



IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The choir of St. Luke's church, is doing very good work for an amateur organization. Miss Beattie Farmer, deserves to be complimented on the manner in which she assists—supporting the weak parts and throwing somewhat into the shade those who attempt to be a little too prominent.

The "Border City" Minstrel quartette render some very good music. At times there is an uncertainty, about the tune, but this might be overlooked, on account of the beautiful manner, in which their voices blend. During the Minstrels' recent visit to this city the number in which the quartette shone most, was the finale, to Mr. Lyford's solo, "The Song of the Steeple."

Their humorous selections were the funniest heard here for a long time. Messrs. Coleman and Lyford have very good voices, quite equal to anything we can produce. Their selections were very well chosen. Mr. Hall's rich basso, profundo voice was shown off to perfection in the song, "Let me dream, while life shall linger." A tendency to sing slightly out of tune was evinced at times, but this is a very common failing with heavy basses. The accompaniments throughout appeared to be unsatisfactory, their seeming to be a lack of sympathy in regard to time. Of the cornet and violin duets the former certainly surpassed the latter.

Speaking of Minstrels, I hope our "Amateurs" will be giving us a chance to hear them before long. It must be for the best, that that popular and most useful member, Mr. Geo. Hegan, has been elected president.

At the practice on Monday, the Oratorio society recommenced studying the "Elijah." There seems to be a delightful uncertainty as to what or when their next concert will be. The managing committee may know but the active members do not. The conductor has evidently given up the idea of having the selections from the "Messiah," perhaps on account of the way the practices went, or the lateness of the season. At all events he has jumped from the "Elijah" into the "Elijah," he has labored under the delusion that members were fairly proficient in the "Elijah, which they should be, after rehearsing for a long time under the late Mr. Morley's baton and again under Mr. Ford. On Monday evening the practice went with as much indecision as if it was the first sight reading of that intricate work, which is very encouraging for the conductor.

Miss Anna Howes Herdman will sing Haydn's "With verdure clad" (from the creation) at the sacred concert given by the Bethoven club at the St. John Opera house, Sunday evening next, Jan. 22nd. Her second number will be the Gounod's "Ave Maria." In both these numbers Miss Herdman will be heard to great advantage, she being her master pieces. Sig. Gerard Russo will render as harp solos "Wisdom is the Fray's Padre" and a grand selection from Verdi's "Mazurka Requiem."

Word has been received from Mr. Wm. L. Whitney, Watertown, Mass., that Miss Lizette Olive, of this city, is making excellent progress in her studies. Mr. Whitney says she is a most talented both as a musician and a vocalist, and adds that her voice, while small, is of a most beautiful quality.

LOUNGER.

Mr. Ford and "Lounger." TO THE EDITOR OF PROGRESS.—Reading your issue of Saturday, the 14th inst., I found in a more objectionable form than usual, "Lounger" giving signs of needless comparison, if not personal attack. No matter whom the estimable person may be undertaking the very exacting duties of musical critic, no one can be convinced that, especially relating to myself, personal motives of a suspiciously mean nature, and not a desire to establish truth to the furtherance of knowledge, are entertained and fully expressed.

I wonder if "Lounger" were called upon to explain the why and wherefore of things often referred to, if she would be able satisfactorily to clear herself? There is a splendid opening in the catching line for some ambitious student wishing to become familiar with the application of the various musical terms. For my own advancement it may be necessary, on a future occasion, to ask for explanations.

I have not the slightest objection to being classed as "veal." It is so nice to be thought young and tender. My departed friend glories in the unadorned perfection of "beef." Stainer too is permitted the same privilege. Had "Lounger" come into contact with Gounod at the commencement of his musical career, doubtless "veal" would have been his portion.

It is possible to mention others equally deserving the appellation "beef," but to call them fairly good, tending to commit ourselves owing to brevity of acquaintance, sheer ignorance or sinister motives. Is this criticism?

Because a few excels in one particular branch of their profession, a branch in which we imagine ourselves to be thoroughly versed, tho' we may be a matter of conjecture seeing we give proof, or substantiate our reasons. Surely the brain is capable of bearing the burden of more than one fact.

Speaking of Mr. Morley, I had the pleasure of knowing him and appreciating his many good qualities to a greater extent perhaps than "Lounger" ever did, or had. In addition to knowing him as a thorough gentleman, I knew him as a musician. He was a great admirer of Dr. Stainer, but never gave me to understand he was his equal.

