# PROGRESS, SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 1893

## TALK OF THE THEATRE.

Thos. E. Shea appears in the opera House Monday evening in a play new to this city, The Snares of New York, Shea has been playing in Halifax for some days.

the week playing to better business than Lyons. He was so interested that he askhas fallen to the lot of any of the companies ed her to give a scene from Hamlet. He that came here this summer. Perhaps the long rest the people have had from shows may have had something to do with it but it is a somewhat interesting fact that the first house was nearly \$400 and the second so near \$300 that it might be called even money. Business up to the time of writing continued satisfactory. Jarbeau's show is of the variety order but of the best variety. There is nothing objectionable, nothing stale while the comedian talent is so far above the ordinary as to excite comment. The same is true of the dancing was fond of imitating the pathetic accents and the songs are new and catchy. Certainly the performances have given much pleasure to those who attended them.

Movable scenery was first used in theatres in 1508.

Mrs. Bernard-Beere suffers acutely from nervousness on the first nights of new pieces in which she is engaged to play, but considers that this adds to the effect of the interpretation when the character portrayed is strongly emotional.

It was through the poverty of his family that M. Sardou, the French dramatist, was led to make literature his profession. He was educated for a doctor, but while studying had to seek various means of augmenting his resources, among others, teaching languages and writing articles for the press. In this way Sardou very soon discovered his literary powers. But his first comedy -produced curiously enough on April 1 (1854)-was a dire failure, and for some time he was almost starving. Then a lady took pity on his distresses and became his wife, living long enough to enjoy the large fortune made by her husband's pen.

#### TOLD OF MARY ANDERSON.

Incidents of Her Early Years and Her Devotion to the Stage.

"At the age of ten," said Mrs. de Nevarro (Mary Anderson), "I spent most of my days in a back garden planting flowers and vegetables and digging them up again. During the long winter I used every moment of recreation that the nuns upon the organ, improvising music of rare

Richard III., King John, The Merchant of Venice, Joan of Arc, and several others. After this she returned to Hamlet, and studied it more closely. About this time John McCullough came

to Louisville. Mary Anderson was then Jarbeau has been at the opera house all fifteen. He came one afternoon, and saw her do several scenes from The Lady of was much amused by the girls changing the text where any profane word occured, but he said he thought she had so much talent that he would like to hear her again before he left the city.

On the occasion of his second visit she was entirely free from nervousness. He asked her for an act of Richard III., and when it was over he applauded loudly and exclaimed-

" My child, you do better than I do." Before her reputation became established and her work absorbed all her time, she would occasionally spend an odd hour in in the lightest kind of relaxation. She of old Irishwomen, the stolid importance and grand tones of German professors, or the excited irritability of Italians in a discussion.

She was always-even from the age of three-a cheerful and contented spirit, and her sunny nature had the effect of winning her many friends. When a child she beheved thoroughly in everybody, and took the keenest interest in the cares and troubles of the most dilapidated old negroes, who frequently told her the long, dull histories of their lives. They were not at all duil to her, however. She would return home and repeat the tale of woe, romancing and reflecting over it as she went along in an original way that made it

very interesting. Her childhood and girlhood were deeply influenced by her grand-uncle-a man of remarkable character. To look at him, one could see he had a history. His coun-tenance reflected intellect; his eyes hetrayed hard study, his bowed head thought, the lines of his face experience. Had you met him, you would have been struck by his resemblance to Beethoven.

He was a German-a grand-nephew of a Bishop of Dusseldorf. He was educated at Heidelberg, and, going later to Rome, became a priest, entering the order of the Black Franciscans. He subsequently went to Texas, and for six years lived among the savages. He lived alone in the wilderness, eight miles from a small settlement-his tood, the game his rifle won for him.

This old priest was a musician, an astronomer, and a physician. He nightly watched the course of the stars; he played of the Ursuline Convent would give me to and strange beauty. Later in lite he made a reputation as a physician, and yet found



play and siug, to make paper-dolls, and give them the names of characters in fairy tales and pantomines."

