

MUSIC AND DRAMA

THE Guelph Harmonic Society, assisted by Thain's orchestra, gave a creditable production of the Gilbert and Sullivan opera, "The Pirates of Penzance," in the Royal Opera House in Guelph on November 17th, 18th and 19th. Mr. W. Williams was musical conductor and Mr. George Phillips acted as stage manager. The performers were most warmly received and another operatic entertainment by local talent may be expected in the Royal City after Christmas. In these degenerate days of musical comedy and vaudeville, the county town of Wellington is fortunate in having citizens willing to devote time and care to a revival of genuine light opera. Mrs. Geddes Harvey, well-known in the city as organist and composer, was prominent among those assisting in the production.

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AT the Margaret Eaton School of Literature and Expression, Toronto, the yearly course of lectures for the public has already opened. Professor Alexander has given a lecture of characteristic discrimination on Jane Austen, on Thursday evening of next week President Falconer is to deliver an address on "Greek Sculpture" and on December 10th Professor Carruthers lectures on "The Ancient Greek Theatre." The influence of this school has, from the first, been exerted in the direction of sane and sympathetic expression and the forming of dramatic taste for "the things which are more excellent."

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THE first concert for the season by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra will be given in Massey Music Hall on December 8th, when that magnetic artist, Madame Joanna Galski, will be the assisting soloist. A programme of classic merit is announced by the orchestra, which has added considerably to its strength since last year, and, with the practical assistance of the new committee, promises to become an organisation of which Torontonians did not dream. Madame Galski will sing an aria from *Tannhauser* and Schubert's *Erl King*, but those who heard her on her last concert appearance in Toronto will not be satisfied without the *Valkyrie* call.

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IN this selfish old world, where prophet or singer is frequently without the honour which the native town should bestow, it is comforting to read in the *St. Thomas Times* a glowing account of the reception given Miss Gertrude Huntley, a violinist whose early career in Elgin County has been followed by several years of study in Paris. On Thursday night of last week her first concert on return to her native city was given in Central Methodist Church, St. Thomas, when fifteen hundred citizens, a record attendance, assembled to enjoy the ripened talents of one of "their own." The programme, according to all local accounts, was brilliantly executed, the "D Major Polonaise" by Wieniawski winning the most enthusiastic applause. Miss Huntley is evidently a conscientious artist who has made the most of her work, both at home and abroad, and who will probably be heard in concerts throughout the Dominion.

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THE two Toronto theatres which do not supply vaudeville have entered upon a busy season. The Princess has had a divided fortnight with Mr. Goodwin's "The Test," M. Bour-

get's "Divorce" last week, and Mr. Olcott in "Ragged Robin" and the Abramson Grand Opera Company this week. To-night Bizet's "Carmen" is the attraction. For the week of November 30th, Mr. Edward Abeles is to appear as the hero of "Brewster's Millions," in a dramatisation of Mr. George Barr McCutcheon's light novel. Toronto must merit Mr. Kipling's description of "consumingly commercial," for "Brewster's Millions" is decidedly popular in that thriving provincial capital.

At the Royal Alexandra, "Sergeant Kitty" has been the comic opera of the week with that favourite in the Lincoln green, "Robin Hood," beginning a week's course to-day. The "solid comfort" which patrons of this theatre enjoy has been the subject of general remark and reflects credit on the management. Miss Louise Le Baron, one of the members of the Imperial Opera Company, will appear later in the season in "Carmen," and in this role, a photograph of the popular contralto singer is presented in this department.

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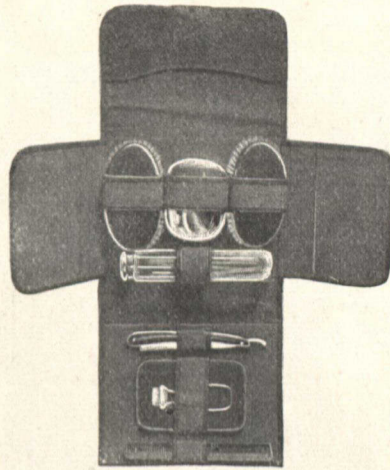
Miss Louise LeBaron,
Contralto, in Imperial Opera Company.

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THE subscription lists for the Mendelssohn Choir concerts opened at the music stores and Massey Hall, Toronto, on Wednesday of this week. The dates are February 8th, 9th, 10th and 13th, 1909. The services of the Theodore Thomas orchestra, under the baton of Mr. Frederick Stock, have been secured again for the first three concerts of the cycle. The vocal soloists engaged to assist in the production of Sir Edward Elgar's "Caractacus" are Madame Rider-Kelsey, soprano; Mr. George Hamlin, tenor; Mr. Claude Cunningham, baritone; and Mr. Frederick Martin, bass. Miss Augusta Cottlow, pianist, has been engaged as soloist for the concert of February 13th. The programmes for these events have been announced, showing the breadth of choice for which Dr. Vogt is famous. The interest in the Mendelssohn cycle grows, year by year, until not only Toronto, but Detroit, London, Buffalo, Kingston and Rochester are concerned in the subscription lists. The Choir will go to Chicago this year but not to Buffalo, and 1910 may see the Mendelssohn luggage on one of the Atlantic liners.

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THE Montreal Symphony Orchestra, Mr. J. Goulet, director, and Mr. Emil Taranto, concert master, will give a series of six concerts during the winter on November 27th, December 11th, January 15th and 29th, and February 12th and 26th.



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