

Musical and Dramatic.

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

On Monday evening next the St. John Oratorio society will resume work after the Christmas vacation. The experience of the society during the past year will probably have suggested to the board of management not a few subjects for consideration with a view to the further improvement of the society and development of its initial purposes. This consideration is a prerogative of management. Yet all who desire the society to flourish in our midst and extend its field of usefulness cannot ignore one subject that calls for consideration, viz. the matter of an enlarged and improved orchestra for the society. The consideration of this subject should be immediate. Take time by the forelock gentlemen of the board. The year is beginning. Let steps be taken promptly then for the organization of a sufficient orchestra under a competent leader. This leader could be familiar with the work taken up by the society from time to time—I mean of course work that requires orchestral aid and support,—and who could drill his orchestra as the vocal work progressed so that when called upon to meet the voices in rehearsal the one would be as well informed as the other. The formation of an orchestra as suggested—which for the matter of a name could be known as the society orchestra—seems to me to offer no particular difficulty. I am not familiar with the constitution and by-laws of the society and it may be there is no provision for an adjunct like this. If this be so, there can be an amendment to the constitution in this regard. The society should be self-contained. It should be a central musical body a it were, and should reach out for and affiliate with itself and have in its membership all the best active musical talent in the city, both instrumental and vocal.

Among the instrumentalists of Saint John are the possessors of good voices, tenors and basses, all of whom I believe would be in every respect eligible for membership in the society and who could be secured. If then among these there happened to be one capable of leading the orchestra, why not have this competent party do so and on occasion of an Oratorio why not compensate his skilled services just the same as if he were an outsider? However I only desired to suggest the idea as details would readily enough present themselves.

Another suggestion for the society's consideration is that of "lectures recitals" (referred to in another column of this department), such as are being given in Boston this season. These must be very instructive as well as very entertaining. Of the necessary talent there is an abundance in the society. It only requires, as elsewhere said, some one to begin it. The conductor of the society has delivered one lecture already, something in this line, and no doubt he would cheerfully prepare another. I have no doubt there are several members who have made a special study of the lives and works of celebrated composers and performers and who could prepare an interesting treatise on either of them. Let the board of management think of these things and if they see their way clear to put either of them in practice, I firmly believe that only will the active and honorary membership of the society be increased but its financial condition will speedily improve beyond anything at present anticipated.

Tones and Undertones.

DeKoven is at work on a new interlude for the second act of Rob Roy.

Ysaye will give his first recital in Boston, at Music Hall, on Jan. 12th inst.

Mozart's "Basen ion and Bastienne" will be revived in London at an early date.

The Calhoun Opera company is singing with fair success on the Pacific slope.

An unpublished symphony in C by Michael Haydn has just been produced in Leipzig.

"Jacinta," the new comic opera at the 5th avenue theatre, New York, has not scored a great success.

Miss Marie Dumas (Maud Starkweather) has scored a great success in her creation of the title role of McCum's opera "Jennie Deans" in Edinburgh.

A new opera "Yorick" by Ettore Mascagni has just been produced at Leghorn. Mascagni was among those present. The scene is laid in London about 1690.

The Bostonians appear to be losing their popularity, as indicated by a recent number of the San Francisco Music and Drama. Their business is reported far below what they used to do.

"La Traviata," was given in Italian at the Royal opera, Berlin, a short time since with Madame Albani as Violetta. The house was full although the prices were doubled. Albani was repeatedly called before the curtain.

The one act opera "The Violin Maker of Cremona," by the Hungarian composer, Jenő Hubay, was produced recently at the Royal opera, Budapest, under Mr. Nikisch and well received. The composer played a violin solo on the occasion.

The Southern Conservatory of Music,

established in October last at Augusta, Georgia, by Thomas Ryan, is proving a pronounced success. Mr. Ryan is well remembered in this city as the manager or director of the famous Mendelssohn quartette.

A "Pianists' club" has recently been organized in San Francisco. It comprises a number of talented and ambitious amateurs who thus unite for the purpose of better advancement both in ensemble and solo playing. Why not start a similar club in St. John? The idea is a good one.

An unknown nocturne by Chopin in C sharp minor has recently been discovered and will soon be published in London. It is very brief and the melody much more important than the harmony, which latter is chiefly in broken chords. For this reason London critics assign it to the composer's early youth.

