

Music and The Drama

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The much anticipated first appearance of H. Evan Williams, the great American tenor, materialized at the Opera House on Wednesday evening last, and in the presence of a very large and fashionable audience. What a great occasion it was! From the advance notices of Mr. Williams in which he was designated America's greatest tenor, our citizens especially those who love music had reason to anticipate much, so much in fact that many doubted that their anticipations would be realized—but the outcome proved the literal truth of everything that had been said or written about Mr. Williams. His singing was a revelation, and from the moment the first tone of his voice was heard in "The Holy City," to the last glorious number "If with all your hearts" from Eljish, the audience was simply enraptured. "The Holy City" is well known and it has been given from the opera house stage before but it was never really sung until Wednesday evening, its beauty never before shown in this city at least, nor has it ever before been interpreted in public so as to bring out all its grandeur, its prayerfulness, its veneration. Then there was the beautiful, clear, distinct articulation which gave the audience every word. The effect was simply magical and the audience burst into applause which was acknowledged three times by the singer without abatement, and when at length he yielded to the general demand he was greeted with a real hurrah! An incident that probably has never before occurred on any similar occasion here. Mr. Williams encore songs were admirable selections and each but accentuated the impression previously created.

Another feature of the evening which was only of lesser interest, was the re-entrance as it were, upon the concert stage of Mrs. Fred G. Spencer. To this lady this occasion was as trying as a first appearance could ordinarily be not only because she has been suffering from a severe cold for the past ten days, but because she was appearing for the first time as a soprano, having been previously and most favorably known as an alto. In her selection "Dreams of Paradise" her nervousness was very apparent but the full rich musical tones of her voice were there, more rounded and beautiful perhaps and she was honored with an enthusiastic recall. She sang a "Lullaby" in the sweetest manner and the audience was so intent that the silence could be felt, only the voice and words of the singer noticeable in the vast hall. The duet "Love Divine" by Mr. Williams and Mrs. Spencer was of course well rendered and encored so persistently that it was necessary to repeat part of it.

The other features of the evening were violin solos by Mr. Bowden who is improving much; readings by Miss Ina Brown and an instrumental trio by Messrs Rowden, Ewing, viola, and Miss Godard.

Miss Godard's skill as an accompanist is so well known and appreciated that nothing can be said to add to her already well earned distinction.

Another concert, with an almost entire change of bill and by the same talent was given on Thursday evening.

Tones and Undertones.

Mlle. Toronto a young Canadian singer a pupil of Marchesi will sing in the United States under the chaperonage of Madame Melba, who is a particular friend of the young singer.

Madame Melba will sing mostly in Philadelphia this season. She will be seen as "Violetta" and "Marguerite" during the first week of the opera season and later in "The Barber of Seville." Madame Melba and her sister Miss Mitchell arrived in the United States last week.

It is said that Van Dyck has resigned from the Imperial opera in Vienna. His indispositions, became too frequent to suit the officials.

Victor Maurel will tour Europe with a French opera company to sing "Falstaff" and "Otello" principally.

Mlle. Bonley, a blind girl, has captured the first prize for fugue and counterpoint at the Paris Conservatory this year.

The 600th performance of "Der Freischütz" will soon be celebrated at the Berlin opera house.

Sir Arthur Sullivan is said to be composing a new comic opera the book of which is in the hands of A. W. Pinero and Comyns Carr.

In the Boston theatre on tomorrow evening (5th Dec.) the "Redemption" will be

given with a chorus of four hundred voices selected from all the choirs of Boston. A choral by Weber "In constant order works the Lord" will also be rendered, and for the first time in that city.

M. Muhler recently produced at the Vienna Opera house "The Magic Flute" in the old version as given in the theatre Anderwein by the direction of Mozart himself. M. Muhler is also preparing a revival of "Fidelis."

Madame Seibrich the prima donna sang in Massey Hall, Toronto, on the 2nd. December, instant. She was assisted by other artists and an orchestra from the Metropolitan Opera House, New York. The occasion was one of great delight to the music loving Torontonians.

The Fisk Jubilee singers gave a concert last Monday evening in Bond street church Toronto

Aminda Fabris who sang prima donna roles with the National Opera company in the United States, and the Carl Rosa Opera company in England is now playing the title role in "The Circus Girl" at the Boston Museum.

