

Musical and Dramatic.

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The particular musical events of last week were the concerts of the "Black Patti" company, as the combination is called. Not a little had been written of Miss Jones or Black Patti in advance of her coming and as a consequence many musical people had each set up an ideal. Whether this ideal had been properly placed could only be determined after the singer was heard. Judging however from the rather light house that met the visitors on their opening night, it might be supposed, these local lovers of music, concluded their standard had been fixed altogether too high, and, fearing disappointment, remained away. That was considerate for themselves—but I believe if these persons had attended any of these concerts they would have realized something of a delight they had not anticipated and perhaps had never before experienced. Every member of the Black Patti company is a clever performer. Some of them viz., Miss Nahar, an exceptionally talented reader and J. H. Douglas, the violinist, have previously appeared before St. John audiences, but Mr. Sydney Woodward and Miss Sissieretta Jones, the "Black Patti" were strangers. They are no longer strangers. They will be warmly welcomed whenever they again sing in this city.

Mr. Woodward comparatively little had been said in advance, but his beautiful tenor voice, clear, sweet, true and powerful, won for him instant recognition and he fairly divided the hours with the star. There is no doubt he has one of the best, and most melodious tenor voices ever heard in this city.

The Black Patti has also a wonderful voice with a timbre of very melodious quality. Singing always in perfect tune with clear articulation and a marvellous compass she doubtless well deserves the name she bears among her people. Her voice, it struck me, was not altogether even throughout its compass, but it is rich and full of melody. Her execution is generally excellent but at or as little above her middle register, it is not so well defined, so distinct, as similar work has been done in the Opera House on previous occasions. Her selections however were received with enthusiasm and the audience was almost insatiable paying her the compliment of a quadruple call. Her singing of "Comin' thro' the rye" was a revelation and so was her other encore song "The Cows are in the Clover", which with her clever descending chromatic work will long live in the memories of all those who were fortunate enough to hear her.

The St. John Oratorio Society have secured the services of Messrs. Clarke and Johnson, basso and tenor, of Boston as soloists for the forthcoming concerts of the society on the 20th and 21st inst. Both these gentlemen are well known and favorably so, in musical circles generally; particularly in the "Hub." Their record is excellent and they are highly recommended to the St. John public by Mr. Tom Daniel who was instrumental in securing them. It is the present purpose of the society to give a miscellaneous concert on the 20th at which these gentlemen and Miss Tarbox will appear, and give "The Creation" the following evening. There is no doubt the management of the society will put forth every effort to make the forthcoming concerts memorable successes, and by their work justify the claim to public recognition, to which all friends of the society urge it is entitled.

The date for the production of "The Ten Virgins" under the direction of Mr. Ford has been fixed for the 12th inst. at St. John's (stone) church. Mrs. W. S. Carter, Mrs. Gilchrist, Rev. Mr. Dicker and Mr. G. C. Coster will be the soloists. Though no tickets will be sold for this occasion yet it is probable cards of admission will be issued suggesting liberality in the silver collection. The proceeds are for the organ fund.

The concerts of Durward Lely at the Opera House next week will in all probability be rare treats. Mr. and Mrs. Lely are highly spoken of in the outside press and no doubt will be abundantly patronized by all good Scotchmen in this city. There are yet among us many who listened with delight to Kennedy, the late Scotch vocalist, in his early days and now the opportunity is at hand for the enjoyment of the old time delights and for the descendants of these older persons to realize and enjoy what their ancestors enjoyed in 'ye olden time.'

The concert at Mechanics' Institute by the Conservatory of Music pupils on Thursday evening last, as well as the concert in the same hall on Friday evening by Herr Bernard Walther and his associates, occurred too late in the week for notice.

The 62nd. Fusiliers are preparing for another concert at which Rev. J. M. Daventport will assist. The date is 7th. June.

The Folio for June has been received at this office and is well supplied with matter of interest to musical people. Among the music are three vocal pieces viz. "Cradle Song", "For the Colors" and "The Sailor's Vision" a Baritone song. A portrait of Miss Annie B. Sutherland, of operatic fame adorns the number. The

Folio is issued by the White-Smith Publishing Co. of Boston. The price is ten cents per number or one dollar per year.

Tones and Undertones.

Mascagni has been invited to visit America.

Jean deReske, the famous tenor, is said to be very fond of pie.