As a child, careless of display or of outshining her convent companions, Mary Anderson paid more attention to dressing and beautifying the chapel altar than to her own attire. Playing on the organ, singing Gregorian music, planting flowers and vegetables, especially beans, because they grew so fast, feeding chickens, and galloping over the country were all more to her taste than winning prizes at school or tak-ing part in the more tashionable diversions of the day.

The gentle ballads of Scotland and Ire-land and the homely folk-songs of Germany struck her fancy more than the elaborate and showy music of France and Italy. A cottage by the river-side, along the banks of the Ohio, or a barn-yard in the rural interior of Kentucky fascinated her, while the fine houses, the costly jewels and social pleasures of her girlish companions, as she began to grow into womanhood, had tew attractions for her.

When she was about thirteen years old her bent towards the improvement of the mind-to books and study, to poetry, then to philosophy and the classics; nor did she neglect physicial exercise. Walking over country roads, riding, Indian club and sword practice, all found a place in her week's diversions. The theatre had already made an impression on her mind. First came Mr. Lawrence Barrett to Louisville, the city of her childhood, and his performance of Cassius aroused her interest in Shakespeare.

Then came Edwin Booth. His genius and remarkable acting in Hamlet inspired her girlish mind with wonder and admiration, and she again delved into her volume of Shakespeare with enthusiasm. She was taken to see Booth in all the plays he acted pegs of the connection cord. during the week he remained in Louisville, and witnessed his Richelieu, Richard the Third, Shylock and Macbeth.

From that week her young friends and companions saw little of her. She had secretly resolved to study for the stage. She asked for a room, and shut herself up in it with her shakespeare and other books. She rose with the sun, appeared at meals, went to church, but was seldom seen ex-

cept when in the open air for exercise. One day she told her mother that she thought she could act the play of The Lady of Lyons. To humour the girl her mother allowed her to take one of her old white silk dresses and play the scenes before and after Pauline's marriage. The child had studied the entire play, and spoke the words of all the characters. She was then

fourteen years of age. Her payents, who had seen all the American actors of note at that time and were tond of the theatre, were astonished at the child's earnestness and her grasp of the language she was uttering. Her voice possessed both strength and music, and the manner in which she developed a dramatic climax struck them as being remarkable in so young a girl. Her mother, however, tearing that her health might suffer, admonished her to let plays alone; but she was not to be checked by admoni-tions. In less than a month she begged that she might be allowed to arrange the "back-parlour" as a stage, and give the

