



TALK OF THE THEATRE.

This has been a delightful week for amusement seekers. First in their affections has been the opera company, which appeared Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings in the comic opera of Erminie in the St. Andrew's rink.

I will not attempt to speak of the wonderful charm, sweetness and power of Adelaide Randall's voice, but I wish to add my tribute of praise to the thousands that have been expressed this week.

The audience that gathered in the cosy St. Andrew's opening evening was very large, fashionable and, best of all, pleased beyond a shadow of a doubt. A word about the improvised theatre. We all remember McDowell and the Lansdowne; well the St. Andrew's has all the good qualities of the Lansdowne and none of its bad ones. The acoustic properties of the building seem to have been improved, the scenery is very attractive and the bare open space at the sides of the main body of the house, which were so unattractive in the Lansdowne, have all disappeared—their place has been filled by the century booths which certainly answer an admirable purpose. I might say just here that fashionable St. John have a much kinder feeling toward the rink now, for in the last year or two it has been the scene of some of the ladies most successful and brilliant efforts.

But Erminie with Erminie and its princess and thieves—were they not delightful and laughable? Laughable, did I say—side splitting rather. The best prescription that I know of for a fit of the blues.

There is much acting in Erminie, and a deal of dialogue—none too much, however, when it is carried on by such genuine artists as the "Baron," the "Princess" and the "Marquis" proved themselves. For the benefit of those who have not seen or heard the opera, the story may be told briefly. The affianced Erminie, who, by the way, is very much in love with another young man, is waylaid by the accomplished Paris street thieves, who rob him of his credentials and elude the pursuit of officers, who are looking for them as escaped prisoners, by assuming the titles of "Marquis" and "Baron," and representing that they have been waylaid and robbed—hence their destitute and deplorable condition. The "Marquis" presents the stolen credentials, is acknowledged by the father of the affianced bride, Erminie, and when the man he has robbed appears on the scene, has him arrested for waylaying him and his friend, the "Baron." The "Baron" cannot adapt himself to his refined surroundings and rid himself of his inclination to appropriate anything and everything of value. His inimitable make up and abject cowardice when anyone happens to mention words such as "governor," "term," and "guard," with which he has only had a prison acquaintance, form the most amusing feature of the performance. His courtship of the princess, and the events that follow, leading to a happy termination of Erminie's difficulty, afford all of them splendid opportunities to captivate the audience.

There have been larger opera troupes in this city with better orchestras, but none have given the people greater pleasure or satisfaction than the Bijou. The new scenery and the handsome costumes were decidedly attractive features. In the second and third acts the costumes were very elegant and brilliant, yet blended most harmoniously. It is a satisfaction to state that the opera has been very generously patronized.

As much cannot be said for the Institute company, which, though including some good actors, has played under unpropitious management to indifferent business. There were not 900 people in the house Tuesday evening, the second night of the much-puffed play, My Partner.

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

Things are looking, or beginning to look, a little brighter in our musical world, with the opera, more of that later, and the other attractions that we have had and those that we are looking forward to. What a pity it was that the Redpath concert company, which visited us last week, was not patronized more liberally. It was really an awfully good show in its way. Mr. Francis Gilder is an extremely good pianist, as far as execution goes, and made a favorable impression in his own compositions, and in the lighter selections on the programme; his technique is excellent, but I liked him least in Mendelssohn's Rondo Capriccioso—he played it with too little expression. Miss Edith Christie, the violinist, is worthy of very warm praise. Her selections were all remarkably fine, and she played them with that sort of thing, no doubt Miss Chamberlain's whistling solos were pleasing, but I cannot say that I cared very much for it. I should say that it needed a very charming woman to make any thing like that attractive, but the majority of the audience were delighted, so I say no more. I was very pleased to learn the authorities of St. John's church had so kindly granted its use to the Oratorio society for a repetition of Stainer's

Sporting Talk from Halifax.

June 30.—Half the series between the Socials and the Shamrocks has been completed, and the latter have won five of the six games played. This is not creditable to that club, and much of their success is due to the fact that they have presented almost the same nine in every game. Their opponents have done likewise in the past two games, and are now in playing form, and have every confidence of being able to defeat the Mutuals in the majority of the games yet to be played. The next contest of June 22 has revived the interest considerably, which an other good game would increase.

The times are now ripe for a game between St. John and Halifax, and there should be no difficulty in arranging a contest. Capt. Power, seeing that the Mutuals, communicated with some friends of the Shamrocks some time ago towards arranging games, but received no definite answer. A St. John correspondent suggests that a team picked from the Y. M. C. A. and Shamrocks play a series with a Halifax nine. Capt. Power, on reading the above statement, said: "We would like to arrange a game with St. John; we will not pick a team, but the Mutuals will play either the Y. M. C. A.'s or Shamrocks a series of games, two in each city, and will play a picked St. John nine. If a fifth game is necessary, this could be easily arranged for. Such a contest would be interesting, but it would be more like business if the winners of the most games in each city were to arrange a series for the championship of the Maritime provinces, and only those who had played in these two cities this season be allowed to play. The clubs might agree on a trophy or goal flags for the winners. Let the secretaries of the various clubs be notified of the scheme, and let them communicate with each other.

