

Musical and Dramatic.

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The congregation of the Centenary Methodist church on last Sunday evening, enjoyed a rare musical treat, in a beautiful solo rendered by a lady visitor to this city. The singer was Mrs. Leighton of New York and her solo was "Cast Thy Bread etc." The lady's voice is very sweet and musical in quality and timbre and she interpreted and sang her solo admirably, notwithstanding she had to contend with a much too loud organ accompaniment. This fault of too much organ, seems to be almost epidemic and it is found among those players who are persons of more or less erudition apart from music as well as those less fortunate in this regard. The players frequently either forget or fail to realize that they are seated either under or behind the organ and therefore what appears soft to them has in the auditorium of the church, quite a different value and effect. They also fail to take into consideration the strength or power of the voice they are accompanying. All the expression marks on the organ score, I fancy, can be observed by a player of good judgment, even though each in turn be graduated, when played as an accompaniment. An opposite view may be intended for by some, but just at present, at least it, seems to me quite feasible to have an accompaniment on either piano or organ, particularly an organ, played as I have outlined, and it would further seem only a little good judgment and common sense is necessary, coupled with a little absence of vanity on the part of the accompanist. The opposite of this produces what I have on a previous occasion designated an instrumental solo with vocal accompaniment.

Terms have not been made satisfactory to Miss Farmer to induce her to accept the appointment of organist in this church. Mr. A. H. Lindsay, the well known tenor sang a solo there last Sunday evening. I did not have the pleasure of hearing it, but I am informed, that here too the singer was almost shut out by the organ at times.

The organ of St. Andrews church on last Sunday was very acceptably played by that well known and clever musician, Mr.

William Ewing, who filled the position temporarily.

The rumor that Miss Nettie Pidgeon had been engaged to take the position of leading soprano in the choir of St. Andrews church and would fill that position last Sunday proved incorrect. Miss Pidgeon sang a solo in the church at Sussex last Sunday evening. Her solo was "The Holy City" and it is said that in its rendition she surpassed her best previous work.

The congregation of Centenary are to be envied in respect to the musical treats they are receiving just now. On tomorrow evening another lady who takes high rank in our local musical world, is to sing there. The lady referred to is Mrs. Spencer and her solo will be "The Holy City"

Tones and Undertones.

It has recently become known that Camille D'Arville, the prima donna is married. The fact was discovered by a recent unpleasantness with her husband whose name is Louis Wilson and from whom she has lived apart for several years. They were married in Vienna about sixteen years ago, at which period the prima was sixteen years old. By recent agreement Mr. Wilson has gone to Antwerp with the promise that as long as he kept out of this country he will be supported in comfort. Wilson is an acrobat by occupation. There is one child of the marriage, a boy of fourteen, named after the father and now a pupil at a military school. The boy is said to be the picture of his mother.

Rafael Joseffy is expected to arrive in the United States this week.

Carl Zerrahn has resigned the position of conductor of the Handel and Haydn society of Boston.

Madame Wagner receives 150,000 marks annually as royalties on her husband's operas.

"Gaernica" an opera by Paul Vidal on an episode of the Carlist insurrection in the Basque country in 1873, has had a recent successful production at the Opera Comique in Paris.

John Sebastian Bach's bones have been discovered at Leipzig. He was buried in the Thomas Kirchof 145 years ago, but within this century a street was built through

the graveyard and many of the graves, including his, obliterated.

Royalties to composers are very high in Italy, and the smallest theatre in the country which wishes to give "Cavalleria" pays \$600 a night for the privilege. Verdi's "Aida" commands \$1,000 a night in the provinces, and from that up to \$3,000 in the cities.

Mrs. Alice Shaw, the first of the professional whistlers, and, undoubtedly, the best and handsomest, is not the fact that she was at home or abroad. Too many women went into the business. Mrs. Shaw's engagements abroad now do not often extend outside the music hall and other inexpensive places of amusement frequented by the middle classes. She may be reconciled however, for it is understood her whistle has enabled her to put aside no inconsiderable sum of money against the day when even the middle classes will refuse to be charmed in this manner.

It is learned from London that "Mr. William Vincet Wallace, son of the composer of 'Maritana,' states that his mother, who has passed her eightieth year, is 'left with wholly inadequate means,' and in the son's penniless state, he is powerless to help her. This is certainly a case for the Royal Society of Musicians, or perhaps, Sir Augustus Harris, with his usual generosity, will get up a benefit performance."

