

# Musical and Dramatic.

## IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

Not very long ago in the daily press appeared an intimation to the public that the musical organization known as "The Bostonians" had secured dates at the opera house in this city and would appear here in "Robin Hood" and "The Maid of Plymouth." The late P. T. Barnum is credited with having said "The public likes to be humbugged" and from present appearances it looks as though the management of the opera house held a somewhat similar opinion in a local or more restricted sense. The reason is that they now announce that the Robin Hood Opera company will appear next week and give the world famous opera "Robin Hood" and another opera called not "The Maid of Plymouth" but "The Knickerbockers," without saying also that the company is a substitute for "The Bostonians." The idea of this course seems to be a desire or intention on their part to have the music loving people of St. John believe that this company is the same as originally intended and the same that booked time here. Why is this? Is it because they profess to give "Robin Hood"? In "The Bostonians" are such names as McDonald, Barnabee, Jessie Bartlett-Davis, who is everywhere famous in the role of Allan-a-Dale, but I do not read any of these names in the cast for the forthcoming production of "Robin Hood." The company playing next week then, it is fair to assume, is not the company known as "The Bostonians." Who are they then? There is one name in the cast—the individual cast for the title role—who has been heard here before. He was for a time leading tenor in the Sargent Aborn company while here. Many will recall the fact that he had a successor in that company. He is a robust tenor and as a singer has no phenomenal quality to enable him to close the eyes of the public to the fact that the company of which he is now a member is not "The Bostonians." In connection with this attempted juggle and to still further gloss it over as it were, it is already intimated there will be an advance in the prices of admission as if those people were the real simon-pure genuine article. I would not be at all surprised if—in the endeavor to secure business during the coming week—the changes were rung upon the outfit of the company; how beautiful is the gown of this lady, how elegant in design and how pleasing in contrast is that of another and so on. This is too frequently indulged in with reference to musical as well as to so called dramatic performances. The reason is very obvious. It seems to me, though, it would be more to the purpose, so far as the public is concerned, if the management in the one case, were able to assure the public that the several performers could sing, and, in the other, that they could act. I do not wish however to be construed as prejudging the work of the Robin Hood Opera company. I have not heard them. There may be some good voices among them. They may be all good. They will certainly have had the advantage of a week of dress rehearsal in Halifax and if they are at all clever in their lines they should put on here what would be about the very best performance of their season. The point I wish to emphasize is this: that it is the Opera House management gives the public to understand that "The Bostonians" are to sing here, then the public should not be satisfied with anything less than the real people. It will not make the slightest difference if this company should prove very good. They are not "The Bostonians," and it is only a sub-terfuge to call them the Robin Hood Opera Company, because they profess to put on "Robin Hood" and because that opera was the special piece in the repertoire of "The Bostonians."

It is a pleasure to know that the Oratorio society will resume practices on Monday next, 10th inst. The intention of the board of management is to take up "Samson" first and give it to the public somewhere about the 1st of November. The society will then rehearse Farmer's "Christ and His Soldiers" with the purpose of giving it also to the public about the New Year. When their public presentations of these works take place the society will during the rest of the winter rehearse some new work yet to be decided upon. The conversation of the society to which I have previously alluded, will be held somewhat later than originally proposed. It is now intended to hold it about the 1st of October. This conversation is one of the delights as well as one of the privileges of honorary members of the society. What with the work already named and the preparation for a Chamber Concert in the rooms of the society about the 15th of October the work of the active members seems to be cut out for them. This outline is one that I think will commend the season's work to all the active members and secure at each rehearsal a very full attendance. Every member inspired or influenced by true liking for music will much prefer a programme that indicates application and earnest work to one that would permit indifference. The outlook for the society generally and for a successful season is very bright indeed and encouraging. A new and commendable departure by the management is the intention to use local talent in the forthcoming

concerts and thereby encourage and develop and stimulate the abilities of the active members. I believe the public at large will commend this action of the board. There is no doubt that the opinion has been somewhat widespread, for some time past, that the society has not given the encouragement and countenance to home vocalists that a membership in the society it was hoped, would and should secure. All these objections will be removed by the action of the board and a new era of prosperity will dawn for the society.

### Tones and Undertones.

Sir Arthur Sullivan is at work on the music for the production of "King Arthur." The 100th performance of the Camille D'Arville season took place at the Tremont theatre Boston last Tuesday Evening.

Auber was a thorough man of the world, and passed his life in a round of pleasure. He was also exceedingly superstitious.

Mme. Gounod, the widow of the deceased composer, and her son, Mr. Jean Gounod, are preparing a memoir of the great musician.

