

Music and The Drama
TONES AND UNDERTONES.

Miss Sara Jeeves informs PROGRESS that she intends giving a sacred concert at the opera house on Christmas eve. Miss Jeeves' advertisement, which gives full particulars of the affair will be found elsewhere in this issue.

The Artillery band concert on Wednesday evening was largely attended and very successful.

The Valentine Stock company will open its engagement here with a matinee performance of All the Comforts of Home; and in the evening Young Mrs. Winthrop will be given. Both are very strong holiday bills.

Norman Neruda has lately been playing in Berlin.

Leoncavallo has lately been conducting performances of 'I Pagliacci' in Germany.

Heinrich Zoellner's musical version of 'The Sunken Bell' has been sung in a number of German cities.

Mme. Melba changed the plans for her Berlin debut and postponed it until last Monday. She sang "Lucia de Lammermoor" instead of "Rigoletto," and was supported by Signor Marconi in place of Signor de Lucia.

Sir Arthur Sullivan's setting of Rudyard Kipling's "The Absent Minded Beggar," has broken all records in English musical history. More than 50,000 copies were sold in three days. The composer has arranged it as a march for orchestra.

The performance of 'Die Meistersinger,' recently in Vienna under Gustav Mabler's direction is said to have been the finest ever given. It was sung without cuts, continued for more than five hours and was provided with entirely new scenery and costumes.

Saint Saens' 'Prometheus' is to be sung next summer in the arena at Beziers with the most elaborate accessories. Six brass bands will be employed. The same composer's 'Henry VIII.' was recently given at Elberfeld which shelters all French composers more hospitably than any other German city.

Adelina Patti's debut as a child singer is said to have taken place in 1850 when she sang Eckert's "Echo Song." Another account has it that she first sang in public an aria from "Il Barbiere di Seviglia." At all events she proposes to celebrate her artistic jubilee next winter.

Gluck seems to be enjoying a renaissance just now. "Iphigenie en Tauride" has lately been revived at a private lyric theatre in Paris, and the Opera is to attempt "Armide." It was with this same opera that Jean de Reszke was to open that magnificent opera House of his in Paris. Jeanne Raunay a young singer hitherto unknown, won a triumph as Iphigenie.

The death of Viotti Collins, the veteran violinist, is announced at the age of seventy seven years. He was known to music lovers in London for more than half a century, and had figured during most of that period in the orchestras of the grand opera, the Philharmonic concerts, the great musical festivals, and the promenade concerts. His paternal grandmother, his father and several of his brothers were well known musicians.

'He mann und Dorothea,' founded on Goethe's poem, was sung the other night in Berlin. The composer, Josef Urich, was born in Trinidad, and after devoting himself to the study of medicine, at Leipsic, turned to music. He went to England with Goethe to continue his studies. His preceding works include 'The Storm,' sung in Brussels, 'Flora Macdonald,' sung at Bologna, and 'The Chimes,' which was sung first at Aix-les-Bains and has been accepted by the Royal Opera in Berlin.

De Wolf Hopper at present in London has decided to take 'El Capitan' off at



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Christmas, and to substitute for it the comic opera known to his American admirers as 'The Charlatan.' That attraction will, however, have to be renamed for use in London, as there is already a play of the same title copyrighted there. The name under which the American Charlatan will make his London bow has not yet been announced. It will need a larger cast than does 'El Capitan,' and the original scenery is being sent over from New York, but as the stage of the Comedy Theatre is not a large one there will not be much chance for mounting it as a spectacular show, as was done on this side of the Atlantic.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

Chas. Porter has been engaged for 'London Life.'

F. O. Gordon has signed with the Stuart Robson Co. for this season.

Alden Benedict will put 'Quo Vadis' on the road, opening this month.

Theresa Craddock has been granted a divorce from her husband, Earle Craddock.

Mrs. Langtry is said to have abandoned the project of writing an account of her life.

Richard Harding Davis is writing a play which Daniel Froham will produce if he decides it will do.

Frank De Vernon has joined Aiden Benedict's 'Fabio Romam' company, playing the title role.

