

Musical and Dramatic.

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

Judging from the number of vacant seats in the opera house last Wednesday evening, something yet undiscovered in a musical sense is necessary in order to fill that house to its capacity. The object of Wednesday's concert was most deserving. It appeals to general sympathy; it is not of a class or creed order; some of those who took part in the programme have already established reputations as musicians of very high order. There was an additional attraction in the first appearance as instrumentalists of two young ladies, and yet the house was not filled. Of the programme itself it must be said it was a tasteful one in every particular, and every number given was received with abundant applause. Regret was general that Miss Meyer's piano solo could not be given, because, owing to the recent storm, that lady could not reach the city in time to take part in the concert.

Harrison's orchestra opened the programme by giving the overture to Verdi's "Nabuccodonozor," for the first time. They covered themselves with glory in their rendition of this piece—their lights and shadows were admirably marked and the crescendo was really well worked out. They have on previous occasions done some excellent work, but, taken as a whole, I think they never played quite as well before as they did on Wednesday evening last. There was an interesting balance preserved throughout and such an opening gave promise of a thoroughly musical treat in the remainder of the programme. The orchestra in their piece work was applauded to the last echo and it was necessary the popular leader should gracefully bow his acknowledgments more than once in order to avoid a repetition.

Encores were in order. With the single exception of "Rose di Maggio," by Graziani, a trio for guitar, violin and mandolin, by Misses Tibbitts and DeBury and Prof. Walther, which was one of the gems of the programme, every number was encored.

Mrs. McMullin was down for the first solo, "Sognai," by Schira, and she acquitted herself so well that she was warmly encored and on her return was presented with a beautiful bouquet. Miss Tibbitts played the accompaniments.

Mrs. Harrison was in good voice and sang well. This lady has been heard here on several previous occasions and always listened to with much pleasure. On this latest occasion she was cleverly accompanied by Harrison's orchestra, and as a consequence when the capable singer and the orchestra are in sympathy, the lady's effort was an absolute success. She sang "E in Alt," so cleverly that the enthusiasm of her audience almost broke into cheering. The effect will be perhaps better understood when it is said that the leader of the orchestra having placed his violin in safety joined vigorously in the applause. Prof. Walther gave Schubert's serenade most beautifully. I think this is one of this gentleman's best pieces if not his very best. His tone is noticeable throughout his every selection. He has a splendid instrument and his selections were so varied in character as to demonstrate his familiarity with this most difficult of instruments.

In response to an encore in the second part of the programme, he played the simple ballad "Home, Sweet Home," and so intent was the audience that no sound could be heard other than the sweet tones of the violin. It seemed as though the silence could be felt. Mr. Lindsay seemed to sing better, that he has been doing lately and his song "Leonore" justly merited the encore he received.

The young ladies who made their first appearance on the opera stage on that occasion, Miss DeBury and Miss Furlong, created very favorable

impressions. The former played a mandolin solo so well, the audience wanted more, and she courteously responded by repeating a portion of her principal piece. Miss Furlong contributed three selections for the banjo, accompanied on the piano by her little sister, Miss Marie Furlong. The clog dance selections evidently gave most pleasure, and an encore was insisted upon. Miss Tibbitts played nearly all the piano accompaniments, and it is only necessary to say, her work gave every satisfaction to audience and performer alike, although she nearly erred as so many piano players do, in making the accompaniment too loud. Taken altogether, the concert as a musical event was excellent beyond any local entertainment in the opera house for a long time past. It is a pity the financial result was not in proportion.

A chamber concert under the direction of Mr. Jas. S. Ford is to take place in the Stone church school room on Tuesday of next week. Miss Massie and Prof. Walther are to take part.

On St. Paul's day (25th inst.), the choir of the Valley (St. Paul's) church will be assisted by an orchestra and some vocal talent from other church choirs. Mr. T. P. Bourne is organist in this church.

Tones and Undertones.
A Hindustani work on music says that "music is the painfully-acquired art of speaking very loudly in a shrill voice."

Christine Nilsson's sleeping chamber in her Madrid apartment has its walls covered with pages of music, taken from the Operatic scores she has sung. Her dining room is papered with receipted hotel bills from all points on the globe visited by her.

