

Musical and Dramatic.

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The offer of Brussels street Baptist church for the purposes of the Oratorio Society in their forthcoming concert and for which "Samson" is the work selected, is another instance of the generosity of the different denominations towards this central musical society. Among the members of this society may be found members of every church, there is a sort of cosmopolitan character about it in a religious or denominational sense, that tends to the removal of prejudices and misconceptions and develops a liberality in its own direction to which, but a comparative few years ago, it was a stranger. The arrangements for giving "Samson" are about completed now I understand, and as the price of tickets is reduced for this occasion to a degree never known in Oratorio work before, and the place of the concert in the direct line of the street railway every available seat in the large church should be filled. This production of "Samson" will be interesting for the further reason that the sole work will be entrusted to home talent altogether. There are very many persons who think this ought always to be the practice. It is not necessary to discuss this view now, but I have no doubt that the soloists being Miss Louise Skinner, Miss Nettie Pidgeon, Rev. Mr. Davenport and Mr. G. S. Mayes, more than ample satisfaction will be given.

Mr. C. H. Fisher, the conductor of the society, will direct, and Mr. R. Percy Strand will preside at the organ. I was unavoidably prevented from attending the recent Dairymaids' Festival concert in the Institute in aid of the Seaman's Mission, but I have heard it well spoken of. Especial favorable comment has been bestowed upon the work of Miss Louise Taylor of St. Stephen as a violinist. I noticed also in the programme the name of a Mr. Kelly, who, in private mention, is spoken of favorably as a young singer. As yet I have not heard this young man and therefore cannot express an opinion. I learn he is a pupil of Mr. Ford.

The efforts(?) of the Opera House management to secure an attraction for Thanksgiving Day evidently failed, as the house was dark on that occasion. Of this more anon.

Tones and Undertones.

The opera season in New York which opened last Monday will last for thirteen weeks.

The opera season in New York opened with "Romeo et Juliette" with Madame Melba as Juliette.

Soussa's great Band gave a concert in the Boston theatre last Sunday evening. Who will bring them to St. John?

This is the last week but one of "Prince Pro Tem" at the Boston museum. It has passed its 150th performance.

Engelbert Hempldick, the new German composer, has created quite a sensation. His music is said to be "worthy of Wagner."

It is said that Mr. Charles Mole of Boston is without a superior in the United States as a flute player. He is playing at the Symphony Concerts in that city.

A one act opera by Joseph Haydn has been discovered recently. It was found among the archives in the castle of Prince Paul Esterhazy, at Eisenstadt, in Hungary.

About a dozen years ago Gerster was the idol of the opera-going public. She is giving lessons in singing at Baltimore. It is said "her once magnificent voice is a wreck."

"Prince Ananias," the new comic opera by Messrs. Victor Herbert and Francis Neilson, was produced by "The Bostonians" last Tuesday evening at the Broadway (N. Y.) theatre.

Miss Lillian Blauvelt, Mr. C. A. Clarke and Mr. Emil Fischer are the soloists who will sing at the Oratorio society production of Haydn's "Creation" in Carnegie hall, (N. Y.) on 30th. inst.

"The Queen of Brilliants,"—Lillian Russell's opera was not a success in New York either. It had previously been a failure in London. Miss Russell will revive the "The Grand Duchess."

Herr Bernhard Stavenhagen, a pupil of Liszt and a pianist who is credited with marvellous technical powers, will make a tour in the United States beginning Dec. 12th. He will be accompanied by young Jean Gerardy the violinist.

An invitation concert was given in the Mendelssohn Glee Club's hall, (N. Y.) last week to introduce to the New York public Juanito Manlin, a young violinist and pupil of Sarasate. This young violinist was born in Barcelona in 1884. He already has an extensive repertoire.

The New American opera chorus, which has been working the past two months under Chorus Master Saar, are now familiar with "Faust," "William Tell," "Otello," "Il Trovatore," "Carmen," "Falstaff," "Romeo et Juliette," "Aida," "Semiramide" and several others.

Miss Sissieretta Jones (Black Patti) is giving concerts with her own company. The other members of the company are Fraulein Mathilde Walter, contralto; Signor Vincenzo Biebletto, tenor; Mr.