The Boston symphony orchestra concert in Boston this evening has the following programme:
Symphony in D Major (without minuet).....Mozart
Diversimento in A minor, for violin and orchestra (M. S.) new.....Loeffler
Preamble
Kievve
Carnaval des Morts
Suite, "Ann Holberg's Zeit".....Grieg
Overture "Carnaval" (first time).....Dvorak

There is a new American contralto in Berlin. American sopranos are thick as mocking-birds, but contraltos of any sort are as rare as the hermit thrush. This one is named E. Tyth Walker and she has sung in "The Prophet" in a way in which Otto Florestheim approves. She restored a florid air that most contraltos fight shy of.

Approaching one thousandth performance of Gounod's "Faust" at the opera the Paris Soir states that the composer had great difficulty in finding a purchaser of the copyright. It was only after long negotiations that Choudens consented to give 6000 francs for it. This speculation has brought him in 1,000,000 francs.

An operatic curiosity, Mehul's "Uthal," was recently revived in Munich, and well received. The work, first produced in 1806, is peculiar in that the violins are entirely absent from the score, their place being taken by violas, in order to produce a soft and misty effect. Brahms uses the same device in his orchestral serenade in A (op. 16.)

Among the soloists at the recent production of "The Messiah," by the Handel and Haydn society of Boston, the chief praise is given to Mr. Watkins Mills, the basso. A notice of his work says, "He has a voice of good quality, both in the upper and lower registers, and what added much to the pleasure of his singing was his clear enunciation. In 'Why do the nations' he sang splendidly, and every word was distinct while the runs were given with remarkable smoothness and precision." The chorus is highly complimented for its effectiveness on the occasion.

Hans Richter is said to carry love and hatred beyond the grave. His musical affection for Wagner is so pronounced that he hates all those not in sympathy with Wagner. For this reason he was never Rubinstein's friend, and the latter's death did not soften his feelings toward him. He has prohibited the members of the Philharmonic orchestra, of which he is the leader, from playing at the Rubinstein festival to be held at the Singakademie, and Rubinstein's works are not allowed on the programmes of the Philharmonic concerts. This deplorable attitude is the cause of much comment in musical circles in Vienna.

A series of "lecture recitals" as they are called are being given in Boston this season by Mr. Bertram L. Shapleigh. The subject for the current course are interesting to musicians and are as follows: "Beethoven, his life and works;" "Schumann the Metaphysician. His idealism and his emotional suggestiveness;" "The Evolution of music and the Expression of Absolute law." "The Dramatic Arts and Artists Dramatism." A Group of Pianists. Liszt, Henselt, Thalberg, Chopin and Rubinstein." This is another good idea that could be adopted in this city. It only requires someone to start it, what does the Oratorio society think of it?

Rubinstein's opinion about lady musical artists is found in the following said by him to William Steinway a couple of years ago, "I think ladies ought never to study music as an art. At least they ought not to use up the time of teachers who are able to teach and make true artists. And I will tell you why," he added. "There is no question but that there are twenty musical ladies to one musical man, and my own experience is that they learn more quickly, have more poetry, and, in fact, are more diligent pupils than men. But what is the inevitable result? When a young lady has become a perfect artist some handsome mustache comes along and she chooses the handsome mustache in preference to her art."

While nearly every musical person has heard of Madame Marchesi, the celebrated Paris singing teacher, yet not so many are familiar with her plan of teaching. A gentleman who has just placed his daughter under her tuition tells of her method thus. "All the lessons are given in class except when a pupil is studying a part in an opera.

At present there are forty students, divided into four grades. The teacher insists on three lessons a week, and all the pupils stay till each has finished. She wants voices before other teachers have touched them, and insists that she teaches for the love of her art. Nevertheless, 350 francs in an envelope laid upon madame's piano on the first of each month is a necessary preliminary to the instruction. With forty pupils her art must be pretty well worth loving."

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

If, at this day, it were necessary to produce evidence of the great popularity in this city of H. Price Webber and Miss Edwina Grey (Mrs. Webber) and their associate members of the Boston comedy company, the attendance at the Opera House on New Year's day must have satisfied the most skeptical. The capacity of the house was fully tested both at the matinee and at the evening performances. "East Lynne" and "Under the Gaslight" were the plays put on. In the first named play Miss Grey as Lady Isabel, played admirably and again proved herself an actress of much cleverness and much talent. She has an admirable conception of all the requirements of the difficult role, and her work, particularly in the two last acts, is very intense. I do not know if this is the lady's favorite part, but I certainly think she plays it more effectively than any other. She is very versatile however and can play comedy in a very satisfying manner. The dresses worn by Miss Grey as Lady Isabel are rich, elegant and tasteful and the company is fitted out in respect to wardrobe much beyond the ordinary. Mr. Webber's reputation for honesty and fair dealing is well established, not only in this city but wherever his company appears. He always endeavors to give his patrons more than he promises. His company always contains people of good repute, who respect and esteem him and his wife, and of whom not one word derogatory has ever been spoken. Were any of them otherwise they could not remain with Webber. These are the qualities which have secured for manager Webber his merited popularity in St. John and which secure for him and his company the best wishes of their many friends that they may realize—A Happy and prosperous New Year.

