

**THE OBER-AMMERGA PASSION PLAY: GIVING
THE ORIGIN OF THE PLAY, AND HISTORY OF
THE VILLAGE AND PEOPLE, A FULL
DESCRIPTION OF THE SCENES AND TABLEAUX
OF THE SEVENTEEN ACTS
OF THE DRAMA, AND THE SONGS OF THE
CHORUS, IN GERMAN AND ENGLISH**

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The Ober-Ammerga passion play: giving the origin of the play, and history of the village and people, a full description of the scenes and tableaux of the seventeen acts of the drama, and the songs of the chorus, in German and English by John P. Jackson

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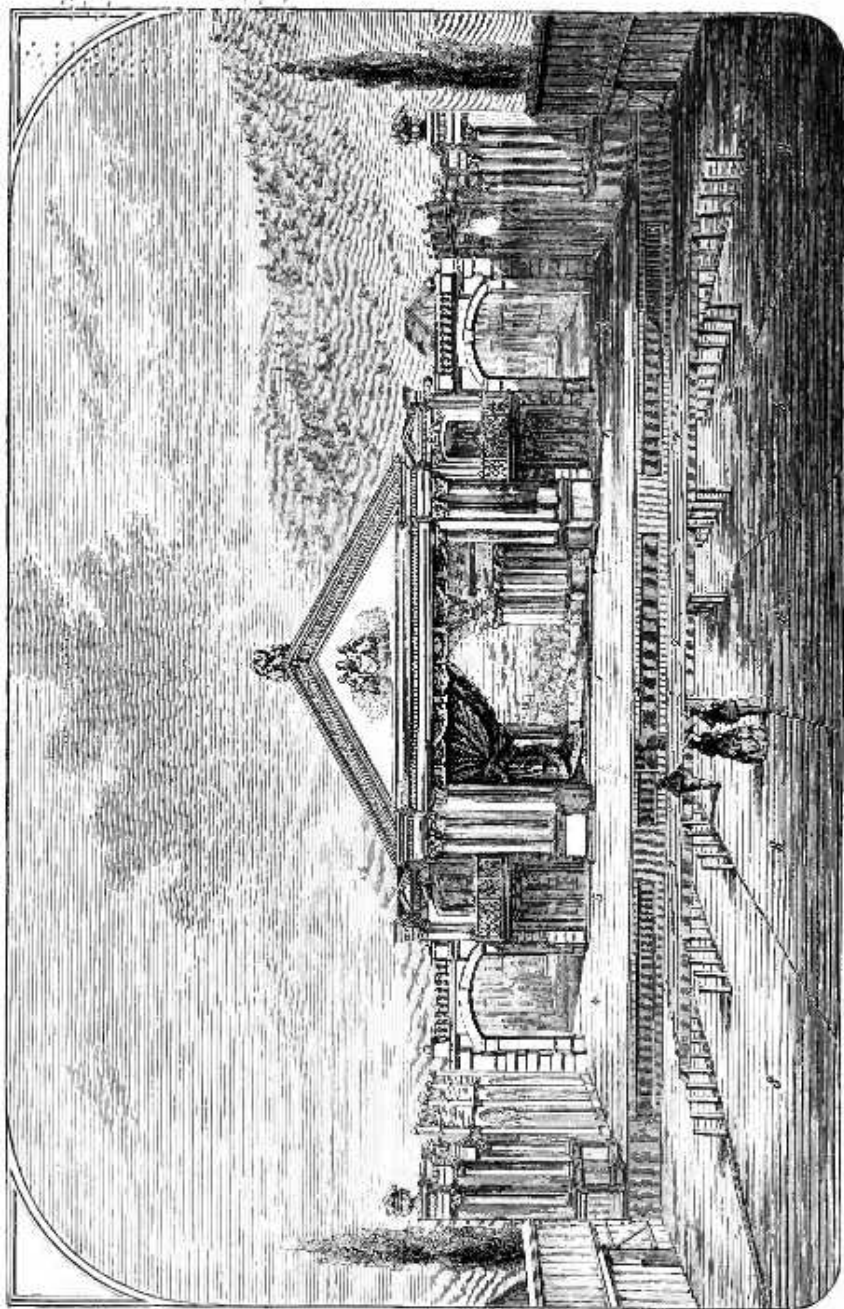
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JOHN P. JACKSON

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THE STAGE OF THE PASSION THEATRE AT OBER-AMMERGAU.

