

CHAPTER LX.

New Orleans Season of 1846-7 — Mr. and Mrs. J. Wallack — John E. Owens — Mdlle. Blangy — Mr. Murdock — Mr. J. Wallack, Sr. — Ravens — Leopold de Meyer — Joseph Burke — E. L. Davenport — Biography of Mr. and Mrs. Wallack — Mr. and Mrs. Kean — Biography of Mr. Kean — Mm. Augusta — Charles Parloe — The Ravens — Close of Season in New Orleans — Mobile Season of 1846-7 — Mdlle. Blangy — Her Biography — Sivori, Violinist — Close of Mobile Season.

THE St. Charles Theatre, for the season of 1846-7, commenced on Wednesday, November 18, 1846. The house had been remodelled and redecorated entirely in the interior arrangements; the partitions separating the boxes had been removed, and instead of benches, large and commodious cushioned chairs had been introduced in the dress-circle and parquetry, and the second-tier or family-circle; and every thing looked clean, bright, and beautiful.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Wallack, Jr., were announced as the opening "stars," but they were really engaged for the season, to perform in the St. Charles and Mobile theatres, as the managers might require their services.

The opening pieces of the St. Charles Theatre this season were "The King of the Commons," in which Mr. and Mrs. Wallack appeared, — he as *James V. of Scotland*, and she as *Madeline Wier*. After the play, Miss Fanny Deering appeared in a medley dance; the evening concluding with a condensed rendition of "A Bold Stroke for a Husband." On the second night of the season was performed the "Hunchback:" *Master Walter*, Mr. Wallack; *Sir Thomas Clifford*, Mr. Henkins, his first appearance in New Orleans; *Master Modus*, Mr. C. F. Adams; *Julia*, Mrs. Wallack; *Helen*, Mrs. Farren.

November 21st, "Macbeth" was performed: *Macbeth*, Mr. Wallack; *Lady Macbeth*, Mrs. Wallack; the evening concluding with the farce of the "Wind-mill:" *Sampson Low*, Mr. Owens. This is the same gentleman that is well known in the present day as John E. Owens, the popular comedian and wealthy actor. This was the first appearance in New Orleans of Mr. Owens, who afterwards became an immense favorite in that city, and at one time manager of the Varieties Theatre there. The following night, "Romeo and Juliet:"

Romeo, Mrs. Wallack; *Mercutio*, Mr. Wallack; *Juliet*, Mrs. Farren. Next night, "Love's Sacrifice." The following night, the "Lady of Lyons;" concluding the evening with the comedy of the "Belle's Stratagem," — Mr. and Mrs. Wallack in both plays, in the latter performing *Doricourt* and *Letitia Hardy*.

November 25th, Bulwer's comedy of "Money:" *Alfred Evelyn*, Mr. Wallack; *Sir John Vesey*, Mr. Farren; *Graves*, Mr. Owens; *Clara Douglas*, Mrs. Wallack; *Lady Franklin*, Mrs. Farren. November 26th, Mrs. Wallack's benefit, when was repeated the "Lady of Lyons;" concluding the evening with a repeat of the "Belle's Stratagem." This was followed by the performance of the "Bridal," "Richard III.," "William Tell," "Merchant of Venice," and "Honeymoon," the two latter being for the benefit of Mr. Wallack, December 1st. Two or three days after, Mr. and Mrs. Wallack left for Mobile, to perform in the theatre of Ludlow & Smith in that city.

December 3d, the following announcement appeared on the bills: "Mr. N. M. Ludlow having arrived in the city, will perform for a limited number of nights, commencing with *Dr. Pangloss*, in the comedy of the 'Heir at Law.'" Then followed *Ferment*, in "School of Reform;" *Scamper*, in "Promissory Note;" *Young Wilding*, in "The Liar;" *Nipperkin*, in "Sprigs of Laurel;" *Frederick*, *Baron Willinghurst*, in the comic opera called "Of Age To-morrow;" *Kit Cosey*, in "Town and Country;" and *Young Marlow*, in Goldsmith's comedy of "She Stoops to Conquer;" *Tony Lumpkin*, Mr. Owens; *Hardcastle*, Mr. Farren; *Miss Hardcastle*, Mrs. Farren.

About this time Miss Julia Turnbull, the danseuse, commenced an engagement; also Mr. Lovell. She performed her usual dances, and he appeared in his comedy characters, pretty nearly the same as during their nights of the past season at St. Louis.

Miss Mary Ann Lee, a popular danseuse, was also engaged about this time, with her assistant dancer, Mr. G. W. Smith. Mr. and Mrs. Wallack having returned from Mobile, opened again on Monday, December 14th, in "Macbeth." Then followed Bulwer's comedy of "Money," dancing by Miss Lee, and the farce of "Crimson Crimes:" *Mr. Fright*, Mr. Owens; *Mrs. Fright*, Mrs. Farren. Next night, "Romeo and Juliet," cast as during their former engagement; dancing by Miss Lee, and concluding with the farce of "A Kiss in the Dark:" *Pettibone*, Mr. Owens. December 17th, benefit of