Bernhardt Walther who is remembered in St. John as a violinist took part in the programme as the opening of the new buildings of the Conservatory of Music, Toronto, on Monday evening of last week. A choir of conservatory students opened the programme by singing "God Save the Queen."

"Sousa's new opera "The Bride Elect" will be presented at the Boston theatre on the third of January next. This opera requires a military band as well as a large chorus.

Pol Plancon the eminent basso arrived in New York last week and will remain in America until the spring. Gerardy the cellist came over with him.

"Adelaide" will be produced for the first time in English at the first of Mr. Bagby's musical mornings at the Waldorf on the 6 Dec. David Bisplam will appear as "Beethoven" on that occasion.

The celebrated Apollo club of Boston gave the first of its series of four concerts in Music Hall on Wednesday evening. The next concerts will be given on January 26, March 23 and May 4. The soloists will be Pol Plancon, basso; David Bisplam, baritone; Antoniette Trebelli soprano, and H. Evan Williams tenor. As usual Mr. B. J. Lang will be conductor.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

On Monday evening next Miss Ethel Tucker and her sister Miss Lillian Tucker, having the support of Mr. Richards and the Vaught company, will begin a return engagement at the opera house. The company will open with "Held by the Enemy" and a high class performance is assured. The specialties are already established in popularity and new ones will be introduced from time to time. The company during their last visit kept faith with the public, and their patrons by giving a series of admirable performances and of plays of such character and intrinsic merit that the average company cannot touch them; or if at all, in but an amateurish way. Such plays as "Camille" and "Leah" are not usually found in the repertoire of travelling companies, because they do not usually have with them a lady equal to such strong roles. In these plays especially, is Miss Ethel Tucker great and her support in both of them is admirable. Mr. Will Richards as Armand in Camille and Rudolf in "Leah" does such really excellent work especially perhaps in the latter role, and this department has had occasion to compliment it before and now only has to emphasize its remarks in commendation of this gentleman's really able impersonation of Rudolf which was splendidly conceived and acted throughout. Mr. Richards is

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SALT RHEUM

Most torturing and disfiguring of itching, burning, scaly skin and scalp humors is instantly relieved by a warm bath with CUTICURA SOAP, a single application of CUTICURA (ointment), the great skin cure, and a full dose of CUTICURA RESOLVENT, greatest of blood purifiers and humor cures, when all else fails.

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certainly very clever and as a leading man gives excellent satisfaction to St. John theatre goers. Miss Lillian Tucker's "Forget me not too is another surprise and delight and her Galatea in "Pygmalion and Galatia was singularly captivating.

"Little Em'ly" is the bill at the Castle Square Theatre Boston, this week. It will be followed by "Trilby." In their company at this theatre is Mr. J. L. Seely who was a member of Miss Ethel Tucker's company of last year.

This is the last week of "Under the Red Robe" at the Hollis Street theatre. Boston. Large audiences have attended each performance.

John E. Kellard is considering a proposition to star in Pineros' problem play "The Profligate."

E. S. Willard has made a great success in Boston in his personation of the title role in "Four Pinch" which is a dramatization of certain incidents in Martin Chuzzlewit. In the production Verner Clarges also scored a hit as Pecksniff. A notice of this gentleman's work says "He is delicious! the unctuous hypocrite ever, and yet always within bounds, even in his ultimate discomfiture. His creation will long remain in the memory of all who saw it."

Julia Arthur and "A Lady of Quality" will soon be at the Hollis street theatre.

Wilton Lackaye has resumed his starring tour and is now travelling in the Southern States.

Much interest is aroused about Margaret Mathers production of "Cymbelic" at the Boston theatre next Monday evening.

Charles Frohman's production of "The White Heather" in New York is variously regarded by the critics. It is an English melodrama and the adverse notices appear to be directed chiefly against the construction of the play. For all that the probability is that it will be a money maker. Rose Coghlan, Amelia Bingham and other clever ladies and gentlemen are in the cast.

J. B. Schoeffel of the Tremont theatre, Boston has decided chiefly to do away with all lithograph and window advertising and consequently all lithograph passes so far as his theatre is concerned. It is an innovation that he expects will be cordially approved by all the prominent attractions at his house.

It is said there are seventy five persons in the company presenting "The Circus Girl." It is thus improbable that a genuine article will be seen in St. John for some time.

Mora, "the little sunbeam" has been playing in different parts of Ontario recently.

SOME WONDERFUL CLOCKS.

The World's Marvels of Astronomical and Chronometric Mechanism.

