

## Music and The Drama

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The annual meeting of the St. John Oratorio Society was held last Monday evening. It is a pleasing fact, that while the financial showing for the year just ended was not quite what would be desired there is nothing in the present condition that need give rise to alarm. The election of officers was held and resulted in the choice of Mr. Gershon S. Mayes for president and the reliable Rev. C. M. Mathers as vice president. The remainder of the staff indicate good selection, and with an active energetic man, in the person of Mr. Mayes at the head, the society's affairs ought reasonably to prosper and the organization speedily attain a solid financial footing. It is also pleasant to note that Mr. Ford's relations with the members have been most cordial during the year and that he has been re-appointed conductor.

Next week in accordance with their practice for some years, Harrison's Orchestra will hold their annual benefit. There will be two evenings of music and song devoted to this purpose this year. Everyone who was delighted with the skilful instrumentation of Miss Ollie Torbett a few years ago will be glad to welcome her in our midst at the Opera House next Monday and Tuesday evenings, when she will appear in connection with these concerts. Miss Torbett as a violinist takes high rank in the musical world and the impression she makes whenever she appears is so peculiarly lasting that hearing her play once one wants to see and hear her again. She is as charming as she is talented. The Leitmann Sextette which has won so much applause and musical credit in this and other cities, will also I am informed, supply several numbers to the programme each evening.

The musical treat following Miss Torbett at the Harrison Orchestra concert will be the now somewhat famous Chicago Marine Band, at the Opera House on the 25th inst. It has been stated here previously that the soprano who accompanies this aggregation is a Miss Sibyl Sammis. This young lady is a Westerner and until the present tour has not been heard in the eastern country.

Later on, and in the next month, will be given the annual concert of Prof. L. W. Titus, at which the famous alto of St. Patrick's Cathedral New York—Mary Louise Clary—will be heard for the first time in this city.

### Tones and Undertones.

The soprano with Sousa's Band this year is Miss Elizabeth Northrop and the violinist is Martina Johnstone.

Negotiations are in progress with a view to secure Miss Ella Russell to appear with Mr. Grau's company during his western tour and his supplementary season in New York next month. If the deal be closed Miss Russell will be heard in the role of The Countess in Nozze di Figaro and as Elsa and Elizabeth.

It is now announced that Herr Xavier Scharwenta's new opera "Mataswintha" will be produced at the Metropolitan Opera house, New York, on the 23rd inst., by the Danrosch Opera company. The first production of the work was at Weimar, last October.

Mme. Georgine von Januschowsky will sing the title role in "Mataswintha," Scharwenta's opera when produced. She is now actively engaged in the study of the part with the composer. Another soprano role in the work, Rauhgrundis, will be sung by Fran Gaski.

Rosenthal writes from Coronado Beach, California, that he feels his vigor returning rapidly and hopes to resume his tour in the spring.

Madame Teresa Carreno who is before the world now as a pianist, appeared at the Boston theatre in 1876 as a vocalist, and sang the role of Zerlina in Don Giovanni. Titiens, Beaumont, Orlandini, Barili and Brignoli were the other chief singers. She made her debut as an infant phenomenon in Music Hall, Boston, on January 2, 1863. Philip Hale, the Boston musical critic, writing of Carreno of to day as a pianist, says: "The reports that have crossed the Atlantic may no longer be reckoned extravagant. Mrs. Carreno is a great pianist; a very great pianist. She has gained immeasurably in breath, dignity and deep musical intelligence."

The Boston matinee girl is said to delight in cadet shows, and perfumed notes as well as nosegays are sent to the comedians. In this connection it is remarked, as a curious fact that the most favored are those in female dress, even the feet and ankles of many on the stage in Simple Simon, says a critic, excited the envy of women in the audience. Every one knows

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that in the burlesque Simple Simon the actors are all young men. Even though "Mr. Lane as Curly Locks was an adorable vision of loveliness—Lillian Russell with a soul and keener mind." The critic adds "The cadets furnish annotation to the theory of Schopenhauer that man is the 'fair sex.'"

Madame Nordica the prima donna, has recently stated that she will not sing at Covent garden, London, this season, and the reason given is that Jean de Reszke requires an apology from her.

Madame Calve has been engaged to appear in fifteen concerts to be given in principal cities of the United States after the supplementary season of opera, and it is stated she has been guaranteed in the vicinity of \$3000 per concert. Albany, Buffalo, Cincinnati, Minneapolis, Indianapolis and other western cities will be visited.