Wallace Hopper and company at the Mechanics' Institute on New Year's day, gave two performances and enjoyed two very large audiences. The plays put on at this theatre on that day were "Reclaimed" and "Hazel Kirke" the leading female roles in both plays being successfully taken by Miss Nellie Robinson. This little lady is quite a favorite with the patrons of this house and as a performance is given each evening and as the close of the company's season approaches these same patrons and admirers turn out in large numbers. There has been a good average attendance at each performance of this company but the banner business was done on both Christmas and New Year's day. As I remarked last week Mr. Hopper is unwearied in his efforts to please his patrons and during the rest of his season will doubtless receive the pecuniary reward these efforts so well merit.

Julia Marlowe Taber's leading man this season is her husband, Robert Taber. William Terriss is to have a nautical drama written for him by W. Clark Russell. Jane Hading has resigned from the Franco and has joined the Gymnase theatre in Paris. Johnstone Bennett has scored another success in the role of Lady Thoinasin in "The Amazons."

"Ted" Frawley, well known in this city is manager of a company which opened the new grand opera house at Salt Lake city last week.

Lorimer Stoddard, who is in the cast of "The Amazons," is an author as well as an actor. He wrote the play, "Napoleon," with which Richard Mansfield is now on tour.

An old woman, in New England was so pleased with Richard Golden in "Old Jed Prouty" that she hunted him out and told him that the piece was one "that he could almost play Sundays."

Joe Jefferson will not play "Rip Van Winkle" next season. He will confine himself to "The Cricket on the Hearth," in which he will appear as Caleb Plummer. He will also play Mr. Golightly in "Lerd me five shillings."

A traveller from Rome relates that he saw "Charley's Aunt" in the Eternal City, its Italian title, "La Zin do Carlo," sounding very odd. The Aunt was done by Signor Leigh, and was exquisitely funny in Italian as in English.

Loie Fuller has ended her tour of Holland and is now at the Grand Hotel, Paris. She writes that she has named the grand descriptive ballet, which she is to produce in Paris in a few months, "Salome." She will of course, originate the title role.

Mr. P. A. Nannery, who recently returned to San Francisco from Honolulu, is now a member of the Frawley company at present playing in Salt Lake city, Utah. The company opened the new theatre there with "Moths" on the 24th December last.

"Leah, the Forsaken" will be given at the Hollis theatre, Boston, after Easter, when the leading role will be assumed by

Miss Ednorah Naher. This young lady is well known in this city by her clever work as a reciter. She is one of the best ever heard here.

A writer who observes things, recently speaking of a new production says: "A theatrical success is about as mysterious, as great an enigma as the determinate sex of the unborn, and not until the curtain rises to its fall can the best judge of stage lore know which it is to be, a 'go' or a 'flat failure.'"

In "Gismonda" (her new play) Lillian Russell wears costumes that are simply magnificent. Her dress in the last act is described as a dream of beauty." The heavy white satin was jewelled with brilliants and colored stones, from the throat to the hem of the skirt. "With her throat and hands literally blazing with diamonds, she presented a picture long to be remembered."



The above cut is an excellent likeness of Mr. Hopper, the manager and star of the company now playing at the M'chanics' Institute. This gentleman is a native of New Brunswick and his birthplace is Hillsboro, Albert County. Although quite a young man Mr. Hopper has had a large and varied experience in his chosen profession. He had always manifested a strong preference for theatricals and as a mere youth was distinguished in the rank of amateurs. He subsequently identified himself with the professional stage and scored a number of successes and created a number of important roles in New York. Comedy is Mr. Hopper's forte but he is versatile also, and his interpretation in "Hazel Kirke" of the roles of Mustan Kirke, Bob Brierly, in the Ticket-of-leave Man, Peter Bobbly in "The Chimney Corner," Job Armoyd in "Lost in London" and a large number of other equally strong impersonations, proves him to be an actor of whom his native province has every reason to be proud. For the past three or four years he has been at the head of his own company and is rapidly winning a name for himself throughout New England and the provinces that guarantees future success. Mr. Hopper's home is in Truro, N. S., and wherever he goes he is Canadian to the backbone.