Of course every Briton has heard at one time or other of the famous clock tower adjoining the houses of Parliament. No doubt he imagines it to be a very fine structure, and, as a matter of fact, it is regarded as the best specimen in our country; but there are many more wonderful clocks in existence today, perhaps not in size, but certainly in their skilful mechanism.

The most wonderful clock in the world is exhibited in St. Petersburg. Its magnificence may be imagined from the fact of this colossal timepiece having no fewer than ninety-five faces. It indicates simultaneously the time of day at thirty points on the earth's surface, besides the movement of the earth round the sun, the phases of the moon, the signs of the zodiac the passage over the meridian of more than fifty stars of the northern hemisphere, and the date, according to the Georgian, Greek, Mussulman, and Hebrew calendars. The works took two years to put together after the clock had been sent in detached pieces from Switzerland to Russia.

A certain watchmaker constructed a

clock whose mechanism represents, every fifteen minutes, all the activities of a miniature railway station. The telegraph operator sends a despatch, the doors of the station open, the station master and his assistant appear on the steps, the clerks open the windows and distribute the tickets; several travellers rush toward the train that comes in at full speed. In short, until the train has gone the usual stir of such stations is exactly reproduced.

As the train leaves each automaton returns to its place, and for a quarter of an hour everything is peaceful. The clock's dimensions are not known, but it is said to have had six years' labor expended upon it.

Another remarkable clock is that made by Villingen, the clockmaker of the Black Forest, Germany. It shows the seconds, minutes, quarter hours, hours days, weeks months, seasons, years and leap years to the last second of the year 9999, besides a host of other astronomical, geographical and historical facts.

There is a celebrated clock at Berne in Switzerland. The approach of the hour is announced by the crowing of a cock. At the same time may be seen at the very top of the tower a man clad in a coat of mail striking the hours with his sword on a large bell. As the hours are striking a troupe of bears make their appearance and

WHO IS HAPPY?

The healthy mother of a healthy child has a happiness all her own. Her's is a joy that cannot be told. It is peculiar to motherhood. The responsibility for the soft little, sweet little, dependant creature



—as much a part of herself as her own heart—brings a pleasure that may be equaled in Heaven, but never on earth. The greatest thing that can be done in this world is to bear and rear healthy, happy children. Many women do not do it—do not reach the full measure of beautiful, perfect womanhood, because of the neglect of the health of the organs distinctly feminine.

Every woman may be perfectly healthy if she chooses. She need not submit to the humiliating examinations and local treatment of physicians. She need have no trouble and slight expense. Doctor Pierce's Favorite Prescription will cure any disease or disorder peculiar to women. It is the invention of a regularly graduated, skilled, expert, successful specialist. It has been sold for over 30 years, and has a greater sale than all similar medicines combined. It regulates every feminine function—makes a woman better able to bear children—better able to take care of her children. It greatly lessens the pain and danger of parturition. No honest druggist will offer you a substitute—look out for the one who does.

"My illness was caused by lack of medical attention during child-birth, and lasted for a period of three years, during which my suffering was almost indescribable." The Edith Petty, of Texanna, Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory. "My constitution was strong and health good up to that time. Owing to injuries received, rupture, internal displacement, etc., I became a physical wreck. I think it was a constant state of pain that brought about a nervous collapse, and it would be impossible for me to tell you the degree of torture I underwent from the time that set in. I became so nervous I feared insanity. The nervous disorder seemed to affect my heart. The slightest shock would bring on a spell of palpitation which would last for two hours and over; this would be succeeded by a smothering spell which was suffocating in the extreme. I became so reduced in strength and the nervous troubles so far advanced that I could take no solid food. When I could eat (no matter how little) I would get so nervous it seemed that I must die. To make matters worse I was seized with an almost insane fear of death. My tortures were awful in the extreme. I at length consulted the highest medical authority in the Creek Nation. An examination was made. The doctor informed me that recovery was impossible without the aid of a surgical operation, the rupture and displacements must be reduced; that no amount of medicine would effect a cure. Four months later, this doctor with the assistance of three others performed the operation. For twelve days I was kept under the influence of the strongest opiates. At the end of that time I was discharged from his professional care, supposed to be cured. For about ten days my nerves were more quiet, owing to the effect of the opiates. Shortly after this the former troubles returned with renewed force. I again consulted the surgeon. He said all I required was change of scenery, exercise of will to be hysterical; prescribed a nerve medicine of temporary effect, and said he could do no more. Monthly periods ceased entirely. On account of this last trouble my mother bought a bottle of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. I took the medicine after meals according to the directions. It had a soothing effect on the nerves. Soon after this I wrote a letter to your establishment describing my ailments, and in return I received a communication giving a complete diagnosis of the case, and advising a course of Dr. Pierce's medicines. I took in all twelve bottles—six of the 'Golden Medical Discovery' and six of the 'Favorite Prescription.'

