

Music and The Drama

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

During the week ending June 15 the number of concerts given in London was nearly 70. There seems to be some unwritten law that the season must close with the end of June, to open again in October. Concert-giving in London is less expensive than in New York. The managers offer the tempting bait of "ten guinea concerts" to ambitious players and singers—that is, concerts which will cost these same singers and players only \$50—and those who manage their own concerts may even give them at \$25 each. Who would not be a musician under these happy circumstances! Ambitious American girls, eager to go abroad, will please make a note of these encouraging facts, says the New York Post.

Musical antiquarians in London enjoyed a performance on June 15 of an opera by Purcell which had not been heard for a couple of centuries. Apart from the music there was a special reason for this neglect. The score in short was stolen, and although in 1870, the treasurer of the Theatre Royal in Covent Garden offered 20 guineas reward for the MS, the thief did not claim it. In those days the punishment for such book 'collecting' was the gallows. The English critic, Mr. Shedlock, within recent years spent three of his holidays searching for the missing score in Continental libraries, but finally found it at home in the Royal Academy of Music, where it had been for more than 60 years. The libretto of the opera is an adaptation of Shakespeare's Midsummer Night's Dream.

A new concert hall has been erected in connection with the Royal Academy of Music in London. The building is capable of seating 1000 persons and was opened to the public on June 13th when an excellent concert was given.

It is said that Sarah Bernhardt is interested in the establishment of a French theatre in London.

Robert Taber has been engaged to play Ben Hur in the play of that name in its London production.

Alvarez, the Italian tenor, has been engaged by Maurice Grau to appear in the latter's company next season.

Mary Gordon, the American soprano who made a hit at the Paris Opera Comique, is reported to be ill from overwork.

It is reported that Maurice Grau will retire from the management of the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, next season.

Alice Nielson's season at the Shattbury Theatre, London, ended July 5th. Most of the company are on their way back to New York.

Another star, in the person of Mr. Ross Whytal, of 'For Fair Virginia' fame, has been added to Stuart Robsen's company for next season.

E. H. Sothorn and Cecelia Lottus open an engagement at the Garden Theatre, New York on September 9th. They will present their new romantic play "Richard Lovelace."

Workmen are engaged night and day digging and blasting a big pit 40 feet long, 20 feet wide and 24 feet deep, under the stage of the Broadway Theatre, for the Crystal Palace scene in the Drury Lane production of The Sleeping Beauty and The Beast, which will open the regular season at this house Nov 4.

Mary Manning has never yet been seen on the stage in male attire. When her new play Graustark is presented she will have an opportunity to appear as a young military officer in the incident where the Princess Yefive aids Grenfall Lorry, the American, to escape from the Graustark jail to the monastery on the mountain overlooking the city. Lorry is charged with the murder of the Princess unloved betrothed, who is really murdered by a jealous rival prince on the eve of his coming duel with the American champion of Yefive.

Emil Faur is coming to America to tour the country with his orchestra which is said to be an excellent one.

Lillian Nordica is not to be the only American to sing at the Prince Regent Theatre in Munich during the summer. Olive Fremstad is to be the Brangaene when she sings Isolde. The others in the cast are to be MM. Klopfer, Hoffman and Walter. The theatre is to open with a representation of "Die Meistersinger" on Aug 21, when the orchestra will number 124 and the chorus 90. The decorations for all the performances are said to be finer than any attempted at Bayreuth or in any of the Continental theatres. The

rehearsals of the orchestra which is to be in a sunken pit began some weeks ago. The stage of the new theatre is not only large but equipped with the most modern and elaborate methods of stage illusion. The lighting facilities are made perfect through the employment of four shades of electric bulbs. Blue, red, yellow and white are the colors to be used and it has been found that with these all the necessary effects can be produced. The conductors are to be Herman Zumppe and Franz Fischer. The theatre will also be used at times for dramatic performances. Lola Beech and Frances Saville have recently been made "kaemmerersengerinnen" by the Austrian Emperor. The Mozart Festival, to be given at Salzburg during the first week in August, will comprise two performances of "Don Giovanni" in which the singers will be Lilli Lehmann, Edyth Walker and Erika Wedekind, Desider Arany, Victor Klopfer, Theodore Reichmann and Wilhelm Hesch. The Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra under Josef Hellmesberger, Emil Sauer, Alexander Pettschnikoff and Josef Ritter will provide the instrumental music.

Gottfried Preyer the composer who died at Vienna recently had reached the advanced age of 95 years. His compositions were mostly of a religious nature and he was for many years the director of the Vienna conservatory. His long and active life rather contradicts the popular belief that musicians do not as a rule enjoy long lives.

The report comes from Germany that the seats for the Bayreuth festival performances are all sold, although the number of Americans and English who applied for tickets was not so large as usual. Most of the tickets were sold to Germans, who take a special interest in this year's festival because it marks the 25th anniversary of the first representation of the Nibelung's Ring.

