

Music and The Drama

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The advent of Evan Williams who is designated the greatest tenor singer in the United States and who will appear in concert at the Opera house on the 1st and 2nd, December is creating not a little quiet excitement and active desire in local musical circles. To be named the greatest tenor in the United States is asserting a great deal, but in respect to Mr. Williams one is forced to accept the assertion as fact in view of the unanimous sentiment of the general press references to him and his work, in all the cities where he has been heard. Coming here as Mr. Williams does for the first time and with his great prestige, it is not to be wondered at that there should be a very general desire to hear him. This desire is indicated by the advance sale of seats which opened on Wednesday, and which is so extensive already that it must be very satisfactory to the management. It behooves every lover of good music rendered in a superior manner, to be on the alert and in good season to select their seats for one or other of these concerts.

Great as the desire to hear Mr. Williams may be, there is also special interest manifested in the coming concerts, because of the fact that Mrs. Fred G. Spencer is to take part in the programme. This lady has not been heard in public concert for a long time past, during which she has been studying hard under the efficient teaching of Madame D'Arona in New York. This department has previously suggested that Mrs. Spencer's singing at this concert would be a surprise. It will in fact be a sort of debut for her, because when previously heard and always admired, she sang alto, she will next be heard as a soprano, while all the richness of her original alto tones has been preserved. I understand that Mr. Williams and Mrs. Spencer will sing one or more duets in the programme. Other local talent will participate, lending additional pleasure to the occasions.

Centenary Church was crowded last Sunday evening. A choice musical programme was anticipated and Miss Thompson of Fredericton sang a solo during the evening.

Special musical services have been arranged in several of the city churches for Thanksgiving day. This was notably the case in respect to Germain Street Baptist church, the quartette of which, in admirable form, rendered selected pieces.

Tones and Undertones.

It is said that both Patti and Calve have expressed a desire to sing "Tribly" in Leoncavallo's opera of that name.

Madame Scalchi the prima donna is making a concert tour in the Southern states.

Sousa will take his band of sixty pieces to London about 1st, May next. They will play about six weeks in England, Ireland and Scotland and then make an extensive tour in Germany, France, Italy and other countries. They will be absent from the United States about twenty-five weeks.

Mrs. Alice Bates Rice will create the leading soprano role in "Athalie" the French play to be given shortly in Cambridge, the Cecilia Club with full orchestra under B. J. Lang will render the music. Mrs. Rice (nee Alice Bates) is a fine soprano and was heard here some years ago with Gilbert in operatic selections in the Institute. She is slight but is the embodiment of music.

H. Lucius Chase has been engaged by the Cecilia Club of Boston to sing the great baritone part in Max Bruch's "Odysseus" on Dec. 2nd.

The opera season to be given at the New York Metropolitan Opera house under the direction of Walter Damrosch and Charles A. Ellis will commence on Jan. 18 and continue five weeks. The full list of the singers is, sopranos and contraltos, Mmes. Melba, Gadeki, Batna, Seygard, Toronto, Studigl, Mattfeld, Van Cauteron, and Nordica; tenors, M. M. Ibois, Rothmahl, Salignac, Breun Van Hosse, Vanni, and Kraus; baritones, M. M. Campanari, Standigl, Stehmann, and Bisphamp; basses, M. M. Boudouresque, Rains, Viviana, and Fischer; the conductors are Mr. Damrosch and Signor Bimboni. The following is the repertoire: "Barber of Seville," "Cavaleria Rusticana," "Romeo et Juliette," "Aida," "Faust," "Les Huguenots," "Rigoletto," "Scartet Letter," "Manon," "Lucia," "Flying Dutchman," "Tristan and Isolde," "Das Rheingold," "Die Walkure," "Siegfried," and "Die Gotterdammerung."

The Montreal Philharmonic society, Mr. G. Conture, conductor, will give the fifteenth performance of "The Messiah" Dec.

