

BERLIN

THE ENGLISH THEATRE TOUR.

SPECIAL INTERVIEW.

(FROM OUR BERLIN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mme. Illing's "English Theatre" Company at the Neues Schauspielhaus continues to be well-patronised by the English and American Colonies, and a "thin, bored line of Germans," to parody Kipling's famous line. Perhaps the parody is a little unkind, for the Germans who attend, assuredly in very sparse numbers, show themselves interested and curious, and laugh at most of the points, readily if not hilariously. It was interesting to notice the clearly-defined distribution of the various nationalities in the audience at the second production, on Saturday night, of "She Stoops to Conquer." The sight or nine front rows were almost exclusively filled with Americans; then a broad band of vacant seats; finally, under the galleries, the Germans, while English people chiefly patronised the circles. On the whole it was a poorly filled house.

The "English Theatre" company are, to say the least of it, keenly disappointed at the wretched Press notices which have been doled out to them by Berlin's critics. Mr. Herbert Greville, the stage-manager of the English company, in an interview with the *Daily Record* correspondent, expressed himself most forcibly to this effect. Particularly in reference to the criticisms of "She Stoops to Conquer," the English Company, Mr. Greville feels, has been unfairly handled, largely owing, he affirms, to the German lack of proper understanding for the 18th century comedy.

The German critics, Mr. Greville points out, are apparently entirely ignorant of the fact that quite a different style of acting is customary in presenting English plays of the date of "She Stoops to Conquer," in which it is usual to adhere as closely as possible to the traditional lines of a century or two ago. "Here is not darkness, but ignorance," said the *Vossische Zeitung* critic, quoting Shakespeare in polite reference to the general acting and stage-management in "She Stoops to Conquer." "Here is not darkness, but ignorance," Mr. Greville would like to retort, in reference both to the *Vossische's* condescending criticism of Goldsmith's classic comedy itself as well as of the English company's methods of presenting it.

As to the same paper's suggestion that the English company consisted of a "troop of miserable comedians who have no chance to appear in England," Mr. Greville furnishes the *Daily Record* with the following data regarding the company's stage-connections in England. Mr. Greville himself, by the way, has been connected for more than twenty years with well known English dramatic companies, including Mr. Harrison's and Mr. Cyril Maude's at the Haymarket.

Miss Ethel Dane (Mrs. Cyril Keathley) who played *Miss Neville* in "She Stoops to Conquer," was until lately one of the most popular members of Mr. Benson's company; Mr. Geo. Desmond (*Tony Lumpkin*) is at the present moment connected with Mr. Jas. Welsh's company; Mr. Cecil Ward has had a wide experience of American and Australian audiences, and in connection with Mr. Boucicault is chief stage-manager and producer for Mr. Charles Frohman in London; Mr. Richard Lambert has been long connected with Sir Charles Wyndham's company; Miss Rosalind Ivan has frequently toured with Mrs. Patrick Campbell and Miss Olga Nethersole in the States; Mr. Edward Bonfield is a player at the Adelphi, London; and Miss Mayne Young was understudying Miss Marion Terry in "Peter's Mother" throughout last season.

The *Vossische Zeitung* obviously put its foot in it by stating that Mme. Illing's company of actors had been recruited from the ranks of the unemployed. With all desire, however, to show to Mme. Illing's "English Theatre" that courtesy which has been denied it by the German Press, even the humble voice of the *Daily Record* must be raised in regretful protest against the general inferiority of the English ensemble. Undeniably it is not a "first-rate show," or calculated, as the German papers point out, to enhance the artistic reputation of England. "She Stoops to Conquer," for example, is worthy of a different presentation,—that old-world comedy round which the flavour of life among the English country gentry of two centuries ago should linger far more convincingly. As character studies, most of the rôles were disappointingly taken, always emphatically excepting that of the exuberant *Tony Lumpkin*. Mr. Dalziel Heron fell far short of his opportunities as *Squire Hardcastle*, the English country gentleman who, by the very intensity of his old-fashioned aristocracy, ought to mark the absurdity of his involuntary rôle as inn-keeper. Miss Violet Greville as *Mrs. Hardcastle* gave as conventional a reading to the rôle as Miss Grace Noble was tame in her portrayal of mischievous, bewitching *Kate Hardcastle*.

