

Musical and Dramatic.

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The remarks in this department in advance of the coming to this city of the Robin Hood Opera Company have, I am informed, caused not a little annoyance to at least the manager of the Opera House. This annoyance appears to have been directly caused by the remark that the St. John public had been led to believe the Company were "the Bostonians" and that Messrs. Barnabee, McDonald, etc.,—well known members of the Bostonians, whose piece de resistance, by the way, is Robin Hood—would be members of the company that had secured dates at the Opera House. I am inclined to believe that this impression was shared in by the local management until probably about the time the cast of Robin Hood appeared in one of the morning papers. This cast at once established the fact that, however good might be the company about to produce Robin Hood here, it was not the Bostonians, and that being the case, the correct thing would then have been to take the public into the confidence of the management and trust to the public spirit for support in the venture. I have said the chorus work of this company was good, but, even admitting it the best ever heard here, I positively assert that it did not justify the advance in prices set up by the Opera House. Why then was this advance in the rates?

There is no getting away from the fact that the public believed the Bostonians were coming. An instance occurs to me, as I write, of a prominent merchant who said he bought his tickets in the belief he was going to hear the Bostonians, and if he had seen PROGRESS before he secured them he would not have purchased them at all. This is quite aside from the merits of the Robin Hood Opera Company as a musical organization. I have dealt with that subject before. In conclusion I repeat, the impression spoken of did exist, and so far as I have learned no endeavor was made by the Opera House management to correct it. If they did not indeed encourage this belief why did they permit the following item from the Sun to remain unchallenged. "The Robin Hood Opera Company will visit St. John Sept. 10, 11, and 12, producing Robin Hood and The Maid of Plymouth. The great Barnabee is one of the leading members of the company." Now in order to facilitate matters for the management and aid them all I can in their search for the original of this extract I will tell them the date of the paper is June 4, 1894. In another column of PROGRESS today it will be seen "The Bostonians" are rehearsing an opera called "Fatinizza" and the cast is also given. This cast shows that the great Barnabee is not now and has not been "one of the leading members" of the Robin Hood Opera company as such.

I did not intend to write of this matter again, but a letter of protest from the local manager to the editor of this paper has made it necessary on behalf of this paper and in my own justification that I should make this reference. I regret to learn that Miss Godard will not be able to act as pianist for the Oratorio Society this season. Miss Dora Armstrong, however, has been selected to succeed her, and will doubtless give ample satisfaction to all interested in the society and its welfare.

Tones and Undertones.

Robert A. Barret's next extravaganza, it is said, will be called "Uppidee." Ysabe the violinist has been engaged for the Boston Symphony in Boston. Miss Ella M. Chamberlain, the whistler, is adding to her laurels. She has recently written a new song entitled "Love is all."

It is stated that during their tour in America next winter Jean and Edward de Reszka will receive \$1700 per night. Miss Lillian Carlsmith, the well-known contralto, who sang in the Oratorio society productions in this city, is in Boston for the winter.

A work entitled "Musicians and Music Lovers" is now in press and will shortly be issued. It is by W. F. Apthorp. Messrs. Bauer and Wittman are working on a new comic opera with Millocker. They are the librettists of "Poor Jonathan."

Miss Helen Ormsbee is the name of a young soprano from Chicago who gives promise of a successful career. Her voice is of great compass and of a very sweet quality. The Boston symphony concerts will begin October 13th. The orchestra, as was the case last season, will number 84 persons. The concerts will be 24 in number. A complimentary performance of the opera "Madelene" was tendered by Camille D'Arville to the comedian of the company, Mr. George Boniface jr., last Monday evening. It was a success.

Abbey, Schoeffel and Grau's Concert company will begin their brief tour on October 10, at the Metropolitan Opera House (N. Y.). The company contains Meses. Melba, and Scaldi and Messrs. Piancon and Mauguiere. Few people have any idea of the strain upon a grand piano when it is being play-

ed. Every string, when pulled, strains the case to the extent of 200 pounds. When a trichord note is tuned to pitch the pull amounts to 600 pounds.

Mlle. DeLusan received her musical education solely from her mother. This fact is unique in the annals of the operatic stage, for the mother of Mlle. DeLusan, though very gifted musically, is an amateur without stage experience.