M. Alvarez is to be Mr. Grau's leading tenor during the next season in New York. He has temporarily severed his connection with the Paris Grand opera. Mlle. Brevai also has left the grand opera to accept an offer from the opera Comique. There she will create the principal part in Massenet's new opera Griseldis, and will later on sing Isolde for the first time in France.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

Anthony Hope's Prisoner of Zenda will be seen at the opera house next week, commencing Monday night. This is the first time the play has been presented in this city and as the company is an excellent one the performances will no doubt be well attended.

Our Navy drew crowded houses at the opera house this week; when the life in the navy was ably depicted by moving pictures. The audiences were enthusiastic over the performances and say that the pictures are the best ever seen in this city.

Charles Cowles in A Country Merchant will be seen at the opera house this evening.

Irene Vanbrugh and Dion Boucicault were united in marriage at Vuxton, England on July 3rd.

John E. Gorman and his company of fierce comedians are playing an engagement at Riverside Park, Bangor. Skipped by the Light of the Moon was the piece presented. The park was crowded with visitors and the actors greeted with frequent applause.

The Grove Dramatic company opened an engagement at the Mechanic's Institute on Monday evening, continuing each evening during the week. The repertoire consists of standard plays. Each evening many bright specialties were introduced.

The latest sensation at the Paris music halls is Fayette, a chanteuse, who has Otero outdistanced in jewels. Mlle Fayette is an excellent player and dancer and a fit rival to the much petted Otero. The latter has just closed at the Olympia after a most successful run at the L'Imperatrice.

Anna Held is spending her vacation in England. She is at present in London.

Edward Martin-Seymour has produced two new plays which were given a private production in London recently. The name of one of them is The Bridge of Sighs and the other Put Asunder.

The Japanese players Otojiro Kawakuni and Sara Kawakami are meeting with great success in London.

N. C. Goodwin and Maxine Elliott will open their London engagement with the comedy When We Were Twenty One. This will be followed by The Merchant of Venice with the beautiful Maxine as Portia. No arrangements have as yet been made for their American tour and it is quite possible that they may remain in London during the entire season.

Madame Rojane opened her recent London engagement with Sapho. The other plays presented are Madame San Jens, La Douceur and two new plays, La Robe Rouge and La Course du Flambeau.

It is said that Mascagni the Italian composer will visit America shortly with an orchestra.

Miss Clara Belle Jerome who made such a hit last season in The Runaway Girl Company has been re-engaged.

Another company of Libiputians under the direction of Mr Gus Hill will be seen in the principal American cities next season. The company will number thirty-two people and the performance will consist of dancing, military manoeuvres and acrobatic work.

William Gillette will play Hamlet next season. Mr. Gillette is a great Shakespearean scholar and his performance will no doubt be successful.

Mr. Patrick Campbell has purchased the English rites of Mrs Humphrey Ward's dramatization of her novel "Eleanor."

Forbes Robertson, husband of Gertrude Elliott will soon erect a theatre near Piccadilly Circus. The opening piece will probably be Othello.

Adelaide Thurston who made such a success as Bobbie in The Little Minister will star next season in a play called "Sweet Clover."

Mr. Maurice Grau has just signed a contract with Mme. Marcella Sembrich, by which he has secured her services for his entire tour during the coming winter, as well for the season of New York. Mr. Grau is also negotiating with Miss Sybil Sanderson and Mme Lilli Lehmann, Her: Van Rooy and M. Edouard de Reszko.

Mr. Charles Frohman has arranged to bring Miss Mary Moore to America. Miss Moore is an English actress whom the theatre people speak of as a coming star.

Miss Rose Coghlan opens an engagement at Dever next week. The repertoire includes a play by the actress' late brother, Charles Coghlan, the title of which is Fortune's Bridge.

Bishop Stubbs.

The late Bishop Stubbs, of Oxford, was a keen humorist. At times he took a freakish delight in shocking his clergy, and the result was that some of them thought him irreverent. Once he thanked a curate for a sermon on patience.

"Not only, Mr. X.," said he "did you expatiate upon that virtue, but at the same time you afforded us an excellent opportunity of practising it."

At one time he was officiating at a country church, and was seen to hesitate before descending the altar steps. A clergyman who was present said to him afterward:

"I was on the point of coming forward to help you. I thought your lordship's hesitation must be due to falling eyesight."

"Not at all, not at all, thank you," said the bishop. "Merely a matter of sex. I've been a bishop for twenty years, but I've not learned how to manage my skirts properly."

At another time he was presiding at the presentation of a pastoral staff to another clergyman. He delighted his hearers by an eloquent speech on the use of the pastoral staff and what it symbolizes. At the close there was some dismay, and no little merriment, when he remarked, "For my own part, I prefer an umbrella."

Horses and Hats.

Various kinds of horses have been asked their opinion on the new style of hats in the equine world and their opinions are varied, some being affirmative and full of approval, and many being a simple neigh.

Drayhorse—What do I think of the sun-bonnet. Well, I have been hauling barrels for nigh unto 18 years and never wore a hat. I don't need it now and I don't want it. It's useless.

Grocery Horse—Ah h—I, gimme anything you got. I'm so blamed tired running from one place to another that I don't give two whoops in Helena what you put on me.

