

**Music and  
The Drama**

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

Mrs. Fred G. Spencer is announced to sing in Amherst at an organ recital. Amherstians who have not had the pleasure of hearing Mrs. Spencer have certainly a rare pleasure to look forward to.

The Misses Furlong have fixed the date of their concert for July 28th. It promises to be an event of more than ordinary interest and enjoyment. The young ladies will be assisted by the best local talent, and Miss Kathleen Furlong who has been pursuing her vocal studies in New York under one of the best teachers in the American metropolis will be heard for the first time since her return.

Tones and Undertones.

Francis Wilson's new opera is called "The Little Corporal".

The famous La Scala Opera house in Milan is to be opened again next winter. An opera founded on one of Ibsen's plays is to be produced in Berlin.

Among the many European concert artists who are coming to America next season one of the most prominent is Herr Emil Sauer, the pianist, of Dresden.

Emil Giescher and Camille Seygard are making a concert tour through Norway, Sweden and Denmark. In Stockholm and Christina they will be supported by the royal orchestra.

At Covent Garden, London, on Thursday next Melba will appear in "Il Barbiere."

Maud Hollins and Alice Judson are to have the Edna Wallace roles with DeWolf Hopper at Manhattan beach this summer.

Tennyson's "Crossing the Bar," as arranged for choral use by Sir Frederick Bridge, organist at Westminster Abbey, was the most appreciated number in a recent festival concert given by 100 church Sunday schools in London's Crystal Palace.

Three acts of "The Mascot" had been performed at Gueret, France, and the fourth had been started when the prima donna hastily quit the stage, the curtain was dropped, and pretty soon the manager came out to say that a babe had been born.

A British critic, having heard Wagner's trilogy complete, asks: "Is it a failure as a drama? . . . The final central idea of the libretto does not get over the footlights. The interest becomes more and more centered in the human side of the drama, and at the end of the 'Götterdämmerung' one does not care a plenny piece for the downfall of the god, nor for the suggested dawn of a new era, but only for Brunnhilde and Siegfried."

The Carl Rosa Royal English Opera Company has gone into voluntary liquidation. It lost over \$33,000 last year, and quite naturally scared the stockholders half to death. They met the other day and had a discussion as to whether the concern should be dissolved or should send out a cheaper company and hold on. They concluded that the wiser course would be to pocket their loss and bid farewell to opera in English. So one of the oldest and for a time most prosperous amusement enterprises in Great Britain is dead and gone.

Some months ago Lillian Russell and many other charmers of the stage were in high fever to be war nurses and several actors undertook to raise regiments on the Rialto. But these matters were intended for publication only, not as an evidence of good faith, and Broadway continues thronged with heroes, villains, walking gentlemen, soubrettes and leading ladies who would be better employed had their original advertisement been carried out.

Mr. Leon Van Vliet, the well known 'cello soloist, will be a member of the Boston Artists club next season.

The Boston Mendelssohn Concert company next season will be composed of Jennie Patrick-Walker, soprano; Fanny Holt Reed, contralto; Bruce Hobbs, tenor; Stephen S. Townsend, baritone; Wulf Fries, violoncello; George F. W. Reed, accompanist.

It is reported that Mark Twain's youngest daughter is ambitious to go on the operatic stage. She has developed a fine voice and is now under the care of a famous Vienna teacher.

Sims Reeves, the veteran tenor who will reach the age of eighty years in September is to have testimonial benefit in London.

Victor Maurel is giving in Paris a course of lectures on the history of music, which he is to repeat in England.

Every one knows that Calve professes

an extravagant admiration for Queen Victoria, and carries the Queen's picture with her wherever she goes. Ill-natured persons have suggested that the devotion was in the line of a bid for royal favor. Others equally ill-natured, say, with a shrug of the shoulders, that Calve has a keen sense of humor. Calve herself, when interviewed upon the subject, assumes her "Gretchen-in-the-church" expression, clasps her hands with childlike enthusiasm and says, "Ah, la bonne reine!"

Naive and girlish simplicity is Calve's particular forte. She is in her element when she visits a girls' school, as she did in New York, or a convent, as she often does in Paris, and she plays the role of ingénue with a delicate art that makes the scene a joy to the beholder. The girls may be young, but she is younger. They may be innocent, but she is absolutely guileless.