Theodore Thomas has abandoned the idea of giving a series of orchestral concerts in New York.

The last American performance of "Utopia United" was given at the Boston Museum last evening.

Della Fox has resigned from the DeWolfe Hopper opera company. Mrs. Hopper takes her place.

Jane Stuart once a popular member of W. H. Crane's dramatic company is singing in the Comic opera in Chicago.

Pauline Hall and her opera company are giving "Madame Favart" at the Park theatre, Philadelphia, this week.

Sir Joseph Barnaby says, the best English singing voices come from Yorkshire and the North of England and Wales. Paderewski's hair is worn long because he has weak eyes and his physician thinks cutting his hair would tend to make them weaker.

Marie Delano, a well known Boston soprano, sails for Paris on 2nd, inst., to continue her vocal studies with Madame Marchesi.

DeKoven and Smith's new opera to be produced next fall is called "Rob Roy." Helen Bertram has been engaged as the prima donna.

The 75th performance of "Princess Bonnie" at the Chestnut street theatre, Philadelphia, occurs on the 8th, inst. The occasion will be celebrated.

H. W. Parker, the composer of "Hora Novissima" has been engaged as professor of music at Yale College. He will be a loss to Boston musical circles.

Prof. Remenzi, the famous violinist, makes his permanent home in New Jersey. He is as ardent in his studies and as youthful in his actions as a boy of sixteen.

Berlioz's Requiem mass was rendered in Philadelphia on the 26th, ult. with a chorus of 650 voices and an orchestra of 150 and four brass bands as arranged for by the composer.

The 800th anniversary of the death of Palestrina was celebrated at the Vatican recently by the performance of the composer's works. The Pope and many Cardinals were present.

The Toronto College of Music has announced a vocal competition during the Mossy Music festival this month. A prize of \$100 each is offered for the best competing soprano and tenor voice.

The choir of the Peddle Memorial church at Newark, N. Y., which under the direction of Mr. E. W. Bowman, was considered by some the finest choir in the United States, has resigned in a body. The choir numbered eighty voices.

Mme. Calve was seasick while on the ocean and refused to leave the saloon for two days. Coquelin teased her so much she lost her temper, grabbed the French comedian by the hair and boxed his ears. He ran away with Calve at his heels.

Mrs. Elene B. Eaton (Elene Bullinton Kehe) made her final English appearance in London at Queen's hall, last week. Sir Joseph Barnaby conducted the orchestra. This lady has sailed for America and may be heard on this side of the water during the summer.

Edward Jakobowski, the composer of "Erminie" has composed the music for the new opera for Francis Wilson. The work is not yet named. The book has been adapted by J. Cheever Goodwin. Jakobowski recently scored a success in Vienna with "The Queen of Diamonds."

"Cavalleria Rusticana" is said to have brought its fortunate author about half a million dollars. Mascagni has written another opera, the libretto, being founded on one of Alphonse Karr's novels. It will be sung in German at Berlin, where Mascagni will superintend the rehearsals in person.

The condition of Emma Juch, the prima donna who has been seriously ill with inflammation of the stomach in Michigan, has improved so much she was able to start for her home on the 25th, ult. All her engagements have been cancelled, except one viz. that of her marriage which will take place this month.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

Lotta pays taxes on property in Boston valued at \$430,000.

Shakespeare's plays are being produced in Japan by native actors.

Sarah Bernhardt is giving "Phaedre" at Sunday matinees in Paris.

It is said a full dozen theatres will be closed in New York this week.

Professor Gleason, the horse tamer, is giving exhibitions in Philadelphia.

It is said that Mrs. John Drew will be seen in this city during the summer.

Marguerite Merrington will make a

short visit to England during the summer.

Wilson Barrett closes his season at the Boston theatre tonight in "The Silver King."

It is said that Julia Arthur may star next season in a play founded on the life of Charlotte Corday.

The single New York survivor of the long continued comedies is "the Amazons." It will close 9th inst.

E. E. Price is writing a new three-act play for John L. Sullivan. It is to be named "The True American."

Beebolm Trees repertoire for his American season will include "Hamlet," "The Merry Wives of Windsor" and "A Bunch of Violets."

Governor Greenhalge of Massachusetts, and his staff witnessed Wilson Barrett's performance of "Belphegor" at the Boston theatre last week.

"Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" adapted in Italian under the title "The Other One" has been successfully produced in Rome with Maggis in the dual role.

Mrs. Kendal is one of Mrs. Henry Irving's most intimate friends and has made a point of having her as a guest of honor at many of her receptions in London.

During the past season E. E. Rice has given employment to 228 actors, singers and dancers. The salary sheets of his three companies amounted to \$6,850 per week.

Corbett has refused an offer of \$2,500 per week to appear and pose in the London music halls. He will appear at the Folies Bergeres in Paris for two weeks in August.

Terriss will leave Henry Irving in the autumn, and play a new melodrama at the Adelphi. He will be supported by Miss Millward. A similar venture in the United States was not a success.

Manager John Stetson says he will give \$20,000 for a comedy as good as "The Private Secretary." He says it is the only thing in comedy he ever had a laugh over. Here is a chance for some one, rarely offered.

Scenes and tableaux of the Passion Play of Ober-Ammergau are to be given during the summer at Lincoln Park and Lake Quinsigamond, Worcester, Mass. They will be under the direction of Mr. Alfred G. Lalime.

Zellie Tilbury will start next season supported by Arthur Lewis and her mother, Lydia Thompson. Miss Tilbury will be remembered in her character of Mrs. Eastlake Chapel in "The Crust of Society" played here last summer.

Madame Duse gave "La Locandiva" by the Queen's command at Windsor recently. Her majesty expressed great pleasure at the performance and conversed with the artist for a considerable time in Italian of which she is a perfect mistress.

R. Henri Strange, the colored tragedian is playing "The Merchant of Venice" this week at the standard theatre, Philadelphia. He is said to be very clever. His supporting company are all colored people. He is the only colored actor who has ever attempted Shakespeare.

Kuehne Beveridge, being under age, has had a guardian appointed preparatory to bringing suit for divorce from Charles Coghlan "on statutory grounds." They were married at Indianapolis, Oct. 25th 1893. Coghlan and his first wife are said to have become reconciled.

Fanny Rice, the actress, is the wife of Dr. George W. Purdy, and both she and her husband are receiving many congratulations on the arrival of a bouncing girl baby to them last week. Miss Rice as previously stated will star in "Miss Innocence Abroad," next season.

Eleanor Dase, the great actress, has refused to play "The second Mrs. Tanqueray." She says she cannot understand the character of Piner's heroine and therefore cannot render it. A writer says of the play "The second Mrs. Tanqueray is about as vile a play as has ever disgraced the English speaking stage."

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A REMARKABLE CASE.

THE STRANGE EXPERIENCE OF WM. R. HALL OF ALDERSHOT.

He Was Thought to be at Death's Door, and the Medicines of a Continent had Failed—A Final Effort to Regain Health was Made, and He is Today Alive, Strong and in Good Health.

(From the Hamilton Herald.)

One of the most attractive places in the country of Wentworth is the little village of Aldershot, situated on what is known as the Plains road, about five miles from the city of Hamilton. One of the best known residents of the village and surrounding country is Captain Hall, who has represented the Township of East Flamboro in the Municipal Council for a number of years, and who, with his family, is held in the highest esteem by all who know him. Recently a reporter of the Herald visited the home of Captain Hall for the purpose of investigating a story to the effect that one of the captain's sons had been restored to health in a wonderful manner after having suffered since boyhood from apoplectic fits. On arriving at his destination the reporter found the genial captain, his wife, daughter, and three sons constituted the family. Of these stalwart young men it was impossible to pick out the one who had for so many years been such a sufferer, but the captain settled all doubts by referring me to "Will." William R. Hall, more familiarly known as Will, presented the appearance of a hearty young man about 30 years of age. His story is briefly related as follows: He has been a sufferer from fits from his sixth birthday a childish fright being supposed to have been the original cause. For years he would fall down anywhere without being in the least able to help himself, the doctors from Hamilton and various distant points were in vain called in attendance. Medicines were procured from numerous sources in Canada, the United States and even from England, without avail. The boy became so utterly helpless that seven years ago he was compelled to keep his bed, and until a year ago was completely helpless. The fits sometimes came on him so severely that he would suffer from as many as fifteen in one day, and at such times it was so difficult for him to get his breath, that his nurses had to wash him with liquor. At this time he was so low that the neighbors who dropped in to see him expected to hear of his death almost any moment. This continued until about a year ago, when the newspaper articles relating the wonderful cures by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills induced Mr. Hall to give them a trial, and to the great satisfaction of himself and his friends he began to mend not long after beginning their use, and in three or four months was sufficiently recovered to be able to get out of doors. He continued taking the pills and, for the past six months has been as strong and about as well as either of his brothers, and has attended to the stock and done his share of work on his father's farm and fruit garden. Before Mr. Hall began taking the Pink Pills he was so thin and light that one of his brothers could carry him upstairs without the least difficulty, but he has since gained fifty pounds in weight. He has not taken any other medicine since he began taking Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and although a fit of a very mild nature occasionally comes on him now, he is so nearly cured that his father took great pleasure in giving the information here recorded. "It is over a month since I had a spell," said William as the reporter was leaving, "and even when I do have one now it is not nearly so hard as before I began to take the Pink Pills. The neighbors look surprised to see me drive over to Hamilton as I frequently do, all they thought I would die long ago. I am pleased at the wonderful progress I have made, and am very glad my experience is to be published, as it may be of value to some one else."

