

Music and The Drama

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

This department has been favored with a copy of a new song, the music of which is by Miss Francis C. Robertson—words by C. G. Bancroft. It is entitled "On the Beach" and it is peculiarly sweet and attractive; the words have been given a very consistent and appropriate setting. There is a strain of sadness that is sweetness as well, running through the music that gives voice to feelings that not subsequently surge up in the breast of one who stands by the shore and listens to the lapping waves of the incoming tide. It presents no vocal difficulties and ought to become readily a favorite piece. It has been published in Boston by T. Trifet and is for sale here by Gray & Co., and by other dealers. In addition to this Miss Robertson has written another piece—instrumental—that is also very pretty and is called "Estella."

If a certain rumor that has been current this week to a limited extent, should take form, as is now very probable, then the lovers of music in this city have in prospect a delight second perhaps to none ever enjoyed here. It will take the form of a concert which will give St. John people an opportunity to hear the greatest alto singer in America—some say the greatest in the world. The alto in question is Miss Clara Louise Clary. Negotiations, I believe, are now in progress with a view of securing this great singer and a quartette for a concert in the city in the near future. A concert given in St. John Presbyterian church last evening in aid of the India famine fund, engaged the services of some among the very best of our local musicians. The names of those participating would be a guarantee of excellence at any time.

Tones and Undertones.

Madame Emma Eames, the prima donna, denies emphatically that she is to sing with the Damrosch opera company.

The Carroll-Kerker opera company with Camille D'Arville was giving "Kismet" at the Harlem Opera house last week.

Miss Florence Dillard, a young lady violinist of much promise, who has studied with Yasye and Carl Halir, will soon be heard in concert in New York. Miss Dillard is a native of Memphis, Tennessee, is young and charming in manner and is said to be "gifted with marked individuality as a player."

"Carmen" was given by the Damrosch Opera company in Boston last week and as Madame Calve was unable through illness, to appear and sing the title role, her place was taken by Mlle Camille Seygard, whose performance had much to recommend it. She has an excellent voice, not strong, but well trained; she sings well; she is evidently quite at home on the stage and an intelligent well drilled actress."

Miss Marie Barnard, who was heard here with Sousa's band, and who afterwards went to Europe to continue her musical studies, has been engaged for the Royal Italian Opera in Rome, and is to appear as "Marguerite" in "Faust" and Elsa in "Lohengrin" early in the spring.

Mr. Max Heinrich, the well known musician will start for Europe next month on a short holiday for his health.

Bronislaw Huberman, the phenomenal boy violinist will not return to the Continent until next May.

What is called "Six Wednesday evenings of song" will be given at Steinert Hall, Boston, under the management of Mr. Wilhelm Heinrich and Miss Julia A. Terry, beginning on the 24th inst. Some of Boston's best musical talent will participate among them being Mrs. Jennie Patrick Walker.

Mary Louise Clary, who is dubbed the greatest American alto, is now in much demand for concert work. She will sing at Syracuse, N. Y. on the 1st, assisting the Kneisel quartette.

Miss Marie Zahn, who sang the title role in "Iolanthe" in this city with Gilbert's opera company, is at present a member of the Castle Square opera company, Boston. She does not wish to leave that city.

"The Geisha" closes its last week in Boston tonight. Miss Violet Lloyd who sings and plays the role of Mollie Seamore in the production, is one of the special attractions. She is only eighteen years of age and is commended in the highest terms for her artistic work.

The gross receipts of "Jack and the Beanstalk" for four weeks at the Boston Museum are said to amount to \$40,000 up to last Saturday. The stay of this piece at that house has been extended for two weeks owing to its great popularity.

At the Grand Opera in Paris, only one new opera was produced last year, viz the "Helle" of M. Davernoy; and only two new ones at the Opera Comique, viz Messager's "Le Chevalier d'Harmental" and Cohen's "La femme de Claude" and this is all the more strange because both houses are subsidized.

Madame Nordica is credited with having discovered a new tenor. He is of Polish extraction and named Proschowsky.

Alphonse Nellis, a blind boy, who is a musical wonder has been found at Mons in Belgium. He has been studying music but three years, and has composed a mass that will be given to the public. The lad is only 11 years of age.

A new opera "Gernist" by Engen will have its first performance at Mannheim next April.