To the last Mr. Morley preserved a modesty characteristic of the conscientious student never vaunting in his triumphs which were many, and marked ones tho' not always recognized as such, but rather deploring some little deficiency in one way or the another, deficiencies that the stars of self-conceited knowledge could never detect. He knew his weaknesses perfectly, and never attempted to hide them from those whom he knew fully understood their import. Seldom did he give way to remarks bordering on anger or contempt, but I have heard him freely express opinions far from complimentary on the boldness of unqualified persons venturing to criticize men of experience.

It is to be deplored that criticism is not to be found in our midst. Nothing is more helpful when it is criticism. There is nothing the musician values more highly. But to palm off chaff for wheat, to give ignorance the guise of learning and experience, to be a big dog, with a big tail and very big bark; but to have no bite, only serves to discredit the weak hearted and feeble; but the man of staidity and strength will stand by, shrug his shoulders and smile sympathetically. How, when his sympathy turns to disgust? "Lounger," through!

Tones and Undertones.

Guiraud, the French composer, who died a few weeks ago, never opened letters sent to him. Two thousand unopened missives were found in a garret in his house.

The smallest professional child pianist in the world has recently made his debut in St. Petersburg. The little musician's name is Raoul Kozalski; he is only five years old, and his legs are so short that his father has to work the pedals for him. Master Kozalski plays only Chopin, and his execution is said to be equal to that of the great pianist himself.

Mme. Patti possesses a queer fad, which she has kept quite a secret for many years

from the public. It is only a few months since this peculiar fad or hobby became known. It is the passion she has for daggers and similar pointed weapons; they are very small in size, and many of them are quite historical. Some of the very smallest she uses for feminine purposes.

Mme Rosetti, who resides at Rochester, New York, professes to be a musical medium. She takes her seat at the piano and passes into a trance, during which she plays and sings with the greatest ease and skill the most beautiful and difficult songs. She sings in five different languages, none of which does she understand, and she performs with great efficiency upon various instruments without having previously learned them.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

Zera Semon's engagement at the Institute still continues profitable. He has been turning people away this week, and the sale of tickets has had to be stopped before the hour for opening. Powell, Hilton and Mile. Vera are still with him, but his drawing card is Sahib Ben-Hammed, in his wonderful Black Art.

The St. John Amateur Minstrel club had their annual meeting on Monday evening. Mr. Geo. B. Hegan was elected president for 1893 with J. S. Esson, vice president; A. E. MacIntyre, secretary; W. S. Barker, manager; W. G. Starr and F. Blackadar, managing committee. The reports submitted showed that the club was in a good condition, and that it had contributed some \$300 to charitable objects during the year. The limit of membership was raised to 45 to accommodate some who were seeking to ally themselves with the minstrels.

After the transaction of routine business, the doors of the comfortable rooms of the club in the Jardine building were thrown open and the guests of the members to the number of twenty or thirty put in an appearance. They were sandwiched and beered and sang to and sung at.

After a round of speeches from His Worship, Doctors Walker, Berryman, Hetherington and others, the pleasant gathering dispersed.

I notice that our old St. John favorite, Adelaide Randall, is now with a company playing in "McFee of Dublin." She has been scoring a great hit in a new song by John T. Kelly, called "I long to see the girl I left behind."

The passing of Katherine! My prediction of last week regarding the coming of the celebrated Katherine Germaine Comic Opera Company proved correct. It did not open on Monday, the 16th; it has not opened yet; and it will not open unless the various members of the company walk down from New York.

The paper for the company is, so I heard it advanced, in the express office here. The advance man is up in St. John's, Quebec, whither he went in mistake; the tenor is sick, and so forth; these are some of the excuses advanced for not keeping dates. The truth of the business is, I fancy, that the company, if it ever existed, has struck a "frost."

If the opera goers of this city are pining to see the blonde and beautiful Katherine, she with the rich and glorious full-throated soprano voice, it looks very much as if they would have to get up a tarpaulin, or pass around a subscription paper.

The directors of the Opera House should see to it that this kind of booking is stopped.

