

Musical and Dramatic.

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The first rehearsal of the St. John Oratorio Society for the season of 1895-96, was held in the Society's rooms last Monday evening. The weather was not at all pleasant on the opening night but it was highly gratifying to all concerned to see such a large and earnest body of active members in attendance there being fully sixty present.

Rev. Mr. Mathers as a preliminary to the season made a short congratulatory address and expressed the hope that this would be the banner season in the society's history.

The new conductor, Mr. James S. Ford, then took the platform and was given such a hearty reception that ample testimony was furnished of the fact that his appointment was pleasing to every one present, and that working together the society and conductor will establish the realization of the expressed hope of the reverend vice president. Several choruses of the "Messiah" were taken up and worked upon. This work and "St. Paul" will be practised for the present, the intention being in the near future to take up "The May Queen."

That mischievous little god Cupid and Hymen too, have unitedly been busy among members of the society during the vacation as is proven by the recent weddings, in which oratorio members have taken principal parts. The first to be noted was that of Mr. William H. Ewing the popular basso, both vocally and instrumentally, and a thorough good fellow, to Miss Grace Morley. They were and will continue to be active members. Then followed the marriage of Mr. A. Chip Ritchie, the well known bass soloist, and Miss Helsen Ewing, who though I believe not heretofore a member of the society has always been identified with it by her family and whose relations with it will now be more intimate than ever; and lastly it is a further pleasant fact to mention the marriage last Wednesday afternoon, of Mr. A. W. Barbour and Miss Idella Fowler, which took place at the congregational church last Wednesday afternoon.

Mr. Barbour is the first victim selected from the ranks of the tenors of the society, where he has in the past done yeoman service and where his voice will be again heard.

To one and all of these happy couples I have much pleasure in tendering my heartiest wishes for their future happiness and welfare. I trust that for them events will be so ordered that no discord may ever reach them and that their lives may be as one long glad song.

The concert by the clever members of the Mt. Allison conservatory at Centenary church last Thursday was too late for notice this week.

I learn a concert will be given in Exmouth st. church school room next Tuesday evening, at which Mrs. Spencer and others will appear.

Tones and Undertones.

Sybil Sanderson, the prima donnas, whose visit to the United States last season was such a rank failure that she became ill and who returned to her beloved Paris—has so far recovered her health as to be enabled to re-enter professional life. Miss Sanderson's reappearance was made in "Thais," a creation which she was not permitted to sing in America when it was found New York did not appreciate "Manon." Many unkind things were said of the lady during her stay in the States. A recent notice says "as nearly every New York newspaper—the World being a notable exception—was more interested in itemizing personalities and small gossip than in giving a just and proper opinion of her as an artist, it is not strange that she turns from her own country to that of her adoption and of her triumphs which finds in her a true artist and applauds her accordingly."

Calve is pronounced "superb" in Anita, the leading role in Massenet's new opera "La Navarraise."

During the opera season, Melba is to receive one thousand dollars each night.

Franconi Davis, the English baritone, will make a tour of the United States during April and May next.

Marsick, the violinist, has arrived in New York and as previously mentioned, made his first appearance with the Symphony Society in that city yesterday, (Nov. 1). He plays there today also.

The list of violinists who are to invade the United States this season now sets forth Marsick, Ondricek, Saurat, Rivarde, Bull and Nachez, and there are rumors about two or three more.

Madame Melba is said to be writing a book upon the subject of operatic singing and voice culture. It is to be published in English, French and Italian. It is intended to have it completed before the next opera season.

Saurat, the French violinist, who will make his reappearance in this country at the third Philharmonic concert, Jan. 10, is said to be the only violinist who has played the first violin concerto of Vieuxtemps with the composer as conductor. He also has

the honor of possessing the two violin bows of Vieuxtemps.

Mr. George J. Parker, the well known tenor singer is busy booking many engagements.

