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MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

Special musical services were held in several of the churches yesterday.

Mr. W. T. Carleton comes of an old English family, and his first appearance in opera was with Sims Reeves.

Mr. A. P. W. Goldsmid, business manager of the Vancouver Opera House, is out of the hospital and is slowly improving in health.

The Grismers are en route to the Coast, presenting The New South to tremendous business. The play is an excellent one and deserves success.

Scott McAllister, Wm. Moore and Andrew MacKay, of the Rob Roy Theatre Royal company are in Portland and will shortly produce their play in that city after which they go to San Francisco.

The first full rehearsal of the Mikado was held at the Victoria last Wednesday evening. Mr. Rowlands expresses himself well pleased with the results, and promises an artistic production of that popular opera.

Such well known operas as "Dorothy," "Nanon," and "Fra Diavola," when rendered by the able company at present headed by Mr. Carleton, cannot but form a happy return to the quest of pleasure now so long interrupted by the Lenten season, while the pretty music of the latter opera promises to be one of the happiest attractions of the season. Mr. Carleton is surrounded this year by a brilliant company.

The Philharmonic Society, of Vancouver, have now almost definitely decided that the performance of Haydn's "Creation," which they have been practicing for some weeks past, will

take place on April 9. The concert will probably be held in the Market Hall, where a will be erected so that the performance given in just as satisfactory a manner as took place in the Vancouver Opera House. Under the direction of Prof. Gregory the beautiful oratorio has been carefully rehearsed until now both the chorus and orchestra besides the soloists are well up in their work. The society recently decided to admit free, and this has proved a wise move on part as their membership now exceeds 700 and includes all the best local talent. The performance is being looked forward to with keen interest, as it is believed it will even surpass the presentation of "Athalia" given earlier in the season.

The sale of seats for the Carleton season, which begins next week at the toria, has been large. The company will produce the first night (Thursday) Dor Friday. Nanon; Saturday matinee, Chim Normandy; and Saturday night Fra Diavola. This company recently appeared in Winnipeg. At the conclusion of the engagement the company were banquetted by the citizens. Dorothy the Winnipeg Free Press said: "The plot of the opera is a ridiculous trifle, but the piece is elegantly staged, and the perfect of chorus and orchestra was a subject of laudatory comment. Miss Alice Vincent took part of Dorothy gracefully and well. She was at her best in the duel scene, where her by was very clever. Possessing a powerful sweet soprano voice, she appeared to slightly hindered in her vocalization by traces of a cold, but made a most favorable impression upon her audience, notwithstanding Miss Marie Bell performed her role of L with spirit and vivacity, and was especially good in her contralto solo in the second act. Mr. W. T. Carleton cannot certainly be accused of overdoing the part of Geoffrey Wilder. His was natural and amusing, if a little stiff. The quality of his voice is unimpeachable, and his rendering of his frequent solos was much appreciated. He was ably supported by Harry Taylor in the telling but unimportant part of Harry Sherwood, who supplied the necessary touch of reality to the sometimes perfunctory love scenes. Miss Clara Wisdom has a fund of humor at her disposal, which she drew upon with great effect in her presentation of the much married, but ever juvenile M. Privette. A most amusing incongruity occurred in the second act, where the guests at Chanticleer Hall are suddenly summoned after retiring to rest, by the calls for help of the squire and his nephew, who are found with their hands bound. The guests all arrive upon the scene at a moment's notice, clad in elaborate dinner dresses, the only exception being the previously inebriated secretary, who, with more presence of mind than one should have expected from his befuddled condition, has thrown a dressing gown around him."

Mr. G. J. Burnett was somewhat ambitious in attempting the production of Handel's "Messiah," but he has reason to be pleased with the generally successful result of his venture. The concert took place in St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Thursday evening, with several of the best known vocalists here and a chorus of over 40 voices, the latter well arranged for a body of its kind, gotten together under more or less difficulty, and with limited time for practice. It included some good solo voices, though, of course, the conductor wisely brought into prominence only his best. There was some reason for regret in the absence of Miss Heathfield, who was unfortunately kept away through illness. This lady is always a favorite, and it is a pleasure to listen to her. The soprano soloists were: Mrs. McCandless, Miss Jameson, Mrs. D. R. Harris and Miss Hutcheson; contralto, Mrs. McCrady. The first four ladies are well known to Victorians and it is scarcely necessary to say that the

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