

Musical and Dramatic.

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The Grau Opera Company again visit Saint John and not a little pleasure is anticipated by the musical people of the city in their coming. They open on Monday evening next in "Amorita." In the roster of the company this season the name of Miss Alice Carle is conspicuous by its absence. This young lady is well remembered as the possessor of an exceptionally good alto voice and she became very popular during the stay of the company last season. The Messrs. Grau endeavor to provide for their patrons what is good in the way of talent and doubtless the prima donna contralto of the present company will be of good quality as a vocalist. She must needs be in order to secure a position in the public opinion of this city, equal to that held by her predecessor. The young lady, though perhaps somewhat handicapped in this respect, may be confident of fair treatment.

A notice of the chamber concert of the Oratorio society on Thursday evening last, does not regret an impossibility, the affair having occurred so late in the week.

Miss Stockton, daughter of our well known citizen, R.O. Stockton Esq., is a recent and an important addition to the choir of Centenary church. I have not yet had the pleasure of hearing the young lady sing, but she is credited with having a sweet, and perfectly true voice. It is pleasant to know that native talent develops so admirably under tuition and it is an additional pleasure when that talent is utilized at home, as it were.

Tones and Undertones.

Campanini will reside in London, Eng., and teach.

Sir Arthur Sullivan is again at work in London.

Melba and Scalchi are said to be singing better this season than they ever did before.

Smith and De Koven's new opera "Rob Roy" has been given in London for copyright purposes.

The Carleton Opera company will not be organized this season because of the illness of W. T. Carleton.

Dewolf Hopper, Francis Wilson and Della Fox, are meeting with much success in their operatic ventures of this season.

The libretto of Mascagni's new opera is founded on a novel by Nicholas Misas. The title of the opera is "Serafino d'Albani."

Buenos Ayres will shortly have an opera house capable of seating 5000 spectators with a stage that will hold nearly 800 persons.

Miss Alice Carle, the contralto, who was such a favorite when the Grau company last visited St. John, is with "A Railroad Ticket" company this season.

Rubinstein is reported to be so disgusted with the failure of his opera "Kinder der Haide," which was hissed by the audience, that he will probably write no more.

"Martha" will be given during the forth coming operatic season in New York, and with an ideal cast including Mesdames Nordica and Scalchi and the De Reszke brothers.

Cesar Thompson, the great Belgian violinist, has sailed for the United States. He left Havre on the "La Touraine" and will make his first public appearance in America on the 30th inst.

"The Sphinx, or a Crisis in Egypt" is the name to be given to a new opera by Lewis S. Thompson, the composer of "Prince pro tem." The book is by William Maynadier Browne.

Miss Mary Louise Clary is the name of the young lady selected by the Handel and Hayden Society of Boston, as contralto soloist for the society's production of "The Messiah" on 23rd December next.

Photographs of Della Fox, on handsome plaques were the souvenir tokens given by that star, on the occasion of the 50th, production of "The Little Troopers" by Miss Fox and her Comic Opera Co., on the 18th inst.

The second opera ever produced by a Norwegian composer was recently given at Christiania. It is entitled "From Ancient Jans" and its author is Johannes Haarklof. The first Norwegian opera was performed nearly 60 years ago.

Miss Jennie Mae Spencer, is a Boston alto who is in much demand for church singing in that city. She is said to be a "brunette beauty" and her voice is described as "a clear, round contralto of pleasing quality particularly in the middle register."

Mr. Pol. Piancon, who is one of the greatest basses known to the world, sang in concert with Madame Melba, at Music hall, Boston, Mass., last Tuesday evening. The second part of the programme contained the garden scene from Faust, with Melba in the role of Marguerite and M. Piancon in his great and favorite character of Mephistopheles.

Lady readers of PROGRESS will be interested in learning that Mme. Melba wore a beautiful concert gown of yellow satin, made with a plain trained skirt, at her first appearance this season, Wednesday night,

at the Metropolitan, New York. The body was finished with pleating of chiffon of a lighter shade, with a "baby waist" effect. The sleeves were finished with caps of rose pink velvet, embroidered with gold. Her jewels consisted of a rivière of diamonds worn straight across the corsage and a collar of pearls, with bars of diamonds.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

