

**Music and  
The Drama**

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The concert in Centenary church last week in which Madame Harrison was the central figure among the several attractions of the occasion was attended by an audience that about tested the capacity of the church. I regret I was unable to be present but I have no doubt it was an evening of special delight to all. Madame Harrison since then has been singing in Halifax, and owing, as I am informed, to certain engagements she has made for concerts in London in the near future, it may be some time ere she is again heard in this city.

Amateur opera for next week is the present outlook and anticipation. The work selected is "The Pirates of Penzance." This work has been given here before and by amateurs, and the standard then set necessitates some arduous study and close rehearsal by the members of the present company in order to surpass the former production. Conductor Ford has been unsparing in his efforts to make the forthcoming productions musical successes and when the talent of the several amateurs is considered it may safely be assumed that the gentleman's expectations will be abundantly realized. The following is the cast of characters for both nights.

Richard a Pirate chief..... Mr. R. Seely Samuel, his lieutenant..... Mr. J. Cochran Frederick, a Pirate apprentice..... Mr. J. A. Kelly Major General Stanley of the British Army..... Mr. Chas. F. Harrison Edward, sergeant of police..... Mr. A. Chip Ritchie Mabel, General Stanley's youngest daughter..... Mrs. Charles Taylor Kate..... Miss Jessie Gordon Forbes Edith..... Miss Margaret Patton Isabel..... Miss Grace Fairweather (daughters of the Major General) Ruth, a Piratical maid of all work..... Miss Grace Manning Pirates, Police, General Stanley's daughters.

The opera will be given on next Wednesday and Thursday evenings and when the merit of the individual members of the cast is considered and that supplemented by the worthiness of the object for which it is given, there ought to be a bumper house each evening.

**Tones and Undertones.**

"Rigoletto," "L'Africaine," "Lucia" and "Favorita" are the operas most in vogue in Naples where as everywhere in Italy a reaction has set in is favor of the standard old favorites.

Mme. Sembrich the prima donna was enthusiastically welcomed on her return to the Metropolitan opera house New York, last week. She will appear in concerts in Music Hall, Boston, about the end of this month.

DeWolf Hopper has accepted the book of a new opera to be called "The Charlatan." It is by Charles Klein. The music is by Sousa. It is said the next season of the Knickerbocker theatre will be opened with it.

Alice Neilson the prima donna of the Bostonians has quite recovered from the effects of the severe operation recently performed in Boston. She will rejoin the company which is in Washington this week.

A new three act musical extravaganza has recently been completed by Edward E. Kidder, this work has been given the odd title "The Ocean Grehound."

Victor Maurel the celebrated French baritone intends producing at the Nouveau theatre in Paris, a new work, the name of the author being at present a profound secret. The conjecture is made that it will be Smstana's Bohemian opera "The Bartered Bride." In consequence of this purpose he has been compelled to decline an important engagement offered him.

The brothers De Reszke (Jean and Edward) have been made nobles by the Czar.

The Banda Rossa (Red Band) of Italy will be heard in a series of concerts in Music Hall, Boston, next week. There engagement will open next Monday.

Madame Nordica's engagements for the tour of the United States she is about to make and which was inaugurated in Maine recently, calls for a money reward of \$100,000 for her services.

Herr Zoltan Doeme, not every musician knows is the name of Madame Nordica's

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husband. He was originally a baritone singer but is now said to be a fine operatic tenor.

Mr. Myron W. Whitney, the well known Boston basso has recently been singing in Sunday concert in Chicago.

A recent issue of a musical paper published in the United States says "it is no longer fashionable to have the word "Program" at the head of the printed selections for chamber musicals. A fleur-de-lis design is now regarded as the only proper heading."

It is said that Joseffy will fill the dates left open by Rosenthal, and that D'Albert will visit the United States next year and make a tour which will comprise fifty concerts.

When Madame Nordica was so critically ill at the Hotel Savoy, London, last year, the sum of \$400 was paid as the cost of "straw strewn on the street" to deaden the noise of the street traffic in front of the house.

The New York oratorio society will give a festival in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the organization of the society in 1873 by Dr. Leopold Damrosch. The festival programme will include Mendelssohn's "Elijah," "The Damnation of Faust" by Berlioz and the "St. Cristoforo" a new work by H. W. Parker.

The symphony concerts are drawing large audiences as usual in Boston and for the week's concert and rehearsal the following has been the programme:

Symphony, Haydn; Overture, "Leonore No. 2," Beethoven; Four Movements from Serenade No 7 (Haffner), violin obligato by Mr. Franz Kneisel; Mozart; Overture, Scherzo and Finale, Schumann.

In speaking of Miss Alice Esty, who appeared as Eva in the "Meistersingers" in London Oct. 14, the London Times says: "Miss Alice Esty is an artist whose improvements is as marvellous as are her freshness of voice and stamina under the strain of constant hard work. She sang with remarkable charm and intelligence, and her tones rang through the house sweetly and powerfully as those of a bell, while, despite the surrounding obstacles, her acting was instinct with admirable comedy and just that touch of piquant archness in which the Eve of Madam Eames is lacking."

