

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

The Oratorio society concerts were the event of the week in musical circles—that is from an artistic standpoint. It is to be regretted that otherwise they seem to have been failures, the attendance on Wednesday evening being very small; evidently the society needs a change of management.

**Tones and Undertones.**

"In Search of a Father" is the title of a comic opera recently sung in England. It was adapted from the French. The action of the opera opens near the stage door of the theatre in the Winter Gardens, Brighton, where Mr. Smith, the stage manager, appears perplexed with the preparations which are going on inside for the performance about to take place. Adolphus Raveller, the manager of a private inquiry agency, puts in an appearance, and discovers acting at the theatre under the name of Senorita Stella, the daughter of William Burnett, an American millionaire, who before he made his "pile" left her in her childhood at Brighton, and has now come over to England to seek her out and claim her, Raveller, however, is greatly smitten by the charms of Diana De Vere, an actress in the same company as Stella, of whose success Diana is naturally jealous. Raveller now finds another object to pursue besides that of making love to Diana, who is secretly married to Charley Kelly, a young man about town.

M. Arthur Pougin gives in the current number of the *Menestrel* the following excellent "appreciation" of the Hungarian violinist, Remenyi, whose death was recently announced: "Remenyi was a strange artist, of the school of Paganini, with something of the wild animal or the savage in him, extravagant and eccentric in his style; sometimes, but yet displaying a real grandeur and incontestable power, allied, curiously enough with a most penetrating charm. . . . Wielding an unsurpassable mastery over his instrument, he dazzled the public by unheard of difficulties, and fascinated them by effects the fire and brilliancy of which one needed to bear in order to form any conception of them. Such a player, in short, could never form a school, but he was quite prodigious in his way, and furnished those who heard him with sensations which were altogether unique."

Jean De Reszke is now studying Parsifal in London with Motte, and will be heard next summer at Bayreuth in the role. The season will, according to the stories that are told by Jean's friends, mark his permanent retirement. He has already finished his study for "Götterdämmerung," and has learned Walther in "Die Meistersinger," and will next year sing that role in German and not in Italian. He is also to be heard at Covent Garden as John of Leyden in "La Prophete," which will be revived there, and also at the Metropolitan New York, next winter. The two Americans that Mr. Grau will present to their own countrymen for the first time are Suzanne Adams and Fanchon Thompson. Miss Thompson had never been on the stage until she appeared as the page in "Romeo et Juliette." But she acquitted herself with the ease of a veteran, and has continued in her subsequent appearances the favorable impression created by her debut. Nordica and Ternina have shared the role of Isolde with equal honors and they are to sustain the leading feminine roles in the three cycles of the trilogy which have already begun.

In "The Beauty Stone," the new Savoy opera by Sir Arthur Sullivan, A. W. Pinero and J. Comyns Carr, the devil is the grotesque figure. Declare the authors of the libretto: "If an apology be necessary for the aspect given to the evil one in the story of "The Beauty Stone," the reader is reminded that throughout the middle ages the devil was a constant figure in the popular imagination, familiarity engendering a sentiment in which contempt fought strongly with awe for pre-eminence. Thus, in the old mysteries and miracle plays, the devil was usually presented as a grotesque personage; and it is in this spirit, with some modification, that the character is treated in the present instance." There is a learned historical note to the story. John of Nevers, Duke of Burgundy, led the expedition dispatched by the King of France in aid of Sigismund of Hungary against Bajazet, Sultan of the Turks, which enterprise culminated in the fateful battle of Nicopolis. In this battle nearly the whole of the allied forces were put to the sword, but Bajazet spared the lives of John of Nevers and of certain

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lords of his retinue, holding them prisoners in Turkey till a fitting ransom had been provided by the French King. The hero of "The Beauty Stone" is one of the said lords.

Reginald De Koven, who has been endeavoring to place the new Smith De Koven opera, "The Three Dragons," has not, says a London correspondent, yet found a theatre for it, but I understand he is about to consummate a deal which will insure the work a hearing in London. With "The Highwayman" he has been more successful, as the announcement comes from a semi-official source that it is to be given at her Majesty's during the summer.

Eight hundred singers in Brooklyn N. Y., want to go to the war and fight the cohorts and choirs of Spain, regarding which The Musical Age says:—"These gentlemen conceived the idea of getting up a regiment, have secured eight hundred names, and have notified the Governor of the State of the fact, so it looks like business. Any singer can join provided he is not more than forty-five years of age. Most of the members of the musical cohort are of German extraction, and if they get to the front they will certainly cast terror into the ranks of the enemy by shouting out some choruses of Deutschland as they rush upon him. The Spaniards could probably stand the 'Wacht am Rhein,' or the native version of 'The Soldier's Farewell,' but they could not possibly hope to offer serious resistance to the more intricate male choruses in which this melodious regiment will doubtless indulge. Four hundred high tenors, and as many thunderous basses shouting forth a chorus in the mellifluous tongue of Germany might well shake Havana to her centre, and cause Morro Castle to fall a heap of crumbling ruins."

Eugene Cowles of the Bostonians, is going abroad next season to study for grand opera.

Albert Chevalier, is appearing at St. James hall, London, for the first time since his American tour.

Masion Danola is to head the Wilbur Opera Company next season.

Georgie French of the Castle Square Opera company has resigned and went last week to Tampa to join a party of trained nurses for the army.

Alice Neilson has sailed for China and Japan to rest during the summer. The opera in which she makes her stellar debut next season is called "The Fortune Teller."

Miss Mae Lowry will make her first appearance here in "Around the Town" a week from to-morrow. She made a hit last season with Donnelly and Girard in "The Gezer."

May Irwin sings but two songs in her new play, "Kate Kipp, Buyer," and this departure was objected to by the local critics when the play was recently produced in Kansas City.

Hattie Belle Ladd is now the prima donna of the Knickerbocker Opera company which begins a summer season at Saratoga Springs on July 4.

**TALK OF THE THEATRE.**

Private intelligence from Mr. W. S. Harkins brings the pleasing news that last weeks business in Moncton, Amherst and Irro was splendid, and that the prospects for a good two weeks in Halifax were unusually promising. Mr. Harkins returns to St. John in June 27th for a weeks engagement.

The Miles Ideal Stock Company opened a two weeks engagement at the Opera house last Monday evening in Under The British Flag, and during the week they have presented, Dangers of a Great City, Damon and Pythias and New York by Day. The play on the opening night was given in an excellent manner, and the generous applause bestowed upon the various performers was well merited. Mr. John E. Miles' work was as usual

very finished and he, together with Miss Essington and Mr. Butler was accorded a hearty reception. The latter has many admirers in this city and his work this week has been very flatteringly received. Miss Mildred Hyland is a pretty and talented leading lady who has succeeded in making a wonderfully good impression, and Miss Perle Essington (Mrs. Miles) has some good parts which she handles in a very conscientious, painstaking manner. The specialty people are very good and are given many recalls nightly. Daily matinees are given, with the exception of Monday, and are being well attended. The company remains all next week, and the excellence of the performances should ensure them a good patronage.

Mrs. Fiske produced "Divorçons" in New York last week.

The New York Casino review will be revealed on July 4.

Lottie Collins is to astonish London in a new musical comedy.

One of the New York opera companies has given up the ghost.

Julia Marlow is visiting her husband, Robert Tabor, in London.

William Gillette is now the lion of the most exclusive set in London.

It was 300 years ago, in France, that the first grand opera was produced.

At Chicago last week Dorothy Morton played the title role in "Paul Jones."

Eugene Blair will next season be a member of the Park Theatre Stock Company.

Last week "Incog" was reviewed at Chicago and "Captain Swift" was a New York attraction.

"The Klondike Rush" is a new British melodrama. Another is called "The Klondike King."

Lewis Morrison is supported by the Alcazar Theatre stock company during his 'Frisco engagement.

A new play produced this week at the London Duke of York's is entitled "The Maternal Instinct."

Wilson Barrett's season in Australia will end on July 2, and he will begin a tour of England in August.

"His Other I," by Leonard Outram and Heron Allen, has been given for copyright purposes in England.

Sympathetic references to America are received in the London theatres and music halls with hearty applause.

Laura Joyce Bell made her vaudeville debut on Monday last in "The New Prima Donna; or Up Goes the Price of Milk."

"Le Papillon," a Japanese fantasia in one act, written by M. Larcher, with music by Francis Thome, is a London novelty.

Next week, June 20, the Castle Square Opera company, all the favorites, return for one week of opera in English.

