

Musical and Dramatic.

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The Oratorio society is indulging in summer inactivity these days. There is an improbability that the society will give any public production before next fall—possibly during the Exhibition. Just what the work then given, may be somewhat uncertain at present I believe. "The Lay of the Bell" and "May Day" however may be determined on. Much and genuine sympathy was felt for the loss recently suffered by the President of this society—Mr. James F. Robertson—in the death of his estimable wife, who was always a good friend and to an honorary member of the society. For some time past Mrs. Robertson had been a pronounced invalid and notwithstanding everything was done that the most devoted love, duty and affection could prompt and provide, the hand of death could not be stayed. For the bereaved there is comfort in the reflection that, as she was estimable in life, all is well now with her in the realm of the "Bright Beyond."

Understand there will be special musical attraction in the Exmouth street Methodist church tomorrow (Sunday) evening, in the fact that Mrs. Spencer is going to sing there. The lady's solo will be that beautiful piece "Come unto Me."

Next Sunday, will be the last occasion on which Mr. Wilson will preside at the organ in the Mission church. His successor Mr. Beattie has already arrived in the city, I am informed.

Prof. Fisher closes his engagement with St. Andrews church next Sunday, and will spend his summer holidays in England. There will be several selections, solos, of sacred music given in the church at 8.30 that evening after the regular service. A collection will be taken up in behalf of the Sailors' mission. The following is the programme of music:

- Organ (a) Allegro Vivace—"Post Communion," Morandi (b) Cantata—"The Angel, Serenade," Braga
Trio—"Lit Thine Eyes," (Mendelssohn) Messrs J. Fowler, Morgan and Jessie Forbes.
Solo—"Eye hath not seen," (Gaal) Miss Annie Lugin.
Fantasia (Organ)—"The Storm," (Linn) Miss Up-pressure—Stora warning—"The Storm—Prayer and Song of Thanksgiving.
Quartet—"Come every one that thirsteth," (Mendelssohn) Messrs J. Fowler and Jessie Forbes, Messrs. Arthur Coster and A. M. Smith.
Solo—"The City Beautiful," (Rodney) Mr. A. H. Lindsay.
Quintet—"Lowly and Solemn Be," (C. R. Fisher) Messrs J. Fowler, Annie Lugin and Jessie Forbes, Messrs. Arthur Coster and A. M. Smith.
Finale (Organ)—"English National Anthem."
Ball-Best (Festival Arrangement).

Tones and Undertones.

Sousa's band is playing in concert each afternoon and evening at Manhattan beach. Belle Cole is the solo vocalist. The band's new programme includes the prelude to Humperdick's new "Hansel and Gretel," Saint Saens rhapsody "Breton" and other novelties.

Miss Sybil Sanderson has given up the stage for the present, and is living in retirement in a small town near Paris. Gossip is very busy over the cause thereto.

"Raconteur" of the Musical Courier says: "And Patti is warbling again. Dear old Patti, who is a combination of Dickens' Miss Haversham and Rider Haggard's 'She.'" He is more amicable toward Teresa Caereno, whom he calls "the Ninon de L'Enclos" of the piano."

Suppe has left an almost finished opera, composed for a libretto taken from a book by Ludwig Held and Victor Leon. It will be completed by a Viennese composer for Director Jauner, who intends to produce it as the opening performance of the Carl Theatre.

Offenbach's "La Perichole" has been revived with great success in Paris, with Granier in the part created by Schneider.

The New York Sun says: "Why can't we raise our own tenors and sopranos? Why should it be necessary for us to import them every year? They are costly. Out of our 70,000,000 of people we ought to be able to produce as many of them as the country needs, or about 100 a year, without scouring all Europe for them. We might say the same thing about bass singers, play actors, fiddlers, prima donnas and other high priced people whom we import, and who ought to grow in abundance all over this country."

Messrs. Leoncavallo and Mascagni have been at loggerheads. It appears that the author of an anonymous article recently published in an Italian paper, charging the composer of "Cavalleria, Rusticana" with quite a number of "appropriations" from other composers in his different operas, was no other than Sig. Leoncavallo himself Mascagni, thereupon, with caustic humor, retorted that he was at present laboriously engaged in compiling a pamphlet of very moderate proportions, setting forth in detail the few numbers contained in Sig. Leoncavallo's operas which are original.

Joachim, Halir, Zajic, Burmeister, Sarasate, Brodsky, Sauret, Auer and Heermann make up the list of giant violin virtuosi who were heard in Berlin during the past season. It is a significant fact that the violin soloist was more frequently seen on concert programmes than the pianist.

It is stated that Mme. Calve is seriously ill in Paris. She is so weak that she is incapable of moving, and requires the services of two attendants. The physicians order complete rest. It is

even doubted it she will be strong enough to visit this country next season.

