THE PLAYGOERS' WEEKLY TALK

Splays to the theatre. Next week Philadelphia will get its showing of them, with six changes of bills at local them, with six changes of bills at local them.

But the briefest comment may now be dramas, and "Jezebel." a romantic short-length drama by Dorothy Stock-bridge, who is now directing a repertor personages of that time—Lee, Booth, Seward, Mrs. Lincoln, Cameron, Stanton—to name but Meade, Cameron, Stanton—to name but a few, and they are all historically cora few, and they are all historically correct. save where greater dramatic effect could be had by adapting fact.

Mr. Drinkwater has invented no plot or story of an artificial sort, but has found in the truth of the emancipator's great life the colorful and moving drama great life the colorful and moving drama that the matter calls for. The whole structure is connected by the reading of sonorous verse between the episodes by a chronicler—a device frankly borby a chronicler—a device frankly bor-rowed from classic Greek drama.

TDGAR SELWYN'S much-discussed play "The Mirage." gives Flor-Reed the role of Irene Moreland, cantiful heroine of a singularly ful heroice of a singularly ful heroine of a singularly story. Miss Reed is said to picture of womanhood which he combined weakness and nobility which goes into the making of haman interest of her audience breely because the folk "out front" recognize in "Rene's" evolution feaof every human experience. From es and fluctuating standards of c. love transforms this woman of the stage—as it has done many of her sisters in real life—into a character pable of a great renunciation. In her atrayal of Irene Moreland, Miss Reed portrayal of trene allocation, also keed lays bare the processes of her regenera-tion, running the whole gamut of emo-tion, and achieving for herself what is declared the greatest emotional characterization of her brilliant career in the

"OPPORTUNITY" tells in what is wholly human fashion the story of an ambitions and energetic young man. cho, working in a minor capacity in a New York stock broker's office, determines to win fame and fortune and bea man of consequence in finance come a man of consequence in finance. He has ambition, energy, and he thinks judgment, and there is lacking but one thing to make possible a start toward the realization of his dreams. That thing is opportunity. Refore long that comes to him, and grasping it with both hands he achieves more even than

both mans a he had conjured. He wins a wife and becomes a power in finance.

But the strain of the fight to win is telling on him, and at the peak o his power he suddenly comes face to nd financial. How he finally achiev and financial. How he happiness is dis-his own salvation and happiness is dis-closed in gripping and stirring fashion. "Opportunity" is said to be rich in remance—remance of the heart and as well that of big business, and of comedy there is an abundance.

THE SON-DAUGHTER" is a play of Chinese motif and atmosphere, by George Scarborough and David Belasco. It tells a story of love and Oriental politics, in which Lenore Ulric portrays a little Chinese girl who sells berself to a wealthy fellow countryman living in New York. She makes this f the Chinese republic, at whose head lover and in whose interests her sacrifices his life. Thus she makes up to her austere parent for daring to have been born a girl in a land where this is a deep offense. The play has been given a sumptuous and consistent production by Mr. Belasco and surrounded the star with players who include Thomas Findley, Clark Silvernail, Albert Bruning, Lyle Clem-ent, Josephine Morse nad Marion

THE 1920 version of "The Follies" I is said to have cost Florenz Ziegfeld nore than any of its predecessors and to be the most pretentious production of the kind ever been shown in the Inited States. Edward Rovce staged he newest offering under the personal supervision of the producer. The music and lyries are by Irving Berlin, with additional numbers by Gene Buck and Dave Stamper. Victor Herbert sup-plied the special music. The twenty old scenes have been designed and painted by Joseph Urban. One of the most striking features of the massive entertainment is a series of representa-tions created and presented by Ben Ali linguin, the pated artists. Hoggin, the noted artist, Mr. Ziegfeld announces that the girlwill be minus exaggerated make-ups, that there will be no prohibition jokes. Or reference to prohibition, no shimmy