23, and at the annual spring festival in March or April will give at its first concert Gounod's "Romeo and Juliet." The programme for the second concert which will be a matinee has not yet been decided upon. At the third concert Berlioz's "Damnation of Faust" is to be given. Mr. Conture, the conductor, is to give Ciser Franck's "Messe Solemnelle" at the Christmas service at the cathedral and is to give Michael's "Joseph" on the stage with amateurs. The latter will not be given until the end of the season. The season of the Boston Symphony orchestra is proving a very prosperous one, and the patrons are enjoying some of the best concerts which have been known in the history of this Boston institution. Miss Gertrude May Stein was the soloist this week at the Friday afternoon rehearsal and the Saturday evening concert. The programme will be:

Serenade.....Brahms
Aria, "Jeanne d'Arc".....Tchaikowsky
Symphony.....Mrs. H. E. A. Beach
Aria from "Rienzi".....Wagner
Selection from "The Damnation of Faust".....Berlioz

The programme for the Symphony concerts last week was as follows: Mozart's symphony in D major, Paderewski's concerto for pianoforte, Dvorak's suite in D major, and Auber's overture to "Carlo Broschi." Mr. Alberto Jonas was the soloist.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

The stage at the opera house this week has been occupied by that talented actress Miss Ethel Tucker and her sister Miss Lillian Tucker, who are supported by Mr. William Richards and Charles A. Vaughn's comedy company. The opening piece was "Led Astray" and the admiration that Miss Ethel Tucker's work always creates was but intensified by the careful manner in which she played the role of the romantic young wife. Miss Lillian Tucker had the ingenue role and gave an excellent interpretation of the character. Mr. William Richards played the part of the easy going fun loving husband very well indeed for so young an actor. In fact this gentleman's work shows an improvement that is astonishing when one considers that it is the result of study, and but two years careful training. He has already become what may well be called "a promising young actor," and his Captain Letterblair in "A Soldier of Fortune" and Armand in "Camille" were real surprises. Mr. Owen of the supporting company is an actor of no little theatrical experience. He is an Englishman, and has played in Australia, India and Japan, from which latter country he arrived only a short time since. He does all his work carefully, and has made a wonderfully good impression. He has just enough of an English accent to lend additional charm to his full rich voice. Miss Mary Horne, a handsome young lady made an instantaneously favorable impression by her work in "Led Astray," and her songs elicited much applause. Another pretty girl of the company is Miss Maloney who in the opening piece had a somewhat thankless part to play but she did it consistently throughout. Mr. Moore, Mr. Morrison and Mr. Prince all do very good work. On Friday night Miss Ethel Tucker was seen in her great impersonation of "Leah" with Mr. Owen as Nathan the apostate.

The engagement closes with the performance tonight. The company play a week's engagement in Fredericton at the new opera house in that city, beginning on Monday evening next. The specialties are of good character not the least attractive being the "baby Patti" as she is called.

The Miles Ideal Stock Company having closed a phenomenally successful engagement in Fredericton, are playing in Biddeford Me. this week.

H. Price Webber, and Miss Edwina Gray are playing in Prince Edward Island this week. They are booked at the Opera House in this city for Christmas and New Years day.

"Charley's Aunt" that play of laughable incidents is on at the Castle Square theatre Boston this week.

On the 6th December Margaret Mather will begin an engagement at the Boston theatre appearing in "Cymbeline."

Miss Ethel Barrymore the young daughter of Maurice and the late Georgie Drew Barrymore is winning honors in London. She plays an important role in Henry Irving's new play "Peter the Great" with which he opens his season at the Lyceum theatre London.

Gillette who made such a success by taking the play "Secret Service" to England intends to take another American company over there in March next to present "Too Much Johnston."

E. H. Sothorn it is said will not revive "Change Alley" but will appear in his repertoire the rest of the season. Next autumn he proposes producing a new play by Anthony Hope.

Last Monday evening marked the 50th,

BABY'S SKIN

In all the world there is no other treatment so pure, so sweet, so safe, so speedy, for preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, scalp, and hair, and eradicating every humor, as warm baths with CUTICURA SOAP, and gentle anointings with CUTICURA (ointment), the great skin cure.

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EVERY HUMOR From Pimples to Scrofula cured by CUTICURA.

performance of "The Girl from Paris" and a souvenir in the shape of a beautiful enamel mantel clock was presented to every lady occupant of a reserved seat.

Dramatic critics in New York say that John Drew's play "A Marriage of Conveniences" is the prettiest play that actor has ever had.

Mrs. Leslie Carter will play "The Heart of Maryland" at the Adelphi theatre London next spring and will also produce there a new play by Belasco.