Herr Willy Burmeister, the violinist, has made an immense success in London. He has waited for nearly ten years to achieve his present position. He graduated from the Berlin Hochschule nine years ago, and since then has practised from eight to ten hours a day. He has also appeared frequently in concert, yet only now has he gained recognition.

A mulatto has been promoted to the position of director of a Prussian regimental band. Sabec-el-Cher is the son of a black servant belonging to the late Prince Frederick Charles. He received a good education at Berlin and was made director of the band of the Grenadier regiment, King Frederick III., stationed at Konigsberg, when the post became vacant by the death of the former musical director.

Mlle. Lejune, the young Belgian soprano who recently made her debut in "Le Prophete" in London, is only 23 years of age, and has studied entirely at the conservatory in Liege, her native town. During her studentship she carried off all possible medals, and, graduating with the highest honors, was at once engaged for the Theatre Royal de la Monnaie in Brussels, and for three years undertook the chief roles there for dramatic soprano. She has twice been chosen by national composers for the leading roles in such works as "Maitre Martin," by Jan Blocke, and "L'Enfance de Roland," by Mathieu. After leaving La Monnaie, Mlle. Lejune spent a year in Liege, during which time she had the honor and pleasure of singing portions of the role of Ysolde to the Tristan of M. van Dyck.

The following is the programme for the "Pops" concert in music hall, Boston, last Monday evening:

- Persian march Strauss
Overture, "Light Cavalry" Suppe
Waltz, "Kater" Strauss
Selection, "Fatinizza" Suppe
Overture, "Banditenstreich" Suppe
a. Fly minuet Zibulka
b. "A. I. O." Godard
Florentine serenade Strauss
Selection, "Merry War" Strauss
Overture, "Poet and Peasant" Suppe
Waltz, "Pesther" Zschner
Polka, "Les Fleurs" Millecker
March, "Jonathan" Millecker

Miss Fatmah Diard, a former prima donna of the Boston Ideal is the wife of J. J. Jaxon, of the Castle Square theatre, Boston. The lady is now studying in Paris.

Carl Zerrahn will return to the United States in August. His health has much improved.

Fifteen librettos were sent to the jury on the competition for the Prix de Rome at the Paris conservatory this summer. "Clarissa Harlowe," by Edouard Noel, has been chosen. It is said to be a very dramatic scene for three personages, Clarissa Harlowe, Robert Lovelace and Col. Morden. Copies of this libretto have been given to the six students in musical composition who have been admitted to the final competition for the Prix de Rome, and they have been given 25 days to write their respective scores to "Clarissa Harlowe." The one whose opera is pronounced the best will win the Prix de Rome, which means that the conservatory will pay his expenses for three years while he studies in Italy.

A monument in memory of the composer Felicien David has recently been unveiled at the cemetery of Peqy in France.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

"Men and Women" is the title of the play with which W. S. Harkins' company opened this, the second week of their season and if by chance, any doubt as to the abilities of the members of this company had place in the minds of any one, it was only necessary to see them in this great play, in order that every possible doubt should be dispelled. I have called the play great and the acting throughout was in keeping with the play itself. The scene depicted in the third act, at the midnight meeting of the bank directors, was intense in its strength, every one was a veritable type of character and every individual was consistent and peculiarly distinct, strongly outlined and marked with the individuality of the role—the whole forming one of the greatest scenes ever presented to an audience in this city. It is difficult to imagine a stronger presentation of this play anywhere by any company. It does not of course follow that the same talent would be so entirely successful in other plays, but in the play under notice only the most favorable comment is justified. I understand this great piece will be given at the matinee today and theatre goers who miss seeing it will have occasion for regret. It is too good to miss. There is a good lesson taught by the play and its teaching is such that all classes can but approve it. It embodies a truly christian spirit.

Sardou succeeds Alexandre Dumas as president of the Societe des Auteurs et Compositeurs, a position which he has held before. Other members of the executive committee are Georges Ohnet, de Courcey, Jean Richepin and Andre Messager.

"The Indiscreet Mrs. Brown" is the name of a new comedy by Mrs. Pacheco which Charles Dickson has accepted for production. Is not the title—nothing more—suggestive of the Pinero influence? Bernhardt thinks Madame Duse is a

little too bourgeoisie" for the part of Camille.

Haddon Chambers is hard at work on a new play for the Messrs Gatti, of the Adelphi theatre, London.

Ada Rehan's next season will open in Chicago on 22 September.

A theatrical Company which contemplates a six weeks tour through Nova Scotia has recently been organized in Boston by Messrs George Neville and Bryan Darley. The company comprises—the Messrs. Dariel Gilfeather, Al. Harris, Frederick Conger, Louis Bresh and William McCormack, and the Misses May Merrick, Lottie Hope and Marion and Alice Gerald. They intend presenting a repertoire of standard dramas for the edification of the theatregoer's there.

