

Musical and Dramatic.

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The success scored by the Bicycle Club Minstrels at their concerts last Monday and Tuesday evenings, surpassed the most sanguine anticipations of their friends, and reflects much credit on every one engaged in the programme or connected in any way with the entertainment. It is an old adage that "tastes differ," and that it is true is as evident as that is old. For this reason it is that every feature presented was not unanimously approved, although it must be admitted there was no feature that did not receive substantial recognition and applause. Of course like every other city of any size Saint John is among its inhabitants supplied with some odd characters, and on its streets are to be seen perhaps any day incidents and individuals that would furnish subjects for the series of "thumb nail sketches" as it were; and while these happen to come under notice and entirely by accident, it does not appear to me that an audience such as patronized the minstrels on Monday evening could experience any pleasure to be in any respect entertained in propria persona by the individual known to many persons as one who thinks himself a poet and hawks about the street rubbishy product of his contracted mind. Now as the rest of the characters introduced were imitations this should have been an imitation also, if indeed it may be considered necessary to parade such a travesty.

The Circle was so arranged as to produce a very pleasing view when the curtain rose, and the idea of the concealed chorus prior to this was a good one. It put the audience at once on the qui vive and in touch with the entertainers. The songs selected were quite appropriate and tuneful, and it in some instances the latter quality of the composition was disregarded, principally it was by that portion of the performers from whom now-a-days, singing in tune is not so really required, as I believe used to be the case. For my part I fail to see any good reason why an end man should have license to sing out of tune or any privilege (?) of that character not enjoyed by his fellows in the circle. Besides the quality of the several songs my attention was attracted to the very tasteful flowing manner in which the orchestral accompaniments were arranged by the young musical director of the company, Mr. A. S. Cook, who though quite youthful holds the position of organist of the German street baptist church, which in itself is testimony of his efficiency. The accompaniments thus arranged were really played in an admirable manner by the orchestra, which on the occasion contained such well known and capable musicians as Morton L. Harrison, Prof. White, W. S. Stratton, etc., who individually seemed to realize what is meant by an accompaniment, and they all played just as they ought to play, in support of the voice. I could not but think how different this accompanying would have been had the piano been in charge of another player I wot of. The songs of Messrs. Seely and Massie and the selection by the Mascot, Master McCloskey, are entitled to special mention. The fun created by Prof. Jake Muck and his assistant Nunk Duff with that wonderful invention "the Fakeophone" culminating after an arduous and combined struggle, with the introduction of Duff's dog, was side-splitting and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

The musical extravaganza "Christopher Columbus" formed the closing piece of the pleasant evening with Jake Mack in the role of "Isabella," a dame of husky hue and an elegance of attire corresponding in intensity with the depth of tint of feature. Unstinted praise has been justly bestowed on this impersonation. This character was well taken, its general excellence being contributed to not a little, by the matter-of-fact way in which she disposed of her train while she indulged in the dance. In the second act of this extravaganza, besides the introduction of the characters before referred to in this notice, there was a new boys' chorus, which was very well done indeed, and which, with a specialty performance by a young lad, compelled an enthusiastic encore. Before closing this notice I must express my personal regret that Joanna was not in better voice when she sang in the duet that follows her meeting with the king. The occasion doubtless was intended to be a joyous one, but sadness only waited on it for all those whose nerves were attuned only to sweet sounds. Just here too there was an awkward wait, and the singers walked in silence from the centre of the stage to the wings. The specialties in magic by Prof. Morani were also well received and the secret of their quality was generously given to the audience at the last performance.

Taken altogether, and viewing the entertainment from an amateur standpoint, which is the true way to regard them, these young minstrels have every reason to be satisfied with the work they have done. Their friends are well satisfied too, and their latest appearance is considered their best. They compare more than favorably with many of the companies of professional minstrels who have been seen here. They have contributed much to the enjoyment of many hundreds, and while the fun of the occasion was enjoyed by every one in the audience, it may be remarked that perhaps no one enjoyed this general fun any more thoroughly than the member of the troupe whose stage name is Mik Lick. His laughter was contagious. The Bicycle Minstrels, retaining their present standard of excellence, can safely rely on generous patronage whenever they come before the public again.