All social and other items intended for publication in this column should be sent to the Berlin representative of *The Daily Record*—Miss C. M. Hook, Kalckreuth Strasse 11, W. (Tel. VI. 18,235.) All business communications, relating to advertisements, etc., should be sent direct to the Dresden office—Struve Str. 5.

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Mr. Alexander J. Barnes, of Pasadena, Cal., who has been studying for some time with Nino Cairone in Milan and coaching in German *Lieder* in Dresden, gave a recital at the American Woman's Club on Wednesday evening, December 8. He sang German and English songs and Italian arias before a good-sized audience. Mr. Barnes has a flexible, lyric tenor voice, and is preparing for concert-work in America. His programme was as follows:—

- Arie (Rigoletto) "la donna e mobile" . . . Verdi
 - Als die alte Mutter . . . Dvorak
 - Die Lotushlume . . . Schumann
 - Verborgeneit . . . Hugo Wolf
 - Frühlingsglaube . . . Schubert
 - Arie (Mignon) addio Mignon facore . . . Thomas
 - "Jean" . . . Spres
 - "O let night speak of thee" . . . Chadwick
 - "Your presence" . . . Webber
 - I'll sing thee songs of Araby . . . Clay
 - Arie ("l'elisir d'amore") "una furtiva lagrima" . . . Donizetti
- Mrs. Lillian Jeffrey Petri was at the piano.

Mr. Henry Happold, English Solicitor, has offices at Französische Strasse 43, Berlin. International, Private, and Commercial matters.

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BERLIN CURRENT ENTERTAINMENTS.

This evening:

Royal Opera House	Die Walküre	at 7
Royal Theatre	Der deutsche König	7.30
New Royal Opera Theatre	closed.	
Deutsches Theater	The Taming of the Shrew (Kammerspiele) Das Heim	7
Lessing Theatre	Vor Sonnenaufgang	8
Berliner Theater	Hohe Politik	8
New Schauspielhaus	English Theatre: Danes Defence	8
Comic Opera	Tiefland	8
Schiller Theatre O.	Die erste Geige	8
Charlottenburg	Wallensteins Tod	8
Frdr. Wilhelmst. Theatre	Flachsman als Erzieher	8
Kleines Theater	Heuchler.—Die Medaille	8
Bernhard Rose Theatre	Die Grille	8
Uranin Theatre	Physiologie der soz. Insekten	8

Every evening until further notice.

New Theatre	Ein königlicher Spass	at 7.30
New Operetta Theatre	Miss Duddelsack	8
Lustspielhaus	Der dunkle Punkt	8
Metropol Theatre	Halloh — die grosse Revue	8
Apollo Theatre	Spezialitäten	8
Walhalla Theatre	Spezialitäten	8
Reichshallen Theatre	Seltener Sänger	at 8, Sundays
Passage Theatre	Spezialitäten	8
Folles Caprice	Sicher ist sicher.—Der Mann meiner Frau	8.15

BRITISH AND AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES.
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND: Ambassador the Rt. Hon. Sir E. Goschen, G.C.V.O. Embassy, 70 Wilhelm Strasse. Office hours 11-1—Consul-General Dr. Paul v. Schwabach, Consulate, Behrens Strasse 63. Office hours 10-12 and 4-5.
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NEWS OF THE WORLD. (Continued.)

CONSTANTINOPLE, Tuesday.—The Chamber of Deputies yesterday discussed the amalgamation of the British and Ottoman shipping companies in Mesopotamia. The Grand Vizier finally declared that the Government regarded this fusion as advantageous for the national interests. A vote of confidence in the Government was then adopted. The Government was subsequently empowered to work-out a bill providing for the granting of concessions in regard to the amalgamation, but not binding Turkey to any financial obligations, this bill to become law without necessitating the endorsement of Parliament.