Alice Pierce, the child actress, will appear next season in a drama now being written by Charles Hoyt.

The Boston Theatre will reopen 10th August.

The role being played by Nanette Comstock in London in "The Girl I Left Behind Me", is Wilbur's Ann.

Pinero, the dramatist, is rusticating in an old fashioned corner of Kent, England, Sir Henry Irving's London, Lyceum, Season will close on the 27th July. He announces that before that date he will produce.

"Macbeth," "Becket," "The Merchant of Venice," "Much Ado About Nothing," "Louis XI," "The Bells," "Charles I.," "Nance Oldfield," "Faust," "The Corsican Brothers," "King Arthur," and give several performances of his latest success, the triple bill including "Don Quixote" and "A Story of Waterloo," "Nance Oldfield" and "The Bells," and "The Merchant of Venice" have just had a week's run each.

Miss Radcliffe of the Harkins company will go with Sol Smith Russell next season.

Miss Ethel Knight Mollison (Mrs. E. C. Moore) who was a member of Miss Olga Nethersole's company, in the United States has returned to this her native city, for a vacation. Miss Mollison will play with the Harkins company, in the opera house, four evenings next week.

With reference to Henry E. Dixey, not being a member of Daly's company this summer, an English sporting paper says we are not at all sorry Daly's company will not be reinforced in its approaching visit by Mr. Henry E. Dixey.

The Pall Mall Gazette of recent date says: "To see Mme Sarah Bernhardt in 'Magda' is a liberal education. Sudermann with his wholesome brutality, his insight behind and beyond the kleinstadish foolish figments which spoil life, has written a lesson that the world wanted. Mme. Bernhardt enforces it in a voice to which the world must listen. That wrong cannot be cured with wrong; that there are more things in heaven and earth than any individual wots of; that the insolence of formal virtue ought to be its own damnation, these are some of the artless, but forgotten axioms that the sound and sight of Mme. Bernhardt's genius will teach you never to forget. Magda's sin is the sorrow of angels her sorrow is the sin of the world, and when her errant and misguided father dies of a moral apoplexy brought on by an overdose of truth, one grunts an Out! of pleasure and prays for the propagation of such a malady."

The late Franz Von Suppe was an Epicure and preferred Italian cooking. He knew all the places in Vienna where good Italian wines were to be had, and it is asserted that the motives for his trip to the Italian cities as far as Naples a few years ago were gastronomic, scenic and artistic in about equal proportions. He had not seen Italy for half a century, and was surprised to find his "Fatinizza" and "Boccaccio" so popular there. These two operas brought him a handsome fortune, whereas his most famous orchestral piece, the overture to "Poet and Peasant" (which has been arranged for 59 different combinations of instruments) was sold by him for 20 florins (about \$8). For his song, "O du mein Oesterreich," on the other hand, he received 40,000 florins. His conviviality is illustrated by an incident which he often related. After the first performance of Lotzing's "Waffenschmied" in Vienna, he went with the composer to a tavern to celebrate the event. They "celebrated" 20 continuous hours, till Lotzing suddenly remembered that he must go to conduct the second performance. He was just sober enough to do it, so Suppe, who could stand more, volunteered to take his place. But the performance came to grief just the same.

Her Majesty and Mr. Smithers. During the performance of a popular English opera at Winsor Castle, a comedian, being ambitious to make his royal auditor laugh, exerted himself for the purpose of creating several fresh witticisms. The Queen looked puzzled instead of pleased. She studied the libretto with the greatest care and gazed earnestly at the comedian, who was beaming at the idea of having made an impression. Finally she sent for the manager of the company. "What does this mean?" she asked, greatly perplexed. "Why does this player put in words and phrases that are not set down in the book?" "May it please your Majesty," said the manager, "this is our famous comedian, Mr. Smithers, and these are what we call

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'gags,' which he introduced in his part to promote the merement of the story. "You will inform him at once," said her Majesty sharply, "that we do not care to know what 'gags' are, or what Mr. Smithers is. We desire that the performance be devoted wholly to the exact sense of the author and composer!"

IS THIS YOUR CASE, MADAM?

Golden Words for Ladies Who are in Misery

Women who are subject to head-aches, sudden faintness, despondency, nervous dread, fits of wild mirth or equally unnatural depression; fluttering of the heart; who hear a roaring in the ears, and white specks floating before the eyes; women who cannot bear noise, who are easily startled, who feel like laughing at one moment and crying the next; who feel in fact that life is little short of constant tortures; such women are simply suffering from extreme nerve exhaustion.

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The Scientific Spirit.