This request was granted. Her uncle, remarkable rapidity. The overture to Mr. G. W. Griffin-then consul at Copen-The route is as follows: St. John to Eastport by the splendid steamers of the International Steamship Co., thence up the picturesque and historical St. Croix river to St. Andrews, Calais and St. Stephen and return to St. John by the Shere Line Railway. Steamers leave St. John daily at 7 25 a m.; arrive at Eastport at 12 noon; arrive at St. Andrews at 1.30 p. m.; arrive at Calais and St. Stephen at 3.30 p. m.; Express trains leave St. Stephen daily for St. John at 7 a. m. The trip can also be made from St. John outwards, via the Shore Line Railway, leaving St. John, East, per Ferry, at 1.24 p. m., continuing from St. Stephen to St. Andrews or Eastport by the Frontier S. S. Co, and returning to St. John by the I. S. S. Co. TICKETS may be obtained from I. S. S. Co. or lok nthe" was commenced at nine o clock The route is as follows: St. John to Eastport by SEPTEMBER 21st. 24 Students Matriculated Last Year. hagen, and a man of some literary standing one evening, and finished at seven the next morning; that to The "Yeomen of the -chanced to be present. 40 Enrolled for Manual Training MATRICULATION EXAMINATIONS SEP-Both he and the girl's mother and step-father were delighted at the performance. Guard" was composed and scored within TEMBER 22nd and 23rd. The results were most satisfactory. Those looking TOW we have acquired our present standing twelve hours ; and the melody and score of The child gave the entire play, acting every part, and giving such light and shade and and prosperity — (1) By giving the most complete Business Course, the most thorough Short Hand and Type Writing raining, and the best Penmanship instruction ob-"The Golden Legend' were commenced forward to The attention of young men and women intending to pursue an Undergraduate Course in Arts, or special courses in advanced studies preparatory to the protessions, is directed to the facilities offered and finished within the space of twenty-ENGINEERING, MECHANICS, ETC., appropriate personality to each character four hours. are sending in their names. Tinable in Canada. ta(2) By devoting our entire time, energies, and STUDENT TEACHERS are invited to inspect In his early youth Sims Reeves was the by this Institution. Copies of the calendar for 1893, containing informa-tion regarding courses of study, Scholarships, Prizes, etc., will be mailed on application to the President, mother half-apprehensive that the child iii to the interests of our students.
(3) By making no promises we have not kept.
(3) By making no promises we have not kept.
Genuine Specimens of Penmanship Circulars containing full information respecting terms, course of study, etc., mailed to any address. the courses of Study. Term opens Sept. 6th. would undermine her strong constitution if she threw herself so deeply into the tasks she had by this time set for herself. organist of a church in Kent, and was re-garded as a clever violinist. At that time his voice was baritone, and it was not until Apply for calendar to she had by this time set for herself. Every month or six weeks she would he was twenty-six years old that in opera-tic performances at Druny Long the Table on Steamer or S. L. Ry. agents; not purchasable on Steamer or Train. I. B. OAKES, D. ALLISON, LL. D. Sach ville, N. B., July 9th, 1893. KERR & PRINGLE, St. John, N. B. PRINCIPAL. give another play, untill she had given tic performances at Drury Lane the

ample time to perform the functions of his priestly calling. From this man Mary Anderson, when

but a child, began to get an insight into human nature and character; for he was not only a close observer and reader of the heart and mind, but his own character invited study. She inherited much of the family energy, will-power, and peculiar magnetism that he possessed. The bowed head of the man of three-score transmitted to the pretty head of the girl images of beauty-thoughts above every-day life and truths that have never been effaced. Her natural earnestness became intensified by his. Her enthusiasm always aroused by a great deed or a great existence in nature, was unmixed with indiscriminating girlish sentiment.

Mary Anderson herselt has said that she could not refrain from going on the stage. It seemed to be a call of nature itself that no human influence could check, and was as imperative to her as it is imperative to the sparrow to go to the water.

### Messages by Human Wires.

The human body makes a fairly good conductor for telephonic messages. If an experimenter take two connecting cords of the switchboard of a central tele phone station, place one peg into each switch hole, while the other two free pegs are held in the (previously moistened) hands, conversation can be carried on as clearly as in direct connection by means of a conduction cord, the telephone current acting across the human body in this experiment.

Conversation can even be easily carried on when a chain of several persons is formed holding each other's hands, the first and last in the chain having hold of the free

This is a most amusing experiment, because it is possible, through these persons placed in the circuit to overhear the talk ot conversing subscribers. By touching with the hook of the operator's telephone the forehead, nose, ear, neck, teeth, or Dr. Warren's HEALTH CORSETS; tongue, etc., of any of the persons in circuit, the conversation is distinctly heard, the persons serving as conductors having only a feeble sensation of currents passing through them.

# Good Crops and Big Sales.

TORONTO, August, 14. Frank Brown, a prominent druggist of Shelbourne, Ont, was in the city last week, and talked with your correspondent about the crops and business in the vicinity of his home.

"The crops are first-class." he said, so the farmers are busy in the fields and merchants consequently find things a little dull. But there is one article on the mar-ket just now that sells more rapidly than any preparation I have ever handled, and I have put a good many through my hands. That one is Dodd's kidney pills. Their sales never fall off. I get them in five-gross lots, and it takes no time to get rid of that quantity. The best of it is, every one who has taken the pills has been benefited by them. Nearly every man. woman and child in and around Shelbourne has used them, so I know what I am talking about.

Sir Arthur Sullivan, the eminent En-Only \$2.50. play of Hamlet. glish composer, executes his work with SON SEAST

