

Musical and Dramatic

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The congregation of Germain street Baptist church were treated to a musical programme of unusual merit last Sunday evening. Miss White of Sussex sang a solo "When the Mists have Cleared away." The young lady confronted a very large audience and was somewhat nervous, but she sang sweetly and with pleasingly distinct enunciation although her voice is probably somewhat light in quality for such a large building. Miss White afterwards sang in a mixed quartette with Miss Manning, Mr. Geo. W. Parker and H. Mayes, their selection being an arrangement of "The Sweet bye and bye." A male quartette consisting of Prof. Titus Messers Parker, Noble and H. Mayes sang "Dreiting," in an admirable manner. I have heard an effort is being made to secure Miss White as the leading soprano of this church.

A feature of the forthcoming entertainment by Madame Albani in this city, I have learned, will be the production of "the garden" and "the prison" scenes from the third and fifth acts of the opera of "Faust" with appropriate scenery and costumes. This will form the second part of the evening's programme in all probability.

Tones and Undertones.

"Naun" is the opera at the Castle Square theatre, Boston, this week. Stanley Felch is in the cast. He has been heard in this opera in this city.

Vocal teachers and instrumentalists are returning from their summer outings to the drill of everyday life in their educational field, judging from the many newspaper notes of their more recent movements.

Mr. Emil Tiero, the tenor singer, favorably known in critical Boston, has assumed charge of the voice department of the conservatory and college of music in Denver, Colorado. Who after this can entertain any doubt about Western civilization?

Much regret prevails over the announcement of the death of Frau Katherine Klafsky-Lobse, the German prima donna. Her death occurred at Germany, on the 22nd Sept.

The new opera by Mascagni, entitled "The Japanese Girl," is based on a very poetical and fanciful libretto by Illica. Among the characters represented are a doll, a screen—that is, the figures painted thereon—the sun, a lotus flower and the Fates. Among human personages are a pair of Japanese lovers, and a cruel father whose cruelty is of no avail, but who has ultimately to hand his daughter to the detested lover.

Sylvia Thorne was engaged as one of the principals in Hammerstein's new opera, "Santa Maria" but she was taken ill and her place was well filled by Elise Elten. The production was commended generally.

Apropos of Western civilization as illustrated by its musical culture the following is rather a good thing taken from the San Francisco news letter.

"Musical culture in San Francisco is of the highest. Nowhere else on earth is there so keen an appreciation of 'the divine art' as here. The gentlemen who sell music have unanimously noted the discriminating taste which is our special characteristic. One day this week a young lady who moves in society went to one of the leading music sellers and told him that she desired to purchase a copy of the 'Starboard Martyr.' He thought that her knowledge of seamanship might be just enough to confuse her and mildly hinted that she would find the 'Larboard Watch' just as nautical and very much nicer. 'But my teacher wants me to get the 'Starboard Martyr.' The astute music vendor saw a sudden dawn of light. 'How stupid I was,' he said. 'Of course. They spell it differently from what they did. It is called now 'The Stabat Mater.' Even this feat has been outdone, for when another lady asked for 'Circus Attitudes of a Velocipede,' he at once knew that she was after Czerny's 'Etudes de Velocite' and rolled up the music without a word.

Musical people who affect the bicycle may feel encouraged in the fact that Madame Altrino of Paris declares that "bicycle riding helps the voice." One can readily imagine circumstances under which the voice would be exercised at least.

Henry Heindl jr. of Boston has gone to Europe to remain there for two years as a pupil of Ysaye.

The funeral of the late well known tenor singer W. H. Fessenden took place from Berkeley Temple, Boston on the 21st ult. Mr. Fessenden has sung in this city in past years.

It is said that the musical festival at Worcester, Mass. last week was as a whole better than those of the last two or three years. Madame Nordica has been at her best and Mr. Campanari reaped new honors. Of the chorus work, a Boston critic says 'The work of the chorus has ranged from bad to excellent. There was as much

praise in the performance of 'The Golden Legend' as there was to condemn in the performance of 'Eve.' The chief trouble with the Worcester chorus is its bulk. One hundred singers picked judiciously would do far better work.

