

"The Grain of Dust" Among the season's productions of special merit a as a play puts the actual MR. VAUGHAN GLASER TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING prominent place must be conditions of actual modern given to "The Grain of IAMES K. HACKETT'S GREAT SUCCESS life before us with dazzling Dust," a gripping, intense brilliance not to be denied. play of modern life. You may not like "Fred-"The Grain of Dust" erick Norman," but after Whatever else you may fail to see, do not miss "The you have seen the play you cannot forget him. Per-Grain of Dust;" it is one of the dramatic privileges haps you will directly fall in love with "Dorothy of the season. Hallowell," but after you Drama in dress suits is have seen the play you A POWERFUL PLAY OF TO-DAY WHICH LOUIS EVAN SHIPMAN, AUTHOR OF none the less powerful than will wish you might have when armorclad, and is "THE CRISIS" AND "D'ARCY OF THE GUARDS." MADE FROM known her-perhaps you much more intelligible when will even hunt for her DAVID GRAHAM PHILLIPS' MOST CELEBRATED NOVEL the players speak the patois counterpart. of our own times.

LMOST everyone has read this fine book, but for the benefit of the few that have not, a slight sketch of the story may serve. Frederick Norman is a brilliant young corporation lawyer, who has practically put himself at the head of his profession despite his youth. Equally successful in a social way, he is engaged to be married to Josephine Burroughs, the beautiful daughter of a fabulously wealthy "captain of finance." Everything is running smoothly until Norman suddenly discovers hidden and unsuspected charms in a quiet little stenographer, Dorothy Hallowell, who works in his office. From this point on the story is simple enough, and its strength and interest depend rather on the way in which the plot is unfolded than in the plot itself. Suffice it to say that in the end Norman marries the stenographer, having broken off his fashionable engagement. As a character study, the figure of Norman is simply enormous, and equal force and art are displayed by the author in the portrayal of the gid. It is beyond cavil a great book, and Mr. Shipman has successfully transformed it into a great *beav*.

It is, of course, a female grain of dust which gets into the eye of Frederick Norman, the young corporation attorney, and although she is a very insignificant grain in the eye of Norman's aristocratic sister, she is important enough to upset the best laid plans of numerous big men and ambitious women in the world of high society and finance. For she looms so large in Norman's eyes that for her he throws over the plutocrat's daughter, to whom, for social and business reasons, he has been engaged, thereby incurring the fury of "a woman scormed." Still worse, he is fool (or honorable) enough, according to how you look at it, to marry the little stenographer, instead of adopting the usual aristocratic alternative; thereby committing "social suicide," and prompting the proud plutocrat, whom he declined to accept as papa-in-law, to "put him out of business," as fit punishment for les majeste.

Thereupon ensues a lively contest, in which the young husband has to taste all the drugs of defeat, including the loss of his bride, until a Chicago "insurgent," by the appropriate name of Calloway, comes to his assistance, and, thanks to his knowledge of the methods of his former "Easy Boss," together they bring the proud plutocrat and his vengeful daughter to beg for mercy.

Drawing-room and modern business office form the scene settings, and the characters wear evening clothes, and talk the tongues of Wall Street and Fifth Avenue; nevertheless it is a real, red-blooded drama.

More than ordinary interest attaches to this production from the fact that this story was running in a popular weekly as a serial at the time the author was assassinated by the mad musician, Goldsborough. This gave the fillip of curiosity to "The Grain of Dust," which immediately filled the eye of something like a million readers, and the publication of the story in book form has recently attested to its permanent popularity. Undoubtedly it is the most dramatic of all Mr. Phillips' novels.

