

MUSIC, AT HOME AND ABROAD.

London is to have a Russian opera season early in August. The troupe consists of twenty principals, a chorus of fifty and a band of thirty.

Rudolph Aronson has made arrangements by which the Casino Concert company has secured the American rights of the new comic opera, Oolah, which has been completed by Gilbert & Sullivan.

Mme. Nilsson's farewell in London brought in \$10,000.—Boston Times.

Scissors and paste are useful sometimes and I think the preceding paragraphs worth perusal.

I read in a London journal that the chorus at the recent Handel festival at the Crystal Palace was composed as follows: 800 sopranos, 800 altos, 750 tenors and 800 basses—3,150 voices and one must remember that out of that number perhaps only about two in a hundred might be reckoned dummies.

I have received one of Warne's useful books, Advice to Singers, by a singer, from Messrs. McMillan, who have it on sale. My advice to singers, professional or amateur, is buy it. The writer has evidently had a large experience both of pupils and masters and the hints given throughout this handy little volume, arranged so usefully in detached paragraphs, will be found worthy not only of perusal, but to be retained and remembered.

On the 29th of April, Mr. Morley had four steps of the new organ at his disposal to play at the confirmation service held at the mission church that evening. All the main construction of the organ was practically finished at that time.

The Minstrel club had a meeting on the evening of last Friday week, and though sparsely attended, as to numbers, yet those present were unanimously of the opinion that the organization should be kept together, infusing new talent, and in the fall give some more performances.

Mme. Camilla Urso, the celebrated violinist, and a concert company appear at the Institute next week. This talented lady, who has a world-wide reputation, will be remembered as having appeared here very successfully some years ago.

I did not receive an invitation from the doctors, so cannot say anything about the elaborate programme that was given at the reception, on Tuesday evening. I wonder why they left me out.

I was told the other evening of our having in our midst occasionally a wonderful amateur who has a beautiful baritone voice, and sings something quite above the ordinary. This gentleman, who is connected with a very popular steamship line, has, I believe, never been heard in public in St. John.

I hear the meeting of the active members of the Oratorio society, on last Monday evening, was most enthusiastic and they met their reverses with smiling faces. The ladies are going to raise funds amongst themselves and also drum up the honorary members' list, which certainly might be larger.

It was the Salvation Band She Heard.

"The doctors are havin' a time somewhere tonight, ain't they?" asked a female customer in a Princess street store, Tuesday evening.

"Yes," answered the amiable clerk. "They're all at a concert in Odd Fellows' building."

"Yes," the visitor coincided. "I can hear the music, now!"

ITS PAST AND PRESENT.

The "Morning News" Building, as It Was, and as It Is Today.

The first brick building erected in St. John after the great fire of June 20, 1877, was the one on Canterbury street now known as the "old News building" and at present occupied by Godsoe Bros. as a steam laundry.

About a fortnight previous to the fire, Messrs. Willis & Mott, publishers of the Daily News, had just finished extensive repairs on the building, including a second floor in the ell. The building was burned to the ground and a week afterwards men were at work rebuilding it.

The present building stands on the foundation of the old one. While the carpenters, masons, etc., were at work on the first story, the publishers had sent to the United States for a press and engine.

When these arrived they were put in without loss of time and a temporary roof placed over them, the different apartments being divided by canvas. Under all these disadvantages the enterprising publishers of the Daily News issued their paper every day until the building was completed.

Although the work on the building was all done in a hurry it was well done.

The former News building has hardly ever been a busier place than it is now—not even when it was the home of one of the most vigorous dailies that St. John ever had.

The American steam laundry fills it now from attic to basement, and every inch of space is taken up with belts or pulleys or washers or wringers or dryers or rosie-checked girls with flatirons.

An energetic 15-horse-power engine runs a bewildering array of machinery. It turns big washing machines that devour soiled clothing by the armful; wringers that make 2,200 revolutions a minute and dry a hundred shirts in three minutes; starchers that have an insatiable appetite for collars and cuffs; supplies power to a dozen smaller machines; and heats the very ingenious "dryer" on which the Godsoe Bros. and Mr. Frantz have applied for a patent.

In order to keep it contented—and, just incidentally, of course, fill their orders—the Godsoe Bros. have added two washers, a starcher and a mangle to their equipment within the last two weeks. In addition to that, they have worked their force about every night. Now they are preparing to put in another big washer, and the indications are that, though the engine likes to keep moving pretty lively, it will go on strike for extra wages pretty soon.