St. John and Halifax base-balls had a contest last week, but it was not on the ball field, but in a large room in which Judge Johnston of the county court was sitting. The Halifax men had a half dozen names on their score card—Manager Edalide, Power, captain of last season's nine, White, Dawson, Fitzgerald and Smith—but all did not appear, and there were not as many on the players' bench as might be expected. Two legal gentlemen acted as umpire, while the Halifax men acted as referee. There was a hotly contested argument in which the umpire had evidently decided he had a knotty question to settle, and on one time he remarked that the room was not the place to settle this kind of a case, and he ordered all the players and the Halifax captain remarked they were willing to do so, provided the hurry of the court was allowed to officiate as umpire. The dispute was entirely different to that which happened in the case of the Mutuals, that was to be played in St. John last year, and the Socials were guaranteed \$100 to play the St. Johns, but the latter team had refused to play the previous year, where they presented a game to the Socials, in consequence of which they would not obtain guarantee. The Socials never received the guarantee. They now want this umpire to award them the \$100; the Halifax men claim that the written guarantee is all that there is to be considered, while the Halifax men claim that the umpire would not prevail if they could not obtain the guarantee. The umpire listened patiently to their arguments and statements, and reserved his decision to consider the matter. Both sides were very angry, and each has explained that, like some members of the players' league last season, they were not to be moved by an umpire's decision over the contest, and the umpire's decision is awaited with much anxiety by many. SHAWCS.

The Foolish Sheep.

"No animal that walks on four feet is as big a fool as a sheep," says a sheep raiser. "We have to watch them every minute and if vigilance is relaxed for an instant the entire flock is likely to practically commit suicide. In handling most animals some degree of self help or intelligence can be relied on to aid the owner in saving their lives, but sheep seem to set deliberately to work to kill themselves. If caught in a storm on the plains they will drift before the wind and die of cold and exposure rather than move 100 yards to windward to obtain shelter in their corral. To drive sheep against the wind is absolutely impossible. I once lost over 1,000 head because I could not drive them to a corral not 200 feet away. In the corral they are still more foolish. If a storm comes up they will move 'down wind' until stopped by the fence. Then begins the proceeding so much dreaded by sheepmen, known as 'piling.' The sheep will climb over each other's backs until they are heaped up ten feet high. Of course, all those at the bottom are smothered. Not all sheep seem to seek shelter under the lee of the fence, as a horse or dog would do. Again, if a sheep gets into a quicksand its fate teaches nothing to those that come immediately after, but the whole flock will follow its leader to destruction. No more exasperatingly stupid herd than a sheep flock."—New York Tribune.

He Was Paid Up to Date.

Landlady—"Strawberries appear to be quite plentiful this year." Boarder (significantly)—"Yes, I notice bushes of them in market."—Washington Star.

Advertisement for Cuticura skin medicine, featuring an illustration of a child's face and text describing its benefits for various skin conditions.

Advertisement for Scott's Cure for Rheumatism, highlighting its effectiveness and ease of use.

Advertisement for Deer Island, Me., featuring a portrait of a man and text about local products or services.

Advertisement for Scott's Cure for Rheumatism, similar to the previous ad, emphasizing its long history and success.

Advertisement for W.C. Rudman Allan, Chemist and Druggist, located at King Street West, St. John, N.B.

Advertisement for Scott's Cure for Rheumatism, providing details on pricing and availability.

Advertisement for W.C. Rudman Allan, listing his address and contact information.

Large advertisement for Harold Gilbert's Furniture, Carpets, and other household goods, located at 54 King Street.

Advertisement for Dr. Warner's Health Corset, featuring an illustration of the corset and text describing its health benefits.

Advertisement for Manchester, Robertson & Allison, featuring an illustration of a toilet gem and text about their products.

Advertisement for St. Andrew's Rink, listing performance dates and times.

Advertisement for Adelaide Randall and Bijou Opera Co., listing performance dates and times.

Advertisement for The Mascot, featuring an illustration of a mascot and text about their performances.

Advertisement for Banks, Lawyers, Insurance Companies, Agents and Others, listing various services.

Advertisement for Offices, listing various office services and locations.

Advertisement for Oats, Oats, listing various oat products and prices.

Advertisement for Lowest Prices, listing various goods and their discounted prices.

Advertisement for Standard Trading and Mfg Co., listing various products and services.

Advertisement for J. D. Shattford, General Manager, listing various services.

Advertisement for Advertise in Progress, listing various advertising services.

Advertisement for E. C. Cole, featuring an illustration of a building and text about clothing stores and refrigerators.

Advertisement for E. C. Cole, Moncton, N.B., listing various clothing and furniture items.

Advertisement for Sea-Bathing and Health Resort, featuring an illustration of a resort building and text about its amenities.

Advertisement for Thomas A. Crockett's, listing various goods and services.

Advertisement for S. McDiarmid, listing various goods and services.

Advertisement for W. Alex. Porter, listing various goods and services.

Advertisement for Bonnell & Cowan, listing various goods and services.

Advertisement for Joseph Finley, listing various goods and services.

Advertisement for Suit, listing various clothing items and prices.

Advertisement for Ser & Co., listing various goods and services.

Advertisement for Freezers, listing various freezer models and prices.

Advertisement for Fisher, listing various goods and services.

Advertisement for Bicycles, Rob Roys, Little, listing various bicycle models and prices.

Advertisement for Thorne Bros., listing various goods and services.

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