

"THE PASSION PLAY"

OF OBERAMMERGAU WILL BE PRESENTED AT THE

EDISONIA

During the Week Beginning May 27th

Scarcely a person in Charlotte has not heard of this world famous drama, but few if any, have ever witnessed the reproduction. These set of films, 3,114 feet in length, requiring about an hour to display, are the grandest ever produced, and enhanced as they are by the rich coloring of the costumes, all of which work was executed by artists in Paris, are beyond all powers of description.

No audience can look at the beautiful acting and Biblical scenes without being most solemnly impressed. The dissolving effects, such as the appearing and disappearing of angels, Christ arising from the sea and walking on the waters, and the ascension into Heaven are most baffling to the audience. Never since the enactment of that life upon which the Christian Religion is founded has there been a portrayal of the teachings so impressive and beautifully eloquent as this set of films.

History of the Play

The Passion Play is a Sacred Drama, founded on the life of Christ as portrayed in the New Testament. The first Passion Play of which we have any record was in the fourth century, A. D., among the Greeks, and was called "Christos Paschon." All through the middle ages different dramas of this nature were portrayed, chiefly by religious orders. During the Crusades many similar plays were given for the purpose of stimulating the people to activity in the saving of the Holy City from the hands of the Saracens.

In 1563 the peasants in the village of Oberammergau, in Bavaria, were visited by a terrible plague which devastated their country. On the cessation of the plague the entire population made a vow to perform the passion play of our Saviour every tenth year, out of gratitude, and as a means of religious instruction—a vow which has ever since been faithfully and regularly observed. The inhabitants of this secluded village have a rare union of artistic ability and cultivation, with perfect simplicity. Their familiarity with religious subjects is even beyond what is usual in the Alpine parts of Germany, and the spectacle is looked on with the same feelings with which it originated. What would appear elsewhere as impious is, to these peasants, devout and edifying.

The impersonator of Christ considers his part an act of worship. He and all the rest of the performers are selected for their holy life, and are consecrated to their work with prayer and fasting. In fact, it is the ambition of every child in the village to act a part in this great event of their life, and in order to do so, they must show by their daily life that they are worthy of such an honor. Every village girl has an

ambition to portray the part of Mary, the Mother of Christ, and they believe that in order to attain this they must not, even in thought, do anything contrary to the virtuous and pure character required of the part of the Mother of our Saviour. Not to be considered fit to take any part however small, in the grand play is in Oberammergau considered to be a great disgrace. To take a part away from an actor is a shame that can hardly be borne, and it is on record that once a man to whom this happened sank into melancholia which became madness.

The intention of the management is to give to the public in general as near an exact reproduction of the famous Passion Play (as witnessed in Oberammergau) as possible, and was conscientiously assert that there is nothing in this grand performance that will be sacrilegious or irreverent, or any picture presented offensive to any Christian of any denomination, but instead, continual scenes and moving pictures illustrating the fascinating Passion Play. Every man, woman and child will not only enjoy this grand performance, but will be held spellbound at the sight of the fascinating and sublime life-size moving pictures of our Saviour and the multitude and the beautiful surrounding scenes.

Every parent and Sunday school teacher should take advantage of this opportunity to vividly impress upon the children these scenes in the Christ-life—impressions that can never be effaced while the lamp of this life holds out to burn. In no other way, short of a personal visit to the village of Oberammergau, in Bavaria, at the time of this stupendous enactment, can so lasting a realization of the Crucifixion of Christ be made.

Beginning Monday at 10 A. M. and every hour until 11 P. M. each day next week this wonderful set of films will be shown. It is a Bible education no one can afford to miss. After 7 P. M. a pianist will accompany the pictures with appropriate music.

Owing to the fact that over three times the amount of time is required to display these films than usual the management have decided that for this special picture only, the admission, in place of the usual 5 cents, will be 10 cents.

In order to witness the entire performance it is necessary to be seated promptly on the hour, as the films will be repeated to a new audience each time.

ONE WEEK, EVERY HOUR FROM 10 A. M. TO 11 P. M.

SPECIAL ADMISSION 10c.

The Edisona,

200 North Tryon Street

MRS. ROOSEVELT SETS HIGH SOCIAL MARK AT WHITE HOUSE

At B. Downing in Philadelphia American. "Do we see Mrs. Roosevelt?" plead or strangers at the White doors, in the course of a year, they fall to get a fleeting of the President's wife, their

the children, and is now attended only by Archibald and Quentin. MISS ETHEL NOW A YOUNG WOMAN. Miss Ethel, who is taller than her mother and dignified with the weight of 16 years, has been promoted to the

dent's wife and her only daughter is delightful to behold. They chat and laugh as they drive along like two girls bound for the matinee.