SAM BERNARD and Irene Bordoni

dition there are ten or so subprincieffects and costumes and musiciaus, one is likely to ask himself if he isn't n one of the regular vaudeville houses Possibly the Messrs. Shubert are trying out the appeal of a veritable Production, although called a "revue" on the clientele at the Chestnut. At the rumors that this firm proposes shortly to enter the two-a-day field. It is obvious the Messrs. Shubert are combining vaudeville of various attracons. This has been apparent for some accuse in the cases of the music shows this firm of producers. Possibly they have other ambitions in view also. Established vaudevillians, to glance at a few of the names in "The Whirl of the Town," may illustrate the point. There are Mile. Anna Codes and Frank Orth (formerly the variety team of tody and Orth), Moran and Wiser. Clarence tharvas. Clarence Harvey. Lew Edwards and Margueritte Farrell. The Messrs. Shubert control some

the United States. They have the Will they enter the vaudeville

ARNOLD LUCY, who is doing de-lightful work in "Adam and Eva." at the Adelphi, will be recalled by the placeoers of Philadelphia as Mr. Knox in George Bernard Shaw's "Fanny's

First Play," which was presented at the same theatre about eight years ago. In the silent drama Mr. Lucy has been equally successful. He entered this field about four years ago, spending every summer in the studio of Norma Talmadge.

of the Vassar Players, made up of students of the college presenting three one-act plays by alumnac. The per-WILLIAM HARRIS, JR., is sending one-act plays by alumnac. The performance will take place on Saturday evening at the New Century Deanist while city while it is still fresh and the sending by the city while it is still fresh and the sending at the New Century Deanis, under the sending three performance will take place on Saturday evening at the New Century Deanis, under the sending three performances will take place on Saturday evening at the New Century Deanis, under the sending three performances will take place on Saturday evening at the New Century Deanis, and the sending three performances will take place on Saturday evening at the New Century Deanis, and the sending three performances will take place on Saturday evening at the New Century Deanis, and the sending three performances will take place on Saturday evening at the New Century Deanis, and the sending three performances will take place on Saturday evening at the New Century Deanis, and the sending three performances will take place on Saturday evening at the New Century Deanis, and the sending take place on Saturday evening at the New Century Deanis, and the sending take place on Saturday evening at the New Century Deanis, and the sending take place on Saturday evening at the New Century Deanis, and the sending take place on the sendin Drinkwater. "Abraham Lincoln" to this city while it is still fresh and while his original company is yet intact.

The cast includes Frank McGlynn in his memorable portrayal of Lincoln such other players as Albert Millay, a Columbine-Pierret fantasy, already professionally produced; the same playwright's "Two Slatterns and But the briefest comment may now a grant the briefest comment may now and the mode upon the action. There are seven and motivated in the medieval morality dramas, and "Jezebel." a cromantic short-length drama by Dorothy Stock-

Theatrical Billboard for the Coming Week

New Attractions

ROAD — "Abraham Lincoin." drama portraying outstanding episodes in the career of the Master American. While it is suffused with the highest form of

chorus-like Chromicier.

LYRIC — "The Mirage," a drama of emotion, by Edgar Selwyn, in which Florence Reed is said to have reached the heights of her career as an actress skilled in the portrayal of the feminine temperament. The story is of a woman who sinned, but was more sinned against.

PROBABLY the most successful example of "ordered" music in the history of a woman who sinned, but was more sinned against.

Aida," the opera which probably represents Verdi at his very greatest, as

wallour—"Opportunity," a drama of up-and-doing young Americanism, with touches of the melodramatic, and plenty of relieving comedy. The brisk young hero has many abilities but lacks opportunities to succeed in the fluancial world. The plot shows how he acted when the big chance came to win in fluance and in love [Service and all keeping for the details of the trans-

GARRICK—"The Son Daughter," play of Oriental cast, by George Scarborough and David Belasco, sumptuously staged with Mr. Belasco's sense of reality and atmosphere. Lenore Ulric plays the role of a Chinese girl, whose father and lover are both leaders in the movement for the nese girl, whose father and lover are both leaders in the movement for the Chinese republic.

and Schenek and Carl Randall.

SHUBERT—"As You Were." a revue of the progress of love making through the ages, which gave much pleasure here on an earlier engagement, on account of its clever conceits and colorful staging. Cleopatra's Egypt, the Troy of Helen, the Court of the Grand Monarch are a few of the places and periods depicted in comedy and song. Sam Hernard and Irene Bordoni continue to head the company. Cleopatra's death.

