

MISS LENA GRIST
Who made her début in The Strange Adventures of
Miss Brown

The revival of *The Strange Adventures of Miss Brown*, which has replaced poor *John Durnford*, M.P., at the Court, shows that the farce has not lost any of its old humour. It is played with great spirit and it goes with just the quick rattle that makes this sort of entertainment possible. I am not keen or pieces where men take women's parts, but M. R. C. Herz's appearance in petticoats is never nasty.

The revival of the farce has given Mr. Herz the first opportunity in a short career to play a leading and important part in the principal piece of the evening. That this very clever and versatile young actor is fully equal to the occasion has been generally admitted.

Previous to June 19 last year, when Mr. Herz began by "walking on" at the Haymarket Theatre in The School for Scandal, his experience of acting was confined to some amateur performances in which he took part when a member of the Amateur Dramatic Club, Cambridge. At the university he does not claim to have shown much talent for acting; at the same time he had a belief that with proper experience he would eventually succeed as an actor, and having to make his own way in life he chose the profession of the theatre as the means.

ast Christmas he got his first part. This was Augustus in Shockheaded Peter at the Garrick, which led to his being engaged for Percy in Peril at the same theatre. Then he went direct to Terry's for The Lion Hunter and the principal part in the curtain-raiser, transferring his services at the end of the run to the Court Theatre, where he has appeared in each of Messrs. Brickwell and Kerr's productions. So far the part that has pleased him most was Benjamin Dolby in Just a Man's Fancy, a one-act play performed at the Court. The part is a serious one, and for that reason Mr. Herz prefers it to any other that he has yet played. Light comedy or character parts he does not care about, and as he intends to try and get on without them he will probably succeed. Mr. Herz, who is the son of the late Dr. Cornelius Herz, was born at Paris in 1878, both his parents being American,

"THE STRANGE ADVENTURES OF MISS BROWN."

By Robert Buchanan and Charles Marlowe.
(Revived September 23, 1501.)

Major O'Gallagher | cavalry | Mr. John Beauchamp Captain Courtenay | officers | Mr. R. C. Herz | Mr. Holder | Mr. Paul Vincent | Mr. Hibbertson (a solicitor) | Mr. H. Nye Chart | Sergeant Tanner (of Scolland | Yard) | Herr Von Moser (a music master) | Mr. Stanley Cooke | Mrs. O'Gallagher | Miss Romney (of Cicero House Academy) | Angela Brightwell Euphemia Schwartz | Eiphemia Schwartz | Kirls at Gicero | Miss Mabel Harding Miss Kate Harwood | Miss A. Grist | Grist | Emma (a housemaid) | Miss Constables, Schoolgirls, &c.

Act I.—The Wedding. (In which Miss Brown makes an unexpected appearance at Major O'Gallagher's

Act II.—The Honeymoon. (In which Miss Brown is guilty of most unladylike behaviour at Miss Romney's academy, Cicero House.)

Act III.—Amazing apotheosis of Miss Brown. (In which Miss Brown makes an astounding confession and departs for ever from Cicero House.)

THE COURT THEATRE PLAYBILL
Originally produced at the Vaudeville Theatre
on June 25, 1895

"THE STRANGE ADVENTURES OF MISS BROWN."

M iss Annie Grist and her sister, Miss Lena Grist, who appear as two of the schoolgirls, are the daughters of Mr. H. T. Brickwell, joint manager with Mr. Frederick Kerr of that theatre. Miss Annie Grist appeared



THE IMPERSONATOR OF MISS BROWN Mr. R. C. Herz, the son of the famous Cornelius Herz

once before on the stage, when she filled the part of a little fairy queen in a pantomime at Paisley. Since then, however, she and her younger sister have been away for three years at school in Belgium, returning home to successfully prevail upon their father to allow them to seriously make the theatre their profession. They are very enthusiastic about acting, and intend to see if hard work will not reward their hopes.



MISS ANNIE GRIST
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The management of the Court Theatre, wishing to provide an attraction of a more varied nature for the early patrons of the theatre than the usual one-act play, have padded out their main entertainment by two other items. Mr. Robert Ganthony gives one of his laughable recitals, while Colby and Way figure in their ventriloquial and dancing doll act. The celebrated chanteuse Parisienne, Mdlle. Eugénie Fougère, also appears.

Everybody is discussing Iris, for the play is full of points that puzzle. For instance, what exactly happened when Iris and Trenwith went to Como? The "house-full" boards are up nightly, but in order that Miss Fay Davis's strength shall not be overtaxed by eight performances a week Mr. Bourchier has decided that Iris shall be played on Saturday afternoons instead of on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

The first Covent Garden fancy-dress ball takes place on Friday. This year, as the whole of the opera house and the stage are available, the scenic decorations will be of a far more extensive nature than in previous years and will be entitled "The Sunny South," consisting of scenes from Monte Carlo and the south of France. Valuable prizes will again be given for the best fancy-dress costumes.

Mr. Mark Hambourg gave the first of three piano recitals at the Queen's Hall on Saturday and will reappear on Saturday week. Born in south Russia, of Russian parentage on both sides, he owes his musical grounding entirely to his father. His first appearance, at the age of nine, was with the Royal Philharmonic Society at Moscow; he then made a London début as a prodigy, after which he toured in England and Scotland for a couple of years. Taking the advice of Paderewski, Richter, and others, his father then sent him to Vienna, where he studied for three years under Leschetizky. Six years ago he resumed his public career. Hambourg's repertory includes twenty of the most celebrated pianoforte concertos as well as some 400 of the other master works of Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann, Chopin, Brahms, Liszt, and others.