

**Music and  
The Drama**

**TONES AND UNDERTONES.**

The concert in the Mechanics Institute on Tuesday evening the proceeds of which will go towards rebuilding the catholic church recently destroyed by fire, in St. Martin's was very largely attended, and a good sum of money was realized. The programme was an excellent one, and very interestingly arranged.

The Robinson Opera Company due here later in the season is playing an indefinite engagement in Montreal.

Miss Frances Travers who has been singing in a church in Brooklyn for the last few months arrived this week to spend the summer at her home here.

Hans Ritchie will conduct the concerts for the festival at the Theatre de la Monnaie, Brussels next season.

Giacomo Puccini is composing a new opera the libretto of which is taken from Daudet's "Tartarin Surles Alpes."

Henderson the American tenor robusto has been engaged for a Brussels season and will make his debut in William Tell.

Heinrich Conried has received from the German Emperor the Crown Order of the Third Class for furthering German art in America.

Bastien and Bastienne, a light comic opera composed by Mozart in 1768 when he was twelve years old is shortly to be produced in Paris.

During the American tour of Sara Bernhardt with Constant Coquelin, the Theatre of Sara Bernhardt will be accompanied by Jean de Reszke who will produce Wagnerian opera three times a week.

The young tenor Slezak, who made his debut with the Grau opera company in London has received an offer from Vienna to accept an engagement at the Hof opera at a salary of 34,000 marks a year.

The famous German cellist Fredrick Grutzmacher has celebrated his fortieth year jubilee as a member of the Imperial band of Dresden. The King of Saxony presented him with a medal and made him a chevalier.

Emma Calve says that Aronida in which opera she is to originate the title role is the last opera in which she will appear. It is said she will retire as an opera singer and make her debut as an actress in Sapho, in Paris shortly.

Another scion of the Strauss family is gaining fame in Germany. He is Johann Strauss III, but is not the son of a Johann. His father is Edouard Strauss the present imperial music director of Vienna. Johann III is young but is said to display the talents of his great predecessors promising to become a musician and a conductor worthy to follow in the footsteps of his great father.

**TALK OF THE THEATRE.**

Mr. Harkins, after an absence of three weeks opens a short engagement at the opera house on Monday, during which his company will present "The Magistrate" and "Dandy Dick" both pieces giving the members of the cast an excellent opportunity for good work. Mr. Harkins Nova Scotia engagement was particularly successful and every member of the company made a most favorable impression. Frederickson is to be congratulated upon the fact that Manager Harkins will visit that city next week.

The small boy was in his element this week, Lemen's circus was in town on Thursday.

George Osborne will play Simonides in Ben Hur next season.

Women and Wine is to have a run at the Boston theatre in the fall.

Frederick Ward will add a production of Hamlet to his repertoire next season.

Lionel Adams has been secured by

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Liebler & Company to play John Storm in the "Christian."

Katherine Rober is playing a successful summer engagement in Providence, R. I. Florence Rockwell's success has been an emphatic feature of the summer stock at the Tremont theatre, Boston.

The Shipman Lyceum company, here a few weeks ago, are in Cape Breton where they have become popular.

Mr. and Mrs. Kendall are resting at their country seat in Yorksbire, England. Their tour will begin September 10th.

Jessie Bartlett Davis made her vaudeville debut in Chicago last Sunday for the benefit of the Actors Home. It is probable she will remain in vaudeville.

The Son of Carleycroft which had a successful run at the Tremont, Boston, has been replaced by "A Classical Cowboy" also by Theodore Burt Sayre.

Maude Adams went all the way to Paris to see Bernhardt play in L'Aiglon. She returned to America this week and is now enjoying a rest in the Catskills.

E. S. Willards Boston engagement will be played at the Tremont. He will open his American tour there, and will produce a new drama by Elwyn Barron.

F. C. Whitney has signed a contract to star John E. Keller for the next five years. Mr. Keller will appear in "The Cypher Code" by Charles Klein opening in October.

Robert Mantell now in Europe will in two weeks begin rehearsals of "A Free Lance" in which he will star next season under the management of M. W. Hanley.

