

Musical and Dramatic.

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

Since the concerts by the Bicycle club minstrels last week there has been nothing given in the city of any marked interest to the musical public. There is a prospect of a different state of affairs next week, however, when Mrs. Harrison, Miss Olive and Mr. G. S. Mayes will sing, and Herr Carl Walther, violinist, will play at the concert to be given in the Carleton Methodist church on the 22nd inst. If one may anticipate a little, it may be observed that, judging from the talent named, the concert referred to will be, if not actually the greatest, at least it will be one of the greatest musical treats with which the West side of the city has yet been favored.

The Black Patti, as she is called, will also be heard during next week, at the opera house. She will be assisted by Mr. Douglas, violinist, who is the son of the celebrated Fred Douglas, and also by Miss Nahar, elocutionist. Miss Nahar has been heard here before in the Institute and to my mind is one of the best readers that has been heard in this city. The Black Patti is expected to arrive here during the afternoon of the 22nd, inst., and it arrangements can be made, I have heard she will give a reception to members of the press and other invited citizens. Her musical success has been phenomenal.

The Bicycle Club Minstrels will give a concert in Moncton on the Queen's birthday.

As intimated in this column last week would be the case, Mr. Archie Cook has been appointed to the position of organist for the German street Baptist church.

The musical examinations at the Morley ladies' college have been completed. Prof. C. D. Bristowe of Fredericton was examiner. The examinations have been attended with satisfactory results. A number of the young lady pupils have graduated with honors in singing and the pianoforte.

The concert of the St. John Oratorio Society have been definitely fixed for the 50th, and 51st, June. Miss Tarbox of Portland, Me., has been elected to sing the principal soprano solos. This lady has always been heard in this city with much favor. The other soloists will be selected, probably at the next meeting of the society's board of management, on next Monday evening.

The date for the production of "The ten Virgins" under the management of Mr. J. S. Ford, has not yet been determined, but it will probably be early in June. The rehearsals are giving every guarantee of a delightful affair.

Tones and Undertones.

The cost of the raw materials of a violin, comprising seventy different parts, has been estimated at about 4s. 6d.

Mrs. Alice Shaw, the whistler, recently made her first appearance on the Pacific coast at the Orpheum, San Francisco. Her success was triumphant.

Gustave Kerker has composed the music for the spectacular comic opera "The Viking." The work deals humorously with the discovery of America.

The summer opera season by the Manola-Mason company will begin at the Tremont theatre, Boston, on 28th inst. The opening opera will be "Patience."

"Hendrik Hudson" in which Corinne is adding to her popularity in Boston, is described as "a happy blending of operabouffe, burlesque and specialties."

"The Old Homestead" quartette, which includes Val. P. Akerley of this city, have found the concert stage so attractive they will not return to the dramatic stage this season.

Vladimir de Pachmann, the pianist, will not be able to appear in public again this season in consequence of the recent injury to his arm which proved more serious than at first supposed.

The highest recorded price ever paid for a violin bow, viz., fifty guineas, was for one made by Francois Tourte, of Paris, the greatest bow maker that ever lived. The bow was given to Joachim.

Camille D'Arville will be seen in the new opera entitled "Morocco Bound" next September. She is now with the "Venus" Company. She will spend her vacation at Manhattan Beach.

Francis Wilson, with the ever popular "Erminie," began a fortnight's engagement at the Tremont theatre, Boston, last Monday evening. "Erminie" will be the bill throughout the engagement.

Lillian Russell sails for England, June 10. She is engaged for twenty drawing rooms in London and will receive 100 guineas for each appearance. She has quarrelled with her latest husband already.

In singing it is said there are three things necessary to the production of a full, bright, ringing tone, viz., "The knowing eye, the glad smile, and the innocent hand." So says a New York singing teacher.

Whitney Mockridge, a favorite Chicago tenor, leaves shortly for England. Mr. Mockridge is a Canadian, having been born at Port Stanley, Ont., in 1861. At seventeen years of age he was tenor soloist and then sang in Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise" in Toronto.

The summer promenade concerts at

Music hall, Boston, began last Saturday evening under the management of C. A. Ellis. These are the well known "Pops." An orchestra of fifty musicians, selected from the Symphony orchestra, and under the direction of Mr. T. Adamowski, will give a programme from 8 to 11 o'clock each evening, except Sunday.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

Few, if any, attractions have received from the local press more liberal advance writing than has been bestowed upon "The Still Alarm" which, with its hero, its horses and realism, was given a first St. John production at the Opera House last Wednesday evening. Of the play itself from a literary standpoint there is little to be said.