A well-known Bohemian visited his friend, Professor Price, at the latter's laboratory. The professor was examining a dark brown substance spread on paper. "Say, Petie, would you kindly let me place a little bit of this on your tongue? My taste has become so vitiated by tasting all sorts of things."

"Certainly," responded the ever-accommodating Petie, trusting out his tongue. The professor took up a little of the substance under analysis and placed it on Petie's tongue. He worked it around for fully a minute, tasting it much as he would a fine confection. "Note any effect?" inquired the professor. "No, none." "It doesn't paralyze or prick your tongue?" "Not that I can detect." "I thought not. There are no alkaloids in it, then. How does it taste?" "Bitter as the dickens."

"Um-m; all right." "What is it, anyway?" inquired Petie, as he spat out the hold-over taste. "I don't know. That's what I'm trying to find out. Some one has been poisoning horses with it over at the mission." Petie rushed to the telephone and called up a veterinary surgeon.—San Francisco Post.

Has a Useful Appetite.

In the South seas there is a fish that, from its many bright colors bears the popular name of the parrot-fish. It seems to have but one aim in life, and that is to prevent the growth of coral reefs. Thus it well deserves to be called the friend of man, for these below-the-sea reefs would,

were their extension not checked, prove a source of danger to the numerous ships that plough the Pacific. These pretty Poll fishes break up the new coral with their strong teeth—in a sense actually feeding upon it, for they digest the animal matter which it may happen to contain.

THE "TELEPHONE" EAR.

Its Ravages Are Principally Limited to the Far West.

It is somewhat strange that the new malady which has appeared in the American Telephone Exchange is most prevalent in California, while being almost entirely unknown in the Eastern States. The fatigue of listening continually at the receiver produces a humming in the ears, headache, and, finally, abscess of the tympanum. The employe has to rest every two or three hours, and sometimes to cease work altogether for some days. It is not yet explained whether the affliction is due to defective apparatus or to overwork. Further light on this subject is especially desirable, as it may give most valuable suggestions to doctors who are now treating certain ear affections by sound vibrations produced through the telephone. The idea is favored by some leading practitioners that in many cases abnormal tissue can be stimulated to healthy activity by the concentration upon them of vibrations of exactly suitable pitch and strength. In many of the best equipped telephone exchanges a clever provision has been made for reducing the ear fatigue of the operator, by the use of a small electric lamp, which working in the call wires, indicates "through," and so obviates the voice calls, which are sometimes so irritating to the subscriber, as well as wearing on the "central," by their inevitable repetition.

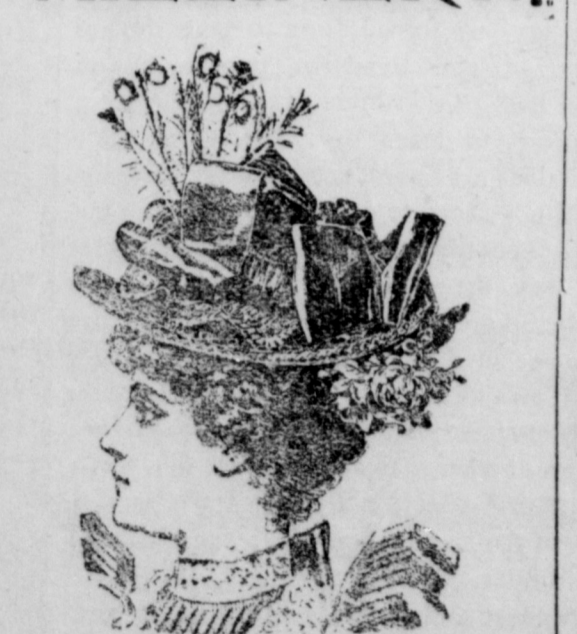
Important to Wearers of Clogs.

The stick must now be carried handle upward. The shepherd's crook, dark, plain wood, with single silver band and fassel, is smart, and the plain stick of polished wood, with round silver top, with monogram, is good for older men. The crook is small at the end, like a tiny snake.—Fashion Journal.

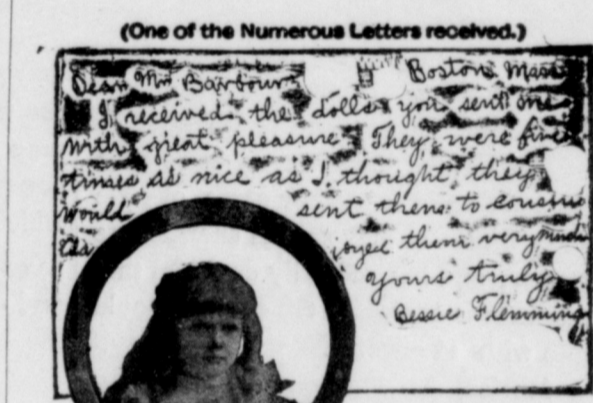
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