

## **HAZE-L-KORK:** [burlesque] **Txt Adapt/Mus.** [n/e]

A burlesque on James Steele Mackaye's drama *Hazel Kirk* (1880), and written expressly for the Cogill Brothers minstrel troupe.

**1887:** St George's Hall, Melbourne; 10-16 Sept.

- **Prod/Lse.** Charles W. and Harry P. Cogill; **B Mngr.** Fred W. Duvall.

- **Troupe:** Cogill Brothers Minstrel Company.

- **Cast** incl. Ada Walker, Fannie Langley, Fanny Sarony, Carrie Bilton, Charles W. Cogill, Harry P. Cogill, Harry Sullivan, Alf Holland, Frank Stevens, George A. Jones.

Kelly, Veronica, ed. *Annotated Calendar of Plays Premiered in Australia: 1870-1890.* (1997), v. pags.

## **H.M.S. MUD BARGE, "NORTH SHORE":** [burlesque] **Txt Adapt/Mus.** [n/e]

A burlesque on the Gilbert and Sullivan operetta *H.M.S. Pinafore*.

**1887:** Royal Standard Theatre, Sydney; 17-25 Oct.

- **Dir.** W. B. Warner; **Prod/Lse.** Frank Smith; **Mngr.** J. Grant.

- **Troupe:** Walsh and King's Standard Minstrel and Burlesque Company.

- **Cast** incl. Hetty Sherwood, Miss Scasi, W. B. Warner, Percy Shannon, Tom Holland, Harry Clay, Shaw Cross, Charles Holly, Alf Meyers, Hosea Eastern, Frank Phillips.

Kelly, Veronica, ed. *Annotated Calendar of Plays Premiered in Australia: 1870-1890.* (1997), v. pags.

## **ROBINSON CRUSOE; OR, HARLEQUIN FRIDAY AND THE KING OF THE**

**CANNIBAL ISLANDS:** [pantomime] **Lib Adapt.** Alfred Maltby and H. H. Vincent; **Mus.** W. H. Harrison and Alfred Cellier

A second (and similar) version of the *Robinson Crusoe* pantomime originally conceived by Maltby [see 1886 entry], this version was adapted and localised with the assistance of H. H. Vincent. The Sydney Morning Herald critic writes: "There is some wit in their verses, which are in rhyme throughout, and the local hits especially those referring to incidents in the life of our members of parliament, were successful in provoking laughter and winning applause" ("Theatre Royal," 5).

The pantomime begins in the Storm King's workshop where he and his demon cohorts chant their weird songs and plot evil schemes. In the scene that follows, Mrs Crusoe's Schoolroom, some 60 children took part, with much of the humour shared between W. B. Warner (Mrs Crusoe) and Fred Garnett (Tommy), who was nearly always accompanied by his donkey (Harry Cottier), and who also performed amusing antics on roller skates. The third scene, set at the port of Hull, saw the plot begin to take shape as Crusoe is press ganged by Will Atkins, who has it in for him as they are both rivals for the affections of Polly. The scene also involved a procession of trades, with the marchers carrying banners which read, "The Domain Anti-Labour League," "Eight Hours a Day" and "Eight Bob a Day" etc. This procession was followed by another comprising ladies dressed as footballers, cricketers and cyclists, and concluded with a patriotic song. The act concludes with both Crusoe and Polly being taken aboard Atkins' ship Act Two begins sometime later on the island of Juan Fernandez, where Crusoe, his mother and Polly have been stranded following the storm which wrecked the ship. They have built themselves a hut, which as the curtain rose was surrounded by monkeys and other animals such as a cat, a dog and a goat. Also present are Friday and Tuesday Afternoon, who presented a "capital song and dance." The action then moves to the palace of King Koko, chief of the cannibals, where the trio of castaways and their companions have been brought. They are greeted by Lord Durtiwork, who sings "They're all very Fine and Large." Several ballets followed and the plot climaxed with the castaways escaping their fate as a royal banquet. A grand transformation scene, titled "Gardens of the Ocean," was followed by the traditional dumb show - presented by the Cottier family. The harlequinade scenes involved Centennial Parade, Turkish baths, a pawnbroker's and Father Christmas.

