

## PAGEANT OF PETER PAN.

### Liverpool's New Statue.

#### MR. GEORGE AUDLEY'S GIFT.

(From our Correspondent.)

LIVERPOOL, SATURDAY.

In a delightful setting in Sefton Park Liverpool, Peter Pan and Wendy, 'Captain Hook and his pirate crew, Nana and all the other characters in Sir James Barrie's play appeared on Saturday on the occasion of the unveiling of the Sir George Frampton statue of Peter Pan, representing the gift of Mr. George Audley, a generous art patron of the city.

An attractive pageant story in eleven episodes had been woven round the unveiling ceremony by Mr. Percy F. Corkhill, the Liverpool Lord Mayor's secretary. Several thousand spectators had assembled on the banks of the extensive lake, where the pirate ship, with the gruesome skull and cross-bones conspicuously displayed, was anchored. A feature of one of the episodes was the capture of Mr. Audley, who was "imprisoned" at the base of the statue, which the pirates endeavoured to destroy by gun fire. In another episode Wendy escorted into the arena the Lord Mayor of Liverpool, Miss Margaret Beavan, who was disguised as the "Lady of the Bright Eyes," and extracted from her a promise that she (Wendy) and Peter Pan should be permitted to live rent free in the house which had been built by Peter and the Lost Boys. Similarly Sir Frederick Bowring, an ex-Lord Mayor of the city, in his rôle as Lord of the Flowing River, was made to promise that there should be no rates and taxes levied.

#### Sir James Barrie's Message.

The incidental music to "Peter Pan" was played by the Liverpool Constabulary Band, and the proceedings were liberally interspersed with graceful dancing. Immediately before the beginning of the performance a telegram had been received at Sefton Park, and was taken to the Town Hall. It read: "Peter Pan, Sefton Park, Liverpool.—Behave to-day if only for the time. Take care the Lord Mayor does not find you out. For Heaven's sake don't grow when they come near anything about." "P. P."

remove your swarming sheet."—BARRIE."

A reply was sent as follows:—

"Sir James Barrie, Adelphi Terrace, London.—Thank you, Mr. Author, thank you very much. Wendy loves her new home in Sefton Park. We wish you were here. We have put Jimmy Hook in the lake where the crocodile is. Our love and kisses.—PETER PAN."

The Peter Pan statue in Sefton Park is a replica of the famous one in Kensington Gardens, London.

While returning to the Town Hall from the pageant during the afternoon the Lord Mayor was involved in a slight motor accident. The civic motor-car in which she was riding was being driven across Elliott Street in the direction of the Town Hall when it came into contact with a tramcar, and the front wheel of the coach was damaged. Fortunately Miss Beavan was uninjured, and after having a short rest in the Town Hall was able to proceed to Sefton Park to be present at the pageant in the evening.