Phaeton Horse—I decline to be interviewed.

Saddie Horse—Ha! Ha! Ha! I never wear 'em, you know, but I must say they ought to be good for the common breed. It takes a blooded horse to stand punishment.

Just Horse—Yes, the style is good. Keeps the sun out of your eyes. The air holes in the top permits the air to circulate. As to looks—well, who cares.

First Prize—A Husband.

The London "Times" publishes a letter from a young Frenchman, who desires assistance in a matrimonial scheme.

The Frenchman wishes to marry an English woman, and to this end he requests the "Times" to announce that he offered himself as a prize in a lottery, for which 25,000 £1 tickets are to be issued.

PALE ANAEMIC YOUNG WOMEN.

Anæmic, or thin, watery blood, is increasing—to an alarming extent among the school girls and young women of our land. Pale gums, tongue and eyelids, muscular weakness, inability for exertion, deficient appetite, impaired digestion, short breath, palpitation of the heart, attacks of vomiting, swooning, hysteria, and irregularities of the feminine organs are among the unmistakable symptoms of anæmic or poor quality of blood.

Anæmic persons are frequently said to be going into a decline, and as a fact do usually contract consumption or some fatal constitutional disease if they neglect to restore normal vigor. Fresh air, sunlight, moderate exercise and the regular use of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food after each meal will restore new vitality to the body and new color to the cheek of any anæmic person. Gradually and thoroughly it forms new red corpuscles in the blood and wins back perfect health and strength.

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The aspirant for matrimonial honors urges the "Times" to take the matter in hand, promising to hand over to it £2,000 in the event of the scheme succeeding. If the lady holding the winning number does not suit him the ingenious youth proposes to give her £5,000 by way of compensation, getting presumably the balance for himself.

Waked up the Wrong Man.

Truth, somebody once said, is stranger than fiction: and if it is, the latest story told of an absent minded German professor may safely be taken for true.

During most of the year he is engaged in conducting the studious youths in a German university along the pleasant paths of literature, but once in a while he takes a well earned holiday. During these outings his absence of mind gets him into many predicaments.

He stopped over night at a seaport, from which he wished to set sail early the next morning. He told the boy at the little hotel to call him at a certain hour. The next room to his was occupied by a young lieutenant, and the sleepy boy, after calling the professor, mixed up the garments he had been brushing and hung the lieutenant's coat on the professor's door, while the officer's door was adorned with a shabby double cape of ancient cut.

The professor buttoned on the military coat, which fitted his gaunt figure snugly, without realizing its strangeness. When he was fairly started on his journey, however, he glanced down at the unfamiliar decorations, and a puzzled look spread over his face.

"That stupid fellow," he said to a friend, "seems to have waked up the lieutenant instead of me!"

With One Exception.

The Badminton Magazine has a sketch of Mr Herbert Jenner-Fust, who at ninety-five is the oldest living cricketer of the first rank. Yet his skill at the game is far less likely to keep him in memory than his great kindness and generosity, which have made him beloved by all the country side.

He is a good landlord and his tenants will hear no ill of him. No, nor even merely moderate praise. One day a lady was explaining to her Sunday school class that everybody had sinned to a greater or less degree.

"Except Mr Jenner-Fust," came the quick retort from a little boy.

"Even Mr Jenner-Fust," was the smiling rejoinder.

"No, he has not!" said the child. He was now thoroughly angry. He clenched his small fists and grew purple with rage. The lady became somewhat alarmed at

the storm she had unwittingly raised. "Well," she said conciliatingly, "perhaps he was naughty when he was a very little boy."

"No," cried the child, "never."

The Old Man's Occupation.

The old man of the following story lived presumably in England, since we copy his words from an English journal, but we are not quite sure that his counterpart might not be found on this side of the water.

"It's a queer world when you come to look it over," said the old man. "You know I dedicated Jim for a lawyer."

"Yes"

"An' Bill fer a preacher."

"Exactly."

"An' Tom fer one of them literary fellows."

"Yes."

"An' Dick fer a doctor."

"Yes."

"Well, now, what do you reckon I'm a doin' of?"

"Can't say."

"Well, sir, you might not believe it, but I'm a supportin' of Jim an' Bill an' Tom an' Dick, an' it keeps me a goin' from daylight to dark."

An Elephant Labyrinth.

A curious labyrinth in which elephants are captured alive is to be seen near Ayuthia, formerly the capital of Siam. The labyrinth is formed of a double row of immense tree-trunks set firmly in the ground, the space between them gradually narrowing.

Where it begins, at the edge of the forest, the opening of the labyrinth is more than a mile wide, but as it approaches Ayuthia it becomes so narrow that the elephants cannot turn round.

Suspecting no danger, the wild elephant enters the broad opening at the forest end lured on by a tame elephant. The gradual narrowing of the boundaries is not observed until the elephant finds himself in close quarters.

Having reached the end of the labyrinth, the tame elephant is allowed to pass through a gate, while men lying in wait slip shackles over the feet of the captives. The spot is a dangerous one, for the enraged Elephants sometimes crush the hunters under their feet.

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