Continuing Attractions

ADELPHI-"Adam and Eva." a smart comedy by Guy Bolton and George Middleton, joint authors of "Polly With a Past." The plot has to do with a rich man whose family are typical of the idle rich.

CHESTNUT—"The Whirl of the Town,"
the newest Century Theatre Promenade production. Jean Schwartz
wrote the music and Harold Atterbridge is the librettist. The scenery
is colorful and striking. The rich costuming is the creation of French
modistrics.

Vaudeville

pertes William and Gordon Doc

tering.

CROSS KEYS — "Once Upon a Time." sketch; Joseph K. Watson, comedian; Logan and Tabor, songs and talk; Prince and Bell, skit; the Silverlakes, aerialists. New bill last half of the week.

A NOTHER

Burlesque

CASINO "Jack Singer's Show" has an chief funniaker Harry Lander, the "happy tramp comedian," and his brother Willie. A featured member of the cast will be "Tarzan, the human ape," who smokes, boxes bleycles and does other amazing stunts. Amts Pynes, classical dancer, is also billed Special scenery, electrical effects and contumes are promised for the extravaganza.

TROCADERO — "Joe Wilton's Hurly Burly" comes here for the first time this season. "Jazzapation" is specially added to the burletta. Jos (Gabby) Wilton, Arlene Johnson, Jim Bennett and Mile, Lulane are in the big cast.

PEOPLE'S—Up-to-date burlesque with many novelties and vandeville specialities. Extra elaborate effects in seculex and contuming and favorite burlesquers in the dast are promised.

THE CRITIC TALKS TO MUSIC LOVERS

THERE is a general feeling among ▲ musicians and music lovers that a great nusical composition cannot be written "to order." but like many au-other popular conception, the facts do not always bear out the assertion. Not that every great composer has always melodic and harmonic fund waiting to be written down when an "order" comes along, but at any rate, a sufficient number of "ordered" compositions have proved to be masterpieces thoroughly to disprove the idea that a great work cannot be produced under such conditions.

produced under such conditions.

The "ordering" of musical compositions has virtually gone out of existence now, but there was a time when it was quite the usual thing for wealthy dilettanti to direct a composer to write one or more works in a certain form, for which the composer was to be paid and the dedication of which was to go to the person ordering the work. Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven, as well as many lesser composers, wrote many composilesser composers, wrote many composi-tions to order and some of them are now rated among the very greatest of their works. This was also a favorite device for noblemen who wished to assist com-posers whom they thought worthy of encouragement and who were struggling with poverty, as was the unfortunate experience of most of them.

It is a singular commentary that Schubert, the most prolific of all the it is suffused with the highest form of drama—the drama of conflict and development—it takes the form virtually of the chronicle-play, introducing historic events and notable personages, linked by sonorous blank verse interludes recited by a Greek chorus-like Chronicler.

Schubert, the most profite of all the really great composers and the one, therefore, best able to do work of this kind successfully, never received a single order, although the custom had by no means died out in his day. But the reason is that Schubert, during his life, was so little known as a composer

Egypt, and all the details of the trans-action, including the price to be paid,

Florence Ziegfeld directed the new show, staged by Edwin Royce, with twenty sets designed by Joseph Urban and sunplied with music by Victor Herbert, Irving Berlin, Dave Stamper and Gene Buck. The long cast includes Mary Eaton, Ray Dooley, W. C. Fields, John Steel, Van and Schenek and Carl Randall.

HUBERT—"As You Were." a revue of the progress opera and it is entirely probable that this hastening made it possible for him to compose his two later masterpieces. "Otello" and "Falstaffo," before his

BUT if there was a chance that Verdi might have written "Aida" without an "order." there can be no doubt that Mozart, without a commission to do the work, would never have composed his mighty requiem, the greatest of all his religious works. The story of the requiem is so well known as to require little more than reference. It was ordered by the Count von Walsegg, an annateur who wished to be known as a composer, and who actually had the anateur who wished to be known as a composer, and who actually had the work produced as his own. The count was a good picker, but Mozart died before the requiem was completed, and the remaining parts of the orchestration were finished by Sussmayer, who received instructions about it from Mozart on his deathbed.

