

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

Although there are such a lot of things going on saying anything about them until next Saturday. grief at the death of his mother, who died I should have liked to have been able to have noticed some of the music at the St. Georges' society reception last week, but unfortunately I was not able to hear it. The audience talked so unmercifully straight through the programme that any one standing ten yards from the platform had a very poor show if he wished to listen. It was ever thus, and it will probably continue to be until the end of the chapter. Talking while anyone is singing or theatre, but no amount of reasoning will eradicate either evil. joy what leads up to them. Of course, this is not possible in a theatrical performance,

 The musical service in St. John's last Sunday evening was well attended and was a decided success, the selections by choir and organist being finely rendered. Mr. DeSoyres' sermon on church music might have been a revelation to the clergyman who said that "we have now a new organ, but I wish it understood that we are not going to induce in operatic or artistic music," had he heard it.

heard it.

At the time I am writing, the exhibition concert has not come off, but I hope to have something to say of it later.

Mrs. Babbit, of Parrsboro, is visiting her mother, Mrs. Wm. Bowden, Sidney street. Miss Flossie Bowden is also at home, after an extended visit in

If permission can be gained, Mr. J. S. Ford's setting of Rudyard Kipling's poem, "Tommy," will

be published shortly.

There is a possibility of our being fortunate enough to have a visit from Gilmour's celebrated band in the near future, and I for one devoutly hope that the possibility may be realized. Apropos of bands, the exhibition is well supplied. Concerts are given every afternoon and evening.

Mrs. John Berryman is expecting her daughter,
Miss Fannie Massie, to make a short visit in St.
John Miss Massie has been studying singing in
Part d England since leaving here about two

Katie Berryman is on her way from New Zealand to England, where she will spend the winter with her brother, Mr. Geo. Berryman. She in tends returning to St. John in the spring. Mrs. R. Percy Strand, who has been ill with typhoid fever, is now able to be out again. St. John seems to have invested in some dreadful noises lately. Trinity chimes were bad enough, but now it is almost a toss up between the siren on the electric light works and St. Paul's tubes. Either melodious sound is calculated to upset the average

mind for a day at least.

Miss Hitchens is in Boston for the purpose of securing a violinist for her school.

TARBET.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

After years of weary waiting and a few weeks of terrific rush and work the St. Marble Hearts with nearly 1,200 people and his conception of the part admirable.

I have said so much about the opera house since it was put before the people, first as a partly formed scheme, then in the hands of an unbelieving company, and finally in the grasp of energetic men who could not be discouraged by the lack of encouragement, who fought obstacles which seemed unsurmountable, who worked against prejudice and opposition, and who, in the end, and in their faith found money when there was no balance to the stockholders credit in the bank, that my best performance.

It is not usual to see such an attractive audience in any place of amusement in this city. Those who patronize the drama do not, as a rule, consider it necessary to appear in evening dress. There have been many exceptions to this rule this week, and I must say that the effect was exceedspeak of the hour of opening and the waits between acts the first night. It was difficult for anyone who had watched the progress of the building to realize that we were seated there on the night advertised for the

Marble Hearts is one of those plays that tails to enthuse you. Just as you read a standard author and get solid satisfaction from the pages without finding anything to stir you or disturb your wonted placidity, so you can see Marble Hearts without a trace of emotion. For this reason, per-haps, it would have been wise for the management to have chosen a popular melodrama. St. John is not the best play town in Canada, and a pleasant, agreeable society play like Marble Hearts nnder ordinary circumstances will not draw twice.

Those who went to see the house and not the company were very agreeably sur-prised. So uniformly good a company has not appeared in this city for a long time. Mr. Granville and Miss Chitherow were

partially known here before this engagement. They were members of the Mc-Dowell company that played here last fall, and won the good opinions of all who saw them. I expressed mine at that time, and I have only to emphasize it now. Mr. Granville's part in Marble Hearts and in the Ma trate, the second play put on, gave him poportunities, but what little he had a fao was done well.

The favorable impression tormed of Miss Clitherow last year has been increased and strengthened this week. Her acting in both Marble Hearts and The Magistrate proved her a versatile and accomplished actress. As Marco she was in very truth the haughty, disdainful, and practiced flirt, toying with honer love and winding toying with honest love and winding the is less of her net around the man with the black count. Her description of her life, its wealth and ruin, poverty and riches was a powerful piece of acting which called forth round after round of applause. As "Cis,"—that dreadful boy—in The Magistrate she was bright and fascinating.

