

Musical and Dramatic

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The musical among our people invariably follow with more or less interest those who, having been connected with local musical matters, have taken up their residence in another country. This interest is the more pronounced if the party has been prominent in musical circles here or identified or connected with local institutions. I have taken occasion some weeks ago to refer to a recital given in a United States town, by Prof. Charles R. Fisher, formerly organist of St Andrew's church here and conductor of the St. John Oratorio society. This gentleman is evidently meeting with success where he now is, and on the 16th inst. gave another recital on the occasion of the inauguration of a new organ presented to the First Congregational church, in Rowley, Mass. On this latest occasion Prof. Fisher was assisted by local talent, which included Miss Bertha A. Lavain, soprano, Miss Annie Atwood, alto, Rev. J. Frank Waters, tenor and the Rev. Samuel B. Cooper, bass. The choir of the church and other friends also contributed to the success of the occasion. Among the selections by Prof. Fisher were "March Triomphale" by Lemmens, Theme (from concerto op. 64) Mendelssohn, Bach's Fugue in E flat, Bridal music (Lohengrin) Wagner, an Andante con variazioni by Pleyel, and an Allegro by Morandi. It is pleasant to hear of the recognition abroad of this gentleman's ability. I have learned also that Prof. Jaroslaw de Zielinski, to whom also reference was recently made in this department, would arrive in St John on Thursday of this week, and spend some time here. This gentleman and his wife I believe are accompanied on their holiday trip east by a lady—Miss Horton—who is spoken of as somewhat prominent as a concert singer, and as having sung also in opera. I hope it may be possible to effect arrangements which will result in a concert by these musical people during their stay among us.

Tones and Undertones.

On tomorrow (Sunday) the great Wagner festival will begin at Bayreuth, under the direction of Mrs. Richard Wagner. The operatic productions will continue four days each week for four consecutive weeks. The musical conductors are Siegfried Wagner, Hans Richter, and Felix Mottl.

DeWolf Hopper will open his next season in Montreal on 7th of September next. He is still giving "El Capitan" by Sousa, at the Broadway theatre, where large audiences still attend. The one hundredth performance of this piece will be given on the 21st inst. It will be a souvenir occasion.

Roof Garden concerts and productions of opera, continue to be popular in New York.

Albert Cahan's operatic version of "La Femme de Claude" is about to be produced in Paris.

Leoncavallo has completed the libretto of his new opera "La vie de Boheme" and the whole work will be ready for production early next fall. It is promised a production in New York.

Souza has engaged three Anglo-Saxon Prima Donnas for his Autumn season at the Lyrico, in Milan. The primas referred to are Emma Nevada, Sybil Sanderson and Marie Van Zandt.

The fiftieth anniversary of the production of Mendelssohn's "Elijah" was celebrated at the Crystal Palace, London June 27, a good deal ahead of time. The production of the original version of this oratorio took place at Birmingham, Eng., Aug. 26, 1846, but the work as it is now known, was first given to the world at Exeter Hall on April 16, 1847.

The post of conductor of the Royal Choral Society, at the Royal Albert Hall, has been filled by the appointment of Dr. John Frederick Bridge, Gresham Professor of Music and organist of Westminster Abbey. Dr. Bridge is one of the best known figures in London musical life. He was born at Oldbury, near Birmingham in 1844.

Sousa and his well known band, continue their popularity at Manhattan Beach. The band gives a concert every afternoon and evening.

It is now said that Jean de Reszkes, the famous operatic tenor, will retire to his Polish estate, after the close of next season.

Frederic Cowen intends next season to give Berlioz "Les Troyens" at one of the Liverpool Philharmonic concerts. This will be the first production of this work in England.

The death is announced at Brussels of Hubert Kufferath, the musical composer and theorist. He was born in 1818 at Mulheim, on the Rhur, in Rhenish Prussia. He was an accomplished pianist, and for years held the post of Professor of Counterpoint at the Royal Conservatory of music. The life long friend of Robert and Clara Schumann and M. Brahms he was, to the end, the staunch supporter and adherent of the branch of musical art represented by them.

The late Sir Augustus Harris admitted a loss of £16,000 on his first season with the

De Reszkes. He got it all back however the next year. The Pall Mall Gazette of recent date announces the death of Jenny Hill, the English music hall singer. She was once a great favorite in New York. She died at her residence on the Brixton road. The paper says her contemporaries in the music hall profession will all unite in saying "We shall never see another one like her. There will never be another Jenny Hill." She was the last of the old school of music-hall singers, and between the old school and the new, in the music hall, there is all the difference that there is between the old and the new school of the regular drama. She had genius and she had training. She began to sing for her living when she was a little child, and she sang for her living till long after she was a grandmother. This statement does not refer to so long a period as at first sight it suggests, for she was a wife and a mother herself when in mere years she was little more than a child, and her daughter was a wife and mother at almost as early an age. But Jenny Hill's career was long enough for her to have seen many changes in the institution of the music hall.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

The Markham Comedy Company which recently played a short engagement at the Institute will return to the city and begin next week another short season at the Opera House. They will open on Monday evening next the 20th inst. in a repertoire of standard plays. The opening piece will in all probability be that strong play "My Partner" which has not been seen here for some few years past and which is always sure of patronage.

W. S. Harkins Company closed their season at the Opera House last Saturday evening and opened in Yarmouth N. S. last Monday evening with a production of "In Old Kentucky."

"The War of Wealth" is to be put on the road next season by Jacob Litt the owner of the piece, and Tom Wise and wife (Miss Whitty) with Mr. Deyo are engaged to go with it.