Miss Ethel is built on more ample lines than her mother, but she resembles her strongly, the same coloring of eyes and hair and the same trick of smiling only with the eyes rather than the lips.

Her dignity and self-poise is wonderful for a girl of 16, but then she has been in the limelight almost six years and can bear the scrutiny of a theatrical star.

THE SOCIAL SECRETARY. Miss Isabel Hagner, the private sec-

retary of the President's wife and herself. Those who have grievances heap mountains of abuse on the secretary's shapely head, and aver that she is the supreme authority on things social, and that she manipulates the programme for White House functions to suit her own sweet will.

Those who ought to know say that Mrs. Roosevelt is no more dominated by her clever scribe than the President is by Mr. Lobb.

Mrs. Roosevelt attends to her own private correspondence and to many other things connected with purely personal matters.

No mistress of the White House—not even the indefatigable Mrs. McKinley, with her knit slippers—has made such a record for gift-giving. Many presents intended for relatives and dear friends are made by Mrs. Roosevelt in odd moments, and with each gift goes what is most likely the most highly appreciated part—a little note, always written by herself.

OUT WITH THE BOYS

With her boys, she has visited every public building in Washington where there is something of unusual interest. They have all pored over the treasures of the Smithsonian and the National Museum until there is nothing more to astonish. These visits have been made early Saturday mornings on national holidays, when school duties do not claim the boys. No mother in the land is stricter than Mrs. Roosevelt about her children's punctual attendance at school, and to be late is a misdemeanor of the high order.

As for shopping, the storekeepers of Washington, and doubtless those of New York, also, will rise up and call her blessed. Shopping is a necessity for a woman with five children, and for one whom with five children, and costly gifts and who must be of the highest type of modish and well-gowned woman. So Mrs. Roosevelt recognizes shopping as one of her manifest obligations, and does it systematically and intelligently. She goes to her favorite shops several times a week. She knows what she wants, and buys it without losing her own time or that of the clerk.

She begins her Christmas shopping in January, and during the entire year she picks up novelties in jewelry, bric-a-brac and picture books.

THE SOCIAL CABINET

On Tuesday, Mrs. Roosevelt spends the morning with the wives of the Cabinet. A pleasant little reception which is held on the second floor of the mansion in the big sunny corridor. This boudoir cabinet has been the cause of much merriment the country over, but its members say that its functions have never been properly understood.

It is not compulsory to attend these councils, for the utmost informality maintains. High etiquette, precedents and prestige, all these specters which haunt the Washington hostess, do not monopolize all the chat.

The ladies exchange anecdotes about their children, or when they have no children, they talk of their own. A matter of course, they tell of their neighbors' little ones, or their grand-

children, and one of the best vegetable salads which has adorned luncheon tables this spring was told at a boudoir council and promptly passed on to the line of housekeepers in the high official set.

They talk about their gowns, and it is quite a thing that when a cabinet woman gets an unusually fine new gown to bring a sample to the meeting to talk over modistes and milliners, and all those topics which women love to discuss, whether they be wives or kings or presidents or cabinet ministers.

When the White House has no strangers, which is seldom, Mrs. Roosevelt goes on an equestrian trip. As an equestrian her fame has gone abroad. She is one of the most fearless and graceful riders in a city where fine riding is considered a social qualification.

During the season Mrs. Roosevelt receives every Friday afternoon, from 3 to 6, all the smart world, the official world and those who may not claim a place in either category, but who receive cards to the private entertainments, are expected to call at least twice during the official season.

ROOSEVELT HOSPITALITY NOTED

Luncheon at the White House is contingent on many things, but dinner is served at 8 o'clock, whether a state banquet is scheduled or the presidential family sits down alone.

Mrs. Roosevelt has tried for several years to serve dinner at 7, but the change was not favorably received, so the old order continues.

Luncheon is a movable feast in every way, and, like most of the Roosevelt meals, it is generally shared by many unexpected guests. The chef has standing orders to be ready for at least 12 more than the morning schedule, and even then Mrs. Roosevelt sometimes shares the anxiety of all wives whose husbands are given to sudden hospitality.

All the meals are served in the state dining room with much ceremony. The magnificent colonial china is set forth, if only one member of the family sits at the board.

Roosevelt hospitality will be renowned while the social annals of the White House are kept. Most Executives have been satisfied with the state banquets and receptions, which tradition has made an obligation. Mr. McKinley gave out four large dinners in the four years of his regime in addition to the official functions.

The president and Mrs. Roosevelt give scores of dinner parties, on an average of three a week, to companies varying from 18 to 30 guests.

