

Amateur Theatricals

"THE MAN FROM TORONTO" A CAPITAL PERFORMANCE.

The Albany Dramatic Society again staged the three act comedy "The Man From Toronto" by Douglas Murray at Borden Hall on Thursday, 24th February in conjunction with the Boyden Women's Institute and registered another success. The production reflects great credit on the society. The whole play is enacted in a scene representing the parlour of Beach House, Teignmouth. The stage was very prettily arranged and the scene was typical of a seaside villa. The play throughout is full of highly amusing situations, and the audience was kept in a continuous ripple of laughter. The Man from Toronto is Fergus Wimbush (Mr. Reginald Thomas) the nephew of a "dear sweet dear" old American gentleman "who had met some time previously a young widow, Mrs. Calthorpe, (Miss Althea Large), on a liner and immediately fell in love with her and proposed marriage which she refused.

The scene opens in her parlour when her uncle-by-marriage and trustee, and incidentally her soft-kicker, Mr. Priestley, (Mr. Arthur McKay) calls on her, and after talking her to task for being extravagant and exceeding her income, which he is made responsible for, reminds her of the "liner" incident, and intimates to her the fact that the millionaire is now deceased, but that he has left a will by which she benefits considerably, on condition she carries out the terms of one of the clauses and marries his nephew, Fergus Wimbush. She at first assumes an indignant air, but at the same time is anxious to secure the money which she is very much in need of; naturally, she is curious to know what he is like, and before she makes the bargain expresses a wish to see him. The cunning old uncle had the prospective bridegroom waiting at the station hotel for an invitation to stay at Mrs. Calthorpe's, which in due course he gets. Mrs. Calthorpe's cousin Robert, a somewhat inapt, idle, and impetuous youth is staying at the house and has been caught in the act of kissing the skivvy, Martha (Miss Mae Keough). Mrs. Calthorpe conceives the idea of hiding her indignity by posing as a parlourmaid so as to get an insight into Wimbush's real character before she makes his acquaintance as his prospective bride. She accordingly goes into Martha's room and dons the maid's best kit and appears as "Perkins" and she is just in time to open the door for Wimbush who is immediately struck with her and later revealing the object of his mission questions her about Mrs. Calthorpe from whom he has just received a note accusing her absence on the plea that she is nursing a sick friend. The idea suddenly occurs to her to show him a photograph of an ugly old lady which had recently been given to her by the original of it, a Mrs. Hubbard, (Mrs. Wilmot Large), who had made a call with her daughter Minnie Hubbard (Miss Mazie Cameron). Wimbush collapses on seeing the horrible face. He declares that he would rather forego the fortune than marry "that". Robert in collusion with his cousin keeps up the deception. Wimbush has a good time, being given numerous opportunities to make love to the parlourmaid, Polly Perkins, whom he has decided to marry. His two sisters, Ruth (Miss Florence Large) and Ada (Miss Hilda Ackland) make their unexpected appearance being anxious about their brother's progress since they are interested in the fortune. Ada at once throws herself at Robert who succumbs to her wiles, while Ruth commences hastily to bring things to a head and is shocked at finding Polly Perkins practically in the arms of her brother, who, seeing his sister has discovered his secret, in sheer disgust snatches the photograph of the supposed Mrs. Calthorpe and throwing it into the fire. Finally he proposes to Polly Perkins who is by this time satisfied that he really loves her and that he is prepared to relinquish the fortune, but she refuses to marry him as Polly Perkins and tells him she feels sure that Mrs. Calthorpe who is "nothing like the portrait but a sweet woman", will, if he says a fraction of the nice things he has said to her marry him. He protests and Perkins leaves him in a bad state of dejection. His sisters and Robert arrive to find him in this state and he confesses that he has been rejected by Perkins whom the dearly loves and he is only persuaded from leaving in-

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medably by Robert, who reminds him lawyer was exceedingly good him that it would be very rude to and the manner in which he act on that manner as Mrs. Cal-ed the austere guardian in a thourpe has just written to say she white heat of passion, then suddly arriving that evening. He de- dently succumbing to the cajolery of his wife, was quite one of the wagers of 5,000 pounds that he will marry and will marry Mrs. Calthorpe when he sees her. Mrs. Calthorpe then arrives heavily veiled, Robert suddenly unveils made a typical modern parlour- her and Wimbush pretending to be mad. Her little scenes with "Ro- annoyed at being deceived, rushes bert" were clever, and not over saying the laugh is his be- cause he is not marrying anybody. Her crying scene with Robert Gil- His sisters follow him to bring him back but he creeps in through the casement and claims Polly Per- kins with a fervent embrace.

