

MUSIC, AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Nothing exciting has occurred in the musical line this week, only a few minor, semi-religious entertainments, which are very interesting to the immediate friends of the performers, but not to the general public.

I think we are a very thin-skinned people, in this bright little city. With regard to criticism, for instance: at many of our concerts, if the unfortunate individual who writes notes for the papers, attempts to give anything but lavish praise,—he is considered unfair and unkind, because, "the performers are only amateurs, and as usual, nothing should be said in anyway detracting from the affair."

I am glad to see that we shall have some music on the square this year, and it is to be hoped that the public will generously respond to the appeal of the City Cornet band as regards funds for new instruments. It is decidedly the best band in the city at the present time, though the Artillery is rapidly gaining ground and will soon make the City Cornet look sharply after its laurels. As for the 62nd, it seems quite out of the hunt just now, being very weak in numbers.

The City Cornet band played some very nice selections last Wednesday evening, and to judge from the large crowd that was on the square, their efforts to amuse the public were evidently appreciated, and I hope that good results financially will be the result of their action.

On dit, that the Oratorio society management are thinking of offering the chief part of *Indus Maccabaeus* to a local singer. This will, in my humble opinion, be a prodigious mistake. The work not only requires a voice of fine training, but also one that has been drilled into a due appreciation of the fact that the public like to have a slight idea of what the singer is saying, and I know of only one gentleman in this city who is capable and he would not undertake the part for various reasons.

I understand that Mr. Gubb has rather a new way of teaching the choruses of the minstrels their parts. Whether from lack of music or not, I don't quite know, but certainly it is a fact that of most of the choruses at present learnt there has only been one copy and that, naturally, at the piano—Mr. Gubb teaching the different voices their parts by ear, and reading out the words for the chorus to write down if they like. It may be a little the longest way at first, but it certainly fixes the music in the singer's mind in a very effectual manner.

What constitutes an amateur?—there is but one reply I think, and I don't suppose anyone will have the hardihood to contradict: viz., an individual, whether male or female, who has never received pay in actual money for his or her performance. Now I should like to ask a little question:—How many performers at our local concerts and entertainments have never received cash payment for either singing or playing? Very few. I could count them on my fingers, I think. It doesn't matter how bad the performer is, it doesn't matter that he may be below even the average amateur in his performance, if he has received money he is a professional, and as such, I claim the critics have a right to criticise him from a professional point of view; and to be just to the public, the critic should apply to the Arion quartette, for example, the same standard he would to the Weber quartette.

The following cutting shows how things in the musical way are worked on the other side of the line:—

The sale for the Cincinnati May music festival assures the financial success of the undertaking. The subscribers' tickets already sold have brought \$26,400 to the treasury, and \$6,855.50 has been paid as premiums for choice of seats. The returns, therefore, now amount to more than \$33,000, with many seats yet unsold. The receipts thus far exceed those of 1886 by more than \$19,000.

I think the St. John public should lay the above to heart and give the Oratorio society such hearty support that they will be able to engage the best of talent to assist them at the annual concerts which will take place at the end of June or commencement of July. I hope, with a great many others, that the annual deficit the society have suffered from for years, will be a thing of the past.

Among the attractions to be given at Mr. Gubb's complimentary concert, next Friday, is the performance of May Day by members of the Oratorio society, assisted by the Philharmonic club as orchestra. From the way that the rehearsal went, last Monday evening, this will be the greatest feature of the evening and should alone, (without taking into consideration for whom the concert is given) draw a full house. I was promised a full programme, but it is a little early as yet, all the members not being yet fixed.

The Philharmonic club is making rapid advances under the leadership of Mr. A. Watson, first violin, and bids fair to be a valuable musical association of genuine amateurs.

FELIX.