David Belasco has secured the dramatic rights to Agnes and Egerton Castle's latest novel "The Bath Comedy." Mr. Castle will collaborate with Belasco in the dramatization.

The title of Bert Leslie's farce comedy in which Ira La Motte will star Delmore and Wilson next season has been changed from a 'A Rough House' to 'My Aunt's Nephew.'

Priestly Morrison and Mary Horne, both here with a dramatic company two years ago are this season winning praise in their respective roles in "The Convict's Daughter."

Cissie Loftus collapsed on the stage of Grand Opera house, Philadelphia at a matinee performance last week and was carried off the stage. She did not appear again during the week.

James K. Hackett will continue to appear next season in "The Pride of Jennico" and probably will not be seen in "Richard Carvell" that dramatization being likely to fall to the lot of a special company.

Belle Archer's new play for next season written by Forbes Heermans will be called "Jes of the Bar." It is a drama of western life and will have an elaborate production. Miss Archer's tour will again be conducted by Fred E. Wright.

Whiting and Willis have secured a new comedy by John Fowler for next season entitled "A Hindoo Hoodoo." Anna Boyd and George Larsen will head the cast. Harry Byers and Alta Perry are some of the other engagements.

Reaping the Whirlwind by Owen Davis, has been recently given a trial and will go on the road next season. It will be an elaborate scenic production and will be played by a strong cast under the direction of John M. Cooke and William P. Cullen.

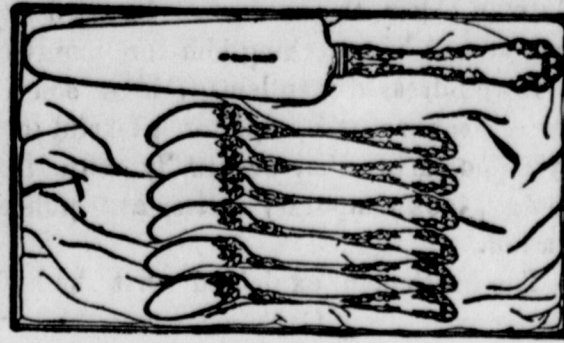
The ancient suit of George B. McLellan against Nat Goodwin to recover \$25 000 for alleged breach of contract has come up again. Mr. Goodwin entered a counter protest, and the case has been dismissed with costs time, one decision in favor of each party.

The Valentine Stock Company is now in its seventh week in the west and playing to excellent business according to the dramatic papers. Louis Bresen has been engaged for the summer season. The company will continue playing until the end of September when they will go to Halfax for the opening of the winter season.

William Bonelli will star next season in a new four act melodrama "An American Gentleman" under management of W. S. Butterfield. Rose Stahl will be included in Mr. Bonelli's supporting company. The piece is said to be a powerful sensational melodrama full of startling dramatic situations of a novel character. The play was especially written for Mr. Bonelli, and it is said will give ample scope to his ability as a romantic actor.

The statement is made that Franklin McKay now in Beerbohm Tree's company, is the only actor of Canadian birth on the English stage. It is true, then this land of ours has been far more generous in giving its players to the United States than to England. Many stage folk of prominence are found to call Canada their home; among them are Clara Morris, Julia Arthur, Margaret Mather, Margaret

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Anglin, May Irwin, Marie Dressler, Louise Hepner, Roselle Knott, Nellie Braggins, Ida Hawley, William Courtleigh, J. H. Gilmour, Eugene Cowles, Albert Hart, Arthur Cunningham, Herbert Fortier and William J. Romain.

Maude Fealey will enjoy the distinction next season of being the youngest leading woman on the American stage, she having signed to occupy that position with William Gillette. In a long description of this reputedly lovely and talented young girl the Mirror says: Off the stage Miss Fealey is a slender slip of a girl, almost childish in appearance; but in portraying character she deports herself with the naturalness and composure of a star of long experience. Possessing a beautiful, expressive face, a voice of musical timbre, well modulated and of fine carrying quality, with all the ambition of youth combined with intelligence of maturer years, with natural and charming methods, Miss Fealey is singularly blessed with everything to assure her a successful career. Many flattering offers have been made for her services for next season, among them being one from E. S. Willard, who wishes her to join him in London. She was also offered the leading female part in Mr. Litt's production of Caleb West, and Lygia in Quo Vadis. She will prove a valuable acquisition to Mr. Gillette's company.

