Amusements

St. Charles- The capacity of this theatre is fully tested each night, now that J Wilkes Booth is the great attraction. Seldom have we seen a man whose age and talent so well evinces that dramatic talent is intuitive, and not to be cultivated with years. Possessing a keen, discriminative mind to interpret, and a scholarly sense of duty to his text, an apt mastery of effects, and that graceful naturalness of manner, which betrays an earnest identity with his role, Mr Booth seeks not to play a part, but to be intrinsically of it - not to render it in wonted stage form, but to inhere it, and thus, as an emotional creature, to submit his rendition to the public. This is the true idea of the actor's vocation. Not to strut and read subordinate to professional traditions; not to be restricted to narrow axioms and precedents; but rather buoyant with the motive and spirit of the role; to speak as if with an impulse, warm from the bard's inspired lips; and it is only by this intense, personal fusion of self, that a genuine rendition can be given. Not simply to wear a mask, but to throb with those pulses of thought, of which mere words are a dead expression, is obviously the reverent aim of Mr Booth, and the power and veracity of his PESCARA last night clearly indicated it. It will suffice to say that the "Apostate" will not be forgotten - nor the gentleman's talent who counterfeited PESCARA, as ensuing audiences will abundantly testify. Mrs Walter's FLORINDA surprised us, and was really an excellent interpretation. We have many times thought to allude more particularly to this lady's personations, and now she has the satisfaction to know our admiration has been fairly extorted by her correct and beautiful delineation last evening of the devoted Spanish Maiden.

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