

#### IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The Snowflake " who knows" has evidently swalowed a dictionary without digesting the meaning the only consistent thing the Snowflakes can do, now, if my statement was incorrect, is to " defunct" quickly as possible. I might remark that full ouses are not strong evidence of musical ability, burlesque entertainmont, vulgarly called by a horter name (in connection with pedal extremities) will occasion S. R. O. notices to appear at the door every time in this city.

church choir was not very happily constituted for the musical service on Good Friday vening. Four tenors to one 'bass was rather an megual division, however, there was some really good singing and fine music performed. Mr. Ford seemed in a particularly good vein, his accompaniments to the hymns being quite out of the common. This was specially marked in Hymn No 489-" Thou who didst on Calvary"-The tune for this hymn was a particularly trying one for a choir that does not sound well in singing unison passages. The voices do not blend owing I suppose to the peculiar timbre of two or three of the most powerful.

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I have heard Mrs. Carter sing in a good many ways, in comic opera, on the concert platform, in a her to better advantage than that evening when she sang, Farmer's beautiful setting of " Our blest Re. deemer." There was the requisite devotional feeling with all the charm of the finished singer. Miss Hea sang the first part of "He was despised," in her usually careful manner and was in very good voice. I think Mr. Ford spoilt some of the effect of this number by putting on such a very full organ for the concluding bars. I know the score is marked f. but f. was what he played.

Stainer's fine quartette "God so loved the world," wassung by Mrs. Carter, Miss Hea, Mr. Lindsay and Mr. Burnham. It was well rendered but however much Mr. Burnham may modulate his voice, he is too heavy for singing in either mixed or male quartettes

hymns were all well sung. I did not 1 ke the portion of Stainer's Te Deum sung, probably from the easons mentioned above, it being nearly all unison work.

I was glad to find that "The Palms" that was down in the list of music for Mr. Lindsay to sing was omitted as however, beautiful the music is, one can have too much of a good thing, and this particuar song has been hacked to death lately in St. John. The duet "Forsake me not in this dread hour," was sung by Mrs. Carter and Mr. G. C.

youngest men who ever attained such prominence in New York musical circles. He is a little more than 30 years old and is owed a dictionary plables. From my point of view an organist and composer of much more than ordinary merit.

> A piano was bought by her parents for a little girl of Buda-Pesth. When it arrived she had no sooner touched the keys than an explosion occurred, the child being severely injured. It was discovered that a bomb had been placed inside the instrument.

Patti was once puzzled at the amusement of an audience when she was singing in her most pathetic style. When she had finished and saw the cause of the mirth, she joined in the laughter. The theatre cat had followed her on to the stage, and sat sharing the honours and admiring the singing.

#### TALK OF THE THEATRE.

Mr. D. J. Gilbert, manager of Gilbert's Opera Co. was in the city this week. He is endeavoring to arrange for early dates for his organization at the Opera House, rivate room and also in church, but never heard but as the bookings there are solidly filled up to 1st of July, he finds it difficult to procure suitable ones.

> The Josie Mills Dramatic Co. opened its season at the Opera House on Monday evening to a great audience, every seat been taken. The Company has since played to good business and it seems evident If you have not tried this, that the success which marked its visit here in April of last year will be repeated.

Manager Haystead established a reputation then, and he is not going to lose it, if we may judge from what he has thus far at-Of the full choir work-a chorus by Turpin "Let tempted. He has a stronger company with ot your heart be troubled" was the best, and the him now than he had last season. It contains but two of its former members -- Miss Mills, and Mr. C. E. Caians, and gains ad-

ditional attraction from the fact that the leading support Mr. Armstrong is a St. John man. Mr. Armstrong, under the stage name of J. L. Ashton, was a "supe" in the old days with Lanergan at the Ly- theatre. ceum, and has steadily worked his way up

It is not commonly known that when the



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INSTRUCTION. INSTRUCTION. ELECTION CARDS. To the Electors of the City of WHISTON'S

No55

Coster but they were neither of them very happy in it.

At the Mission Church Three Hour service, the men of the choir sang the hymns and litanies in unison and gave the requisite lead to the congregation very well.

Easter Sunday I could only take in three churches and so divided my attention to Anglican and Roman-having devoted much of my time to other bodies lately.

There was nothing startling attempted at the Mission at the Choral Celebration at 11 o'clock, so there is not much to say. Dykes' service has been sung there on and off for the last 8 or 9 years and so should run pretty smoothly by now. Morley's Bendictus and Agnus were used with rather a dif- cast. ference of opinion as to the value of notes and time between the organist and the choir. Mr. Wilson performed Scotson Clark's Marche au Flambeaux for the concluding voluntary.

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In the afternoon at Vespers in the R. C. Cathedral I had my first musical treat of the day, and that was Miss Lawlor's solo in the special Easter anthem Regina Cœli, by what composer I do not know. This lady's fine soprano voice is well known to frequenters of the Cathedral, but not so much to the outside public. She sings with perhaps a little more robustness than would please some, but for a joyous anthem like the one mentioned with its continuous Alleluia-I thought her style specially fitting. The rest of the choir was not particularly good-too much bass, very little alto and less tenor, though what tenor I could hear was good. The organ however, is much out of tune.