The rest of the honors in Marble Hearts fell in about even proportions to Messrs

fell in about even proportions to Messrs. Emery and Ramsdell, the sculptor and the editor. Mr. Ramsdell, who, by the way, belongs to this city, had a part that suited him to perfection. He was a model Frenchman, and an editor at that, volatile, excitable, sarcastic. His was the popular part, and again and again he was applauded to the echo. Mr. Emery has an agreeable and easy stage presence. His impersonation of Phidias, the poor and unhappy sculptor, in the prologue, and Duchatlet, the prosperous and contented artist in the drama, was clever. As the suppliant, be-seeching lover he was not so good but no fault could be found with his renunciation of Marco; when, jilted for a richer rival he turned and | Note Paper, 5c. per quire, at McArthur's | Books tore, 80 King street.

told her that he, too, had been playing with love, when he snatched the emblems of purity from her brow, and later his in his absence. In these scenes Mr.

Emery's work was of a high order. The ending of Marble Hearts reminds one of a good story that carries the reader interestingly forward to an unhappy but artistic eonclusion. There are plenty of people who care so little about that kind of a book that they invariably turn to the last pages before they begin to read the story. playing is just about on a par with big hats in a If they are satisfactory, they proceed to enand there are people who enter so thoroughly into the joys and sorrows of the characters that an unexpected tragic ending depresses them.

There is some opportunity for scenic effect in Marble Hearts. Liberal applause greeted the unveiling of the statue, and there were calls for Mr. Chidley when the

curtain fell upon his parlor scene.

What shall I say of Mr. E. D. Lyons as Mr. Posket in The Magistrate? His impersonation of the London magistrate was as clever a piece of character acting as I have seen in St. John. Mr. Lyon's reputation as an actor, however, has preceded him. We known him by what he has done in other cities of Canada and in the United States.

The Magistrate is closely allied to The Private Secretary - sometimes called a companion piece. It is exceedingly ridiculous and mirth provoking. Mr. Poskett, the magistrate, is induced by the son of his wife by her first marriage—a precocious youth whose age has been concealed by his mother and who is nineteen instead of fourteen-to accompany him to a hotel for a supper. Circumstances took his wife and sister to the same hotel, which was raided by the police. In the confusion Magistrate Poskett and his wife's son escaped, while his wife, whom he thought was safe at home and in bed, was taken into custody. She appeared next morning before him in his official capacity and was sentenced to seven days. It can | With all the hireling chivalry of Shediac amain. be imagined that the situations are ridicu-John opera house was opened Monday lous, and Mr. Poskett is the centre of night by the New York Stock Company in each of them. His make up was perfect And by your hopes of boodle, let every bow be

Mrs. Hooker and Miss Fossette took the parts of Mrs. Poskett and her sister in a fairly acceptable manner. Miss Fossette showed to better advantage as Marie, the poor orphan, in Marble Hearts, and I imagine that Mrs. Hooker will find many parts better suited for her than either of those she has yet attempted.

It can be said, however, that no member of the company is below the average. There are no weights. When we consider that they did not have one chance to rehearse on the stage before the first per-formance, that they knew nothing whathouse; that they were not even tolerably plan now will be to pass by the appearance of the theatre and speak of the entrances to the stage it must be confessed entrances to the stage it must be confessed that they did remarkably well.

I cannot close without complimenting Mr. Harrison upon his excellent or-chestra—upon its improvement. It may be that I have not been as appreciative of this body heretofore as I might have been, or it may be that the acoustic properties of the new house are in their favor, but ingly pleasing. It would hardly be fair to whatever the reasou I do not think anyone could reasonably help being much pleased with the programme of the orchestra this week. The airs were new and catchy and Mr. Harrison and his associates seemed to be in their very best form.

Footlights.

President Skinner does not pretend to be as eloquent as his brother, but usually manages to express what he has to say. The drop curtain should get a move on

when it starts downward. There is no excuse after the first night for delaying the rise of the curtain until

8.30 when it is advertised for 8 o'clock. Attorney General Blair has been a first nighter twice this week. Mrs. Blair accomparied him to the Magistrate.

The boxes do not seem to be too popular. The directors in full dress occupied them Monday night.

Except Ye . . . Become as Little Children.

O calm and happy childhood, From care and trouble free, A time of brightest sunshine, When hearts are full of glee.

What thoughts of joy and pleasure. And plans for future years, Fill heart and mind with gladness Excluding gloomy fears.

