

A matinée benefit was tendered John Gilbert Dec. 5, in honor of the completion of his fiftieth year upon the stage. The programme was: Third act of "Almost a Life," with this cast:

Avisie Doranche . . .	Maud Granger	Phillipe	B. Maginley
Jules De Bonneval . .	Eben Plympton	Jerome	Gus Levick
Countess Clairnot . .	Rose Osborne	Manuel	B. T. Ringgold
Count Clairnot . . .	Henry Eytinge	Colinet	Chas. Leclercq
Frincine	Carlotta Evelyn	M. Doranche	E. H. Stevens
Dr. Saumire	H. A. Weaver	Madelaine	Sadie Bigelow

A recitation by George S. Knight came next, and was followed by "Kerry," with this cast:

Blanche Desmond . . .	Agnes Booth	Kerry	Dion Boucicault
Gerald Desmond . . .	C. A. Stevenson	Dr. Mellish	J. W. Shannon
Capt. Coldham	C. Rockwell	Kate	Stella Boniface

"A Morning Call," with Lester Wallack as Sir Edward Ardent and Ada Dyas as Lady Chillington, was the next item on the programme, and was succeeded by the screen scene from "The School for Scandal":

Sir Peter	John Gibbs Gilbert	Charles	C. F. Coghlan
Lady Teazle	Rose Coghlan	Joseph	Chas. Barron

After this Mr. Gilbert addressed the audience. The third act of "The Danicheffs" was next seen, with this cast:

Ossip	Chas. R. Thorne, Jr.	Count Vladimer	W. Ramsey
Nickifor	H. F. Daly	Anna	Sara Jewett
Countess Danicheff, Mrs. E. J. Phillips			

Then came the "bagatelle" called "The Chinese Question":

Billy	J. C. Williamson	Harry	W. S. Harkins
Kitty	Mrs. J. C. Williamson	Fred	A. H. Stuart
Nellie	Leonore Bigelow	Mrs. Freewell	Miss A. Eaton

The entertainment closed with the negro sketch, "Society Actors," by Billy Birch and Charley Backus.

John G. Gilbert was born at Boston, Mass., Feb. 27, 1810, and was one of the few American-born actors connected with Wallack's Theatre. His first appearance on the stage was at the Tremont Theatre, in his native city, Nov. 28, 1828, as Jaffier, in "Venice Preserved." His first appearance in this city was at the Old Bowery Theatre in June, 1839, as Sir Edward Mortimer, in "The Iron Chest." He had prior to this been in the Southern theatres. It was at the old Camp Street theatre, New Orleans, La., that he played small business. Being cast for Sir Frederick Vernon, in "Rob Roy," he resolved to make his mark. Just before going on for the part that night (he was letter perfect at rehearsal) he was anxiously waiting for his cue; but when it came and took him on