The list of artists for the Boston Handel and Haydn oratorios has not yet been completed. Those already engaged are Madame Albani, Emma Juch, Mrs. Vanderveer Green, William Rieger, Franconon Davies and Arthur Beresford. The works to be given are "The Messiah," Verdi's "Requiem," Passion music and "Creation." Mr. Emil Tillerro has been engaged for the tenor in Verdi's Requiem, which will be given February 2.

It is now stated that after Christmas Madame Patti will enter upon a tour with a pantomimic piece "Mirka the Witch." It will be given first in Paris, then in Berlin and then in Vienna.

Ysaye bought for 26,000 francs the "Hercules" Stradivarius. It is varnished in red amber and dated 1732.

Paderewski arrived in New York last Wednesday morning on the Teutonic, looking somewhat stronger and a little heavier than when he was last here. All reports to the contrary notwithstanding, Paderewski's hair is almost, if not quite, as long as ever, and stands out from his head in the same careless profusion.

The ballet in "His Excellency" is danced by men. It is an innovation and probably none the less pleasing on that account.

William Wolff's work as Gaspard in "The Chimes of Normandy" at the Castle Square theatre Boston, last week is spoken of thus. He is too robust and energetic in manner and voice; he is tempted at every moment to overdo rather than control; otherwise he gives an excellent bit of character acting."

Of the operatic company which has been organized for this season and will shortly be heard in Boston, Mass, the following account from a Boston paper may prove not uninteresting:

Messrs. Abbey and Grau have engaged quite a number of eminent artists for their opera season who will appear here for the first time. Among them are Giuseppe Cremonini, who has sung in the leading Italian opera houses, has been enthusiastically received in South America and has also appeared with success at Covent Garden; Aurelia Ketzka, an mezzo-soprano, a Roumanian, who was sung for the last two years at Covent Garden; Frances Saville, born in San Francisco, of Australian parents; in 1893 she joined the Carl Rosa Opera company, having previously sung with success at St. Petersburg, Moscow and Berlin; Guillaume Albert Lubert, born in Bordeaux, who for several years sang leading Italian parts with Mme. Sembrich in Paris; Miss Clara Hunt, mezzo soprano, an American girl who has been studying in Paris; Vittorio Arimondi, basso, born in Italy, who has sung for the last two seasons at Covent Garden; Adolph Walnofer, who has for a long time been popular at Prague; Lola Beeth, who has for some years been popular at the Vienna Opera house; Miss Marie Engle, who has sung in London under the management of Augustus Harris, and for a brief season with Col. Mapleson at Covent Garden, and Herr Walnofer, of the Grand Opera of Prague, who has been praised abroad as one of the best living exponents of Wagnerian tenor characters. With these artists, and the old favorites, Melba Nordica, de Reszkes, Plancon, Maurel, Ancona, Campanai, Marie Brema, and Calve, who is to appear in Massenet's "La Navarraise," and Gounod's "Vivandiere" the company presents a strength that has seldom been paralleled here."

Sir Augustus Harris has discovered and is going to introduce to the public an Irish singer, Miss Mary Conway. She is a Cork girl, and Cork is becomingly proud of her and of her brother, who provided for her musical education. At a recent demonstration in her honor the mayor said pleasant things about her, and her brother was scarcely less honored than she. She will appear as Mlle Delrita.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

The Nickerson Dramatic company and orchestra has had good houses at the Opera House during the week, and ends its engagement tonight.

Miss May Nannery is playing with increasing success in Oakland, California. Her engagement there has been extended.

Miss Nita Sykes who, as the wife of "Ted" Emery, was a member of Tyrone Power's company, in this city, is playing this season as a member of the company producing "The Bachelor's Baby." She plays the role of an adventuress and acts gracefully and well.