This week the theatrical entertainment of the citizens who delight in the drama has been furnished by the Harry Leighton company. I saw the company in their opening piece "The Plunger." There is nothing in the play itself to commend it particularly although some of the characters permit of not a little clever work. Of course Mr. Leighton played Dexter Digit and his interpretation of the role stamps him as an actor of experience and talent, and if Hackett's playing of the same role were not so fresh in mind the performance would have been considered very acceptable. Allowance should fairly be made, however, for the fact that the company only arrived here during the afternoon of that day and were necessarily somewhat unfamiliar with the stage, etc. Miss Randolph has a fine part in Norah Clover but in my opinion she failed to do it justice. She should cultivate a tiny bit of brogue—not broad but a refined brogue as it were and be particular to avoid pronunciation—that savors too much of "down East," as it is called. These hints are given in all kindness I may add, and because neglect of them rather mars what would otherwise be a nice performance. The company which I understand is en route to St. John's, Newfoundland, is the first to produce the "living pictures" in this city and the popularity of the organization is not lessened by the fact that "the pictures" are divested of anything and everything that could, by any chance, offend. The closing performance of the company will be given this afternoon and evening.

Rhea is playing a boy's part in "Napoleon at school."

In M. B. Curtis company of this season there are five ex-stars.

Mrs. Langtry will sail from England for America today, Oct. 27.

Catherine Lewis will leave Augustin Daly's company next month.

It is said that Daly's Comedy Company was not a success in Philadelphia.

A decree of divorce has been granted in favor of the wife of J. K. Emmet.

Sarah Bernhardt celebrated the 50th anniversary of her birthday on the 22nd inst.

The receipts of Ada Rehan's engagement of a fortnight in Boston recently amounted to \$27,000.

Richard Harding Davis, the short story writer, is at work on his first play. E. H. Sothern will probably stage it.

Miss Bessie Tyree, one of the "Amazons" makes her entrance by vaulting over a gate in "a deliciously reckless" manner.

Mrs. Drew, is still playing Mrs. Malaprop and in some ways, if not in years, is the youngest actress in the profession.

Kate Bateman who once was distinguished in the title role in "Leah the Forsaken" is about to make a reading tour in America.

"The New Woman" is the latest hit of the London season. When it is given in New York Miss Annie Russell will resume her profession.

Charles H. Hoyt has changed the name of the Madison square theatre, New York, to "Hoyt's theatre." He has expended \$16,000 in fitting up its interior decorations etc.

It is said that Daniel Frohman has paid C. Sydney Grundy the author of "Sowing the Wind" \$10,000 for 200 performances of that play. This is a valuable piece of property.

Sarah Bernhardt will shortly appear as Prince Hal, to Coquelin's Falstaff in Shakespeare's "Henry IV," to be produced in Paris. They will visit America with this production.

Rumor says that one of the new plays which Wilson Barrett will produce during his American engagement, is said to deal with the problem of the sexes in a more advanced manner even than "Sowing the Wind."

Mrs. Selden Irwin, who some years since was the most popular actress on the Pacific coast, and who is now a member of "The Cotton King" company, is a Bostonian. She was formerly Maria Rainforth and has played with a great number of stars, such as E. L. Davenport, C. W. Coudock etc.

Harry Davenport is said to be one of the most clever of the younger comedians on the stage today. He inherits his talent. His father, E. L. Davenport, was about the most eminent actor of his time. He was eminent as a tragedian and in the old Lyceum days in this city played a star engagement with the late J. W. Lanegan. Harry Davenport was born 19th January 1866, and first appeared with his father in "Damon and Pythias." He has been twice married.

"Progress" is on sale in Boston at the King's Chapel news stand, corner of School and Tremont streets.

ON A CHERRY STONE.

A Talented Convict Carves His Petition for a Pardon.

Gesa Berger, the actor and newspaper man, has a specimen of calligraphy that has a remarkable history. It is in size thirty by forty-two inches, and is the work of Joseph Loew, the most noted counterfeiter that the Austrian government ever knew.

When an application is made for a pardon in Austria the red tape policy of that country compels the applicant to address the emperor with all his titles. Emperor Ferdinand had about forty titles. Loew engraved all of these names together with his petition for a pardon, on a cherry stone. The letters were so fine that it required the aid of a powerful microscope to decipher them. One day when the emperor visited the prison Loew in person presented a cherry stone to the emperor and told him what it contained. The emperor made an examination and was so amazed at the work that he gave him an unconditional pardon. Not only did he pardon him, but gave him a position as a detective to trail down counterfeiters. Loew was a well-informed man in all the arts and specialties of counterfeiters, and in less than two years after his pardon he ran to earth almost every counterfeiter in Austria, and died a few years ago covered with detective honors. The picture although made fifty years ago, is in a remarkable state of preservation.

