



**IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.**

The Standard Opera Company under the management of W. McCaffrey, closed their season somewhat abruptly last Friday (5th inst). They "folded their tent like the Arab and as silently stole away" to Halifax. The fact that they give performances at the Academy of Music at all is evidence that their terms must have been materially changed, since the ultimatum of the manager to Mr. Clarke as mentioned in this column last week.

There is little doubt the Opera House management has farmed out this company. The rental or per centage only yet remains private.

While conceding the possession of good voices and musical talent to some, it not all, of the leading members of this company, it is a little surprising that even the lower priced seats in the Opera House were not better filled during their stay. Some business managers like some houses, and some houses under certain management, as is perhaps well known, almost invariably do poor business despite every effort to the contrary. When a venture such as the recent opera season, in a small city like this, is attended with such evident want of success every one who speaks of it is ready with a theory, or a reason for it, some attributing it to one cause, some to another. All these may be wrong. It is rather prejudicial however at any time in business of that kind to be known as having been connected or identified with even a single failure. The Aborn opera company's season is well remembered; so also is the Summer Stock (dramatic) Company. Clever people undoubtedly were among the members of the latter, but business was poor. Is there such a thing as a "Hoo-doo" and if so, is the Opera House a victim?

There is rather a dearth of musical matter locally this week but unless all things fail there is promise of much entertainment at the concert to be given at the Opera House next week, in aid of the House of the Good Shepherd. The names of Herr Walther and Mrs. Harrison are already mentioned in connection with the occasion.

Grand opera will be next in order as an organization bearing the name American Grand English Opera company is coming here to open on 22nd. inst. for a short season. It is said they will produce Il Trovatore, Lucia-de-Lammermoor etc. These works are not usually considered English operas, but they are promised by this company to our citizens. The name of the company is somewhat composite in character. Except that they played in Bangor quite recently I have not heard the name before. Possibly they too have organized for a winter season in the provinces. Their quality will be known later on.

**Tones and Undertones.**

Maria Pettini, is the name of a young Italian singer, who the critics think will create a sensation. Her only instructor has been her mother who is a singer of some distinction. The diploma of merit of the Roman Academy of St. Cecilia was recently awarded to her without one dissenting voice. There was competition. The audience before whom she sang was the most critical Rome could produce, but her hearers were so delighted that contrary to their usual custom, they applauded loudly.

A funny story is told of Felicien David, the distinguished French composer. When a young man he gave a successful concert at Cairo, and was sent for by the Khedive who asked him if he would give a few lessons to the ladies of the harem. Visions of rare Oriental beauties presented themselves to his mind's eye and he consented with enthusiasm. He was ushered into a large empty room in which was a piano. He waited. Shortly a burly negro appeared and stood silent for several moments. He at last asked David when he was going to give the lesson. "When my pupils come in," replied David, "Oh," said the negro promptly, "you are to give the lesson to me, and I am to give it to the ladies."

Sir Arthur Sullivan, the English composer, is coming out as a racing man. His name figures among the list of subscribers to the Two thousand Guineas of 1895.

Lillian Russell has bought a new opera entitled "Cleopatra." The libretto, which is by Philip, is now being translated into English by Alexander Neumann.

"Prince Kam," or "Venus," by the Camille D'Arville company, has just closed a successful engagement in Boston. They open in New York again towards the end of this month.

Mr. Carrodus, the eminent violinist, who is the possessor of the famous Joseph Guarnerius del Jesu violin, known as the Canon Joseph, which is valued at £1,000, has recently added another fine specimen

of the same make to his interesting collection. Its characteristics are great power and a wonderful sweetness of tone, and it is said to be equal in some respects to the historic fiddle supposed to have been gambled away by Paganini. The instrument is dated 1741. It has had the good fortune nearly always to fall into the hands of distinguished professional performers, and is consequently in a perfect state of preservation.

**TALK OF THE THEATRE.**

Madame Elsonora Duse, the famous actress, has had a triumph in Berlin by playing Sudermann's "Heimath" better than any German actress. She was called more than a dozen times before the curtain and the author expressed his delight.

Kendal and Mrs. Sarah Bernhardt sit down to serious study and allow nothing whatever to interfere with them during the time they are learning a part by heart. They study and consider every word as they go along and mark and score the book containing their words in every possible manner.