—CURTAIN— Miss Althea Large instantaneously won admiration by her finished performance of the part of Mrs. Calthorpe alias Polly Perkins. She acted with an easy grace and charm so exceedingly rare to find in an amateur. She had a long and varied part to play and she did full justice to it. Mr. Reginald Thomas was well suited to the part of Fergus Wimbush, who had come from the "back of beyond", Canada, the country of "great things" and threw his weight about admirably. By in the concluding scene, when his poses and the acting of a fer- rous lover in front of the looking glass is well worth a mention, he also moved his audience to frequent laughter with his quaint sayings. He was confident and acted well throughout. Mr. Stuart Dickson as Robert Gilmore was splendid in the study of the somewhat vacuous yet high- ly principled cousin Mr. Calthorpe. His actions during Martha's cry- ing scene was excellent. (Mr. Arthur McKay was exceed- ingly good as Mr. Priestley, the Trustee-indeed by marriage) and solicitor of Mrs. Calthorpe; he gave us a masterly performance and instilled into the character a pliant vein of humour which n- amateurs would probably not have discovered in the character. His make up as an elderly but

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Tomorrow's Radio Program

- FRIDAY, MARCH 11 International Radio Programs EVENING CONCERTS 6.10 P. M. WIP (508) Philadelphia. Victor Or- chestra. 7.00 P. M. WIP (508) Philadelphia. Uncle

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- Wips Roll Call. 7.30 P. M. WGY (380) Schenectady. Reming- ton Band. WTIC (476) Hartford. Organ rec- ital. CFCF (411) Montreal. Battle's Con- cert Orchestra. WJZ (455) N. Y. Popular. WRC (468) Wash. Concert. WTAM (389) Cleveland. Organ recital. WGY (379) Schenectady. Musical program. WMAK (266) Buffalo. Musical pro- gram. 8.00 P. M. WBAL (246) Baltimore. Musical Program. KDKA (309) E. Pitts. Concert. WEAJ (492) N. Y. Goldman Band. WJZ (455) N. Y. Popular. WRC (468) Wash. Concert. WTAM (389) Cleveland. Organ recital. WGY (379) Schenectady. Musical program. WMAK (266) Buffalo. Syracuse University. WTIC (476) Hartford. Organ recital.

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- 9.00 P. M. WJZ (455) N. Y. Brunswick Hour. WSB (428) Atlanta. Program. CNRT (435) Toronto. Studio Pro- gram. 9.15 P. M. WABC (316) New York. Barrere Ensemble. WPG (299) Atlantic City. Male Quartette. 9.45 P. M. WEAJ (492) N. Y. Whittall-Anglo Persians, to WJAR, WTAM, KSD WWJ, WCCO, WDAF, WGR, WELI, WTAG, WCAE, WOC and WLIT. WBZ (333) Springfield. Musicales. WGY (380) Schenectady. Musicales. WGY (379) Schenectady. Anglo Persians. WGY (379) Schenectady. Address—"Our Government." 10.30 P. M. WTAM (389) Cleveland. Studio Program. WGR (319) Buffalo. Musicales. WHK (272) Cleveland. Silver Ar- row Collegians. 10.45 P. M. WSB (428) Atlanta. Hired Help Sky Lark. 11.00 P. M. WMOA (311) N. Y. Studio Program WJZ (417) Chicago. Popular studio

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- 11.45 P. M. WSB (428) Atlanta. Atlanta Junior Music Club. FEATURE TALKS 8.00 P. M. WOR (405) Newark. N. Y. Univer- sity. 8.30 P. M. WRNY (259) New York. Chemistry. WANT TO DANCE? 7.00 P. M. WCAU (278) Phila. Piccadilly. 8.00 P. M. WBZ (333) Springfield. Markel's. 9.30 P. M. WEAJ (492) N. Y. La France. 10.00 P. M. WCAU (278) Phila. Musical Arch- tests. 10.30 P. M. WPG (300) Atlantic City. Van Doren. WJZ (455) N. Y. Commodore. 11.00 P. M. WABC (316) N. Y. Casino. 11.30 P. M. WEAJ (492) New York. Greenwich Village. WPG (300) Atlantic City. Casino. (Copyright, 1927, by International Radio Programs, Chicago.)

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-By George McManus

