

**Music and  
The Drama**  
IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The list of events in this department is limited to Professor L. W. Titus' annual concert which took place on Tuesday evening and attracted one of the most fashionable and critical audiences the Mechanics Institute has ever held. It is pleasing to know that from a financial standpoint the concert was most successful. While the great attraction of the evening, Mr. Arthur B. Hitchcock the Boston baritone was suffering from a slight cold he succeeded in renewing his former pleasant success in this city. Of his selections "It is Enough" was undoubtedly the best. Professor Titus was received with the enthusiasm his appearance always provokes and his solos were rendered in a very pleasing manner. Every number was encoored and met with a graceful response. Miss Jennie Trueman was the only lady soloist of the evening, and though she has for sometime been leading soprano in the Main Street baptist church it was practically her first appearance on the concert stage. In regard to her singing I must confess to a feeling of disappointment; her voice, while it has a certain sweetness about it is decidedly light and the want of fullness and method gives one the impression, and can only be likened to a badly finished bit of work, in which excellent material has been carelessly used. Her middle tones are good but the higher ones while not decidedly husky have an indescribable something about them that suggests that condition. I believe there was a very general impression that her selections were a trifle too ambitious.

If the wildest enthusiasm may be accepted as an evidence of success then Ole Theobaldi may certainly be said to have made the very great success of the evening. He drew some wonderful tones from his instrument, and though to a certain extent his effects are secured by a tricky manipulation of the bow, he succeeded in creating a positive furore and securing quite an ovation. His piano solo was fearfully and wonderfully executed, and if the man who owned the instrument was present he must have felt decidedly uneasy in regard to its future well being.

Miss Brown was very graciously received and her selections proved most enjoyable. Miss Godard was the accompanist of the evening and it is needless to say that her work was as it always is, very satisfactory.

A well founded rumor was current this week that Mr. Kelly of the Cathedral choir had been offered a position in St. Andrews church at a very good salary. I do not know whether he has accepted or not, but should he do so St. Andrews will secure the best tenor in the city while the Cathedral will sustain a loss it can ill afford.

**Tones and Undertones.**

The Russel Fox De Angelis combination will doubtless continue next season. "In the twenty-eight weeks we have been out," says Mr. Murray; "we have played to a trifle more than \$280,000, or an average of \$10,000 a week."

Calve is engaged to sing in New York next season with the Grau Opera Company, but she says that in case of war she will not be expected to fulfill her contract. She has received overtures to sing Aramide in Gluck's opera of that name in Paris.

The owner of "La Poupee" wants Augustin Daly restrained from producing that work. He claims that Mr. Hammerstein has forfeited the American rights of the piece, through failing to produce it under the conditions called for in his contract.

George A. Sweeney and Mme. Thomson were last week the plaintiffs in an action against George W. Lederer, the manager of the New York Casino, for \$575.87, which they assert is due them for costumes which they made for the chorus of "The Telephone Girl" company.

"Die Meistersinger" was recently sang at St. Petersburg and Edouard de Reszke was the wanderer. It was given without cuts and lasted five hours.

A new musical comedy by Adrian Ross, with music by Osmond Carr, will be produced at Newcastle, Eng., to-morrow. It is entitled "Billy," and one of the characters will be taken by Little Tich.

Seabrooke and Katherine Germaine will shortly appear in the "Isle of Champagne."

Patti will sing with a festival chorus of some 3000 and an orchestra of 500 at a

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concert in the London Crystal Palace June 25.

"Yvolna," a play by Miss Coyne Fletcher, of Washington, will be acted by Olga Nethersole next season. Miss Fletcher has recently completed an Irish drawing-room play, "The Heroes of '98," which has received the favorable verdict of professional play readers, who predict an unqualified success for it.

The repertoire of the Corinne Opera company will include "The Little Trooper," "La Perichole," "Boccaccio" and "Carmen." "An American Beauty" will be revived next season.

Negotiations are on foot by which Anthony Hope and Edward Rose will dramatize Hope's latest novel, "Simon Dale."

Rudyard Kipling's "The Light That Failed," done into a morbid sketch and acted by Courteray Thorpe as a curtain raiser to "Julia," was last week's only London first performance.

The chief incident of "The Bellringer," a new play by Sutton Vane, occurs in a church belfry, where the murderer, by reason of his trade, is compelled to toll the funeral knell of his victim.

Plans are being made for the formation of a stock company in New York City with the novel feature of traveling stars. Branch companies are to be organized in other cities, making a sort of circuit over which the stars will travel. Thus, instead of shipping an entire company from city to city, the star, male or female, will travel in solitary state and reflect on the money saved in railway fares.

