

# Musical and Dramatic.

## IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

"There is nothing new under the sun" is a saying that bears the imprint of antiquity. Another saying equally trite, but more applicable to the existing state of affairs in the local musical world is "After the storm comes the calm." There is a dearth of music just now, but, in keeping with the usual, if involuntary custom of this good city, I expect a reaction will set in shortly and there will be concert after concert advertised. It may not occur during the picnic season now with us, but it will manifest itself sooner or later.

At the opera house the drama reigns, and just here I might suggest in the interests of harmony and to prevent discordant feelings on the part of the patrons of that house, that the manager of the opera house, whoever he may be, pay more attention to the proper ventilation of the building than has been given it of late. Something is due to the patrons in this regard. Last Saturday afternoon it was so close in the auditorium that some persons who had seats went out into the hall to get cool and relied upon the rising of the curtain later, for a further supply of air. On Monday evening last also, every transom was closed tightly. This should not be the case. Every window should be lowered from the top and the transoms should be opened wide. This is absolutely indispensable to comfort and health especially when there is a large audience present. The audience has a right to this consideration. It is to be hoped due attention will be given by the manager to this important subject in the future, so that persons that desire to see a performance may do so in some comfort and without peril to health in a vitiated atmosphere.

The receipt at this office of the Folio for July is acknowledged. The current number contains the usual supply of interesting reading matter on art, music and the drama, and, in addition, has a song for mezzo, soprano, or baritone, entitled "Farmer John's Courtship." A portrait of Kate Vannah, journalist and composer, and three pieces for the piano fill out the number.

## Tones and Undertones.

Camilla Urso, the violinist, has sailed away to Australia.

"La Belle Helene" has been selected by Pauline Hall for her opening at the Boston theatre.

Marie Tempest has abandoned the idea of entering the field made vacant by the death of Rosina Vokes.

"Jacinta" the new Mexican opera by Lepere and Robyn recently made a hit at the Grand in St. Louis.

The violin of the late Camillo Sivori—a gift to him from Paganini—has been given by his heirs to the city of Pisa.

The Baker opera company is reported as having had a disastrous season in Detroit and it is said that the company is waiting for their salaries.

Herr Siegfried Wagner, the only son of the composer, will direct a Wagner concert in London in November. He uses his baton in his left hand.

Lillian Russell has decided not to sue for a divorce from Perugini. Lillian has no standing in the courts as a married woman, she has been informed.

Raymond Moore, the tenor, who wrote "Sweet Marie," has netted over \$18,000 profits on his songs within the past year. He will sail for Europe shortly.

Barbieri, a Spanish composer of some note, was a miser after his death \$30,000 in gold coin were found, where he had carefully concealed them, under his bed.

One of the souvenirs intended to commemorate the jubilee of Johann Strauss will be a silver wreath. It will be presented to the veteran Viennese conductor on October 1st next.

Madame Billoni-Zifferer of San Francisco, recently sang the leading role in Gounod's "Romeo et Juliette" at the grand opera house in Vienna. She met with success.

The season of "Princess Bonnie" will close at the Chestnut street theatre, Philadelphia, this evening. It will have received 105 performances there, securing the longest run ever known in that city.

Countess Maria Alboni Papolo, a one-time rival of Jenny Lind, died in Rome, June 23. She sang in Boston at the inauguration of the Music Hall, Nov. 20, 1852, when she was called the "Venus contralto."

Edith Woodthorpe, played Buttercup in "Pinafore," the first opera ever presented at the Tivoli in San Francisco. This was fifteen years ago and Edith is now playing Lulu, the pretty peasant girl in "Tar and Tartar."

It is now said that Verdi has finished his lyrical drama to be called "King Lear," and that the work is now in the hands of Ricordi, his publisher. It is also asserted the work will not appear until after Verdi's death.

Francis Wilson, the operatic comedian, is described as built upon the sturdy and stocky plan. His legs, arms and shoulders

are heavy and knotted with huge muscles, entirely unencumbered with fat. He has wonderful skill in fence. His dissipations are candy, foils and algebra.

The souvenirs for the 350th performance of "1492" consisted of Columbian clocks of carved wood just as they were made in the year 1492. Each souvenir with its box weighed seven pounds and four tons of clocks were given away.

Leoncavallo, the operatic composer, is untiring. In thirty days he wrote the symphonic poem "Leraphite." He is now working on the opera "La Vie de Boheme" and on "Roland of Berlin" which he is writing at the request of the emperor for the Berlin opera.

