Music and The Drama

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

A typographical error occurred in last week's notes which calls for correction. In speaking of Mr. Kelly's offer from St. Andrews choir, the paragraph was made to read that should he accept, the church in question would "secure the best tenor in the city." The word "voice" was emitted accidentally after the word tenor, thus materially changing the intended meaning of the note.

Dan Godfrey's band will be with us in the course of a few weeks, and the management are working energetically for the success of the Canadian tour. This famous military band will be heard in the Victoria rink while here.

Tones and Undertones.

The newest London "girl" is "The Skirt Dancer", written by George Ridgwell and Fenton McKay and composed by H. Trotere. The fun of the piece turns partly upoh the complications arising out of the amorous proclivities of an old navy captain, in relation to a skirt dancer, who follows him to his country residence, and insists in proferring her attentions in the midst of her hero's birthday celebrations. The second act is laid in the grounds of the Casino at Nice, and a graceful tarantelle is danced. The piece ends with a battle of flowers.

Lillian Russell, who is to sing in Berlin in August, and be paid \$2500 a week and expenses, says: "Several comic operas by German composers will be submitted to me when I reach the other side. If I find one which will suit I will produce it in Berlin, reserving the American rights for a spring novelty in America next season. It is quite possible that I will spend next winter abroad. If I am well received in Germany I will in all probability produce a comie opera next fall at the Hof theatre in Berlin."

Geraldine Ulmar, well known in this country as well as in England as a comic opera prima donna of the first rank, is likely never to be seen on the stage again. Several months ago she was thrown out of her carriage near Twickenham, England, and sustained an unusually complicated fracture of the ankle. It has never healed, although she has gone through a long se ries of very painful surgical operations. Miss Ulmer is in private lite Mrs. Ivan Caryll.

Paul Dunbar, the negro boy poet who announced the other day that Le was about to collaborate with James Whitcomb Riley and write a comic opera for negro actors, has been anticipated. At the Third Avenue Theatre New York this week Cole and Johnstyn's Select Company of Colored Artists is appearing in "A Trip to Coontown," and the plot of the piece bears quite a resemblance to the story which Mr. Dunbar had laid out for his comic opera - New York Sun.

Agnes Sorma is to give nine more performances in New York, opening April 26, with Gerhard Hauptmann's "Die Versunkene Glocke." On Friday, April 29, a very elaborate production of "Konigskinder (Children of the King.) will be given for the first time in this country.

"No, there are no legitimate sopranos in light opera nowadays." said Jessie Bartlett Davis. "The girls in comic opera are too lazy. They take two or three lessons, know a graceful step when they come on the stage and that is all. The Bostonians have been looking for a Marie Stone for the past five years and we cannot find her.'

Letty Lind, long identified with the most successful musical comedies produced by George Edwardes, was so dissatisfied with the approaching successor to "The Geisha" that she has decided to resign from his company when the new work is given.

Camille D'Arville may, it is said, replace Lillian Russell in the triple al.iance next season. A new company by Strange and Edwards may be used by this company.

It has been arranged that Sousa and his band shall begin their European tour at the Trocadero in Paris on June 1. "This entire European trip," said Sousa, depends entirely upon the question of war with Spain. It there is a gun fired proclaiming hostilities between the two countries, I shall abandon the bookings made in Europe for me and shall take some theatre in New York to play patriotic music." Sousa, and the gentlemen interested in the management of his band pur-

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pose securing in New York next season a first-class theatre. If they cannot get it, they have money enough to build one. They believe that it is quite possible to carry on regularly a band concert with celebrated solcists. A portion of the orchestra will be made into a "smoker."

Jean de Reszke has fully recovered from the illness that confined him to the house in St. Petersburg for a few days. It was not influenze, merely a hard cold When Die Meistersinger was given (it was given without cuts, and lasted five and a half hours) Sommer took the place of Jear de Reszke as Walther. Frau Stavenbagen was Eva; Olitzka, Magdalena Reichmann, Hans Sachs, and Fredrichs, Beckmesser. The season is said to have very successful in every way. Next to the De Reezkes the one who got the most praise was Olitzka.

