## Music and The Drama

TORES AND UNDERTONES.

The musical Courier says that in all probability Felix Mottl will visit America for the first time next season and conduct a certain number of the Wagner performances at the New York Metropolitan Opera house. Mottl one of the renowned conductors of Wagners music, being a great pet at Cosimo Villa Ham Fried, and the teacher of Siegfried the Bear Skinner. It is said Felix insists on his wife being engaged for certain Wagner roles. At the opening of Covent Garden season last week her Elsa was voted rather mediocre. However, Mottl will prove a tremendous improvement on Brother Schalk.

The Banda Rossa led by Eugenio Sorrentino is to become a permanent American musical fixture It opened a seven week's engagement at willow Grove Park, Philadelphia yesterday and afterward be heard at several parks and summer resorts in different parts of the country for seven more weeks. Its shird Ameican tour will commence about October 10, and will include California and Mexico.

Musical composers of royal blood are not extremely rare, but Prince Henry of Reuss is believed to be the first to attempt an orchestral symphony. A work in his B minor has been produced in Cologne, the royal author himself wielding the baton. It is said that even loyal hearers were unable to wax enthusiastic.

Marguerite Reid, the American soprano who has been singing with notable success during the past two years in France, will again be a member of the company at

Covent Garden during the present season. Mr. and Mrs. Georg Henschel are not coming to America next season on a concert tour as they intended. Mr. Henschel's opera 'Nubra' will be produced at the Royal Opera house in Dresden in the spring, under the personal direction of the composer, which will necessitate his stay.

ing in Europe. Francis Wilson has secured for the opening attraction of the Knickerbocker Theatre, New York, September 11, a new opera, the libretto of which will be written by Harry B. Smith, while Victor Herbet will furnish the music. Victor Herbert will remain in New York during the entire Summer in order to complete the opera, and the others which he is composing for Miss Alice Neilson and Frank Daniels.

Heinrich Vogl's opera 'The Stranger' was sung the other day in Munich and was naturally successful in the theatre with which the famous Wagner tenor has so long been associated. The music is said to show strongly the influence of Wagner and to prove that the tenor has not forgotten some of the music he learned in his career as a singer. He sang the principal role himself and Mieka Ternina was also the cast. The audience received the work with so much enthusiasm that some of the critics are disposed to attribute it to the tenor's popularity in Munich rather than to his gift as a composer. The occupants of the gallery at the theatre de la Monnaie in Brussels have called on the law to force the management to turn up the lights during the performance of the Wagner operas. Their complaint is that the darkness in the auditorium in accorddance with the Bayreuth traditions, prevents them from reading the text or following the score. The suggestion of the management that those who wanted to follow a work so thoroughly should bring a lantern with them was rejected by the enthusiasts who want the gas turned up. "The Woman Judge" is to be the title of Siegfried Wagner's next opera. Deina has just sung in "La 'Favorita" in Paris. Camille Saint-Saens has gone to Buenos Ayres to conduct a series of concerts. For the first time since 1720 royalty and the leading members of the aristocracy are industry, she has received a salary nearly again stockholders in the Covent Garden

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to give Italian opera and the directors of the season included many members of the nobility. That plan has been tried again this year. Don Perosi's oratorios were received in London, where that form of music is more popular than in any other city in the world, with more favor than they won here.

Of the artists who have this year appeared for the first time at Covent Garden, Mme. Gadski has gained greatest praise. As Elizabeth and Seiglinde the reviews of her performances were almost universally complimentary, and some of the critics find her the most promising of the Wagnerian singers that have appeared there in years. Mme Litvinne has so for sung Isolde and Brubilde in "Die Walkure." She seems to have made the sams impresion in London as nere by the solidity of her talents It is by no means unlikely that she will come to the New York Metropolitan Opera house next winter. Jean de R szke has not been in good voice this season at Covent Girden and will appear only a few times during the season. Herr Dippel has already been compelled to appear in his place as Lohengrin. "Tristan und Isolde" is the opera which has up to this time drawn the largest audience of the season at advanced prices. Wilhelm Gruening will probably go to London to take the principal tenor roles after Jean de Reszke lesves. He will be heard in the Wagner repertoire, while the French and Italian parts will fall to Albert Saleza, who is found by the London critics to have improved in authority and even in voice since his last appearance there. Mme. Melba returned to Covent Garden in "Romeo et Juliette." Frau Mottl's E'sa was received with no qualities of her performance were admired. Dr. Carl Muck, as a Wagnerian conduc-