"Prince Pro Tem" opened the season and the new departure, at the Boston Museum last Monday evening. The members of the company are all individually clever people and are capable of doing not only legitimate drama but musical productions as well. It is a stock company.

When Francis Wilson's new comic opera "The Devil's Deputy," was given its initial production at Abby's theatre last week the house was crowded, despite the fact that it was intensely hot, the thermometer standing an 96°. The curtain did not fall on the last act till almost midnight. Wilson made a hit.

The London Daily News says that Paderewski has abandoned his intention of visiting the United States this summer, and proposes spending the winter in Europe. His physicians advise him against a long and exhausting journey. He hopes to be able to go to the United States in October, 1895.

The musical comedy "A Gaiety Girl" was put on at Daly's theatre (N. Y.) last Tuesday evening by George Edwards' company from the Prince of Wales theatre London. The piece is in two acts. The four leading ladies of the company are Miss Decima Moore, Miss Blanche Massey, Miss Maud Hobson and Miss Juliette Neville.

The "Bostonians" have "Fatinizza" in rehearsal with the following artists in the cast; Jessie Bartlett Davis, as Fatinizza, Caroline Hamilton, or D. Eloise Morgan as Lydia; Henry Clay Barnabee, as Izzet Pasha; W. H. McDonald, as Julian Hardy the reporter; Eugene Cowles, as Gen Kantchukoff; and George Frothingham as Steppann.

A recent Boston paper says: "The Travary Grand English opera Company is the first organization to attempt a road tour with Grand Opera for almost four years." Guess the writer of that note has never heard of the Standard Grand English Opera Company, under management of Mr. Thomas, which appeared in our Opera House a short time ago.

John Francis Gilder, the pianist, who comes from a very musical family and who was the pupil and friend of the great Gottschalk, is dealing with his reminiscences of the great artists he has seen and heard. He thinks that one Henry Herz was the first "great" pianist he ever heard in America. He "heard the peerless Jenny Lind sing at Castle Garden" and although he paid only \$1 for admission, "was fortunate enough to get a good seat". That was forty years ago. "She was dressed all in white and the expression of her face as she sang was simply charming" he says and "her voice had that crystal quality of tone peculiar to the Swedes." On the street she was remarkably plain looking, but when she smiled an almost angelic light broke over her face and seemed to completely transform her features.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

Mlle. Rhea, after an interval of some few years, is again making a professional visit to our city. She opened her engagement here last Monday evening with Shakespeare's comedy "Much Ado about Nothing." The work itself is perhaps not so generally familiar to theatre-goers as (in view of its author, and his connection with the stage "not for a day but for all time") among English speaking people it ought to be. It is not an easy matter to produce a play like this under any circumstances, but when the star of the company, as Beatrice, is not a native and is handicapped by speaking her lines in a language foreign to her, it is at least remarkable that the presentation of this comedy should be even fairly satisfactory. The difficulties of the English language in respect to a thorough understanding and comprehension of its force, have been surmounted by Mlle. Rhea to a wonderful extent, and her work in the role of "Beatrice" proved her an artist of no small skill. As intimated Mlle. Rhea was more or less, at times, handicapped by a pronounced accent, which, when her speech was, as it sometimes must be, quite rapid, rendered her words wholly undistinguishable as English words. Inasmuch as she suited the action to the word, however, the audience was not so much at a loss for the lines. It is not a little painful, and there is something of a sense of disappointment felt, when, listen closely and intently as one may, one is compelled to abandon the attempt to catch the words and accept the pantomime instead. It is probable, under circumstances such as these, the reflection would suggest itself, how far is it wise for an actor or actress to attempt a role in a language not their own. Hamlet's speech to the players occurred to me. Mlle.

Rhea entered into the true spirit of her part as "Beatrice" in her acting, and gave abundant proof, if such were needed, of her ability and well-deserved reputation. Her supporting company, of which Mr. W. S. Hart is leading man is a good one, and if all the plays of the week are as well given as was that of Monday evening last, theatre goers will have but little occasion to grumble. It was splendid to see the admirable manner in which "Much Ado" was costumed, the dresses of the ladies being revelations (if that is the right word), while those of the gentlemen were rich and elegant, both tending to make the stage look well, even when the scenery was not specially new. It was a pleasure by contrast to the modern society drama. There are not many society companies now-a-days with wardrobe that would permit them to do one of Shakespeare's plays. Mr. Hart as Benedick gave a good clear interpretation of his part; he has a good articulation and was most impressive in his quiet speech, particularly where he challenges Claudio. The role of the prince was carefully done by Mr. M. L. Alsop and Dogberry was made prominent by the clever work of our old friend Mr. Fred Hight, who received a cordial welcome from his many friends in the goodly sized audience.