SANTIAGO DE CHILE, Tuesday.—A destructive fire broke out last night and destroyed the commercial centre of Valdivia. The conflagration, which is not yet extinguished, is causing immense damage.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday.—According to a telegraphic despatch received by the State Department, the Mexican Government has decided to send a gunboat to Corinto (Nicaragua) to guard Mexican interests.

NEW YORK, Tuesday.—According to a report from Managua, just received here, a battle has taken place between the Government troops under President Zelaya and the revolutionist forces near Rama, both armies sustaining many casualties. A rumour is circulating that Zelaya himself was captured during the fight, but this is not yet confirmed.

BERLIN, Tuesday.—The company meeting of the Alkali Syndicate held here yesterday conferred upon the augmented executive council power to regulate the American matter and arrive at a binding decision with the works at Aschersleben and Sollstedt, on condition that this decision is unanimously approved and ratified. The augmented executive council registered its approval of this agreement without a dissentient vote. Geh. Justizrat Kempner, and Directors Biemann and Schmidtman, are leaving for the United States today to further conduct the negotiations.

CHEMNITZ, Tuesday.—At 10 o'clock last night a terrible automobile disaster occurred on the Leipzig chaussée in the vicinity of Bornä. An automobile collided with a heavy dray so violently that the machine was shattered to fragments, the chauffeur being killed on the spot. The owner of the car was badly hurt, while the driver of the cart escaped with a shock.

BEUTHEN, Tuesday.—Mrs. Siepenberg, a New York lady who was recently attacked and robbed in an express train, has identified a man arrested here as her assailant.

LONDON, Tuesday.—Sir Alfred L. Jones, managing director of the Elder Dempster Steamship Company and one of the leading members of the British Cotton-growing Association, has died at Liverpool. (We may mention that the telegram received by us announcing this death calls the deceased gentleman "Sir Alfred John." Still yet once more! Ed.)

PARIS, Tuesday.—The Court Martial of Le Mans has sentenced the 21-year-old Count Quinonias to one month's imprisonment for desertion, this light sentence being due to the time the count was in custody.

NEW YORK, Tuesday.—A New York Central express train collided with a freight train near Erie today, four persons being killed and nine dangerously hurt.

BRUSSELS, Tuesday.—According to a bulletin issued at 2 p.m., the condition of King Leopold is completely satisfactory. He bore the operation well, and the physicians express themselves quite satisfied with the result.

(From our correspondent.) **NEW YORK.**—Hoping for better luck, Sir Thomas Lipton will build what he calls a "four-leafed" Shamrock as challenger for the America Cup. This is in case the New York Yacht Club accepts the challenge which he will formally forward to it in due time for a contest in 1911. Should it not accept for a cup race, there is likely to be a race, with the cup not the prize. Sir Thomas, before sailing for home on the Lusitania, admitted that he would seek for more favourable conditions than hitherto.

"I intend to challenge for 1911," said Sir Thomas. "It would not be practicable to do so for next year, as I have engaged to race around the Irish coast. I could not ask the New York Yacht Club to accept a challenge under the stipulations I would like to make. But I will go as far as seems just, and I believe the holders of the cup will do what is right and fair, under the restrictions they are bound by in the 'deed of gift.' New York yachtsmen would race under the old terms, but I would not have a chance under them, and it would scarcely be sportsman-like, or like New York yachtsmen, to not consider certain modifications. I know the difficulties they will have to meet, but I am sure they will meet my suggestions in liberal spirit."

"Will you tell the result of your efforts to 'feel out' the sentiment regarding modification of terms?" he was asked. Sir Thomas smiled, and answered: "You have seen the men who have come to see me off." They were F. G. Bourne, ex-commandore of the New York Yacht Club; R. E. Tod, of the Atlantic;

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