

FIFTIETH PERFORMANCE OF

The Footlight Club



1877-1890



THE
FIFTIETH PERFORMANCE OF
The Footlight Club
AT
ELIOT HALL, JAMAICA PLAIN
JANUARY IX AND X
MDCCCXC





Diplomacy

A COMEDY IN FOUR ACTS

ACT I. Apartment occupied by the Marquise de Rio-Zares, at Monte Carlo.

*“Man’s love is of man’s life a thing apart,
’T is woman’s whole existence.”*

ACT II. Henry Beauclerc’s Apartment in Paris. Morning.

*“Mark, now, how a plain tale shall put you
down.”*

ACT III. Henry Beauclerc’s Apartment. Evening.

*“A little fire is quickly trodden out,
Which, being suffered, rivers cannot quench.”*

ACT IV. An Official Room at the British Embassy, Paris.

*“What do you call the play?
The Mouse-trap. Marry, how?”*

Three months are supposed to elapse between the First and Second Acts.





Diplomacy

DISTRIBUTION OF CHARACTERS

Henry Beauclerc .	<i>Mr. Thomas B. Ticknor.</i>
Capt. Julian Beauclerc .	<i>Mr. Harry H. Gay.</i>
Count Orloff . . .	<i>Mr. Parkman Dexter.</i>
Baron Stein . . .	<i>Mr. S. Henry Hooper.</i>
Algie Fairfax . . .	<i>Mr. William O. Gay.</i>
Markham	<i>Mr. Henry Taggard.</i>
Antoine .	<i>Mr. George W. Wheelwright, Jr.</i>
Mr. Sheppard . . .	<i>Mr. Charles F. Ogilby.</i>
Dora	<i>Miss C. Louise Johnson.</i>
Countess Zicka . . .	<i>Mrs. Linzee Tilden.</i>
Marquise de Rio-Zares . .	<i>Miss Anne Lee.</i>
Lady Henry Fairfax . .	<i>Miss Edith Fiske.</i>
Mion	<i>Miss Mary W. Stickney.</i>
Acting Manager .	<i>Mr. Richard H. Gorham.</i>
Ass't Stage Manager .	<i>Mr. Jos. S. Williams.</i>
Prompter . . .	<i>Miss Emma F. Spaulding.</i>
At the Piano . .	{ <i>Mrs. Arthur B. Whiting.</i>
	{ <i>Miss Kate Folsom.</i>





The Footlight Club





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The Footlight Club



THE FOOTLIGHT CLUB was organized on January 4, 1877, with an Active Membership of twenty-seven, and an Associate Membership of seventy-five persons; it closes its thirteenth year with an Active Membership limited to forty in the First Class and twenty in the Second Class, and an Associate Membership of two hundred and eighty.

Since its organization, fifty regular performances have been given, at which fifty-seven different plays have been produced.

The first performance was given on February 9, 1877, in the little German Theatre at Boylston Station; and simple and unpretentious as was the production of "A Scrap of Paper" on that occasion, the cordial reception accorded by the Associates to this initial effort placed the

Club upon a footing which required for its maintenance only continued earnest and conscientious endeavor on the part of the Active Members. The Club continued to play in the German Theatre until the autumn of 1878, when its performances were transferred to Eliot Hall, and at the same time the Associate Membership was increased to one hundred and twenty-five; in January, 1884, additional members were admitted, — the limit being placed at one hundred and eighty. To prevent the overcrowding of the auditorium, and to insure a better view of the stage by raising a portion of the seats, the Club at this time began the practice of repeating its performances, — one half of the members attending each night, — and this plan has since been followed.

With the change that has recently taken place in the ownership of Eliot Hall, and the consequent enlargement and improvement of the building, it became necessary for the Club to provide for a largely increased annual expenditure, as well as for immediate additions to the scenery and stage equipment. It was

therefore decided to admit a portion of the applicants for Associate Membership, many of whose names had been on the waiting-list for several years, and for this purpose the present limit of two hundred and eighty was established.