Murray Woods is engaged for stage manager of Wallack's new production, 'King of Rogues.'

Frank Worthing will play the part of Naughty Anthony in David Belasco's new comedy of that title.

Walter Perkins' 'My Friend from India' Co. has not closed, but is touring the South to report big business.

Edwin Mordaunt has resigned from 'Wicked London' and joined 'The Bowery After Dark' Co., to play leads.

William H. Crane, the actor, and Joseph Brooks, his manager, will dissolve partnership at the end of the present season.

Harry S. Healey will put 'Shantytown' on the road Dec. 19 for the rest of the season, with a strong cast and special scenery.

Marion Longfellow, a grandniece of the poet, has gone on the stage in Boston, playing a part in the farce 'Three Little Lambs.'

Victory Bateman will play the lead in Sam'l Blair's production of 'Bowery After Dark,' which opens at the Star Theatre Xmas week.

Herry Lindley and company produced a one act play, 'A Pretty Sinner,' for the first time on any stage, at Rat Portage, Man., Nov. 23.

Otis B. Thayer and Beatrice McKenzie will be features in 'Dad's in Harness,' by Kenneth Lee, which Wm. Henry Rudolph will put on the road next month.

The Earl of Weymouth, known to the stage under his simpler name, Eric Hope, is on a tour with the Froham company, playing 'Make Way For the Ladies.'

Beerbohm Tree is understood to have been most fortunate in his revival of 'King John' in London. It is said the play will run the balance of the season.

Franklin Files is now rewriting 'A Ward of France' and will make a strong melodrama out of it. The play will have a new act, with a tremendously sensational climax.

'My Lady's Lord,' a whimsical romance by H. V. Esmond, was acted for the first time on any stage by the Empire Theatre Stock Co., at the Broad Street Theatre, Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 4.

Mrs. Brown-Potter has secured the acting rights of "An Enchantress," a monologue, written by Phoebe Hart. "The Eloquence of Silence," also by Miss Hart, has been secured by Mrs. Langtry.

"Lesbia's Sparrow," which was in Rachel's repertory, but has been neglected

in the last half century, is to be revived at the Paris Odeon in one of the Saturday literary and dramatic matinees this winter.

Justice Scott, in the New York Supreme Court, Dec. 4, denied the application made by Weber & Fields for an injunction restraining Cissie Loftus from appearing at any performance of a public character at their theatre.

Augustus Thomas' new play, 'Oliver Goldsmith,' was produced in Albany, N. Y., Nov. 30, Stuart Robson appearing in the title part. The play is in three acts. The first act is based on Goldsmith's mistake of going to a country gentleman's house thinking that it is an inn. In the second act 'She Stoops to Conquer' is in rehearsal at the Drury Lane Theatre. The theme of the play is Goldsmith's love for Mary Horneck and her persecution by Kendrick.

Another attempt is to be made to engineer a successful season of German plays presented by a German company, in London, in spite of the depressing failures in that line in the past. A committee, of which the theatrical critic is the president, is to bring over a well known company from the Fatherland in January, and it will be under the management of William Timm, of the Ducal Court Theatre at Meiningen, and gives its London performances at St. George's Hall.

There is no truth in the published report that Mrs. Langtry's youthful husband Hugo de Bath, is going to adopt the stage as a profession, or even in the story that he will make a move in that direction by appearing in an amateur entertainment, to be given at Brighton, under the patronage of the Duchess of Marlborough. It was announced that he would on that occasion recite a poem, but he has written to the papers to deny it, and his denial is made with considerable emphasis.

The singing of patriotic songs has been introduced into a large majority of the London balls, and Rudyard Kipling's 'Absent Minded Beggar' has run such a riot that it will soon be necessary for a hall to advertise that it will positively not be in the programme in order to attract the public, for there is such a state of affairs as 'too much of a good thing,' and this is the state of affairs as far as 'The Absent Minded Beggar,' is concerned. The unkind suggestion has been made that serious injury could be done to the Boers if some of the people who were singing these patriotic ditties could be exported to the front and allowed the songs in the face of the enemy, one captious critic declaring that the effect would be 'far more damaging than the lyddite shells.'

