

**Music and
The Drama**

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The Chicago Marine Band and Miss Sammis the soprano accompanying the band in its tour, have been heard here by audiences that I trust will not be construed as indicating the total of music lovers in St. John. Their patronage was inordinately small when the talent of the organization is considered, but there are several causes just now that all tend to a result of that kind. The band is under good discipline and a good system of training and can play good music as was shown in the selections from Lohengrin and DeKouski and Mendelssohn's works, but sandwiched in as extras—very kindly given—were a number of pieces almost any band can play, though perhaps not so well as Mr. Brooke's men do them. Miss Sammis made a very favorable impression on her first appearance, when her solo was the page's aria from "Les Huguenots." I did not hear her again, but on that evening I thought she had a very melodious quality of voice, and she sang in most excellent tune and with very pleasing articulation. The young lady's register it occurred to me, was not uniform altogether and there was an occasional throatiness, as a New York critic said, in some of her tones—but she is young and defects, or rather deficiencies, of this character can with care be eliminated.

The next musical event of public and special importance is that of Prof. L. W. Titus' annual complimentary concert which, as every citizen knows, is fixed for the 13th inst. at the Opera house. The special feature of the evening consists in the fact that for the first time in this city will be heard the greatest of American contraltos viz. Miss Mary Louise Clary. This lady is of Southern origin, tall, handsome, and possesses a delightful stage presence, and is admittedly without a peer as an alto. The press of every United States city in which she has been heard bears unanimous tribute to her beautiful voice, its power and volume and the magnificent control she has over it. The management of the coming concert, it seems, was able to obtain Miss Clary's presence here, only because she was en route to Montreal where she is engaged to sing in oratorio during that week. It is a pleasure to note that—assuming all we have heard of the lady will be verified—Miss Clary will sing at least four numbers on the programme of the concert of which two are, I believe, "He was despised" and a "Hosanna" with possibly "The Lost Chord." Professor Athoe will play the accompaniments. This gentleman's skill as an accompanist has been commended in this department before and there is little doubt he will maintain his excellent standard. Other features of the evening's programme, I have also learned, will be recitations by Miss Ina Brown who has kindly volunteered, and selections by the Orpheus male quartette. Prof. Titus too, it is hoped will be heard in one or more of his best solos. That every one is in sympathy with the occasion is manifested by the already eager demand for tickets. The plan of the hall will be placed for selection on Tuesday next at Miss Gray's store King street.

An opera company will give performances here during Easter week.

Tones and Undertones.

Miss Ellen Beach Yaw has recently been singing in Concert at the French Opera house in New Orleans. The fact that the audiences were not extra large is attributed to the Lenten Season.

Francis Wilson has within the past fortnight been producing his Opera "Halt a King" at the Grand Opera House, New Orleans and to large business. This was the first time that exponent of Comic Opera appeared in that Southern City.

Balte's old time opera "Satanella" has been revived and produced at the Castle Square Opera House, Boston, the current week. It had not been given in that city for the last quarter of a century. The title role is being sung by Miss Carrie Roma. "Carmen" with Miss Clara Lane in the title role was given last week. A notice of Carmen says "Clara Lane is a very mild and very sweet 'Carmen.' She doesn't give much idea of the viciousness and impulsive recklessness which were the dominating influences of Carmen's tragic love affairs but she sings so well, and is so winning, unaffected and womanly that her Carmen is a very delightful impersonation.

Miss Marie Zahn is receiving not a little favorable notice for her work as a member of the Castle Square Theatre Company.

Miss Ella Russell, the prima donna, has arrived in New York and last Saturday

night sang in "Elijah" with the New York Oratorio society.

Madame Nordica, without any stipulated for apology has at last been enabled to sing the role of Brunhilde in "Siegfried" in New York, and the fact afforded her much satisfaction. It is needless to say that Jean De Reszke was not the Siegfried on the occasion.