Rehearsals have begun at the Carl theatre, Vienna, of a new three act comic opera, entitled "Jack of Hearts." An opera bouffe by Bizet, which is entitled "Don Procopio" has lately been discovered among the manuscripts left by Auber. A new operetta by Audran, the characters in which are chiefly art students and artist models, is called "La Duchesse de Ferrare." "Madame Eames has had an apologetic letter from Mrs. Calve, which also contained lots of love." So says a recent New York paper. Jean and Edward Reszke are the only two members of the Metropolitan opera company who have as yet been engaged for next season. The Bruneau Zola music drama "The Attack on the Mill" has been played in France for the first time and with the costumes of 1870. Miss Lillian Carllsmith, whose singing in Oratorio in this city is well and favorably remembered, sang in concert in Boston last week with much success. A chorus of monks, made up of the best singers of the Cadet chorus, will be a feature of the entertainments to be given at the Tremont theatre, Boston on 18th, inst. When Patti sang with the Philharmonic Orchestra in Berlin recently the general admission was only 75 cents, and this is much higher than the average price at the best German musical entertainments. Patti says she was born in 1844. Myron W. Whitney, jr., accompanied by his brother Wm. L. Whitney will visit Europe next summer. He will spend some time in London with Vanuchini, who summers in England, taking lessons of the famous teacher, and later will accompany Vanuchini to Florence, Italy, where the lessons will be continued. It is said that Sybil Sanderson, the prima donna, though born in America, is not altogether satisfied with the country. The papers have not been over-exuberant in her praise, and to add to her disgust Mr. Terry, "who is going to marry me as soon as he gets his divorce," is paying rather too much attention to Lily Langtry. The following lines on music are found in the new play "Rinaldo." I make good resolutions when I hear The strains of music. In my bosom swells A thankfulness akin to that we feel When we are wakened from a frightful dream By sunlight and the twittering of birds. The silent, deep recesses of the heart Responsive echo the melodious waves That gently break upon the raptur'd sense; And courage, love and charity arise, As snows seagulls from their rocky home At dawn of morning. It is wonderful How sweet sounds spirit the divine within, And show our natures better than ourselves. At the seventeenth rehearsal and concert

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of the Boston Symphony orchestra at Music hall on yesterday afternoon, at 2 30 and this evening, March 2, at 8 00, the following programme was given:
Symphonic prologue, "Francesca da Rimini"
"An Island Fantasy"
Solo for violoncello
a. "Waldesruhe"
b. Capriccio
Symphony No. 2
Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2
Mr. Alwin Schroeder, soloist.
The New York Evening Sun of recent date prints: "At a dinner party, given in honour of Miss Sybil Sanderson the other night the hostess turned to the prima donna and remarked: 'Do you know, Miss Sanderson, the jewels you wear in Manon are the most beautiful I have ever seen.' 'Oh, but those are stage jewels,' cried Miss Sanderson. 'Good heavens! You surely didn't think they were real, did you? I should have had to be dreadfully naughty to have earned all those.'"
TALK OF THE THEATRE.
Queenie Vassar retired from the stage in New York on the 23rd inst. She has not been in robust health for some time past.
The average pay of the American actor is about \$40 per week for a season of

twenty-six weeks. The average European actor's pay is about \$16 per week.
Robert Faltord has recently placed with an sculptor in London, Ont., an order for a mausoleum to be erected over the body of his late wife Annie Pixley, and their son, in Woodlawn cemetery.
Mrs. Beerbom Tree is said to be singularly like Sarah Bernhardt in face, manner of dressing the hair, gesture and even in speech, especially when the utterance is rapid. She is a pleasing artist, and has considerable emotional power and good judgment in making effects.
Mrs. Miriam O'Leary-Collins, who, before her marriage and retirement from the stage, was an especial favorite of the patrons of the Boston museum, presented "The Cricket on the Hearth" in Boston College hall, last Monday evening, for a deserving charity. Rachel Noah, an old time St. John favorite was also in the cast.
Charlotte Herdigka, whose stage name is Charlotte Durand, an actress of the Irving place theatre company, was recently married to F. D. Bossanyi, a young man from Budapest, who has been travelling in the United States to learn something of the institutions of that country. He saw Miss Durand on the stage and fell in love