At the meeting of the London County Council the other day, when the management of the new Empire Music Hall, at New Cross, applied for a license to sell liquor at the bars of the hall, a novel point was raised. A number of people in the neighborhood had protested against the granting of the license on the ground that there are already too many drinking places in the vicinity, and the council for the hall came ready to meet the charge with the offer to have the management purchase the license of a nearby public house and have it transferred to the new hall, the public house being closed and put entirely out of business. This idea seemed to strike the licensing committee of the council as a particularly fair and desirable one, and after a very short consultation they granted the application in spite of the strong opposition that has been brought to bear against it.

In the opinion of the theatrical editor of The London Dispatch, who bases it upon what he considers "good authority," George Alexander will be the next actor to receive the distinction of being made a knight, his chief competitors for the honor and glory of prefixing "Sir" to their names being Charles Wyndham and Beerbohm Tree. Wyndham is distinctly one of the Prince of Wales' professional friends, and both Alexander and Tree are closely allied with aristocratic and fashionable circles through giving many entertainments for charities that are patronized by the Royal Princesses and the very heavy swells among the feminine nobility. The trio have, in fact, been instrumental in the aggregate large sums through the medium of such benefit matinees, and in proof of that statement one may give the most recent instances, the last appearance of Mr. Wyndham at the Criterion Theatre and his first appearance at his new theatre. The former

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Miss Sara Jeeves, who arrived from London on Friday, 1st inst., is now organizing a series of Sunday Evening Concerts. The season is to begin on January 7th, but there will be two preliminary special concerts, on Christmas and New Year's Eve respectively, at 8.30 sharp. Admission by program only. These are now on sale at 25 cents each. Agents: Mr. G. E. Titus (by kind permission of Mr. Alexander Porter), corner Union and Waterloo Streets; Flood's New Pianoforte Showrooms, 50 South Side King Street; Mr. Peters, 107 Princess Street. Other names to be added to the list shortly.

Christmas Eve Music at St. John Opera House. Artists invited: Miss Mary Eleanore Wright of P. E. I., soprano.

Miss Minnie Moore of Mount Allison, soprano.

Miss Sallie Asenath Benedict of Washington, U. S. A., violin.

New England Conservatory hopes to supply contralto, baritone and violoncello.

Miss Sara Jeeves visits Boston on the 20th to select more artistes and amateurs for the Sunday Evening Concert Season.

Leo Stern, violoncellist, and Vladimir de Pochman, the Russian pianist, have been invited for special concerts January 7th and 21st.

Reserved seats, \$1.00; may now be booked. Address, Mr. G. E. Titus, Mr. Alexander Porter's store, corner Union and Waterloo streets, St. John.

performance netted £1,500 for the Prince of Wales' Hospital fund and the latter £4,000 for one of the war funds, or say \$27,000 for the two. Therefore, of the three aspirants for the honors of Knighthood one is as deserving as the other, and a good deal more deserving—from the standpoint of affording financial aid to worthy causes—that many men who receive this distinction, which is, by the way, the "leather medal" as it were, of all the titles the crown bestows upon its dutiful subjects.

Noley Fog.

A dear old lady from the country went to London to visit her married daughter, and came back with wonderful experiences.

London did not show its best face to the simple countrywoman. It was enveloped in fog during the first two or three days of her visit, and as her bedroom looked out upon the railway, she was troubled by the very necessary noise of the fog-signal. She came down to breakfast after her first restless night, and anxiously inquired the cause of the strange banging she had heard so often during the hours of darkness.

"Oh, that was due to the fog," explained her son-in-law, and as she asked no further question he let the subject drop.

Her visit over, the good woman returned to the country, full of the wonderful sights and sounds of London life.

"Did you see a Lonnen fog, granny?" asked one of her listeners, as granny expatiated on the strangeness of the great city.

"Ay, that I did," replied granny; "and I heard 'un, too!"

"Heard 'un, granny?" exclaimed another listener. "How didst hear a fog?"

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