Stanislas Lange, the librettist of "Madelaine, or the Magic Kiss," was present at the century performance of Miss D'Arville's season.

The "song to Algir," music and words by William II., German Emperor, King of Prussia, etc., will be published early in October by a German firm.

Costia Doorncheff is a Russian boy, and although only 14 years old he plays the violin as gracefully as a man three times his age. He was playing at the Metropolitan in San Francisco about 21st ult.

DeKoven and Smith are now steadily working at the new opera "Rob Roy." The period of this work is the Jacobite uprising of 1715, when an effort was made to place the Stuarts upon the throne of England.

A Boston paper of the 2nd inst. is authority for saying that "The Bostonians" will open their season at Bridgeport, Conn. on the 17th inst. Their repertoire will comprise "Fatinitza," "Robin Hood," "The Maid of Plymouth" and "In Mexico." They cannot very well be playing in St. John about that date.

When a boy Mendelssohn was passionately fond of gymnastics and in later life was devoted to all sorts of athletic exercises. If he had not been a musician he would have been a great artist. His improvisation was the wonder of his contemporaries. He had very long fingers and was accustomed to train the second and third of each hand by practising trills several minutes each day.

An organization to be called the Boston Singers' Operatic Concert company has recently been formed in the "hub." The names of several of its members will be recognized by numbers in this city. They are, T. E. Johnson, tenor; H. F. Hanshue, tenor; W. W. Walker, baritone; W. H. Clark, basso; Mrs. Alice Bates-Rice, soprano and Miss Edith McGregor, contralto. Messrs. Johnson and Clark have been heard in this city not so very long ago. It is scarcely worth the risk for this company, as at present formed, to visit St. John. There would be no money in it for them.

Miss Marion Manola (Mrs. Jack Mason), the comic opera prima donna, is reported to be the victim of delusions and is now an inmate of the Keely Institute at North Conway, N.H. Her mind seems to have given way since the recent financial troubles experienced by herself and husband culminating in their arrest. Miss Manola was born in Ohio and is about thirty five years of age. She had made successes in London before she appeared in New York, in which latter city her first appearance was in the role of the Countess in the original production of "Erminie." It is feared she will never again be of sound mind. When she sang first in Erminie she was the wife of one Carl Irving a basso, who sang in the same Company. She married Jack Mason about three years ago.

The silver wreath which it is proposed to present to Johann Strauss on the 15th of October upon the fiftieth anniversary of his accession to conductorship, will be commemorated, is now almost finished. The wreath, which will be of sterling silver, sixteen inches in diameter, has been designed by Mr. Paulding Farnham, of Tiffany & Co. There will be fifty leaves, on each of which the name of a composition of Strauss will be engraved. The "Waltz King's" portrait modelled in relief on a gold lyre, with a few bars of his famous "On the Beautiful Blue Danube" waltz, will adorn the apex of the wreath, while the base will show a graceful intermingling of the American and Austrian flags, with the Austrian coat of arms and the inscription, "Presented to Johann Strauss by his American Admirers, October 15, 1894." Strauss visited this country in 1869, when he appeared at Gilmore's Peace Jubilee, in Boston and at the Academy of Music, New York, where he conducted several of his own compositions.

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### TALK OF THE THEATRE.

The St. John Amateurs are to repeat their recent dramatic entertainment at the Institute next Tuesday evening for the benefit of the sufferers from the Primrose and Maggie M. disasters. It will be under the patronage of his worship the Mayor, the President of the Board of Trade and Sir Leonard Tilley. The plays to be given are "American Fascination," "The Model Young Bachelor," and the Nunnery Scene from Hamlet. Other attractions will be a song by Mr. Titus, reading by Mr. Adams, with orchestral accompaniment, and Delsarte tableaux and posings by Miss Brown and Mr. Adams. The Y. M. C. A. Orchestra will play. This is an exceedingly attractive programme, and no one should miss it. A few good seats still remain unsold.

Rhea has returned from Europe and will shortly begin the season at Halifax, N. S.

Mr. John Drew and his company will, next week at the Empire, (N. Y.) theatre, begin his engagement in "A Bauble Shop."

The "Amazons" is booked at the Hollis the second week in October, and all Boston will rush to see Georgia Cayvan wear trousers.

Robert Mantell began his starring tour at Salem, Mass., last Monday evening. He is being managed by Augustus Pitou this season.

Miss Olive Gates, who is the leading lady of this season's "Across the Potomac" Company was formerly a newspaper writer in the West.

