

HENRIETTA CROSMAN



DEBUT OF WILLIAM NORRIS.

Actor's Experience in London as a Music Hall Performer.

William Norris, now playing in the comic opera, "Tom Jones," tells the following story of his stage debut: "My first appearance on any stage was on a Christmas night in London. I had run away from home in San Francisco, determined never to return, and equally resolved to become an actor. I chose a music hall start. "The hall was patronized by the laboring class, and accommodated about 7,000 persons. The crowds began assembling about five o'clock in the afternoon, to be sure of seats, and, as this was too early for supper, there was an army of men with baskets of luncheon, which they peddled among the waiting throngs. The favorite article of food provided by the vendors was sheep's trotters, or feet. Of course, there were bones. "My turn came, and I began my act. I had got along to the first chorus, when, chancing to glance at the side of the proscenium arch, I beheld a glaring sign which read: "Gentlemen Will Please Not Throw Trotter Bones at Actors on the Stage." "The significance of this request hit me instantly. Visions of sheep's feet filling the air and headed my way petrified me with apprehension. My tongue stuck, my feet grew numb, my whole being was paralyzed. To this day I do not remember getting off the stage, though I have been told the stage manager dragged me off. "I remember hearing him say: 'You had better get out of this as soon as you can,' and my next clear recollection is being in the cab on the way back to my room. I removed my make-up as best I could with my handkerchief, and ventured no further appearance as a song-and-dance artist. Next season I came back to America and went on the stage in a legitimate company, though I confess I told the manager I had had experience in London as a music hall performer."

GOSSIP OF THE STAGE.

Charles Frohman is in conference by cable with Otis Skinner from a view to presenting Mr. Skinner in a Shakespearean repertoire next season. Forbes-Robertson, the English actor, is negotiating for the British rights to "The Witching Hour," which he intends to produce in London. Clyde Fitch's latest comedy, "Girls," deals with the fortunes of four young women who go to New York with the determination to fight their own way in the world without any male assistance. Three of them start in business, but quickly yield to the temptations of matrimony and retire. The fourth tries the stage and becomes famous in a night. Does education, or at least the education of the schools, mean success? Augustus Thomas, who is credited with more stage triumphs than any other American author, is said not to have attended school after his twelfth year. In the new comedy, "The Traveling Salesman," produced by Thomas W. Ross and company in Washington, the action is laid in a country depot, a drummer's hotel room, and a general store. Henry W. Harris decided to withdraw Dustin Farnum in "The Rector's Garden," which played just one week at New York. "It is stated that in early life Sam Bernard was a paperhanger. He does not particularly believe in papering the house now," observes a Philadelphian. Manager Florence Ziegfeld is now rehearsing "The Follies of 1908," his new musical revue, which will open at his Jardin de Paris, atop of the New York theater, June 1. Messrs. Bickel and Watson, Mlle. Dazie, and Charles J. Ross will be prominent members of the organization. Charles Frohman has engaged Harry Hulger for the role of Joe Mivins in "The Dairymaids." Martin Harvey will produce Stephen Phillips' version of Sir Walter Scott's "The Bride of Lammermoor" in Glasgow.

GALLANTS ANNOYED PLAYERS.

Managers Could Scarcely Keep Them Off Stage in Revolutionary Days.

