

PELHAM GRANGE GAVE DRAMA

Well Known People Appeared
in an Amateur
Play.

Characters Cleverly Taken and the
Program Very Much
Enjoyed.

There was a large attendance at the meeting of the Pelham Grange last Wednesday evening, in anticipation of the drama that was to be given by several of the grange members.

The ordinary business of the grange was disposed of with promptness and dispatch, a committee of three being appointed to draw up resolutions on the death of the late Mrs. S. Josephine Mansfield who was an interested member of the local grange.

It was also ordered that the charter be draped as a token of respect for the departed.

The presentation of the drama was delayed on account of the presence of District Deputy Goodrich of Atkinson, in whose presence and for whose benefit the lodge exemplified the work of the first degree. He commended the officers for this exhibition of their efficiency in working this degree.

The drama presented was entitled "The Flower of the Family," and was given in three acts. The following persons took the parts:

Abner Howland, a merchant, D. G. 3. Burns; Oscar Loring, his ward, Albert L. Jones; Tom Howland, his nephew, Howard Chase; Policy Newcomb, an insurance agent, Willis Pearson; Spicer Spofford, clerk in an insurance office, Herman Chase; Mrs. Gordon Howland, a widow, Miss M. A. Cloyd; Alice Howland, her daughter, Miss Letitia V. Ward; Lina Howland, Abner's adopted daughter, Miss Sadie Hobbs.

Every character in the play was well taken, and nothing but praise can be said of all who had a part. Abner Howland was a typical merchant and had his lines well learned, which he gave with much spirit. Oscar Loring had not much opportunity for elaborate action but improved every chance the play gave him. His continuous sneezing afforded much merriment.

Tom Howland proved an adept at love making, and surely was passionate enough to satisfy the craving of any young love-lorn miss, who appreciates soft words and endearing smiles. The audience wondered on whom he had been practising in order to bring up his exhibition to such a state of perfection.

Willis Pearson was likewise good in his acting the part of an insurance agent. He was determined to sell a policy to everyone in sight, and was seen at his best when, on his knees he made love unsuccessfully to the widow. The audience could not understand how such pleading failed to win the widow's heart.

Spicer Spofford, well represented by Herman Chase, the extent of whose vocabulary seemed to be "Yah, yah, yah;" and who continually informed those upon whom he sprung his jokes that his wit was made "out of his own head." Mr. Chase was a typical dandy.

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The part of the widow suited Miss Cloyd, and her sorrow for the child she thought had left her was a capital piece of acting, naturally done. She turned ice-cold glances on every effort of Policy Newcomb to win her heart.

Nothing but praise can be given to Miss Ward and to Miss Hobbs for the parts they assumed. It was their good work that added much to the success of the play as a whole. Miss Hobbs was very becomingly gowned and deserves much credit for the rendition of her lines; and of Miss Ward, it can be said that enunciation was practically perfect and her acting far above what is generally done by amateurs.

These two young ladies had a part in several love scenes and greatly pleased the audience by their generally good work.

All the actors deserve great credit for the work done. The play is a long one to commit to memory, and is not the easiest to act. Yet they did it to entire satisfaction of all present.