Miss Lotta Lynns, who was here with Jack C. K. Hackett is now playing the role of Kate Mahone in "The Irish Artist" at the Boston Museum.

Maud Haslam, a pretty girl and well remembered as a member of Reharis company of five or six years ago, is this season playing with Joseph Haworth in "Rosedale."

Augustin Daly is still giving "A Night Off" to his patrons, though his company is also rehearsing "The Orient Express," in anticipation of a demand for something new.

Mr. and Mrs. Kendall are expected to arrive in New York next week. They will begin their fifth American tour in Chicago on 17 inst., the play being "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray."

A new German play entitled "Das Neue Gebot" has just been successfully produced in Berlin. It is by Ernst Von Wildenbruch. It will probably be translated into English and played in New York.

Mr. P. A. Nannery is playing in Sacramento, Cal., with his neices Miss May and Miss Genevieve Nannery. The former lady is starring on the Pacific slope in "Queen" and is scoring a pronounced success.

The late Henry Pettitt, in the last year of his life received \$2,500 in royalties. His play "A Life of Pleasure" produced \$5000, and "A Woman's Revenge" about \$6000. This was quite exclusive of their capital value.

Mrs. Haley, whose husband was once prime minister to the late king of the Sandwich Islands, has recently concluded a contract with the Folies Bergeres, in Paris, France. The object is to introduce Honolulu dancing to the Parisians.

Mrs. Mountford, it will be remembered, will appear in this city again shortly under the auspices of "The King's Daughters." This lady's recitations and lectures are most interesting. Her dates are the 13th and 14th inst, at the opera house.

W. H. Crane (the "Senator") will revive "The Merry Wives of Windsor" this season and will be seen in the role of Falstaff. Miss Ffolliott Paget is his leading lady and Miss Lizzie Hudson Collier is in the company also.

It is now stated that Miss Olga Nethersole's first appearance in America will be in a play written for her by Henry Hamilton and founded on Prosper Merrimee's novel of "Carmen." Miss Nethersole is a dark gypsy-like girl and will look the role admirably. She will later produce the play in London, England.

The French ballet girl usually begins her career at 7 years of age. She is then paid at the rate of 40 cents for each appearance in public; as demoiselle de quadrille \$20 to \$40 a month; as a coryphee \$50 to \$60 and as subject \$60 to \$120. A first class dancer gets from \$120 to \$300 a month and a star from \$500 to \$10,000 a year.

### HE BOBS UP AGAIN.

Sam Murray, whom the Doctors had pronounced as incurable, Still on Deck—Now acting as Foreman for a big Lumber Concern.

NORTH BAY, Sept 3.—Sam Murray's name is one that has often figured in newspaper columns during the past eighteen months because he was cured of paralysis and blood poisoning by Dodd's Kidney Pills, after half a dozen physicians had pronounced him incurable. On the strength of physicians' certificates, Murray was paid his disability claim by the Grand Trunk. Since he was cured by Dodd's Kidney Pills, he has been accepted as a first class risk by a leading life insurance company. About a year ago, he got a position as foreman for the big lumber concern of Davidson & Hay, of Toronto, and the fact that he was able satisfactorily to attend to the trying duties of such a position, is ample evidence of the permanency of his cure.

Natural Science. Teacher—When water becomes ice what great change takes place? Pupil—The change in the price.

### AN ESSEX COUNTY MIRACLE.

HOW AN OLD LADY WAS RELEASED FROM SUFFERING.

Strong Testimony of a Reliable Witness Added to the Already Long Chain of Evidence—Why Suffer When the Means of Cure Are at Hand?

(From the Leamington Post.)

Mrs. Mary Olmstead, a highly respected and well known lady residing south of the village of Wheatley, eight miles from Leamington, has been the subject of an experience that has excited not a little wonder, and has excited so much comment in the vicinity of the lady's home that the Post believes it will prove of general interest.