The success of an Amateur Dramatic Club must be judged solely from the amateur standpoint, for the limitations which necessarily attend the work of an organization of this nature cannot always be overcome even by the most careful and painstaking endeavor. In reviewing the fifty performances of the Club, this fact must be borne in mind.

Whatever measure of success THE FOOTLIGHT CLUB has gained is to be attributed in a large degree to two causes: first, the ready and cheerful compliance on the part of the Active Members with a system of strict but self-imposed regulations, in accordance with which the Club is managed, joined with an earnest effort to advance in every way the interests of the Club; and second, the loyal, cordial, and generous support which the Associates have given

the organization from its first performance to the present time.

It is hoped that the desire to steadily improve the work bestowed on the performances in its various details has in some degree been fulfilled, and that past experience has not been entirely unproductive of results.

It is gratifying to find that the rolls of the Club still bear a very large proportion of the original Associate Members, and that a number of the Active Members who assisted in the productions of 1877 still retain their places, and are participants in the fiftieth performance.





List of Plays

PRODUCED BY THE FOOTLIGHT CLUB

1877.

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. A Scrap of Paper . . . | <i>February 9</i> |
| 2. The Babes in the Wood . . . | <i>May 4</i> |
| 3. The Rose of Amiens
and Betsy Baker . . . | } <i>October 18</i> |
| 4. The Rose of Amiens
and Betsy Baker . . . | |
| 5. Two Can Play at That
Game and Doing for
the Best | } <i>December 18</i> |

1878.

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| 6. Victims | <i>March 5</i> |
| 7. A Widow Hunt | <i>October 15</i> |
| 8. David Garrick | <i>November 8</i> |
| 9. Dot; or, The Cricket
on the Hearth | } <i>December 24</i> |

1879.

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| 10. Our Boys | <i>March 25</i> |
| 11. She Stoops to Conquer . . . | <i>May 20</i> |
| 12. New Men and Old
Acres | } <i>October 31</i> |
| 13. Married in Haste | |

* Repetition in aid of the Old South Fair.

1880.

14. Caste *March 12*
 15. A Lesson in Love *May 5*
 16. Randall's Thumb *October 26*
 17. Our Girls *December 22*

1881.

18. Partners for Life *February 17*
 19. The Heir at Law *May 10*
 20. The Spark and Tom } *October 28*
 Cobb }
 21. The Chimney Corner } *December 30*
 and Woman's Privi- }
 lege }

1882.

22. Still Waters Run Deep *March 7*
 23. Money *May 11*
 24. Sweethearts and Dom- } *November 8*
 ino }
 25. A Scrap of Paper *December 27*

1883.

26. Old Heads and Young } *March 12*
 Hearts }
 27. The Parvenu *May 15*
 28. The Two Roses *November 20*
 29. The Rivals *December 28*

1884.

30. Cyril's Success *March 11, 12*

31. Picking up the Pieces }
 and The Snow Ball . } . *May 8, 9*
 32. Apples and The Higher }
 Education } . *Nov. 5, 6*
 33. An Unequal Match . . . *Dec. 27, 29*

1885.

34. Blow for Blow *Mar. 14, 15*
 35. On Guard *May 8, 9*
 36. Taming the Truant . . . *Nov. 11, 12*
 37. Engaged *Dec. 29, 30*

1886.

38. Ours *Feb. 24, 25*
 39. Midsummer Madness . . . *May 20, 21*
 40. Old Love Letters, A }
 Household Fairy, and } *Nov. 13, 15*
 To Oblige Benson . }

1887.

41. The Lancers *Fan. 7, 8*
 42. False Shame *Mar. 10, 11*
 43. A Game of Cards and }
 The Pilgrim Sons . } *May 19, 20*
 44. The Romance of a Poor }
 Young Man } *Dec. 12, 13*

1888.

45. David Garrick *Mar. 12, 13*
 46. Rain and Shine and }
 Bad Advice } *May 15, 16*
 47. The Palace of Truth . . . *Dec. 13, 14*

1889.

48. Our Boys *Mar. 12, 13*
49. Masks and Faces *May 13, 14*

1890.

50. Diplomacy *Jan. 9, 10*