The date for the opening of the Maple opera season at the New Italian Opera House, London, has been fixed for October 10th next.

Marie Tempest is to appear in a revival of "The Fencing Master" at Daly's London, after "The Greek Slave" has concluded its run.

A new melodrama for John Bull is "Our British Empire; or the Gordon Highlanders." It deals with the recent charge at Dargai.

"The New World," recently produced in London, was acted several years ago under the title of the "Devil's Mine." The author is Fred Darcy.

In London the Biograph people showed a moving picture of the finish of the great Derby race at the Palace Theatre on the very night of the day this event occurred.

Kate Vaughan is doing "She Stoops to Conquer," at Terry's, London. F. J. O'Hare's comedy, "The Bachelor's Widow," will be produced there on Tuesday next.

Kathryn Osterman married J. J. Rosenthal last week. Mr. Rosenthal was the manager of "What Happened to Jones," and Miss Osterman played one of its roles.

The souvenir distributed at the 300 h performance of "The Little Minister" in New York was a small flag pin set with a diamond, a sapphire and a ruby. Maude Adams was the star of this piece.

Drury Lane Theatre has the largest fire-proof curtain in the world. It is 42 feet by 30½ feet, made of iron and asbestos, and in case of fire can lower itself automatically in fifteen seconds.

The "Ladder of Life," "The Interrupted Honeymoon," the "Other Man's Wife," the "Transit of Venus," "A Reprieve" and the "Prodigal Parson" are among recent London productions.

Mr. Hoyt will personally direct the production of "A Stranger in New York" when it is given at the Duke of York's Theatre, London. Otis Harlan, Harry Gilfoil and Harry Conor will be in the cast.

Augustus Daly's productions next season will include "The Merchant of Venice," "Mme. Sans Gene" and "The Greek Slave." Ada Rehan will spend the summer at her bungalow in Cumberland, England.

Ellen Terry is now acting only in the evening performances of "The Medicine Man," her place in the afternoon being taken by Dorothea Baird, the original Tribby on the English stage and the wife of Irving's eldest son.

Frau Seebach, of the Schauspiel Haus Company, who died last year, has left to the management of the Royal Theatres the sum of 80 000 marks (\$20,000 for the founding of a dramatic school for talented penniless students.

Dan Daly will sail for home on Saturday, after his stirring experience in London. It wouldn't astonish me, says Leander Richardson, in the least to find him at the head of "The Belle of New York" Company, which is to tour the United States next season.

Richard Mansfield concludes a "roast" of the New York newspapers as follows: "I have now only one thought—how to wind up my business and get out of a country where I made the fatal mistake of pursuing a career that can lead to nothing but humiliation"

Rice's Summer Nights, which begin on June 18, at the New York Casino roof, will present Nellie Hawthorne, in what Manager E. E. Rice is pleased to style "a batch of the latest London novelties, and three changes of costume." Gustave Kerker will conduct the orchestra, and "Evergreen" boxes will be a feature.

Speaking of the late "Grand Old Man's" fondness for the stage, the London Era says: "It may be said the stage in return treated him rather ungratefully; for Mr. Gladstone was not only lampooned, but actually impersonated in "The Happy Land" by F. Tomline and Gilbert aBeckett produced at the Court Theatre; in the March of 1873. Mr. W. H. Fisher as Ethias was made up to represent Mr. Gladstone, the traditional collar being of course, greatly in evidence, E has been made to say that twice two and two made five 'according to circumstances,' and being consequently created Chancellor of the Exchequer. But Mr. Gladstone was far superior to any irritation at this kind of personality. On one occasion, when an artist who had been making up as the Great Politician sent him a photograph of the imitation, Mr. Gladstone good-temperedly returned the likeness, complimenting the artist on the accuracy with which the features of the original were reproduced. Eventually the Lord Chamberlain ordered the make-ups in "The Happy Land" to be abandoned; but we believe there is no evidence that Mr. Gladstone objected to Mr. Fisher embodiment."

Annie Yeamans will appear next season in "Why Smith Left Home," a new comedy by George H. Broadhurst. Her new role will be "Queen of the Housemaids' Society of Holland Dames."

Sarah Bernhardt is threatening to play Hamlet and says that her performance of Lorenzaccio and of the Duke of Reichstadt in her new Rostrand play are in reality preparatory to this experiment.