## TALK OF THE THEATRE.

The special feature of the Harkins' season which closes tonight at the Opera House was the production of "The Soudan." It was looked for with much interest. It has been read and talked about by many who had never seen it. During the war of the Soudan the illustrated papers had given us scenes of the battles and engagements that occurred in that distant land, but to W. S. Harkins is due the credit of giving our people the first production of realistic pictures of that struggle for supremacy on which the attention of the world was riveted.

The stage has shown us war scenes before. "Jessie Brown" with its story of the Indian Mutiny, for example, has ever had a thrilling interest, and side by side with it will "The Soudan" live and be of interest to future generations of British subjects wherever and whenever it is produced.

As a play "The Soudan" is distinguished for its spectacular effects all of which are so good as to leave little room for criticism, but the plot is not unlike that of many other sensational dramas. There is the false friend, the wronged wife, the victim of a conspiracy; the stolen child; the avaricious, the murderous guardian; the good specimen of muscular christianity; the lawyers clerk who revolts at the treachery of his employer, etc. All these characters are familiar to theatre goers but in "The Soudan" they seem so merged into the play that one almost accepts them as new characters. The members of the cast acquitted themselves well and opportunity is given for some nice character work. The work of Mart Cody as Joe Lambkins was very good and also that of Miss Maddern as Mrs. Lambkins. This lady's interpretations more than suggested the late Mrs. Jamieson as "Mother Frochard" in "The Two Orphans;" the parts are very much alike. Mr. Harkins as Captain Temple, the wronged husband, has a great part and gave a strong rendition of his role. He was particularly strong in the scene where in the desert he encounters his false friend, another role consistently played by E. L. Snader. The home soldiers seemed to enter into the spirit of the piece too, and the band was so affected that they seemed to have not a little difficulty, through emotion, of course, in playing "Home, Sweet Home."

The other plays during the engagement and not previously noticed were "Incog," "An Arabian Night" and "The Planter's Wife." They are all good pieces. In the first of these the burden of the fun making developed upon Thos. A. Wise, who, as General Stanhope, U. S. A., a dyspeptic, kept the audience in roars of laughter. W. R. Bernhard as Tom Stanhope, his son, was very happy in his role; so were Miss Mayor and Miss Hayward, but as Dr. Siegfried Hartman of the Sanitarium, Mr. J. H. Bunny did an exceedingly clever bit of character work. He is a marked favorite. The talent of the company is of good quality and not the least appreciated is Mr. Snader, whose popularity is attested nightly. Of Miss Mayor I have previously written and have nothing to add except this, that when she again plays "Nan, the flower girl" she ought, for the sake of consistency, and it possible of course, to remove her heavy gold bracelet, or else take measures to prevent it being so much in evidence. No mother would possess a trinket like that and have her child hungry. Miss Fulton, the soubrette, has given satisfactory work during the season. The engagement closes tonight with "The Octoroon" a play of the south, before the war. McCody will play the role of the Indian "Wahnotec."

Maurice Barrymore is admittedly the master of all other actors in this country as a boxer.

Mrs. Brown-Potter's once beautiful copper-brown hair is said to be now thickly sprinkled with grey.

Beatrice Cameron, the wife of Richard Mansfield may be sent on a tour next season in revivals of Robertson's Comedies.

Julia Marlowe's marriage license read, "Fanny Brough, aged 28 years, known as Julia Marlowe; born in England."

When Beerbohm Tree visits America, January 19th, next, his repertoire will include "Hamlet" and "The Merry Wives of Windsor."

William Morris, with his wife (Etta Hawkins) as leading lady, are playing "Rosedale" and "The Sogarth" in the west.

Mr. Morris has been leading man with Charles Frohman.

E. S. Willard was given a most cordial welcome at the comedy theatre, London, on his return from American. His play "The Middleman" was pronounced as "behind the times."

Pretty Maud Haslam, who was here in Arthur Rehan's company about five years ago, will be with Joseph Haworth in "Rosedale" next season. Mr. Haworth will open Sept. 10 at the Star theatre, N. Y.

May Nannery, a young lady native of this city and a favorite actress on the Pacific slope, began a star engagement at Moroscos grand opera house, San Francisco, in the role of "Queen" on the 20th ult.

Leonard Boyne, the actor who played in "The Prodigal Daughter," in the United States, last season, is now in England. He sold his horses in New York, by auction, and Roquefort only brought \$30, and goes to Kentucky.