Parasols must match this year. A dressy woman has a parasol corresponding to the stuff of every gown. When she goes out she chooses her parasol, as she does her bonnet, to accord with her costume. Parasols are large this year, but not in any way novel in shape. There are fortunes in the lace of some of them, and other fortunes in the jewelled handles. A piece of exquisite handwrought lace, worth \$250 in itself, was bought the other day with a handle in wrought silver. "I can take the lace off when the season's over and put it on a gown," was the excuse the lady gave, as if her conscience troubled her a little. Mme. Bouet, the wife of Max O'Reil, took home a parasol when they sailed last week. It had a row of little birds perched around it on the ribs. "I shouldn't believe I had really seen it unless I took it with me," she said.—*Kansas City Journal's New York Letter.*

LODGE-ROOM ECHOES.

Independent Order of Odd Fellows.
The history of Odd Fellowship, by Grand Secretary Theo. A. Ross, will be ready for delivery about the middle of June.

The officers of Canton LaTour, of this city, were installed by Lieut.-Col. Andrew Cushing, as follows, Wednesday night: Capt. Geo. K. Berton, commandant; Israel E. Smith, lieutenant; Alexander Rankine, ensign; Joseph Wilson, orderly clerk; A. D. G. Vanwart, accountant. The following non-commissioned officers were appointed by the commandant: Thos. Brown, standard bearer; F. S. Manks, guard; Chas. A. Gurney, sentinel; John King, picket.

In a late number of the *Manchester Union*, Bro. Kidder relates a very instructive piece of history in regard to a lodge that was chartered in New Hampshire. It lived about four years and then gave up the ghost. The reason for this was that there was not population enough to sustain it. Bro. Kidder then says, that there are but three towns in that state, with a population of less than 1,000, where lodges exist. He says further that experience shows that lodges cannot carry on a successful work where the population is much less than the number named. His statement is correct, or nearly so. We should say 1,500 inhabitants can sustain a lodge. Our weak lodges in Maine all owe it to the cause named by our brother. There are a few subordinates in our state that ought not to have been chartered. But their number is very few indeed. It becomes us to look well at the surroundings before we charter a lodge.—*Odd Fellows Register.*

Free and Accepted Masons.
Voyager (on the banks of the Styx)—You look pretty well played out, old man. Charon—Well, I am. If the "Oldest Mason" doesn't stop dying I'll have to hire a steambot.—*Philadelphia Call.*

At a meeting of Northumberland Lodge, No. 17, F. & A. M., the following resolutions were passed:

Resolved, That this Lodge having by the death of our late brother, James Johnston, after a severe and protracted illness, lost one of its oldest and most respected members, hereby records its deep regret for the loss it has sustained by his removal and its heartfelt sympathy for his family under their sad bereavement.

The Knights Templars of the Scottish encampments in New Brunswick, appear to regard with indifference the edict of non-intercourse issued against them by the Great Priory of Canada, they had much rather fraternize with the Templars in the United States than those of Canada. It is doubtful if they ever become subordinate to the G. P. of C.—*Maine Masonic Journal.*

One of the points made as an argument in favor of having a general grand body in each department of Masonry is that it will produce and establish a uniformity. In this regard the Grand encampment of the United States has proved a most egregious failure, especially in the way of dress and equipment of Sir Knights. The Triennial at Washington, in 1889, will exhibit a greater variety of uniforms than ever was seen before at any gathering of Knights Templar. Many are forming the opinion that the Grand encampment has passed its day of usefulness (if it ever had one), and now exists only as an expensive superfluity.—*Masonic Advocate.*

Knights of Pythias.

The session of the Grand Lodge of Maine opened in Portland, Wednesday. Two new lodges have been instituted during the year, and the prospects are good for the early formation of two or three others. The uniform rank, which at the beginning of the year had but one division in the state, now has five, and a regimental organization has been formed. The Grand Keeper of Records and Seal reported the total amount held in trust by subordinate lodges, January 1, to be \$72,773.40, an increase of \$9,280 over last year. The total membership of the order in Maine is 6,811. The total expenditures of the lodges for the year were \$40,092.72. The total receipts were \$49,372.88. The total assets of the Grand Lodge to date are \$2,177.71, of which \$871.91 is cash. This is a gain over last year of \$434.47 in property and \$326.42 in cash.

Independent Order of Good Templars.

Garfield lodge, Gondola Point, at their last regular meeting, installed their officers: Mr. W. H. Logan, C. T., and Miss Allie Kirkpatrick, secretary.