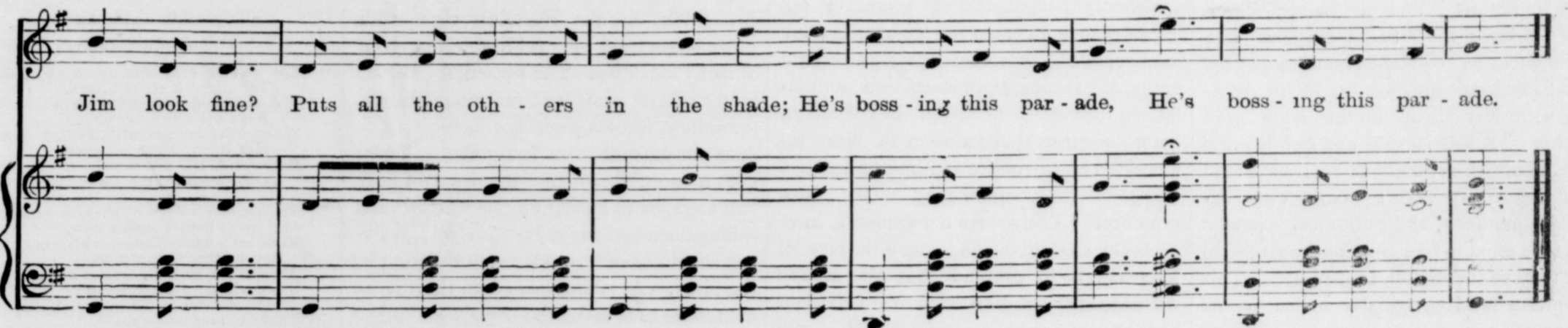
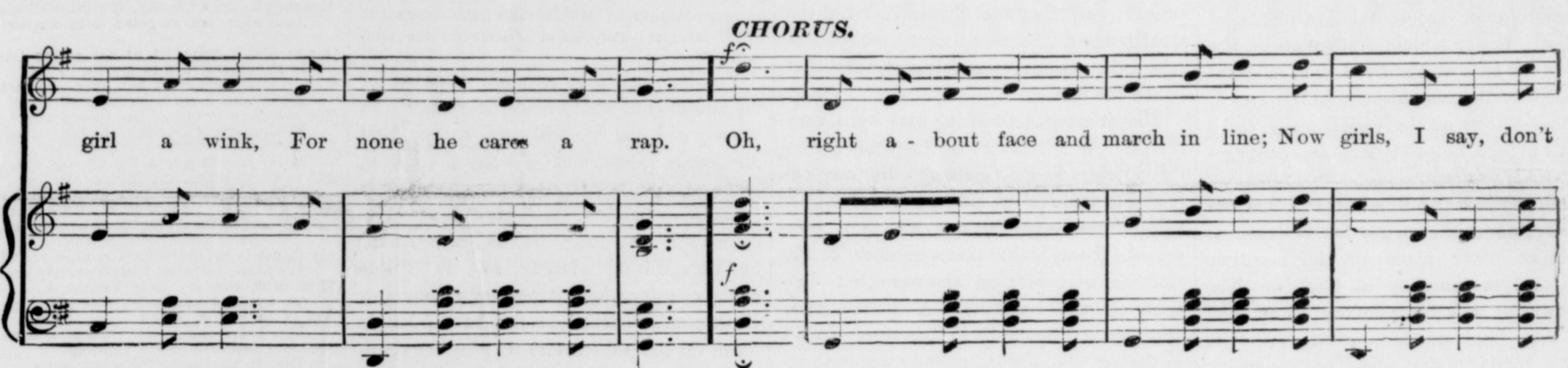
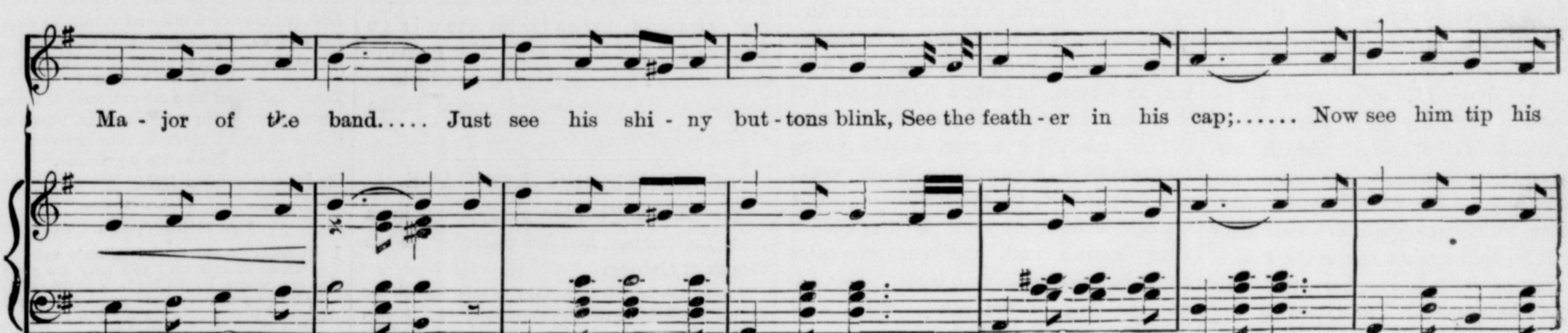
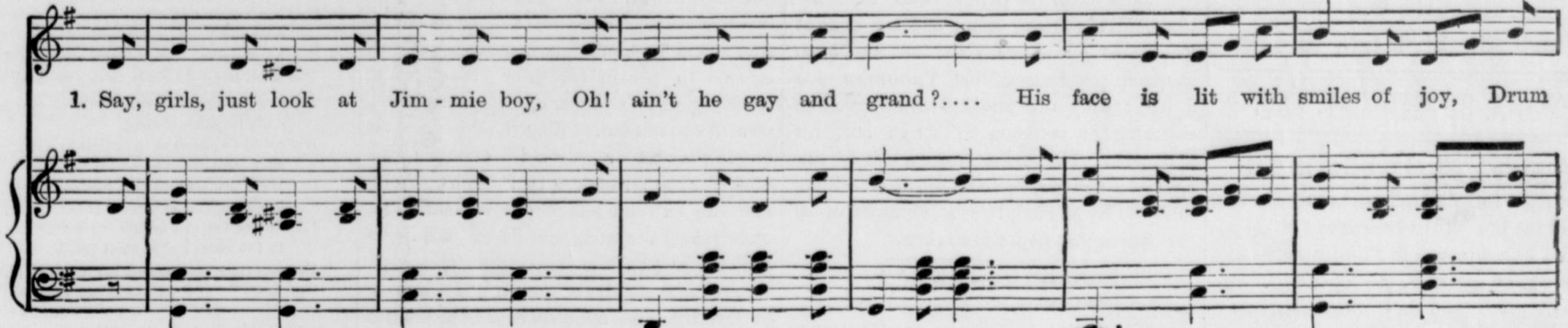
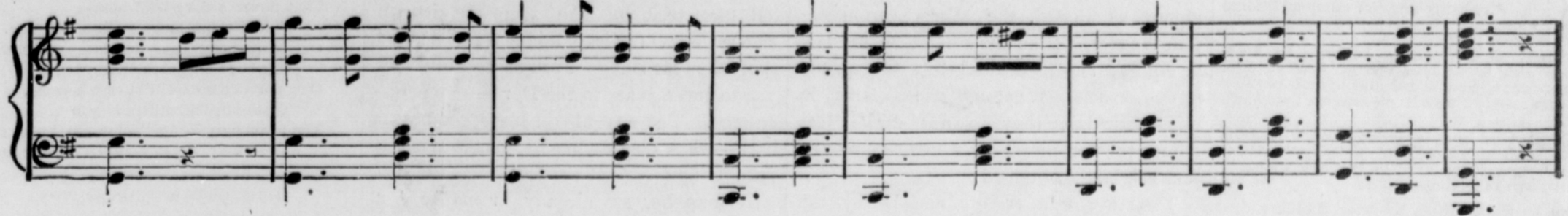
The professional dramatic critic's point of view often differs from that of the majority of the people who go to the theatres. He is apt to estimate a play for its artistic worth alone, while auditors in general value it wholly for its entertaining qualities whether it be serious or merry.