In reviewing the musical programme the *Herald* critic reports: "Of the songs which brighten the work, the best are the topical, and of these the most enjoyed was entitled 'In the Days of Old Lang Syne'" (ibid, 5). The song was sung by J. R. Greville as Will Atkins and Harry Benham as King Cockatoo. Other songs included: "Who Killed Cock Robin:" (sung by W. B. Warner and Fred Garnett), a topical song characteristic of the Salvation Army, "To Be There" (J. R. Greville and male chorus), "In a Dark and Dreary Sky" (Harry Cremar and Sam Poole), "The Agricultural Irish Girl" (Aggie Kelton and Lena Salinger) and the patriotic song, "Australia," performed during the procession of trades.

**1887:** Theatre Royal, Sydney; 26 Dec. 1887 - 3 Feb. 1888 [33 pfms]

- **Prod.** J. C. Williamson, Arthur Garner and George Musgrove; **Lse.** Samuel Lazar; **Mngr.** H. H. Vincent; **M Dir.** W. H. Harrison; **M Arr.** Alfred Cellier and W. H. Harrison; **S Art.** John Hennings and John Brunton; **Chor.** Rosalie and Heloise Duvalli; **Cost.** Alfred Maltby (designer), Mde. Nathan and Mde. Beamer; **S Mngr.** J. A. Patterson.

- **Cast** incl. Aggie Kelton (Robinson Crusoe, everybody's hero), Fred Garnet (Tommy, his foster brother, a silent member), W. B. Warner (Mrs Crusoe, his mother, an agricultural Irish girl and addicted to Home Rule), J. R. Greville (Will Atkins, the enemy of Crusoe, although not mentioned in Defoe), Lena Salinger (Poilly, the lass that loves, alas! a sailor), Harry Benham (King Cockatoo, the original King of the Cannibal Islands), Sophie Harris (Prince Koko, his son - "grateful and comforting, a regular nut), Gertrude Powys (Princess Chickorce, unadulterated, war-ranted genuine),

Fred Dark (Lord Durtiwork, everything in general, nothing in particular), Harry Cremar (Man Friday, a good Fellow, Crusoe's man and Longfellow's hero), Sam Poole (Tuesday Afternoon, Friday's author, "budgereefeller"), Jessie Grey (Oceana, edition de luxe, very fine), Miss Coutts Duvalli (Ariel, very light, the champion skipper), Thomas H. Rainford (Storm King, general purveyor of nuisances, a base-un, not loud but deep), Harry Cottier (The Lovely Moke, very original), Walter Cottier (The Faithful Poodle), Ernest Cottier (The A-mew-sing Cat), C. J. Castles (Pongo, the origin of - see Darwin), Master J. Williams (Pretty Cocky. not a silent member), Fred England (Lone Jack), F. Gresham (Big Ben), W. Johnson (Old Tom), Louie Woods, Stella Bohn, Josie Green, Eva, Maud and Miss L. Torrance, Miss S. Brereton, Prof. F. S. Rollinson; Harlequinade - Harry Cottier (Clown), Ernest Cottier (Harlequin), Miss Baby Merrick (Columbine), Walter Cottier (Pantaloen), Mr Hayes (Policeman), the Castle Family and Master J. Williams (Sprites).

- Other characters incl. Peasants, Press Gang, School Children, Dolls, Sailors, Officers, Demons, Indians, Guards, Black-Guards, Trumpeters, Banner-bearers, Pages, Cooks, Major-Domos, Princes, Armies, Flowers, Birds, Lions, Tigers, Kangaroos, Crocodiles, Monkeys, Loafers etc.

Kelly, Veronica, ed. *Annotated Calendar of Plays Premiered in Australia: 1870-1890*. (1997), v. pags.