Every statement in this article may be verified by a visit to the home of Captain Hall, ex-councillor of East Flamboro, who has resided on the Plains road for the past eighteen years, and whose word is as good as his bond among those who know him. The reporter also had a conversation with several of Captain Hall's neighbors, and the story of William Hall's recovery was verified to his full satisfaction.

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He Knew The Lawyer.

In France, as with us, it appears that lawyers have the reputation of juggling with words. A French lawyer was put in the witness-box, where he gave his testimony in a very halting and confused manner. The president of the court suddenly interrupted him. "Maitre X," said he, "forget your profession for a moment, and tell us the truth."

It is not generally known that Baltimore has become the headquarters of the Spiritualists of the United States. Believers have proposed the erection of a \$1,000,000 church in that city.

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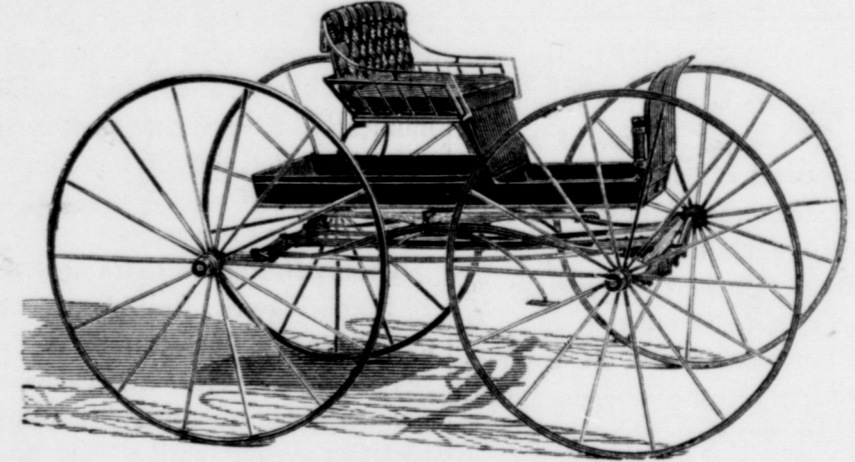
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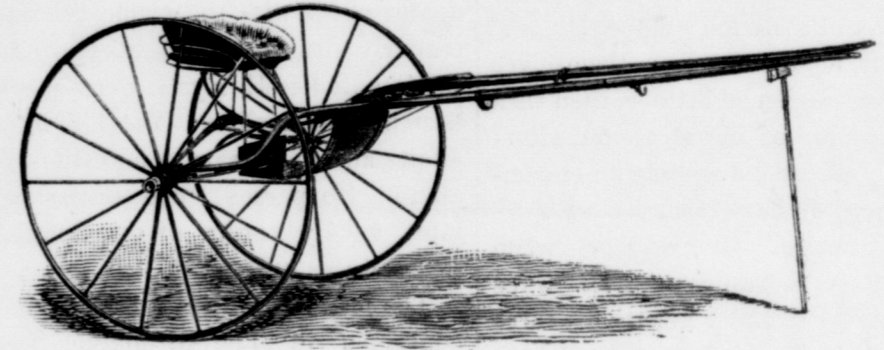
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