Seriously, the American steam laundry is even more of a success than its enterprising proprietors expected it to be. For much of the time, during the past month, it has kept an extra delivery wagon busy, and the prospect is that a large contract which has just been undertaken will require the addition of at least six hands to the large staff of employes. Friends of the Godsoe Bros.—and they are very many—say that a man can stand on the opposite side of Canterbury street and see the business grow.

The laundry is about the same age as Progress. Both institutions are run by steam power, in the interest of cleanliness and on business principles, and that is why both have come to the front so rapidly. Progress is proud of its neighbor, as it should be.

A Society that Does Good.

Some interesting facts bearing on the history and aims of the Cartmen's Protective union were conveyed to Progress in the course of a recent conversation. The union is, it appears, about five years old. All licensed city and Carleton cartmen are members and no cartman or teamster who is not a member is allowed to work at a coal vessel discharging her cargo where members are working.

The organization has not in any way increased the rate of cartage on either wood or coal in the city, these rates having been made some years ago by the city authorities. It has made a few changes in rates for outside districts, however, such as the almshouse and lunatic asylum, etc.

The chief objects of the union are the assisting of members who have lost their horses, or who have suffered through sickness or death. Relief is given in all such cases. The union fees are nominal, but fines are imposed on members who are absent from the regular meetings, and its fund is maintained in this way. It has now a membership, including city and Carleton cartmen, of nearly 100.

Best makes of pianos and organs for sale or to hire, at BELL'S, 25 King street.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

Ten years ago, Frank P. Stone carried newspapers and kept a fruit-stand in Boston. Today he is worth \$300,000. He made it in the dime museum business. Who says the public doesn't appreciate Art—with a large A?

The arrangements for the open air performance of A Midsummer Night's Dream at the Masconomo House, Manchester-by-the-Sea, next Monday, are assuming proportions which even the managers did not anticipate at first, and the indications point to one of the most remarkable performances ever given of a Shakespearian play.

For example: The road leading to the house will be lighted by calciums, and 25 calciums will make the natural stage as light as day, while the auditorium and other parts of the lawn will be made brilliant with 20 locomotive headlights and Chinese lanterns. The space occupied by the audience will be closed in by a canvas fence, 12 feet in height, and the ground upon which the chairs will rest will be covered by a huge canvas to prevent dampness.

These are some of the actors and actresses who will take part: Messrs. N. C. Goodwin, jr., Louis James, Ed. Sothorn, William Owen, J. B. Mason, John Sullivan, Henry V. Donnelly, Digby Bell, Frazier Coulter, E. F. Goodwin, Charlie Reed and J. B. Booth, and Misses Marie Wainwright, Marie Jansen, Lillian Russell, Kate Forsythe, Genevieve Lytton, Verona Jarbeau, Jenn Gordon, Grace Thorne, Rosa France, Lillian Lee and little Mamie Ryan, who will appear as Puck. There will be a chorus of 100 persons, all more or less prominent in the profession, and the music of the play will be given by a selected orchestra under the baton of Mr. John J. Braham.

We shall all be there—in spirit. I wish we might be present in person.

In a recent letter to the Boston Herald, Ed. A. Perry says:

The places of amusement in London number between 550 and 600, and of these more than 450 are music halls, or what in America are called variety theatres. The places of amusement in the provinces are upwards of 1300, and of these only about 160 are music halls. The theatres in London are about 50; in the provinces they number about 200. The concert halls and "palaces" in London are about 30, while in the country they reach the enormous number of nearly 1000. But many of the halls in the provinces have the power of representing stage plays on their platforms—a privilege prohibited in the London music halls. The capital invested in the metropolis in places of amusement is little short of £4,000,000, without reckoning places like the Crystal Palace, the Albert Hall, etc. Direct employment is given to about 150,000 people, beside indirect employment to a host of tradesmen and their workpeople. The London theatres, music halls and concert halls have accommodation for about 500,000 of sightseers. The capital invested in similar places of amusement in Great Britain (excluding Ireland, Isle of Man and the Channel islands), and comprising about 550 towns and cities, is over £6,000,000. This gives direct employment to about 350,000 people, beside indirect employment to many more, and provides accommodations for nearly 1,250,000 spectators. It may be added that the proprietors of the above 1886 places of amusement probably pay very little less every year, in imperial and local taxation, than £1,000,000.