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

The dramatic event of last week was the production of "Men and Women" with Miss Ethel Mollison in the role of Dora. In the previous production of this great play by the Harkins company this role was played by Miss Helen Cross, and my anticipations were fully realized viz., that Miss Mollison would be somewhat handicapped by the fact that the part was consistently played by Miss Cross. Much has been written in our local daily press of Miss Mollison's experience as a member of Miss Olga Nethersole's company in the United States last season; much has been said of her cleverness and of her importance as a member of that company, much has been said of her beauty and it has been said by one enthusiastic admirer notwithstanding her brief experience the young lady has become one of the most distinguished artists on the stage. These may be very pleasant articles for the young lady and her friends to read, but they are not just to the lady inasmuch as they are absurd exaggerations at the present stage of her

career. It were better for the object of these writers if they were more honest; kept closer to the fact. Possibly the lady herself attaches no importance to them. For her own sake and for that of her future success I trust she estimates them at their proper value. In the role of Dora, the simple fact is that, with the possible exception of her work in the third act, she was very amateurish throughout. This is not to be very much wondered at either, though it is admitted the young lady is clever and that there is a bright prospect ahead, at the present time she is only a tyro. Graduates are rarely found who have had but one season experience. The house was crowded on the occasion referred to but the motive was largely curiosity. "Uncle Tom's Cabin" was the play given for the final appearances of Harkins Company of this summer. Miss Mollison in this piece played the role of Eliza while Mr. Harkins was George. The house bill said Mr. Harkins had played this role one hundred times. If that was the case then Mr. Harkins must have forgotten all he once knew about it. It was a wretched production and the only redeeming feature in it was Uncle Tom, by Mr. Wise and St. Clair by Mr. Hallock. Brennan, Courtleigh, Whitecar and Harkins were simply teeling the way along with the aid of an invisible but distinctly audible actor in the person of the prompter. This was the case on its first production. It was much regretted that such a weak play should be selected to close an otherwise brilliant season.

"The Railroad of Love" was the play with which Augustin Daly opened his eighth London season on the 25th ult; and it is said "when Ada Rohan appeared the very walls shook with the burst of applause which greeted her, and this was kept up for some minutes. Indeed the fair lady has a warm corner in every English heart."

Sarah Bernhardt's latest pet is a tame fox.

Advices from London announce that John Hare, the English comedian during his American tour next season, will appear only in "A pair of Spectacles" and "The Notorious Mrs. Ebbsmith." He will present the former play first because he considers that in it he has his best part, and, having shown himself in that character, he is willing to allow his leading woman, Miss Neilson, make her reputation in the "Ebbsmith" play. Mr. Hare's tour of

America will close about the end of April 1896.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell, the actress of whom London theater-goers think so highly is quoted as very exacting and fastidious in all things theatrical, requiring everything on and about the stage to be "just so," or else, like children, she "won't play." Genius has, of course, the right to be exacting and fastidious.

A Home of Rest "where tired actors may recuperate" has recently been founded in England. Beerbohm Tree is its first President. The institution will be maintained by voluntary contributions from the dramatic profession.

"Charley's Aunt" has reached Portugal and is attracting large audiences to an Oporto theater. In its Portuguese guise it is "A Madrinhã de Charlee." With the exception of an original play of Shakespeare's this is the first time in years that an English drama has been performed on the Portuguese stage. It is said that the parts of the pseudo aunt, and the lawyer are well rendered by the native actors as on the English stage.

Mr. Edward Emery, an English actor, who I think was a member of the Company that opened the Opera House in this city, and who, later, played at the same house as a member of Tyrone Powers' company, recently deserted his wife—Miss Nita Sykes—and all the other members of a company he had brought to Montreal. The New York Journal of the 30th June says "most of the unhappy players are roaming the streets of the Canadian city now, in a state verging on destitution, and searching high and low for traces of the missing Emery. It appears that Emery had secured a contract for a six weeks season at the Queen's theatre, Montreal and last Monday week his company opened in "The Magistrate." They played to indifferent business throughout the week and last Monday, at the time the ghost should have walked; it was discovered that Emery had vanished with the weeks proceeds.

Emery, who has held excellent positions in England, has had a rather sensational career. He is a brother of Winifred Emery, one of the most charming and popular of English actresses. Some four years ago he was obliged to leave England in a hurry. His first wife, who had remained in England divorced him and he then married Nita Sykes, a daughter of the late General Sykes. These two separated

for a time but were reunited when the Montreal season was broached. Miss Sykes, the paper says, does not expect to see her errant husband again.

This is about the latest told of him: John Stetson, "Manager and publisher," leaned back in his chair and dropped the fluff from his cigar. His vis-a-vis did the same. The third of the trio picked up the thread of the conversation. "It is a curious fact," said he. "They say Wilson Barrett is a vegetarian." Mr. Stetson uttered an exclamation of surprise. "A vegetarian?" he repeated, doubtfully. "You don't mean it! Why, I had no idea he was as old as that!"—Exchange.

The Harkins summer company which played to medium business in Fredericton on Monday and Tuesday last, were in the city again on Wednesday en route to Yarmouth N. S. where they also gave performances and whence they went direct to Boston.

RECIPE—For Making a Delicious Health Drink at Small Cost.

Adams' Root Beer Extract. One Bottle
Fleischmann's Yeast. Half a Cake
Sugar. Two Pounds
Lukewarm Water. Two Gallons.
Dissolve the sugar and yeast in the water, add the extract, and bottle; put in a warm place for twenty-four hours until it ferments, then place on ice when it will open sparkling and delicious.
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Moncton: Wednesday, July 24.
Truro: Thursday, July 25.
Halifax: Friday and Saturday, July 26 and 27.
New Glasgow, Monday, July 29.
Amherst: Tuesday, July 30.
Charlottetown: Wednesday, July 31.
Fredericton: Thursday, August 1.
Woodstock: Friday, August 2.
St. Stephen, Saturday, August 3.

