## The Home Reading Circle

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THE REHEARSAL OF THE NEW PLAY. By BRANDER HATTHEWS.... Author of "Vignettes of Manhatten."

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PART I.

When Wilson Carpenter came to the junction of the two great thoroughfares, he stood still for a moment and looked at his watch, not wishing to arrive at the rehearsal too early. He found that it was then almost eight o'clock; and he began at once to pick his way across the car tracks that were here twisted in every direction. A cloud of steam swirled down as a train on the elevated railroad clattered along over his head; the cyclops eye of a cable car glared at him as it came rushing downtown: from the of a church on the corner, around which the mellow harvest moon recred down on the noisy streets, there came the melodious call to the evening service; over the entrance to a variety show a block above a gaudy cluster of electric lights illuminated the posters which proclaimed for that evening a grand sacred corcert, at which Queenie Dougherty, the Irish empress, would sing her new song: "He's an Illigant Man in a Scrap, My Boys." As the young dramatist sped along he noted that people were still straggling by twos and threes into the house of worship and into the place of entertainment; and he could not but contrast swiftly this Sunday evening in a great city with the Sunday evenings of his hoyhood in the little village of his

He wondered what his quiet parents would think of him now were they alive and did they know that he was then going to the final rehearsal of a play of which he was half author. It was not his first piece, for he had been lucky enough the winter before to win a prize offered by an enterprising newspaper for the best one-act comedy; but it was an important New York house. When he came to the closed but brilliantly lighted entrance of this theater, he stood still again to read with keen pleasure the three-sheet posters on each side of the doorway. These particolored advertisements announced the first appearance at that theater of the oung American actress, Miss Daisy Fostelle, in a new American comedy, "Touch and Go," written expressly for her by Harry Brackett and Wilson Carpenter, and produced under the im-mediate direction of Z. Kilburn.

When the author of the new American comedy had read this poster twice he took out his watch again and saw that it was just eight. He threw away his cigarette and walked swiftly around the corner, Entering a small door he went down a long, ill-lighted passage. At the end of this was a small square hall, which might almost be called the landing stage of a flight of stairs leading to the dressing-room above and to the property room below. This hall was cut off from the stage by a large swinging door.

As Carpenter entered the room this door swung open and a nervous young man rushed in. Catching sight of the dramatist he checked his speed, held out his hand and smiled, wearily, saying: "That's you, is it? I'm so glad you've come!'

"The rehearsal hasn't begun, has it?"

Carpenter asked, eagerly, "Star isn't here yet," answered the actor, "and she's never in a hurry, you know. She takes her own time always, Daisy does. I know all her little tricks. I've told you already that I would never have accepted this en-gagement at all if I hadn't been out since January. I don't see myself in this part of yours. I'll do my best with it, of course, and it isn't such a bad part, may be; but I don't see myself

Carpenter tapped the other on the back heartily and cried: "Don't you be afraid, Dresser; you will be all right! Why, I shouldn't wonder if you made the hit of the whole piece!" And with that he started to oper the door that led to the stage.

But Dresser made a sudden appeal "Don't go away just as I've found you I've been wanting to see you all day I've got to have your advice, and it's important.

"Well?" the dramatist responded. "Well," repeated the young actor "you know that bit of mine in the third act, where I have the scene with Jimmy Stark? He has to say to me: 'I think my wife's mind is breaking,' and I say: 'Are you afraid she is going to give you a piece of it?" Now, how would you

After the author had explained to the actor what seemed to him the obvious distribution of the emphasis in this speech he was able to escape and at

last to make his way upon the stage. Th escene of the first act of "Touch and Go" was set and the stage itself was brilliantly lighted, while the auditorium was in absolute darkness. It was at least a minute before Carpenter was able to discern the circle of the balcony, shrouded in the linen draperies that protected its velvet and its gilding from the dust. Here and there in the orchestra chairs were little knots of three or four persons, perhaps twenty or thirty in all. The procenium boxes yawned blackly. Although it was a warm evening in the early fall, the house struck Carpenter as chill and forbidding. He peered into the darkness to discover the face he was longing to see again.

# ost Torturing, Disfiguring,

Humiliating Of itching, burning, bleeding, scaly skin and scalp humors is instantly relieved by a warm bath with CUTICURA SOAP, a single application of CUTICUBA (ointment), the great skin cure, and a full dose of CUTICURA RESOLVENT, greatest of blood

IMPLY FACES Purified and Beautified

Two men were talking earnestly, seated at a table in the center of the stage near the footlights. One of these was a short man, with grizzled hair and a masterful manner; this was Sherrington, the stage manager who had dear. And when he says: "What is the been engaged to produce the play. The other was Harry Brackett, Carpenter's

collaborator in its authorship. Just as the newcomer had made out in the dark house the group he was seeking and had bowed to the two ladies comprising it, Harry Brackett caught sight of him.