with her. Judge Ehrlich performed the ceremony and one of the witnesses was Count Hermann Zichy.
ASTHMA PREVALENT.
MANY CASES IN ST. JOHN.
A Noted Physician's Views on the Subject.
Asthma has hitherto baffled the skill of our best physicians. Within a comparatively recent period Dr. R. Schiffman, of St. Paul, Minn., who has devoted many years of study to the treatment of asthma, bronchitis, and croup, has prepared a remedy for these affections which is meeting with great success wherever introduced. With this remedy there is no waiting for results. It is not a nauseating compound to be swallowed, but is used by inhalation, thus reaching the seat of disease direct. Its action is immediate and certain. Acting directly on the mucous membrane of the air passages, it relieves the spasm and constriction instantaneously, facilitates free and easy expectoration, and insures comfortable rest to those otherwise unable to sleep except in a chair. All druggists have this remedy in stock, but in order that every sufferer who has in vain tried

every other means of relief may test its efficacy, the doctor's representative will give away a free trial package, solely as an advertisement, to every one who applies within 3 days from date at G. A. Moore's Drug store, 109 Brussels St., cor. Richmond, St. John, thus convincing the most skeptical. Persons living at a distance who wish to try a free sample package should address Lyman Knox & Co., Wholesale Agents for Canada, 374 St. Paul street, Montreal.
To Save Skaters' Lives.
A life-saving apparatus which an English gentleman has recently planned and has made for use on the small lake on his place is worth copying on every town and village skating pond. It would be easy to put it on every sheet of water frequented by skaters. A boy used to handling a saw and hammer could make it himself. Two wide boards about eight feet long are placed on sled runners, these two boards being joined together by a piece of stout rope that should be at least 20 feet in length. A life preserver is fastened to the center of the rope, and the machine is left on the ice to be ready at a moment's notice. If some one should fall through, two persons—boys, men, girls, anybody—could jump on the boards, one on each, and quickly steer them on each side of the hole. This would bring the life preserver within reach of the person in danger, while keeping the rescuers well away from the thin and treacherous edges of the hole.

MUTUAL LIFE INS. CO., OF NEW YORK.

Richard A. McCurdy, President.

Company's Statement for the Year Ending December 31st, 1894.

ASSETS,		\$204,638,783.96.
INCOME.		
Received for Premiums,	\$36,123,163 82	
Received from all other sources,	11,897,706 12	\$48,020,869 94
DISBURSEMENTS.		
To Policy-holders for Claims by death,	\$11,929,794 94	
for Endowments, Dividends, &c.,	9,159,462 14	\$21,089,257 08
For all other Accounts,	9,789,634 18	\$30,878,891 26
ASSETS.		
United States Bonds and other Securities,	\$83,970,690 67	
First lien Loans on Bond and Mortgage,	71,339,415 92	
Loans on Stocks and Bonds,	11,366,100 00	
Real Estate,	21,691,733 39	
Cash in Banks and Trust Companies,	9,655,198 91	
Accrued Interest, Deferred Premiums, etc.,	6,615,645 07	
	\$204,638,783 96	
Reserve for Policies and other Liabilities, Company's Standard, American 4 per cent.,	182,109,456 14	
Surplus,	\$22,529,327 82	
Insurance and Annuities assumed and renewed,	\$750,290,677 97	
Insurance and Annuities in force December 31, 1894,	\$855,207,778 42	

I have carefully examined the foregoing Statement and find the same to be correct. CHARLES A. PRELLER, Auditor.
From the Surplus a dividend will be apportioned as usual.

REPORT OF THE EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

OFFICE OF THE MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK, February 7, 1895.

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of this Company, held on the 26th day of December last, the undersigned were appointed a Committee to examine the annual statement for the year ending December 31, 1894, and to verify the same by comparison with the assets of the Company.
The Committee have carefully performed the duty assigned to them, and hereby certify that the statement is in all particulars correct and that the assets specified therein are in possession of the Company.
In making this certificate the Committee bear testimony to the high character of the investments of the Company, and express their approval of the system, order, and accuracy with which the accounts and vouchers have been kept, and the business in general transacted.

Signed, H. C. VON POST, J. HOBART HERRICK, CHARLES R. HENDERSON, THEO. A. HAVEMEYER, CHARLES E. MILLER, ROBERT SEWELL.

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