According to a report from Paris, permission to perform "Das Rheingold" at the opera has been refused, because the ork would not fill an entire evening and would have to be followed by a ballet.

Frau Wagner's attention is not exclusively taken up by Wagner performances. Very recently in the great room of the Hotel of the Golden Sun, which Baircuth pilgrims know so well, she organized a performance of a little play, Jery and Bacteli, by Gcethe. The music, which is said to be strictly on the Wagnerian plan, was written by Herr Kniese, who takes so prominent a part at Baireuth.

Van Dyck, the noted tenor of the Vienna opera, bas finished his engagement with that institution and it has not been renewed. Reports from Vienna as to the reason are conflicting, some attributing it to the tenor's desire to regain his freedom and others to disagreements with Herr Mahler, the new conductor. His last ap pearance at the Vienna opera was the cause of a tumultous demonstration.

Verdi's new Stabat Mater was given in Paris during holy week, with Mme. Delna as prima donna.

TALK OF THE THEATHE.

The Spesis' Dienatic conjeny clese two weeks engagement here on Saturday evening. Their leading man Mr. Clarence Bennett has made a favorable impression here by his conscientious work, and the other members of the company have given good support. An interesting feature of the company's stay in the city was the marriage of Mr. E. T. Spears and Mrs. Marie Malten, which event took place the first of the week.

Local theatre goers are anticipating treat next week in the appearance o Maude Hillman who opens an engagement here on Monday evening in "Charity Bess." Miss Hillman's repertoire is made up of standard plays many of which have ne ver been done at cheap prices while all have been successfully toured at high prices. Jere McAuliffe who was here last se ason and made a hit in his comedy work is with this company, and will no doubt be warmly welcomed to St. John. The supporting company is excellent, including names frequently met with in the dramatic papers. Miss Hillman's name is widely known and the prospects are good for a successful engagement. There will be four matinees during the week, beginning on Wednesday.

Anna Held is a Jewess.

Grace Filkins is to star.

Cissy Fitzgerald's real name is Mary Kate Kipping. A play by Zola is to be produced in

New York next season. Mary Marble will star next season in Patti Rosa's repertoire.

Adele Ritchie will play the title role in 'The Lady Slavey." Clement Scott's apology is even worse

than his original slander. "The Gay Matinee Girl" was a Kansas City attraction last week.

May Irwin will produce "Kate Kipp, Buyer" in Kansas City, on May 12.

It is reported that the theatres in Havana are doing as well as it nothing had hap-

W. J. Ferguson, Madeline Bonton, and Ida Vernon, arh to appear in "The Tarrytown Widow."

The St. James' Gazette has appealed to the British censor to cancel the license of "The Conquerers."

A comedy, "The Purser," is to be produced by Ferris Hartman at San Franscisco this month. Beerbohm Tree has been selected to

toast "The Drama" at the Boyal Academy banquet this year. "No Cross, No Crown" will be given

its first American production by Hopkins Chicago Stock Company Louie Freear has successfully embodied

the cheeky self-importance of a London street gamin in 'Julia.' A stock company for the Klondike is

Posen" is also to be acted there. A fancy dress ball is an important feature of the new London society drams,

being organized in New York. "Sam'l of

"My Lord and Lady Algy." Mr. and Mrs Russ Whytal sailed for England on Saturday. It is probable that they will appear in "For Fair Virginia" on

the other side. Alma Kruger, now attracting attention with Louis James in Shakespearean roles, will be the heroine in "The Heart of Maryland" next winter.

On the stage they have had "The Prodigal Son," "The Prodigal Father," "The Prodigat Daughter," and various other examples of family profligacy. but the latest thing in England is "The Prodigal Parson."

Seymour Hicks is to have a new theatre in London. The structure will have three the second a luxurious restaurant and on the third a cafe chantant.

