

Musical and Dramatic.

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The congregation of Centenary Methodist church, on last Sunday evening, realized to full extent the pleasure anticipated by the singing of Mrs. Spencer on that occasion. The lady was in excellent voice and sang her solo exquisitely. There was an additional and unexpected feature of the musical programme that evening in the singing of a gentleman formerly, I understand of Guelph, but more recently of Toronto, — a Mr. Knowles. This gentleman has an admirable baritone voice of good timbre, rich and round and powerful also. He sang the solo in the Anthem. I have not learned how long Mr. Knowles will remain in the city nor whether he will be heard in other churches during his stay. It is to be hoped he will be heard here again however.

The congregation of St. Andrews church will have the pleasure of listening to Mrs. Spencer tomorrow (Sunday) evening as she will then sing in that church. Mr. Blair will preside at the organ I am informed.

Prof. Bristowe organist of the Cathedral in Fredericton, and whose musical and other welfare is not without interest to many persons in this city, has obtained a well merited vacation and will make a trip to England. May all favoring breezes favor him and waft him safely back to our shores.

Miss Agnes Toomey has resigned her position of organist of the Church of the Assumption in Lancaster, which position she has filled very acceptably for some time past. The position I understand was offered to and accepted by Miss E. Morris, of Morrisville, who assumed the duties of the position, for the first time, on Sunday last. This lady, I am told, is a pupil of Prof. Costin.

A rumor has reached me to the effect that an effort will be made on behalf of Centenary Church, to secure the services of Mrs. Spencer in the choir of that church as leading singer.

Tones and Undertones.

The death announced of Madam Marie Caroline Felix Carvahoe nee Mianlan a once famous prima donna. She was born at Marseilles Dec. 31, 1827 and in 1863 was married to Leon Carvahoe of the

Opera Comique, Paris, where she was singing leading roles. She first appeared in England at the Royal Italian opera as Dinorah, with great success July 26, 1859. She was recommended by Meyerbeer as the only artist to supply the place left vacant by the death of Basso. From 1856 to 1859 she sang at the Grand Opera receiving therefore a salary of \$12,000, and four months yearly vacation. "Actaeon" "Les Mysteres d'Ulopho" "La Cour de Cellimene" "Les noces de Jeannette," "Le Nabob," "Le Caid" and "Gilda" were all written for her.

Maria Parcella, a talented American contralto, recently sang in Paris with much success, a serenade by E. Pizzio, the composer of "Gai riella."

"Kismet" or, "The Unglued Ticks" a new opera was given a first production at the Tremont theatre on the 9th inst. a notice of the works says "Gustave A. Kerker, is responsible to himself and various other composers for the music" and "the music of Kismet is worth little, if any, consideration; the libretto, none whatever."

Madame Bellinconi, who sang "San-suzza," in the first performance of "Cavaleria Rusticana," has been appearing in that role at the Covent Garden, London.

Clementine de Vere-Sapio, it is said, has developed into a dramatic soprano. She recently appeared in a Wagner concert in London under the direction of Henschel, and several omissions in such selections as "Iselle's Love Death" and "Elizabeth's Greeting Entrance Air," from Tannhauser.

Grand opera in the United States, says the New York Press, is becoming a serious question of finance. Great singers will not cross the ocean without a guarantee of almost double the salary they receive in Europe. It is doubtful whether Sir Augustus Harris pays Mme. Patti \$2,000 a night. Calve must sing two years at home for \$100,000 that Abbey & Grau have offered her for fifty odd performances next season. Mme. Melba offered to sing in Paris for \$300 a night, while at the Metropolitan next winter she will receive \$1,500. Emma Eames was engaged in Paris for \$200 a night; with us she has \$600. Tamagno drew \$1,600 a night out of the Metropolitan treasury, although no impresario in Europe could afford to pay \$1,000 for the

Italian's services. Jean de Reszke's salary and percentages often amounted to \$2,000 a night, and if he receives half that amount at Bayreuth this summer we are mistaken in Cosima Wagner.

It is not generally known that Sig. Micheleni, the handsome tenor of the Hinrichs Grand Opera Company, is an American, the supposition being that he is an Italian. Sig. Micheleni is a South American by birth.