"Well, Will," he cried, "the Stellar Attraction is late, as usual—and we've got lots of work before us tonight, too, Sherrington isn't at all satisfied with the way they do either of the big scenes in the second act; and we've got to look out and keep them all up to their work if we want this to be any thing more than a mere 'artistic suc-

"'Artistic success!" said Sherrington, emphatically; "why, there's money in this thing of yours, big money, too, if we can get all the laughs out of those two scenes of Datsy's in the second act. But it will take good work to get out all the laughs that there ought to be, legitimately-and we've got to do it! Every laugh is worth a dollar and a half: that's what I say.'

"The two scenes in the second act?" inquired Carpenter. "The one with Stark and the one with Miss Marvin,

you mean?" "The one with Marvin will be all right, I think," said the stage man-

"I'm not so sure of that," Harry Brackett interjected; "you insisted on her being engaged, Will, but she is very inexperienced, and I don't know the first play of his to be produced at how she'll get through that long

"Miss Marvin is very clever," Carpenter declared, eager to defend the girl he was in love with. "And she will look the part to perfection!"

"Looking is all very well," Brackett responded, "but it is acting she will have to do in that scene in the second "And she will do it, too," asserted the stage manager. "You see she's got

her mother here tonight and there isn't a sharper old stager anywhere than Kate Shannon Loraine. "That's so," Harry Brackett admitted; "I suppose Loraine can show her

daughter how to get out of that scene all there is in it." "Shannon'll see the whole play to night," said Sherrington, "and she'll be able to give Marvin lots of pointers tomorrow. The little girl will be all right; it's Daisy I'm more afraid of in that It ought to be played high comedy, 'Lady Teazle,' way up in Gand high comedy isn't altogether in

That can's be helped now," Brackett replied; "and if the Stellar Attraction can't reach that scene, it's the Stellar Attraction's own fault, isn't it? remember, Will, how she kept telling us all the time we were writing the play that she wanted as high-toned a part as we could give her. We gave it to her and now she's just got to stretch

up to it, if she can." "I am not afraid of that scene," Carpenter declared,"for I've always doubted whether she could really do high omedy, and that scene is written so that it will go almost as well if it's played broadly. You know there are two ways of doing Lady Teazle."

"There are no two ways about Daisy's being a great favorite," said the stage manager. "She's accepted, and that's enough. After all, I don't suppose it matters much, how she takes that scene; high or broad, the public will accept her. The part fits her like a glove; and all we've got to do is to keep everybody up to concert pitch and get all the laughs we can. You took my advice and cut that talky scene in the third act and now the whole act will go off like hot cakes-see if it don't. I tell you what it is, I'll teach you two boys how to write a real farce before I've

done with you!" Harry Brackett was standing almost behind Sherrington as the stage manager made this speech. He winked at

"Yes," he said a moment later, "I think it is a pretty good piece of the kind, and I hope it will fetch them. At any rate, I don't believe even our worst enemies will praise it for its 'litrary merit."

Carpenter laughed a little bitterly. "No," he assented, "we've got it into hape now and I doubt if anybody insults us by saying that 'Touch and Go'

is 'well written.' "Do you remember our joke while we were working on it last winter, Will?" asked Harry Brackett. Then turning Sherrington he explained: "We used to say that the managers wouldn't touch' it, so the people couldn't 'go.' "It's harder to touch the manager han it is to make the public go," added Carpenter. "I believe that any fool can write a play-but that only a man of

great genius ever succeeds in getting his play produced." A handsome young woman with snapping black eyes, walked on the

stage briskly.
"Here's the Stellar Attraction at last," said Harry Brackett; "now we

can get down to business."
"Am I late?" the handsome young voman asked, as she came forward. Everybody waiting for me?"

"You are just twenty minutes late, my dear," said the stage manager, ooking at his watch, "and we are all waiting for you.