**TALK OF THE THEATRE.**

The Spears Comedy Company are playing a two weeks engagement in this city. I dropped in at a matinee performance one afternoon during the week. The high sounding, euphonious title of the thrilling play was "Only a Jay." It is something of the style of "The Little Detective," the heroine assuming half a dozen or so different disguises in order to pursue to the death the villain of the piece. By the way the man who played the villain in "Only a Jay" must be an original sort of character inasmuch as he didn't follow the make up of the orthodox stage villain. This villain had very fair, almost yellow hair, he had no nose in his buttonhole, he didn't smoke a cigar while he thought out some devilish plot against the heroine, and last and perhaps most noticeable of all he didn't wear patent leather shoes. He didn't make love as well either as the regulation villain, and when he wandered or the stage in his light suit, not like the light clothes the other villain wears on in a long, long time, he looked like a nice good natured schoolboy. The heroine was awfully clever and she had the true detective instinct too, or what in vulgar newspaper parlance would be called a "nose for news," for just to see the way she chased up that very original villain was alone worth the price of admission. She was gifted with a wonderful amount of intuition, and without a bit of trouble what ever she always knew just where to find, and foil him. Time and distance were no object with the versatile heroine. The leading man of the company has it is said done some very good work this week, so that perhaps it would be hardly fair to judge of his capabilities by seeing him in "Only a Jay." The play itself was of the wildly impossible type, and robbers and murderers stalked freely around private drawing rooms, or hid behind screens and portieres while family conclaves were being held. There was a nice old time wittic and a bright little mountain girl who reminded me somewhat of Mora, the Comedy Sunbeam. She was pretty and she played her part well, as did also the man who was her father—in the play. Vice was in the ascendant when I left at the close of the second act but it is to be presumed that Virtue had its innings during the last act, in the good old fashioned way. There is a good deal in a name after all and per-

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"ELIZABETH GILHULA.

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"Mme. Sans Gen" and will produce it at his New York theatre next fall with Miss Rehan in the role. There is no doubt that "Sans Gen" will be revived in a way that will be most profitable.

Nancy McIntosh has retired from Augustin Daly's company. She will spend the summer with Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Gilbert at their English summer home and when she returns to this country in the fall will appear with her brother Burr in the production of his play "College Days."

"Hands Down," a play by H. A. Du Souchet, which the students of the Stanhope-Wheatcroft Dramatic School will produce at Hoyt's Theatre, New York, on Thursday afternoon of next week, is the first serious effort of this playwright. The scene of the play is laid in a reception room of a club house, overlooking a race track. A few effects incidental to a horse race are introduced. The author says "this is my first effort to be serious, and I would like to be taken seriously just once."

Margaret Mather, the actress, died in Charleston, West Virginia, Friday night. She was carried off the stage unconscious during the fourth act of "Cymbeline" and died in a few hours of convulsions.

At Minneapolis last week "The Curse of Gold," the free silver play, said to be backed by the Democratic National Committee was witnessed by audiences that crowded the theatre.

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Fritz Williams, Michael Kennedy, Charles Plunket will next season be seen in Frohmen's production of "Little Miss Nobody."

Mark Twain will prepare several plays for performances in America including "Bartley Torner" and "In Purgatory."

Margaret Mather's death-attack on the stage proved the climax of the series of illnesses which have befallen E. S. Willard, Fanny Davenport, and Julia Arthur in rapid succession.

Henry Miller stopped long enough in his performance in "The Master" at the Garden theatre on Saturday night to rebuke a party of persons in one of the boxes that had disturbed both actors and audience by their noisy talking. The audience applauded the actor's rebuk, and the box party subsided, says the New York Dramatic Mirror.

A. M. Palmer has leased it said, Hammerstein's Lyric Theatre, New York: it is his intention to divide the time of the theatre between Richard Mansfield and his productions and the A. M. Palmer Stock company.

Fred Hallen and Molly Fuller will star next season in "Pousse Cafe."

Al W. Martin is engaging a No. 2 "Uncle Tom's cabin" company for next season.

Gillette's company, which sailed last week, will be seen in "To Much Johnson" in London on April 16.

"Parson" Davies has been engaged to play the part of the Landlord of the Cliff House in "A Trip to Coinatown."

E. E. Rice went sound asleep and snored during a performance of "The Girl from Paris" in New York last week.

Otis Skinner has been engaged to play Captain Absolute in Joseph Jefferson's revival of "The Rivals" next season.

**"77"**

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