This is the way the fall season at the New York theatres will open: Star, Johnson and Slavin's new minstrel troupe; Fifth Avenue, Joseph Jefferson and Mrs. John Drew in The Rivals; Niblo's, Bolossy Kiralfy's Mathias Sandorf spectacle; Fourteenth street, J. W. Piggott in Fitzwoodle; Union Square, Helen Barry; Wallack's, Coquelin and Jane Hading in French plays; Harrigan's, with Waddy Gooagan, the manager's new local drama; Madison Square, with a revival of Partners; Tony Pastor's, with a return of Pastor's vaudevillers; Daly's, with a new comedy; Dockstaders, with the return of the Dockstader burnt cork company; Jacob's Third Avenue, the People's, Grand, Harlem Comique, Poole's and the Windsor, with combinations; Academy, with The Old Homestead; Lyceum, with E. H. Sothorn and a new comedy; Casino, The Oolah; Broadway, Louis Aldrich in The Kafir Diamond; Bijou (probably), with a Hoyt and Thomas troupe. The Standard alone is an uncertain quantity.

Angela, or the Umpire's Revenge, is the name of a new light opera which was recently done in Philadelphia. I take it for granted that there's something about a \$50 fine in it.

To all who know that talented actress and estimable lady, Claire Scott, it will be pleasant to learn that in the early winter she will be seen in the provinces in her new version of Mary, Queen of Scots. During the last season she played the middle states, successfully of course, and she will receive a warm welcome back to the New England and provincial circuits.

LEON.

LODGE-ROOM ECHOES.

Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

The excursion of Grand Canton Shawmut, No. 1, P. M., to St. John, N. B., July 23-28, has had a great boom the past week. The secretary has received in that time more than 50 applications for tickets. The committee of arrangements feels very much gratified at the results of its hard labors, as the success of the trip is already assured. Owing to the urgent request of Grand Canton Bangor, the committee has changed its plans so as to allow Shawmut to accept of its hospitalities for one day and a night.—Boston Globe.

Grand Sire White has issued a circular asking for "full information as to the location, cost and equipment of all Odd Fellows' homes, orphan asylums, schools, etc., completed, commenced or dedicated since the session of the sovereign grand lodge at Boston in 1886; also the location, cost, etc., of all Odd Fellows' halls and lodge rooms, commenced, completed or dedicated since the time specified, when the property is owned by the order. This information is desired that a general statement of the condition and property of the order, in the above respects, may be made to accompany the next annual report to the sovereign grand lodge." All possessing the above information are requested to forward the same to the grand sire, John H. White, Albion, N. Y., at once.

Free & Accepted Masons.

The Royal Arch Masons of Botsford chapter, Moncton, presented Rev. R. S. Crisp with the following address, at their last meeting:

To Be, and ex-Comp. R. S. Crisp. Dear Sir and Companion: It is with feelings of regret that we learn you have been called to a new field of labor, to pursue the calling for which you are so well fitted.

The members of Botsford chapter, Royal Arch Masons of New Brunswick, cannot, however, permit you to part without expressing the kindly feelings we all bear towards you. The many pleasant hours which we have spent together will long be remembered, and we also feel that the members of the craft in your new home will be pleased to have so eminent a brother and companion come amongst them.

We earnestly hope that the bond of friendship and brotherly love that prevails amongst us all may last till time shall be no more.

In token of the kindly feelings of Botsford Chapter towards you, please accept these emblems of a Royal Arch Mason, which it is hoped you may be long spared to wear with pleasure to yourself and honor to the fraternity.

We now bid you farewell and may the S. A. O. T. U. guide and protect you and yours in the journey through life.

GEO. H. PICK, P. H. N., G. M. JARVIS, P. F. G., COM. ARCHESON, P. H., COM. BOTSFORD, R. A. Chap. Moncton, N. B., July 16.

Independent Order of Good Templars.

The reports presented at the session of the Grand lodge of Good Templars at Moncton, this week, show the order to be in a flourishing condition. The grand secretary's report shows the total number of lodges to be 146, with a membership of 6,557. The receipts for the year were \$1,368,29, which a balance on hand of \$149,40.

Officers were elected as follows: Rev. Thomas Marshall, Carleton, G. C. T.; Miss Isabel S. Gross, Hillsborough, G. V. T.; W. R. Robinson, Newcastle, G. C. T.; C. Powers, St. John, G. S. J. T.; Samuel Tufts, St. John, G. S.; John Law, St. John, G. T.; J. V. Skillen, Moncton, G. M.; Rev. T. W. Covert, Grand Manan, G. Chap.; T. N. Skillen, Moncton, G. M.; C. W. Wallace, York county, G. G.; R. B. Wallace, Queens county, G. Sent.; Mrs. Woodling, Woodstock, G. Asst. Sec.; R. W. Gregory, York county, G. D. M.; W. H. Hine, Kings county, G. Mess.; W. Vaughan, St. Martins, P. G. C. T.