Mazart had clearly no thoughts of

Mozart had clearly no thoughts of a requiem until the commission from the count reached him through the count reached him through the leg and company, in clever revue; Mice and Rose Wilton, versatile songs and dances; Marle and Mary Mcharlest and Estelle Collette, songs and music; Dick Duffey and Hazel Mann, skit; Jack Sidney and Hazel Townley, musical comedy favorites; Lorner Girls, dancers; Mang and Snyder, athletes, N. V. A. vaudeville benefit show on Friday, with added acts. benefit show on Friday, with added acts.

GLOBE—Al Fields and commany, musical comedy: "The Little Cafe," musical comedy offering; the Iciandic Glima Troupe, accordante stunts; Jarrow, magician de lemon trick; Mallon Case, stories; the Usher Quartet; Ward and Gory, musical offerings; the Bird Cabaret, feathery act.

ALLEGHENY— "Past, Present and Future," musical comedy feature; "Nomads of the North;" movie; Verna Mercereau, dancer; Harris and Manion, songs; Conroy and O'Donteil, skit; Goerdon Germain, comedy offering.

CHONE FEYS— "Once Upon a Time."

He declared that he was writing it for himself. This intensity of feeling, coupled with the fact than he knew himself to be near death, naturally added to the greatness of the composition.

It is interesting to speculate upon what would have been the consequences if Mozart had been able to fulfill the requiem to the count and the latter thus have been able to pass the work off as his own. Probably, if this had been the case, latter day critics would have devoted many columns to hamed the case, latter day critics would have devoted many columns to hamed the case, latter day critics would have been able to push the requiem to the count and the latter than he knew himself. This intensity of feeling, coupled with the fact than he knew himself to be near death, naturally added to the greatness of the composition.

It is inferesting to speculate upon what would have been able to fulfill the requiem to the count and the latter thus have been able to pass the work off as his own. Probably, if this had been the case, latter day critics would have been able to pass the work off as his own. Probably, if this had been the case, latter day critics would have been able to pass the work off as his own. Probably, if this had been the case, latter day critics would have been able to pass the work off as his own. Probably, if this had been the case, latter day critics would have been able to pass the work off as his own.

of the week.

BROADWAY—"The Chinese Tourists."

**musical consedy farce: "Relictorope, movie: Hudson and Jones, offering moth and flame skit: Pamahasaka's pets, ammais, New program last half.

**A NOTHER instance of great master
**place being written to order was the case of three of the last six quarters of Beethoven. In this instance, however, there was to be no question of authorship: the Russian publishers. half.

WILLIAM PENN—The Twentieth Contury Revue, songs and dances: Mildred Harris Chaplin, in "Polly of the Storm Country," movie; Marle Sabbott and George Brooks, dances: Merlin, the magician; Dave Gibson and Sylvia Price, eccentriques, New bill last half. SAM BERNARD and Irene Bordoni in the funtastic musical revue, "As You Were," present a povel aspect of a world-old domestic situation—the everlasting triangle—viewed from a different point of vantage.

The underlying idea is a very simple one, and may be brought down to the more statement that women, from the day of the nothropoids, are born flirts, and that busy husbands are apt to neglet their wives for business, with disastrous consequences.

WHEN one peruses the program of "The Whirl of the Town," current at the Chestnut Street Opera House, and notes that the names of the principals in this big "musical revue" inched a several well-known vandeville acts, and further observes that in addition there are ten or so subprinci-

Watkins, chatter; movies.

Minstreis

DUMONT'S — Harry J. Alpinigi is the big attraction this week, with his unique 'method of making master-plees of the art world from rags. 'Dorothy From Trenton; or Easy to tiet \$1000." is the burlesque skit. "Rosh and Josie and Son Percy" is another skit.

Stock ter of the instrumental forms and pro-duced more really great compositions in ORPHEUM—"Clarence." Booth Tarkington's delightful comedy of a young
soldier's readjustment to peace-time
conditions and a "lob," which brings
him into contact with romance and
a lot of concedy. Frank Fielder will
be seen in the quaint title role.

Busings of Reschward's cases these

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