Miss Susan Strong, it appears, is not to sing with the Danrosch opera company after all. She will appear at the Covent Garden London, under Maurice Grau's management next spring. This is where she made her debut a year ago last fall when she sang Sieglinde in Die Walkure.

"Il Trovatore" is the opera that has been presented at the Castle Square theatre, Boston, last week with Miss Clara Lane as Lenora. On Monday evening last a grand production of "Tannhauser" was given.

For the operatic novelty soon to be produced at the Tremont theatre, Miss Christie McDonald has been engaged to create the Soubrette role. The piece is called "They Walking Delegate."

Herr Seidl, the well known musician will go abroad next month and there is a well authenticated rumor that he will direct the performances of "Parsifal" at Bayreuth.

### TALK OF THE THEATRE.

The dramatic critics of Boston differ somewhat in their opinions of the work of Miss Mary Hampton in "An Enemy to

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the King" which E. H. Sothorn is producing in that city. Some classify it as "marked by intelligence throughout" while another opinion is that it is "very uneven and irregular." It is conceded that she is "charming and graceful as ever."

John Hare, the English actor, who is at present entertaining Boston theatre goers in a repertoire of plays, is said to have been more successful financially than any other English actor visiting America this season. Of Mr. Hare's acting it has been remarked that "it has a fineness, a directness, a definiteness, and cameo-like appearance and an atmosphere that is truly exquisite. His work is most artistic."

"Secret Service" the name of Gillette's new play is on at the Boston Museum this week. As previously stated, it is a war play and love is the dominant motif of its story, Gillette is himself acting the hero's part in the production. At the close of this engagement the play will be taken to London, England.

As soon as they arrived in London Mr. Bourchier took his wife, Violet Vanbrugh, who had an unpropitious American tour, to the south of France to recuperate.

Ethel Sydney, a charming English girl who was here in the United States, appearing in "His Excellency" is now playing in pantomime in Manchester, Eng..

Mrs. Minnie Maddern Fiske is credited with an artistic success in her recent production of "Tess of the D'Urbervilles" in New York.

It is said that Miss Julia Arthur who for some time past has been a member of Sir Henry Irving's company, will tour the United States and Canada next season as a star in "A Lady of Quality," a new play by Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett. Mr. Arthur Lewis will be her manager and Mr. Napier Lothian jr. will produce the play.

In a recent production of "Antony and Cleopatra" at Manchester, Eng., the place of Mrs. Beerbohm Tree, who was ill, was taken by Miss Janet Achurch.

The death of Nelson Wheatcroft the actor, has caused much regret among the members of the dramatic profession.

"The good Mr. Best" is the name given to McNally's latest farcical comedy, which will be produced at the Garrick theatre, New York next season.

Miss Mary Hampton is very much interested just now in an elegant little summer home she is having built at Rockport, Mass.

An attack of influenza from which Ellen Terry is suffering, has caused the postponement of the production of "Sans-Gene," at the Lyceum theatre, London, Eng., A revival of "Richard III." was given by Sir Henry Irving instead.

James J. Hackett will play the title role in "The Prisoner of Zenda" again next season when Dan Frohman's stock company starts with it on tour next June. Mr. Frohman will have two other companies doing it on the road. Miss Mary Manning will be leading lady with the Hackett company.

Miss Odette Tyler, one of the pretty girls of the stage is playing a principal role in "Secret Service."

In three acts is done a piece to which has been given the name "In Gay New York." It was presented to a Boston audience last week for the first time in that city. A critic scores it thus "There is absolutely nothing to commend in "In Gay New York." It is vulgar, often repulsive, entirely uninteresting, and the company, one and all, seem possessed to accentuate its coarseness. Its plot is as abbreviated and diaphanous and its music as garish, as the costumes worn."

"Joe" Brennan who has been seen here as a member of Harkin's Summer company and whose good work was always recognized is at present playing in Boston as an important member of Gillette's "Secret Service" Company.

Al Letman, manager of "The War of Wealth" company, has been stricken with paralysis, and is now in St. Joseph's hospital in St. Paul, Minn.

Augustin Daly has again changed the name of his adaptation of Meg Merrilies, from "The Witch of Darnclough" to "Meg Merrilies" or "The Witch of Ellangowan."