Clara Lipman has declined a splendid offer to go into the vaudeville to do a bit suggested by the champagne scene in the second act of "The Telephone Girl." Much of the best business in that episode is Miss Lipman's own suggestion.

James H. Stoddart is the last recruit from the legitimate vaudeville ranks. Maude Harrison is a member of his supporting company and they will make their first appearance in Proctor's Pleasure Palace in New York on June 20 in "One Touch of Nature."

Elita Proctor Otis and Laura Joyce Bell are to enter vaudeville at Proctor's Pleasure palace New York.

Fanny Davenport and Melbourne McDowell are occupying their country estate at Duxbury, Melbourne Hall.

Anthony Hope has completed with E. E. Rose plays founded on his novels, "Simon Dale" and "Rupert of Hentzau"

Judge Cohen, of the New York Supreme Court, has denied the application made by Fay Templeton to set aside the attachment which was issued against her property in a suit brought by Edward E. Haskell for the recovery of \$26,617 on a breach of contract. The claim was originally held by Charles E. and Edward E. Rice, who allege that the actress broke her contract with them, by which she was to go on the road with "Excelsior" for forty weeks.

A new piece is in rehearsal at the London Court, destined to replace "Trelawney of the Wells," for the balance of the season. It is by Captain Marshall, and is entitled "His Excellency the Governor." It is a comedy of modern circumstance.

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Pinero's play has evidently not proved as attractive as was anticipated. Captain Marshall, aide de camp to the Governor of Natal, Paul Arthur, will play one of the leading parts; so will Earl Rosslyn and Dion Boucicault.

For the forthcoming representations—on June 20, 23, and 25—of the "Antigone" of Sophocles in the open-air Greek theatre at Bradfield College, England, the incidental music has been specially written in Greek scales by Mr. C. F. Abdy Williams, director of music at the college. The Greek flutes have been copied from models found at Pompeii and now in the Museum at Naples, while the lyres have been strung on the ancient Greek system, and are accurate copies of the Greek citharæ.

For 43 weeks during the theatrical year of 1897,98 Mrs. John A. Forepaugh has kept her theatre open, the conclusion being reached last evening. The management, by marked liberality, good judgement, and keen discernment, has made Forepaugh's one of the most successful theatres of the country. For 38 weeks the stock company appeared in some of the best plays on the current stage. Forepaugh's Theatre will re-open for next season under the direction of Mrs. John A. Forepaugh about the middle of August.

"The White Heather," in which Rose Coghlan is to star next season, will shortly be played in Australia. "The White Squadron," which has lately been revived in several American cities, has been staged at Sydney. "The Silver King," "Romany Rye" and "Sign of the Cross" are also on the boards there. "The Star Spangled Banner," says our Australian correspondent, John Plummer, "forms a popular feature of the programme of most traveling companies throughout the colonies. The colonies to a man are with their American brethren in the struggle, and I would raise a troop in a week if necessary."

John Pierce will be Julia Marlowe's leading man next season.

The Boston Museum opens its season Aug. 15 with "What happened to Jones."

William F. Owen has been re-engaged for Augustin Daly's company next season.

Charles Frohm in will open the season at the New York Empire theatre in September with "Too Much Johnson," followed by Jones' "The Liars."

Maude Adams is going to France as soon as "The Little Minister" closes its long run.

According to newspaper notices of the first production of "Charles O'Malley," by Wilton Lackaye, the play is a winner and fits Lackaye like a glove.

Mrs. Potter has bought from Mrs. T. P. O'Connor, the clever American wife of the Irish member of parliament, a new play, founded on the story of the late Charles Stewart Parnell and Mrs. O'Shea. The last scene represents the night of the great division in the house of commons, when Parnell learns of his fall from power and dies on the stage. Mrs. Potter will play the part of Mrs. O'Shea and Kyrle Bellew will impersonate Parnell.

In a locket which Clara Upman wears with the ball room costume in the second act of "The Telephone Girl," is a pressed flower which was sent to her from Cuba by a friend whose home is on the island. "Wear it and it may bring you good luck" was the injunction and that is what Miss Lipman is trying to do. She says that no matter what the effect may be on Cuba, it has had a good one for her, as she has worn the talisman through the long runs of "The Girl from Paris" and "The Telephone Girl."