tor, has won commendation from almost every quarter and seems to be one of the directors who have not been overrated in the accounts of his merits received here Maurice Grau is said to have tried in vain to engage him for the next American seaon. Landon Ronald , one of the subordinate conductors at Covent Garden who came here several years ago with Mme. Melba's company, is less thah 30 years old and is a son of Henry Russell, the composer of 'Cheer, Boys, Cheer.' He studied in Eagland. He was first made an assistant conductor by Sir Augustus Harris and is now about to retire and devote himself to composition. Mme. Albani has returned from South Africa to London and will be heard in concert, although she is not engaged for Covent Garden. London critics are againin complaining bitterly of the claque employed by some of the Italian and French singers disturb the performances by appearing to acknowledge the applause of persons they are paying for making a noise. There is a regular manager of the claque, who sends to all the artists announcements of his plans and rates as soon as they arrive in London. For a certain sum he will provide the applause. In spite of advice from all quarters not to engage such assistance most of the young or foreign singers do so, with the results they very much regret withi a short time. The final disappearance of the nuisance seems most likely to come from the protests of the gallery. They hiss down the hired applauders and will ultimately get rid of them.

Mrs. Lillian Norton-Nordica-Gower-Doema was born in Maine about thirty five years ago, and has reached her position as one of the worla's leading singers by merit coupled with the hardest kind of business sense. Two years ago she married Sultane Doems, a tenor singer.

The marriage of a popular prima donna does not injure her professionally as it does an actress. She appeals more to women then to men, as a rule. Last season Mrs. Doema lived at the Waldorf Hotel, and she has been able to afford it, as, though her as large as President McKinley's. Once a week Mr. Doema, who has what actors call 'at liberty,' has repaired to the obscure business office in the Thirty ninth street side of the Metropolitan Opera House and drawn his wife's salary as her agent.

They are very fond of each other, these singers. She is in the very prime of her robust beauty, and he is an athletic chap, dark, low-browed, slender of waist and deep of chest. He is said to have a voice of more than ordinary purity and flexibility and is an actor of much talent.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

The second week of the Harkins company's engagement c'oses this evening with a performance of The Wrong Mr. Wright, which piece was also given on Thursday and Friday evening. Brown's in Town, was the attraction the beginning of the week, and an irresistibly funny one it proved Sts., New York.

to be, replete as it is with the most complicated situations, bright dialogue and general happy, wholesome fun. There is not a dull moment in the Brown household from the time when the young people most concerned take up their residence in the country incog, and decide to keep their marriage a secret from the world in general, and the young husband's father in particular, until the grand denouement when the curtain talls on a whole lot of happy people. Mr. McWade was not in the cast, but Mr. Farnum was warmly received by the audience, and, it is almost unnecessary to say, gave unbounded satisfaction in the role of the much tried Preston, alias Brown. Miss Eston as Letty was bright and winning, and Miss Lottie Williams was pert, clever and fascinating as Susanne Dacre. The others in the cast gave their best efforts to round out one of the smoothest and most enjoyable performances of the entire engagement. A delightful change from farce and farce comedy was given last week in the production of The Butterfles. There's a good deal in name after all, when it come to christen ing a play and a more inappropriate title for this delightful piece can hardly be imagined. But be that as it may The Butterflies is as bright, airy and lovely a society play as can well be conceived. Its production last week bad a peculiar interest from the fact that Mr. Harkins played a leading role, which in itself was sufficient to maket he play popular here. It is generally conceded that in the role of a stage lover Mr. Harkins comes pretty close to perfection, and in the character of Frederick Ossian he fully demonstrated that he still retains all his old time fervor, intensity of feeling, and power to charm. There was a unanimous verdict that his work in this piece was par more than polite praise, although certain | ticularly strong and pleasing, and a very generally expressed regret that Mr. Harkins does not appear more frqueently on the

> It is pleasing to note that the engagement just closing has been particularly pleasant and successful from every standpoint, that the work of the members of the company has fully warranted all the nice things that have been said, and to the management is extended on every side the best of good wishes for a successful visit to Nova Scotia, whither Mr. Harkins goes next week.

