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AMUSEMENTS.

Frederick Warde to Open at the California.
"WAGES OF SIN" A SUCCESS.

The Bush Street — Standard Theatre— The Minstrels — Tivoli Opera House—Woodward's Gardens— Notes— Etc.
Madame Adelaide Ristori, concluded her farewell season in this city, last evening in the character of Lady Macbeth. During the past two weeks this eminent tragedienne has held the boards of the California Theatre and has appeared in all of her most celebrated tragic roles, unfortunately, it must be said, playing to light houses. She has given "Elizabeth," "Marie Antoinette, 1" "Marie Stuart," "Medea," "Lucretia Borgia" and Lady Macbeth, and each impersonation has been marked by that grace of character, force of emotion and versatility of expression which have ever characterized the performances of this talented and successful tragic actress. It is difficult to assign the true cause for the lack of popular support that has been Ristori's fortune or misfortune during her farewell visit to this city. Usually the last appearances of great actors and actresses have drawn large audiences from the best classes of theatregoers, who pride themselves on the fact of their attendance, and throng the theatres to catch additional impressions for preservation in their memories of notable performances. It cannot be said that the theatre-going public in this city are not as well posted in dramatic art as elsewhere, but that Ristori failed to attract larger audiences at her farewell visit, is an enigma that appears not readily solved. It is also true that the numerous other attractions in this city have not been as well patronized during the past fortnight as is usual in this season, which is doubtless due in some degree to the long and expensive opera season so recently closed. To those who have been fortunate enough to have witnessed any or all of the recent impersonations of Madame Ristori, there will be much to treasure up in the storehouse of memory. All of her plays have been excellently produced, showing conclusively that Ristori is eminently a directress and understands to a nicety the workings of stage manipulation. The support has been fairly well sustained, and one or two actors have shown commendable ability, but the chief interest has centered in the impersonations by the great Italian actress. She still retains much of the vigor and spirit of other years, and notwithstanding her playing in English, the finish and effect of her greatest creations were exemplified in a forcible manner. Her costumes were all rich and elegant, and she appears to have one of the most extensive — armoires ever exhibited on the stage in this city. On two evenings Ristori appeared in Italian, her native language, and impressed the firm belief on her hearers that she still retains a very high position among the greatest of living tragediennes. During the coming week Mr. Frederick Wards, a popular young tragedian, will appear at the California Theatre in a number of popular tragedies. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday Sheridan Knowles' tragedy of "Virginius" will be played; and Thursday, "Hamlet." On Friday a double bill will be given, consisting of "Brutus" and "Katherine and Petruchio." At the matinee on Saturday "The Lady of Lyons" will be produced, and "Richard III" on Saturday night. After three weeks of tragedy, this theatre will be given over for a time to comedy, and on Monday, May 4th, Dion Boucicault, supported by Dion G. and Nina Boucicault, and an excellent company, will appear in "The Colleen Bawn." "The Wages of Sin" drew large audiences to the Baldwin during last week, and we believe, from the manner in which the play was received by its auditors, that it made an immense hit. The piece was a very successful one in England, and has gained the reputation of being the strongest melodrama now being played in this country. The story is one of intense interest, and its construction is exceedingly to be admired. "The Wages of Sin" is by no means an entirely original play, but that can easily be forgiven in consideration of the cleverness of the work performed upon it, which is all that the modern playgoer requires. The leading roles are boldly drawn, and the comedy element novel and expansive, and last but by no means least, there is a moral attached to "The Wages of Sin" which undoubtedly has fastened itself upon the minds of many who were thereby made better through its teachings. The cast was an exceptionally strong one — in fact but a few slight faults were noticeable in the performances. Mr. Charles Overton plays the villain in a manner denoting a full conception of the character. Miss Marie Prescott has greatly improved in her acting since we saw her at the California some five years ago. We cannot imagine that the role of Rath could be handled by any one in a manner more satisfactory than it is by Miss Prescott; Mrs. Brutone and Miss Emma Cliefden are also worthy of high commendation. Mr. Charles Maubury, as the clergyman, develops the phases of the character in the most excellent manner.

The John A. Stevens' Company has been entertaining the Bush-street Theatre audiences during the past week with the melodrama entitled "The Unknown" — Stevens, the author of the play, in the title role, rendering the character effectively. Hudson listen made a first class Jack Salt, while J. W. Summers did an excellent bit of character acting as "Jimmy with the lacerated 'art." His make-up was about the most villainous ever placed before a San Francisco audience. On Monday evening the 6ame company will present the melodrama "Passion's Slave," Mr. Steven's sustaining the character of Manuel De Foe. The piece has heretofore scored a series of successes, and will undoubtedly draw good houses during the coming week.

Georgie Woodthorpe and company had a severe trial throughout the week, at the Standard, in "Little Butterfly." The play is not a good one, in any sense, and it seems strange that each a clever little actress should have aught to do with it. In many instances the dialogue is so bad that it is almost impossible for an actor or actress to adhere to the text and make clear the sense of the lines spoken. The company, taken all in all, did everything in its power to make the play a "go," but, in consequence of the utter worthlessness of the piece, it failed to do so. It is to be hoped that Miss Woodthorpe will abandon "Little Butterfly" for a play possessing merit.