Mr. Alfred Scott Gatty, the composer of "Rothesay Bay," and many popular plantation songs, has for the last seven years held office under the College of Arms as York Herald. He is a brother of the late Mrs. Ewing whose children's stories, "Jackanapes," "Jan of the Windmill," etc., achieved such remarkable success.

Mme. Melba gave a grand impersonation of "Semiramide" in the opera of that name at the Metropolitan opera house, N. Y. last week. She came and won hearty applause for her effort, which was most commendable, dramatically as well as vocally. She looked just the Queen who could do all the fascinating and wicked things set down for her before and during the progress of the opera. Edouard de Reszke, as Assur, made quite as deep an impression as the prima donna. His singing was a surprise even to those who had watched him for a season and a half, and in the first act especially he won new and undoubted honors.

Both Behind the Scenes.
Amateur Actor (to friend)—What do you think of my Hamlet, Charley?
Dear Friend—Immense! In one part of the play you were equal to Irving.
Amateur Actor—What part was that, Charley?
Dear Friend—Where Polonius is giving his parting advice to Laertes.
Amateur Actor—But I was behind the scenes then.
Dear Friend—So is Irving.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

M. Coquelin and Mme. Hading, the French comedians, now in the United States, are giving wonderful performances of Moliere's works. M. Coquelin is a most versatile actor. "Tartuffe" and "Les Precieuses Ridicules" are the plays by means of which this versatility is shown. Tartuffe is a character of forbidding aspect and affects the observer as might a creeping thing, says a New York writer. The depths of his sensuality and hypocrisy are abysmal. He, Coquelin presents Tartuffe as a man of placid and almost inert temperament, from which the promptings of animalism and malice leap forth fiercely, and yet with a taint of sluggishness that is even more hideous than frank libertinism. Another writer says of Tartuffe. "In this character, too, we find traits that are as familiar to audiences of today as they were to those of Moliere's time." M. Coquelin and Mme. Hading will remain at Abbey's until Feb. 17 when they will go to Havana and afterwards to Mexico.

Hattie Russell, sister to Ada Rehan, has been engaged, as leading lady in "The sleep-walker" which will shortly start on tour.

"Shore Acres" the play now on at Daly's (N. Y.) theatre, the authorship of which has been claimed by James A. Hearne it is now said to be an "actual, solid, unblushing steal" from an old play called, "Light House Cliff" which was produced at the Baldwin theatre in San Francisco during the season of 1878-9, at which time Hearne was manager of that house. "Hearts of Oak" is another play claimed by Mr. Hearne, which was discovered to be none other than an old English drama known as "The Mariners Compass."

Lillian Russell, it is said, once more proposes to take unto herself a husband. He will be the third. He is the gay and debonaire baritone Signor Peruzzi. His real name is John Chatterton and he is a native of New York. He has studied and sung in operas in Italy. He has been on the stage about twenty years.

Ellen Terry says [that in studying the part of Cordelia, in "King Lear" she read over three hundred books of history, costumes, customs, and one thing and another that could give points on the proper presentation of the character.

Hard times have manifested themselves in rather a peculiar way in the theatrical business. Good plays are extremely well

attended, while mediocre or poor plays are almost entirely shunned. It seems as if people who have cares and anxieties are willing to go somewhere to forget their business, but more than ever do they want to get the worth of their money in the entertainment. "People haven't money to throw away these days," said a manager who is making money. "There are more discriminating in selecting a play to see. A man who can afford to go only once a week to the theatre runs no risks on guessing at his choice."

A series of Ibsen matinees at the Garden theatre (N. Y.) has been decided upon in consequence of the success of a recent production of "Ghosts" by that author. A large percentage of the receipts will be given to the Actors fund and the Professional Woman's League.

There is a rumor that Joseph Jefferson will play in England next year, in a round of the old English Comedies.

E. J. Henly, from whom Mary Hampton recently secured a divorce, has lost the sight of one of his eyes.

EXMOUTH STREET CHURCH.

Its Pastor Relates an Interesting Experience.

Rev. Mr. Campbell's Remarks Are Supplemented

By a Similar Statement From H. A. McKeown, ex M. P. P.

Rev. G. M. Campbell, pastor of Exmouth street church, says: "I have confidently recommended to my friends Hawker's Balsam of Tolu and Wild Cherry, which has been in use in my family for a number of years for colds and throat affections with satisfactory results."