Fritz Williams, who played here some five or six years ago, the leading juvenile roles in Arthur Rehan's company, is now playing in "Our Country Cousin" at the Lyceum theatre New York.

"Shore Acres" which had such a long run at the Boston museum is now on at Daly's (N. Y.) theatre, and it is said will continue there for a long time to come. It is spoken of as "a great play, the equal of which has yet to be seen."

Lewis Morrison is playing in Philadelphia this week.

Clara Morris and Roland Reed, who have been "resting," resumed their respective tours on the 8th inst, the former at Columbus, Ohio, and the latter at Buffalo, N. Y., in a new comedy called "Dakota."

Thomas W. Keene, whose Richard 3rd. at the Mechanics Institute some years ago will be pleasantly remembered, is appearing in a round of legitimate plays in Boston this week.

A new comedy entitled "The Sleep-walker" by C. H. Abbott, has been secured by Robert Hilliard and Paul Arthur. It will be produced about the end of the month.

**TOLD OF A FAMOUS HYMN.**

**Its Origin and Its Use in Various Lands by All Classes.**

Twenty years or more ago a New York lawyer was sitting in his office when a Brooklyn Sunday school superintendent called on him. As the latter turned to go, a printed page fell from a package in his hand. Picking it up, he exclaimed: "Ah, this is a hymn I've had printed for my Sunday school. It is only had music I'm sure they would sing it." The lawyer took it, read the first line, "What a friend we have in Jesus!" and asked, "Can you wait fifteen minutes?" He caught up a sheet of letter paper, ruled it, and dashed down the music to which that familiar hymn has since been sung the world round.

The author of the words is unknown. Attributed to Dr. Bonar, he has disclaimed them. The composer of the tune, which has become as well known as "Old Hundred" or "America," is Mr. Charles C. Converse, a successful business man, a facile writer, and an accomplished musician. His youthful compositions are very popular. He mastered the science of music in the famous school at Leipzig, and won the highest commendations of the leading musicians there. On his way home he played before Prince Albert, the prince also playing for him; but after his return he decided upon a business career. Many of his hymn-tunes and songs, jotted down in leisure moments, perhaps in the cars upon backs of letters, have become the common possession of the singing world. Some of his more elaborate compositions have been played by the Thomas orchestra in New York and Chicago.

But it is the history of the hymn re-erred to, with the music, which has made it familiar and dear to millions, to which this article would call attention. Over fifty million impressions of the piece are known to have been made. Mr. Sankey says that it is the favorite with more people wherever he has sung than any other. The hymn has been translated into many languages and sung to the same tune in all parts of the globe. A neighbor of Judge Converse returning from Europe heard singing in the steerage of the steamer. He went down and found that the motley company were singing: "What a Friend we have in Jesus," in various languages. One foreign tongue after another joined the commingled strain, even some Chinese who had learned the hymn in their own language adding their voices, till it seemed as though a musical Pentecost had visited the steerage. The effect upon singers and listeners was most impressive, for all seemed to feel that Jesus was indeed among them to hear, protect and save.

This is one of the tunes which the people make their own—a sacred folk-song. Bands and hand-organs play it. More than one criminal has asked to have it sung as he faced death upon the scaffold. It was the favorite of Jesse James, and was sung, by his request, at his funeral. As its familiar strains were heard, tears rolled down the cheeks of his hardened

associates. Lost women hearing children sing its lines in the streets of Chicago and other cities, have been known to weep and resolve to lead a better life, in the hope that such a Friend would not cast them out, but receive and save them.

At the recent anniversary of the Bowery Mission a well-dressed, good-looking man told this story of his conversion: Eleven years before he was walking the Bowery in despair, a penniless drunkard. His family were scattered, and no one would give him work. As he passed the open door of the mission room he heard the hymn, "What a friend we have in Jesus," sung heartily as though it were true. "I said to myself," he testified, "I have no friend but one. I'll go in and see if there's any hope for me." At the close of the meeting I lifted my hand for prayer, and then, in the after-meeting, a Christian lady pointed me to Christ. I went out that night happy in my new found Friend, and now I have as good a home as anybody, with all my family around me, a responsible business position, and I have an organ of my own, with which I love to sing: "What a friend I have in Jesus!"

When the secrets of hearts and the full history of gospel triumphs are published at the last day, what a story of inspiration, comfort and help will be that of this simple hymn by the unknown author, as it has sung its way to millions and millions of human souls in the stormy passage through life! "I would rather have written that tune," said the chairman of the International Y. M. C. A. Convention at Atlanta, than possess all the money of a Gould or a Vanderbilt." Heaven alone will disclose the value of the ministry of consecrated songs. N. Y. Observer.