The London correspondent of the New York Journal writes: "By common consent Patti's reappearance in opera has been made the occasion for a wild indulgence of delight on the part of her admirers, and Mme. Melba's nose is for the nonce put completely out of joint. The latter, who is now and again in the habit of saying piquant if not spiteful things, cannot bear to hear such wholesale praise lavished on the diva, and quite lately, out of all patience, she remarked: "Well she ought to be a good singer; she has had sufficient practice. Didn't the great Duke of Wellington admire her very much." This was told to Patti, who smiled and observed that she would "not say anything nasty in reply, lest it might hurt the feelings of Melba's grandchildren." Certainly the mother of a twenty year old daughter might have spared the gibes at Patti's age. It puts one in mind of an actress in one of Sir Augustus Harris' touring companies who had her nose put out of joint by Jessie Preston, when the latter was only 16. After a double encore and vociferous plaudits Jessie met the older actress bailing over in the wings. "And pray Miss Chit," said the jealous one, "how much do you pay them to do this—you, you back row ballet girl? Why, I don't suppose you even know who your mother was?" "No," was Jessie's quiet response. "I don't; was it you?"

"Hansel and Gretel" which has achieved a European success for the past year and a half, has never yet been heard in an American City.

Thomas Koschat, a Vienna composer and basso much admired and beloved, has celebrated his 50th birthday and he received a gratifying ovation. Forty-five singing societies counting up 1500 singers gave him a serenade, a banquet and a concert. Koschat has composed songs, choruses, quartets and some light operas. He is a singer of the imperial court chapel.

Last week Madame Patti made her first appearance these ten years at the Royal

Italian Opera, London, where almost in childhood she made her English debut thirty-four years ago. She gets 1,000 guineas for each performance, and many seats for her rentree costs \$25 apiece.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

Miss Flossie Ethyl who as a child, played the title role in Little Lord Fauntleroy in this city a few years ago, is engaged as a member of Richard Mansfield's company for next season.

Miss Katherine Grey who is now a member of "Toll" Frawley's company, which is doing the Pacific slope, is engaged for next season by A. M. Palmer to play in "The great Diamond Robbery" at the American theatre. Madame Janauschek and Arthur Forrest, both well known here, will also be members of the company.

Mme. Rhea will tour next season in a revival of "Josephine Empress of the French" and "Nell Gwynn."

P. A. Nannery the well known actor and writer, who is a native of this city, has been engaged as a member of the Stock company at Havins theatre, Chicago. The season opens 5th August.

Courtenay Thorpe will add to his repertoire "A Pantomime Rehearsal." The late Rosina Vokes was very successful in this play.

T. D. Frawley, well remembered in this city, and recognized as a clever actor, is meeting with much success with his stock company, now playing on the Pacific Slope.

M. Parodi has written a new tragedy which will be called "The Pope" and it is likely to create a sensation on the stage. The Pope to whom the drama refers is said to be Gregory VII, who has been called the "Bonaparte of the Papacy." The heroine is the countess Matilda who was the original of Tasso's Clorinda, and considered by M. Parodi an Italian Joan of Arc, save that she was of noble birth and wealthy.

Miss Edith Crane, who will be remembered in this city as leading lady of Tyrone Power's company, has been doing the role of "Tribly" in Chicago. Wilton Lackaye was Svengali. He created that role. A notice says "The Tribly of Miss Crane naturally realizes the ideal."

The London Sun says, Katherine Clemons is in that city "looking for an English play and theatre." The same paper further says of her "She is one of the most beautiful creatures that ever faced the

footlights. She has the vivacity of California, the brain of a New Yorker and the exquisite taste in dress of Paris. She sank a lot of Buffalo Bill's money in her production of "A Lady of Venice" a couple of years ago."

Madame Rejane, the French actress, who has recently arrived in her native land, from her American season, expresses herself in very complimentary terms of Boston and the people of that city. She found an extensive knowledge of the stage as well as a knowledge of the French language in society circles in that city.

Verner Clarges, who will be remembered as a member of the Tyrone Power company playing in "The Texan" in this city, has been engaged by Augustin Daly to support Mrs. Potter and Mr. Bellew in "Le Collier de la Renie" next season. Before coming to this city Mr. Clarges had been a member of the Potter-Bellew company.

Japan's best actor, Danjuro, it is said ranks with the best on the stage today.

Caroline Miskel Hoyt, will create the title role in a new play, entitled "A Satisfied Woman" which is now being written by her husband Charles Hoyt.

Miss Olga Nethersole will produce Hamilton's drama, "Carmen" for the first time on any stage, at the Hollis Street Theatre, Boston, Nov. 18. The Frohmans, her managers, promise a grand production of the play.