A large representation from the rural districts will be present at the quarterly session of Peerless District lodge, to be held in Finch lodge-room, on the 24th.

The executive officers of Peerless District lodge have been visiting all the lodges in this district prior to the quarterly session, to be held in the city on the Queen's birthday. The chief templar and treasurer paid an official visit to Golden Grove on Wednesday evening last, and instructed the brethren in the new ritual, besides delivering short addresses. Mr. C. Powers, during the last week, has also visited the lodges on the river St. John, and found them working successfully.

Sons of Temperance.

An address presented to Sir Leonard Tilley, by Richibucto division, No. 42, on the anniversary of his 70th birthday, contains the following:—

We felicitate ourselves and our grand old order at large, whenever on God's footstool a division may be located, as your name will there be honored, that the brilliant exemplar of your distinguished official position and all the influences of your irreproachable and useful life (with the loving assistance and encouragement of Lady Tilley) are still so freely and frankly given to further the blessed cause of our beloved order—elevate the moral standard in social life, and (in humble, child-like faith) minister to the miseries of suffering humanity.

Order of Railway Conductors.

At the meeting of railway conductors in Toronto last Saturday, at which conductor McPeake of the Grand Southern was a delegate, the following officers were elected: Assistant grand chief conductor, A. B. Garretson, Dennistown, Texas; grand secretary and treasurer, W. T. Daniels, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; grand senior conductor, R. A. Purden, Toronto, Ontario; grand junior conductor, E. D. Nash, St. Albans, Vermont; inside sentinel, A. S. Parker, Battle Creek, Mich.; outside sentinel, T. H. Taylors, Mexico.

Loyal Orange Association.

A new county lodge, L. O. A., will be organized at Fairville, Tuesday evening, under the title of "St. John County West." Nearly all the grand officers will be present at the organization.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

It is never too late to pay tribute to the influence of a sweet and gracious life that made the world better, and I make no apology for reprinting these tender lines from the *Atlantic Monthly*:—

AT MRS. VINCENT'S FUNERAL.
Borne by church warden down the aisle,
A sombre burden now she goes,
Who made the saddest of us smile,
And tired hearts to forget their woes.
Here, see your audience sad for once,
You who in all your playger years
Have made us laugh so many times;
We only greet you now with tears.

For some of us are thrifless folk,
Who thin with giving made your purse;
And some of us, God knows how weak!
But for your Christian words were worse.
Ah, none knew better of the flight
Of hopes and joys that cannot stay,
That faces wreathed in smiles by night
Are often sad and pale by day!
Now, for your well-learned playcraft take
Of honest praise your rightful share;
Sincere upon the mimic stage,
Unsmiling in the footlight's glare!

Good soul, we bless you as we part;
What silent plaudits can we send
By cords that reach from heart to heart
To you who ever played the friend!
The pastoral performance of *As You Like It*, given last summer at Manchester-by-the-sea, is to be followed, this year, by a like representation of *A Mid-summer Night's Dream*. The cast has not been determined upon, further than that Nat Goodwin will play Bottom, but it will be even stronger, it is said, than that of last year. The monument fund of the Boston Lodge of Elks will benefit by the show.

The Booth-Barrett partnership will continue next season and the tour of the two tragedians will be conducted upon the general lines marked out this year. Only large cities will be visited and long engagements will be played. New York will welcome the company for eight weeks, and Boston, Philadelphia and Chicago for four weeks each.

St. George, Staten Island, will be the field of the next great spectacle and 15,000 people will be able to witness it at one time. *Nero, or the Fall of Rome*, is the name of the piece and the Kiralfys, of *Black Crook* fame, will be the managers. The production will require the services of over 2,000 men and women, including a ballet of 1,000 young and pretty female dancers. There will be a vast herd of elephants, lions, tigers, camels and horses, and a great flock of dudes and bald-heads, of course.