In plot and idea it is chestnutty—built largely upon the plan of "The Streets of New York" which was among the earliest of its class. There is the orthodox hero and heroine—the devoted daughter who gives up her lover and all hope of happiness at the call of tyrant duty—the regulation villain, who almost triumphs but, who even in the moment of victory is defeated by the hero aforesaid. The reformed drunkard, too, (reformed by no modern treatment) playing a not unimportant part in the exposure of villainy and crime and in the reward and triumph of virtue. There is also the stolen child restored at last to its rightful position. Such is the play, which in addition is at times very wordy, long speeches here and there as the plot is unraveled, not a little tiresome too because those who speak there are not distinguished elocutionists. The actors however are all good in their several roles I think, and as those of the company who are strangers to the house become more familiar with its acoustic properties, they will speak more distinctly because they will speak more rapidly and their work will be much more satisfactory. Of course the interest centres in the fortunes of Jack Manley (W. S. Harkins) and Eleanor Fordham (Miss Annie Meyer). There is a fair sprinkling of comedy in the play and as much as possible was made of it by that intelligent actor Mr. John Bunney, as a relic of the old volunteer brigade. The role of Jack Manley is one of that kind in which Mr. Harkins is always a success. He had a grand reception and received emphatic calls after the second and third acts. All the others known to and remembered by the audience viz, Messrs Snader, Wise and Bunny and Miss Emma Maddern received hearty welcome. Miss Annie Meyer, the leading lady, is a stranger here, but her clever work throughout the play made a most favorable impression and won for her much applause. That she is strong as an emotional actress was abundantly manifested in her interpretation of the role of Eleanor Fordham. Another clever member of the company is the soubrette Miss Mamie Fulton who plays the role of Cad Wilbur and sings nicely. The well trained fire horses, the interior of the station, the firemen, the Still Alarm, the fire engine with its lighted fire all give a realism that is beyond anything ever previously seen in our city. Because of these scenic effects rather than literary merit, no doubt, does the play win the success it has always attained. There is a dash, an excitement about this line of work that always interests.

Miss Marie Burroughs will not accompany E. S. Willard to England.

"Charley's Aunt" is reported doing big business on the New England Circuit.

"Master and Man" was the bill at the Haymarket, Chicago, theatre, last week.

Frank Mayo is playing "Davy Crockett" at the Bowdoin Square theatre, Boston.

"Shore Acres" will be withdrawn from the Fifth Avenue theatre at the end of next week.

New York theatre managers estimate their losses from play pirates at over \$250,000.

Wilson Barrett will play "Hamlet" in Boston during his farewell engagement now on in that city.

T. D. Frawley is in the cast of "Sister Mary" with Julia Arthur. They are both favorites in this city.

There is a probability that the Boston theatre will be entirely renovated during the summer vacation.

W. S. Harkins with the "Still Alarm" opened at the opera house here on the 16 inst. The season closes tonight.

Marie Broughton, the burlesque queen, is a sister of Julia Marlowe, and is pronounced one of the handsomest women on the stage.

Alexander Salvini's season has been extended to June 2, soon after which he will go to Europe. He was in Denver, Col., last week.

At the end of her present season Madame Modjeska will leave America for good. She is now disposing of all her property in the United States.

E. S. Willard will close his season at Montreal, June 2, and after four years absence, will appear June 18 at the Comedy theatre London.

At Mechanics' Institute, last Tuesday evening "Among the Breakers" was put on by an amateur company under the

management of Mr. Will Thompson. The performance was very creditable indeed and far beyond the average of amateur work.

Mary Hampton has abandoned the idea of going to Europe this summer. She goes on tour with the Empire N. Y., theatre stock company, June 10th.

The wife of J. K. Emmett, jr., is suing for the half of the estate of the late J. K. Emmett. She claims to be entitled to one half under the will of her father-in-law.

Theatrical life on the road is thus described by a leading actress. Sunday transportation; Monday preparation; Monday night, realization; Tuesday, prostration.

The Chinese consul at Boston and his "dainty and charming little wife" are regular patrons of Keith's new theatre. They frequently occupy a box through the entire evening.

Rhea's season closed at Springfield, Mass., on the 18th inst. She will spend the summer at her home near Paris, France. She is booked to appear in this city early next fall.

"The Amazons" will close its season at the Lyceum theatre (N. Y.) on June 2: from which date the company will enjoy a vacation until 13th of August when they open in Chicago.