The London College of Music.

The winter season of this institution opened with considerable activity in both the educational and examination departments on the 10th of September. Several new centres have been opened, and new local representatives appointed; and additional examiners have joined the staff. The result of the summer examinations were eminently satisfactory, there being a large increase of candidates at all the principal centres, of which there are now nearly 400. The Board of examination, consisting of Dr. Horton Allison, Dr. W. H. Longhurst, Dr. Walter H. Sangster, Alfred J. Caldwell, Esq., Mus. Bac. Cantab., Principal of the College; Dr. F. J. Karn, Mus. Bac. Cantab., Vice-Principal; and G. Augustus Holmes, Esq. L. Mus., has done excellent work, supervising all the higher examinations, and in many other ways contributing to the high reputation of the College. . . . The fame of the London College of Music has travelled across the Atlantic, and in the United States and Canada there are now no less than ninety centres in the principal cities and towns, with local representatives and examiners, selected from among the chief musicians in the country. These are doing excellent service under the guidance and supervision of the Organizing Secretary of this important branch of the College operations. Several examinations have been held in various parts of the country, and it is not unlikely, in course of time, that the work of the College in Canada and America will equal in extent and importance that carried on in the United Kingdom. —The London Magazine of Music.

TO LENGTHEN LIFE.

Keep the Kidneys in Good Working Order by using Dodd's Kidney Pills.

TORONTO, Dec. 31.—It is an established fact that Dodd's Kidney Pills are to-day doing more to increase the average duration of life than any other medicine known. It is true that many people are cured who do not implicitly follow the diet rules given on the directions sent out with each box, but it is also true that many more recover more rapidly by strict observance of the instructions given. Hundreds of testimonials have been received by the firm, here, as to the cures effected, by these pills, and not in one instance have they failed. The price at which Dodd's Kidney Pills are sold places them within the reach of all. They may be procured from all dealers at fifty cents per box or six boxes for \$2.50. Take no imitations.

A Municipal Theatre.

Mr. Henry Irving recently spoke at Edinburgh in favor of his idea of a municipal theatre, and anticipated an obvious criticism by saying: "Nobody dreams that such a theatre would be managed by a council, by a board of aldermen, or even by a bench of magistrates. Such a theatre would of necessity be under the control of a cultivated and an independent director, a man with artistic instincts and a sufficiently free hand."

Johnson's ANODYNE LINIMENT

ORIGINATED 1810.

It was invented in 1810 by the late Dr. A. Johnson, an old-fashioned, noble hearted Family Physician. It is recommended by physicians everywhere. All who use it are amazed at its power and praise it forever after. It is used and endorsed by all athletes. It is the best, the oldest, the original. It is unlike any other. It is superior to all others. It is not merely a Liniment, it is the Universal Household Remedy from infancy to old age. There is not a medicine to-day which possesses the confidence of the public to so great an extent. Every Mother should have it in the house, dropped on sugar suffering children love to take it. It produces an increase of vital activity in the system. Its electric energy everlastingly eradicates inflammation without irritation. Generation after Generation Have Used and Blessed It.

For INTERNAL as much as EXTERNAL Use.

I, S. JOHNSON, Esq. My Dear Sir—Fifty years ago this month, your father, Dr. Johnson, called at my store and left me some Johnson's Anodyne Liniment on sale. I have sold Johnson's Anodyne Liniment ever since. I can most truly say that it has maintained its high standard and popularity from that time to this. It is doubtful if you have many customers who remember the good old doctor who first compounded this medicine, and received it direct from his hand fifty years ago. JOHN B. RAND, N. Waterford, Me. Jan. 1891.

Cures Croup, Colds, Coughs, Sore-Throat, Cramps and Pains.

It is marvellous how many complaints it will cure. Its strong point lies in the fact that it acts quickly. Heating all Cuts, Burns and Bruises. Relieves all Bowel Complaints. Taken in water or dropped on sugar. It positively Cures Catarrh, Lagrippe, Asthma, Bronchitis, Lameness of Muscles, Stiff Joints, Strains and Nervous Headache. Retail price, 5 cents, Six \$2.00, express prepaid. If you can't get it near home, Ask first. Sold by all druggists. Full information sent free. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., 25 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

WE respectfully beg to notify dealers in Window Shades, Laces, Fringes, Poles, Pole Trimmings, etc., that we have taken full possession of the Macfarlane Shade Co's works, and any orders for goods from samples previously shown by that concern will receive our prompt attention and shipment if addressed directly to us.

