

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

Mr. Ford worked wonders at the oratorio rooms Monday evening in the way of throwing spirit into the practice, which was a capital one, all parts being out in force. The tenor was stronger than it has been for a long time. At present most work has to be done in the soprano ranks, for although it is the strongest, numerically, still much is required in the finishing line.

On Sunday Miss Wilson, who has played at the Stone church during Mr. Ford's absence, was given a very nice present and testimonial by the rector and choir in token of the appreciation they felt for her excellent and painstaking work. Miss Wilson will be in charge of St. Stephen's organ next Sunday.

The amateur minstrels are to repeat their recent performances in aid of the catholic and protestant orphans at an early

The Germain street baptist church organ has been cleaned, tuned and and and the improvement is very great. I also hear that that much abused instrument, the mission church organ, has been doing more satisfactory work lately. The electric motor answers splendidly.

I noticed in one of the evening papers that Mr. Watkins, a young organist of Wolverhampton, Eng., had been complimented by the Queen for his fine playing. This young man is a wonderful sightreader and has often played and accompanied some of the most difficult concertos and symphonies perfectly at concerts without any preparation. He promises to become quite a light in the musical world.

It seems a great pity St. John could not raise money enough to have the Nordica concert, but I don't think the company could have been an extra good one or they wouldn't have looked at such a small sum as \$1,000. I am not alluding to Madame Nordica herself. She, we all know, has a wonderful voice. LOUNGER.

THE ORATORIO NEXT WEEK.

Careful Preparations Give Promise of most Successful Concerts.

Reserved seats should be secured to-day for the Oratorio concerts, next Thursday and Friday. No pains are being spared by vocalists and instrumentalists to make these performances the best the society has ever given. Mr. Ford took charge of the rehearsal Monday night, and his return was greeted by the best attendance of the season. Since then not a day has passed without a practice of some kind or other. To-night will be no exception. On Monday there will be the regular practice when the orchestra is expected to be present. Tuesday and Wednesday the rethe latter night, Mrs. Allen and the other soloists will be present. Honorary members should remember they have the privilege of being present at these rehearsals on production of their tickets.

There will be no change from the arrangements announced last week, but any improvement will be made in the read portions of "Athalie" by giving the parts of Joad, Salomith and the Chorus Speaker | may not arrive at such extraordinary results to different voices, so as to preserve their indentity. On the last occasion all these characters were read by the narrator, with the result that much of the dramatic force of the work was lost. The society has also wisely decided to print all the words for both nights.

the more enjoyable; probably the first night will possess more variety of style and more taking solo work, as both Mr. Bristowe and Mr. Daniel have solos in "The Lay of the Bell" as well as Mrs. Allen and Miss Hea. Friday's oratorio. "Athalie," is in totally different style to any works recently given by the Society. It is really the musical setting in the choruses in Racine's sacred tragedy. The narrative has been condensed into a poem, which will be read, thus preserving the dramatic continby. It is something so different from

anything ordinarily presented in St. John that it will be worth hearing, if only tor the sake of the novelty. It has a very fine overture, and the instrumentation all through is splendid. So few, comparatively, heard it when given over three years ago, that it may almost be styled a new work to St. John.

TONES AND UNDERTONES.

A number of hitherto unpublished compositions of Chopin are shortly to appear in print at Warsaw.

Some notes of interest in regard to three well know hymn writers appear on the eleventh page of this issue.

with writing his memoirs, the publication of which is, however, to be deferred until after his death.

Anton Rubinstein is said to be occupied

Verdi has declined the offer of a doctorship of music by Cambridge university, his age preventing him making a personal visit

to receive the degree. which Verdi is now engaged is that of an notify Miss Gonby that she needn't mangle met a Jew." opera, "King Lear," the libretto by Arrigo that solo. I'll be there!"—Ex.

Boito, which the veteran maestro had taken in hand some years ago, and after sketching a few scenes had laid aside again.

Abbe Liszt's first concert programme, when he was only nine years old, has been discovered. It bears the date of 1820. The performance was given in Oldenburg.

A collection of valuable musical books and manuscripts has been unearthed recently within the precincts of the Church of St. Bartholomew at Blakenburg, in Saxony, now in course of restoration.

An important and, hitherto, unknown piantorte trio by Franz Liszi, the only one extant from his pen, a transposition of the composer's "Carnival de Pesth" for pianoforte, is about to be published by Messrs. Schott. of Mayence.