Olgs Nethersole has been excited to protest by the performance of a sketch based on "The Light That Failed," by Courtensy Thorpe, Miss Nethersole says that Rudyard Kipling has authorized her to use the novel and given permission to nobody else. The sketch recently given in London was acted several years ago in this country.

News of the slightest change in the condition of E. S. Willard is cabled to his wife. The first one sent cost \$35, notwithstanding it was written in cipher. 'Up to the present time we have spent,' says his manager, "more than \$400 in cablegrams."

Edward S. Abeles, who has been playing the lover's role in "The Telephone Girl" for the past three months, has signed a contract for next season with Smyth and Rice as leading juvenile in their comedy company. He will be first cast in the new play by H. A. Du Souchet, with which the regular fall and winter season

When Mr. Sire's "What Happened to Jones" company appears in London next month it will bring the sum total of America attractions then playing there up to four-"The Heart of Maryland" at the Adelphi, "Too Much Johnson" at the Garrick," "The Belle of New York" at the Shattesbury, and Mr. Broadhurst's farce at the Royalty.

The popularity of pugilism with a portion of the public will be turned to account with next season's importation of "Sporting Life," a London melodrama. The hero will be impersonated by Robert Hilliard, who is noted as a ready fighter, and the part of the slugger with whom he has a mimic scrap will be taken by Bob Fitz.

The differences between William H. Crane and Clyde Fitch in regard to the production by Mr. Crane of Mr. Fitch's rew named play next season have been produced as originally intended.

dueed in London, shows a pseudo-literary man winning postition and wealth by purchasing and issuing as his own the poems, novels and dramas of a besotted genius contenting himself with the functions of a 'ghost."

Seymore Hicks is writing a Christmas Ellaine Terriss will appear. The lyrics are by Aubrey Hopwood, and sprior to its production "Blue Bell; or, the Story of a Sleeping King," will be published in book

Julia Arthur is married, [so her sudden retirement from the actual scene of theatri-

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cal splendors may perhaps be due to more than one cause. Her husband, Mr. Cheeney, is a son of Benjamin P. Cheeney, Sir., who is the possessor of a vast fortune. His father is president of the American Express Company, and a director of several Boston banks. They were married in September last .- N. Y. Telegraph.

Professor Schenk's theory has been dramatized at last, and not by Paul Potter or Sydney Rosenfeld. It is used in a oneact German play which has its scenes laid in an imaginary country. Dr. Schenk through the operation of his theory is able to settle the difficulties that have arisen through the struggles of women to receive equal rights with men. The play is called "The Chained Stork."

Eremete Nore'li has lately been ac ing in Milan an old play called 'The Origin of a Great Banking House,' which has not been seen on the Italian stage in many years. It is a thinly disguised history of the Rothschild family, and the leading character in the drama is the founder of the present fortune of this dynasty of bankers. A French officer gives into the keeping of Gottschied, the leading figure in the story, his entire fortune. He dies in battle, leaving a son, who subsequently marries the daughter of Gottschied, who has grown enormously wealthy through the downfall of Napoleon.

At Daly's theatre, New York, 'The Circus Girl' has been given nearly twice as often this season as anything else-ninety seven times. Then comes 'The Geisha' with fifty-five performances and 'The Country Girl' with fifty. 'Lilli Tse' has a record of thirty. Then comes 'Subtleties of Jealousy' and 'Number Nine', from the German, each with twenty performances, 'The Taming of the Shrew' was given fifteen times, 'The Merry Wives of Windsor' sixteen times, 'As You Like It' and 'Twelfth Night' ten and eight times respectively. 'The School for Scandal' was given seven times.