The theater in New York during the period of occupation by the British was really quite a social if not an artistic success. The town was filled with stories, who were glad to attend in order to show their love and affection for the British officers who appeared as actors. Othello was a great favorite as was Richard III. One advantage the soldier folk had over the civilian actors who preceded and followed them. The orchestra was always made from the regimental bands, and there were 14 musicians at a dollar a head a night to make pleasant the entrance and to provide the chills and fever accompaniment for the slaughter of Desdemona. The scenery is said to have been insufficient and of a quality hardly calculated to arouse vast applause, and yet it is known that Maj. Andre was one of those who helped paint the scenery for several of the productions. Thomas Barrow, originally a coach painter and afterward New York's only dealer in engravings, was his assistant. They painted roadside flats, drops, side scenes, including in the general effect "streets, woods and wilds, chambers and palaces," according to a writer familiar with their efforts. A Capt. Delaney also gave his talent with the brush as a contribution to the success of these amateur shows. The costumes were of the best, however, for, no matter what the play, the actors appeared in the uniforms of their regiments. The young subalterns borrowed the gear and millinery of their friends among the tory dames of New York and cast back to the days of Shakespeare, when all the female parts were played by men. For a long time in these early days of the New York stage the hardest fight the managers had to make was to keep the gallants of the day off the stage. They insisted upon the privilege accorded box seat holders in London and dawdled about the stage during the action of the play, babbling among themselves or talking to the actors who were not actually engaged with their lines. That they were an addition to the scene slightly incongruous and foreign was not only admitted, but insisted upon by the managers of those early days, but it required a vast amount of nerve on the part of an actor-manager to insist upon the withdrawal of a Schuyler or a Clinton or a Livingston from the stage in the New York of those days.

Culture and Agriculture. Richard Carle, the hen-pecked hero of "Mary's Lamb," delights in exploding sham. Sometimes his quick retorts strike deep. This was the case not long ago when he was one of a party at supper. In the party was a man who was boasting about his farm in Maine and boring the others with a long account of his four blooded cows. "Of what breed are the cows?" asked Mr. Carle. "Really," replied the bore, "I can't say offhand." "What!" said Mr. Carle. "You mean to say you have only four cows and you don't know their breeding? Why, you ought to know their initials." **Piece, Not War, the Cause.** During the rebellion a dramatist attended a performance of one of his plays at a theater in Baltimore. The house was quite empty, and the playwright in discussing the circumstance with his leading actor, remarked that the poor business probably was due to the war. "No," replied the actor, "should judge it was due to the piece," and the dramatist changed the subject. **His Objection to Shakespeare.** "What is your object in saying that Shakespeare is not a great poet?" "Oh," said the modern author, "you think it is a professional jealousy, but I assure you you are wrong. I feel it my duty to attack all sorts of prejudices, and the prejudice in favor of Shakespeare's works is one of the most conspicuous that I know of."

SPORTING FACTS AND FANCIES

The American turf is weaker in jockey material than it has been for some time. Otherwise Miller, who, barring his quickness at the start, is far from a finished horseman, could not have headed the list of winning jockeys with 224 victories to his credit. This year the conditions are likely to be even worse, as four or five boys who ranked well up last season may be unable to secure licenses. Among these are Mountain, who is under suspension at New Orleans; Willie Knapp, Radtke, J. McIntyre and E. Lynch, a boy who gave great promise at Oakland. Jack Martin, too, has decided to give up riding, it is said, and no matter what their faults may have been, Mountain, Knapp, Radtke and Martin are riders above the average and with a far better knowledge of pace than either Miller or E. Dugan. Willie Shaw and Tommy Burns, who rode abroad last year, will be back again and thus help to fill the gap, and two or three boys developed at the winter tracks, notably V. Powers, who has been riding well and stands next to Notter on the list of winning jockeys at New Orleans, and Gilbert, a lightweight in California, may also take a forward place, but the outlook is not encouraging. T. H. Williams has paid \$10,000 for Gilbert's contract, and the youngster, who rides at 85 pounds, is said to be one of the best jockey prospects ever developed on the coast. The jockeys who must be depended on to do the bulk of the riding this year are Miller, E. Dugan, Notter, McDaniel, Nicol, W. Burns, Shaw, T. Burns, C. Koerner, Shilling, Sumter and V. Powers. Of course there are many others who may or may not shine, including Delaby, G. Swain, Musgrave, Horner, Brussel, J. Lee, Garner, Liebert and Preston. Lucien Lyne expects to ride for the greater part in England, but will accept engagements in Ireland, France and Belgium. He has an understanding that he will accept mounts for Richard Croker, James Buchanan, Richard Dawson and some others.