Miss Magill goes with Oliver Doud Byron next season, and Mr. Leigh who did such satisfactory work here this season, will go again with one of the Frohman's Companies.

It is highly probable that Mr. Malcolm Bradley will visit Pacific Slope next season as a member of T. D. Frawley's stock company. This gentleman does some excellent character work.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell, the English actress, has recently been playing a diversified range of parts such as Juliet, Magda, Militta, with particular success. In the revival of Sheridan's comedy at the Lyceum theatre, London, she essayed the role of Lady Teazle. A notice of her work says, "her Lady Teazle, permeated as it is by a modernity of manner and method which the costume of another period fails to hide, is nevertheless an impersonation of so much personal charm and intrinsic worth that the actress may fairly claim to have added another noteworthy embodiment to her list of her ionic achievements."

A new musical comedy was recently put on at the Prince of Wales theatre, London. It is entitled "On the March" and there are three authors, Messrs. W. Yardley, B. C. Stephenson and Cecil Clay, responsible for its existence. It is said to be an enlargement of a piece formerly done by the Vokes family and known as "In Camp." There is in it "no pretence of an intelligibly constructed plot."

Charles Frohman will open the next season of the Empire theatre, N. Y., on 31st August by presenting John Drew in a new play now running in London, entitled "Rosemary," Maud Adams will be in the cast.

A new four act play by Philip Havad entitled "Major Raymond" has been produced at Terry's theatre, London, England. It contains an interesting plot, and will improve under the pruning knife. At present, although having much merit, it is pronounced "too talky."

Lewis Morrison who is so identified with the character of Mephisto in "Faust" tells the following good story in narrating some of the stage mishaps he has experienced. It was "in Cairo, Illinois," and the trap to the infernal regions would not work. It got stuck somehow, and my head, hat and feathers, remained in full view of the audience. I kept urging the stage hands to renew their exertions to lower the trap. Finally, the audience became aware that something was wrong, and some friend, from the gallery shouted, with a basso profundo, "Hell's full." This sent the audience into roars of laughter and there was nothing left to do but lower the curtain."

Robert Hilliard has bought the American rights to a new English comedy called "The Mummy."

The Fulford Mausoleum, in memory of the late Annie Fixley, is now being erected in Woodland, Cemetery, London, Ontario. It is of Gothic Architecture, built of grey Stanstead granite and ornamented by life sized granite statues, typifying Music, Drama and Victory.

Charles French goes another season with "In Old Kentucky" playing his role of 'Neb' the old negro servant.

Mr. William Farren, who played the role of Sir Peter Teazle in a recent revival of "The School for Scandal" at the Lyceum theatre, London, England is said to be "without a rival in the part." A critic says "In short he is by far the best exponent of the character on our stage and he imparts to the ripe humors of old Comedy all the dignity and polish of a man of Sir Peter's position. He gives, too, an under-current of pathos to certain scenes which whether Sheridan intended it or not, certainly enhances their dramatic effects."

It may not be known to the many admirers of Lewis Morrison in this city that he was born in Jamaica, West Indies, his father being an Englishman and his mother of Spanish descent. Mr. Morrison served three years in the United States Army during "the war" and was promoted Captain during that period.

Rosabel Morrison, who is the wife of Edward J. Braun, and a daughter of Lewis Morrison, will star in "Carmen" next

season. Her sister Mabel who has just graduated will begin her career as an actress as a member of the company.

ROMAN CROWNS.

Seven Kinds are Distributed as Rewards for Valor.

The Romans had various kinds of crowns, which they distributed as rewards for martial exploits and extraordinary services on behalf of the republic, says a writer in Chambers' Journal.

1 The Oval crown, made of myrtle, and bestowed on generals who were entitled to the honors of the "lesser triumph," called ovation.

2 The naval or rostral crown, composed of a circle of gold with ornaments representing "oaks" of ships, and given to the captain who first grappled or the soldier who first boarded an enemy's ship.

3 The crown known in Latin as "Valeris Castrensis," a circle of gold raised with jewels or palisades, the reward of the general who first forced the enemy's intrenchments.

4 The mural crown, a circle of gold indented and embattled, given to the

warrior who first mounted the wall of a besieged place and successfully lodged a standard or flag thereon.

5 The civic crown (made of the branch of a green oak), a garland of oak leaves, bestowed upon the Roman soldier who had saved the life of a citizen.

6 The triumphal crown, consisting at first of wreaths of laurel, but afterward made of gold—the reward of such generals as had the good fortune to be successful in battle.

7 The crown called "Obsidionalis," or "Graminea," made of the "common grass" found growing on the scene of action, and bestowed only for the deliverance of an army when reduced to the last extremity. This was esteemed the highest military reward among the Roman soldiery.

Athletic crowns and crowns of laurel, destined as rewards at public games, and many other Roman sports, are frequently found mentioned in the annals of Roman history.

Affliction.

Affliction comes to us all not to make us sad, but sober; not to make us sorry, but wise; not to make us despondent, but by its darkness to refresh us, as the night refreshes the day; not to impoverish, but to enrich us, as the plow enriches the field, to multiply our joy as the seed by planting is multiplied a thousandfold.—Beecher.

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LITTLE TROOPER.

QUICKSTEP.

A. FRENCCELLI.

Musical score for piano and violin. It begins with a tempo marking of 'Tempo di Marcia.' and includes various musical notations such as dynamics (f, p), articulation (accents), and performance directions like 'FINE' and 'al principio.' The score is arranged in systems with piano and violin staves.