**TALK OF THE THEATRE.**

Pugilism, holds the boards at the Opera house this week in the shape of Veriscope pictures of the contest for the championship of the world at Carson city on 17 March last.

The leading role in Charles Frohman's production of Joseph Arthur's new play "The Salt of the Earth" will be originated by Annie Russell.

Henry E. Dixey (Adonis) is a very versatile man. He has recently been acting in Vaudeville in New York, and last week bade farewell to the business. It is said that he has signed a five years contract to star as a magician.

The great and once popular drama "Shenandoah" was on at the Castle Square theatre, Boston this week. It is by Bronson Howard and at one time was considered the best of all the war dramas. "Captain Switt" is the bill for next week.

Mr. P. A. Nannery of this city has been engaged by Charles Frohman to play an important role, in his forthcoming great production of "White Heather." The production will be given in December at the Academy of Music. The company is now in active rehearsal. Rose Coghlan is engaged as leading lady of the company while Olive May (Mrs. Henry Guy Carleton) will play the ingenue role.

Last week in Rochester, N. Y. the baggage of Marion Manola was seized by a deputy sheriff on a judgment of \$2000, secured years ago against the Manola-Mason Company.

On Monday next (8th, inst.) the company from the Empire theatre, New York, will play "Under the Red Robe" at the Hollis theatre, Boston. This play was one of the few successes of last season in New York. W. S. Harkins so well and favorably known in this city was in the cast of this play up to the time of his last St. John engagement and for a week after his company opened here.

Augustine Daly's dramatic company with Miss Ada Rehan will return to New York early in December.

Thoman E. Shea is at the Bowdoin square theatre, Boston, this week in the "Man-o'-Wars man." This play has been seen in St. John. A Miss Gertrude Roosevelt who plays in the piece is a Boston girl.

It is said that Margaret Mather intends reviving "Miss" the play in which the late Annie Rixley made such a success. The play calls for work entirely different from anything Miss Mather has been doing.

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**PIMPLY FACES**

Mme Duse will have to surrender all hope of seeing her this year on the continent because it is said her health is such that it will compel her to spend the winter in Italy.

Mias MacKenzie who is to play the role of Jean in the London production of "The Little Minister" at the Haymarket theatre, is the daughter of Sir Alexander MacKenzie who composed the incidental music for the piece.

E. S. Willard's company of this season, is said to be the strongest he has yet had with him. Maud Hoffman is leading lady. Among the other members of the company is Verner Clarges who was with the Potter-Bellew forces, and in this city was with Tyrone Power in "The Texan" some few years ago. Miss Elith Crane, who has since become famous as "Trilby" it will be remembered was the leading lady of "The Texan" company.

Richard Mansfield is busy with rehearsals of "Frederick William the First" which he will shortly produce in New York.

**BABY SAVED BY LIGHTNING.**

Lion Killed Just as It was Ready to Spring Upon the Child.

Lightning and blackberries come to gather in the coast region of Texas. The people there, as a rule, are more partial to the latter than the former. One exception to the rule exists there to-day, however, in Mrs. Pennington, of Plum Creek, who says that one timely stroke of the lightning has done her more good than all the blackberries in creation could possibly accomplish. Just behind the Pennington home is a small clearing, in which the blackberries grow large and sweet and in abundance. One day Mrs. Pennington went there to pick some berries for supper, and took her little baby girl with her. The baby grew tired in a little while, and the mother arranged a bed of dry leaves for it under a sheltering sumach bush. In a few minutes the child was asleep, and the mother resumed her berry picking. It was an oppressively hot day, when the air was full of electricity and not a breath of wind stirring anywhere. A squall was coming up rapidly from the east, the lightning was showing dimly on its upper edge, but Mrs. Pennington was apparently oblivious of the approach of the storm, glad only that the baby slept so well and gave her so little trouble. But it was not the storm alone that threatened danger. At the very edge of the thicket, and only a few feet from the sleeping baby, its eyes gleaming, its head laid flat on the ground and its tail lashing its tawny sides, a huge Mexican lizard was crouching ready to spring. For a moment it dug its hind paws nervously into the ground, and when it leaped into the air. It fell dead only a few inches from the sleeping baby, just as a loud peal of thunder caused Mrs. Pennington to look round for the safety of the child. The baby awoke, looked up and smiled.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

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**A WIDOW'S STRUGGLE.**

HARD WORK BROUGHT ON A SEVERE ILLNESS.

Nervous Prostration, Dizziness and Extreme Weakness—Dr. Williams' Pink Pills Came to Her Rescue After Hospital Treatment Failed.

From the Fort William Journal.