MENZIE, TURNER & CO., Manufacturers, Toronto, Ont.

BIG STOCK OF Cotton Waste, Oils, STEAM PACKINGS, Etc. Get my Prices at Once.

J. S. CURRIE, 57 Water Street, - - St. John, N. B.

Colonial House, MONTREAL.

Great Annual Sale.

During the month of January we will offer our **ENTIRE STOCK** at discounts ranging from 10 to 50 per cent.

5 per cent. extra for cash. Mail orders will receive prompt and careful attention.

HENRY MORGAN & CO., MONTREAL.

WANTED Men and Women

To sell the Life and Work of Rt. Hon Sir John Thompson

This splendid book entitled "Life and Work of Rt. Hon. Sir John Thompson, P. C., K. C. M. G., Q. C., Prime Minister of Canada," by I. Caster Hopkins, with copious illustrations, is now on press. It gives an account of Sir John's early life and struggles. His rapid rise to fame and position. His great work for Canada. His brilliant abilities and achievements. His noble services to the Empire and loyalty to the Crown. His conscientious devotion to duty and high religious character. His distinguished place as a Parliamentary debater, orator and statesman. His leading speeches upon public questions. His last days and dramatic death. Thousands in Canada are waiting for this truly great book. We want agents to introduce it everywhere. A live man or woman can coin money with it for the next three months for Canada. It stirred as never before. Will send handsome full bound Prospectus for the nominal sum of 25 cents. Retail, full cloth \$1.75. Leather, full gilt edges, \$2.00. Any intending to person can sell this book. Send for outfit today with your choice of territory. BRADLEY, GARRETTSON & Co., Brantford, Ont.

Beautiful Lady May

Cyprus Gold's New Song, will be sent on receipt of twenty-five cents, addressed to C. G. Music, care "Progress" Office, St. John, N. B.

THE CORRECT PERFUME

in England today in fashionable circles is **OPPONAX**, that latest product of the well-known London perfumers, **PRESSE & LUBIN**. If you desire perfect satisfaction insist upon having the perfume of **PIESSE & LUBIN, 23 BOND ST., LONDON, Eng**

INSTRUCTION.

Collegiate School for Boys,

WINDSOR, N. S. - 106th Year. Resident Staff of Oxford and Camb-idge Graduates. Special attention paid to the requirements of Junior Boys. For Circular and other information apply to the Head Master. Next Term begins on Saturday, Jan. 12th, 1895.

Miss Jessie Campbell Whitlock,

TEACHER OF PIANOFORTE. ST. STEPHEN, N. B. The "Lescheizky Method"; also "Synthetic System" for beginners. Apply at the residence of Mr. J. T. WHITLOCK.

ST. JOHN Conservatory of Music

AND ELOCUTION, 158 Prince Wm. St. FALL TERM opens Sept. 10th. TEACHING STAFF:

- M. S. Whitman,.....Piano and Harmony.
- Mrs. R. A. Parker,.....Elocution.
- Miss Alice Rising,.....Vocal Music.
- Mr. Carl Walther,.....Violin.
- M. S. WHITMAN, Director.

THE NEW BRUNSWICK ROYAL ART UNION, LIMITED.

OF THE PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK. CAPITAL STOCK, \$150,000. Incorporated to Promote Art.

This Company will distribute among its subscribers on the

15th Day of Jan., 1895,

3432 Works of Art, aggregating in value \$65,115. Every subscriber has an equal chance. The Grand Prize is a Group of Works of Art valued at \$15,750. Subscription tickets for sale at the New Brunswick Royal Art Union Gallery in St. John, N. B. Price \$1.00 each. In addition to the monthly chance of winning a valuable prize, the holder of 12 consecutive monthly subscription tickets will receive an original Work of Art, by such artists as Thos. Moran, N. A., Wm. H. Shelton and others. Send money for subscriptions by registered letter, money order, bank cheque or draft to

THE NEW BRUNSWICK ROYAL ART UNION, Ltd., 158 Prince Wm. St., St. John, N. B. Circulars and full information mailed free. AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE.