

Musical and Dramatic.

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The annual meeting of the Saint John Oratorio society will be held on Monday evening next. The active membership of this really desirable institution, it is pleasant to note, is steadily increasing. The election of officers will take place and other important business will be transacted.

There is a pleasant evening in store for lovers of music next week when Root and Bradberry's cantata "Daniel" will be given by the choir of St. Andrew's church. Mr. Fisher is the organist of this church and will probably supervise the work of the choir on the occasion referred to. I have been informed the date of the giving of the cantata is Thursday evening next.

Another pleasant evening for music lovers is, one might say, guaranteed for the 18th inst. The occasion will be a concert at the Opera House, given under the management of Mr. L. P. Titus, at which Mr. Herbert Johnson, the first tenor and director of the Ruggles St. Male Quartette, of Boston, will make his appearance, and be heard for the first time in this city. The Mendelssohn Quartette and others among our best local musicians will participate in the programme. There are not many of our singers who visit Boston either on business or pleasure, who fail to hear the Ruggles St. church quartette. They are famous everywhere throughout this continent at least or the accessible parts of it. There was a Mr. Johnson, an alleged tenor singer from Boston, singing in Oratorio not long since, but he was not the tenor whose coming is now referred to. As a matter of fact the Mr. Johnson who sang here, I believe did not claim to be a member of the Ruggles St. quartette, although the impression somehow got abroad that he was the man. The simon pure genuine article I am told will sing here on the 18th inst.

It is pleasant to learn that Miss Essie Lewin has returned from her visit to friends in the United States and again resumes the position of pianiste to the Oratorio Society—a position too which she fills so cleverly.

The recital of classical chamber music given by Miss Louise Skinner at St. John's (stone) church school house last Thursday evening I regret being unable to deal with this week. Miss Florence Hatheway of Boston, who is credited with considerably cleverness as a violinist, contributed some numbers to the programme.

A dramatic company known as Reeves' "Hands Across the Sea" Company occupied the boards at the Opera House the first three evenings of this week, as well as a Wednesday matinee. The company ought to play the piece well, as they make a speciality of it. The play has been done here before by W. H. Lytell's Company of which the late James L. Edwards was leading man. In "Hands Across the Sea" when given by Lytell Mr. Edwards played the role of Jack Dudley.

This company, as a company, does not even compare favorably with Lytell's company in the production of this play. Their stage in the fourth act which shows the deck of the ship is a very pleasing scene and reflects much credit on the stage manager. It is probably the best setting of such a scene that has been put in at this house. I do not remember anything approaching it in point of excellence. Some of the actors have a marked tendency to ranting, but the soubrette did quite a nice bit of work in the scene aboard the ship. Mr. Mack as Tom Bisset in this act was also quite good.

Tones and Undertones.

Signor Pratti plays upon a violincello that is valued at \$2000.

Joachim's collection of stringed instruments by the great makers is said to be worth \$100,000.

"Tristan and Isolde" with Nordica and Jean De Reszke in the chief parts, is booked for Covent Garden in the spring.

There is money for off nights among the opera stars, as the widow of Senator Hurst recently paid Melba \$750 and the tenor de Reszke \$1000 to sing at a musical.

A Mrs. Calvin Brice recently paid Ysaye, the violinist, \$1000 to appear at one of her musicales. She gave a like sum each to Mme. Melba and Edward de Reszke to appear at another.

Marie Engel, who studied in New York and sang in small companies in the United States, has been engaged for light soprano parts at the Italian opera season in Covent Garden this spring.

Notwithstanding the fact that the opera "Princess Bonnie" has little in it to recommend it, yet report has it that Willard Spencer is making more money out of it than any theatrical company on the road.

Emilio Balori, a singing teacher thinks he has discovered the natural mechanism of the trill, and also certain infallible signs inside the throat by which one can tell when he is singing badly. The safest guide is the old one of watching the door.

The Yaaye craze is rapidly developing. At his recent recital in New York the women crowded about the platform at the end of the concert and hung around sighing and applauding until the violinist came

out and smiled and bowed half a dozen times.

Mary Fuller, daughter of the Chief Justice of the United States, has made her first appearance as a professional pianist in Chicago.

People with extra long memories will recall a soprano called Sinico and a bass billed as Campobello during the recent pre-Adamic operatic regime of Mapleson. They are the principals in the divorce suit of Grace Campbell vs. Henry M. Campbell, now pending at San Francisco.

Georgine Januschowsky, who is known in the United States as a star in comic opera and small English opera companies, is now in her second season in the Grand opera in Vienna. She is singing heavy parts and in notices of "Fidelio" where nearly all the rest of the cast is roasted, she receives particular praise.

W. S. Gilbert is credited with a joke at the expense of a rich woman into whose box he dropped during a performance of "The Magic Flute." "Who is Mozart? I never heard of him," cried the woman. "Why isn't he composing?" "And the librettist retorted drily, "Because he is decomposing, my dear madam."

American singers, says the Brooklyn Eagle, are very popular in London for oratorio and concert work. Among those whose names frequently appear in programmes of high class concerts this winter are Clara Poole, who was the contralto in Dr. Storrs' church a couple of years ago; Esther Palliser, a graduate from Gilbert and Sullivan opera; Antoinette Stirling, Ella Russell, Belle Cole, Clara Fernald, of Boston, Sig. Foli, a bass of the long ago, and Campanini, who is at least an American by adoption.

Madame Melba in "Rigoletto" at the Mechanic's building, in Boston last week, scored another unqualified success. A notice says: "Rarely has Caronome been given with such delightful taste, delicacy and perfection of technique as characterized her rendering of it."

The operas given in Boston this week were:

- Monday evening.....Wagner's "Lohengrin"
- Tuesday evening.....Mozart's "Don Giovanni"
- Wednesday afternoon.....Gounod's "Faust"
- Wednesday evening.....Rossini's "Guilherme Tell"
- Thursday evening.....Mozart's "Nozze Di Figaro"
- Friday evening.....Gounod's "Romeo et Juliette"
- Saturday afternoon.....Masseuet's "Manon"
- Saturday evening.....Verdi's "Falstaff"

About the year 1753, a minor canon from the cathedral of Gloucester offered his services to Handel, to sing. His offer was accepted, and he was employed in the choruses. Not satisfied with this, he requested leave to sing a solo. This request also was granted, but he executed his solo so little to the satisfaction of the audience that, to his great mortification, he was violently hissed. When the performance was over, Handel said to him, gravely: "I am sorry, very sorry for you, indeed, my dear sir; but go back to your church in the country. God will forgive you for your bad singing; but these wicked people in London, they will not forgive you!"

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

Bernhardt hopes to attain the distinction of "The Cross of the Legion of Honor."

A new London drama is called "The Wife of Dives" and she is said to be an uncommonly bad lot too.

Mrs. John Drew, the veteran actress is still playing the role of Mrs. Gellibrand in "The Arabian Nights." Her impersonation is said to be delightful. She is charmingly droll. She apparently defies time, for no one on the stage is younger than she in spirit at least.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell, the famous London actress, has two children, born before she went on the stage, and a husband who hunts lions in Africa. On her first appearance in London her skirt dropped off, but she had sense enough to stoop and pin it on without leaving the stage.

Miss Annie Irish, who is an English girl and whose clever face is pictured in the current number of Munsey, is playing in "The District Attorney." I. H. French's play, George Fawcett, is who favorably remembered in this city as a member of the Lansdowne theatre company of some few years ago, is also in the cast.

Lionel Bland, an English actor, died of pneumonia last week at Wading River, says a Long Island dispatch. His real name was Birch and his father is said to be a director of the bank of England. An actor of this name played a summer engagement here in one of Harkin's Companies at the Mechanics' Institute a few years ago.

Manager Atkinson has just closed a contract whereby all the plays written or to be written for the next several years by Sutton Vane will be given their first production in the United States at the Bowdoin Square theatre, Boston, Mass. The first will be "In Sight of St. Paul's," said to be one of the most powerful pieces ever written about life in London. It will be produced 30th September next.

Mrs. Jane Germon, the veteran comedienne, celebrated the 73rd anniversary of her birth at her home in Baltimore, Md., last week. She is still as witty and cheery, as active and full of life as in the prime of

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her theatrical career. She retired from the stage five years ago. Her maiden name was Jane Anderson and she was born in New Orleans. She was married at 17 years of age.

Jules Lantre's new play "L'Age Difficile" has just been produced in Paris, with marked success. Mme. Judie for the first time in a pure comedy role, as an old lady. "The difficult age" is the period in a bachelor's life when he misses the comforts of a family and is too old to acquire them by marriage. In the first act all the characters come on the stage on bicycles.

Helen Bartram is the name of the lady who succeeded Mary Hampton, as wife to E. J. Henley, the actor. A rumor was abroad in Philadelphia last week that Miss Bartram had attempted suicide by taking laudanum. Mr. Henley was interviewed on the subject and gave the following statement: "You can say that my wife did not swallow laudanum. It's all a mistake. I understand the story was first started by a New York newspaper. She was with us on the stage last Friday evening and was all right. No, there has been no quarrel. Where is she now? Why, she left on the afternoon train for New York to see her daughter."

Recent revelations connected with the enormous "royalties" received by dramatists are interesting, especially in view of the "hard times" and the "depression" in trade." During the run of the Gilbert and

Sullivan operas at the London Savoy theatre both authors were receiving £10,000 a year between them. Mr. Henry J. Byron received over \$7000 for his play, "Our Boys," while the late Mr. Henry Herman took his share out of £33,000 for the drama of "The Silver King." During Miss Mary Anderson's season at the Lyceum, Mr. W. S. Gilbert was earning £800 a night for the plays acted at that theatre written by him.

The following story is told of the young English actress, who has so successfully conquered opposition in the United States, and who begins an engagement in Boston, on the 18th inst:

Miss Olga Nethersole made her first appearance as an actress on the stage at the well-known asylum at Colney Hatch. It was an amateur performance, and she took the part of a servant maid, who, when the curtain rose, was supposed to be dusting the room and singing. "I would I were a bird." On the rising of the curtain, and seeing the intent, staring faces of the mad folks, some of whom added to the disagreeableness by their gesticulations, one old woman in the front row being especially violent, it is hardly to be wondered at that Miss Nethersole had an attack of stage fright. She was unable for some time to utter a word, and it was only as they were preparing to lower the curtain, and she felt that she must get over it unless her chances of becoming an actress

were to be ruined, that she found her voice, and managed to shriek out her song and prevent a fiasco. This was her first and also her last attack of stage fright. Since that time she has delighted audiences both in this country and America, and her powerful acting has made her a great favorite with the public.

HEART DISEASE.

A Toronto Physician Says It Never Exists without the Presence of Some Kidney Disease.

TORONTO, March 4.—The number of sudden deaths due to heart disease is appalling. The medical profession is devoting more attention to the heart and its ailments at the present time than ever before, and many physicians are making a speciality of diseases of this organ. A Toronto doctor, who devotes much attention to this branch of his practice, said to your reporter to-day: "I have yet to learn of a single case where heart disease caused death, in which a post mortem examination did not show the existence of Bright's disease, diabetes, or some other kidney disease." Dodd's Kidney Pills will cure all disease of the kidneys and thus ward off the danger of heart diseases.

The New Method of Extracting Gold. The new method of extracting gold from ore, an improvement on the cyanide process in thoroughness and in saving of time, was discovered by Mr. H. L. Salaman. He has obtained the bromide of cyanogen, which, when added to the weak cyanide solution now in use, produces the compound now obtained slowly by the

addition of oxygen. The compound is then treated with zinc fumes, instead of zinc shavings, and the gold falls at once in a thick powder. This process does in forty-eight hours, work that requiring previously a fortnight. By adding soap and lime to the slime from the ore, which previously went to waste, though it forms 35 per cent. of the mass, it can be treated for gold in the same way as the other parts of ore subjected to chemical action.

Maccaroni and Spaghetti.

Baked maccaroni with cheese— $\frac{1}{2}$ pound of maccaroni, break in small pieces, pour boiling water over it and when soft turn into a colander to drain off the water. Put into a pudding dish and pour over it $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups of boiling milk, 1 spoon full of butter, 1 heaping tablespoon of flour, pint of salt, shake of pepper, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of grated cheese. Roll cracker to cover top with small pieces of butter on top.

Spaghetti—Boil $\frac{1}{2}$ pound of spaghetti in 2 quarts of boiling water; when soft drain and put on serving dish and pour over the sauce made as follows; Fry one tablespoon of chopped onions in 2 tablespoons of flour; pour slowly into this 2 cups of hot strained tomatoes, salt and pepper to taste. Serve with grated cheese.

The sale of Cyprus Golde's new song "Beautiful Lady May," is drawing to a close. An arrangement with the author to sell a number of copies at a reduced rate, to help in a charitable work, has just been made. The song can now be had for this purpose for 15 cents by any sending that sum and their address to C. G. MUSE, care of PROGRESS, this city.