Mr. Thos. Delavan is here this week in the interests of the Spears Company which will play here next week opening with The Red Cross Nurre on Monday evening. Edgar L. Davenport made a hit in Lon-

Andrew Mack is building a cottage at Onset which he will occupy this summer.

don in 'A Man About Town.'

Ed Sothern aspires to 'Hamlet' it seems and says he is going to play it next season. It is announced that Marie Dressier will star next season in an emotional repertoire. James K. Hachett and Mary Mannering sail for Europe this month to be gone all

Rose Ceghlan has arranged to play her original role in 'The White Heather next

Miriam O'Leary the old Boston Museum soubrette, now Mrs. David Collins, gave birth to her sixth child a week ago.

Henry E. Dixey's revival of 'Adonis' was a financial failure in New York. He is going into vaudeville again in a few

John J. McNally is at work on a new farce for the Rogers Bros. which will be the opening attraction at the Boston Museum next season.

Viola Allen's run of "The Christian" has been extended to Saturday, June 10 msking, 14 weeks or 110 performances at the Boston Museum.

Frank Ebert, of Liliputian fame, has aken out naturalization papers and be-

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cone a full fledged it rather diminutive American citizen. says the Mirror.

The success of "The Gay Lord Quex" in London has caused John Hare to postpone his American tour under Daniel Frohams's direction until the autumn of

John Drew will play Haddon Chambers' latest work, 'The Tyranny of Tears,' next season, which Charles Wyndham has presented with unqualified success.

Viola Allen is to be the maid of honor at the wedding of her sister. Miss Edith Marie Allen and Mr Albert Percival Hall Chicago. The wedding will be solemnized in New York on June 14.

Edward H. Davenport, resident manager of the park theatre, Waltham, will manage George W. Wilson, the old Museum favorite, for the next three years. Mr. Watson will star in the repertoire the same as last season.

It is estimated that it will cost \$100,-000 to reconstruct the Boston theatre as a music hall. Everything is expected to be in readiness by the first of October and the initial attraction will be "In Gay Paree," followed by "The Man in the Moon."

Annie Russel is quite seriously ill in London. She has been obliged to close her engagment and go to the South of France where she will visit Mrs. Frances Hogeon Burnett. Her company will be utilized by Charles Frohman in another

Augustin Daly has pneumonia.

Walker Whiteside will play the title role n 'Ben Hur.'

Henry Guy Carletou is to write a play

for Frederick Warde. Mme. Rejane is to act in Paris an ada p-

tation of Pinero's 'The Gay Lord Quex.' 'The Libertine,' bought by Daniel Frohman, will be calted here 'The Lord of the Moor.' It deals with the redemption of ar evil man through a good woman's love

Last Monday night J. H. Gilmour assumed the title role of 'His Excellency the Governor' at the Empire, New York.

The last century is the period.

Aubrey Boucicault has just completed for next season a romantic drama of the days of the Guises in France, the central figure of which will be a court jester, the name of which he is industriously conceal-

The new annual melodrama at the historic Adelphi The stre is the joint work of Seymour Hicks and Mr. Latham, and will be produced in September. It shows England and France on the verge of a war. A treasonable plot is hatched at Southamp. ton, of complicity in which the hero is falsely accused, and has a hair breadth escape of being drnmmed out of the service. W. E. Penley, the droll little comedian, has accepted a farce in three acts by Robert Ganthony, author of "A Brace of Partridges." Mrs. Patrick Campbell presents, for the first time, Professor Gilbert Murray's play, "Carlyon Sahib," at the Kennington Treatre, London, June 19. S. R. Cro kett's charming tale of love and Scotch Presbyterianism, "The Lilac Sunbonnet," has been dramatized. Sarah Bernhardt will appear at the St. James Theatre, in London, June 20, in a new one-act drama written for her in French by Hamilton Aide, the English dramatist. entitled "Un Rayon dans les Tenebres."-London letter in New York Times.