Fatmah Diard the soprano, will be leading singer in a new opera company which will begin season at Montreal on 2nd, November next. The repertoire will include 'Traviata' 'Lucia' 'Faust' 'Bohemian Girl' and other similar works. Miss Diard was a member of the Castle Square opera company of Boston last season.

Many stories and anecdotes are told of and about Paderewski but the following is among the best. It occurred during a visit to Worcester. During the last Norwich festival a well known architect took Paderewski over the cathedral, with which he was greatly impressed, so much so, indeed, that next day he resolved to go there alone, and make himself further acquainted with its beauties. He managed to lose his way, however, in the cathedral close, and, happening to pass what looked like a schoolroom, from which the sounds of music were issuing, he stopped, and went in to inquire his way. A few small choir boys were there alone, waiting for the rest to assemble for practice, grouped round one of their number, who was seated at the piano. It must be explained that several of the cathedral choir boys are included in the festival chorus, so that they had heard Paderewski play the great Polish fantasia, produced at Norwich during rehearsal. 'I'll show you how 'Paddy' plays,' the young pianist was saying, just as Paderewski entered, and straight way began a decidedly 'frisky' imitation of the great player. For a moment he listened, much amused, then advancing to the group, he remarked quietly: 'No, I'll show you how 'Paddy' plays,' and quietly pushing aside the little pianist he played for a short time magnificently, to the astonished boys, who stood in open-mouthed admiration not at first recognizing their visitor, till it dawned upon them that they were having a recital from no less a person than 'Paddy' himself, of which they will no doubt be proud forever.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

Sawtelle's company is occupying the boards at the Opera house this week, and the least said about the work of the company is the best, for the company. There is a good orchestra however in connection with "the show."

In Amusement Hall since the exhibition opened, has been appearing a family of noted acrobats—the Wilson family—a father and two sons. They are noted in acrobatic and dramatic circles in England as of the very best in their line of business. They have been living in London, England for many years past and came to the United States a few years ago when Sutton Vane's play 'The Span of Life' was brought out to this continent. In the piece there is a bridge across a chasm, the men, the acrobats, forming the bridge with their bodies. It is largely spectacular but the work of these men is always startling. The senior Mr. Wilson began public life in 1854 and retains his wonderful strength and agility to this day. He formerly lived on this side of the 'pond' when he was well known but while in England, many of his old time friends in the United States have joined the majority and now faces meet him at every turn. I rather have the impression that this gentleman is a Canadian by descent, if not by birth. The principal acrobatic feats are by the father and his two sons are marvellous yet some of their very best are omitted, because, in Amusement hall they are handicapped by want of space overhead. In addition to his two sons Mr. Wilson has a daughter who is the clever wire walker and whose work possesses an especial charm of girlish sweetness and modesty. There is a probability that the Wilson family will be seen at the Opera House here at no distant date, with a company, and a piece, in which the idea of the human bridge will be presented.

Mora, the star soubrette, closed her season at the Opera House last Saturday evening, having done a fair business, despite the weighty counter attraction of the Exhibition.

Readers of this column in St. John will be pleased to learn that Mr. Malcolm Bradley who did such good character work as a member of Harkins Company at the Opera house last June, has been engaged by manager Litt to play the part of 'Raymond' in 'The War of Wealth' while on tour the rest of the season. Mr. Bradley was seen in this role when the piece was produced here and he did his work well. Tom Wise, the jolly and the rotund and the genial fun maker, is playing the same part he played in the piece here, and his pleasant wife is with him in the company. Geo. Deyo is also a member.

Miss Magill, who will be remembered as the young lady member of Harkins' company this year who became such a favorite, is playing the leading female role

with Oliver Doud Byron in 'The Turn of the Tide.' Miss Magill will continue with the company all season.