A Theatrical Emperor.

The young German Emperor—who by the way will not be the "young" emperor much longer, for he has now passed his thirty-fifth birthday—loves effect, and has a theatrical way of doing even little things. A major of cavalry not long ago succeeded to the colonelcy of his regiment, and according to the custom in such cases he came to Berlin to personally present himself to his sovereign upon his promotion. Appearing before the Kaiser, at his next public reception, he respectfully pronounced the set phrase always used on such occasions. "Your Majesty, I beg to announce myself as colonel of the—regiment," naming his new command without speaking. Then he said in his sharpest and most incisive tone, "The announcement is false." A dead silence followed. There was a sensation among the spectators, who expected to see the unfortunate officer consigned to a dungeon on some terrible charge. But a minute later the emperor went on. "The announcement is false. I have appointed you colonel of the First Ulan Regiment of the Guard." And then came a hearty laugh at the discomfiture of the man to whom he had thus given one of the crack commands of the German army.

A Long Time Between Hangings.

The eastern visitor had arrived in the energetic and enterprising south-western town that evening at supper-time, and after he had eaten his vesper meal he was talking with the landlord.

"You've got a good town here, haven't you?" he said.

"We think so," replied the landlord, diplomatically.

"Business seem to be lively?"

"Yes, we're enjoying a boom."

"It appears to be improving rapidly."

"That's what."

"You don't have any lynchings here, do you?"

"No; not like we used to."

"I heard that it was once very bad in that line."

"Well, yes, we used to, have a hanging every now and then, but it's been a mighty long time now since we had one."

"When was the last one?"

The landlord studied a moment and counted on his fingers.

"I ain't shore," he said at last, "but I think it will be two weeks day after tomorrow."

Told of General Logan.

It used to be told of General Logan, who was a member of Congress at the breaking out of the war, that when he saw there was really going to be a fight, he seized a musket, slipped out of Washington, and walked all the way to Bull Run, where he arrived just in time to have a hand in the fray.

He wore a dress coat, but he stood his ground as long as any one. The rout was complete, and the next morning, a good deal out of breath, he was back at the capital, telling some of his fellow congressmen what he had seen.

"Who gave you this account of the fight?" asked a member from Northern New York, as he joined the group.

"Why, I was there myself," said Logan. The New Yorker was mystified. Apparently he had not heard the news.

"You were there?" he exclaimed. "Are the cars running?"

"No," said Logan, "the cars ain't running, but every other thing in the State of Virginia is, as near as I could make out."

A LUCKY MAN.

Laid up for Months by a Severe Form of Kidney Disease—The Simple Cure he used—He's Well Now.

THEFORD, Oct. 22.—Some men don't know when they are in luck and some do. Albert Maiters, of this place, is one of the lucky ones who knows of his good fortune and tells about it. He says he was laid up and could do no work for months because of kidney disease. When kidney disease has such a hold on a man as that, he is in a serious condition. Mr. Maiters recognized this and used every remedy he could think of, but without getting any help until he began using Dodd's Kidney Pills. Three boxes cured him and he is attending to his affairs once more and is as hearty and happy as ever.

Jefferson Invented our Plough. An exchange with an antiquarian turn of mind declares that Thomas Jefferson invented the modern plough. There were ploughs of course, thousands of years before the time of the age of Monticello, but the first laid down the mathematical principles that underlie the construction of the plough, and so enabled any blacksmith to make one. A plough consists of two wedges, a cutting and a lifting wedge, and Jefferson discovered and enunciated the proportions of each and the relations each bore to the other. Before his day no two smiths made ploughs alike; now they are all made in accordance with a mathematical formula.