Proceeding to the handsome farm residence, we were ushered into a room where sat the genial old lady. Upon enquiry she informed us that she was in her eightieth year, and for one of her years she is the picture of health. She expressed her readiness to make public the particulars of her suffering and cure, stating that while she did not care to figure prominently in the newspapers, yet if her testimony would relieve others, suffering as she had done, she would forego any scruples in the matter. She then related the story of her case as follows: "About six years ago I was stricken with sciatica rheumatism, which first made its appearance in my left knee, but gradually took possession of all my limbs. Within three months after its first appearance I was unable to leave my bed, and day and night suffered the most excruciating pain. My limbs were swollen to more than twice their natural size, and drawn out of all natural shape. My feet were also badly swollen, and my right arm was in the shape of a semicircle. For three long years I suffered in this manner, being unable to put a foot to the floor; the only way I could move around was by being wheeled in a chair. My appetite gradually left me until I had no desire or relish for food of any kind, and I got very thin and weak. During all this time I kept doctoring with the medical practitioners of the neighborhood, and swallowed gallons of medicine which cost my husband much money, but I am unable to say that I received any benefit from the medicine. My agony kept increasing and my system growing weaker, till many times death would have been a welcome relief to my sufferings. After reading in the newspaper about the many cures effected by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, I decided to try them. My case was a stubborn one, and it was not until I had taken half a dozen boxes of the pills that I began to feel an improvement. I continued taking the pills, however, and never had a relapse, and to-day I am as hearty and healthy as I was before the rheumatism came on. I am now able to knit and sew as fast as any young person, while for years my fingers were as stiff as needles. I owe my recovery entirely to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and will always have a good word to say for them."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills may be had of all druggists or direct by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont., or Schenectady, N. Y., at 50c. a box, or six boxes for \$2.50. Sold only in boxes, the wrapper around which bears the company's trade mark. Do not be persuaded to try something else.

### The Origin of the Japanese.

In the Japan Daily Advertiser, which a kind friend has sent *PROGRESS* from the land of the rising sun, is the following amusing editorial: We learn from a Yokohama contemporary that the editor of the Okayama Nippo has raised the wrath of the "thoughtful" people of Okayama, by a statement made in an article on patriotism that the Japanese, together with all the rest of mankind, are descended from Adam and Eve. The Okayama folks, according to the Yomimi, contend that this is quite an exploded idea now and is not even entertained by intelligent Christians. The assertion that the people of Japan are descendants of Adam, they say, is not only absurd, but such a statement is an insult to all loyal and patriotic Japanese, and the ignorant editor who published it is deserving of condign punishment. We presume the people of Okayama are firm believers in the Darwinian theory, and prefer to claim descent by evolution from the monkey.

### The Reward of Genius.

Frank E. Fowler of Boston, three weeks ago advertised in several newspapers that he had for sale a new ladies' hat fastener which made the use of hat pins unnecessary. He offered to send a sample for 10 cents, and orders poured in rapidly. He sent in return two small rubber bands, with directions which ran: "Sew one of these fasteners on each side of your hat or bonnet and place the loop around your ears, which will hold safely." He is now in jail on a charge of using the mails for improper purposes.

