



IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The Snowflake "who knows" has evidently swaled a dictionary without digesting the meaning of words of three syllables. From my point of view the only consistent thing the Snowflakes can do, now, if my statement was incorrect, is to "defunct" as quickly as possible. I might remark that full as quickly as possible. I might remark that full as quickly as possible. I might remark that full as quickly as possible.

Some church choir was not very happily constituted for the musical service on Good Friday evening. Four tenors to one bass was rather an unequal 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 480—"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.

I have heard Mrs. Carter sing in a good many ways, in comic opera, on the concert platform, in a private room and also in church, but never heard her to better advantage than that evening when she sang, Farmer's beautiful setting of "Our blest Redeemer." 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 spoiled 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 7, but 1/2 was what he played.

Stainer's fine quartette "God so loved the world," was sung 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.

Of the full choir work—a chorus by Turpin "Let not your heart be troubled" was the best, and the hymns were all well sung. I did not like the portion of Stainer's Te Deum sung, probably from the reasons mentioned above, it being nearly all unison work.

I was glad to find that "The Palm" 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 peculiar song has been hacked to death lately in St. John. The duet "Forsake me not in this dread hour," was substituted and sung by Mrs. Carter and Mr. G. C. 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 5 or 9 years and so it should run pretty smoothly by now. Morley's Benedictus and Agnus were used with rather a difference of opinion as to the value of notes and time between the organist and the choir. Mr. Wilson performed Scott's Clark's Marche au Flambeaux for the concluding voluntary.

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 liveth," Master Rawlins, 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 masterpiece. Mr. Strand accompanied capitalily, 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 hymn.

I am glad to see that not only are the authorities of Trinity church going to have the chimney put in proper repair but also that they intend having the organ put in thorough order. It seems that nearly all the large organs of St. John are in a bad condition. The Mission church organ is always out of tune and having something tinkered up—the Cathedral organ is in a wretched state, Centenary church organ is bad and I hear steps are being taken to get funds to purchase a new one. It is to be hoped that when the Trinity people commence on their organ they will contract with some well known firm of established reputation to do the work properly and not employ some obscure concern whose resources and knowledge are limited, and so have their organ in a worse state, after the repairs are made, than it was before.

I was pleased to see Mrs. Babbitt in her old place at the piano at the Oratorio rehearsal, though sorry enough for the cause—viz. Miss Goldard's enforced rest. Active members will have to attend as regularly as they would their churches if they intend to make the usual success of the coming performances.

TONES AND UNDERTONES. Scobell—I don't know what to do with my boy. He has St. Vitus's dance. His contortions are frightful. Yaggers—Make a great pianist of him, and it will pass for eccentricity.

Charles B. Rutenberg, the organist and composer is tall, slender and blond. One of his recent cantatas scored a success in a London concert. He has written a new and elaborate anthem for this Easter.

Richard Henry Warren, director of music in the choir of St. Bartholomew's and All Souls' Episcopal churches is one of the

youngest men who ever attained such prominence in New York musical circles. He is a little more than 30 years old and is 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, 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 this 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 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 attempted. He has a stronger company with him now than he had last season. It contains but two of its former members—Miss Mills, and Mr. C. E. Cairns, and gains additional 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 "suppe" in the old days with Lanegan at the Lyceum, and has steadily worked his way up in the profession, until now he returns to his native city at the head of a company.

The opening bill of "The Black Flag" is a somewhat hackneyed one to our playgoers. 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 Lyons 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 cast.

Mr. Ramsdell, while a very fair comedian 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 instances? 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 times.

Miss Mills as "Ned, the Cabin Boy," received a warm welcome; Mr. C. N. Martin, the "Lazarus" of the cast, caught the house; Mr. English, a bright looking young man, made a splendid impression as "Harry Glyndon" 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 bill was changed to "The Gambler's Wife," better known here as "The Golden Giant." Under 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;" H. B. Bradley, "Alex. Fairfax;" W. S. Harkins, "Jack Mason;" W. F. Melville, "Jim 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. Melville created the role of "Bixby," and his make up and acting in it was simply perfect. One can never forget that nose of his; "W. T. M. artist," was stamped all over it.

Mr. Haystead will play his company until the 12th inst., giving a "Black Flag" matinee Saturday, and a change of bill for the three nights of next week.

Mrs. Langtry is said to be contemplating another trip to this country this summer.

"Morrison Manor," Lewis Morrison's new home at Peckskill, is one of the handsomest summer residences on the Hudson river.

Rufus Somerby's great equine show, introducing Bristol's educated horses, will be seen at the Academy of Music, Chelsea, on April 8.

A New York man has purchased the right to paint advertisements on the curtains of the Chicago theatres during the World's Fair.

"Oliver Twist," with Annie Clarke as Nancy and Mr. Barron as Bill Sykes, will be produced at the Grand Opera House, Boston, April 24.

The three weeks' engagement of Julia Marlowe at the Hollis Street Theatre was the most successful she has ever played on

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any stage. The total gross receipts were upwards of \$36,000, or \$1,000 per week more than her last engagement at the same theatre.

It is not commonly known that when the Prince of Wales visits a theatre he invariably 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.

Will S. Harkins, a handsome and vigorous actor, will be seen in the part of Jack Malby in "The Sill Alarm" at the Grand Opera House, Boston.

Rachel Noah, formerly of the Boston Theatre, has engaged Ned Parker to do Chrysois at her coming performance of "Pygmalion and Galatea" at Milford, Mass.

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 swordsman.

In addition to the many good things necessary from the Grocer for family use at this season, are Dunn's Hams and Bacon, Cottleene, Fresh Eggs, Grape Fruit, Blood Oranges, Bananas, Breakfast Cereals, etc., for which send orders by team, mail or Telephone (212) to—J. S. ARMSTRONG & BRO. 32 Charlotte St.

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ELECTION CARDS.

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LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: I BEG to offer myself as a candidate for the office of

MAYOR

of the City of St. John at the coming election. Should I be elected I will give my best attention to the duties of the office and my support to all good measures that may be proposed for the public benefit. I believe that it is the duty of the Common Council now to be elected, to practice the most rigid economy, and to reduce, if possible, the public burdens.

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

To the Electors of the City of St. John.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: ON the second Tuesday in April next I shall be a Candidate for the Office of

MAYOR

of your City, and as a former member of the old City Council, and member of the Legislature, covering thirty years experience, I am well informed in civic affairs, before and after the union, and, if elected, will endeavor to bring forward for the consideration of the Common Council, measures, that if adopted, will equalize taxation fairly to our City, reduce the public burdens, and route everything in my judgment that will be of advantage to the City.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen, Your most obedient THOS. R. JONES.

To the Electors of Saint John.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: After due deliberation with many taxpayers I was induced to offer as a Candidate for the office of

MAYOR

at the coming election on the second Tuesday in April next. My policy is to REDUCE TAXATION by abolishing unnecessary offices, etc., etc., as specified by me through the press and from the public platform, and to trenchant in the fullest sense of the term; also the reconstruction of the civic government on the most economical and efficient plan. Soliciting your support and assistance I am, Respectfully, SAMUEL TUFTS.

To the Electors of the City of St. John.

ON the Eleventh day of April next, I will be a Candidate for the office of

MAYOR.

Trusting that my civic record has been such as to entitle me to your confidence, and soliciting your suffrages. I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen, Your Obedt Servant, THOMAS W. PETERS. St. John, N. B., 9th March, 1893.

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