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### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

Mikado ..... Mr. Herbert Kent  
Nanki-Poo ..... Mr. Geo. Bushby  
Ko-Ko ..... Mr. C. A. Lombard  
Pooh-Bah ..... Mr. C. W. Rhodes  
Pish-Tush ..... Mr. Clement Rowlands  
Yum-Yum ..... Miss May Heathfield  
Pitti Sing ..... Mrs. Clement Rowlands  
Peep-Bo ..... Miss F. Pauline  
Katisha ..... Mrs. W. W. Clarke  
Chorus of Japanese ladies and gentlemen by  
Mesdames Pauline and Simpson, Misses God-  
dyn, Bullman, Munroe, Stewart, A. Iredale, B.  
Iredale, Wolff, Cusack, M. McNiffe, S. McNiffe,  
M. McMicking, E. McMicking, V. Pauline, S.  
Pauline, Robertson, Madigan, Kew and Wil-  
son, and Messrs. Moxon, Baynton, Greenwood,  
Plows, Grizzelle, Kettle Godson, Schl, Ollivier,  
Stewart, Brownlie, P. Hibben, N. Hibben,  
Reynard, Shedden, Pauline, Thomas, Quigley  
and Patterson.

A large and appreciative audience assembled  
in the Victoria theatre on Wednesday even-  
ing for the first night of Gilbert and Sullivan's  
Mikado by Victoria amateurs, under the direc-  
tion of Messrs. Rowlands and Pfordner. The  
opera was very nicely staged, the costumes  
could not be excelled, and but for the dilator-  
iness on the part of the choruses in taking up  
their leads, especially in the first act, the sing-  
ing and acting could hardly have been excelled  
by professional organizations. Much laborious  
work has been expended on the opera by Messrs.  
Rowlands and Pfordner, and considering  
that many of the chorus were on the stage  
for the first time in their lives it is a marvel-  
lous success that has been scored. One of the  
first requisites of a conductor is a serene tem-

per, and under no circumstances should  
manifest publicly his displeasure at any  
break either in orchestra or chorus; he  
should go so far as to turn round and  
phatic language at the orchestra. On  
occasion something had gone wrong and  
Pfordner so far forgot his prominent po-  
sition as to turn and sing the part to the  
member of his band. Had the audience  
been in a very indulgent mood Prof. P.  
might have been very forcibly reminded  
of the fact that his action was in very bad taste.  
Kent in the title role, the Mikado, was  
best. His voice, always a good one, was  
and true. His conception and presentation  
of the Mikado, who had lost a son, had yet  
his duty as the Emperor, was extremely  
Mr. George Bushby's acting of Nanki-Poo  
a revelation to many of his friends and  
audience. The most difficult part of the cast  
was that of the Ko-Ko, a very fair tenor  
in conjunction with his excellent acting, and  
that his selection for the part of Nanki-  
Poo could not be improved upon. The part  
of Ko-Ko fell to the lot of Mr. C. A. Lombard,  
and it had been written especially for him, and  
not have suited him better. He had the  
opportunity with him from first to last in his  
extremely funny situations, and he made  
most of them. His appeal to Katisha to  
him as her lover was almost a tragedy in  
so thoroughly in earnest did he appear, and  
the boon actor Mr. Lombard's voice was  
not as good as it was, and several times  
the evening gave evidence of being worn  
the part of the Koko is a trying one, being  
the stage almost from first to last. To-  
gether the part of Ko-Ko was a decided  
success, and Mr. Lombard has added  
another to his long list of triumphs  
in amateur opera. Mr. C. W. Rhodes, as  
Bah, was perfection itself; one could not  
ask for a better representation, his family  
his local hits regarding the local Govern-  
ment all producing much merriment. Mr. Rhodes  
voice also lends itself to this part in a  
pronounced manner, indicative of his high  
commanding position. Mr. Rowlands, as  
Tush, had not very much to do, probably  
account of his having plenty of work in  
connection with his position as stage manager.  
Whatever he had to do, however, was done  
only can be done by a professional. He is  
home in opera, and has been the guiding  
spirit in this production from first to last. Not  
can be said of this gentleman's singing that  
not been said already over and over again—  
is a finished artist. Miss Heathfield, who  
figured most conspicuously in amateur opera  
in Victoria, again made a hit as Yum Yum.  
"Kissing Duett" with Nanki-Poo brought  
down the house—many of the audience say-  
ing as the number was in progress, "yum yum."  
Mrs. Rowlands was the most natural among  
the ladies—never stiff, always graceful and  
pure sweet voice always telling in the cor-  
rect numbers. A better selection for the  
part could not have been made. Miss Pauline  
as Peep-Bo, made up a charming trio, and  
acted her small part conscientiously and well.  
Mrs. W. W. Clarke's Katisha was a grand  
and her magnificent stage presence and power-  
ful singing gave an interpretation to the  
seldom seen in professional companies. The  
final chorus in the first act, where Katisha  
attempts to proclaim Nanki-Poo, the Mikado  
son, was simply superb, the whole being beau-  
tifully wrought up to the point at which the  
entire company join in a grand burst of song.  
Among the choicest bits of the evening were  
the topical songs of Ko-Ko (Lombard) and the  
Mikado (Kent). The quartette by Miss Heath-  
field, Mrs. Rowlands, Bushby and Rowlands  
was a regular gem. The quintette who were  
supposed to be rejoicing, but ended in the most  
sorrowful manner, was also an exquisite piece  
of comedy.

The second night of the Mikado was  
even better than the first, as the nervousness

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