In his new play "Sheridan" Mr. Sothern will be an English curate in the first part of the piece, but in the last act he will bloom out in buttons and scarlet as an English army officer. The play deals with life in India.

"A Modern Eve" was produced in London last Monday evening. The cast included Beerbohm Tree, Fred Terry, Charles Allen, Mrs. Tree, Mrs. Boucicault and Lottie Venne. The play is by Malcolm Salaman.

The controversy over the ownership of "The White Slave," the famous drama of the late Bartley Campbell, has been settled. The control of the play has been awarded to Robert and John Campbell, sons of the late dramatist.

The child of Carrie Turner, the well-known actress, now Mrs. Mack, was stolen from her by its father, Albert His, who was Miss Turner's first husband, from whom she secured a divorce for desertion. He is a Swiss and now has the child in his native country. The U. S. government will probably demand the surrender of the child.

The Boston theatres, which have been closed for the summer season, are announcing dates for the opening of next season. So far as known the Boston theatre will open Aug. 18th with Cleveland's Minstrels; The Grand Opera House, Aug. 11th with "The White Squadron;" The Columbia, Aug. 25th with "Young America" and the Hollis theatre Sept. 3rd with "A Country Sport."

## Among the Boston Playhouses.

It is some time since I last had this pleasure, and in the interval the regular season has closed and the majority of the theatres in this city are in the hands of decorators and furnishers getting ready for the new season of 1894-5.

Four of the city theatres however are open, or rather three are and the fourth will be on Monday, and at all of them comic opera is the attraction.

The principal place of amusement this summer and certainly the one that has proved the most remunerative, is Music Hall, where the Promenade Concerts, familiarly known as the "Pops" are drawing to a close after a season of some weeks. It certainly is a great pleasure to be able to drop in of an evening, for an hour or so, consume a cigar and a bottle of beer, chat with a friend and enjoy the music of the splendid orchestra which Adamowski leads with such grace and precision.

As many of your readers know, Jack Mason and his wife Marion Manola started at the Tremont Theatre to give a summer season of light opera, preferably the Gilbert and Sullivan compositions. Their stay was short lived, for with their usual desire for sensation they got into a row with their managers and were inconspicuously bounced. They made some arrangement with the Park Theater and opened there with the "Mascot," and despite the added attractions of ice cream and Apollinaris have failed to make a success. This week they have been doing the Mikado but I think their stay at the Park will be limited. Rumor has it that the astute manager of this theatre is interested in the company, and it is very certain that if rumor is right the same manager will not run any production very long which shows a loss.

Last Monday the Museum started its summer opera season with the first production of a new comic opera called "Davy Jones" and the chances are this will do fairly well, for the piece is bright, the music catchy and there are lots of chances for clever specialists. There are some good people in the cast, stably Dan Daley and Mamie Gilroy, and as it does not require a vast amount of brain worry to follow the plot of the piece, it will suit our present torrid weather, although as a matter of fact, the breezy expanses of the parks and beaches are preferable to the coolest theatre ever built when the mercury is flirting with the nineties.

Pauline Hall has to come to Boston sometime, so she opens at the big Boston Theatre on Monday next in "La Belle Helene" to be followed by other light operas. I hope the fair singer will do well, but certainly four theatres doing comic

opera cannot all pay, and some one will have to suffer. To my mind the museum and the Tremont will be the gainers.

When the Manola Mason fracas occurred, it very fortunately happened that Camille D'Arville was in town and as fortunately disengaged so that the managers of the house were able to secure her as prima donna. She opened as Mabel in "The Pirates of Penzance," followed that with "Falka" and next week will be seen as the lively lady in Offenbach's greatest production "The Grand Duchess."

I have spoken of Miss D'Arville's abilities before and further acquaintance with her work strengthens the opinion I had formed. Nature has been prodigal with her gifts, endowing her with an attractive face, a beautiful figure and a glorious voice, which has been cultivated to perfection. In my opinion Camille D'Arville stands today the best exponent of comic opera on the American stage. She not only knows how to sing, has a most attractive and magnetic personality, but she can act, and when one finds a singer who can act, there need be no stint of admiration, the combination is so rare. The much married Lillian has, I dare say, a more beautiful face than Miss D'Arville, but there the advantage ends, for the latter has fully as fine a voice as the much advertised blonde, and does not bring herself so conspicuously before the public. Miss D'Arville's "Mabel," in the "Pirates," was a revelation, and the critics generally said the music had never been so well sung in Boston before. Her "Falka" was well known on account of the reputation she had made in London in the part, and her appearance as "La Grande Duchesse," is eagerly anticipated.