The American team of athletes that will journey to London in July to compete in the Olympic games will be accompanied by a professional trainer. "Mike" Murphy, the veteran at the University of Pennsylvania, has been selected for the position. Never before has an American team had the services of a professional coach, but it was considered advisable to have one this year in view of the exceptional size of the team and the importance of the games. Murphy is one



of the most prominent trainers in the country. For more than 15 years he has been known as a great developer of athletes. He formerly trained for Yale university and the New York Athletic club. During his career as a professional coach he brought out such champions as Berne Wefers, the world's 220-yard record holder; Alvin C. Kraenzlein, the world's greatest hurdler, and Tommy Conneff, a champion miler. He is also a great football coach and trainer. During the last 15 years the teams Murphy has trained at Pennsylvania and Yale have won every intercollegiate championship but three, Harvard and Cornell being the only other winners. Murphy's selection as trainer means that the members of the American team will toe their marks at London with the minimum of men out of shape. "Wizard" Jake Schaefer, dean of the expert billiard players of the world, retires from championship contests, acknowledged as the greatest performer with the cue in every respect that ever stepped up to a billiard table. Recently he defended his title as champion of the world at 18.1 against Willie Hoppe at Chicago in the last contest he will compete in for world's honors, and after a sensational match proved the winner by the score of 500 to 423. The championship emblem will be given back to the donors by Jake, and it is possible there will never be another game played between professionals at this style. Schaefer will confine his entire attention hereafter to exhibition games.

TRAVELING COST OF BIG TEAMS

MAJOR LEAGUE CLUBS TO SPEND NEARLY \$70,000 FOR CARRIAGE THIS SEASON.

PIRATES COVER MOST GROUND

Smoky City Aggregation Will Make 37 Trips and Cover Distance of 15,057 Miles—St. Louis the Premier Tourist in American League—Average Cost is \$1 Per Mile.

In order to fill their scheduled championship dates next season the clubs of the American league will have to travel 95,722 miles, and the National league teams 92,465 miles. At the rate of 2 cents a mile and at the average of 18 men to each party, the sum of \$67,665.32 will be paid to the railroads for transportation alone. Of this amount the Johnstones will contribute \$34,477.92 and the Pulliamites \$32,287.40.

Of the American league teams St. Louis will be the premier tourist. The Browns are booked to journey 14,307 miles, and will make 31 trips. The White Sox will make 30 trips and will travel 12,222 miles. Their longest jump is from New York to St. Louis, 1,066 miles. The St. Louis Browns twice will make the biggest leap possible on a circuit, going from Boston to St. Louis, a gap of 1,229 miles.

Of the National league teams Pittsburgh will find circuit chasing the most expensive. The Pirates are to make 37 trips and will cover a distance of 15,057 miles. The Phillies have to travel only 9,413 miles, the reason for the difference in mileage of the two teams being that Barney's Breccaners constantly have to leave home to fill Sunday engagements in Chicago and Cincinnati.

The Cubs are due to make 28 trips and travel 12,271 miles to fill their schedule. Chance's champions have to make the jump between St. Louis and Boston once, the Doves and the Cardinals also being down to make this trip.

The number of miles each club will have to travel, trips to be made, and the amount to be expended for transportation (railroad fares alone) by the big league teams during 1908 are as follows:

Club	Trips	Miles	Fares
Pittsburg	37	15,057	\$3,011.40
St. Louis	31	14,307	\$2,861.40
Chicago	28	12,271	\$2,454.20
Cincinnati	21	12,131	\$2,427.60
Boston	29	13,224	\$2,644.80
New York	25	10,102	\$2,020.40
Brooklyn	23	9,532	\$1,906.40
Philadelphia	27	9,431	\$1,886.20
Totals	229	92,465	\$18,479.40

Club	Trips	Miles	Fares
St. Louis	31	14,307	\$2,861.40
Cleveland	33	15,201	\$3,040.20
Detroit	24	13,296	\$2,659.20
Chicago	20	12,222	\$2,444.40
Boston	28	13,963	\$2,792.60
Washington	27	10,529	\$2,105.80
New York	29	10,524	\$2,104.80
Philadelphia	29	9,431	\$1,886.20
Totals	231	95,772	\$19,476.20

According to the books of one major league club it costs in the neighborhood of \$1 a mile to cart a ball team around the circuit, including railroad fares, Pullman and hotel bills, the average number of men in the party, including manager, secretary and trainer, being 19.