The Marie Gurney Opera Company is the next dated here I think. I should judge that the Gurney's who are now at Proctor's 23rd St. Theatre, New York, are not the finest opera people in the world. The remarks made in Sydney Chidley's letter last week about dramatic successes in New York city are equally applicable to operatic successes. When the Gurney people come it will be announced that they are fresh from their triumphs in New York, and that they enjoyed an unprecedented run in that city.

Local Talent in Fredericton.

The entertainment given in the City Hall, Fredericton, on Tuesday evening last, in aid of Victoria Hospital, proved a complete success. The hall was crowded—every seat being taken. The first part consisted of a Tamborine Drill given by twelve pretty young ladies, who, under the training of Drill Instructor Fowle, went through the several difficult movements with great proficiency.

The following young ladies composed the drill: The Misses Allen, Babbitt, Logan, Neill, Powys, Owen, McPeake, Purdie, Robinson, Campbell, and Tibbitts.

The second part of the programme was the much-talked-of operetta, "The Gipsy Pedlar." This is the first attempt ever made in Fredericton to produce opera by local talent, and the success that attended the initial performance reflects the highest credit upon Miss Annie Louise Lugrin who has trained the company with great care—soloists and chorus included—teaching them the music, besides stage action and all minor details. The music and dialogue by Herbert Harraden, was originally composed

for parlor use, and limited to five persons only; but Miss Lugrin, with great care and study, arranged it with chorus and adapted it for a full acting company.

The ladies and gentlemen who compose the company are all well and favorably known in the province and their popularity would insure them large houses in any town outside of Fredericton. Urgent invitations have been extended to the management to repeat the performance of Tuesday evening, from St. John, St. Stephen and Woodstock. Many friends from these towns being present on Tuesday evening.

The plot of the Operetta is as follows: "Peter and Reuben, two village lads are in love with two village maidens, Dolly and Cherry. The men being slow at proposing the girls, in a spirit of coquetry, refuse to have anything to do with them. The gipsy pedlar (a fairy in disguise) comes on with two wedding rings to sell, hoping to make peace. The girls—angry with the men's hesitation—scold the (supposed) pedlar and send her away. For revenge the fairy causes the men to go to war, leaving the girls sorrowing. The fairy then seeing their tears of repentance revokes the charm; the men are called from action and peace is restored."

The five principals were: Dolly, Village Lassies, (Miss Harrison, Cherry), (Miss Tibbitts), Peter, Village Lads, (Mr. Tibbitts, Reuben), (Mr. Racey, "Gipsy Pedlar," Miss Winslow.

Miss Winslow in the title role made a charming gipsy. Her song, "Come buy," in which she tries to sell her wares was beautifully sung. She has a full, sweet voice of even quality and scored a success in her part. Miss Harrison as Dolly, has a clear, high, soprano voice well adapted for operatic work. She acted her part with spirit, and left little to be desired. In her song, "Like a butterfly," she was delightful and received a hearty recall, to which she responded.

Miss Tibbitts, as Cherry, was irresistible. She has those rare gifts, perfect unconsciousness and clear enunciation. She loses her individuality in her work. Her clear, sweet voice was particularly good in the crying duet with Miss Harrison.

Mr. Racey, as Reuben, was most admirable, his ease of manner and excellent by-play were much to be commended. In the "marching chorus" he appeared at his best, his fine baritone voice showing to good advantage. This number was one of the best features of the evening and was heartily enjoyed.

In the character of Peter, Mr. Tibbitts did good work. He has a good tenor voice and sings with expression. His song "Queen of my Heart" was thoroughly appreciated.

One of the hits of the evening was the song "Love will find the way," (introduced with great success by Francis Wilson in the "Merry Monarch") was sung with spirit and dash by Mr. Cannon, earning a well deserved encore.

The last solo of the evening "A very old man am I" was sung in character by Mr. Hantford McKee. Mr. McKee has a perfect conception of the part and when he joined in the dance "Sir Roger de Coverly" with the gipsy as partner, fairly brought down the house.

The Chorus were spirited and the dancing graceful, showing quick perception and good training.

Many thanks are due the gentlemen who assisted the young ladies in their entertainment. Miss Lugrin was kindly assisted in the stage management by Mr. L. A. Tibbitts and Mr. W. T. H. Fenety.

By special request of a number of citizens who were unable to get seats for Tuesday evening's performance it will be repeated at the City Hall on Monday evening next.