Trinity church, in the evening, where I had my first surprise, and second treat. Just fancy, a boy in St. John, attempting to sing, "I know that my Redeemer live h." Master Rawins, not only attempted it, but made a success of it. His voice is very rich and full in tone, and he has a command of breath that is quite uncommon in many of our adult trained vocalists. His attack was good, and he sang as if he had some comprehension of the theme, and of the possibilities of Handel's master piece. Mr. Strand accompanied capitally, and both vocalist and organist came out well, over what seemed at first thought, to be rather a risky piece of business. The choir, generally, is very badly balanced,basses too heavy and tenors nowhere; what tenor I did hear was wretchedly out of tune, and sharp at that, which is rather trying, both for the choir and the listeners. The boys are improving rapidly, and Mr. Strand's hard work with them is beginning to tell. I think they were a little over-weighted with their music, the choruses from the Messiah and the Canticles being too difficult for such a young choir of boys.

I was very much taken with a tune of Mr. Strand's which was sung to the recessional hyun.

and not employ some obscure concern whose re-

his native city at the head of a company. The opening bill of "The Black Flag" is a somewhat hackneyed one to our play goers. It has been presented many times upon the Institute stage. It was also done at the Opera House by that galaxy of individual stars, styled the Lyon's Stock

Company, on which occasion Mr. Vernon Ramsdell, another native now winning fame for himself in the dramatic world in the States, was the "Owen Glyndon" of the

Mr. Ramsdell, while a very fair con- Mass. deption of the character, could not compare with Mr. Ashton's work in the same role on Monday evening. Rather an odd coincidence isn't it that this part should have been assigned to St. John boys in both in-

stances? Mr. Ashton as "Jim Seaton" the quarry guide, also did a clever bit of character acting. The only weak spot in his work is his voice. It seems to fail him at tim's

Miss Mills as "Ned, the Cabin Boy," received a warm welcome; Mr. C. N Martin, the "Lazarus" of the cast, caught ARMSTRONG & BRO. 32 Charlotte St. the house; Mr. English, a bright looking young man, made a splendid impression as "Harry Glyudon" but was faulty in his dialectic attempts; and the part of "John Glyndon," received a careful and praiseworthy presentation at the hands of Mr. J. B. Watkins. On Wednesday evening the was changed to "The Gambler's bill Wife," better known here as "The Golden Giant." Uuder this latter name Mr. W. S. Harkins produced it at the Institute in a style that could not be improved upon. When one remembers that Jessie West was "Bess Fairfax;" Julia Arthur, "Ethel Wayne;" H. B. Bradley, "Alex. Fairtax;" W. S. Harkins, "Jack Mason;" W. F. Melville, "Jlm Bixby," it seems unnecessary to say anything about the work of the Josie Mills Co., in the play, beyond mentioning that it gave a very good all-round production of the piece. Mr. Melvillle created the role of "Bixby," and his make up and acting in it was simply p rfect. One can never forget that nose of his; "W. T. M. artist," was stamped

an the profession, until now he returns to Prince of Wales visits a theatre he invar iably pays ten guineas for his box. This is a fixed rule.

> Henry Irving's eldest son has abandoned the stage and will return to law and literature. He is now engaged in writing a life of Judge Jeffreys.

any stage. The total gross receipts were

upwards of \$36,000, or \$1,000 per week

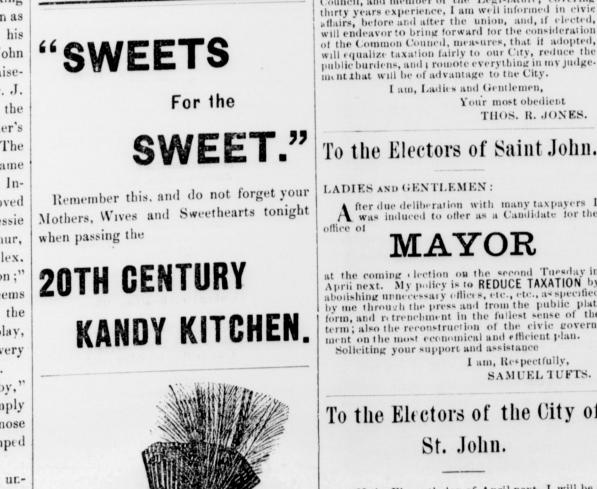
more than her last engagement at the same

Will S. Harkins, a handsome and vigor- of the City of St. John at the coming election. ous actor, will be seen in the part of Jack Manly in "The S ill Alarm" at the Grand Opera House, Boston. Rachel Noah, formerly of the Boston

Theatre, has engaged Ned Parker to do Chrysos at her coming performance of " Pygmalion and Galatea" at Milford,

Alexander Salvini is reputed the best swordsman on the stage. In a tournament at Chicago recently he held his own valiantly against a well known professional swords-

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I will be prepared to give due consideration to any plan, and to support any reform that may be proposed which will promise to yield these results. Respectfully soliciting your kind support,

I am your obedient servant, H. LAWRANCE STURDEE.

St. John, N. B., 13th March, 1893.

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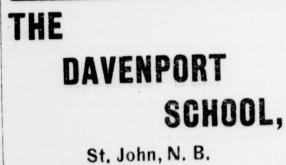
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