"That's all right, then," she replied aughing lightly; "we've got all night

before us, haven't we?" The prompter clapped his hands and called out "First act!" Two cleanshaven men of indefinite age who had been sitting in the wings rose and came forward. Mr. Dresser joined them, and his manner suggested a certain increase of his ordinary nervous tension. A well-preserved elderly lady left her seat on one side of the aisles. inder the proscenium box and came through the door which led from the auditorium to the stage. She was followed by a slight, graceful girl, a blonde

with clear gray eyes.
"Mrs. Castleman—Miss Marvin," said

the promptor, seeing them; "now we are all ready." And then the serious business of the

Munyon's Sympathy.

rehearsal began, Mrs. Castleman came

down to the center of the stage and took up a newspaper and read the date

it was not an hour from New York.

Then one of the minor actors, an awkward young fellow, one of the two

who had been standing in the wings,

entered with a telegram, which he gave to Mrs. Castleman, She tore it open

and read it aloud. The master would

arrive early in the evening. Then Miss

Marvin, the girl with the clear blue eyes came forward with an open letter

in her hand and told Mrs. Castleman that the mistress of the house would be

everyone intent upon the business in The speeches of the actors were

interrupted now and then by the stage manager. "Take the last scene over

again," he might command, whereupon

the performers would resume their places as before and begin again.

Don't cross till he takes the stage, my

meaning of this?' don't be in a hurry.

Wait, and then say your aside :Can

he suspect?" in a hoarse whisper. See?"

Finally there was a jingle of sleigh-

faintly and slowly, soon worked up to a

swift forte, and then Miss Dalsy Fos-

the broad door at he back of the stage. Finding that she had taken everybody

said: "You didn't expect me, I see-but

A thin cadaverous man with a heavy

black mustach here stepped forward to

face the wife he had not seen for five

years. "We are all glad, to see you once more," he had to say, "very glad,

ndeed, and we are gladder still to see

that you seem to be in such excellent

separation has not dimmed the bright

ness of your eyes nor-" Here the tall

gaunt actor stopped and hesitated. "I

lon't know what's the matter with

that speech," he said, impatiently, "but

can't get it into my head. I never

The prompter gave him the word he

needed; and no one else paid any atten-

The two authors wer seated at the

table in the center of the footlights;

and Harry Brackett whispered to Car-

enter; "Stark is getting the big head,

Then there followed an important

cene in which the wife gave her hus-

band a witty and vivacious acount of all her doings during the five years

of their separation ending with the

startling announcement that he had

six weeks in South Dakota and had

there procured a divorce from him! But

there is no need to disclose here in de

tail the plot of "Touch and Go," as the

new American comedy unfolded itself

scene by scene. As the end of the act

ors to play more briskly so as to bring

the curtain down swiftly on an unex-

pected but carefully prepared tableau.

scene might be set for the second act.

(TO BE CONCLUDED.

MEETING OF UNIVERSALISTS.

ing on Tuesday.

The Sixty-sixth annual meeting of

ing with Hon, C. S. Russell, of To

of trustees of the Reading church.

calling the role of members and dele-

gates, Rev. R. E. Horn was appoint-

ed assistant secretary during the ses-

The communion sermon was preached

by Rev. Myra Kingsbury, the topic

being "The Cup of Blessing and the Living Bread." Rev. Dr. A. G. Rogers

assisted by Rev. Dr. Sweetson, admin-

istered the service of the Lord's Sup-

per. The present officers of the con-

vention are: President, Hon, C. S. Rus-

sell; vice president, G. W. Gabell, jr., secretary, Rev. F. A. Bisbee; treasurer,

The pastor of the Reading church,

he having recently taken the position,

is Dr. A. G. Rogers. The church build-

ing is a beautiful structure of stone,

wanda, in the chair.

sion of the convention

George C. Thomas.

approached Sherrington pressed the ac

sn't he? The idea of a mere cuff-shoot-

er like that taking himself seriously.

health and such high spirits!

had such tricky lines!

ion to this outbreak.

I hope you are all glad to see me once

elle made her first appearance through

surprise, she smiled sweetly, and

ils, and the orchestra, beginning

again at last early that morning. And thus the rehearsal went on gravely

of it aloud, and remarked that it was just five years since Master and Mist-As Far Reaching and Boundress had parted in anger, adding that neither of them had put foot inside the less as Faith. old house in all the five years, and yet

Mr. C. W. Hoffman, Elbowoods, N. D., says: "I am well acquainted with 'Strike Enemy,' an Indian well-known here, and also among other tribes, and know that a fter many months of suffering he was per manently cured of rheu-

him some remedies, but they did him no him. After the second dose he smiled for the first time in months, and said that the medicine was helping him. It took five bottles to cure him. He has been relieved from all pain, and now walks as well as ever. He asked me to write to that white man in the East who made that great cure from pain and say that he was very thankful to him."