Orme Darwall, bass; Miss Ida Branth, violinist, and Mr. Felix Heink, pianist.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

Ellen Terry's son is playing Hamlet. William Gillette has adapted a French farce which he calls "Too much Johnson."

Most actresses never essay the part of "Camille" until they are about forty two.

A Boston paper of recent date says that Mrs. Kendall still raves against the press, public and Americans as well.

Marion Manola Mason, has almost entirely regained her health and will soon be ready for an engagement again.

Miss Annie Russell had a most cordial reception when she made her re-appearance on the stage last week in "The New Woman" at Palmer's theatre.

Miss Mary Saunders, who is the new ingenue of the Crane company, is spoken of as "quite a pretty and vivacious young woman." In private life she is Mrs. Percy Winter.

The new play "Robbery under Arms" which was recently produced in the Princess theatre, London is an Australian drama. It is based upon a novel by Rolf Boldrewood.

"Behind the Scenes" is the name given by Felix Morris to his version of "La Debutante." In his production of this piece Mr. Morris has made a hit in the role of Achille Talma Deefard.

John H. Russell, the manager of "Russell's Comedians" has broken down in health and was recently removed to a New Jersey sanitarium. A monster benefit will shortly be given for him in New York.

Mrs. McKee Rankin who has seen here this summer with the Drew Company is now a member of Richard Mansfield's company. Miss Rolinda Bainbridge and Miss Dot Clarendon are also members of this company.

Miss Georgia Busby, who is well remembered in this city as the pretty ingenue member of Mr. Harkins company a couple of seasons ago is a member of "The New Woman company" at Palmer's theatre (N. Y.) this season.

In a recent performance of Hazel Kirke by the Dailey Company at Honolulu, a local paper in a notice of the play speaks of a well known St. John actor thus: "P. A. Nannery, the grand old man, was as good as Aaron Rodney as the author of the story could have wished to see."

Robert Downing, the tragedian, has recently been playing "Richard, the Lion-hearted" at the California theatre, San Francisco. The play was written by A. D. Hall, a newspaper man living in Washington. The play had been previously acted but a few times during 1893.

Stuart Robson has secured from the French dramatist Adrian Barbusse, an original comedy called "The Interloper, or the Heel of Venus." He has been for sometime rehearsing this play and it was produced for the first time on any stage at Indianapolis on the 15th inst.

The "Gaiety Girl" company which closes its engagement at Daly's theatre this week with the chorus, numbers more than sixty five people. They will visit Boston. After a trip to Australia they will return to England in September 1895 and open at Daly's theatre in London, with a new play.

Augustin Daly will begin his regular season on the 27th. inst. with "Twelfth Night" in which Miss Ada Rehan will appear as Viola and this is the character in which Miss Rehan won especial favor at Daly's theatre in London. In London the critics were unanimous in praising her work in this role.

Eugene Fellner's play "Don Carlos De Seville" which was produced at the Grand Opera House, Boston, last week was not by any means a success. It is in blank verse, and while it is good reading it is not good for acting purposes. Besides this the majority of the company producing it, neither acted nor read their lines as if they knew what they were trying to do.

A Big Window Shade Deal.

There has just been completed the largest deal in window shades that has ever taken place in Canada, by which the young enterprising, powerful firm of Menzie, Turner & Co. of Toronto, have become possessed of the good will, plant and stock in trade of the Macfarlane Shade Co., Ltd., which purchase places them as one of the heaviest manufacturers of window shades on the continent, and by far the largest in Canada.

Co-Operation in England.

Co-operative societies are not numerous in America, nor do we often hear of their great prosperity. The approaching semi-centennial of the establishment of the first in England, at Rochdale, December, 1844, has brought out some stupendous figures of the growth and importance of these societies in that country. There are now more than 1700 co-operative societies, with 1,300,000 members. Their aggregate capital amounts to £18,000,000, their annual turnover to about £50,000,000, and the profits to nearly £4,700,000 a year. In

1844 the Rochdale weavers were able to carry the purchases for their store in a wheelbarrow. Last year the Co-operative Wholesale society had a fleet of seven ocean-going steamers of its own exclusively used in bringing home its purchases from abroad. The society's agents are established in every country which has produce to sell; and in the case of dried fruits and similar goods it often buys up the produce of an island or of an entire fruit-growing district. Among British buyers it does the largest trade of all in the produce of the world.