She is in the world, but not of it. There is only one thing more entertaining than to see her in the role, and that is to hear her tell about the experience afterward among congenial friends.

Even among her most intimate friends however, Calve never relaxes in her attitude toward the English Queen, so perhaps the adoration is genuine. The prima donna is superstitious. She acknowledges it, with a charming little shiver. Possibly her Majesty's portrait possesses a charm beyond its intrinsic attractions and is carried as an effectual rabbit's foot substitute. It may be that the face of a queen, who is also a good and noble woman, exercises evil spirits, sore throat pneumonia, stage-door chappies and hard-hearted critics.

At any rate, Calve carries the portrait and she says with naive ingenuousness:

"When I do what is right it seems to me that the face smiles on me. Ah! la bonne reine."

Tamagno has just left for a series of forty appearances at Buenos Ayres, for which he will receive \$100,000 in addition to all his expenses and those of his retinue. Somebody has recently explained that the eight seats demanded for his use were not intended for his troupe of trained hand-clappers and bravo shouters, but for his family and retainers. This same correspondent says that Tamagno has not read a criticism of his singing for years, knows nothing about the critical opinion of him, cares less, and is interested only in the tributes of appreciation sent to him by monarchs, institutes and persons of position who enjoy his art.

A one-act operetta written and sung by negroes was given in New York last week. The text is by Paul Laurence Dunbar, the poet, and the music is by William Marion. The scene is laid on a Virginia plantation in the last century, and Mr. Dunbar says the story explains the origin of the cake walk. Two house servants are in love and the rival to the valet is a field hand. In a contest it is the latter who shows bravery. He is to be made a house servant as a reward, and as he cannot even walk properly his master sets all his negroes walking in order to select the most graceful. The field hand, with the assistance of the girl whom he has protected, wins the preferment and the love of the dusky maiden.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

The Burrill Comedy Company have been giving "performances" at the Opera house this week. I saw a "production" of Camille which was exceedingly funny, in fact I rather fancy it was intended as a burlesque on that well known play, but am not quite sure. I presume the rest of the plays in the extensive repertoire were equally amusing. There is a very graceful little dancer with the aggregation but she should confine herself to dancing alone. She isn't a success as a singer; no more is Mr. Fisher. His reputation I believe was made through a four years connection with the Wilbur opera company; at least the 'advance notices said something to that effect. The feeling of those who attended the "performances" this week was one of regret that the Wilbur had not kept him right along with them.

News comes this week of the untimely death of Mora, the clever little actress who has played two or three engagements in this city, and was booked for an appearance here next month. "The Comedy Sunbeam" was the public's favorite soubriquet for this bright little woman. An intensely dramatic death hers was, and those who knew her best during her professional career, say the closing scene was quite in keeping with her stormy life. In her earlier years she was a great favorite throughout the United States, and at one time was quite wealthy, her diamonds representing a fortune in themselves. A block in New York—the Mora block—was once the property of the little soubrette. She was married to Fred Williams who for years has managed her company.

**FACE  
HUMORS**

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An Extravaganza company with Dave Marion at its head will open a weeks engagement at the Opera house next Monday evening. The management promise an absolutely refined performance free from all broadness of dialogue and suggestiveness of speech or action. Capt Dan Daly is in the city preparing for the company's appearance and is an interesting figure on the streets this week.

Olga Nethersole begins her American tour on Nov. 14, at the Alvin theatre in Pittsburg.

A play new to Boston is at the Castle Square this week entitled "A Southern Romance."

A German version of "The Heart of Maryland" is to be produced in Berlin in October.

Mrs. Brown Potter and Kyrie Bellew will sail from England for South Africa on Aug. 27.

The tours of William Gillette, Maud Adams and Henry Miller for next season will include the Pacific coast.

William Gillette closed his London engagement in "Too Much Johnson" last week because of his ill health.

R. N. Stephens has written a four act drama, entitled "A Soldier of the Revolution" for Edgar L. Davenport.

Felix Morris' name does not appear in next season's membership list of the Lyceum Theatre Stock company.

A novelty in insurance is projected in London. It is to issue policies covering possible losses on new plays produced.