During his present visit to America Mr. Pukkett Greene, the Irish basso, will be heard in concert in many of the principal cities of the United States and Canada.

Madame Nordica has been made the defendant in a suit for damages—laid at \$10,000—which has been instituted by her former agent Lee Wilson, for breach of contract.

Musical critics who have heard the new opera "The Serenade" sung and acted by the Bostonians are not particularly enthusiastic over the work. There are many catching arias in it however it is said, and they are rendered chiefly by Miss Alice Neilson, to whom the most of the honors were accorded.

Madame Marie Dalna, prima donna of the Opera Comique in Paris, is considered the greatest dramatic singer of France. About six years ago she was a waitress in a country inn kept by her aunt, at Bas-Mendon. Her greatest triumph is her impersonation of Glucks "Orpheus" which it is said "no living artist can sing as she does.

The Wilbur opera company have been singing in repertoire in Bangor recently. The two last performances of last week were "Falka" and "The Grand Duchess."

Mrs. Leland Powers (Miss Louisa Baldwin) was married last month to the well known musician Albert Raudegger of London, England.

The wife of Sims Reeves the famous English tenor will shortly appear on the operatic stage.

The second New York recital by Mme. Teresa Carreno, will be given on the 27th inst. Madame Carreno plays in Worcester, Mass, next Tuesday evening and Miss Marguerite Hall will sing on the occasion.

Rafael Joseffy, the distinguished pianist will assist at the concert of the Kneisel concert in Association Hall, Boston, on Monday evening.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

A Vaudeville Company under the management of the well known Irish Comedian Paddy Murphy is giving good specialty entertainment at Mechanic's Institute this week. The specialties are all of good quality and the company has been materially strengthened by the addition of Miss Blanche Edwards, soprano, who made her first appearance here last Wednesday evening. Miss Edwards sing with much success in London.

It is now said that Olga Nethersole will be married in August next and that her choice of a husband has fallen on a certain Dr. Stuart Oliver, formerly of the East Indian service. Miss Nethersole will not leave the stage however.

Georgia Cayvan was recently appearing in "Squire Kate" at the Academy of Music in New Orleans and her other plays "May Pennington, Spinster" and "Goblin Castle" were underlined for production.

New Orleans, whether because of its business or the favorable character of its winter climate appears to be a favorite locality for those who "wear the buskin." Joe J. Peterson was playing there last week at the St. Charles theatre and giving "Rip Van Winkle" also a double bill "Cricket on the hearth" and "Lend me five Shillings."

Miss Eugenie Blair is being featured in the South as at the head of her own company of which Robert Downing remains a member. Miss Blair has been giving "The New Magdalen" appearing in the role of "Mercy Merrick."

It is becoming generally rumored that Sarah Bernhardt is going to act "Hamlet."

Maxine Elliott leading lady with Nat Goodwin, is said to have married when but sixteen years of age.

J. E. Dodson, the actor, started out in life as a law student. He tried it for six months and the experiment satisfied him that his vocation was not in that line.

Miss Rachael Noah a favorite member of the Laneragan Lyceum theatre company of "Lang Syne" played a role in a one act piece entitled "Po, White Trash" produced at a special matinee in the Bijou theatre Boston, last week.

"Secret Service" Gillette's play, will finish its fourth week at the Boston museum this evening. At the close of its season, as previously mentioned, it will be taken to England, but only for a season of four weeks.

The beauty of Maxine Elliott who is playing the part of Beatrice Carew in the play "An American Citizen" at the Hollis theatre, Boston, has evidently affected a dramatic critic in that city. The critic says

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Note the testimonials in this issue.

"She is far and away the best leading lady that Nat Goodwin has had at any time," "a young woman of wonderful grace and beauty." The critic also says "that she is a skillful and competent actress is undeniable," and then adds "but while this tribute to her sterling qualities as actress is easy, it is difficult to express the admiration one feels for her great beauty, her combined grace and staidness, her winning smile.