PUMAS IN DEADLY CONFLICT.

Great Cats that Make a Rattling Fight When Evenly Matched.

"On our return trip to the coast I saw a thrilling incident of life in the South American forest, a fight to the death between two big pumas. Those great beasts are fierce, hard fighters at all times against a common enemy, but it is only during the mating season that the males fight among themselves, and when they do the contest means death to one or both of them. For strength and courage they are the equals of the African lions or the tigers of the Indian jungles.

"We were making our way down a narrow wooded ravine in the foothills of the Andes, and had stopped for our midday meal on the bank of a small mountain stream of clear water. After we had finished the meal I lay down for a short rest, but in less than five minutes I was aroused by the most terrific roaring, snapping and snarling of wild beasts I had ever heard.

"Pumas, and there's going to be a fight," said our guide in a whisper. It was not difficult to locate the animals. They were not more than 100 yards away, and by creeping through the brush as quietly as possible we were able to get near enough to see the fight without disturbing them. When we caught sight of the two animals they were crouching close to the ground, facing each other in a small space under some large trees. They were the finest specimens of the puma I ever saw.

"They were probably thirty feet apart, and as they crouched there glaring at each other they looked like giant cats about to spring on their prey. Pugilists never sparred with greater caution than did those big brutes. Their tails were switching back and forth, and their eyes were like balls of fire. Slowly they moved around in a circle, all the time cautiously getting closer and closer together. It was evident that each was waiting for the other to make the first lead. For more than ten minutes they watched and waited. The roaring and snarling we had heard when they first met had ceased. They made no sound now as they watched for a chance to spring.

"Our own nerves were trembling under the strain when at last the two great beasts rose in the air at the same instant, and, like catapults, came together with a thud that could have been heard 200 yards away. They dropped to the ground and for almost ten minutes all we could make out was two great brown bodies rolling over and over in the death struggle. They made no outcry of any kind, but every few seconds we could hear their powerful jaws come together with a snap like the closing of a well-oiled steel door.

"Finally they began to weaken, and as their struggles grew less violent we could see that both of them were covered with blood, while their flesh was torn to shreds. In five minutes more the fight was over and the two giants of the forest were stretched out at full length on the ground, clasped in each other's limbs, just as two playful kittens sometimes lie down together. They struggled feebly a little and then both of them lay perfectly still. Both were dead when we got to them, and I never saw animals so torn to pieces. The entrails of both were torn out and scattered over the ground where they had fought, and in their necks were great ragged holes, from which the blood had flowed in streams while they were still fighting. They each had a score of wounds that would have killed any animal with less tenacity of life."

"Rigby."

When falls the rain and win is are blowing I do not heed, I do not care, With a Rigby coat out I am going, I'm dressed for weather, wet or fair. The rain may fall as from a fountain And turn the fields into a pool. The east wind whistle o'er the mountain, I wear Rigby, I'm no fool.

Spontaneous Combustion.

As it is known that spontaneous combustion sometimes takes place in cargoes of coal, it has been suggested that under certain conditions enormous coal-fields may ignite and in time produce volcanoes. Occasional and violent eruptions may be caused by the burning away of barriers and the inflow of water suddenly producing an enormous bulk of steam, which must find an outlet. The idea that clean cotton may take fire spontaneously is scouted by many experts. They claim that what is called by this name is the result of some spark that may smother unobserved for weeks and then may break out in some unsuspected fashion. Tobacco, linen, jute and oily cotton, however, inflame spontaneously on what would seem, to a unscientific mind, insufficient provocation.

Between You and the Weather.

This is the season when Jack Frost spreads his mantle over nature; the season of pneumonia germs begins when the leaves fall. Don't wait for the sneeze, or the cough, to warn you that you owe yourself a new overcoat. Don't allow the noontday warmth to lead you into the evening chill without proper clothing. It's economy on your part to buy an overcoat before you start to pay the doctor to repair nature's breaks. You had better choose wisely and choose the cloth we will guarantee fit, and style, and finish—Right price, too. GILMOUR, Tailor.