Actresses who fear the approach of the constable may profit by the anecdote told of Lillian Lewis, who has been playing Lena Despard in *As in a Looking Glass*, in Detroit. When the man with the writ arrived, Miss Lewis was dressing and couldn't be disturbed. The constable waited till the lights had been turned out and the stage was dark. At last the key turned, the door opened and a flood of light streamed out. Standing in the glare was the occupant of the room—not the slim, graceful Lillian Lewis of the stage, but a woman of enormous waist and prodigious proportions. Three empty trunks made the setting for the tableau, which was seen only for a moment before the figure sailed majestically away. Miss Lewis had donned every scrap of wardrobe she possessed, and so kept it out of the clutches of the law.

John Stetson, in addition to owning the *Police News* and the Globe theatre, and running a bar-room on Essex street, a loan office on Washington street and a big pool-room at the West End, has lately purchased a large interest in the Boston *Herald*, giving him practical control of that paper. He will be able to "fix" the critics, now—and how other managers, in Boston and elsewhere, will envy him!

LEON.

AMONG THE ARTISTS.

Hardly up to the mark on the whole, is the judgment of the Paris critics on this year's Salon. The American exhibitors, however, seem to have made a better record than usual. Walter Gay and Sargent are said to have especially distinguished themselves.

The New York *World* in an article headed "Slaves of the Palette," declares that more than a thousand female artists are engaged in the metropolis in decorating cards and small articles appropriate for gifts, who cannot earn more than \$3 weekly. This is one of the deplorable results of the art craze, which has led a host of persons without sufficient talent or ability to take up the brush as a means of livelihood.

A London cable says that the new Burne Jones gallery on Regent street, the sworn rival of the Grosvenor, shows 350 paintings. Famous artists are not wanting among the exhibitors. There are Alma Tadema, R. A., who has six small pieces; Burne Jones, A. R. A., who has no fewer than eight; Herkomer, A. R. A., with five; Millais, with two; Watts, R. A., with one, and others. On the whole it is an exhibition well worth visiting.

The New York *Herald* prints an interesting interview with Sir John Millais, who desired to "say a word about American art students." "They are coming abroad by thousands every year to study," he says. "In that they do well, for art reaches its climax in countries whose civilization is old, perhaps best of all in those countries which are entering on their decadence. It was so with Holland and Spain and Greece and Rome; it may be so today with England. In any case we have had a good innings. But however that may be, it is certain that the artistic condition of England is second to that of no country in the world. France is the first to admit this, and to cover our artists with honors when they exhibit in the Salon, and yet Americans cannot be shaken from their faith in Paris as the centre of the world of art. Well, let them go there; they will come away with a bad French accent, not alone on their tongues, but on their brushes."

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES.

Baptist.
Rev. J. J. Barnes has gone to a new field of labor in Victoria county.

Rev. J. E. Read is still alive. His condition is such that his death is looked for any day.

Evangelist Chubbuck and Mrs. Chubbuck will spend the summer in Amherst, N. S. He will be open for engagements after May 1.

Rev. J. T. Parsons, who left the Waterloo street F. C. B. church last year to undertake mission work, has received a call to that church again. His acceptance is doubtful.

Rev. W. P. Anderson's resignation of the Grand Lake church takes effect July 1. Rev. F. M. Young has resigned charge of Dorchester Baptist church, his resignation to take effect July 1. Rev. B. N. Hughes has accepted the call to the Havelock church, and has moved there. Rev. O. C. S. Wallace, pastor of the First Baptist church in Lawrence, has been granted six months' absence, on account of ill-health.

A very extensive revival is in progress in connection with the Baptist church in Newcastle, Grand Lake, Queen's county. Rev. Willard P. Anderson, who has been pastor of the church for four years, has baptized in that time 100 persons. Now another great ingathering is being experienced. Up to last week, thirteen had been baptized, and it is understood that 20 were to have taken part in that ordinance last Sunday. Progress regrets to learn that Rev. Mr. Anderson has resigned his pastorate and contemplates seeking a home in the United States during the summer.

Presbyterian.
Rev. W. C. Calder preached his farewell sermon in Woodstock, Sunday. He goes to Quebec. Rev. A. W. Mason, of Prince Edward Island, will minister to the Woodstock Presbyterians for two months.