In the town of Fort William lives a brave widow, who for years has by dint of constant labor kept the wolf from the door and her little family together. From morning till night she toiled to provide comforts for her loved ones until nature at last protested against such a constant drain on her strength, and so she began to lose health. Soon the slender frame became unable to bear its daily load of toil, and the poor mother was at last forced to give up the unequal contest, and become a burden where she had once been the chief support. Nervous prostration, heart disease, consumption, and other names were given her malady by local physicians, but months passed, during which she suffered untold agony, without finding any relief from her sufferings. Palpitation of the heart, dizziness, extreme pain in the chest, loss of appetite and nervousness were some of the symptoms of the disease. Gatherings that caused excruciating pain formed at the knee joints and other parts of the body, and at last she became perfectly helpless and unable to walk or even sit up. At this stage she was advised to enter the hospital, that she might have the benefit of skilled nurses as well as best medical treatment; but after spending some time there without obtaining any relief the poor woman gave up all hope of recovery and asked to be taken home. So emaciated and weak had she become her friends were shocked at her appearance, and so utterly hopeless was her condition that it was like mockery to speak hopefully of her ultimate recovery.

What then was the astonishment of all who had known of her dreadful condition to hear that she had at last found a remedy whose magical power at once demonstrated the fact that where there is life there is hope. The name of this remedy that worked such a wonderful change in such a short time was Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and after taking five boxes she was able to walk about and visit her friends. Her strength gradually but surely returned and in a few months from the time she began using the medicine she was able to resume her work. The subject of this article, Mrs. Jane Marcellie, is well known, and her youthful and healthy appearance to day causes people to exclaim—wonders will never cease. She attributes her restoration to her family, solely to the virtues to be found in Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and her experience she hopes, may put some other sufferer on the right road to health.

Every box of the genuine Dr. Williams' Pink Pills has the trade mark on the wrapper around the box, and the purchaser can protect himself from imposition by refusing all others. Sold by all dealers at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50.

**A PECULIAR PEOPLE.**

Some of the Ceremonials of Southern Alaska Indians.

Goldseekers going to the Klondyke are obliged to go through a country inhabited by some very queer aborigines who dwell along the coast of Southern Alaska. These natives do most of the freighting across the passes into the interior carrying loads on their backs; but their population during many centuries had been so shut away from other tribes by gigantic ranges of snow-clad mountains that they have developed a peculiar culture and customs unknown anywhere else. Hence the exceptional value of a monograph about them, prepared by M. Frank Boaz, a distinguished ethnologist, which is to be published soon by the National Museum.

One of the most remarkable of the festivals celebrated by the Indians is a carnival of ghosts, which is held each winter. It seems to be derived from a tradition that tells of a journey made by an adventurous individual to a region beneath the earth, inhabited by phantoms. The celebration itself is a mimical representation of the visit to Hades aforesaid, and the performer who represents the submundane traveler wears a necklace and headdress set around with skulls.

This festival requires elaborate preparations. Speaking tubes of dried giant kelp are laid under the foot of the lodgehouse so as to terminate in the fireplace. When the ceremonial is in progress the performer disappears into a ditch previously dug behind the fireplace, and then many voices are heard coming out of the flames—really the voices of persons hidden in adjoining rooms, who speak through the tubes. Later on an image representing a ghost is seen to rise out of the ground, carrying the performer.

Cannibalism is very conspicuous in the myths current among these people, who have themselves been eaters of human flesh up to a recent period. Indeed, though the whites are supposed to have put a stop to such practices, it would seem that secret indulgence in them has not been wholly done away with.

Quite a number of strange demons are

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worshiped as guardian spirits, among them a cannibal demon that lives on the mountains and always is engaged in the pursuit of human beings for his table. The smoke of his chimney is the color of blood, and he has a female slave who gets food for him by catching men and collecting corpses. In his house is a fabulous bird with an immensely long beak, which lives on the brains of persons whose skulls it fractured with its bill. Anybody who is so unfortunate as to encounter the cannibal spirit may be transformed into a grizzly bear. On the other hand, if he can please the demon he may obtain power to handle fire without being burned.

Another guardian spirit is a fearsome warrior, who lives in the far North. He travels constantly and never leaves his canoe. By obtaining his protection a man may become invulnerable, or he may acquire power to catch the invisible diasease demon. This demon is at all times flying about in the air in the form of a worm. The fortunate protegee of the warrior spirit catching the worm can throw it into the body of an enemy, who will die at once.

These Indians wear wooden masks in their ceremonial. Some of them are of enormous size; astonishingly grotesque. The mask worn by a performer who represents the cannibal spirit, for example, is a huge crocodile-like head. Another, representing the bird servant of this spirit is like the head of a bird, with a bill four feet long. By means of strings, pulled by the wearer, the great bill is made to open and shut rapidly, producing a loud clapping.

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"Wonderful!" exclaimed the enthusiastic tourist from Boston, as the steamer came in full sight of the fortress of Gibraltar.

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The St. Louis Republican suggests that the California physician who claims to cure drunkenness by the injection of horse blood into the veins of the patients could probably effect a speedier and more permanent cure if he could devise some means for injecting horse sense into their craniums.

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