One remarkable feature of the traveling done by baseball clubs is the way in which the teams dodge accidents. The only bad smashup in which players have figured in recent years was the wreck of a special train carrying the St. Louis and Cleveland American league clubs from Cleveland to St. Louis in 1904. Some of the men were hurt, but none of them badly, and the Sunday game was played as scheduled.

In 1893, while the Chicago Nationals were returning home from Cleveland, their train ran into a freight, near Fremont, O., and three men were killed in the wreck. Of the players, the only two injured were Jimmy Ryan and Malachi Kittredge, who were badly cut about the head and body. Kittredge was able to play in a week, but Ryan was out of the game for the balance of the season.

So far as known no player of prominence ever has been killed in a train wreck while traveling with his club.

Capron Ousted from College.

George Capron, Minnesota's greatest football hero, who, through his marvelous drop kicking last fall, brought victory to the maroon and gold banners in more than one game, and who is regarded as the greatest all around athlete that ever attended Minnesota university, has been expelled from the institution. It is claimed that "cribbing" caused his downfall. There have been rumors for some time to the effect that the famous gridiron hero would be seen at Minnesota next fall, but it was due mainly to the reports that he had tempting offers by many of the big eastern schools, and for a time it was even said that Capron would be missing before the present school year had been completed. According to the university authorities, Capron has been expelled until next fall, but he will never return to Minnesota.

Swenholt to Lead Badgers.

Helmer Swenholt of Madison, Wis., the flaxen-haired little forward, has been elected captain of the basketball team of the University of Wisconsin for the ensuing year. The only other candidate was Ewald Stiehm of Johnson's Creek, the giant center on both the basketball and football teams. The election was decided by tossing a coin and Swenholt won.

STAR SHORTSTOP TO RETIRE



JOHN ("HANS") WAGNER

Hans Wagner, the big Pittsburg shortstop, has refused absolutely to sign a contract for the present season, declaring he is going to rest for at least a year from the strenuous game.

HANS WAGNER DETERMINED TO HAVE SEASON'S REST

Star Pirate Shortstop Turns Down Tempting Offers—Will Raise Chickens This Year.

Hans Wagner gave Pittsburg baseball fans a jolt recently by announcing that he would not wear a Pirate uniform this season. There has been no trouble between President Dreyfuss and Wagner. Hans is not holding out for more money. He simply says he wants to get out of the game and will not play.

Wagner says when the season opens he will be found superintending his fine chicken farm near Carnegie. Wagner is worth more than \$60,000, and has been anxious to quit playing ever since last season. Wagner declares his mind is made up and cannot be changed.

On finding that Wagner meant really to retire, the owners of the Pittsburg team offered him a straight salary of \$15,000 and agreed to allow him to cut out the spring training. When he declined this bait a contract signed by the Pittsburg club, with only the salary line left blank, was shown to him, and he was asked to fill the figures himself and the club owners would pay it. This he refused also, saying there was not enough money in the world to make him play ball, this year at least.

There is intimation there was more than rheumatism back of Wagner's refusal to play ball this year. He has always been opposed to spring training trips, and, having always played his best ball with Ritchey, he felt somewhat aggrieved a year ago when, after a quarrel with one of the club officials, Ritchey was sent to Boston. Wagner, who was never known to talk much, told a friend that his business interests were now getting so large that he could not afford to play ball.