**The Nine Muses.**

The muses are supposed to be nine in number. Their names and particular provinces are as follows:—Clio, the goddess of history; Euterpe, the goddess of music; Thalia, the goddess of comedy; Melpomene, the goddess of tragedy; Terpsichore, the goddess of dancing; Erato, the goddess of amorous poetry; Polyhymnia, the goddess of memory and oratory; Urania, the goddess of astronomy; and Calliope, the goddess of heroic poetry.

It is quite impossible to determine the number of cough remedies in the world; we believe they are legion. One point, however, has been clearly established to the satisfaction of thousands in Canada; it is that Harvard bronchial syrup is the safest, most effective and best of all preparations of the world ever heard of.

Mr. C. P. Fletcher, foreman for Messrs. Cunningham Bros., St. Lawrence Marble Works, Montreal, writes as follows:—"We have used many different cough remedies in our family and find that the Harvard bronchial syrup gives by far the best satisfaction, and we always find pleasure in recommending it to our friends."



**MILLINERY.**  
at greatly reduced prices.  
CHAS. K. CAMERON & CO., 77 King St.



**VICTORIA SKATING RINK.**  
SEASON 1893-94.

THE Directors beg to announce that the old Victoria Skating Rink will be reopened for the season to subscribers just as soon as the weather will permit of making ice. The building is now undergoing extensive repairs and after being repainted and newly furnished throughout will present an inviting and attractive appearance. One of our leading local bands will furnish music on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, and Saturday afternoons. Carnivals, Hockey Matches, Skating Races, and Fancy Skating Competitions will be held during the season, and extra novelties and attractions have been arranged for, as the directors intend to spare neither trouble nor expense to retain the popularity of the old Victoria. Large tickets will be provided every band night to convey subscribers from the King Square to the rink FREE, starting every 5 minutes between 7:30 and 8:15 p. m. Tickets for the season have been placed at the following low rates:

GENTLEMEN'S TICKETS.....\$5.00  
LADIES' DO.....3.00  
CHILDREN'S DO.....2.00  
Family Tickets admitting two, \$7; each additional ticket \$1.  
THOS. W. PETERS, Mayor, President.  
LT.-COL. J. R. ARMS-IRON, Vice-Pres.

HONORARY DIRECTORS: Geo. K. McLeod, S. S. DeForest, Arthur W. Adams, Chas. F. Harrison, Edwin Peters, Fred C. Jones, W. S. Barker, Fred Temple, G. Beatty Gerrard, G. W. Hope Grant, A. O. Skinner.  
FRANK L. PETERS, Secretary

**T. PARTELOW MOTT,**  
165 Union St. - St. John N. B.

**Woolen Goods and Wool.**  
CASH PAID FOR WOOL.  
The best place to buy Candy is at the 20th Century Kandy Kitchen 12 Charlotte Street.

**FREDERICTON.**

[Progress is for sale in Fredericton by W. T. H. Fenety and J. H. Hawthorne.]  
JAN. 10.—On Tuesday afternoon at Farrallin place, Government house, was held the first of Mrs. Fraser's Tuesday afternoon receptions. The handsome rooms were profusely decorated with cut flowers, and baskets of flowers filled odd nooks. The exceeding cold of the day without, seemed to add to the beauty of the cosy home life within. Mrs. Fraser received in a very handsome gown, the groundwork of a very dark green, with petticoat and bodice elaborately embroidered in bright silks, and court train trimmed with green velvet. His Honor and Major Gordon, A. D. C., assisted Mrs. Fraser in entertaining. Light refreshments with hot tea and coffee were served.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Edgecombe are being congratulated upon the arrival of a little baby daughter. Miss Bessie Jack is here visiting at Sir John Allen's.

The whist club met last Friday night with Miss Tabor, Sunbury street.

The latest engagement announced is that of a popular young bachelor, an ex-member, and the eldest daughter of a professional gentleman.

Mr. Horace Hume is here from British Columbia, visiting his father who is still very ill.

Mr. A. H. McDonnell has been confined to barracks through illness, since his return from St. John. Mr. and Mrs. R. W. L. Tibbits have returned from their visit to Presque Isle and Ashland.