Fine voices, says Good Health, are seldom found in a country where fish or meat diet prevails. Those Italians who eat the most fish, those of Naples and Genoa, have few fine singers among them. The sweet voices are found in the Irish women.

The latest intelligence from Paderewski, the pianist, is to the effect that he will arrive in New York in December. As his appearance in San Francisco will probably be postponed until later in the season, he may be heard in New York some time in

The supposed birth-place of Handel in Hake has recently been used as a beer garden, and it is now about to be sold, probably for the site of a big brewery. The dwelling house will be purchased and moved off as a Handel museum if admirers of the great composer can raise the money,

A new genius has been discovered in Germany. His name is Hemprich, and an opera of his, entitled "Im Schoos der Erde." has been accepted for performance in Munich, where much is expected of it. At present Hemprich earns his living by | England. beating the big drum in the brass band of a Saxon regiment.

On Dec. 7, at the Berlin opera house, was present at the previous rehearsal of the | triends can be assured. opera, which was Cleopatra Cæsare," by

Dr. Hubert Parry's new cantata, "Job," which was a feature of the Gloucester, England, musical festival this year, is said to be a highly unconventional piece of work, making Satan the tenor and Job the bass, utterances to the chorus. It contains no

Although Bach and Handel were contemporaries, were of about the same age, born in the same neighborhood, practiced the same branch of the same art, and each was famous as an organist, there is no evidence that these two singularly gitted men ever met. A story relating a supposed contest between them was originated in a musical paper about fifty years ago and has | it had been tound in a sink pipe. since been frequently printed, but has no

lyn, N. Y., which has been undergoing repairs for four months, under the bequest of Emma Abbott, the actress, was rededicated Sunday evening by a service of music hearsal will be in the Opera House, and on and song. There is a large silver plate in the front of the organ inscribed: "This organ was rebuilt in 1892 from a bequest of the late Emma Abbott Wetherell, for twenty-one years a member of this church, whose consistent Christian life, equally with her great renown as an artist, shed lustre upon a name deeply revered and loved by an American people.

The Boston Times says that it has been variously hinted of late that, the novelty of Paderewski being gone, his second visit as marked his initial appearance. While there can be no question over the fact that Paderewski was a fashionable craze as well as an event in art last year, it is equally without doubt that appreciation of his genius has increased rather than diminished during his absence. The interest of his return is heightened by the probability that he may be accompanied by his favorite pupil, Mlle. Saumowska.

There has been some excitement among the young lady singers of Christ Church. Jersey City, N. Y., over an innovation they tried to introduce into that edifice when it was opened last week. Ten young women proposed to sing with the surpliced boy choir, and they hit upon the plan of appearing in cassock and cotta just as the boys did. This reached the ears of Bishop Starkey of Newark, and he was horrified. He at once telegraphed the rector forbidding the appearance of the ladies in the church in the costume worn by the boys in the choir. The surplice, the Bishop declared, was sacred, and was not for women to wear. The young ladies were indignant, but yielded to the Bishop's order, appearing in church in their regular costumes.

Influence of Mind Over Matter. "I am sorry to learn that you are so ill that you cannot possibly be in your accustomed place to-morrow morning, Miss Hysee," said the minister's wife, condolingly, "and I have hurried over to say that tions of dancers, the dazzle of kaleidoscope you need not feel the slightest uneasiness changes, the glowing of rainbow hues. about the solo you were to sing in the opening anthem. Mr. Goodman and the chorister have arranged that Miss Gonby shall take the part, and-'

"What?" The popular soprano of Rev. Dr. Goodman's church choir at once sat bolt upright

"What?" she screamed. "That old maid with the cracked voice to try and sing | gilded tapestry.—Dunlop's Stage News. my solo? Never!"

With one hand she tore the bandages off her head; with the other she swept the medicines from the little table to the floor, and then she kicked down the coverlets. "Tell Dr. Goodman and the chorister,"

Jew, but that it was the debtor who was, she said, in a voice that rang through the It is stated that the new score upon house like the silvery tones of a bell, "to

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

The performance of the Amateur Minstrels in aid of the orphan asylum will take place in the opera house on Decem-

The Daniel's Specialty Company opens in the Mechanic's Institute on Monday next, and according to the flyers will remain for one week. Should their opening be successful it is quite probable that their stay will be prolonged until the end of the year, The performers include the banjoists, Marlow and Plunkett, John Fenton, clog and reel dancer; H. J. Daniel, ventriloquist; Charlie Krouse, comedian and vocalist; U. G. Lee in musical selections, Miss Emeline Steiss as soubrette, and Billy Malone as Irish comedian.