1. The Stage proper.
2. The Proscenium.
3. Gateway leading out of Jerusalem.
4. Gateway leading into Jerusalem.
5. The Palace of Pilate.
6. The House of the High Priest Annas.
- 7, 8. Auditorium.

THE
OBER-AMMERGAU PASSION PLAY:

[ILLUSTRATED.]

GIVING THE ORIGIN OF THE PLAY, AND HISTORY
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A FULL DESCRIPTION OF

THE SCENES AND TABLÉAUX OF THE SEVENTEEN

ACTS OF THE DRAMA,

AND

THE SONGS OF THE CHORUS, IN GERMAN AND ENGLISH.

BY JOHN P. JACKSON,

Author of "The Album of the Passion Play at Ober-Ammergau" (1873); of the English version of Richard Wagner's Music Dramas, "Rienzi," "Flying Dutchman," "Lohengrin," Brühl's "Golden Cross," and Hamerling-Goldschmidt's Musical Allegory, "The Seven Death Sins," &c., &c.



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PREFACE.

THIS little book is, in the main, a condensation of a larger work, "The Album of the Passion Play," which I published in the year 1873. I have endeavoured to give in a limited space all the information necessary for a proper appreciation of the great religious drama which is attracting so many visitors to the beautiful Highlands of Bavaria. With this thought in mind I have devoted an entire chapter to the life of the villagers of Ober-Ammergau, in order to show that these peasant-actors do not begin their dramatic labours in any hasty or pecuniary spirit. I have described the peculiar religious and dramatic training which the villagers enjoy during the years intervening between one series of decennial performances and another, and which enables them to portray in such an artistic, realistic, and devotional spirit the life and sufferings of the Lord. The remarkable influence which the aged priest-dramatist, the Geistlicher Rath Daisenberger (who still lives) has exerted upon the development of his people and the Passion drama cannot be overlooked by anyone desirous of studying the sacred drama and the peasant-players of Ober-Ammergau.

In the description of the separate acts of the Passion Play I have given the address of the Choragus with which each act is opened, the songs of the Chorus in the original German with English translations, and the essential points of the dialogue spoken by the players. In obtaining the speeches of the Choragus and the text of the drama, I enjoyed peculiar advantages during a lengthy sojourn among the villagers of Ober-Ammergau during and after the performances of the year 1871; indeed, I may say that I am perhaps the only foreigner who has had the privilege of perusing the entire manuscript of the Passion Play, so jealously guarded by the villagers themselves. The complete text of the drama I published in the before-mentioned "Album."

I have not considered it essential to give the various routes to Munich and Ober-Ammergau, since those persons who determine to make the journey will know where to find all the necessary information on this point. I may say, however, that from Munich the railroad carries the traveller in about two hours as far as Murnau, whence it is a distance of only sixteen or seventeen miles to the village of Ober-Ammergau. Those who do

not wish to spend much money can take the more popular conveyances, for a few marks; and there are many to whom a walk of sixteen miles, leisurely taken, will be rather a pleasure than otherwise. Still, a carriage drive from Murnau to Ober-Ammergau and back is very delightful.

I would advise the readers of this book, however, not to delay the journey to Ammergau until the Saturday before the performance, and not to leave the village until the next day, or even the day after. A few days' sojourn in the village will prove as pleasant as it is recuperative. The people of Ammergau give a simple welcome to their visitors; the houses and beds are thoroughly clean, and the mountains all about are ever inviting the visitor to excursions. The traveller who "does" the Passion Play in a hurry gets but little enjoyment out of his visit to Ammergau. To those who desire to become acquainted with the every-day life of the people, and to take away with them a delightful record of a residence in the village, I would recommend Mrs. Greatorex's book entitled "The Homes of Ober-Ammergau," with etchings of the dwelling-places of the principal actors of the Passion Play.

J. P. J.

LONDON,
May 8th, 1880.

LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL PERFORMERS IN 1871 AND 1880.

	1871.	1880.
CHRIST	<i>Joseph Maier</i>	<i>Joseph Maier.</i>
PETER	<i>Jacob Hett</i>	<i>Jacob Hett.</i>
JOHN	<i>Johannes Zwick</i>	<i>Johannes Zwick.</i>
VIRGIN MARY	<i>Franziska Flunger</i>	<i>Anastasia Krach.</i>
MARY MAGDALENE	<i>Josepha Lang</i>	<i>Maria Lang.</i>
HEROD	<i>Franz Paul Lang</i>	<i>Jobann Rutz.</i>
PILATE	<i>Tobias Flunger</i>	<i>Thomas Rendl.</i>
JUDAS	<i>Gregor Lechner</i>	<i>Gregor Lechner.</i>
CAIAPHAS	<i>Jobann Lang</i>	<i>Jobann Lang.</i>
ANNAS	<i>Gregor Stadler</i>	<i>Seb. Deschler.</i>
NATHANIEL	<i>Paul Fröscht</i>	<i>Seb. Lang.</i>
EZEKIEL	<i>Sebastian Deschler</i>	<i>Rochus Lang.</i>
JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA	<i>Thomas Rendl</i>	<i>Martin Oppenrieder.</i>
NICODEMUS	<i>Anton Haaser</i>	<i>Franz Steinbacher.</i>
BARABBAS	<i>Jobann Allinger</i>	<i>Jobann Allinger.</i>
CHORAGUS	<i>Jobann Diemer</i>	<i>Jobann Diemer.</i>
CONDUCTOR	<i>Jos. Al. Kirschenbofer</i>	<i>Jos. Al. Kirschenbofer.</i>

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					<i>Rooms.</i>	<i>Proprietor.</i>
Victoria	Gd. Hôtel	1st Class	230	Ed. RUCHTI.		
Ritschard	" " " " " "	" " " " " "	215	FAMILIE RITSCHARD.		
Jungfrau	" " " " " "	" " " " " "	150	F. SEILER-STRECH.		
Des Alpes	" " " " " "	" " " " " "	180	JR. MAUREL.		
Rügenhotel Jungfraublick	" " " " " "	" " " " " "	100	J. OESCH-MÜLLER.		
Beau-Rivage	" " " " " "	" " " " " "	100	H. REGLI.		
Schweizerhof	Hôtel and Pension	" " " " " "	80	STRUBIN & WIRTH.		
Belvedere	" " " " " "	" " " " " "	70	M. MÜLLER-STUBLI.		
Interlaken	" " " " " "	2nd Class	80	A. BRÄUER.		
Deutscherhof	" " " " " "	" " " " " "	70	J. BORTER-RUBIN.		
Ober-Béha	" " " " " "	" " " " " "	60	WWE OBER-BÉHA.		
Du Nord	" " " " " "	" " " " " "	50	DL. VOGEL.		
Wyuer	" " " " " "	" " " " " "	60	H. WYDER.		
Beau-Site	" " " " " "	" " " " " "	80	ALB. RUCHTI.		
Oberland	" " " " " "	" " " " " "	50	WAGNER.		
Du Pont	" " " " " "	" " " " " "	50	BRUNNER TSCHANZ.		
Bellevue	" " " " " "	" " " " " "	40	ELMER.		
Adler	" " " " " "	" " " " " "	30	KRENN.		
De la Gare	" " " " " "	" " " " " "	30	E. HALLER.		
Kreuz	Hôtel	" " " " " "	25	F. BOHRIN-STREBIN.		
Rössli	Hôtel and Pension	3rd Class	20	F. STRECH.		
Volz	Pension	" " " " " "	24	DR. VOLZ.		
Reber	" " " " " "	" " " " " "	20	GUTSCHBAUCH.		
Berger	Hôtel and Pension	2nd Class	15	BERGER.		
Pension Anglaise	" " " " " "	" " " " " "	20	E. SIMPKIN.		
Krebs	Hotel and Pension	2nd Class	15	KREBS-BORTER.		
Indermühle	Brasserie-Restaurant, 1st Class Establishment.					