Charley Reed's Minstrels opened at the Grand Opera House on Thursday evening, after their return from an extended tour through Oregon and Washington Territory. A Uvely bill and popular prices attracted large audiences during the remainder of the week, and the venture can safely be said to have been a success.

Lecocq's pretty comic opera of "GirofleGirofla" has been presented to good houses at the Tivoli Opera House. The opera, with all its beauties of merry music, witty combinations and handsome costumes, is familiar to all. It is therefore unnecessary to give the simple plot. Miss Helen Dineon essayed the title role satisfactorily, but with preceding favorites of greater experience, her task was a difficult one to win a pronounced triumph. This lady improves so much that next week much better work may be anticipated. Miss Louise Leighton (Paquita), with her greater experience on this stage, makes a hit, especially in her Spanish Bong, accompanied with the ' castanets. Eckpr (Sarasquin) also scores a success in his song, "I am the Son of Marasquin." Throughout he does well. Knight also has much improved, as may be seen by his rendition of "In Me Behold a Father," in the part of Don Bolero. Finlman, when more experienced on the operatic stage, will lend more material aid with his great voice. The cast is well allotted and the opera runs very smoothly, and will satisfactorily hold the boards until "Robinson Crusoe" is ready for presentation. The management must be heartily congratulated upon the magnificence and beauty of the costumes. They excel any yet displayed at this most popular of opera houses.

At yesterday's matinee the Nieman and Morrison' 6 Juvenile Opera Company gave "Pinafore" to a large and well pleased audience. The occasion was accepted to give a complimentary benefit to Miss Alma, in her talented, representation of Josephine. This young lady has undoubted talent and has had the advantage of Mrs. Melville-Snyder's careful training. She is destined to make her mark in comic opera. Miss Lottie Caleing, as Joseph Porter, Miss Nellie O'Connor as Ralph Rackstraw, Miss Fredericks Stockmeyer as Battercup and Miss Annie Haoley as ; Hebe, were

charming, while the two midgets, Lawrence and Yalerga, gave evidence of precocious ability. ; The management of - Woodward's . Gardens announce an excellent programme for this afternoon. . ' ' ' ' , The Panorama Building . is visited daily and nightly by crowds of individuals who express themselves in most enthusiastic terms over the panorama of the Battle of Waterloo. Signor Enrico Campobello's Amateur Operatic Society begins its initial performances at the Grand Opera House on May 15th in aid of the funds of Grace Church, under the auspices of a large number of society ladies. The first opera to be produced is that of Mozart's, " Le Nozze di Figaro," with the following cast : Cherubino " Miss Bnth Holladay The Countess.... Mrs. West— ater MarcellinaM-ss Louise H—laday Susanna Miss May Mitchell Figaro .Herr Carl Formes Bartolo.,. Mr. G.Brenner Basilio Mr. Frank Uger Antonio... Mr. Thornton _e Conte Almavina Signor Enrico Campobello Tickets will be on sale at Gray's music store Monday morning, May 11th. Mr. Sorge will act as conductor. 1 The business management has been placed in the hands of Marcus M. Henry, which fact argnes much for the success of the performances in a financial way. A recital musicale will be given by the Joran children at Irving Hall on May 5th. Lola , Pauline and Elsie made their first public appearance in this city two years ago, when, as children of nine, twelve and fourteen years of age, they gave an orchestral concert and drew forth the most favorable criticisms upon their artistic playing. The event promises to be mnch of a success, as it truly should. The programme will comprise : Duo— two pianos. Rondo, op. 73 Chopin Elise and Pauline. Vocal selections Aufiordenmg Zum Tanz Weber-Tausig Lola. Violin— (a) Cavatina Baff (b) Gondoliera, (c) All' On^arese Scharwenka Pauline, (a) Prelude and Fughetta. Bach 1' b) Dearest May Schumann c) Valse Chopin Elise. Rhapsodie Hongroise No. 10 Liszt Lnla. Declamation with piano accp. — "The HeatherBoy," from the German of Hobbel... Schumann Pauline. Due — two pianos — " La Jeunesse D'Hercule" . . .". Saint Saens ' -- . - -■ Pauline and Lula. VocaT selections ...: Trio— two pianos and violin— Allegro Vivace from fifth Symphonic Mendelssohn Lula, Pauline and Elise. The German season will close on May 3d. The last two performances will take place at the California Theatre. To-night Jacobson's five-act comedy, "EnGemachter Mann," will be performed. Miss Amelia Stahl will play the principal soabrette part, and introduce, in company with Herr Boeieick, new songs and couplets especially composed for them. ; - . - .■ . . ; . There was no performance at the Standard yesterday afternoon, "owing to the illness, 1' etc. It is time the public should be protected against such organizations as the Georgia Woodthorpe Company, managed by a heretofore unheard-of person named Lawrence, who has defrauded everybody about him — printers, actors, newspapers, etc. Respectable managers like Stechan should not lend themselves and their theatres to such irresponsibles without giving the public notice.

