

The Playhouses.

Oscar Hammerstein's new Theatre Republic, in Forty-second street, near Broadway, Manhattan, was opened to the public for the first time last evening with James A. Herne in his new play, "Sag Harbor," seen for the first time in New York City last night. The audience was typically a first night one, and therefore demonstrative. Nothing short of an absolute failure all around could have prevented those in the auditorium from expressing their enthusiasm. As it was, everything went off smoothly as though the play and playhouse had been running together for all the season so far. The Theatre Republic is certainly the handsomest of the seven theatres that Mr. Hammerstein has built in Manhattan, and after the third act he was enthusiastically called before the curtain to say a few words of dedication, which he did gracefully. Mr. Herne also received curtain calls until he was obliged to respond with a little speech. To describe the beauties of the theatre in detail would take columns of space, and then the description would prove inadequate. One must visit the theatre and gaze upon its beautiful decorations himself to get any adequate idea of it. As to Mr. Herne's new play, it is one of those typical stories of homely life in a seaport town which Mr. Herne knows how to tell better than any other living playwright. There is love and pathos, the home and the children, the simple life of the folk at Sag Harbor, and almost a tragedy, too, to interest the audience. Mr. Herne and his two talented daughters, Julie and Chrystal, carried off most of the honors of the play. The supporting cast is one of the best that it is possible to obtain, and includes such well-known and able talent as Frank Monroe, Forrest Robinson, Lionel Barrymore, W. T. Hodge, C. Dibden Pitt, John D. Garrick, T. H. Burke, Robert Gillig, Mrs. Sol Smith, Marion Abbott, Mollie Revel, Harriet McDonald and Margaret Dibden Pitt.