Philadelphia is again the scene of a centennial celebration, the one-hundredth anniversary of the adoption by New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia or Pennsylvania, Virginia, and the Carolina synods of the Presbyterian congregation of the resolutions for the formation of the first Presbyterian General Assembly in America. It will be the centennial celebration of the General Assembly of the Presbyterians of the United States. The ceremonies commemorating this event began Thursday and will continue ten days.

Church of England.
The week day services in St. John's church will probably be held Wednesday afternoons instead of in the evening.

Bishop Doane of Albany, N. Y., has been invited to deliver the sermon at Cambridge, (England), commencement exercises.

One of the most successful and enjoyable portions of Rev. J. de Soyres' work is the Bible class lesson which is given every Friday afternoon. This class already numbers nearly 100 and assembles in the school room.

Congregational.
The Congregational churches in Florida have increased in five years from four to 35.

In India there are 71 ministers, 81 native ordained ministers, and 70,000 adherents in connection with the Congregational churches and Missionary societies. The total Protestant population of India is estimated at 450,000.

Rev. Lyman Abbott, who succeeds Henry Ward Beecher as pastor of Plymouth church, is one of the men whom it is unsafe to judge by appearances. While he looks languid and consumptive, he never is sick and he works rapidly and almost incessantly. His face is as solemn as a cage of owls, yet his chat is merry and his laugh hearty; he has the head of a poet, but is intensely practical, and though tremendously orthodox in theory, he would give the right hand of fellowship to a Mohammedan striving to live uprightly. Finally, while busy he looks as if eternity were about to find him with one shoe off and his work half done, but he is only about twelve years old when off duty, and he can turn hand-springs and play leapfrog in a way to make any school boy envious.—*New York Herald.*

Methodist.

The examination of candidates and probationers for the N. B. and P. E. I. conference will be held in Fredericton and Charlottetown, May 17th, 9 a. m.; Sackville, May 22nd, 3 p. m.; Moncton, May 23rd, 6.30 p. m.

Roman Catholic.

The valuable Jesuit estate in Quebec is to be cut up into building lots and sold for the benefit of any object designed by the Pope.

The special indulgences promised by the Pope are to all the faithful who recite each day during the month of November, publicly or privately, some special prayers for the relief of the souls in purgatory:—First, seven years and seven times forty days to be gained once on each day of the month; second, a plenary indulgence on any one day at choice of the same month, upon the usual conditions.

In General.

Two of the Universalist churches of Maine are presided over by women. The Rev. Miss Haynes preaches at Skowhegan, and the Rev. Miss Angell holds forth at Norway.

Fifty-two short sentences of prayer, "O Lord, accept and bless this offering," are better than one petition half-an-hour long at the end of the year. Fifty-two gentle touches of a man's heartstrings are more efficacious of permanent results than one eloquent appeal at the end of the season. Fifty-two gentle pulls on a man's purse-strings are more promotive of healthy liberality than one convulsive jerk on the annual Sunday.—*Rev. Dr. Ashmore.*

THREE GIRLS AT A BIRTH.

How a Doctor was Kept Busy for Three Hours by Three Young Ladies.

There was a roaring time, a great time, a sorrowful time, a gay time, an awful time—just as the reader has a mind to view it—at the residence of Mrs. Delia Ryan, at No. 155 West Twenty-fifth street, on Friday night.

Mrs. Ryan gave birth to triplets—and they all girls.

At half-past ten o'clock Dr. Kane handed the first over to the nurse, who clothed it in the latest fashionable attire. At half-past eleven he handed over No. 2, and there was a hurrying and a skurrying to find some clothes to fit the young lady. The nurse, with her inevitable assistants was doing quite well with her brace of Eves, when lo! Dr. Kane pressed to the arms of the assistants a third very young woman just a half-past twelve. There was exactly an hour between the birth of the triplets. The last little lady was quite indignant that she had no clothes to put on, and only for the intervention of several people, would have torn off the new spring bonnet of her eldest sister—the eldest by two hours.