George Lederer will produce Audran's 'Les Saeurs Gaudichard."

Zangwili's "Children of the Ghetto" w be acted in New York on October 26.

Mrs. Clifford, the novelist, has had play accepted by Mrs. Kendal for product ion in the fall.

Robert Drouet will be Viola Allen's chief companion in 'The Christian,' nex

Jerome Sykes is to be a star in Chris and the Woderful Lamp,' by Broadhurst and Sousa.

Laurence Irving, Sir Henry's son, who translated Sardou's 'Robesphere,' has been collaborating with Thomas Hesselwood lately. A result is 'The Lion and the Unicorn,' a one-act piece, accepted by Weeden Grossmith. The action is in the time of Charles II in England. They are now writing a romantic historical d designed for Julia Marlowe-Taber and Robert Tabor. The understanding in New York, however, is that Mr. and Mrs. Sudden changes in the weather and Taber are not likely ever to act together

> 'About December,' says Bernhart, I hope to have 'Aiglon,' Rostand's new drama, ready for production. In that ease I expect to play it during the exposition.' 'Oh! Another 'Cyrano?'' 'Yes once more beautiful, more lofty, more enthralling, for the play centres around the son of Napoleon, the young Duc de Reicestadt, a being tull of pathetic centres through youth, his lonliness and the ruin among which he moved.

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The cast of 'Arizona,' Augustus Thomas' new play, will include Robert Edeson, Arthur Byron, Clarence Holt, Olive May and Vincent Serrano.

Mlle. Rhea's death occurred in the south of France early this month. The famous actress was 55 years of age.

Bernhardt acted "Hamlet" last week in

Martin Harvey has accepted a three act play called 'Ib and Little Constantine' by Captain Basil Hood, founded on one of Hans Anderson's tales. Alfred Calmour will probably acquire a theatre in the autumn in which to produce his play, written some years ago, dealing with the Lutheran epoch and the decadence of true Christian spirit. It is entitled 'The Prophet of the Eternal.' Negotiations are atoot to produce in London this season MM. Audran nd Ordonnenau's comic opera, 'Ces Soen Gaudichards,' now g st the Gilte, Paris. Mr. Hare will not take 'The Gay Lord Quex' to America until the autumn of

Lewis Morrison is to play "Hamlet" in

1900.-London Letter in N. Y. Times.

Camille D'Arville will make her vaudeville debut next month in Chicago.

Otto Kawakami, who is regarded as Japan's Henry Irving, with Mme. Yacco, heralded as the Ellen Terry of the Orient. with twenty five members of their company will present in America some of the great dramas which have pleased patrons of Japanese theatres for the last thousand years. The company will be seen at the 'Frisco. California Theatre, opening their two weeks' season on June 18. After this they will make a tour of the United States. Mme. Yacco is said to be of the highest type of Japanese beauty. Mr. Kawakami was a statesman, who forsook politics for the stage. This will be the first legitimate Japanese dramatic company ever seen in

The curtain of the New York Bijou was three quarters of an hour late in rising on the performance of "Adonis" Friday. The earnings last week amounted to \$1900. Of this \$1300 went to Harry B. Sire, the owner of the theatre, as his share. Some of the unimportant members of the company refused to go on until they received

Clinton Stuart has written a domestic and tragic drama for Mme. Modjeska, on the life and death of Marie Antoinette, and Mme. Modjeska will produce this new play in the course of the next regular dramatic season, beginning in September. It is more than thirty years now since another great actress, Mme. Ristori, first presented this subject on the American stage-producing a drama in seven acts by Paolo Giacometti.

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