"Daughter of Eve" is the name given to Marie Wainwright's new play.

The Augustin Daly company will begin its regular season at the home theatre, 26th November.

Sardou's new play "Gismonda" will be produced in New York by Fanny Davenport in December.

Miss Ada Rehan's stay at Hollis theatre, Boston, which begins on Monday next will, last but two weeks.

Joe Jefferson will revive "The Cricket on the Hearth" and has engaged Minnie Radcliffe to play Dot.

Mrs. Julia Neilson, the wife of Ellen Terry's only brother Fred, has temporarily retired from the stage.

Robert B. and John B., the sons of the late Bartley Campbell, are producing their father's most successful play, "The Galley Slave."

Mrs. Thomas Barry is a member of the company supporting Miss Ada Rehan in her starring engagement. Mrs. Barry is well known in St. John.

A Miss Ethel Tucker, is playing at the Grand Museum in the "New Magdalen." Mlle Rhea gave this play here last Tuesday evening.

Maurice Barrymore was privately married a short time ago to Mary Floyd, daughter of the late W. H. Floyd, for many years a manager of Wallack's theatre. Miss Amy Busby is again in Richard Mansfield's company. This is a clever actress and a sister of Miss Georgie Busby who was here in Hawkins' company in 1893.

Napoleon I. is the central figure in the new play which has been written for the younger Salvini and which he will produce this season. He will open in Milwaukee, 1st Oct.

Mrs. Humphery Ward, the author of "Robert Elsmere," has written a play which is much approved by Henry Irving and will probably be produced by him next season.

Speaking of Tim Murphy's new play, "Lem Kettle," recently produced at the Park theatre, Boston, a critic says, "Lem Kettle" may live one season through, but will hardly survive longer."

The greater part of the scenery for the new Castle Square theatre, Boston, will be painted by Sidney Chidley. A specimen of his skill is found in the drop curtain of the Opera House in this city.

It is said the melodrama, "Old Glory," put on at the Bowdoin square theatre, Boston, last week, as an American play, is in fact an English melodrama, re-written and re-arranged to suit a United States audience.

"Darkest Russia," with Will S. Harkins in the cast, is the bill at the Bowdoin Square theatre, Boston. Of this play it is said: "Although the play itself commands attention its success is largely augmented by the manner in which it is staged and costumed."

Hoyt, who provided "A Trip to Chinatown" and a number of similar works, has recently produced another entitled "A Black Sheep." A paper says it was recently "tried on the dog" at Buffalo, and the people of that city gave it their unreserved approval.

Miss Jessie Villers, who was here with Bradley's players in Mechanics Institute a few seasons ago, is playing in "Gentleman Jack," Champion Corbett's play. It is on at the Park theatre, Boston, this week. Miss Villers is now called "a character comedienne."

Patti and Royalty.

Adelina Patti has known all the crowned heads of her time, and to some she has afforded great amusement. Once after dinner at Marlborough house, when sipping her cup of coffee, she exclaimed, "Bah! I do not like your coffee!" The Prince of Wales was vastly amused both at the remark and Patti's evident penitence. The old German emperor was equally amused when he invited her and her father to join him one day in an early morning walk at Hamburg, and received the impulsive reply, "Not you, nor anyone else in this world at 9 o'clock in the morning!"

THAT OPEN LETTER.

The particulars of a remarkable cure of consumption, after the patient had reached the last stages, related in the article published in PROGRESS last week under the heading "An Open Letter from a Prominent Physician," has caused much comment. It is well known that physicians, as a rule, are averse to speaking words of praise for an advertised medicine, however meritorious it may be, and when one of them casts this prejudice aside and gives in plain unvarnished language the particulars of a case that must take rank among the most remarkable in the practice of medicine, it is not only a noteworthy triumph for the medicine in question, but also reflects credit on the physician who has cast aside his professional prejudice and gives the result of his use of the medicine for the benefit of suffering humanity. In the articles published from time to time, vouched for by reliable newspapers, the public have had the strongest evidence that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People is a medicine of remarkable merit, and now to these is added on the authority of a well known physician, over his signature, the particulars of a cure of consumption through the timely use of Dr. Williams' famous Pink Pills. It cannot be too widely known that a remedy has been found that will cure this hitherto deadly and unconquered disease, and if any of our readers have not read the article to which we refer we would advise them to look up last week's issue and give it a careful perusal. The facts related may prove of valuable assistance in a time of need.