BATTING EYES MADE TO ORDER

Scheme of University Coach to Help Candidates for Team.

The University of Pennsylvania baseball team candidates are doing cage work daily. In addition to trying out the batters the coach has a scheme to put an edge on batting eyes that is regarded as a wonder by all who have seen it.

The apparatus consists of an upright with horizontal arms at top and bot-



tom, between which, on an elastic cord, is a ball. The ball may be shifted to any desired height, and considerable practice is needed to clout it squarely.

When hit true the ball springs straight ahead, but if struck below or above the center it jumps down or up. The men who have used the device claim it is the best ever for line drives.

Capital on Outlaw Circuit.

Arthur Irwin, now coach of the University of Pennsylvania baseball team, will manage the team that will represent Washington in the outlaw Union league this year. A decision to have the capital on the circuit was reached at a meeting at which it was announced W. F. Hart will be president of the new club, W. J. Lambert vice-president and E. E. Heim secretary-treasurer.

HARVARD'S ATHLETIC RECEIPTS DECREASE

Treasury Is Shy \$16,000 in 1906 as Compared to 1905, According to Annual Report.

The annual report of the treasurer of the Harvard University Athletic association for the year 1906-7 shows a considerable decrease, both in gross receipts and expenditures, over the showing of the previous year. As in the past, the financial importance of football was again demonstrated.

The gross receipts for the year were \$110,110.55, as against \$127,559.40 for the preceding year. The expenditures were \$98,470.09, as against \$88,733.28 for 1905-6. The decrease, both in receipts and expenditures, may be accounted for by taking into consideration and comparing the two football seasons. In 1906 the Yale game was played in New Haven, meaning \$10,000 less than when the game was played in Cambridge in 1905. The whole season of 1906 showed a loss of \$16,000 in the receipts, as compared with the season before. This is roughly the amount of the total decrease in the gross receipts of the year 1906-7 from that of the previous year. As the Harvard graduate manager says in his report, "the surplus of the year depends on the surplus of the football receipts over the football expenditures."

There is practically no change in the receipts and expenditures of the other sports. The baseball team gained a little, owing to its expenditures remaining the same while its receipts increased. The crew and track teams were, as usual, not self-supporting and had to rely for financial assistance on the association funds. Of the minor teams, only the hockey and tennis teams paid their own way. The hockey team has always stood well financially, while the fee charged for the use of the college tennis court accounts for the showing of that branch of sport. The freshman football team and crew lost money, while the other freshmen teams paid their expenses by subscriptions. The total loss in the freshmen branches of sports was \$1,558.99.

In concluding his report the graduate treasurer calls attention to the great need of reclaiming the swamp-land on Soldiers' field to meet the increased demands for room, and the necessity of building fireproof baseball bleachers.

FIELDER JONES' REAL NAME

Reporter Thought White Sox Leader Was "Kidding" Him.

Is Fielder Jones' name Fielder Jones? That's a question that has been asked ever since—or before—the noted leader of the Chicago White Sox broke into fast company.

Evidently it is, for here's what he told the Portland (Ore.) Post man about it:

"When I left the little Pennsylvania town where I had been playing semi-professional ball to join the Pittsburg club an enterprising reporter came to me and wanted my pedigree. He commenced:

"What is your full name?" "Never get full," I replied.

"No kidding. I mean your real name," said the scribe.

"Fielder A. Jones."

"I know you are a fielder," said the scribe, "but what's the handle to the Jones part of your name?"

"Fielder is my given name," I replied, commencing to get hot under the collar.

"Well, I'll have to take it, but where are you from?"

"Shinglehouse, Pa."

"You're too fresh for a beginner," angrily replied the interviewer, and I really believe that he would have toasted me unmercifully if I hadn't been lucky enough to get off good with Pittsburg and batted like a fiend for that season. He really thought I was kidding him, but I was not, for my name is Fielder Alden Jones, and I was born at Shinglehouse, Pa."

That ought to settle the question for some years—but it won't.