

**Music and  
The Drama**

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The congregation of Centenary Church had the pleasure of listening to an unusually fine baritone voice last Sunday evening, the possessor of which was Mr. Knowles, a gentleman from the upper provinces. He sang Granier's Hosannas in a way that gave more than ordinary satisfaction to the listeners, and was also heard in a duet with Mrs. F. G. Spencer—I live and love Thee. The last number was beautifully rendered, the voices of the singers blending exquisitely. Centenary's is one of the choirs that always maintains a high standard of excellence and the music on Sunday evening was exceptionally good.

The Oratorio Society are devoting much time to their rehearsals and it is expected that their forth-coming concert will be one of the great events of the present season.

Tones and Undertones.

Digby and Laura Joyce Bell have decided to present a musical comedietta at the vaudeville houses.

Leoncavallo's "Boheme" is to be the novelty of the New Mapleson Italian opera season in London.

The Emperor of Austria has conferred the title of royal imperial chamber singer on Mme. Lilli Lehmann.

Sousa's father is said to have been a Spaniard. His mother, who is still alive is reported to be a German.

Nevada is singing the roles of Lakme, Mignon and Mimi in Puccini's "Boheme" at the Paris Opera Comique.

The performance of "La Favorita" by the Baggetto Italian Opera Company in N Y Thursday was given under great difficulties. Signora Adelina Fanton, who sang Leonora was in no condition to do herself justice. Just before the performance she received a cable message announcing the death of her child in Italy. It was nearly 9 o'clock before she was able to let the curtain be rung up.

Thomas Q. Seabrooke, who was arrested in Boston for not paying his wife arrears of alimony was taken from the jail Friday night last and permitted to play his part in "The Isle of Champagne," in the custody of a deputy sheriff. Mr. Seabrooke's counsel obtained from Justice Stover, in the Supreme Court, an order, returnable Monday, to show cause why the order for Seabrooke's arrest, issued by Justice Lawrence a year ago, should not be vacated.

The attempt to abolish the "claque" at the Vienna Opera House, says the London Chronicle, has been followed by some lively times. An instant result was that each performer provided a band of private supporters. Not content with applauding their employers, these hirelings thought it necessary to hiss all rival singers, and the auditorium became almost as lively a place as the Reichsrath. Accordingly the administration posted up a notice forbidding any applause whatever.

Helen Bertram has signed a contract with the management of "The Bostonians" as prima donna of that organization for the forthcoming, and several ensuing seasons.

Says a New York paper of last week: Manager E. J. Gilmore will probably introduce to New York again Dan Godfrey's Grenadier Guards' Band of London, who have not been heard in this city since the time of "Pat" Gilmore's carnival of music in 1872.

The reorganization of Gilmore's famous band is now about complete. A stock company has been formed of it, with rich men in control. The band will travel in this country and Europe. The man who is at the head of the reorganization owns the "Gilmore Library," which contains over 1500 numbers of band music.

Charles Klein, co-author of "Heartsease," and librettist of "El Capitan", has written what he calls "a grand opera in a three-act comedy setting." The cast will include grand opera singers, who will appear in the comedy, but the strictly dramatic members of the company will not step over the boundary line that separates the theatrical from the operatic portion of the entertainment. Victor Herbert, composer of "The Wizard of the Nile" and "The Idol's Eye," is at work on the score for this curiously designated new work, and Mr. Klein has entitled it "His Imperial Highness."

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Anton Seidl made provision in his will for the care of his wife's pet dogs as long as they lived. Mr Seidl's collection of Wagner music, which he obtained during his long career as a musician goes to the Richard Wagner Museum, at Weimar, Germany. The value of the personal property is placed at \$3800. There is no real estate.

Josef Lewinsky, a highly esteemed actor of Vienna, recently celebrated his fortieth anniversary as a member of the company of the Burg Theatre, the royal playhouse of the Austrian capital. He received from the Emperor the Order of the Iron Crown, flowers and wreaths without number; also a gold crown. At the evening performance he was overwhelmed with applause.

Minnie Ashley of "The Chorus Girl" company at the Museum will be with De Wolf Hopper's company for their summer engagement at Manhattan Beach.

Eighteen years ago Liszt's great oratorio of St. Elizabeth was a dismal failure at Mainz. The oratorio is exactly as it was at that time, but musical taste has undergone a change, and when Liszt's work was revived there a few weeks ago it was a brilliant success.

The place of the late Anton Seidl as director of the Covent Garden performances of Wagner in June and July is to be filled by Felix Mottl, a very eminent conductor, who will give "The Ring of the Nibelung," and Herr Zumppe, who is warmly recommended by Frau Wagner, will direct the other operas.

London is to have a visit from the famous Scala orchestra of Milan. La Societa Orchestrale del Teatro alla Scala was founded under Verdi's auspices in 1879, the conductors being Faccio, Mancinelli, and Bolzoni. The enterprise has had a checkered career. Faccio conducted in 1888, Martucci in 1890-3, Lamoureux in 1894, Vanzo in 1895, Toscanini in 1896, and Mascagni last year.