Marie Wainwright lost all her scenery and properties for "Twelfth Night" by the burning of Davidson's theatre, Milwaukee, a short time ago, and it is probable will not be seen in that play next season.

Miss Marie Hillyer, who will be remembered here as a clever and capable member of Tyrone Power's company, has recently been married to R. W. Withycomb, of Montreal. Miss Hillyer is of English birth.

"The Masqueraders" has proved an enormous success at the St. James theatre, London. The house is crowded at each performance and the capacity of the house for the next five weeks is booked in advance.

Joseph Haworth has been giving "Hamlet" at the Grand Opera house, Boston, and his work is much commended. It is said "his conception of the moody Dane is clear and distinct and admirably worked out."

Sadie Martinot, who is at present suing for a divorce from her husband, Fred Stinson, manager for Julia Marlowe, it is said will shortly be married to Max Figman, the actor. She and her husband have not lived together for ten years past, and desertion is the ground of her divorce suit.

The New York Sun of 13th inst. has a well conceived article on the stage productions in that city. It says, "Our stage has suffered acutely from a late spring attack of nastiness, but the moral conditions of the drama with us is generally so clean and healthy that most of the foulness has been thrown off easily. "Musotte" and the "Check Book" simply made us sick but not seriously ill. Greater injury to the drama was inflicted by "Hannele" because it shocked and repelled Christians. It died of a lack of audiences and will soon be forgotten. Less transitory, however, and therefore more hurtful, is the disease of "Living Pictures" which broke out in "1492" and has spread to "Adonis" and the music Halls."

It Skipped One Note.

A theatrical musician owned an ebony flute with silver keys; he valued it highly, but as one of the upper notes was defective, he seldom used it. A young man lodged with the musician, and between the two a close friendship existed.

One night the ebony flute disappeared, having, no doubt, been stolen. Suspicion fell on several persons, but nothing could be proved against any of them. Not long afterwards the lodger went to live in a town a few miles off, but as the friendship between the men still existed, they occasionally visited each other.

Nearly a year afterwards, the musician paid his friend a visit, and was pleased to find him in possession of a beautiful bullfinch, which could distinctly whistle three tunes. The performance was perfect with this exception, that whenever he came to a certain high note he invariably skipped it and went on to the next.

A little reflection convinced the musician that the note in which the bullfinch was imperfect was the deficient one on his lost flute. So convinced was he, that he immediately sharply questioned his ex-lodger on the subject. He at once tremblingly confessed his guilt, and that all the bird knew had been taught him on the stolen instrument.

Waking "Rip" Up.

Mr. Joseph Jefferson was playing "Rip Van Winkle" in Chicago when he went to the theatre one night much exhausted by a long day's fishing. When the curtain rose on the third act, it disclosed the white haired Rip still deep in his twenty years' nap. Five, ten, twenty minutes passed, and he did not waken. The fact was that all the time Jefferson was really sleeping.

Finally the gallery became uproarious, and a man called out: "Is there going to be nineteen years more of this snooze business?"

At this time Jefferson began to snore. This decided the prompter, who opened a small trap and began to prod Rip from below.

The much traveled comedian began to fumble in his pocket for an imaginary railroad ticket and muttered: "Going right through 'ductor'."

The audience was transfixed with amusement.

An instant later Jefferson sat up, with a loud shriek, and evidently in great agony. The exasperated prompter had "jabbed" him with a pin!

MAN WILL HAVE BIG BRAINS.

What Evolution May Accomplish for Him in the Course of Time.

In reviewing the history of evolution, it one point strikes us more than another, it is Nature's economy. From the beginning of time all forms of animal life have been moulded and remoulded to keep pace with the changeable conditions which surround them, and those which altered circumstances made unnecessary have been doomed to gradual but determined obliteration.

What has been in the past is our only criterion for what will be in the future. Nature, we may well suppose, will continue this adjustment of all things created both great and small until the end of Time and with the same resistless economic hand.

In making a scientific forecast of the coming man we have only to keep this axiom before us—What is not needed disappears. Let us then briefly consider the influences at work upon our species:

First of all, civilization means the predominance of mental over physical powers. What was once done by bodily toil is now done by wit, mechanism and mutual agreement. The man of civilization neither hunts for his dinner nor his wife. Everything is changed. Carriages and horses, trains, trams, and omnibuses must have their effect, and it is noticeable in dwindling legs and feet.