Thanks to an All-wise Providence and Dr. Pierce's medicines, the disagreeable symptoms have all disappeared. I can now do a hard day's work, eat anything and everything I wish. I regard my recovery as permanent, for it is nearly two years since I stopped taking Dr. Pierce's medicines, except the "Pleasant Pellets," which I always keep on hand."

Genuine Reduction.

Our Special Sale of Trimmed and Untrimmed Millinery Continued.

WE OFFER GREAT BARGAINS

Trimmed and Untrimmed Hats, Trimmed and Untrimmed Toques, Trimmed and Untrimmed Turbans, Trimmed and Untrimmed Bonnets.

Chas. K. CAMERON & Co. 77 King Street.

Store open every evening.

parade around the tower, then make their exit. Long strings of carriages draw up every hour for the occupants to witness this interesting spectacle.

A gigantic clock, made of cycle parts, was shown at a recent exhibition held in Paris. The hour figures are composed of brightly plated cranks. All the smaller wheels revolve by means of gear chains, but this was only for attraction. The clock kept excellent time, and struck hours half and quarter hours, the real mechanism being concealed in the base.

At the time of the coronation of the Empress of Russia at Moscow in 1724 she was presented with a watch as wonderful in every particular as the famous Strasbourg clock. On the opposite side of the time-keeping part there was an exact counterpart of the holy sepulchre, with a carved image of the Roman guard, the scene being viewed through the glass in the case. Upon opening the case the imitation stones would roll away from the mouth of the miniature sepulchre, the guard kneel, angels appear at opposite sides of the opening, and at this time the music would begin to play in soft, sweet strains, the Easter songs so well known to all Russians. The watch only weighed seven ounces. The maker of this wonderful piece of mechanism is said to have worked upon it almost uninterruptedly for a period of nine years.

Mister Hop-Toad.

Howdy, Mister Hop-Toad! Glad to see you out! Bin a month o' Sundays sence I seen you here—about. Kind o' bin a-lyin' in, from the front and snow? Good to see you out ag'in it is bin so long ago! Plovs like siliac' cheese, and sod's loppin' over even; Loam's like gingerbread, and clod's softer'n deeswin— Mister Hop-toad, honest-true—Springtime—don't you love it? You old rusty rascal you, at the bottom of it! Oh, oh, oh! I grabs up my old hoe; But I sees you, And s' I, 'Ooh-oo!

Howdy, Mister Hop-Toad! How-dee do! Make youse'f more comfo'oler—square round at your ease— Don't set sagrin' slancewise, with your nose between your knees. Swell that fat, old throat o' yours, and lemme see you waller; Straighten up and b'ist your head! You don't owe a dollar! Hain't no mor'gage on your land—ner no taxes, nuther; You don't haf to work no roads, even of you'd ruther. 'F I was you, and fixed like you, I rally wouldn't T'swap fer life, and hop right in the presidents cheer!

Oh, oh, oh! I hain't brack my old hoe; But I sees you, And s' I, 'Ooh-oo! Howdy, Mister Hop-Toad! How-dee do! St. Nicholas, —James Whitcomb Riley.

An Easy day.

Reporter—"Anybody injured in the practice today?" Football Captain—"No; the boys went real easy today. They are saving themselves up for the championship game tomorrow. Robison got his nose broken. Smith lost an ear, Dobson got a few teeth knocked out, Jacob dislocated his jaw and broke a few fingers, but nobody got what you could really call hurt."—Judge.

Municipal Economy.

The city of Berlin has closed its annual accounts with a surplus of over \$2,000,000. This money has been saved by the different departments, most of which spent far less than had been granted to them.

Worked-Out Hunting Ground.

Game and fur-bearing animals are rare along the Yukon, as it is an old hunting ground and has been drained by constant traffic for more than half a century.

Tough Luck.

"We all have burdens to bear." "But some of us have a double load; I have to walk the floor with twins every night."—Judge.