BBIEF NOTES. Alice Harrison is to play an engagement over this coast. Henry Aveling has secured an original play for himself and wife. The tour of Lotta has been an uninterrupted success since it began. Rnmor says that Mile. Emma Nevada is soon to wed Dr. Palmer, her agent. George S. Knight has booked a two weeks' engagement at the Fifth Avenue for next season. ■ D. A. Banta, A. M. Palmer's Secretary, has been given charge of the roateing of all the companies for next season. Leonard Grover, Sr., is at work upon a new comedy which he eays "will surpass anything he has heretofore done. 1' Selina Dolaro and David Belasco are engaged in writing a society comedy. This joint production will be ready for use in the Autumn. Daniel Frohm and Nick Long are in the city attending to the production of "May Blossom," which takes place at the Baldwin on May 11th. J. Army Enox, one of the authors of " Shaue-na-LawnV and "McFadden's Spirits, 1' is not satisfied with the honors reaped as dramatist and editor of Texas Si/tings, but will enter the lecture field. John Rickaby has engaged a powerful company to support Helene Dauvray at the Star Theatre in her new play. It includes Ida Vernon, Ada Gilman, Leonora Bradley, Fred Bryton, Clarence Handysides, C. P. Flockton, Hart Conway, E. H. Sot hern, Albert Anden, Leighton Baker and Felix Morris. Jndic will only give twenty performances in New York, opening at Wallack's October 1st. She will be supported by Maurice Grau's present company. The repertoire will be "Niniche, 1' "Nitonche," and other vaudeville pieces. After the New York engagement the company will go South and to Mexico. George Hoey'e new comedy, " What a Night," written for Gus Williams, was played for the first time in Kansas City on the 11th instant. Williams telegraphed the author : « c She is a winner ; went with 6creams." Mr. Williams will play the piece but once or twice this season. It will be his feature next season. When Fanny Davenport was in Cincinnati she received a compliment at the hands of Henry Ward Beecher, who attended a performance of " Fedora " and was greatly carried away by the play and the star's acting. The compliment consists in the fact that the only player whom Mr. Beecher had previously seen was Irving. Simmonds and Brown are engaging a company to support Mrs. John Drew in " The School for Scandal" at the Arch Street Theatre, Philadelphia, on May 11th. The lady will play Lady Teazle, and on Tuesday following will sail for Europe, remaining there all Summer with her son-in-law and daughter, Maurice Barrymore and Georgie Drew. We are in receipt of the following music, written by Miss Emilie F. Bauer of Portland, Oregon : " Murmurings from Venice " and " Moonlight on the Willamette," also a Bone entitled " My Pec's Hush-a-Bye." Miss Bauer is a young lady of decided musical talent, as is clearly shown in all of her writings. "My Pets' Hush-a-Bye" will undoubtedly prove to be an exceedingly popular Bong. The words and music are excellent, ■ It is proposed to introduce the camera obscura on a large ecale, on the boards of the theatre. It will play a part in working out the plot of a play by Mortimer Murdock, which is soon to be brought out in the Brooklyn Theatre by James A. Hardie. A designing woman will work on the feelings of a suspicious wife, the camera disclosing the schemer apparently lavishing endearments upon the husband, all of which is pantomime to the persecuted sight-seer. Successful experiments with the new effect have been made. - On the 11th instant, after the performance of "May Blossom "at the People's Theatre, New York, a supper commemorative of the first anniversary of that play was given to Harry Miner, to the author, the management, the company and a few invited guests. . A long table was set in one of the drawing-rooms situated on either Bide of the aaditorium, and at half past eleven, the festivities began. Covers were laid for fifty, and the repast wau as bountiful as the hospitality of the host could conceive. Epergnes filled with- fragrant - flowers decorated the board, but, they faded into insignificance beside the lovely little Blossoms under Mrs. Fernandez' motherly care, who were ranged like the " silver bells, cockle-shells and pretty maids !' of Mistress Mary's legendary garden — " all in a row ◆ on one side of ' the table. At the head eat Mr. Miner, with Mr. Belasco on his right and exSenator Grady at his left.' ' Louisa Eldridge, Olga Brandon, De Wolf . Hopper and others who had at various times appeared in the cast of " May Blossom " were sprinkled among the regular company. Mr. Miner, when toasted, replied briefly, and introduced as a proxy Senator Grady, a gentleman whose broad eloquence has often fired the hearts of the frequenters of . Tammany Hall." He paid a warm tribute to . the worth of the play and , the ability of those that represent it. The Senator was followed . by Mr. Belasco, who seemed ' quite overcome by the praises that had been showered upon him. Mrs. Eldridge spoke for former BlosBomitea, Daniel: Frohman for the management, Benjamin Maginley for the company, and Harrison i T " toi for the Ptt's« Brief remarks were also made by Miss Cayvan, " Joseph Wheelock and others"