"Theatre Royal: Robinson Crusoe." *Sydney Morning Herald* 27 Dec. (1887), 5. [see also advert. - 26 Dec. 1887, 2]

## MOTHER GOOSE AND THE ENCHANTED BEAUTY: [pantomime] Lib Adapt. Henry Cargill;

**Mus.** Frank Fowler, Duncan Macallum and Mr Lindsell.

Adapted and localised by Cargill from E. L. Blanchard's pantomime of the same name (1880), it opens in space with a distant view of earth, where Fairies debate the subject of pantomime. The production was notable for both its extensive electrical effects and the constant local references.

**1887:** Gaiety Theatre, Brisbane; 26 Dec. 1887 - 25 Jan., 4 Feb. 1888 [26 pfms]

- **Dir/Mngr.** D'Arcy Stanfield; **Lse.** Stewart and Co; **M Dir.** Frank Fowler; **S Art.** John Campbell and Edward Vaughan.
- **Troupe:** Stanfield and McCallum's Burlesque Company.
- **Cast** incl. Fanny Sarony, Netta Atkinson, Marie Arrowsmith, Amy Olive, Blanche Eweng, Amy Brookes, Clara Foster, Adria Hamilton, Annetta Wilhelm, Martha Gwynne, Alicia Dearlove, Laura Healy, Stella Austin, Cissy Smith, D'Arcy Stanfield, Eva Clements, Amy Horton, Madie [or Maudie] Bennett, Julia Simmons, Ada Lowther, Charles Forbes, George Dean, Harry Sullivan, Mr Maker (acrobat), Mr McDermott (acrobat), Master George Lowther, Nelly Dawson, Will Simpson, F. W. Hanley, W. Lowther.



*Queensland Figaro and Punch* 7 Jan. (1888), 40

**GAIETY THEATRE.**  
**The Pantomime.**  
**Some Dear Old Friends of Figaro.**

"Simple clown."  
—*Love's Labor Lost*, Act 4, sc. 1.

"Vaulting ambition which o'erleaps itself And falls on the other."  
—*Macbeth*, Act 1, sc. 7.

"That Columbine."  
—*Love's Labor Lost*, Act 5, sc. 2.

"The lean and slippered Pantaloen."  
—*As You Like It*, Act 2, sc. 7.

*Queensland Figaro and Punch* 31 Dec. (1887), 996.

"Gaiety Theatre." *Queenslander* 10 Dec. (1887), 938.

"Gaiety Theatre." *Queenslander* 31 Dec. (1887), 1058.

"Gaiety Theatre." *Queenslander* 7 Jan. (1888), 18.

"Gaiety Theatre: The Pantomime." *Queensland Figaro and Punch* 7 Jan. (1888), 40.

"Pantomime, The." *Queensland Figaro and Punch* 31 Dec. (1887), 996.

"Pantomime at the Gaiety." *Brisbane Courier* 4 Jan. (1888), 5. See also advert. - 26 Dec. (1887), 2.

## JACK THE GIANT KILLER AND LITTLE BO-SHEEP; OR, HARLEQUIN, KING ARTHUR AND THE ENCHANTED SHEEP: [pantomime] **Lib.** Alfred Maltby; **Mus.** Herr Küster

The giants Blunderbore and Cormoran enlist King Antarctic to aid them against Jack, whose good fairy is Sunbeam. King Arthur, surrounded by his scoundrel knights, falls for Bo-Peep, but she is saved by the giants. In the end Jack, with the aid of seven league boots defeats them. Songs included parodies from *Mikado* and *Princess Ida*.

In its review of the Melbourne production *Table Talk* records: "Mr. Alfred Maltby has an opportunity of presenting his second pantomime to a Melbourne audience, that is, his second Australian pantomime, for it is not known how many pantomime successes he has enjoyed in London. However, the present production is a distinct advance on that of twelve months ago. And if it be not up to the level of the famous *Cinderella*, it still fulfils the fourfold requirement the holiday theatre-goer sets down as a necessity to Christmas pieces, that is - the work is full of political hits and local allusions; the scenery is lovely beyond the most romantic dreams, the dresses extravagantly gorgeous, and the actors popular favorites" ("Before the Curtain," 12).