Viola Allen's dresses in "Under the Red Robe" are patterned after plates and pictures taken directly from some of the noted historical paintings in the famous French galleries and are not only superb examples of the modists' art but are almost exact copies of dresses worn by ladies of the French nobility in the early part of the seventeenth century.

Katherine Florence (Mrs. Fritz Williams) has left the "Never Again" company to accept an engagement with Charles Frohman for his forthcoming production of "The Princess and the Butterfly."

It is said that Julia Arthur intends giving a great scenic production of "Camille."

Madame Bernhardt has accepted a new social piece by Octave Mirabeau, entitled "Leo Mauvais Berges" in which she will not appear until the third act. She wants to disprove the charges that she dwarfs her cast, and that a long role is needful for success. In "Meg Merrilies" the lady who plays the title role does not appear until the third act. Bernhardt thus has a precedent.

Augustin Daly has returned to New York. While in Berlin he secured a new comedy with which he will open his regular season next month. Miss Rehan will take a needed rest and not be seen at Daly's theatre until latter in the season and then in a play entitled "Three daughters of M. Dupont."

It is said that handsome Muriel Shotwell leading lady with Fanny Davenport is to be married in February next to a wealthy gentleman of Hamilton, Ont.

The North Sidney (N. S.), Herald has the following to say of Price Webber's recent engagement in that city:

"H. Price Webber's company played a return engagement in Royal Albert Hall on Thursday evening last, when they produced the local comedy of "Miralda, the Creole; or, the Man from North Sidney." Miss Grey was very fine in her impersonation of Miralda, and received merited rounds of applause. Mr. Webber caused roars of laughter as the Man from North Sidney; and his local hits were remarkably good, and were repeatedly applauded. In his speech before the curtain he spoke of the usefulness of his profession, and referred to the fact that Her Majesty Queen Victoria had conferred the honor of knighthood on Sir Henry Irving in recognition of his valuable services as the foremost actor of the present day. His remarks were listened to with the greatest attention and he was heartily applauded. He will pay another visit to North Sidney soon and will be gladly welcomed."

Mr. Webber will play here during the holiday season and will be accorded the warm welcome he has always received in St. John.

The great Ottoman Empire, which at one time threatened the civilized world, sprang from a band of 400 wandering Turkoman families.

Daylight Robbery.

The other day a gentleman called on a dealer and told him he wanted a box of Foot Elm. What was his surprise when the dealer virtually held him up and endeavored to foist on him a worthless substitute. No, says the man, your're trying to rob me when you want to sell me such trash as that. Foot Elm is the only remedy that ever gave my hot, tired, aching feet relief, and I want IT and nothing else. Price 25c. at all dealers or STOTT & BURY Bowmanville, Ont.



H. Evan Williams.

St. John will be visited next week by the greatest of all American tenors; this will be an event of great musical interest, more so probably than any affair of the kind in recent years. No lovers of music should fail to hear this great singer. The prospects are good for crowded houses, as the plan is rapidly filling up, though good seats still remain yet, for those desiring them. Wednesday and Thursday are the days, let none forget this fact.

A MAD COUNTESS.

Because She Was Kind to the Poor She Was Deemed Insane.

Not many years ago there lived in Holstein, in the north land of Europe, a young girl of aristocratic family, who became an intimate friend of the princess of Denmark. One of these princesses became empress of Russia; another is the Princess of Wales.

The court of Denmark has been remarkable for its simplicity and genuineness, and our young friend, the Countess Schimmelmann, was stimulated to a noble life by the lovely daughters of the Danish king. As she grew older she determined when she should come into her inheritance to consecrate herself to the service of the needy.

After having been maid of honor to the empress Augusta of Germany, she resigned her position and went back to her own Baltic shores. As in all seacoast countries there on the Baltic the fishermen were poor. Perhaps no other class of men undergo greater dangers and hardships for less return than do the toilers of the sea. To these fishermen of the cold northern shores the countess determined to devote her life.

She began to patrol the stormy coasts of the Baltic in her yacht, and soon she came to know almost every fisherman's family for many miles along the coast, and whenever she found them in need of food she fed them. If salt or nets were wanted, these she supplied. She carried medicine were no doctor could ever visit. She found Sailor's Homes and temperance lodges, and wherever a brutal man was the terror of his village or community, she labored with him to make him a respectable citizen. In this way she redeemed many a soul and saved many a home from destitution and destruction. Never in all her experiences of court life had the young countess been so happy as when carrying relief to the sick in body or in soul in the teeth of a gale at sea.

