

PANTAGES

Unequaled Vaudeville on Broadway

Week Starting Wednesday Matinee,
March 17, 1915.

6—BIG ACTS—6

HARRY GERARD & CO.

In the Charming Alaskan Musical Incident,

"THE LUCK OF A TOTEM POLE."

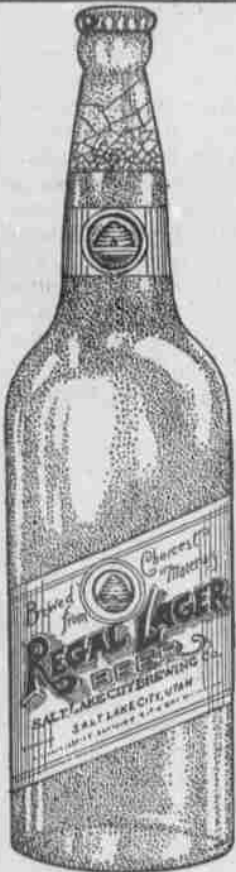
SPECIAL SCENERY

Music by Harry Girard

Lyrics by Joseph Blethen, Jr., and Oliver
Morosco

5—OTHER BIG ACTS—5

10---20---30



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Brewing Co.**

AMBROSE BIERCE

I knew the man well. He was a fatalist and did not believe in assisting fate. There are those who affect to believe that he is letting the reports of his death go uncontradicted that he may enjoy the reading of his obituaries. But I should say that this were very unlikely. Vain he was, and not a little curious as to what men thought of him, but not so vain or so curious as that.

Ambrose Bierce had a peculiarly anomalous position in the world of letters. The public, seeking out the best sellers, was little acquainted with his writings. This was partly for the reason, strange as it may seem, he despised popularity and all that the word stands for. This was not merely from the desire to be different, but for the reason that he lived and thought entirely out of the groove. Like Thoreau, he held "men and their dirty institutions" in utter contempt. He would have lit his cigar with a page of Emerson and would have thrown Longfellow into the ash can.

He would never defer in the slightest to the literary or philosophical opinions of his fellows, cared nothing for what they might say of his personal conduct, however singular or offensive, and though he committed many breaches of custom and gave many affronts, he never apologized.

Probably Bierce was more widely known in the west than in the east, although he lived and worked on the Atlantic side during his best period of production. He made no friends among the literati, and was constantly finding fault with them in public print. He thought nothing of crucifying a popular idol. If anybody wrote about war, for example, he was pretty sure to be challenged by Bierce, who was deeply versed in army affairs, not only having been a military engineer with General Thomas, but having the whole theory and practice of modern warfare at his fingers' ends. There is no doubt that to Bierce, the Constitutionalists owe not a little of their success.

Bierce, who was of New England parentage, was in Ohio when the Civil war began. He enlisted for the north in 1861 while in his twenty-first year. Because of his marked ability and great bravery as a soldier he rose rapidly from the ranks, and in the course of time became a captain of infantry. He was wounded at Chickamauga, the scene of one of his most vividly written and most horrible tales. Of the end of this

After the war, from which he emerged as Major Bierce, he flipped a coin to see whether he would go in for literature or a military career. Literature won and he began to write essays and

(Continued on Page 12.)

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