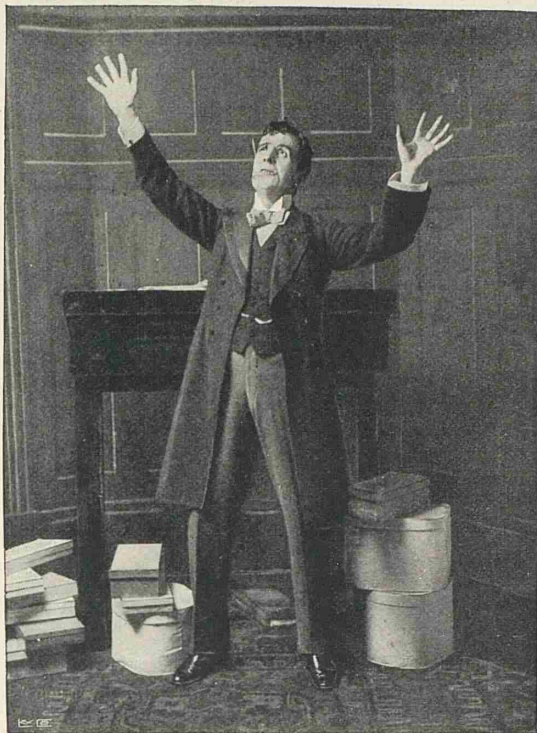


“THE ROMANCE OF THE SHOPWALKER.”

Photographs by Alfred Ellis, Upper Baker Street, N.W.



TOMKINS THE SHOPWALKER (MR. WEEDON GROSSMITH).

“Why wasn't I nobly born?”

Mr. Robert Buchanan and Mr. Charles Marlowe's new piece, “The Romance of the Shopwalker,” which was produced at the Vaudeville Theatre on Feb. 26, provides Mr. Weedon Grossmith with a part in which his peculiar humour is almost unapproachable among English actors. The theme treated by the authors is certainly not new; but Mr. Buchanan and his collaborator have built round it a story which is comic without being cruel, and funny without being vulgar, and the aspirations of Thomas Tomkins, if scorned by the audience as the curtain rises, arouse much sympathy before it falls. The play is admirably acted by the following cast—

Thomas Tomkins	...	...	Mr. WEEDON GROSSMITH.
The Earl of Doverdale	...	...	Mr. SYDNEY WARDEN.
Captain Dudley	...	...	Mr. SYDNEY BROUGH.
Mr. Samuel Hubbard	...	...	Mr. FREDERICK VOLPE.
Alexander MacCollop	...	...	Mr. DAVID JAMES.
Mr. Catchem	...	...	Mr. C. H. FENTON.
Conningsby	...	...	Mr. T. HESSEWOOD.
A Shopman	...	...	Mr. SKINNER.
Lady Munro	...	...	Miss M. TALBOT.
Lady Evelyn	...	...	Miss MAY PALFREY.
Lady Mabel	...	...	Miss NINA BOUCICAULT.
Dorothy Hubbard	...	...	Miss ANNIE HILL.
Mrs. Tomkins	...	...	Miss M. A. VICTOR.

Miss Nina Boucicault has never done anything half so clever as the picture she presents of Lady Mabel. Mr. David James manages, with one or two lapses, to maintain a Scotch accent which is, on the whole, realistic, though it cannot approach the splendid Scotch of Mr. Felix Morris in “On 'Change.” Mr. Sydney Warden, as the Earl of Doverdale, is, as always, neat and incisive. It is a pity that the other Sydney—Mr. Brough—has such an insignificant part as that of Captain Dudley. “The Romance of the Shopwalker” is going on tour.



LADY EVELYN (MISS MAY PALFREY).



LADY MABEL (MISS NINA BOUCICAULT).

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