Opera singers are not given extravagant salaries in the French provincial cities. Out of \$40 a month paid an artist in one of these places, she pays \$18 for board; \$6 for her room; \$2 for washing; \$1 for sage cosmetics; \$2 commission to her agent; \$2 to her claque; \$1 for care of her music; \$2 to her dresser; \$1 to the prompter; \$1 to the call boy; and 60 cents to the theatre concierge. With what was left she had to pay for her street apparel, shoes, "coaching" scores and other inevitable expenses. Under such conditions she cannot indulge in the luxury of occasionally disappointing the public, to say nothing of paying a physician for a certificate verifying her indisposition.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

John E. Brennan the well known comedian, reorganized his company in New York last week and is now at the head of a larger and stronger aggregation. Miss Eva Westcott, remains with the company as the bright particular soubrette star. The company opened in Pennsylvania yesterday en route to the southern states where they will make a lengthy season. They carry a full band and orchestra with them on this southern tour.

A New York paper of recent date scores the play "Dr. Claudius" severely. The production was a dramatization of the novel of that name done by its author Marion Crawford. The notice says "as a matter of fact "Dr. Claudius" in its new form, is not a play at all, and it certainly is not a novel, it is nothing. It contains one mildly interesting scene—the first."

"The Little Individual" which is the name given to a piece in Miss Georgia Cayvan's repertoire, is by Thomas Haynes Burgly and was once known as "Tom Noddy's secret." It is nearly sixty years old and was first performed in 1838 at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, London, England. In the same year it was produced at the Park Theatre in New York when Miss Elizabeth Jefferson—an aunt of the present Rip Van Winkle,—played the role of Gabrielle.

Miss Elizabeth Jefferson was declared by Forrest the famous tragedian to be the best tragic actress on the stage, yet she received only \$30 per week as a member of the Park theatre stock company in the early days at that house. In no respect have the changes in theatrical life been more noticeable than in respect to the salaries paid now-a-days.

The first established play house in Boston, Mass., was the new Exhibition Room in Board Alley (now Hawley street).

The dramatic critic of the Chicago Times-Herald, Lyman B. Glover—says that the play "A Bachelor's Romance" now being played by Sol Smith Russell, is taken bodily from "The Little Rebel" a novel by The Duchess. The play purports to be the work of Miss Martha Morton, and the critic says "the only change that Miss Morton has made is in the last act and this part is acknowledged to be the weakest spot in the play. In other respects the plot of the play follows closely the plot of "The Little rebel." He also says that another of Miss Morton's plays "His Wife's Father" is taken from the work of a German dramatist.

Miss Annie Russell will be released from Charles Frohman's "Sue" company next month and she will be afterwards seen in a new three act farce entitled "The Mysterious Mr. Bugle." The new piece is by Madeleine Lucette Ryley.

Augustin Daly has rewritten and altered "Guy Mannering" and intends to put it on at his house in its new dress shortly. Later in the season he intends to produce "The Tempest."

May Irwin who has made such a hit in "The Widow Jones" has decided to give up the piece and her sister F. C. Irwin will be seen in it next season.

Olga Nethersole began a three weeks engagement in Chicago last Monday evening, and it is said she will take her present company to London with her at the close of her present season in America, open-

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ing in that city about June 1st. next. Rumor has it she intends to play the part of Romeo in "Romeo and Juliet."

Sarah Bernhardt has attained another dramatic triumph at the Renaissance, Paris, in Sardou's "Spiritisme." It was produced there last Monday.

It is reported that Madame Duse is now ill in an hospital in Vienna and that she is to undergo a surgical operation there.

Miss Lillian Burkhardt has recently purchased a new comedy sketch entitled "A Dish of Dainties." It is by Mr. Edward Gervaise, a Boston author. It will be first produced in Chicago.

Miss Georgia Cayvan will make a short tour of the New England States at the close of her Boston engagement and will play the Southern States and New Mexico en route to California.

A new play is being written by Paul Kester for Madame Rhea who made such a success in his "Nell Gwynne." The new play is a comedy of French life and will be presented during the present season.

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Why He did not Start. A lazy man is seldom so very lazy as not to be able to invent some excuse for his inactivity. Harper's Round Table tells a story in point. Patrick was the captain of a schooner that plied between New York and Haverstraw on the Hudson. One day his schooner was loaded with bricks, ready to start for New York, but Patrick gave no sign of any intention to get under way. Instead of that, he sat on deck smoking a pipe. The owner of the brickyard, who was also the owner of the schooner, and who had reasons for wishing the bricks landed in New York at the earliest possible moment came hurrying on board and demanded of the captain why he did not set sail. 'Shure, your honor,' said Patrick, 'there's no wind.' 'No wind! Why, what's the matter with you? There's Lawson's schooner under sail, going down the river now.' 'Yis, I've been watchin' her, but it's no use my gettin' under way. She's got the wind now, and, faith, there isn't enough of it for two.'