Clearly then our descendants will have larger brains at the expense of the body. Physical activity will become a drug. But the brain by itself would be useless, the existence of the human hand, at once its teacher and interpreter, is quite essential.

The man of the year 1,000,000 A. D. will be all brain, eyes and hands. The decay of teeth and hair, the reduction of jaws, mouth, nose and ears is inevitable.

Picture to yourself, then, a vast head, oblong and egg-shaped, supported on two huge sensitive hands with diminished body and tiny feet depending almost useless in the rear. The whole muscular system will be shrivelled into mere nothingness, a dangling degraded pendant to the mind!

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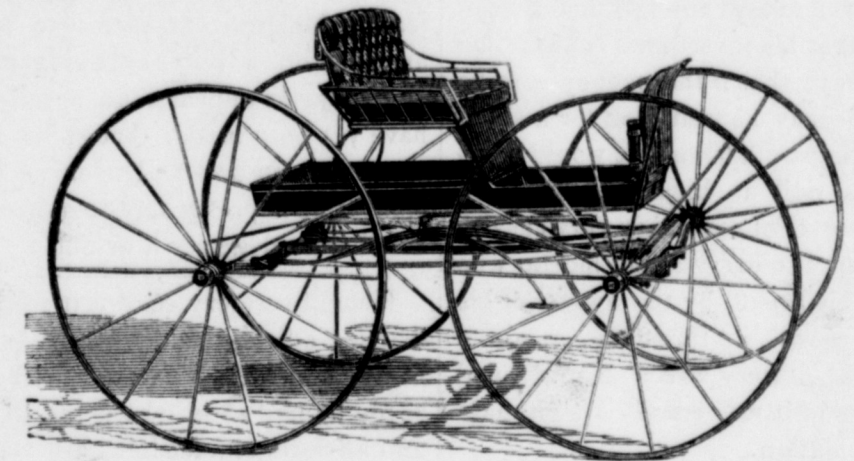
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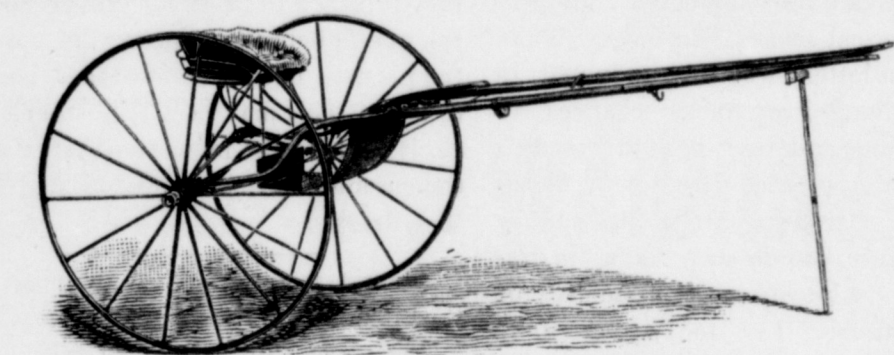
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Our stock of carriages of all kinds is very complete, and we are in a position to suit the wants of the public in this respect.



The Fredericton Road Wagon.

An illustration of which is shown above, is especially popular. It is the wagon of the business man; low, easy of entrance, very handy and comfortable. The price is right.



A Good Road Cart.

In the spring of the year especially, a road cart, such as that shown above, should be owned by every man who owns horses. It saves a carriage, is convenient for exercising and the preliminary training of a speedy horse. Well built, handsome and easy to ride in.

JOHN EDGECOMBE & SONS, FREDERICTON, N. B.

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We have 150 Bbls. Potatoes, ast. kinds, viz: Snow Flakes, Kidneys, Coppers, &c. Also Turnips, Carrots, Parsnips and Beets, for sale low at

Bonnell's Grocery, 200 Union St., St. John, N. B.

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June Weddings

THIS IS ONE OF THE TWELVE MONTHS

in the year that PROGRESS looks ahead to with great interest. It being the month of Weddings, Society Printing takes a boom.

Write to us and get our prices and samples, or, if you have an idea of your own, send it along and we will try and please you.

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All Kinds of Printing

for pleasure parties furnished at as reasonable rates as can be found anywhere. Posters, Dodgers and Tickets for Sunday School Picnics and Society Outings.

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A 25 cent package makes 2 gallons of this delicious beverage. Don't be deceived if a dealer, for the sake of larger profit, tells you some other kind is "just as good"—it's false. No imitation is as good as the genuine Hires'.

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