Has Italy a new musical genius? The London Musical Times hears from Venice that the oratorio The Transfiguration, recently produced for the first time in connection with the Milan Congress of Church Music (has been performed there no less than six times during the last weeks with enormous and everlasting success. The composer, the young Abbe Lorenzo Perosi, who conducted, has had numerous applications for the production of the work in various parts of Italy.

The first concert exclusively devoted to British music ever given in Bologna took place recently. The programme included Sir A. Sullivan's Tempest music. Dr. Stanford's Irish symphony, Dr. Hubert Parry's Symphonic Variations, the Intermezzo from Sir A. C. Mackenzie's Rose o' Sharon, and Mr. Cowen's in Fairyland. The concert is said to have been immensely successful.

Padewski is to play only once this year in London, Rosenthal has already given his last concert there. Joseffy is going abroad this summer, and may be heard in London. It will be interesting to observe his experience there. London is always wary of artists that come from America, even if they are as great as Joseffy or Anton Seidl. It waits as long as possible before any commensurate acknowledgement of their merits is given. That attitude was never more strikingly exemplified than in Anton Seidl's case.

M. Paul Legrand, once so celebrated, as Pierrot, has died at the age of 92.

Olga Brandon has returned to London after spending the winter at Monte Carlo.

Henry Arthur Jones' new comedy, it is said in its general character will be akin to The Liars.

My Innocent Boy is the name of a new comedy, written by George R. Sims and Leonard Merrick, which is likely to be seen soon in London at the Royalty Theatre.

Massenet, the French composer, has been in Milan to supervise the last rehearsals there of his Sappho, leaving the last

rehearsals of his Thais at the Grand Opera house, in Paris.

Henri Marceau is expected this week in Paris. He expects to play in Russia, Hungary, and Austria during the coming season and to return to the United States next Spring.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

The stage of the Opera house was occupied this week by W. S. Harkins Company, which company is one of the best ever brought to St. John by that popular manager. "What Happened to Jones" proved a very powerful attraction for three nights. The piece is irresistibly funny and is in the hands of a company who evidently regard the smallest detail as important. The action of the play is brisk and exhilarating, the situations very ridiculous, and in the weaving of the numerous complications flows a continuous strain of breezy dialogue. The Crust of Society, and a Bachelor's Honeymoon were given later in the week. The company remains all next week.

In a round about way through Mr. McMay of the New York Mail and Express, word comes that R. M. Field, "for time immemorial the manager of the famous old Boston Museum," has made up his mind to retire definitely from theatrical life. Mr. McKay says that next season his successor as acting manager of the Museum will be Mr. Sam McKee, a younger brother of Frank McKee, who has well earned his spurs through representing on tour the companies of Hoyt and McKee and of Charles Frohman. Mr. Field has been called the A. M. Palmer of New England. Both of them look like bank presidents or Sunday-school superintendents rather than theatrical managers, both of them have been settling down these last few years while new comers have been hustling along.

Olga Nethersole has just purchased a residence at 5 Norfolk street, Park Lane, West, London, which she will make her permanent home, says a New York exchange. Its fittings display the aesthetic taste of the artist. The different apartments contain all the antiques she has collected during the past four years of her travels. The dining and drawing rooms are carried out in the old English style, with lattice windows, hooded mantelpieces, old tiled hearths, and oak furniture. Miss Nethersole's bedroom is upholstered in blue silk, brocade, and her furniture has been made from French design.

Mr. Priestly Morrison has just concluded a successful and pleasant season of thirty weeks with the Lillian Tucker company, which organization has been playing in the south since last January.

Viola Allen and Charles Coghlan will occupy the Lyric Theatre, New York, for seventeen weeks, beginning Monday, October 3, when Miss Allen will make her debut as a star. The play which she will present has not yet been decided upon. Mr. Coghlan will begin his season at the Fifth Avenue Theatre September 12, when he will present "The Royal Box" for four weeks. On or about January 1 he will produce an entirely new romance comedy drama written by himself, the scenes and incidents being laid in Paris, in the year 1793.

The career on the stage of James W. Collier, who died on Friday, runs back nearly forty years. He was for more than 10 years leading man with Maggie Mitchell, and was subsequently associated with A. M. Palmer in the management of the Union Square Theatre, now Keith's. He produced, and played leading roles in such well known successes as "The Lights o' London" and "The Banker's Daughter," which at the time were the successes of the period. Subsequently he became associated with Sheridan Shook, in the management of the same theatre. He was probably the best known manager, producer and actor in the country at that time.

Henry T. Donnelly will manage a New York theatre next season and Girard will appear in the vaudeville houses during the summer.

Alice Atherton presented "The Singing Watermelon" in New York this week. The seeds of the gigantic melon are represented by the heads of numerous gentlemen of color, who uplift their glad voices in the chorus.

Georgia Caine, who introduced "The Girl from Paris" to Bostonians promises to make Nanette Backbay another favorite here. This maiden is the heroine of "Around the Town," the new local burlesque which will form the summer attraction.

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tion at the Tremont; she is of aristocratic birth and up-to-date proclivities. May Ten Broeck will impersonate Mrs. Boyleton Backbay, a society matron who delights in newspaper notoriety.