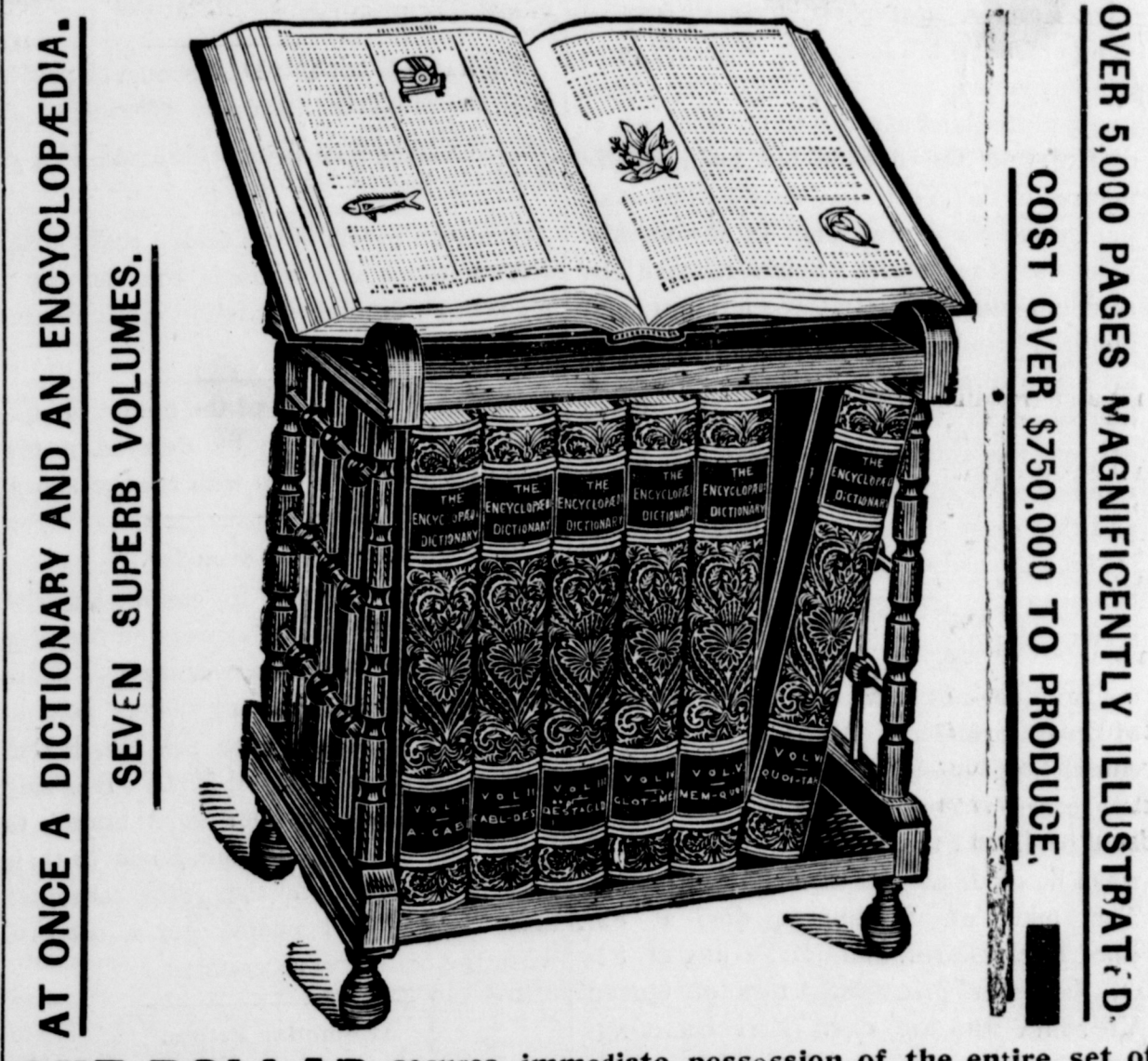
Miss Margaret Mather who recently presented "Cymbeline," is credited with more timidity than Madame Modjeska in the leading role. She is en route to Washington and will play in Philadelphia next week.

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