The months and years are longer, In that most charming day, And often seem to linger, And slowly pass away.

Full soon the vision changes, When childhood's sun has set, And cares and troubles deepen, And anxious thoughts beset.

Then let us give them pleasure, We, whose experience, rife, Know happy childhood is the time, The happiest time of life.

O let us not by harshness, So wound the trusting heart, As cause it pain and sorrow, To feel the venom smart.

But rather be reminded, That God, in heaven above, Looks down upon His children, In goodness, kindness, love.

And that we all are children, Many too old to bend, But much in need of kindness, From God our father, friend.

May we be "little children," At Christ's most gracious call, And haply gain the mansions, He has prepared for all.

-FERG.

POEMS WRITTEN FOR "PROGRESS."

Battle of Kent.

Now glory to the men of Kent, who well have done And glory to our leader bold, the noble son of York! Now let there be the joyful sound of music and the

Through all thy humble cottages, ye merry sons of France:

And thou, Buctouche, our own Buctouche, fair village by the strand, Again let strains of sweetness flow from thy un-

equalled band. As thou wert constant in our ills, be joyous in ou For stiffest of the stiff are they who wrought thy

peace annoy. Hurrah! hurrah! a single field hath turned the chance of war: Hurrah! hurrah! for Kent, and for our chieftain

Oh! how our knees were shaking, when, upon election day, We saw the opposition force drawn out in grim

Andrew Blair.

With all its Tory followers, and all its railway votes, And Stevens' bag of yaller hue distended wide with

There skulked the scowling Atkinson with vengeance in his eye, And Stockton was adjacent with his squeezer

handy by; We thought as we looked on them of McKeown's holy war, good McLellan massacred and Quinton's

knightly gore; And we cried unto our Kentish men to dare wha men might dare, And strike for dear Saint David * and our chieftain Andrew Blair.

Our chief has come to marshall us and winsome is his smile, And he has tied a sea-green knot upon his glossy

tile: He looked upon his people, and gracious was his He looked upon the foemen, and his glance was

stern and high. Right royally he smiled on us as rolled from rear to

Up all our line in deafening shout, "Vote for the grand old man." 'And if the boodle chance to fail, as fail full weil it

For never saw I promise yet of such a sultry fray,-Press where you see my beaver shine, amidst the ranks of war, And be your ornflamme today the sea-green crest of

Hurrah! The foes are moving. The onset has be Of Phinney and Melanson and the roaring Haning-

And brave Gogain is driving fast across the Dundas plain.

Kent, bent.

Two thousand voices sound the charge, two thousand saints are blessed. Two thousand votes go pouring in behind the sea-

green crest; And in they crushed, and on they rushed, while like a beacon's glare, Amidst the thickest carnage blazed the gleaning

Now, by the gods, the day is ours! Gogain hath turned his rein, Melanson calls for quarter, and stout Robideaux is

tile of Blair.

Their ranks are scattered like the leaves before the autumn gales, ever of the acoustic properties of the The air is blue with Phinney's woes and Haning-

tonian wails; And then we thought to jubilate, and all along our "Let's whoop her up till morning" was passed

But out spake gentle Andrew then, "No foes have I in Kent,

I'm sure this little dog-fight had no serious intent." Oh! was there ever such a chief in politics or war, As our sovereign liege and leader, which his christian name is Blair.

Ho! George McLeod and Billy,-ho! Stevens of the Weep, weep for all your prophecy, your squareface

Ho! Alward, sell for crowbait thy protestant

That Father Ouillet may absolve poor Phinney's Sunday shine.

Ho! Crockett of the Gleaner, 'tis time thou wert to Ho! Gregory, thy vengeance to grim despair is

For Blair again hath triumphed, and again his potent name

Hath brought to naught his enemies who sought to wreck his fame.

Then glory to the men of Kent and glory to Legere, And glory to our chieftain bold, Attorney Genera

*Canonized, January, 1890.

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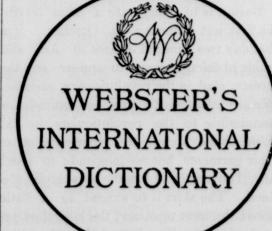
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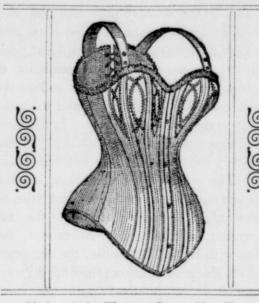
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__ 11.

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