Knights of Pythias.

The Endowment Rank is to undergo another radical change. The management has been placed in the hands of a "Board of Control" with full powers, the idea of which is to separate this branch from the Supreme lodge. The supreme secretary in a supplemental report, reported the rank as \$13,000 insolvent and the bills not all in. This rather opened the eyes of friends of the rank, hence the above action.

Loyal Orange Association.

Mr. N. Clarke Wallace, M. P., Grand Master of the L. O. A. of British North America, has arrived in Derry, Ireland, accompanied by Provincial Grand Master Collins of Ontario. They attended the Orange Triennial council at Belfast, July 7.

Sons of Temperance.

Intercolonial division took occasion, upon Rev. R. S. Crisp's departure from Moncton, to present him with a flattering address, which was accompanied by a handsome ebony cane.

Ought to Be Abolished.

If the Lord left any snakes in Paradise after the settlement of the primal fuss in Eden, it took the shape of the man who is a professional cynic and pessimist. The man who has no faith, no enthusiasm, no candor, no sentiment about him. The man who laughs at the mention of good in the world, or virtue in his wife, or honor among men. The man who calls his wife a fool because she teaches his little children to say their prayers, and curls his lip at any belief in God or a heaven beyond the grave. The man who never saw anything worth remembering in the sky when the dawn swept it, or the stars lighted it, or the clouds swooped it, or the rain folded it up in gray mists of silence. The man who lives in this sparkling, rushing world as a frog lives in a pond or a toad in a cellar, only to croak and spit venom. The man who never saw anything in a rose aglint in the sunlight, or a lily asleep in the moonlight, but a species of useless vegetable, of no account because it couldn't be boiled for dinner or served in a sauce like mushrooms. The world is full of such specimens, and if I had the right sort of a broom I'd sweep them away as the new girl does spiders.—Amber, in Chicago Horseman.

WHY THE PICNIC WAS POSTPONED.

"The picnic is postponed. Why so?" "Asked Jobson's little daughter; "I to the beach would like to go And paddle in the water."

The parent said in accents mild, His little daughter petting, "The picnic is postponed, my child, Because we'd get a wetting."

"How do you know 'twill rain, pa, dear?" "She asked with arms outwringing Her father's neck. "The sky is clear, The sun is brightly shining."

Upon his child he bent his gaze, And said in tones of sorrow; "Because the Signal Service says It will be fair tomorrow!"

—Boston Courier.

On the River.

SHAMROCK Base Ball and Athletic Club's MOONLIGHT EXCURSION. Monday, July 23.

An efficient committee of the above Club has chartered the splendid Union Line steamer DAVID WESTON for MONDAY EVENING, July 23, and will run a MOONLIGHT EXCURSION from Indiantown up the St. John river. The trip will be about four hours long.

THE CITY CORNET BAND will be on board and furnish music for dancing.

A concert on the river will be a feature of the evening, the best local talent having consented to sing.

Light refreshments, including ice creams, fruits and temperate drinks only, can be obtained on board.

Tickets, 50 Cents Each, for sale at the usual places and by members of the Committee.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE Madame Camilla Urso, THE CELEBRATED VIOLINIST.

Whose triumphs in the past two seasons in European cities, at the New York Philharmonic society, the New York Symphony orchestra under Mr. Dambrosch, with Theodore Thomas' orchestra in New York and Philadelphia, and with the Boston Symphony orchestra have won the admiration of the critics and drawn the largest audiences. The title of the QUEEN OF THE VIOLIN was accorded to Camilla Urso when a child and has never been disputed since. She remains one of the most conspicuous and attractive individualities amongst the great musicians and virtuosos of the world.

Assisted by Miss Phila May Griffin, Soprano; Mr. Louis Miller, Tenor; Mr. Eldridge Libby, Baritone; Mr. W. H. Hopper, Pianist; Mr. Frederick Luebe, Director.

TWO GRAND CONCERTS AND MATINEE TUESDAY EVENING, July 24th. WEDNESDAY EVENING, July 25th. SATURDAY AFTERNOON, July 28th, Matinee.

Reserved seats, 75c. each; Balconies, reserved, 50c. each; Gallery, admission, 30c. On sale at A. C. Smith & Co.'s.

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