

# People Talked About

## Mr. Herbert Flemming.

After an absence of about 13 years Mr Herbert Flemming, who will be recollected by playgoers as a most excellent "leading man," has returned to the colonies as a manager. Mr Flemming has brought with him for the entertainment of the nation Mr Mel. B. Spurr, whom critics and public in Melbourne have pronounced to be one of the finest monologue entertainers ever seen in Australia.

Mr Flemming, during his career in Aus-

"stars." It was one of the very few companies that had five members whose names were spelled in capital letters on the bills. They were Miss Pomeroy, Mr W. J. Holloway, Mr Theodore Hamilton, Mr William Hoskins, Mr W. H. Leake, and Mr J. Wallace.

The last engagement Mr Flemming played in Australia was with Miss Janet Achurch and Mr Charles Charrington. He left Australia with them, and visited India, Egypt and then appeared with them in London at the Avenue, Royalty and Garrick Theatres.

dramatic enterprise, Mr Flemming decided to go into management, and from that time until last June he remained there, controlling as many as seven companies at one time. He was the only manager to obtain permits to go into the conquered territory, and his companies appeared at Johannesburg, Bloemfontein and Pretoria. Mr Flemming still holds his theatrical interests

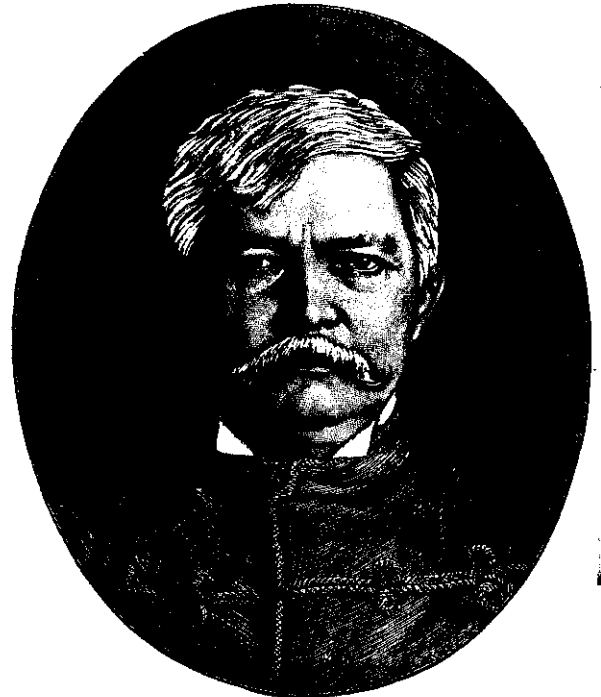
renewing acquaintance with his old Australian friends, and business has been excellent, Mr Spurr having enjoyed capital seasons in Melbourne, Sydney, Tasmania and Brisbane. Mr Spurr's entertainment is unique in its way, consisting, as it does, of musical sketches, musical monologues, songs, recitals and zither interludes.

It is more than likely that Mr Flemming will make his re-appearance on the Australian stage during his present



MR HERBERT FLEMMING.

The well known Actor and Manager, who is re-visiting the colony.



THE LATE SIR H. M. STANLEY.

tralia, supported many leading players, among them Mrs Scott Siddons, with whom he played as far back as 1878, Miss Louise Pomeroy, Mr Charles Warner, and Miss Janet Achurch. While with Miss Pomeroy, Mr Flemming was associated with a Shakespearian company, which included no fewer than five

After this Mr Flemming played engagements on his own account at the Adelphi and Haymarket Theatres. The piece he appeared in at the Adelphi was Henry Pettitt's "A Woman's Revenge." At the Haymarket he supported Mrs Langtry in "The Queen of Manoa" and "Agatha Tylden." These engagements concluded his stay in England, and in 1896 he went to South Africa to support Miss Fortescue. Struck with the possibilities of the country as a field for

there, but, in want of a rest, he decided to come to Australia, and in this connection Mr Flemming finds himself like many people in his profession—they always want to get back to Australia. Meeting Mr Spurr at Port Elizabeth, he saw an excellent opportunity of combining business with pleasure, and at once engaged the clever entertainer for a tour of Australasia.

So far the trip has proved highly successful from both points of view. Mr Flemming has found much pleasure in

trip, and with this object in view he has brought several plays with him. He has already been in communication with prominent managers with regard to a season, but they have not been completed yet. However, it is practically certain that playgoers will be able to renew their pleasurable acquaintance with this excellent player. Interest to Mr Flemming's return to the Australian stage will be added by the first appearance here of an English actress, Miss Beatrice Day, the "star" of his dramatic company in South Africa, who will support him.



E. T. HOOLEY.

Arrested for Conspiracy to Defraud.



Group taken at the residence of Mr and Mrs T. Fordyce, Auckland, of the passengers who came out twenty years ago by the ship Haughtikel, and their descendants.