Talk of the Boston Playhouses. We have had a very pleasant time here, among the theatres, since I last wrote you, and promises for better things in the near future, and many I should judge will be carried out.

The Columbia has given us quite a little run of that delightfully idyllic picture of Southern life, as portrayed in "Alabama," and what a charming piece of work it is, so thoroughly and artistically mounted and played that one almost forgets that it is only a reflection and not the substance— "Jim the Penman" follows—and by the way how much Agnes Booth will be missed in her magnificent rendering of the part of Mrs. Kalston, and then we have the first production of Oscar Wilde's play, "Lady Windermere's Fan." Julia Arthur is leading lady with the company at this theatre, which reminds me that on August 2nd, 1890, I said in my column in your paper: "I think this young lady (Miss Arthur) has a future in store for her that will be a bright one," and my prediction has been fulfilled.

The Tremont has held the Bostonians for two weeks for the greater part of which "Robin Hood" has been sung. When their new opera, "The Knickerbockers" was given for the first time on the stage, it immediately sprang into popular favor, and will be in all probability a part of the company's repertoire. It is by De Kaven and Smith, authors of "Robin Hood" and "The Fencing Master," and while it is better than the latter, I do not consider it equal to the former. The chorus work and concerted music are good, but there

INSTEAD OF VOTING for the Kandy Kitchen Piano, Guessing Contest,

and to extend the time for closing till 1st March. Send a dollar to the Kandy Kitchen and they will send you by Express a 5-lb. box of fine Kandy and ten guesses for the Piano.

are not so many or so good solos, as in "Robin Hood." The scene is laid in New York, when that city was a mere infant, and was known as New Amsterdam, thus giving a chance for quaint costuming and pretty setting. All of the favorites have good parts, Barnabie's and Frothingham's being especially funny, and the soprano, Miss D'Arville and the contralto Mrs. Davis are fitted into excellent characters.

"A Texas Steer" is the running attraction at this house this week.

"Babes in the wood" has been the attraction at the Boston, and some St. John people have been delighted at the gorgeous spectacle, the beautiful ballets, not to mention the French quadrille dances also the Ta-ra-ra girls.

Near by, at the Park, "A Temperance Town," is still a drawing card. It is not often given for an author to have two successful pieces running at the same time in the same city, but such is Author Hoyt's fortune, as this piece at the Park and "A Texas Steer" at the Tremont are both by him. The work entailed in looking after two plays and attending to his duties as a member of the New Hampshire Legislature gives the genial Hoyt all he wants to attend to just now.

Across the street at the Globe is Wilson Barrett, the well known English actor-author-manager, who is filling a two weeks engagement. Last week he presented Ben-my-Chree, a dramatisation of "Hall Caine's Deemster," a triple bill, and his new piece "Pharaoh" a romance of old Egypt. Mr. Barrett is well known and liked in our modern Athens and full houses are the rule.

"1492" has left us for another road tour and the pretty Hollis street play house is in possession of that chief among comedians, W. H. Crane who has captured the town, as "The American Minister." Whatever Crane does is well done, and the public knows that a smooth, agreeable and artistic performance is guaranteed by him and his capable associates.

Down at the Museum, "Mayfair," which was not a grand and glittering success was pulled off, and replaced by a week of "Agatha," which was followed on Monday by the first performance on any stage, of Margaret Merrington's "Good Bye."

Bowdoin Square has been the home of farce comedy this week, in the shape of "The Hustler," which is neither better nor worse than scores of pieces of the same class—Dochstaden's Minstrels hold the boards at this house this week.

The great and only Ignace J. Paderewski has been with us and has usual captured the town. He brought his hair with him, although I heard a whisper to the effect that a lawn mower had been pushed over it once or twice, but I think this is a calumny. The Urania lectures are the attraction for Sunday evenings, and they are very well worth attending, being instructive and entertaining. "A Trip to the Moon" and "From Chaos to Man" are the titles.

John Drew will be at the Hollis street theatre very soon with the great New York success "The Masked Ball."

"Niobe" follows the current attraction at the Tremont.

Francis Wilson brings his new opera "The Lion Tamer" to the Globe very soon. Lieut. Peary of Arctic fame has been sending the cold chills down our backs this week by his description of his travels in search of that very elusive object, the North Pole.