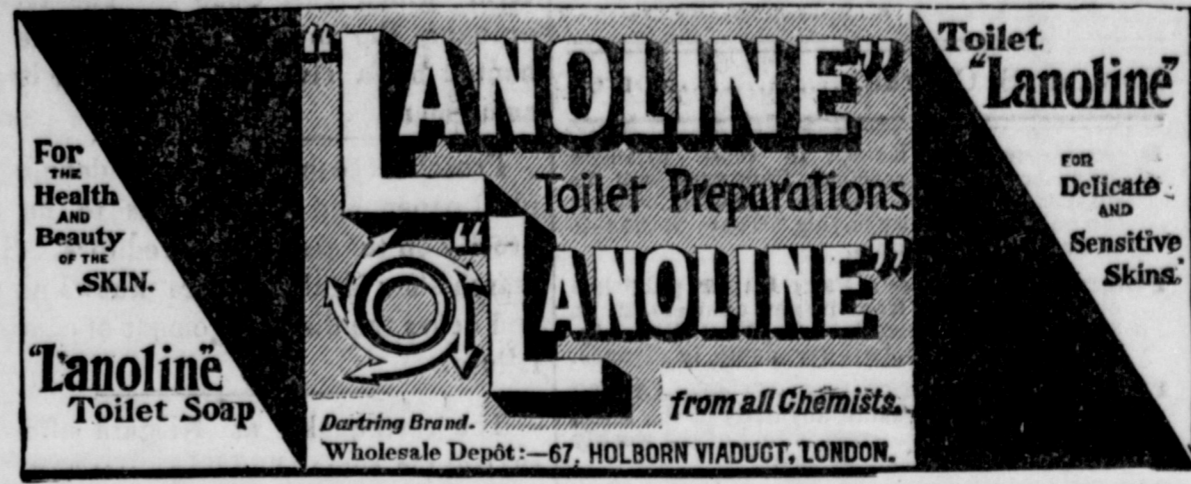
Mary E. Wilkin's novel "Madelon" is to be dramatized by Stephen Coleridge and Norman Es.

One J. A. Loening an elocutionist, has quite a new idea regarding the character of "Hamlet" and considers him as a messenger of righteousness, not crazed or simply filled with a desire for revenge. Mr. Loening has secured a company who will in it said, produce "Hamlet" in churches, using special scenery adapted to pulpit platforms.

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"With the fruit a very pretty sandbox can be made by cutting a circular opening in the upper part, extracting the seeds and then covering the opening. The opposite side is perforated with little holes. A sandbox thus made is very difficult to keep for the time always comes when, aided by the drying process, the sections suddenly split, with a characteristic sound."

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pends upon the unequal extensibility of the elements of the effect due, to it at the precise moment when the sutures, the lines of least resistance, are opened by the progress of desiccation."

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Declared before me at the City of Toronto, in the County of York, this 2nd day of November, 1896.  
J. H. DENTON, a Commissioner, etc.

### UNSOLICITED TESTIMONY:

#### ASTHMA FOR YEARS.

"I have suffered very severely from asthma for over twenty-five years," says R. G. Moore, of Hamilton. "If I ventured away from home the change of air would bring on such bad attacks that I was afraid I would suffocate at times. A short time ago I found it necessary to go to Paris, Ontario, on business. On the way my old enemy attacked me with great severity. As soon as I got to Paris I went to Armitage's drug store and bought a bottle. It relieved my Asthma, and although I have been away from home several times since, I experienced no more trouble. I regard my quarter as well spent, and intend to send some more after it."

#### A PREVENTATIVE OF COLDS.

"I have been a chronic sufferer from severe colds for a long time," says Miss Hattie Delaney, of 174 Crawford street, Toronto. "Usually at this season of the year I did not know what it was to be free from them. Nothing did me much good until I got a bottle of Chase's Linseed and Turpentine. It not only cured my cold, but I have not had another since. I ascribe the credit wholly to Dr. Chase."

#### A BANKER'S EXPERIENCE.

"I tried a bottle of Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine for a troublesome affection of the throat," writes Manager Thomas Dewson, of the Standard Bank, now of 11 Melbourne avenue, Toronto. "It proved very effective. I regard the remedy as simple, cheap and exceedingly good. It has hitherto been my habit to consult a physician in troubles of this nature. Hereafter, however, I intend to be my own family doctor."

#### A CROUPY COUGH.

"My little boy had a bad croupy cough," says Mrs. Smith, of 256 Bathurst street, Toronto. "My neighbor, Mrs. Hopkins, recommended me to try Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine. I did so, and the first dose did him good. One bottle completely cured the cold. It is surprising the popularity of Chase's Syrup. It appears to me it can now be found in every house."

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