Louis N. Parker is part author of "The Termagant" in which Olga Nethersole will return to the stage after her retirement.

There is a possibility that Charles Wyndham will pay America another visit next season. Henry Irving is not coming over, so a strong offer has been made to Mr. Wyndham to bring his Criterion theatre company for a tour.

Miss Marguerite Hall and other New York artists have made an appeal for donations for the three destitute children of Mrs. Julie Wyman, who is said to be penniless and hopelessly ill.

A new war play was produced in Chicago last Monday evening called "Chattanooga." Its author is Lincoln J. Carter, and Wilton Lackaye and Blanche Bates took the principal parts.

Edward H. Sothern next season will be seen in a drama of the Colonial period. He is undecided as to which of two plays he will use first. Both treat of episodes in the war of the Revolution.

Wilson Barrett's Australian trip proved an enormous financial success. His individual share of the profits amounts to more than \$60,000, and he has already made arrangements to revisit the antipodes in 1899.

J. M. Barrie has just finished a new play treating of modern English life. It will be produced in London at the St. James theatre by George Alexander, and Charles Frohman has secured the American rights.

H. A. DaSouchet's new comedy "A Misfit Marriage" will be produced in September with Max Figman in an important part.

Denman Thompson is going to make an elaborate revival of "The Old Homestead" at the New York Academy of Music in August.

W. J. LeMoine and Sarah Crowell LeMoine will not go on the road next season but will remain in New York to fill short engagements.

Elita Proctor Otis has signed a contract with Jacob Litt for a term of years with the understanding that after a season with "The Sporting Life" she will be starred in a new play. Miss Otis will have the leading part in "The Sporting Life," which opens in New York in August.

William Gillette has provisionally accepted from Conan Doyle a play in which the renowned Sherlock Holmes figures. Dr.

Doyle believes that Mr. Gillette could embody the detective better than any other actor. If it is found suited to his talents he will first try it in New York.

The actors who were engaged in "The Heart of Maryland," excepting Mrs. Carter, will remain in London to support Annie Russell in "Sue."

Grace Lambkin, a Cambridge girl in whom many Boston people are interested, has been engaged for the Lyceum theatre, Baltimore for next season.

Anthony Hope has collaborated with E. E. Rose in a comedy of modern society called "A Man in Love." It is not derived from any of the Hope novels.

How did the London people take to the localisms introduced in "The Belle of New York?" was asked. "Strange to say," replied Dan Daly, "they laughed at the very same lines that appealed to the sense of humor of New Yorkers. As a matter of fact, there isn't so much difference between American humor and the English article. There is, of course, a vast difference in slang phrases."

A business venture of State Senator Timothy D. Sullivan is announced to the public on large posters adorning the front of the old Volks Garden, in East Fourteenth street, New York, that bear the names "Sullivan and Krauss, managers and proprietors," and stating that on or about September 1st the place having been rebuilt will be opened as the "Dewey Theatre."

"I don't think anything in the world," says Dan Daly "would tempt me to take a return trip to Great Britain, at least for a long time. That my nerves suffered chiefly through the fog and drizzle of London is shown by the fact that every night as soon as it got time to go on I was myself again. The excitement braced me up like a tonic, but immediately after the show I was simply miserable."

Mr. Jacob Litt wishes to manage Mary Hampton on her first starring tour. Miss Hampton is playing at present in Mr. Litt's "Shenandoah" company, and if it is not possible to secure a now play for her for the autumn she will be very prominently featured on the tour of "Shenandoah" until the new piece is happened upon.

Of the playwrights, John Oliver Hobbes, or rather, Mrs. Craigie, is considering the plan of making a lecture tour of America next winter. James Barrie has completed a new comedy of Scotch life which Charles Frohman will produce here. Louis N. Parker has finished "The Treasure Seeker" for William H. Crane.

Edward Marshall, the war correspondent, who is reported critically ill in Cuba, is well known in the theatrical profession. His wife is Judith Berolde, who used to be the late Alexander Salvini's leading woman, and who has been preparing to star next season in a play written by Mr. Marshall.