The particular pets of Mme. Janauschek are two guinea pigs.

Mrs. Langtry is to be modeled in wax and costumed as Cleopatra for the Chicago

Thomas W. Keene has played "Richard III" 1,700 times and now he has 100 men in the battle scene.

Irving's "Lear" is severely condemned by the London papers for the actor's exaggerated mannerisms.

With a fortune of \$750,000 safely laid

away Edwin Booth has positively decided not to appear again upon the stage. Miss Fannie Davenport may possibly appear as Lady Gay Spanker and as Nancy

kes in "Oliver Twist" next season. Sarah Bernhardt is 48 years old. She was christened "Rosine," but changed her name to Sarah for a reason known only to

From 1661 to 1680 it was customary in England to return the price of admission to poets. to persons who left before the close of the

The largest theatre in the world is the Opera House, in Paris. It covers nearly three acres of ground and cost about \$20,-

Actor Wilson Barrett has a fair prospect of being compelled to pay over to Uncle Sam about \$7,000, the amount of duties imposed on \$20,000 worth of theatrical baggage, scenery, etc., brought over from

Since Sol Smith Russell announced that he intended impersonating Abraham Lincoln, he has received hundreds of letters will be celebrated the 150th anniversary of | from triends and admirers advising him not the first performance of a grand opera in to do so. His reply has always been, "I that theatre. The first performance was shall not bring any discredit on the honored given by order of Frederick II. The king name of the martyr president. Of this my

Up to the present date "Les Huguenots" has been performed 822 times at the opera in Paris; "William Tell," 776; "Robert le Diable," 743; "La Favorita," 622; "Faust," 611; Massaniella," 505; "Prophet," 469; "Count Ory." 434; "Jewess," 336; "Lucia," 289; "L'Amleto," 266; giving narrative to the baritone and divine | "Don Glovanni," 214; "Freischutz," 210; "Trovatore" and "Alda," 162.

> Mlle. Rhea, who has just closed an engagment at the Grand, in 1886 was playing down in Indiana one night when she discovered that her diamond brooch, one she wore in "Josephine," was missing. It was worth about \$400. Nothing was heard of it until last Monday, when she received word by wire from the manager of the theatre where she lost her jewel that

The gambling instinct in the average human nature is said to be powerfully illus-The organ at Plymouth Church, Brook- trated in Hallen and Hart's new musical comedy, "The Idea." They play an actual game of keno on the stage and induce the audience to take part by distributing Lotto cards through the house. The game is strictly played, occupies but about ten minutes, and those in attendance who happen to hold winning cards are entitled thereby to a reserved seat for the following night.

Theatres in Paris are not paying. There are eighteen leading playhouses, and their receipts fell off from twenty-two millions of francs in 1890 to seventeen and a half millions in 1891. The only prosperous theatres seem to have been the Vaudeville and the Renaisance. At a meeting of managers some said the cause was too many free admissions; the young dramatics were incompetent; the Theatre Libre had had a bad effect. But no good explanation

Charles H. Hoyt, the author of a whole cargo of farces, with musical and non-musical accompaniments, has been chosen a member of the New Hampshire Legislature, says a N, Y. paper. He is a Democrat. He tried it once before, but was defeated by only three or four votes. His father, history says, was elected to the Assembly before him, although this was no result of "A Texas Steer" or of finding "A Hole in the Ground." It is said that Mr. Hoyt in his canvass for the Assembly applied "A Parlor Match" to "A Brass Monkey," which had such an electrical effect upon "A Bunch of Keys" that he found admission to the legislative halls of New Hampshire an open sesame. His many friends rejoice. Whether as a legislator Mr. Hoyt will be a success in view of his authorship of "A Temperance Town," is an open-mouthed

It would be well if audiences carried with them to the theatre, or the opera, always an inquiring mind, always a critical spirit. Do not go there merely to gratify the sensual pleasures of the eye, the luxury of mere idleness, the use of physical repose. Do not seek to be gratified with the gaud brilliant scenery, the influence of draperies and costumes, the fair proporthe glitter of the frame. There is a poetry of motion fairer than Hogarth's lines of beauty and of grace. There is a harmony of colors within the vision of the mind's eye that pales the rainbow's splendor. There is a fabric woven out of the soul's tissues infinitely more rich and enduring than the folds and hangings of silken robes and

Was Shylock a Jew? A well-known Jewish rabbi recently lectured on Shakespeare's Shylock. He said history showed that Shylock was not a

and he continued :-

There is no way of knowing whether or trators to justice.