Mr. Wm. Lynch, 4837 Hatfield Street, Pittsburg, Pa., says: "My boy, 18 years old, had asthma for eight years. With each cold it became so bad that he was laid up, and unable to work. Three months ago he began using Munyon's Asthma Cure, and has had no trouble since. I consider him cured, and wish to recommend the Munyon Remedies to all Munyon's Homogeopathic Home Remedy

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admirably adapted to the uses for

which it was dedicated. The afternoon session was an interesting one. Reports were given by the treasurer, secretary and committee of fellowship. The last report showed the total number of clergymen in fellowship to be twenty-one (21). Encourag-ing reports were made from the following parishes: Athens, Brooklyn, Philadelphia (Church of the Messiah), Fleetville, Kingsleys, Hopbottom, Mansfield, Reading, Scranton, Titusville, Shesheguin, Towanda, Troy and

Springfield. In the evening at 7.45, after the reading of the Scriptures and prayer by Rev. F. E. Adams the occasional sermon was preached by Rev. F. W. Whippen, of this city. The preacher took for his text I Cor. xv, 15: "Stand fast in the faith." The purpose of the ermon was to show the value of a belief in the supernatural as a vital element of Christianty, and to urge our great privilege to believe.

THE FLYING MACHINE.

Prof. Langley's First Authentic Pop-

When the act was over the stagemanager had the final passages repeatular Description of the New Woned twice, to make sure of its going der .- His Toilsome Experiments, oothly at the first performance; and In McClure's Magazine for June Prof. S. P. Langley, of the Smithsonian then the stage was cleared so that the Institution, Washington, gives the first Carpenter watched the graceful, gray authentic popular account of his flying eyed girl go back into the dim auditormachine, and of the experiments which ium and take a seat beside her mother; led up to his successfully accomplishand his heart thumped suddenly, as he ing mechanical fight. Prof. Langley, as found himself wondering when he is well known, was formerly connected would dare to tell her that he loved her with the Western University of Pennand to ask her to be his wife. Then sylvania, and that it was over the river he also left the stage and dropped into Allegheny that he began his experthe chair behind mother and daughter. When his mind first turned to ments. the subject he found that he had to begin at the very beginning and study out the principles, there being absolute ly nothing to guide him in books, what he found there regarding the subject State Convention Was Held at Readbeing rather misleading than otherwise He spent years in making experiments on the power of plane surfaces in mothe Pennsylvania Universalist State tion and made discoveries which over onvention opened on Tuesday at Readthrew all previous theories. In short, he developed that in theory mechanical fight was possible, meaning by mechanical fight not merely the floating After prayer by Rev. F. W. Whippen, of this city, a cordial address of in the air of a body lighter than the atmosphere like a balloon, but the welcome was given to the convention by Dr. J. Keiser, chairman of the board flight of a body heavier than the air, by means of a self-contained power. A quorum being found present or

After arriving at this conclusion here were years more of experimenting in the construction of a machine in which this theory could be realized in actual practice. One machine after another was constructed only to find that some serious error existed, which rendered flight impossible. Sometimes the error wasobvious, but often it was puzzling and difficult to solve. But, whatever it was, whenever discovered, it had to be corrected, and when this was done some other error would be found that would compel a complete revision. Finally, when a machine had been constructed of the requisite lightness and with the requisite power to drive it through the air, came the difficulty of successfully launching it. For it could not rise from the ground like a bird, nor could it lift itself, but its sustaining power depended upon as motion the machine is thus described:

through the air. As finally completed The width of the wings from tip to tip is between 12 and 13 feet, and the length of the whole about 16 feet. The weight is nearly 30 pounds, of which about one-fourth is contained in the machinery. The boiler, with its fire grate, weighs a little over five pounds, and develops between 1 and 11/2 horse power. The engine weighs but 26 ounces , and drives two propellers between 3 and 4 feet in diameter at the rate of from 800 to 1,200 revolutions per minute. There are two sets of wings made of canvas attached to a long steel rod, which forms the backbone of the structure, and to which is attached the

machinery. One's physical feelings, like the faithful After the machine, which is called setter, search and point out plainly the fact of disease or health. the aeradrome, was completed, it took fact of disease or health.

If a man is not feeling well and vigorous
—if he is losing flesh and vitality, if he is
listless, nervous, sleepless, he certainly is
not well. The down hill road from health
to sickness is smooth and declines rapidly.