Miss Ethel Barrymore, daughter of Maurice and the late Georgie Drew Barrymore and who is now playing in "Rosemary" with her uncle John Drew, has been engaged as a member of the "Secret Service" company and will go to London with that play. She will understudy the role of Caroline Milford, and probably alternate in the part with Odette Tyler.

There will be three different "The Prisoner of Zenda" companies tour in the United States this season. James K. Hackett and Mary Manning at the head of one (the Steck Company) Howard Gould and Fanchon Campbell at the head of another and the third with E. R. Manson in the leading role. There is a probability the piece will be done in this city during the summer or fall.

Superior to All Others.

One of the largest retail grocers in New Haven, H. M. Tower, writes as follows, to Morse Brothers, Canton Mass.

On Feb. 15, 1897, there was sold direct to families from our store 436 boxes of Sun Paste Stove Polish under the following guarantee, namely, that if Sun Paste was not as good or better than any paste polish that they had ever used, we would give them their money back for the partly used box. Now remember this, out of those 436 boxes there was not one returned. On the contrary several ladies have voluntarily told me that it was the very best that they had ever used. In thirty days we have sold this paste to more than 600 different housekeepers, and in no instance have we had a customer refuse to take it the second time; these are facts that a good house keeper should remember.

Signed, H. M. Tower, Grocer, 379 Congress Ave., New Haven.

"SHE SANG HER WAY THROUGH."

The Difference Between Two Women—The Rich and the Poor.

A quiet man, of moderate means, passing every day to and fro on his way to business, had often looked at a fine brownstone house almost with envy. It must give happiness, he thought, to command unlimited luxury and services! A day came when official duties made it necessary for him to meet the lady of this grand home. She seemed weary and nervously restless, and before he left the house she so far forgot herself as to exclaim discontentedly:

"I never see my husband! Both he and I are too busy. I don't know that I should recognize him if I met him on the avenue, and I really don't know what I should do if I had to spend an evening at home. I should go crazy. Servants? Why, they wear a woman's life out! They're always pretending to be sick. I never believe a word they say. In fact, I've got so I hardly believe what anybody says. Do you?"

"Happy?" she continued. "Did you ever see any one really happy? Nobody seems to be happy around me. Charities? Oh yes, with a long sigh, I suppose I give hundreds of dollars a year to the regular things in the way of charity. I'm sure I don't know whether they deserve it or not. Everybody is begging, and I have to pay to get rid of them. I hope you don't represent a poor family. I am so glad! Yes I suppose we go to London for the season. It's so dull at home! Must you go? Good-by!"

The conversation was almost a monologue.

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logue. That same day the good man called on another family. The home consisted of one scantily furnished room. In it was a wife and mother who for more than a year had supported her sick husband and four children by washing. Hard labor, often continuing far into the night, had developed a weeping sinew on her right wrist. But in spite of her suffering, she continued to wash until her husband's death. Then she was obliged to go to the hospital.

After an operation had been performed, she remained for further treatment during convalescence. Then she really became the sunlight of the hospital. She had a fine, untroubled voice, so sweet and cheery that it blessed every one who heard it.

"Why do you sing so constantly?" a nurse asked.

"Because I must. Life is pretty hard, and unless I sing my way through the day, I am afraid I'll give out."

One day she asked her nurse if there were not some way by which she could make herself so full in the hospital.

"There is a despondent patient in another ward who is very unhappy," said the nurse. "Nothing we can do seems to cheer her. Possibly if you were to sing to her, it might take her mind from herself and do her good."

"I shall be glad to try" was the quiet response. And she did try. She had hardly sung more than a few moments before the despondent woman's face brightened. Up and down the ward tears fell, and as the sweet voice continued smiles shone; but the tears soon dried, and the smiles remained.

"Send her again! Let her sing to us again!" the patients begged; and as long as she remained in the hospital she sang her way through the sufferings of the inmates—for she had learned to sing her way out of her own.