Satirical Picture in a Church.

There is probably only one church in Britain which contains a satirical picture. It is the little church of South Brent, in Somersetshire. On three oaken pews are carved pictures which were intended to satirize the greed of a certain religious dignitary at Glastonbury. This ecclesiastic is represented in the first picture as a fox dressed in robes and mitre, and holding a crook in his right paw. In the second picture the fox has been manacled by a flock of geese, and in the third the birds have revenged themselves on their foe by hanging him from a branch of a tree.

A DISAPPOINTED MAN.

Thought he Was Going to Die Before Summer was out but He's Alive and Well and Working To-day.

SOMERSET, Man., Sept. 17th.—"Hard Times" is the cry from farmers in this country. Arthur Coley, a farmer living near here, has had double reason to cry "hard times," for eight months ago he lay on his back in his bed, a victim of Bright's Disease. He acknowledges that he expected to be dead before the end of summer, but his expectations have been most pleasantly disappointed, and all summer he has worked on his farm just as though he had never known a day's illness. Last spring he began taking Dodd's Kidney Pills and a few boxes completely cured him, as they have every other victim of this disease who has used them.

The Maiden's Fate.

"I may as well tell you," said the brave swimmer, as he reached the side of the struggling girl who was just going down for the third time, "that I have a wife, and you cannot marry me as reward for saving your life."

With a despairing cry the maiden threw up her hands and sank from view.

McGill University Medical Faculty. Owing to the incomplete condition of the extensive alterations and additions to the buildings of this Faculty, lectures will not be resumed until October 2nd, 1894. The Register will however be opened September 17th as announced. R. F. Ruttan, M. D., Registrar.

A Memo for Dr. Christie.

Mr. Huggins—What do you think of the latest medical dictum that kissing is unhealthy?

Mr. Hunker—It is quite true. Mr. Munn happened to catch me kissing his daughter, and I was laid up a whole week.

FALL AND WINTER Millinery Opening



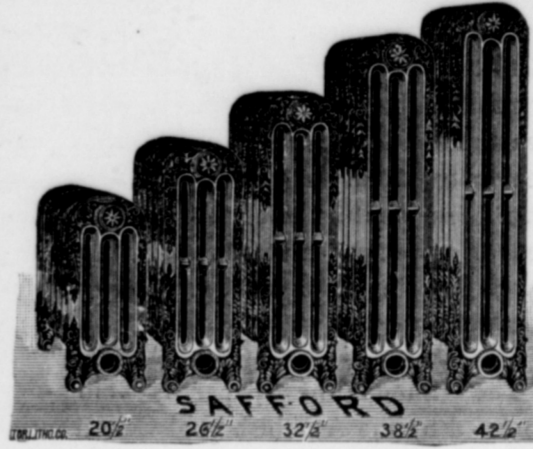
Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Sept. 27th, 28th and 29th, when we will show the latest novelties in Trimmed Hats Toques and Bonnets, from Paris, London and New York. Ladies are cordially invited. CHAS. K. CAMERON & CO., 77 King St.

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THE STEAMER "CLIFTON" will leave Indiantown every THURSDAY morning at 9 o'clock (weather permitting) for Hampton. Returning will leave Hampton at 3.30 p.m., arriving at Indiantown at 7 o'clock. Fare to all points, round trip 50 cents. R. G. EARLE, Captain.

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MAIL STEAMERS, David Weston and Olivette, leave St. John, every day, (except Sunday) at 9 a. m., for Fredericton and all intermediate landings, and will leave Fredericton every day (except Sunday) at 8 a. m., for St. John. Steamer Aberdeen will leave Fredericton every TUESDAY, THURSDAY and SATURDAY at 6 a. m., for Woodstock and will leave Woodstock on alternate days at 8 a. m., while navigation permits. GEO. F. BAIRD, Manager.