The closing performance of "The Fatal Card" at the Boston museum will be given

DRUM MAJOR JIM.

R. P. F.

G. FROELICH.



2 His mustache has the sweetest curl,
He walks like Duke by birth;
To-day I feel the proudest girl,
As though I owned the earth.
Jim Dandy, that's just what he is,
Such a dude when in parade,
On other days he tends to biz,
Of work he's not afraid.
Oh, right about, etc.

3 To-night he'll come in plainer dress,
And when the lights are dim,
He'll coax me till I do confess
My love for Major Jim.
He's saving for a little flat,
Big enough for him and me;
My Jim and I will never part,
For we're in love, d'ye see?
Oh, right about, etc.

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on the 16th inst. The fiftieth presentation of the play was on last Wednesday evening. Souvenirs were in order.

The New York Dramatic Mirror is the authority for the statement that the play "A Bachelor's Baby" in which Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Drew are starring, is no other than Kate Claxton's "Bootles Baby" dramatized from John Strange Winter's novel.

Miss Olga Nethersole, the English actress, who is this season in America, under the management of Daniel and Charles Frohman, has several new plays in her repertoire. Among them is a new version of "Denise." She is surrounded by a superior company, the leading lady of which is Miss Effie Shannon of the Lyceum theatre, New York.

A Boston dramatic writer has ventured the assertion "It seems to us that we have too many stars and too few actors in these days. What do you think?"

The Irving-Terry engagement at the Tremont theatre Boston has closed and the opinion is universal in that city that "Miss Terry is more charming than ever if such a thing was possible." Of Irving's work a writer says "Such a performance as "Much ado about nothing" is one that will in con-

tempt of question, live in the memory so long as memory lasts. Mr. Irving's Benedict is picturesque, refined, odd in a word Iringesque. The criticism closes with the following remark "Would that the dramatic world could boast of more such men!"

The spectacular play "Burmah" is now in the ninth week of its successful run at the Boston theatre. Miss Victory Bateman still plays the role of Norah Hanlon.

This is the eighth week Sothern's play "The Prisoner of Zenda" at the Lyceum theatre, New York. The play will shortly be produced in London, England, exactly as given at the Lyceum.

Maggie Cline of variety theatre fame, has been sued by a tailor of Hebraic extraction whose name nevertheless is Michael. Miss Cline, emulating others of her sex both in and out of her profession ordered "a swell suit of bloomers." They did not fit at all.

The waist was all well enough, but the pant—or, rather, the trous—that is to say, the other part—the biturcated part—would make the angels weep. It was a trifle shy on length, but the width was appalling. Miss Cline sarcastically suggested that the

suit must have been for Tony Pastor or "Boney," the cycling elephant. Miss Cline refused to pay. Abe Hummel, the lawyer who acts for the defendant, says he will win, if he has to go to the United States Supreme bench. He asserts he will have his client put on the bloomers and will introduce her in evidence marked "exhibit A."

Whistler, the artist, once sat at the theatre next to a lady who was going in and out of her seat constantly, not only as each act was finished, but also while the play was going on. The space between the row of seats was very narrow and the artist was subjected to much annoyance as she passed him. "Madam," he said at length, in his sweetest tones, "I trust I do not incommode you in keeping my seat."

Miss Ethel Knight Mollison of this city, is now playing the role of Lady Thomasine in "The Amazons" at the Girard theatre in Philadelphia. This is one of the principal roles.

Krem, on the Danube, a place of 10,000 souls, has just celebrated its 900th anniversary as a city.



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