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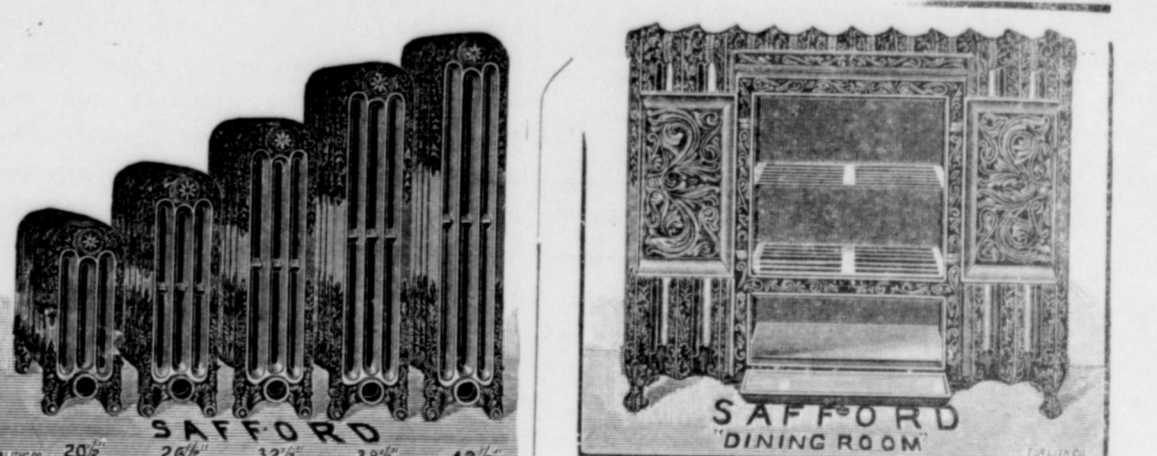
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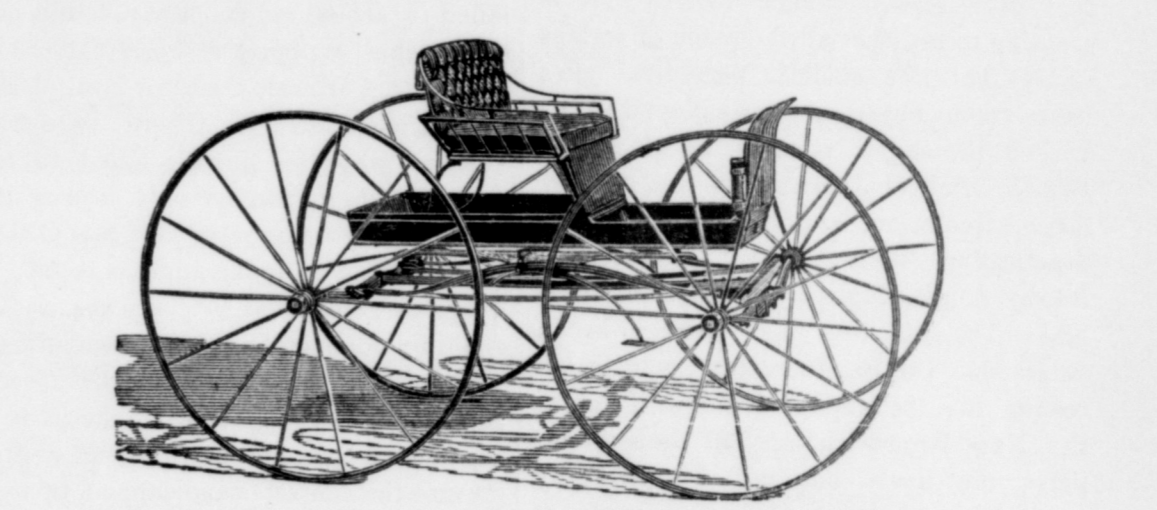
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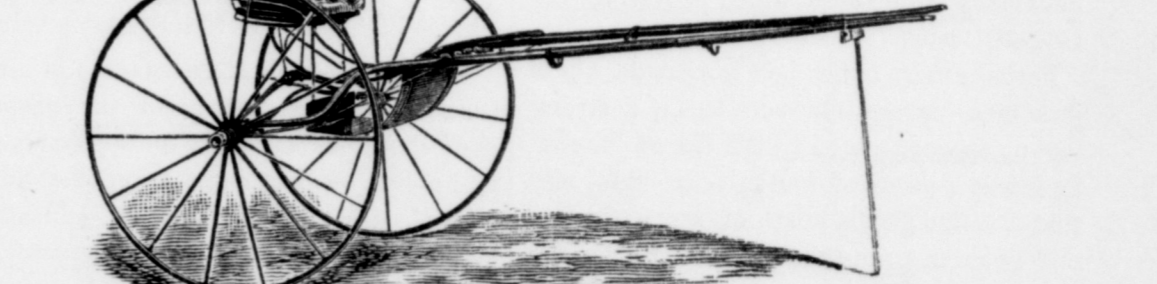
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