The Earl of Yarmouth testifying in bankrupt proceedings in England stated that Charles Frohman engaged him at a salary of \$250 a week and after eight weeks reduced the salary one half, and therefore he did not desire to re-engage with the same manager. Discussing the matter the Dramatic Mirror says "The Earl probably thought it was to act that Frohman wanted him last season. Evidently, he has not yet discovered that he is not an actor. Frohman would not have paid any player of established reputation \$250 a week to play the parts assigned to the Earl. But Frohman is a speculator—not a manager inspired with an artistic conscience or a regard for the dignity of the stage in its better aspects. Here was a real live Earl—slightly damaged, to be sure, but an Earl all the same—who could be exhibited at an outlay of \$250 a week. With the showman's instinct, always vulgar and often mistaken, he saw money in it. Apparently the Earl proved a gold brick as a freak, for it was not long before he was relegated to half pay. It must have dawned upon him then for what purpose he had been dealt in."

As to Nero.  
Nero, fiddle in hand, sat upon his throne when a little band of captives was led before him.

"Now," he roared in royal tones, "you have your choice between hearing me play a study in cadenzas with the middle finger on the E string, or being burned alive at

the matinee at the Coliseum.' 'Bring on your torches!' shouted the desperate captives.

Later on Nero fiddled and burned things and conducted himself in an outrageous manner.

'I hate to do this,' he explained, 'but they depend on me for some warm scenes in 'Quo Vadis.'

Fels at a Quilting-Party.

The Rockland (Maine) opinion tells the story of the way a quilting-party was recently broken up. The ladies were plying their needles and talking in the sitting-room of the house where the quilting bee was held. Meantime the husband and son of the hostess, who had been fishing for eels, returned home.

The two men repaired to the kitchen and dumped their heavy catch into the sink. Then, leaving the eels to thaw out in hot water, they repaired to the barn to attend to the cattle. Soon the eels, which had appeared to be frozen stiff and lifeless, began to feel the effect of the warmth and to writhe and twist in the full vigor of life. They flopped out upon the floor and, so to speak, prevailed the room.

The sitting-room about this time had become very warm, and someone opened the door leading into the kitchen. Suddenly a lady saw one of the eels, screamed, rose from her chair, and shrieked:

"There's a snake!"

In an instant the wildest excitement prevailed. A glance into the kitchen, and there was a cry: "Oh, the kitchen is full of snakes!"

The quilters rushed out into the hall and up the stairs to the dressing-room.

At this juncture the men came in from the barn, and there was some lively work before the eels were slaughtered. The shock and the fright which the ladies had received effectually broke up the quilting-party.

Birds in Oom Paul's Hat.

The poetry of practical people is apt to be queerly mixed with prose, but it is original. All accounts of President Kruger's wife represent her as a very matter-of-fact woman, who would never sacrifice the useful to the beautiful. On one occasion however, she seems to have combined the two—owing to her love for dumb creatures. The story is told in Animal Friends.

Some time ago the Boers wished to raise a statue of their president and the sculptor who was to make it brought some drawings to Mrs. Kruger to see which she liked best.

The pictures showed him in every day clothes, with the tall hat which he always wears. When Mrs. Kruger saw this she asked that the top of the crown of the hat should be made hollow, so that after rain the birds might be able to drink out of it.

This was done, and now whenever a welcome shower has fallen a little cloud of birds may be seen fluttering around the top of the Kruger statue, drinking and bathing in the crown of the hat.

Walzing Mice.

The Japanese have a queer little domestic pet that is said to walz through the greater part of the walking hours of its life, never growing tired, even if its feet wear out in the process.

The animal belongs to a peculiar breed of mice—black and white with pink eyes. One of their peculiarities is that when other baby mice are just beginning to walk, these are beginning to walz.

If several mice are put in together they will often be seen walzing in couples, and sometimes more than two will join in the mad whirl. So rapid is the movement that it is impossible to tell heads from tails.

