

**THE AMAZONS: A  
FARCICAL ROMANCE  
IN THREE ACTS**

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The Amazons: A Farical Romance in Three Acts by Arthur W. Pinero

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**ARTHUR W. PINERO**

**THE AMAZONS: A  
FARCICAL ROMANCE  
IN THREE ACTS**



*THE AMAZONS*

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# *THE AMAZONS*

*A FARCICAL ROMANCE*

*In Three Acts*

*By ARTHUR W. PINERO*



LONDON: WILLIAM HEINEMANN

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## INTRODUCTORY NOTE

ALTHOUGH "The Amazons" was presented to the public a couple of months earlier than "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray," it was actually a later work; indeed, Mr. Pinero may be said to have written this merry and fantastic little play by way of relaxation after the more serious mental effort involved in the composition of the famous drama which told the tragic story of Paula Tanqueray. Curiously enough, this delightful "farcical romance," in the writing of which Mr. Pinero was apparently prompted by no more weighty motive than the indulgence of his own playful fancy, for all the amusement it was worth, stands in order of composition immediately between "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray" and "The Notorious Mrs. Ebbsmith." It may thus be regarded as a remarkable evidence of its author's versatility. Here he attempted no criticism of life, he sought to solve no problem of morality, sociology, or psychology; he merely permitted himself to dally with the "mannish-woman" idea in the lightest, gentlest spirit of satire, and in a most whimsical mood of

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

romance. In the Tangle of Overcote Park we seem to hear distant laughing echoes from the Forest of Arden, and in Lady Noeline Belturbet and Barrington, Viscount Litterly, we fancy we recognise the descendants of Rosalind and Orlando.

Mr. Arthur Chudleigh produced "The Amazons" at the Court Theatre on Tuesday, March 7th, 1893, when its reception at the hands of the public was very cordial. The following is a copy of the first night programme:—

Programme.

ON TUESDAY, MARCH 7th, 1893,

WILL BE ACTED FOR THE FIRST TIME

THE AMAZONS

An Original Farceical Romance.

BY

A. W. PINERO.

---

GALFRED, EARL OF TWEENWAYES	} . . .	Mr. WEEEDON GROSSMITH.
BARRINGTON, VISCOUNT LITTERLY	} . . .	Mr. F. KERR.
ANDRÉ, COUNT DE GRIVAL	. . .	Mr. ELLIOTT.
Rev. ROGER MINCHIN . . .	. . .	Mr. J. BEAUCHAMP.
FITTON ( <i>A Gamekeeper</i> ) . . .	. . .	Mr. W. QUINTON.
YOUATT ( <i>A Servant</i> ) . . .	. . .	Mr. COMPTON COUTTS.
ORTS ( <i>A Poacher</i> ) . . .	. . .	Mr. R. NAINBY.

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MIRIAM, MARCHIONESS OF CASTLEJORDAN	}		Miss ROSE LECLERCQ.
LADY NOELINE BELTURBET	}	<i>Her Daughters.</i>	Miss LILY HANBURY. <i>(By Permission of Mr. Beerbohm Tree.)</i>
LADY WILHELMINA BEL- TURBET	}		Miss ELLALINE TERRISS.
LADY THOMASIN BEL- TURBET	}		Miss PATTIE BROWNE. <i>(Her First Appearance in England.)</i>
"SERGEANT" SHUTLER	.	.	Miss MARIANNE CALDWELL.

The scene is laid first in "The Tangle," an overgrown corner of Overcote Park, and afterwards at Overcote Hall. Great Overcote, as everybody knows, is a two-hours' railway journey from town. The events of the play occur during a single day in a fine September.

The scenery is painted by Mr. T. W. Hall.

The music in the Play has been composed by Mr. Edward Jones.

"The Amazons" ran at the Court Theatre until July 8th, by which date a hundred and eleven performances had been given, a record which spells success, although it does not equal the figures of Mr. Pinero's robust and less fantastic farces, such as "The Magistrate," "The Schoolmistress," and "Dandy Dick."

A successful tour of the provinces was made under the auspices of Mr. Fred G. Latham and the late T. W. Robertson, while at the Antipodes considerable prosperity has attended the merry little play, Messrs. Brough and Boucicault having been its Australian sponsors.