**1887:** Theatre Royal, Melbourne; 26 Dec. 1887 - 10 Feb. 1888 [39 pfm]

- **Prod.** J. C. Williamson, Arthur Garner and George Musgrove; **M Arr.** Herr Küster; **S Art.** George Gordon, John Brunton, J. Peake and Mr Edwards; **Chor.** Rosalie and Heloise Duvalli; **Cost.** Alfred Maltby (designer) and Miss Nathan; **Com Sc.** John Gourlay; **S Mngr.** Harry Bennett.
- **Cast** incl. Emma Chambers, Marie Brooke, Francis Coventry, Daisy Chester, Violet Elliott, Mary Weir, Annie Martin, Miss J. Gun, Miss E. Stephenson, Miss C. Benton, Miss K. Mallon, Miss L. Allen, Miss A. Brunton, Miss L. Dunville, Miss M. Elliott, Miss F. Clive, Miss K. Scobie, Tilly Lake, G. W. Anson, Hans Phillips, Alf Lawton, John Gourlay, Harry Taylor, P. G. Terac, George P. Carey, John Bryan, Albert Marsh, F. Beverly, Boleno Brown, R. E. Watson, Samuel Nelson.

Kelly, Veronica, ed. *Annotated Calendar of Plays Premiered in Australia: 1870-1890*. (1997), v. pages.

"[Before the Curtain: Theatre Royal - Jack the Giant Killer.](#)" *Table Talk* 30 Dec. (1887), 12.

"[Theatre Royal Pantomime.](#)" *Argus* 24 Dec. (1887), 10. See also advert. - 24 Dec. (1887), 16.

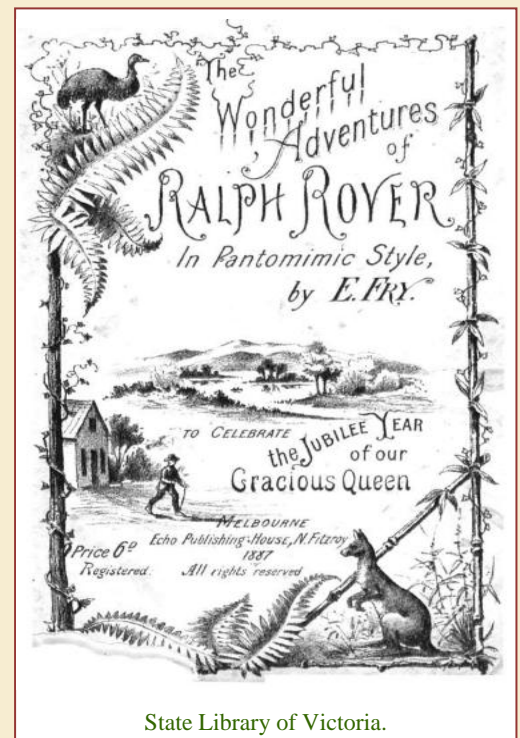
"[Theatre Royal Pantomime: Jack the Giant Killer.](#)" *Argus* 27 Dec. (1887), 6.

## ◆ THE WONDERFUL ADVENTURES OF RALPH ROVER; OR, HARLEQUIN ADVENTURE AND THE MOUNTAIN OF GOLD AND PRECIOUS STONES: [pantomime]

**Lib.** E. Fry; **Mus.** [n/e]

# Echo Press (Melb), 1887.

Written in pantomimic style this three act dramatic work was inspired as a form of celebration for the Queen Victoria's jubilee year. There is no evidence suggesting that it was ever staged, however.



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Expanded and updated from Clay Djubal, "What Oh Tonight" (Appendix C), Ph D Diss (2005) U of Qld.

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