The fiftieth performance of Cyde Fitch's new play, "The Moth and the Flame," by the Kelcey-Shannon Company, at the Lyceum Theatre, New York, will be given May 24 when Souvenirs will be distributed.

George H. Primrose and Lew Dockstader will next year appear at the head of the "American Minstrels." There will be no white faces in the entertainment, which will conclude with the big spectacular afterpiece.

It is said that Burr McIntosh will star next season in a play written by Lottie Blair Parker, author of "Way Down East."

The end of the manola Mason troubles seems to be in sight. Marion has sued for a divorce from Jack in the Detroit courts on the ground of non-support.

Louis Mann looks about as little like a German as possible, and when he talks one would never suspect that a Teutonic dialect would be possible with him. When he gets on the stage however, he has a complete transformation, and his "was ist das?" was the funniest thing out.

Rev. Leighton Leigh, the English curate who has abandoned his pulpit to go on the stage, says he did so because it was impossible to maintain himself and family on \$12 a week.

Wilson Barrett, the famous actor, has been touring Australia, and has met with great success, though he has frequently had to play when the thermometer registered 100 in the shade.

Apropos of the Conquerors, William Archer writes: "Mr. Potter is a playwright of small talent and no taste." What the play lacks, he goes on to say, beyond everything else, is intelligence.

Brussel's sense of propriety has been so shocked at the entertainment advertised by a "naturalist" playwright from Paris that the author was escorted to the French frontier and all of the actors of the Theater Realiste who were French subjects were notified to leave Belgium within 24 hours.

Julia Marlowe sailed last week on the Majestic.

Madeline Bouton is to marry a German Baron.

"A Spy of Spain" was acted in New York last week.

Victor Hugo's "The Grandmother" will be performed at Paris.

Echegaray's "Black Man" has been a dire failure at Madrid.

"Shenandoah" is being acted in New York, Chicago and Denver.

Marie Wainwright and her two daughters will sail for Europe in July.

John J. McNally is writing the play in which the Rogers Brothers will star.

Burr McIntosh will be seen in Lottie Blair Parker's comedy, "A War Correspondent."

Coquelin is to visit London with "Cyrano de Bergerac" which will be given at Drury Lane with the original actors.

The new play for Sarah Bernhardt, on which Edmond Rostand, the author of "Cyrano de Bergerac," is at present busily engaged, is to have a pretty title, "L'Aiglon" (the Eaglet). The principal character will be the Duc de Reichstadt, by which title his imperial grandfather, Francis I of Austria, dubbed the son of Napoleon the Great and Marie Louise. The Bonapartists prefer to speak of him as "Napoleon the Second." He lived at his grandfather's court until his death in July, 1832, at the age of 21. His title was taken from a little town in Northern Bohemia.

The repertoires of the company headed by Louis James, Frederick Warde, and Mme. Rees will include "Hamlet," "Macbeth" and "Othello." The revival on which the managers purpose spending the most money and pains is "The School for Scandal, James appearing as Charles Surface, Warde as Joseph, and Rees as Lady Teazle.

In May Irwin's new play, Ignacio Martinetti, is a French anarchist, with a red wig and beard.

"London," says the New York Sun, "is about to be blessed with its first continuous performance show. The experiment will be made at the Opera Comique Theatre."

The new romantic play of modern life written around Parnell by Mrs. T. P. O'Connor and accepted by Kylie Bellew and Mrs. Brown Potter, is to be produced shortly at Liverpool, under the title of "The Lost Cause."

It is interesting to learn that Mrs. Craige's play, whose title is "The Ambassador," was originally intended for a book, and was to have been published in that form, when George Alexander persuaded the author to change her plans.

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Tommaso Salvini was seen again upon the Italian stage the other day at Florence. He appeared as Saul of Alfori, a character in which he made his mark as a youth of 16, and played it, according to a correspondent of the London Daily News, magnificently.

Mme. Duse had just finished an engagement of nine performances in Portugal—six at Lisbon and three in Oporto. She had given up the idea of playing in Madrid, because of the war and its possible results, but has changed her mind, and has announced four performances at the Royal opera-house. It is thought probable that Mme. Duse will give a series of eight or ten representations in Paris next month, when she will give pieces that are quite new to the French capital.

Maude Adams has appeared nearly three hundred times in New York in "The Little Minister," and yet there is no sign of closing.

James K. Hackett and Mary Mannering of Daniel Frohman's Stock Company, will take a rather long deferred wedding trip next month.

John E. Kellerd has been engaged by Stuart Robson for next season.

Mlle. Berthet is replacing Sibyl Sanderson in Massenet roles at the Paris Grand opera. She is a Belgian, and is one of the hardest students on the lyric stage. On the nights when she does not sing she is in constant attendance at the opera to see if she can learn even an expressive look or a gesture from her fellow singers.

Mme. Calve has finished her engagement at the Opera Comique, in Paris, where she has been singing in Massenet's new opera, Sappho, and is now in London for the opening of the Covent Garden season there.

Temptation.  
First Suburbanite—"There's something attractive in the communistic theory, after all."  
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