They are all big, healthy babies, with plenty of lung power. The mother, Mrs. Ryan, is a handsome brunette, but quite little, weighing not more than one hundred and twenty pounds. Her husband, who was recently employed at the Morton House, is a good looking young man of about twenty-six. Mrs. Ryan has now had, since she was married four years ago, six children, all girls, two of whom are dead. The eldest is now a plump, handsome child of twenty-five months.

Mrs. Ryan is getting along amazingly well, and will soon be able to attend personally May, Annie and Irene, the names by which the future beaux of the triplets will know the young ladies.—*New York Herald.*

The House Swarmed with Turtles.

A couple of mornings ago the family of Wm. Paterson, of Fetterman, had a peculiar experience. Some days ago one of the boys discovered a whole tub full of turtle eggs, which he brought home and placed under the kitchen stove in a box. Early this morning one of the children, who sleeps in a trundle-bed, was awakened by something slimy crawling over his face. Yelling to its parents that the "durned bed-bugs" were bothering it, the child got out of bed only to step on another of the slimy objects. By this time the whole family were aroused and a light being struck it was found that the lower part of the house was literally alive with little turtles ranging in size from a nickle to a silver quarter. They had been hatched out in the night and were waddling and scrambling in all directions. A general harvest was inaugurated, the result of which was the capture of 132 lively little turtles.—*Washington Star.*

Bound to have his Money's Worth.

In Worcester, Mass., last Saturday evening an adopted citizen from Sweden was waiting for a street car, with four of his fair countrywomen, and gallantly invited them into an apothecary store to imbibe soda water with pink trimmings. The glasses were drawn and scientifically beaded, when a fair scout at the door suddenly exclaimed in a foreign tongue: "The car is gekommen," or words of similar purport. Instantly the male Swede found himself alone, with five glasses of soda confronting him; his companions had vanished. He raised the first glass to his lips, drained it, and set it down. Then he drank the second and so on until he had stowed away with dignity, but yet with rapidity, the whole five glasses. Then he hurried for the car. It is known that the Swede did not explode before he reached Quinsigamond.

PROGRESS PRIZE PROBLEM.

A Competition That Gives Five Dollars a Chance to Win Twenty-five Ball Cranks.

Which club of the National Base Ball league will win the championship pennant, this season? In what order will the clubs finish?

Don't you wish you knew? If you did, it would be just \$25 in your pocket.

So many persons have a habit of asking for "points," during the base ball season, that the sporting editor of PROGRESS has decided to turn the tables for once and refer these questions back to the readers of the paper. To stimulate interest in answering them, PROGRESS offers a prize of \$25, to be divided between the successful guessers, under the following conditions:—

First—All slips must be filled out on blanks published in PROGRESS, one of which will be found below.

Second—The name and address of every person entering the contest must be written in full on each slip, and no person will be allowed to enter more than one slip.

Third—SLIPS MAY BE FORWARDED TO THIS OFFICE IMMEDIATELY, AND NONE WILL BE RECEIVED FOR THE LEAGUE SERIES AFTER JULY 10. It will be necessary to cut out the slips from PROGRESS. These, when filled and forwarded to the Base Ball Editor of PROGRESS, will be placed on file. At the close of the season the distribution will be made, and the lucky contestants will receive due notice of their success. If there be more than one successful guesser, each will receive an equal share of the \$25.

The League Problem.

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ST. JOHN CRICKET

—AND—
ATHLETIC CLUB.

Grand Opening

—OF THE—
Season of 1888.

2 GREAT 2

Base

Ball

GAMES.

Morning and Afternoon

MAY 24TH.

NATIONALS,

Of the St. John C. & A. Club,

MAINE STATE COLLEGE NINE

Of Orono, Maine.

Grand Stand,

Erected back of the Home Plate
THAT WILL
Seat 400 People.

Grounds

Greatly Enlarged and Improved
And equal to any in Canada.

General Admission - - 25 Cents.
Ladies - - 10 Cents.
Grand Stand 10 Cents Extra,
Tickets—For sale at Morton L. Harrison's
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A. O. SKINNER,
President,
St. John C. & A. Club.