Preparations are in progress for a ball to be given at the university early next month.

Miss Mollie Coen, of Woodstock, who has been spending some days with her friend, Miss Mary Monahan has returned home.

Mrs. Annie McKay has returned from a visit to Moncton.

Mr. Fred Forrester, has been renewing old acquaintances, and visiting friends in the city.

Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Gregory have returned from their trip to Boston.

Mr. A. S. Murray is confined to the house with the grippe.

Miss Nellie Sterling gave a delightful carpet dance on Thursday evening to about thirty of her friends. Ives were served between the dances and at midnight supper was served. Among those present were Miss Burdick, Miss Lida Allan, Miss Jack, the Misses Fisher, Miss George, Miss Bailey, the Misses Rabbit, Miss Cropley, Miss Myra Hart, Miss Betty, Miss Logan, Miss Neil, Miss Beckwith, Miss Marsh and Messrs. Torston, Cowie, H. V. Edgecombe, A. R. Tibbits, L. Bailey, C. Neil, L. Fenety, G. Black, H. McIvor, A. Shute, H. Chestnut, A. Porter and S. Campbell.

After an absence of several years spent in Ontario Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Elliott are welcomed back as permanent residents of Fredericton.

Mrs. Minnie Gordon has also returned to Fredericton and will make her home with Mrs. John Thomas for the winter.

A wedding took place at the residence of Dr. Bridges on Saturday morning, when his cousin Miss Julia Bailey was united in marriage to Mr. Frank Coburn. The couple left immediately after for their home in Little River, Sunbury. CRICKET.

**GRAND FALLS.**

JAN. 10.—Mrs. Rainsford, and Miss Rainsford have the sympathy of all, in the death of Mr. Frank E. Watson. The news was a shock to all who heard it, although, it was known that, for many days, his sister, Mrs. Rainsford, had discouraging news of his illness. Miss Rainsford went to Houlton last Saturday and remained with him until he passed away Monday morning, returning here to accompany her mother to Andover, where the interment will take place today. Many will be the mourners and that tribute, "the generation done to human worth by the hearts of men," will be paid.

Rumor did not deceive when she whispered that two teachers, Mr. White, and Miss Maxwell, were, during the holidays, going to join hands. All best wishes for Mr. and Mrs. White, who have resumed their duties, in the schools here.

Now another pleasant event is anticipated during the present month. A young medical practitioner, and a young lady, who has resided in our midst for the past year, are spoken of as the principals.

Mr. Hume, of British Columbia, and his sister Miss Louise Hume of Florenceville, arrived here last Wednesday, and remained until Monday, the guests of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Henderson.

Mrs. George West of Van Buren, Me. was here Monday night on her return from Houlton Me.

Mr. J. F. McClure-key is quite ill, the result of grippe.

**APOLAKI, N. B.**

JAN. 9.—Miss Laura Murray left yesterday morning for Halifax, to attend the ladies' college.

Miss Carrie Thompson, St. Stephen, and Miss Ada McLeod, St. John, who have been the guests of the Misses Burgess, have returned to their homes.

Miss Annie Wetmore returned last week from Fort Fairfield, Maine. Miss Grace Hubbard accompanied her, and will remain for some time.

Miss Lena Fenwick is suffering from a severe attack of la grippe.

Mrs. Charles Secord, Moncton, is visiting among her friends here.

Miss Georgie Riecker spent part of last week in Sussex.

Miss Olive Fairweather has returned from her visit to friends in N. W. York.

Served Exclusively to the  
**21,477,212 People** admitted to  
the **World's Fair Grounds.**



Universally accepted as the  
Leading Fine Coffee of the World.  
**CHASE & SANBORN,**  
BOSTON, MONTREAL, CHICAGO.



**NEW YEAR'S.**

**FRY'S**  
PURE  
CONCENTRATED  
**COCOA,**  
Delicate in Flavor,  
Healthful,  
Invigorating.



Latest  
Award,  
Chicago.

FOR XMAS AND NEW YEAR'S AT  
**W. ALEX. PORTER'S,**

Choice Confectionery, Bon Bons, Chocolate Cream Drops, Barley Toys, New Figs, Dates, Malaga Grapes, Florida Oranges, Nuts, all kinds, Fruit Syrups, Jellies and Jams, with a full line of staple and fancy groceries.

Cor. Union and Waterloo and 72 Mill Street.



"Give me Progress please"