

Among the music theatre productions staged by touring companies during the year, but which remain unclear as to their origins, was a pantomime burlesque entitled *Robinson Crusoe, Esq.*, which was produced by Patey's Lilliputians under the auspices of Jones and Lawrence (lessees) at the Cremorne Gardens, Perth, 6-11 January. Introducing such songs as "Oh Boys! Here's the Chance of a Lifetime," "The Gay Parisienne," "The Geisha" and "Jack's the Boy for Work," the performance also concluded with "an amusing illusion called 'Phantasmagoria' or Shadow Harlequinade,' [which] was extremely well done by the company" (*West Australian* 8 Jan. 1901, 5).

ROBINSON CRUSOE; HIS MAN FRIDAY AND THE GIDDY GOAT: [pantomime]

Lib/Mus. [n/e]

Advertised in the *Sydney Morning Herald* as a new, up to date and topical extravaganza presented for the first time in Sydney. A review in the same newspaper described the text as having taken "considerable liberty... with the famous story. Some of the highlights, according to the reviewer, were Walter Rivers' great Trilby burlesque, an aerial act, the harlequinade and the Grand Tableaux titled, "The Wreck" ("Empire," 6).

- 1901:** Empire Theatre, Sydney; 26 Dec. 1901 - 24 Jan. 1902
- **Dir/S Mngr.** Walter Rivers; **Prod.** John Fuller Snr; **Cond.** H. P. Purnell; **S Art.** Will Diamond.
 - **Cast** incl. Ida Roslyn (Robinson Crusoe), Walter Rivers, Hettie Warden, John Fuller, Jack Kearns (Friday), Jeannie Johnstone, F. Rivenhall, Amy Blackie, Elmore Sisters, W. Stevens, W. Watkins, Nipper Wallace, Will Diamond, Vera Rose, Albert McKisson, Miss Phillips.

"*Empire Theatre: Robinson Crusoe.*" *Sydney Morning Herald* 27 Dec. (1901), 6. *Sydney Morning Herald* 27 Dec. (1901), 8. Advert. [see right]

SHE: [burlesque pantomime] **Lib.** Pat Finn; **Mus.** [n/e]

Adapted from H. Rider Haggard's classic story, *She: A History of Adventure*, this Pat Finn burlesque-style pantomime was possibly subtitled "The White Queen of the Amahagger." Haggard's original story, serialized in 1886 and 1887, is a first-person narrative that follows the journey of young Cambridge professor Horace Holly and his ward Leo Vincey to a lost kingdom in the African interior. There, they encounter a primitive race of natives and a mysterious white queen, Ayasha, who reigns as the all-powerful "She", or "*She-who-must-be-obeyed*". In this work, Rider Haggard developed the conventions of the Lost World sub-genre, which many later authors emulated.

EMPIRE THEATRE.
 Castlereagh-street, next Fire Station,
 between Bathurst-street and Liverpool-street.
JOHN FULLER and SONS, Lessees.
A Record Attendance for this Theatre
A Record Attendance for this Theatre
 to see the old-fashioned, up-to-date
 Pantomime,
ROBINSON CRUSOE,
His Man Friday and the Giddy Goat.
 Every Evening at 7.45.
MATINEES SATURDAYS, MONDAYS, AND
HOLIDAYS.

ROBINSON CRUSOE	His Man Friday and the Giddy Goat.	ROBINSON CRUSOE
ROBINSON CRUSOE		ROBINSON CRUSOE
ROBINSON CRUSOE		ROBINSON CRUSOE
ROBINSON CRUSOE		ROBINSON CRUSOE

A LAUGHABLE,
 Far too Jolly by Half-able,
 Pantomime. Something to amuse. All fun without
 vulgarity.

EVERY EVENING AT 7.45.

MATINEES, SATURDAYS, MONDAYS, AND
HOLIDAYS
 at 2.30. Doors open 2 sharp.
 New Dresses. New Dances. New Songs.
 New Comicalities, a Great Show, and a Wonderful Show
 for the Money.
 Prices, 2s, 1s, 6d. Children Half-price, except 6d seats.
 Matinees, Children Half-price to all parts. Doors open
 at 2.30 and 7.15.

Sydney Morning Herald 27 Dec. (1901), 8.

- 1901:** Ye Olde Englyshe Fayre, Fremantle (WA); 26-29 Dec.
- **Prod/Dir.** W. H. Speed
 - **Troupe:** W.H. Speed's Specialty Company.
 - **Cast** incl. Mrs W. H. Speed (She, the White Queen of the Armahagger), B. Henry (Major Horace Holly), Bert Thomas (Leo Tinney, the Major's ward), Neva Glynn (Eustance, a Goddess), W.H. Speed (Ballali, an Ethiopian King and servant of She), Tom Leopold (Job, the Unicorn Goose and slave of Major Holly), C. R. Jones (Theodore Fatman, a swell from home), Lottie Hunstead (Ayestra, a daughter of the Armahagger and medicine woman).

West Australian 28 Dec. (1901), 1.

**YE OLDE ENGLYSH FAYRE,
 FREMANTLE.**

TO-NIGHT and EVERY EVENING.
 Mr. KEYS begs to announce that he has made special arrangements with Mr. W. H. SPEED'S SPECIALITY COMPANY to CONTINUE their First-class VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT until THURSDAY NEXT, so as to enable all Fremantle patrons to see this great and unrivalled company.

WEDNESDAY (XMAS EVENING)
 A SACRED CONCERT will be given.
GREAT CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME.

THURSDAY EVENING (Boxing Evening)
 will be given for the first time in Fremantle, Pat Finn's new and up-to-date version of Rider Haggard's great and popular novel "SHE." Watch for the Pantomime, Boxing Evening. Cast of Characters:—She (the White Queen of the Amahagger), Mrs. W. H. Speed; Major L. Horace Holly (an African Explorer), Bat. Henry; Leo Tinney (Ward of the Major's), Bert Thomas; Eustance (a Goddess), Miss Neva Glenn; Ballali (Ethiopian King, a Servant of She), W. H. Speed; Job (The Unicorn Goose, a Slave in the employ of Major Holly); Tom Leopold; Theodore Fatman (a Swell from Home), C. R. Jones; Ayestra, a Daughter of the Amahagger, a Medicine Woman), Miss Lottie Hunstead; and numerous attendants, played by well-known and popular artistes. Don't miss this great Xmas Treat. The Children's Delight. Don't forget Sacred Concert, Xmas Night and Sunday Evening. Watch the papers for future announcements.

E. L. WRIGHT, Treasurer.