The profits of "The Shop Girl" in London, England, amounted to \$80,000.

James O'Neill has been offered much inducement to produce next season, his "Monte Cristo" at the Adelphi theatre, London.

Lewis Morrison is doing "Faust" at the Bowdoin Square theatre, Boston this week. A Boston paper says, "Faust" is perennial and Lewis Morrison is its prophet."

"Romola" has been dramatized and by Elwyn A. Barron and the play was given at Milwaukee on Sept. 8th by Julia Marlowe-Taber and her husband. The production has been praised. The novelist as nearly every one knows, is George Eliot.

Richard Mansfield will add "Cymbeline" to his repertoire of the current season.

Miss Eleanor Calhoun, a beautiful Californian, is considered one of the most promising actresses in London. She went to England on the advice of the late Edwin Booth. She played with Mrs. Langtry and

afterwards with the Bancrofts. She later went to Paris, studied the French language and appeared in a production at the Ojeon in that city. Miss Calhoun is probably better known in London than in the United States.

A change has been made in Sothorn's new play 'An Enemy to the King' whereby the two villains Guillaume Monignac and Vicome de Berquin are made into one. The change is an improvement.

George Fawcett, a St. John favorite in the days of the Lansdowne theatre is a member of 'The two Vagrants' company now playing at the Boston museum.

Mary Hampton is playing the role of the heroine in 'The two Vagrants' at the Boston museum. She made her St. John debut in the Lansdowne company.

Blanche Walsh, who has been leading lady for Nat Goodwin, has left his company and is coming home from Australia. A rumor is current that Goodwin is infatuated with Maxime Elliott, the beautiful, and this separation is the result.

Robert Colbran, better known as Bob Hilliard the actor, and Mrs. Nellie E.

Murphy of New York were married at the parsonage of the Hedding Methodist Episcopal church in Jersey City last Monday night. The new Mrs. Hilliard was Miss Nellie E. Whitehouse, and an heiress, before her marriage to Edgar Gibbs Murphy, the noted wing shot a little more than ten years ago. She had not lived with Murphy for eight years before obtaining the decree of divorce recently granted her on statutory grounds. Mrs. Hilliard has a considerable fortune in her own right. That's all at present about the matter.

Sir Henry Irving's production of 'Cymbeline' took place at the Lyceum theatre, London, on the 22nd ult., and it was quite as grand a success as was anticipated. The enthusiasm was great and certain calls were frequent. The occasion too was the triumph of Miss Ellen Terry's professional career.

Miss Louise Hofer Nesmith is the name of Thomas E. Shea's leading lady in the 'Man-o-war's Man.'

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CRICKET SONG.

Words by FOSTER.

Music by M. STRINDBERG ELMORE.

mf Allegro Crazioso $\text{♩} = 116$.

Chirp, chirp, chirp chirp, Sings the hap-py lit-tle crick-et, In the sweetly scent-ed meadow, where the maiden rakes the hay;

mf Chirp, chirp, chirp, chirp, In the wood and in the thick-et, Sings the a-gile lit-tle crick-et, On a sul-try summer day.

Con Spirito $\text{♩} = 60$.

mf Heart of lone-ly harv-est maid-en, Sends un-to the Gods her greet-ing, Heart of maid, with love is la-den, Hop-ing for a mate, in

mf meeting. From the copse, and from the thick-et, From the lil-ies and the ros-es, Come the voi-ces of the crick-et,

rit. *Tempo II.* Sing-ing in the scent-ed po-sies. Heart of lone-ly harv-est maid-en, Sends un-to the Gods her greet-ing, Heart of maid, with

Tempo I. love is la-den, Hop-ing for a mate, in meet-ing. "Crick-et, oh, crick-et!" the maid-en doth sing, "Brown pret-ty crick-et Thou

Tempo I. cricket of Spring, Fly to me crick-et, I'll gild thy brown wing, If thou to my heart a lov-er doth bring."

colla voce