SUGAR

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not Shakespeare ever met a Jew. But study of the Merchant of Venice will bear out the statement that, though he greatly exaggerated Jewish character, it was not because he shared the feeling of hatred common in that day for Jews. Else why did he impart to Jessica her lovely cha-

Shylock's demand for the pound of flesh, said the lecturer, was not, never was, a Jewish custom. Shakespeare got the idea from an old Roman law, which gave a creditor the right over his debtor's life and property. Did he desire, the creditor could cut a piece of flesh from the debtor's body, but to cut more or less than his exact share meant the forfeiture of his rights. This custom had been extinct for centuries before Shakespeare was born, and to reanimate it and tack it to Shylock was done without other authority than that granted

In regard to the babit of partridges of flying into civilization and a popular superstition regarding them, an Augusta man says: "One flew on our premises and was captured. Then came up the question whether we should kill the bird or allow it to live. At that time there was a popular superstition that if a partridge came to the house where a sick person lay and the bird was killed and the sick person ate the broth. it would effect a cure. There was a girl sick at our house and the doctors had given up her case as hopeless. Some of the family said, kill the partridge and give the sick girl the broth But the sick girl and others were for permitting the partridge to live. We were equally divided and agreed to let one of the neighbors whom we saw coming to the house decide whether the partridge should be killed or not. He said kill it, and we did, and the sick girl ate the broth and got well.-Bangor Commercial.

Why he Stopped.

A nervous little man sat on one side of the cross seats on the top of an omnibus the other day back to back with a young woman of the "sweet girl graduate" species, says the Boston Globe. The little man felt a piece of cloth tickle his neck, and thinking the ends of his cravat were sticking out, he began to stuff the cloth down between the collar and waistcoat. He was nearly scared out of his seat a minute later by hearing the girl exclaim in a loud voice: "Now, you stop! Leave my hair ribbon

The small man apologized and got off at

Arabian Wisdom.

The tongue often cuts off the head. If your friend is made of honey do not

eat him up at one meal. When your son's beard is grown it is

time for you to shave your chin. There is no warmth in borrowed rai-The mother of a murdered man sleeps,

but the mother of a murderer remains

Its Deficiency. "Going to start a paper, I hear." "Yes. Smith's going to furnish the money and I'm going to furnish the brains."

(A month later.) "How's that paper of your's coming on?"
"Suspended last week."

"Run out of money?"

"No. Ran out of brains."

A Discovery.

"Say, you know that play of 'Faust' that was here some time ago?'" "Yes." "Well, there's been a book written about it by a fellow named Goethe.-Truth.

A Muesum Uproar.

Museum Manager-What's all that row about? Assistant-The show is over and the freaks are getting ready to go home. The mermaid is raising a row because she can't find her shoes.

A Good Reason.

Stranger-Why do you put the choir so high up in the gallery? Deacon-Because the bass has such a deep voice that if he was below nobody could hear him unless they sat in the cellar.

It seems necessary to constantly advise

the public to be on their guard against substitutes and imitations of popular remedies. And yet, notwithstanding these repeated warnings, the business of selling substitutes and imitations flourishes to a greater or less extent in many parts of the country. There is no remedy in Canada to-day so widely advertised as Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and none, judging from the very strong endorsations, appearing from time to time, more worthy of public confidence. It is a remedy like this that the counterfeiters and imitators attack, in the hope of reaping a benefit from the extensive advertising of the genuine medicine. It may perhaps be well to caution our readers again, and remind them, that ·the substitute or imitation can never take the place of the original remedy and that the dealer who gives a customer something else than what is asked for, either representing it as the original, or as something 'j ust as good," is guilty of an action very closely akin to fraud. We learn that the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., with a view to protecting their interests and those of the public and honest dealers contemplate securing the services of a clever detective "It is evident that Shakespeare never met a Jew."

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