Mrs. Roosevelt, besides her weekly receptions and the state receptions, has given this winter about 13 semi-official entertainments, musicales, afternoon and evening levees, at each of which nearly 500 people have been presented to the mistress of the White House under the most pleasant auspices.

At the evening fetes supper is served, and delightful collations in the afternoon.

Thirty servants compose the White House staff, but only six may be called personal retainers.

Two years ago a French maid was added to the list of attendants, but she was not long retained.

PRESIDENT'S DAUGHTER BLIND.

Mrs. Letitia Tyler Semple, Daughter of a Former President, Inmate of a Washington Home, 87 and Blind.

Washington Special to Philadelphia North American. A happy Virginia bride at 19, mistress of the White House at 21, and totally blind and an inmate of the Louise Home in this city at 87. Such is the life story of Mrs. Letitia Tyler Semple, daughter of former President Tyler, who was 87 years old to-day.

When it is remembered that Mrs. Semple was a little girl, when LaFayette made his last visit to America, it would seem that she almost belongs to another age.

When the death of William Henry Harrison made Tyler President, he brought an interesting family to the White House. Mrs. Tyler was an invalid, and could never discharge the duties of mistress of the mansion. During the first few months of Tyler's administration Mrs. Robert Tyler, wife of a son of the President, acted as his hostess, while the President's daughter, Letitia, remained at their Virginia home with her mother. Some months later Mrs. Tyler made the trip to Washington, accompanied by her daughter, now Mrs. Semple, but succumbed to her malady shortly afterward. After the death of her mother Mrs. Semple assumed the duties of mistress of the White House, which she discharged with grace and tact until her father's second marriage only a few months before his term of office expired.

Her last visit to the White House was during the administration of President Pierce. Since that time, although invitations have come to her for every function given there, she has paid no attention to them. She leads a quiet life in the Louise Home, which is filled with Southern ladies of gentle birth and culture. The home is not a charitable institution, for each woman must pay for her board and room.

SALISBURY'S GRADED SCHOOLS.

The Most Pleasing Feature Was the Address of Mr. Locke Craig of Asheville, on "Opportunity"—Short Happy Talks by Governor Glenn and Editor Julian—Scholarships Awarded.

Special to The Observer. Salisbury, May 25.—The Salisbury white graded schools closed last night with an elaborate programme, the star performance of which was the address of Mr. Locke Craig, of Asheville, as annual orator. Governor Glenn was a distinguished listener and following the close of Mr. Craig's address, spoke five minutes preparatory to catching the train for Raleigh.

The exercises opened with prayer by Rev. R. E. Neighbour and Miss Hall.

Announcements were then made that Harry Shuman had won the University of North Carolina scholarship. Miss Mildred McCubbin, Elizabeth with Miss Ada Williams and Israel Feldman were awarded scholarships to Washington University. The class president, school with a set of Geddes works. The close of the session then announced with the national singing of "The O. S. State."

ALBEMARLE'S GRADED SCHOOLS.

Commencement Exercises of Thursday Night—The Work School Very Satisfactory. Special to The Observer.

Albemarle, May 25.—The commencement of the Albemarle school began Sunday night. The baccalaureate sermon was read by Rev. G. H. Cox, D. D., of the quarry. The text was "and Knowledge." The country was duty to God. The sermon profound impression and was heard to say that it was the best they had ever heard. The loving service was extolled and prayed most eloquently.

The commencement closed last night, May 23d with a ball and dance rendered by the school. Mr. Whitsett, of Whitsett, delivered the literary address. Mr. Whitsett made a series of higher things in life and will be long remembered. The school has been a very satisfactory one. The school has been a very satisfactory one.



Washington is a hollow mockery. Does Mrs. Roosevelt do all these same visitors of the attendants who make a point of public curiosity and of the presidential family. It is a deep disappointment the First Lady of the Land, state garments, does not sit in the east room, to be in several hours daily. Few that, though occupying the to which an American in aspire, her day is made up cheerfully undertaken and performed after the manner of women, the world over, the White House takes on an

second breakfast with her parents. This second feast is a movable one, and may occur at 8 and then at 9, according to the will of the President and what engagements have occupied him the evening before.

On bright, sunshiny mornings in the autumn and the early summer the President and Mrs. Roosevelt partake of the first meal of the day in a pretty Japanese corner of the south veranda. Here some of the famous strawberry shortcake and cornbeef hash breakfasts have been spread.

On bright mornings between seasons Mrs. Roosevelt is apt to accompany her daughter, Miss Ethel, on her ride to the Cathedral School. They use the White House takes on an