At the first intimation of disease, the three years more of experimenting before it could be successfully launched and actually made to fly. A locality on the Potomac river, about 30 miles below Washington, was selected, and wise man takes a pure, simple vegetable tonic. It puts his digestion into good active order and that puts the rest of his body in order. The medicine that will do this is a medicine that is good to take in any trouble of the blood, the digestion, or the resultation no matter how serious it here, upon a scow, was erected a workshop, from the top of which the launching experiments were made. Finally, after numberless delays, on the 6th of May, 1896, all the difficulties were finally any trouble of the blood, the digestion, or the respiration, no matter how serious it may have become.

The medicine to take is Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It is a remarkable remedy. It cures diseases in a perfectly natural way, without the use of strong drugs. It cures by helping Nature. It has a peculiar tonic effect on the lining membranes of the stomach and bowels. By putting these membranes into healthy condition, stimulating the secretion of the various digestive juices and furnishing to the blood the proper purifying properties, it reaches out over the whole body and drives disease-germs before it into the overcome, and the reward came for more than a dozen years of toll and thought. On that day the machine was launched successfully, and the great problem of the navigation of the air that man had dreamed about for ages was solved. The machine actually soared throught the air, and maintained itself in that medium for the period that those who had launched it desired. Owing to the fact that if it was allowed to settle on the land, it might be wrecked, by contact with drives disease-germs before it into the usual excretory channels. It builds up firm muscular flesh, makes the skin and trees or other subjects, it was timed so that the steam would give out in the eyes bright.

Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery has been found wonderfully efficacious in the treatment of skin diseases—eczema, tetter, erysipelas, salt-rheum—from common pimples or blotches to the worst case of scrofula. less than two minutes, so that it would settle in the water. Its first flight was about 900 feet, in a direct line, when it settled gently, without injury, in the

water, and was immediately taken out

and launched again for a somewhat

longer flight. It was flown again and again with entire success.

In November last another somewhat larger areadrome achieved a flight of about three-quarters of a mile, at a speed of about 30 miles an hour. Speak-ing of this event, Prof. Langley says: We may live to see airships a comm sight, but habit has not dulled the edge of wonder and I wish that the reader ould have witnessed the actual spec tacle. 'It looked like a miracle,' said one who saw it." In concluding his article, Prof. Langley says: "And now it may be asked what has been done? This has been: A 'flying machine,' so long a type for ridicule, has really flown; it has demonstrated its practicaoility in the only practicable way by actually flying, and by doing this again and again, under conditions that leave and again, under conditions that leave no doubt." He says he has not space to enter into the consideration of the construction of larger machines, or to give his reasons for believing that they may be built to remain for days in the air and to travel at speeds higher than any with which we are familiar. He says that he has brought to a close the portion of the work which seemed to be specifically his-the demonstration of the practicability of mechanical flight -and for the next stage, which is the commercial and practical development of the idea, it is probable that the world may look to others. He thinks the world will indeed be supine if it does not realize that a new possibility has come to it, and that the great universal highway overhead is now soon to be

Neatly Turned.

She-"I have heard that you said I was fond of the sound of my own -"Well, you have yourself admitted that you like music."-Ex-

change. Had Mixed Dough Before.

Mistross-"Mary, before you start to make that bread, I want you to make sure that your hands are perfectly clean." Mary Ann—"Shure, mum, an' what dif-ference does it make, at all, at all? They will be, anyhow, when I've got through."
-Somerville Journal.

A Pardon. She-"It's strange that we can't speak without quarreling. He-"And yet when we quarrel we don't speak."-Tit-Bits.

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1.—A Traspoonful of Ceylon and India Tea is like a maiden's heart, pure and unsulfied.
2.—The boiling water represents the

man. The warmth of his l' re extracts and sets free the strength nd sweetless of the maiden's heart i d thus assimilates all her goodness, id purity The water must be boiling (carry on the metaphor) or the true essence is not 3.-The Teapot is the altar where the

marriage ceremony is performed; in other words, five minutes' infusion o eremony make the two into one life 4.—The liquid tea is the married life, free from bitterness, wholesome, re-freshing, and two in one goes forth doing good to all; soothing, comforting and invigorating. 5.—Sugar and cream are like riches and luxury. To many, life is incom-plete without them though some think

that they spoil its fragrance.
6.—All other teas being soiled by the touch of many unclean hands (here metaphor), can only make unhappy unions resulting in nerve disturbane and repulsion.

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