"When there's a mortgage on your building you don't own it," said Mr. Hammerstein one night a year or more ago. He must have reflected bitterly upon the truth of that tersely expressed proposition when his entire equity in Olympia was swept away in the foreclosure sale on Tuesday. —N. Y. Telegraph.

Several of the stories of the late Guy de Maupassant are being dramatized. The widow of the great French writer at first declared that none of her late husband's works should be transferred to the stage. She has relented, however, and there will be a shower of Maupassant plays.

"Chattanooga," Lincoln J. Carter's new play, is built around an "effect" which is novel and startling. By the use of a stationary engine and a moving picture thrown on a screen the spectators are made to believe that the engine is plying forward on the track while the hero and villain engage in a hand-to-hand contest.

"The Manoeuvres of Jane" is the title of a new comedy by Henry Arthur Jones, which will be produced at the Haymarket Theatre, London, not later than the second week in January, 1899. This arrangement limits the run at that house of "The Little Minister."

The "J. P." (Justice of the Peace), a farce comedy, is to be given in America next season.

Neil Burgess is going into vaudeville with his patent horse embodied in a sketch. Lewis Morrison played the chief role in a new piece, "The Nation's Defenders," at Frisco last week.

Clara Throop will play Catherine in a performance of "The Taming of the Shrew," at Manhattan Beach.

Aubrey Boucicault's collarbone is broken, and "The Ragged Regiment's" career, was abruptly terminated.

The Frawley Company, in "Frisco" last week, presented a dramatization of Captain King's story, "Fort Frayne." Rhea is dying.

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Maud Adams is 26 years old. Chicago has a Jewish stock company. "In Old Kentucky" is to be acted in Germany. New York boasts a floating roof garden—a ship. Celeste Wynne has left Francis Wilson's company. Frederick Warde made his vaudeville debut last week. "The Heart of Maryland" company has sailed for America. Edwin Arden revived "Eagle's Nest" in New York last week. "Ten Nights in a Barroom" was revived in Boston last week. Van Biene has produced "A Musician's Romance" in London. Charles Jerome, of "A Run on the Bank" fame, died last week. "What Happened to Jones" will be produced at the Strand, London, on July 12. Leona Dare, a trapeze performer who hangs by her teeth from a balloon, is in New York.

Frohman's Juggling.

Says Hillary Bell: "Mr. Frohman happily found in Maude Adams a pupil as docile and industrious as Augustin Daly found in Ada Rehan. Instead of selecting plays solely to exploit John Drew he produced those that provided roles particularly suitable to Maude Adams. This was a dangerous but daring and ultimately prosperous system. By his long connection with Daly's Mr. Drew had formed an audience which stood by him, even in his disaster of "The Bumble Shop." Meanwhile that audience was educated into a lively appreciation of the new actress, whose talents were well illustrated in the comedies which afforded scanty chances for the skill of Drew. Mr. Frohman was juggling with three balls—Adams, Drew and the public—and by heroic effort he kept them all up. He risked Drew, and on tour that actor has never recovered from the experiment, but he made Adams."

Valuable Guide-Board.

At a cross-road in a New Hampshire township there is a sign which recalls former joys to many old inhabitants, and rouses curiosity in the minds of travellers. It points up a grass-grown road and bears in faint letters the mysterious inscription "Tolpim." To the stranger it is inexplicable, but the boys of fifty years ago know that it still means "To Long Pond, one mile." And because of the many fishing expeditions of their boyhood, no one of the elderly farmers of that region will let the old board fall to the ground and rot away, as many such guide-boards have done. After a wind-storm it often happens that a number of the fishermen of long ago take pains to drive past the old road, and on one occasion three of them, each with a provident hammer and nails, met and talked over old times, and every one of them was late for dinner.

He is an Irishman.

Like Lords Wolsley and Roberts, Major General Sir Horatio Herbert Kitchener, the Sirdar of the Egyptian forces, is an Irishman, having been born in Kerry forty seven years ago. He is a soldier by inheritance, by training, and by instinct. Finding his commission in the Royal Engineers too peaceful, he fought in the two great European wars of recent times—against the Prussians with General Chanzy's Army of the Loire, and against the Czar's soldiers in the Balkans, under Baker Pasha. But most of his service has been in the East, where he first went in charge of a party of surveyors in Palestine.