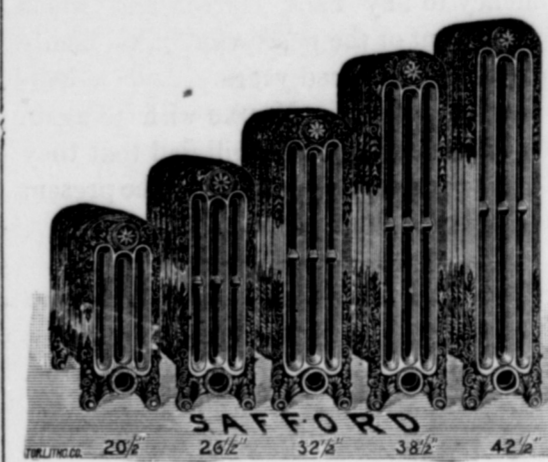


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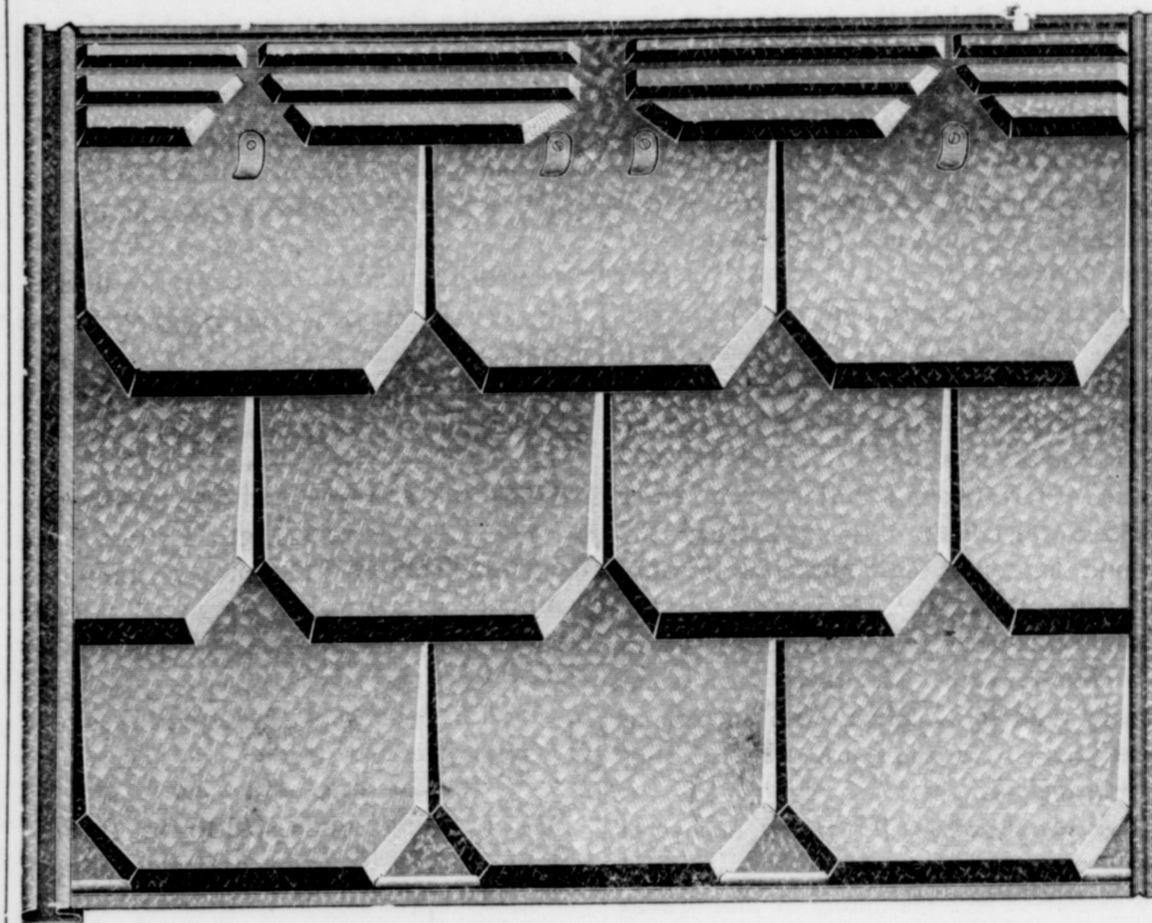
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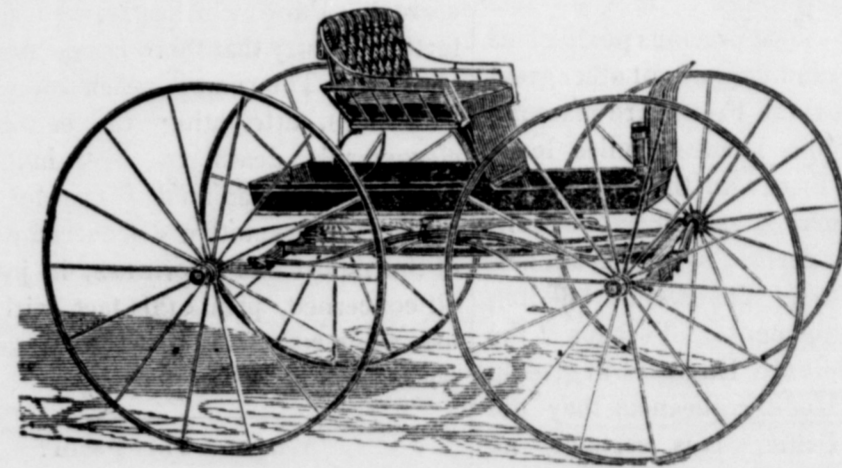


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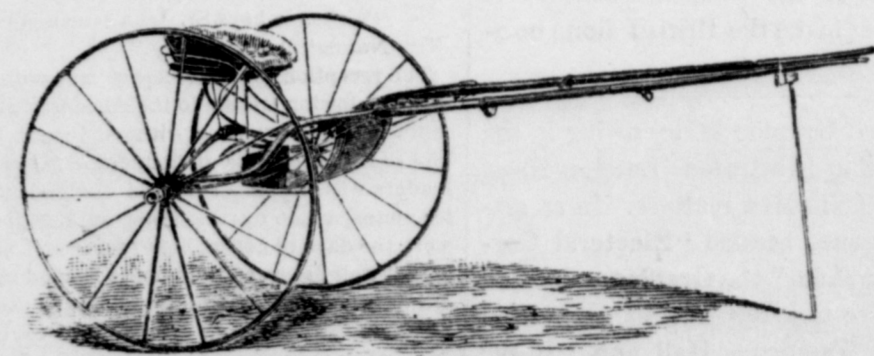
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