Keith's theatre is, of course, open, and is quite a favorite resort in a hot summer evening. One is always sure of a good variety performance, and a look at the beautiful fountain is enough to make one feel cool.

## PROSCENIUM.

## THE LANGLEY CASE.

Lansing People Hear of His Illness and Subsequent Cure while in London, Ont.—Much Pleasure is Manifested Over the News.

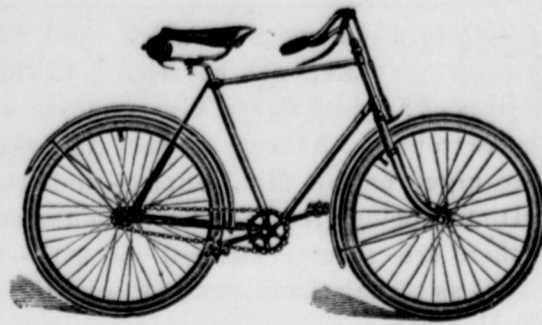
LANSING, Mich., July 2.—A friend of William Langley, formerly of this city, now of London Ont., received a letter a few months ago stating that he is completely cured of the supposed fatal disorder. Mr. Langley says no medicine did him any good until he began using Dodd's Kidney Pills. These helped him from the first and in the end restored him to perfect health.

"What nonsense this all is about men getting on their knees when they propose!" said Mrs. Parslow to her dear friend. "My husband didn't do any such absurd thing when he asked me to marry him."

"He did when he proposed to me," said the dear friend, without thinking.

Kitty—"You're not going to send that hideous Indian idol for a wedding present, are you?" Tom—"Yes; I've got a bet that the bride will write a charming little note thanking me for my beautiful and exquisite gift."

"Whose funeral is that?" "Gashwiler's." "What! Is Gashwiler dead?" "Not that I know of. He is probably riding around in the hearse for the fun of the thing."



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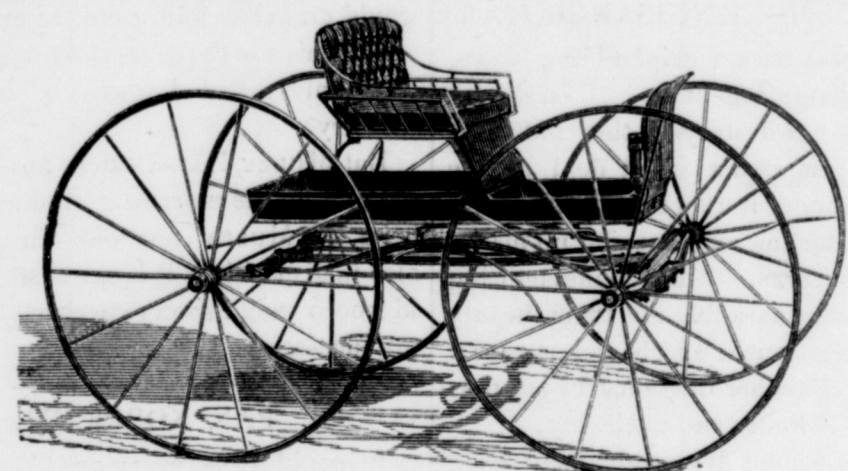
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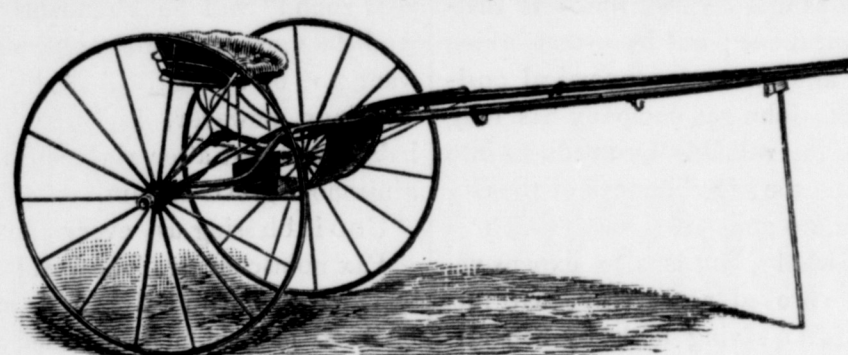
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Illustration of a woman in a long dress and hat standing at a counter, with a man behind the counter. The woman is looking at something on the counter. The man is looking at her. The counter has a sign that says "Give me Progress please".