Miss Minnie Radcliffe, leading lady of this Harkin's company this summer, goes with Sol Smith Russell next season.

Tom Wise, everybody's favorite and a sterling fellow and good, goes with "In Old Kentucky" next season. Mr. Wise's home is on the Pacific slope.

Denman Thompson, who wrote "The Old Homestead," started his professional career as a banner holder in a circus. His first appearance on the stage was with Charlotte Cushman, who played "Lady Macbeth." Thompson carried a spear.

In the new play "The Prisoner of Zluda" a dramatization of Anthony Hope's novel which has been made by Edward Rose, Mr E. H. Sothern will play three distinct characters, viz Rudolf of Parttains, a king and an English.

A recent American paper says: It is with deep regret patrons of the legitimate drama learn that Eleanor Duse will not be among the theatrical stars to shine here next season. Whether she ever really

intended coming, or it was only a flattering held out by her managers, cannot be said, but the fact remains that this great and truly emotional actress is too much of an invalid to be relied on for grand enterprises, such as Bernhardt undertakes with absolute security. The Frenchwoman never disappointed an audience while filling the American engagement, but Duse went all to pieces most of the time, (and the exceptions were the nights she played.) Yet, how well worth waiting for she was! The memory of her masterly performance in the last act of "Camille" sticks by, and after nearly three years still wrings the heart strings, protest, as one may, at any Camille doing that nowadays. **is it not?**

Montreal is designated a most inhospitable summer show town.

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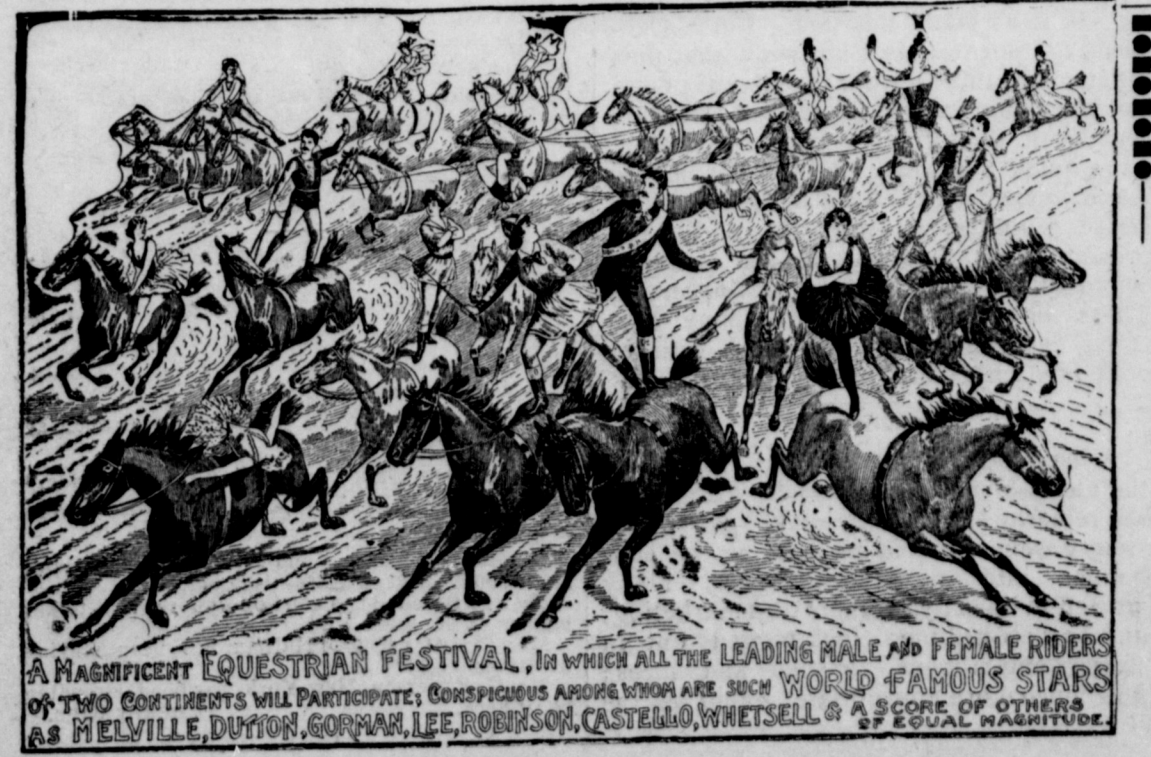
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