

THEATRICAL NOTES

John Dillon on Monday at the Funke played to a moderately well filled house. Mr. Dillon has the ease and grace of an old comedian. Although circumstances kept him from fulfilling the promise of his youth, his fruition is in no sense disappointing. His humor is spontaneous and original and he leaves his audience tremendously well disposed towards him. Age has not stiffened his muscles nor his tongue. Both are flexible and elastic as in the days when youth held the glass to his lips and he drained it dry.

"Wanted, the Earth," is machine made. The characters and the scenario are not impressed with the sign of personality. It was made according to a receipt furnished playwrights by Joshua Whitcomb. First scene: Farm house, old well, pail of water with tin dipper and wash basin in foreground. Scene second: Fabulously magnificent drawing room in New York furnished with two stuffed chairs, a sofa, an escritoire, and a solid marble top centre table. Scene third: A street of interminable

taker his playing was promising, as a tragedian there are still a few chapters he has not mastered.

John Henshaw and May Ten Broeck played to an appreciative house at the Lansing on Tuesday evening. Mr. Henshaw is a modern comedian with educated hands and feet and facile face muscles. Superinfused with a good nature that is not disconcerted by the inevitable accidents on stage and auditorium. He is a man's actor. His acting appealed directly to the desire which is deplorably prevalent in both sexes to appear better than they are. Mr. Howell I. Dodge's efforts to conceal his presence at the French ball from his wife were sympathetically received by that part of the audience which it is not at all expedient to encourage in such attempts.

May Ten Broeck is fair, fat and forty, with all an excellent dresser, perfect repose and in spite of all—light as a fairy. May Irwin's smile dispenses no more

well told and herein lies the strength of Mr. Morrison's production, for he gives it beautiful and elaborate stage settings and surrounds himself with carefully chosen players and when it is seen in this city new scenery in both design and material will be displayed together with entirely new costumes throughout.

Mr. Morrison by his finished work gives evidence of careful study and



LEWIS MORRISON

thought. Actors may be born, but genius, like a plant, is developed by care and culture. It will never expand into greatness if left to run rank, therefore, it takes a studious actor with genius as well to become truly great. Lewis Morrison has reached the height of success not without a struggle and now that he has been crowned with public favor he reaps the reward of continued application. He has been playing Mephisto for years, but he is ever on the alert for a suggestion that may improve his performance. His production of "Faust" is better, if possible, than ever before by reason of newly designed and arranged scenes and scenery. At the Funke Thursday, March 4th. Seats on sale Tuesday 10 a. m. Prices \$1.00, 75c, 50c and 25c.

MISS Cissy FITZGERALD.

Miss Cissy Fitzgerald appears in "The Foundling" at the Lansing theatre Wednesday, March 10th. With a matchless sweep of the limb she danced and glided herself into the very heart of the New York public, recalling the days of Taglioni. This remarkable English girl was born in Kent, and came from an old English family in no manner connected with theatricals.

From her earliest days Miss Fitzgerald was fond of music, and in her fourth year was known throughout the locality in which she was born, for her pretty childish dancing of the sailor's hornpipe and other fancy dances. To detach her thoughts from the stage she was despatched to a convent, where she remained until her thirteenth year. Miss Fitzgerald on leaving the convent, found nothing in society as an outlet for her exuberant spirits, and insisted on the stage. About four years ago she made her first appearance in the burlesque "Ruby Blas," making an instantaneous hit.

She has never been without an engagement from that day, and the principal managers of London and the Continent have always held strong inducements to secure Miss Fitzgerald for the principal burlesque. Lately she has been principally in August Van Biene's companies, in all cases taking the principal parts.

Miss Fitzgerald made a tour of the world with "The Gaiety Girl" company. She completely captured New York during the run of the "Foundling," at Hoyt's

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vistas, the inside of a restaurant or perhaps the mocking and fascinating saloon set with a bar whereat all the actors dash down cocktails and never pay for them. This one sends the men in the audience to the door in a rush. I never knew it to fail. If the inside of a saloon bears any resemblance to the reproduction of one, the prohibitionists could rest in peace. As they are still at work the stage barroom and drawing room are probably equally unsatisfactory likenesses.

Mr. Dillon's support is uneven. Flaxy and Mrs. Major Van Dooz'e, Margaret Shaw and Lillian Spellman were unexceptionable. It is kinder to ignore the rest of the company, especially Matthew Thorne (B. F. Edwards) "the cruelly wronged husband" who came on to the stage from the back of the house where he had been taking tickets, counting us, or something and had not stopped in the dressing room long enough to take the bag out of his knees. For a ticket-

bleeding than May Ten Broeck's. We were sorry when she left and when we said "Au Revoir" we meant it.

For the rest the company was excellent. The play was a restful farce in which specialties can be put in and taken out at will.

A MAN AND A DEVIL.

As a man Lewis Morrison is a quiet and retiring, modest in his dress and thoroughly domestic in his habits. His first thought is his home and how to make it perfect and complete, his aim being to have it an ideal one in every respect. How different is Lewis Morrison as a devil. Here he is insinuating, cunning, crafty and enticing. Instead of trying to make a home we see him using his every endeavor to wreck one and instead of seeking to build up he would destroy. This then is the art of the actor for it is not an inherent devil we see portrayed by Mr. Morrison—it is an assumed one. The story of "Faust" is always one of interest, but it must be

theatre. She is a tall stately blonde, with a classic cast of features and large brown eyes.

Remember the date, Lansing theatre, March 10th.

STUART ROBSON'S NEW PLAY.

Stuart Robson is immensely pleased with his novel play, "The Jucklines," which has been dramatized for him from Opie Read's novel. He will give it at the Lansing theatre the latter part of next month. In the first place it gives him a character part different from any he has ever before played—one that puts him into the cowhide boots of a quaint old farmer, instead of the conventional dress coat he has so often affected.

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