When the floor of the cage is not smooth the mice actually wear out their feet, leaving only the stumps to whirl on.

Walzing seems to be as necessary for the walzing mouse as mid-air somersaults are to the tumbling pigeon. An upright peg forms a convenient pivot round which the mice can whirl, but Natural Science is the authority for the statement that without any such guide they would not in several minutes cover an area larger than a dinner-plate, and they easily spin under a tumbler.

Mind Over Matter.

During the war in South Africa, says a London exchange, a volunteer regiment got under a fire so heavy that, after spread-out in skirmish line, the order was given to be down.

One unfortunate soldier flopped squarely into an ant-hill. Hundreds of the little pests swarmed angrily over him, biting him fiercely. The man jumped up, wild with pain.

"Lie down there, you fool!" shouted the captain.

"I can't!" protested the poor fellow.

"I'd rather be shot than—"

Just then a shower of bullets flew past him at all heights, from his shins to his head. It was marvellous that he was not

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hit in a dozen places. He changed his mind swiftly about the possibility of lying down, and dropped at once, regardless of ants, shouting to his commander:

"Yes, I can, captain! I'm very comfortable now, sir!"

Western Excursions.

The Canadian Pacific is offering special low rates to the First National Baptist Convention at Winnipeg; tickets on sale June 26th to July 5th, good going until July 8th and will be honored for return until August 15th, 1900, also special low rate side trips to Kootenay and Pacific Coast points.

To the meeting of the Womens National Council at Victoria, B. C., in July the Canadian Pacific has named a rate of fare and one quarter for the round trip, tickets on sale July 10th, 11th, 12th, and 13th, via all rail or Lake route, good going until July 24th and good to stop over within that time; return trip to be completed before August 31st, 1900.

Fireproof Safes.

"For city in modern buildings," said a safe manufacturer, "safes are nowadays made thinner walled than formerly, thus giving them more room inside in proportion to the space the safe occupies. The modern building is fireproof, or substantially so, and in case, of fire the safe does not fall down through the burned floors into a mass of burning debris in the cellar, but it stays where it has been placed, supported by the steel floor beams of the room, and with less around it to burn, subjected to comparatively less heat.

"Under such conditions the thin-walled safe is as fireproof as the thick-walled safe would be under the conditions in which it is used in the old-style buildings, for use in which the thick-walled safe is still commonly sold."

Suspicious Nature.

"What is your opinion about your prospects in this war?"

"I decline to answer," replied the Boer General. "This may be a treacherous ruse to take my mind off business and get my men to evolving abstruse military theories instead of sticking close at the fighting."

Some Day.

"When," shouted the orator, "when will come that blessed day when every man shall get all he earns?"

"It'll come along about the time," fiercely back answered the man in the crowd, who was there for that purpose, "it will come when every man earns all he gets!"

Whole Thing.

He didn't go on the stage after all. I understand they wouldn't give him a chance.

"You've got it a little garbled. It was because they wouldn't give him a show. He wanted to be boss of that or nothing."

Four Advice.

Ethel (to her younger brother, who had been whipped)—Don't mind, brother, don't mind.

Brother (between sobs)—That's just what I was licked for.

Biggs (to cabman)—What will you charge to take me and my wife to Blank's Hotel?

Cabman—One dollar, sir.

Biggs—And how much for taking me alone?

Cabman—the same—one dollar.

Biggs (to his wife)—There, my dear, you see how much you are valued at.

Haughty lady (who has purchased a stamp)—Must I put it on myself?

Post office assistant (very politely)—Not necessarily, ma'am; it will probably accomplish more if you put it in the letter.

First boarder—I see that they have just burned a spiritualistic medium at the stake down in Georgia.

Second boarder—Yes; that is what you might call a stake down medium.

Your Doctor's Advice—Has not always been according to his conscience because for years he's been schooled in prejudice which dub every proprietary remedy as "quackery"—today he knows better and practices better, and such worthy remedies as Dr. Von Stan's Pile-essence Tablets are among the constant prescriptions in his daily practice because he has proved them so potent in stomach troubles—50 in a box, 35 cents. Sold by E. C. Brown.

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