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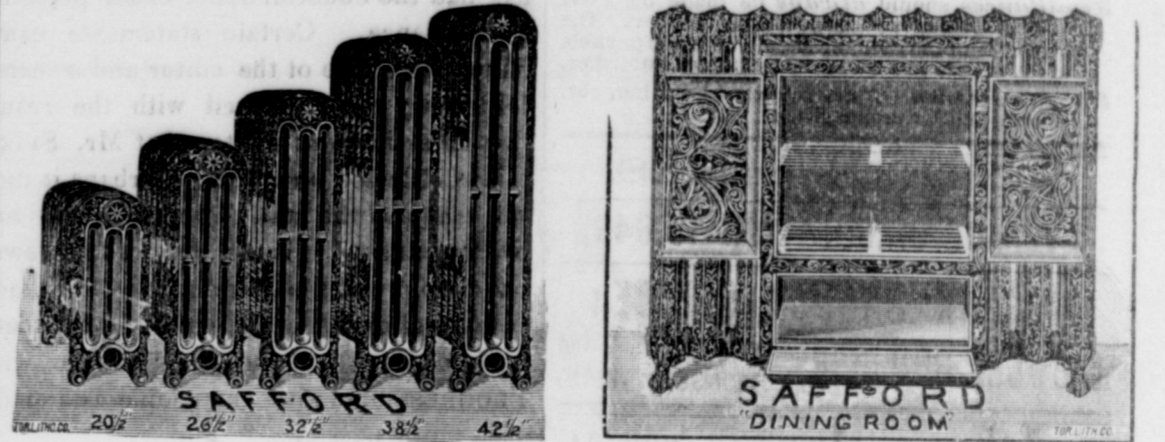
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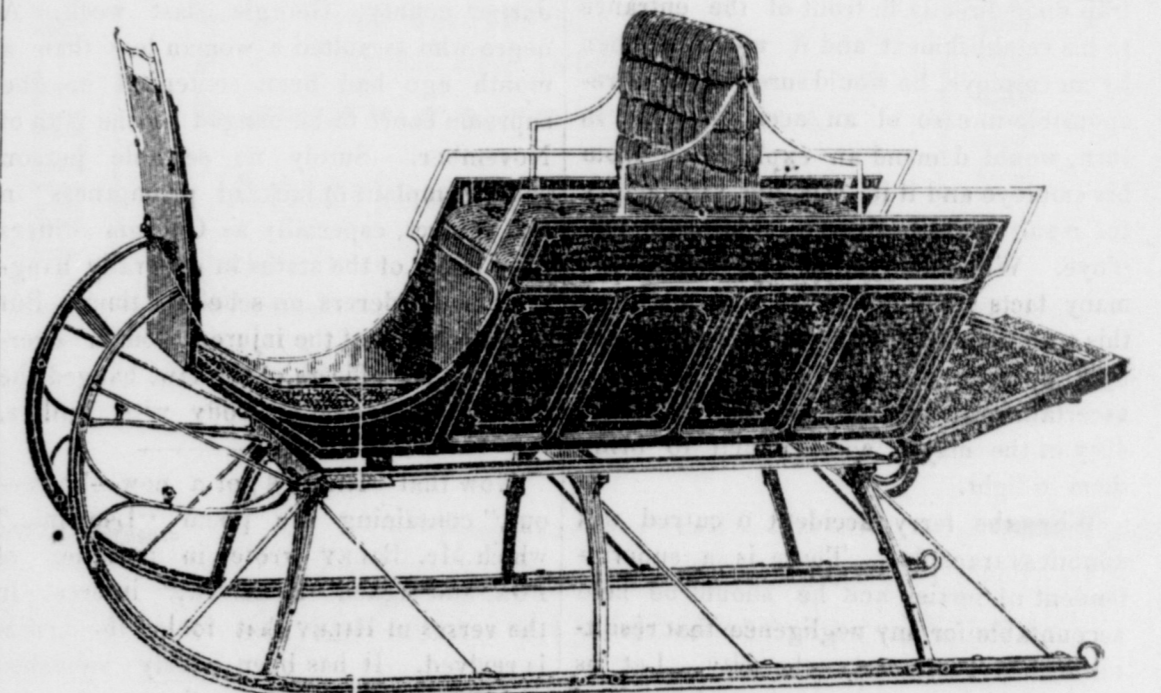
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