Troubles crowd sooner or later into every life. It is not so much the difference in their character as the difference in the natures of those who encounter them that makes life bearable or unbearable. Sing your way through it if you can! Even a little cheerful faith is of more value to the soul than years of melancholy endurance.

If your child is attacked by Croup, a plaster made with "Quickcure" spread with a warm knife blade on cotton flannel, linen or cotton, will give more prompt relief from croup or any inflammation, than camphorated oil or mustard. In severe cases, doctors tell you to apply hot applications also, over the "Quickcure" plaster, covering the chest and neck well.

WHY HE LIMPED.

Why a Congressman Sported a Limp at a Fashionable Wedding.

A Washington correspondent sends to the New York Tribune a story of a Southern member of Congress, "whose mind is never on earthly things." The daughter of one of his oldest friends was to be married, and he was invited to the wedding.

At the very last moment an affair of some importance demanded his attention, and he found it impossible to be present at the ceremony in church, but he sent his wife, promising to meet her at the reception an hour afterward. They met accordingly, and no one of all the guests was happier than he in his wishes to the bride. His wife was so filled with pride in her husband that it was some time before she discovered that he was limping badly.

"Are you lame, dear?" she whispered.

"No, certainly not," he said. "Why do you ask?"

"You limp so," she answered.

Then, looking down at his feet, she discovered the cause. Her better-halt had on one foot a heeled slipper, and on the other a shoe with a military heel. He had been interrupted, it seems, while changing his shoes, and when at leisure, forgot to complete the operation, and following the custom inaugurated by "Diddle, diddle, dumpling, my son John," went to the wedding with one shoe off and one shoe on.

A Foot as "Black as Your Hat."
"One of my children sprained her ankle, which became much swollen and discoloured. Some 'Quickcure' was spread on linen and applied; the pain ceased at once, the swelling was gone the next day, and on the fourth day she walked to school as usual."

Signed, HENRY IEVERS, L. D. S., Quebec.

HIS FIRST SPEECH.

It was Made Under Difficulties but was Very Brilliant.

At the Boston Latin School, at Harvard College and at the law school Wendell Phillips was distinguished for scholarship and oratorical talent. He wished to be an orator, and at this period of his life his admiration for Webster was unbounded. But several years passed before his wish could be realized. Mr. F. P. Sterns, in his book of "Sketches from Concord to Appledore," describes the occasion that revealed Phillips, the orator.

In October, 1837, he was married to Miss Anna Green, a cousin to Mrs. Maria Chapman. In November occurred the riot at Alton, Illinois, and the assassination of Lovejoy. Doctor Channing's first petition for an indignation-meeting in Faneuil Hall was refused by the authorities, but a second and more urgent one was granted. The audience was almost equally divided between the anti-slavery people and their opponents, who made the most noise and disturbance. It seemed as if the meeting would end in confusion.

I went there with out the least intention of making a speech or taking any part in the proceedings. My wife and Mrs. Chapman wished to go and I accompanied them. I remember wearing a long saricot, a brand-new one, with a small cape as was the fashion of the day; and after the attorney-general made his speech, denouncing Lovejoy as a fool, I suddenly felt myself inspired, and tearing off my overcoat, started for the platform.

"My wife seized me by the arm, half terrified, and said:

"Wendell, what are you going to do?"

"I replied, 'I am going to speak, if I can make myself heard.'"

The uproar was so great that the chairman asked Dr. Channing if he could stand thunder; but the personal beauty of Mr. Phillips so surprised all hearers that they paused to listen to him, and were so charmed by his eloquence that they neglected to make any further disturbance. The attorney-general was wholly discomfited, and Doctor Channing's resolutions were carried by a substantial majority.

Mr. Phillips was only twenty six years of age when he delivered the spontaneous, magnetic speech which proclaimed him a vigorous, original orator.

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