Charles Frohman is arranging to invade London on a large scale. He is organizing an English stock company to play 'Lady Ursula," a comedy by Bisson; 'the Pullman Conductor" and a farce by De Courcelles, the author of "The Two Vagabonds," leasing another theatre for this company. He has secured the English rights of "The Countess Valeska," which will be played in London by Julia Marlowe, supported by an English com-

New York has not had a French theatre for many years, and the visits of the most renowned French actors have not attracted audiences, French or otherwise, that were large enough to make these occasional appearances profitable. Now it is said that Mlle. Marsy, who figured conspicuously in the Lebaudy scandal, is come to this country along with Brucher, who is also one of the actors of the Comedie Francaise. He has made successful tours in European countries and is said to be anxious now to come to New York with a French com-

Lawis Morrison, the well-known Mephisto, is to produce next season a new play, "Frederick the Great," from the pen of Gordon Foster Platt, author of "A Master of Ceremonies" and other plays. In this play a new character is introduced to the stage, and one which has heretofore escaped dramatization-Voltaire, a wonderful personage. The scene between Frederick the Great and Voltaire is said to be a striking piece of dramatic art. Mr. Morrison carries his 50 summers with the grace characteristic of one who has served his country in the time of war, he having been captain in the Thirteenth Connecticut during the civil war, and one of the famous forlorn hope which carried victory at Port Hudson. His theatrical experiences cover a period of 32 years and range from the lowest rung of the ladder. He has played Mephisto over 4000 times.

The announcement of the return to the stage of that delightful actress, Kate satisfactorily adjusted, and the play will be Terry, Ellen Terry's eldest sister, was somewhat premature, for it has been found "Q Q.," the four-act play recently pro- necessary for Mrs. Lewis to undergo an operation on her throat, from which, it is said she is making a good recovery. Some time must, however. elapse before the patient will be considered sufficiently strong to undertake the part in Mr. Stuart Ogilvie's new play that has been selected for her by Mr. "The Magic Kiss" will be given in piece for the London Gaiety, in which Hare. It was on August 31, 1867, at the Adelphi, that Miss Kate Terry as Juliet took her farewell of the stage. of which she had been a brilliant ornament since her first public performance of importance in April. 1858, at the Princess,' as Cordelia, with Charles Kean as Lear. When quite a child it was with Mr. Kean that she made her debut as the ill-fated young prince Arthur, in "King John." She also played Ariel in a Princess' revival of 'The Tempest,' and a small part in the play of 'Henry the Fifth.' In the year 1862 she joined Mr. Alfred Wigan at the St. James', remaining

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there when the theatre passed into the hands of Miss Herbert. Here Miss Terry made an emphatic hit as Mr. Union, in 'Friends and Foes,' Horace Wigan's adaptation of 'Nos Intimes.' Having fulfilled various engagements in the provinces, the young actress joined in 1869 the company of the Lyceum, under Charles Flechter's management. She was the Ophelia to that actor's Ham'et, and later doubled the parts of Sebastian and Viola, in 'Twelfth Night.' Her last original character on the stage was Dora, at the Adelphi, in Charles Reade's unfortunate adaptation of Tennyson's poem. She retired from the footlights 30 years ago to become the wife of Arthur Lewis, son of one of London's richest silk

Next season Keith's Providence R. I., theatre will be added to his vaudeville circuit. Keith began his theatrical career by exhibiting a midget in Boston about fifteen years ago. Today he owns four theatres that are, it is said, attended by no less than 20,000 people daily. The Boston theatre was declared by Sir Henry Irving to be the finest in the world. It cost over \$1,-000,000, and is one of the sights of Boston. The midget was exhibited in a small room in the building which was torn down to provide room for the new theatre. Keith was the originator of the continuous performance, and it was under the Keith auspices that players like Barrymore, Hilliard, Tim Murphy, Clara Morris, etc., appeared in vaudeville. Keith has el vated the vaudeville stage. Every act given in the Keith houses is 'edited,' and women and children are conspicuous in all the audiences. The good work of Keith has spread to all parts of the country At his Boston house members of the Boston Symphony Orchestra play during the summer Keith is liberal as to salaries for employes, his general manager, E. F. Albee receiving \$25,000 a year. He advertises exclusively in the newspapers. Keith says that Albee is the ablest man in vaudeville, and Albee declares that Keith has no equal. People who knew Keith fi teen years ago say he is as meek and unassuming with over \$1,000,-000 as he was when he hadn't \$100

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