and rapid progress and has taken all Wilcox, it will be remembered is the orders her meals in French and the Ellen Terry's parts when that great person who wrote those scarlet sins call- Garcon thinks she is talking Scanactress was ill. She has not been seen ed "Poems of Passion" and "Poems of danavian dialect of some sort, and in America for several years and rer. Pleasure" in which she sings of "dear, judiciously bring her what he thinks haps when she comes back this winter, dead love" and makes "pray" rhyme best. Wisconsin French is apt to be if she has profited by Irving's masterly with "America." She lives in a New a little confusing to anyone who has management and has not been spoiled York flat and wears gowns that are the only heard it in Paris.

by Terry's nervousness, we may still be proud of her.

A French newspaper that is not on to the highly proper modes of doing things across the channel, innocently asks "If it is to be Sir Henry Irving why is it

Elwyn A. Barron, formerly critic on the Inter Ocean, is now dramatizing George Eliot's "Romola" for Julia Marlowe. Mr. Barron is not a partic ularly successful playwright. He is a reflective man who writes very decidedly in the essay style and is sometimes a little given to fine writing and sophomoric figures. His paragraphs are graceful and poetic, but he seems to lack the power to work up definite and strong action. His only former attempt at a drama, "When Bess Was Queen," was rather a story in dialogue than a play and did not outlive a dozen performances. It is pretty safe to say that in "Romola" he will not do much better. wrights who could divest the plot of the awful results of Mrs. Cross' devoted study of Florentine history, oil it up a could be made quite a fellow if he were her husband than for Theocritus, but Mr. Barron is scarcely the man to persuade her. He will devote himself to the cameos and old parchments and going public cares very little about. Barron gets through with "Romola" it will be a choice addition to Miss Marlowe's collection of unplayable plays. "Chatterton," "Peg Woffington," "Colombe's Birthday," "Blot on the

Richard Mansfield will not touch one of his old successes this season. His repertoire will be entirely new including, "A Son of Don Juan," "The House of the Wolf" and "A Society Highwayman." It takes a daring artist to burn his ships behind him.

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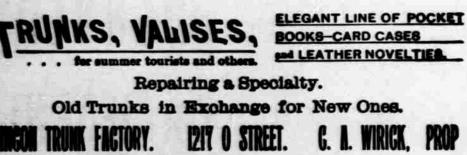
WILLARD KIMBALL

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But Miss Arthur, wiser than her kind, perhaps, but not quite, thank heaven. terror of the town. Her husband worthily bestowed. If it were almost went to London and put herself under Shut up in their red cover one can es- travels for a jewelry house and Ella any other opera singer I should have Sir Henry Irving. There she found cape them, but give them vocal power writes little poems on various precious my doubts about that parrot story. what she wanted, positivism and severe like Memnons smitten of the rising sun stones and has them printed on the Anyway, its rather transparent.

Calve is down at her new place in the Department of Aveyron in France feeding chickens. Really, that is what she does, day in and day out and she is said to experience the most exquisite satisfaction when her dear chicks and turkeys flutter toward her every morning.

Well, what if they do? If they did not Accidents still happen. Last week know enough to "flutter" toward the Minnie Hauk, the great soprano was person who feeds them they ought to be kissing her pet parrot and the loquasent to a feeble minded institute for cious beast caught her viciously by the chickens. "Ah!" cries the radiant canlip and it required the most frantic tatrice, "Ah, my chickens, how different efforts of Count Von Hesse-Wartegg to you are from the fickle world yonder. remove it. The wound became inflam- you would love me if I lost my beauty ed and the Countess was compelled to and could not sing a note." True, but cancel her London engagement. Min- let Calve's granery give out and see how nie should devote herself to kisses more long her chickens would love her. Ah