H. C. Barnabee recently said that pure accident determined his career for him. Some dramatic entertainment was to be given by the old Mercantile Library association in Boston when he was a young man; and the person who was to take the role of the typical Yankee was prevented by sickness from doing so. Barnabee was pressed into the service on short notice, but made an instantaneous success as a comedian. He was a choir singer for several years, but his debut in a concert was not made until 1865, the occasion being a benefit performance, in which Annie Louise Cary participated.

In his voyage to this country Paderewski brought a piano and two harps. When he was not seissick he kept constantly practicing the glissando scales with which the audience last week was astonished. Even in moments when his internal system was afflicted by the rude shocks of the sea, the great musician did not abandon his art for the solace of going to bed. In moments when he was too much nauseated to sit at the piano in his cabin he lay pensively on a lounge and wood melancholy symphonies out of the harp. During the trip Paderewski gave several concerts which netted a goodly

INSTRUCTION. Whiston's Commercial College.

Pupils may enter at any time. Thorough instruction in Book-keeping, Banking, Insurance, Commission, Stenography, Typewriting, Commercial Law, &c.

Both sexes are completely prepared for a successful start in life. Apply for Circulars to

S. E. WHISTON, PRINCIPAL, 95 BARRINGTON ST., HALIFAX.

THE St. Martins Seminary.

THIS School offers rare advantages for study and improvement. Its attractive location, healthful surroundings, and refined home-life are especially noticeable. On the staff of instruction there are 15 teachers. All of these are specialists, and most of them have won honor and success abroad. The courses of study are liberal and far-reaching. The Education Department is affiliated with the Boston School of Expression. There are thorough courses in English, Classics, Science and Mathematics. Students of Art, Music, Eloquence, Gymnastics, Shorthand, Typewriting and Telegraphy receive Diplomas on graduation. The department of Etiquette and Social Manners is under competent direction. The privileges of Reading room and library, the excellent Lecture Courses, the monthly Concerts and Recitations, the Literary and Choral Societies, together with the religious services and the opportunities for physical culture, combine to exert an educative and helpful influence.

For Calendars and all information address— REV. AUSTEN K. deBLOIS, Ph. D., Principal.

Advertisement for THE ST. JOHN BUSINESS COLLEGE and SHORT HAND INSTITUTE. We have had a GRAND New Year's Opening. Our attendance is much larger than at any previous period in the history of the college. Now is a grand time to enter, and we will gladly welcome all desiring a thorough Business and Short Hand Training. Send for Circulars and Specimens of Penmanship. KERR & PRINGLE, ST. JOHN, N. B.

FOR SALE. London School of Art.

MISS MORLEY has much pleasure in announcing to those interested in CHINA Painting and Decoration, that she has arranged with MISS WHITNEY to take over the work that she left in St. John, as well as her complete outfit for painting China.

MISS MORLEY will conduct her Art Classes at the Madri School, every Saturday morning. Applications of intending pupils should be addressed—196 King Street East.

ESTABLISHED, 1878. The St. John Academy of Art Now Open.

Drawing and Painting, Sketching from Nature. 65 Prince William Street. Send Stamp for Circular, F. H. C. MILLS.

The Sun.

During 1893 THE SUN will be of surpassing excellence and will print more news and more pure literature than ever before in its history.

The Sunday Sun is the greatest Sunday Newspaper in the world.

Price 5c. a copy; by mail \$2 year. Daily, by mail - - \$6 a year. Daily and Sunday, by mail, - - - - \$8 a year.

Address THE SUN, New York.

Mourning Millinery a Specialty. CAPS, HATS AND BONNETS in the latest styles. CHAS. K. CAMERON & CO., 77 King St.

CHOICE MEATS! - - - ETC. - - - THOS. DEAN, 13 AND 14 CITY MARKET.

OYSTERS ARE IN DEMAND. can be had at MITCHELL'S CAFE on Germain St. Sent to any part of the city as soon as ordered.

HOT DINNERS EVERY DAY. Reasonable arrangements made for supper parties. Everything provided and served in first class style. DAVID MITCHELL, Proprietor.

Gold and Silver Plating. All kinds of old SILVERWARE repaired and replated and made to look as good as new.

W. HILLMAN 287 Germain St., St. John.