But one day he was arrested and hurried to a madhouse. The charge brought by her relatives was that she was using up her private fortune on poor undeserving wretches, and neglecting her social duties. When had a Schimmelmann been guilty of helping his fellow-men at his own great cost? The countess must be mad. She was imprisoned in an asylum for some time and it was universally believed that her detention was a necessity.

At last the authorities discovered that the countess's estate was being mismanaged. An investigation was made, the wronged woman was examined, doctors pronounced her sane, and she was speedily restored to her estate and to the world. Not long ago she visited England, and the Princess of Wales, her old friend, brought confusion upon the Danish ladies' enemies by giving her a formal reception, the greatest honor that can be granted to social aspirants, and a public endorsement of the countess and her noble work.

What a romance, what a victory such a life portrays! The court, the fisherman's hut, the narrow cell, each played its part in the formation of a rare and beautiful character, that became a blessing to the world.

The "madness" which finds expression in deeds of beneficence and love, which ennobles and enriches every life it touches, is so truly a "divine madness" that the best and sanest of us might well covet and strive for it.

Cancelled Bank Notes.

The stock of Bank of England notes which are paid in five years fills 13,400 boxes which, if placed side by side, would reach over two miles. If the notes themselves were placed in a pile they would reach to a height of five miles. They weigh ninety tons.

Storm clouds move at the rate of thirty-six miles per hour.

Special Sale

.....OF.....

Trimmed and Untrimmed MILLINERY

On Monday First we will commence a great clearance sale of Trimmed and Untrimmed Millinery including all the latest and most fashionable styles in.....

Trimmed Hats, Trimmed Toques,

Trimmed Turbans, Trimmed Bonnets, Walking Hats, Sailor Hats, Tam O'Shanter Childrens and Misses Trimmed Hats. Also a large assortment of Untrimmed Felt Hats, Toques and Bonnets in black and all the fashionable colors. Come early and secure a bargain.

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

Store open every evening.

WHOSE TONGS WERE THEY.

It Was a Case of Ice Versus Tongs and the Purchaser Won.

There are some people whom it is peculiarly unsafe to overreach. Christian Work tells a story of one of them, in which an ice-wagon and its driver figure conspicuously. The driver was delivering ice in the usual course, when on coming to the house of one of the customers, he found the owner seated upon the front door-step. No sooner had the wagon stopped than the householder was at the curbstone, carefully eyeing the scales upon which the ice was being weighed. The driver paid no attention to his significant looks, but after weighing a small lump of ice, started with it toward the house.

"Hold on!" said the customer, "I'll take that in. You needn't bother."

"All right," replied the driver. "But you want to be quick, for it's a warm day, and we'll have to deliver the stuff in sponges if we let it stay out in the sun much longer."

The customer disappeared. In a little while he came out of the house, and seating himself on the door-step, began to whistle.

"Well," shouted the iceman, "I can't stay here till next winter!"

"Are you waiting for anything?" inquired the customer.

"Of course I'm waiting for something! I want my tongs."

"What tongs?"

"The tongs that you used to carry the ice in."

"Oh, I'm sorry, but I don't care to lend them," replied the householder.

"Lend them? Whose tongs do you think they are?" shouted the driver.

"Mine," was the reply.

"Maybe you've gone down-town unbeknown to anybody and bought out the ice company and all its furniture!" sarcastically rejoined the iceman.

"No, but I bought these tongs. I pay you so much a pound for your commodity, don't I?"

"Yes."

"Well, I noticed that the tongs were weighed in with the rest, and I am not going to pay for tongs at so much a pound and not get them. I have been taking ice from you for the last three months, and that makes at least ninety pairs of tongs still due me. If you have any proposal to make in the line of trading ice for tongs, I'm willing to listen to it."

Whether or not the driver had any such proposal to make is not stated, but it is safe guessing that that customer was never again called upon to pay for ice that he had never received.

"77" FOR COLDS that "hang on"

The best thing yet. One dose at the beginning is worth half a dozen afterwards.

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Head off a cold with a dose of "77."

"77" relieves a Cold over night.

No one dies of Pulmonary disease who takes "77" in time.

"87" knocks out the Grip.

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