H. A. McKeown, ex M. P. P., also says: "I take pleasure in stating I have used Hawker's Balsam of Tolu and Wild Cherry for the past eight years, and consider Hawker's Balsam the best cough cure I ever used. I also consider Hawker's Liver Pills an A 1 liver regulator."

Declined To Talk.
Reporter (at front door)—"There is a rumor that Mr. Greatman has just died. Is this true?"
Butler—"Yes; but he has nothing to say for publication."

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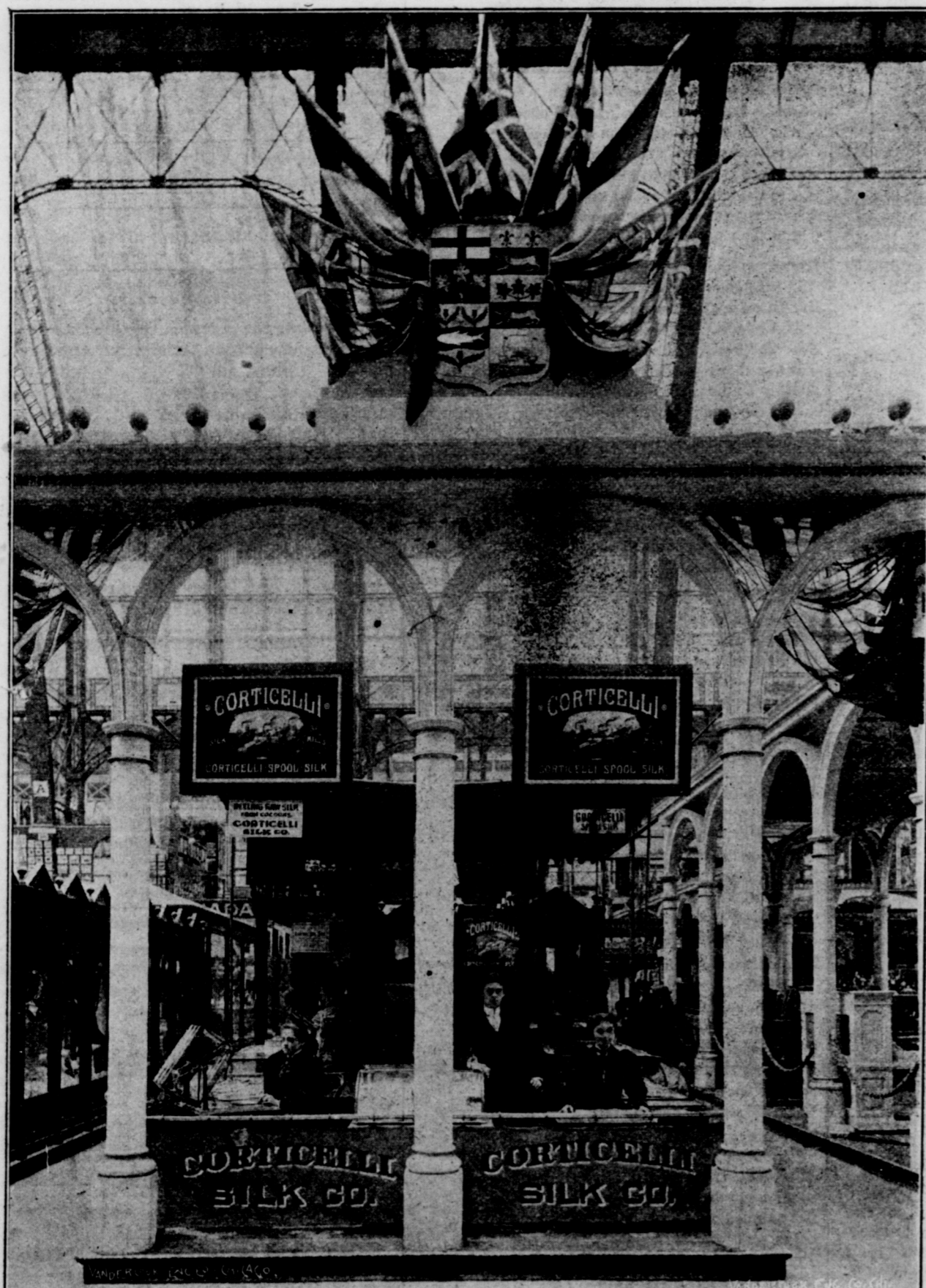
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