

Annie H. Gould of Auburn, New York, a noted young society woman and graduate of Well's College, has run away and married George L. Winters, her coachman.

The U. S. House Committee on pensions has ordered a favorable report of the bill granting a pension to Mrs. Dolia S. Parnell, daughter of the late Admiral Charles Stewart, and mother of Charles Stewart Parnell. The amount is \$50.

The new White Star liner, *Majestic*, 10,000 tons, sister-ship to the *Ten-tonic* arrived in New York on the 10th inst. on her maiden trip. She was six days and eighteen hours from Liverpool. What the splendid craft can do when her machinery runs smoothly remains to be seen.

Grand Duke Sergius, brother of the Czar, replaces Prince Dolgoroukoff as Governor of Moscow.

It is said the Emperor William has asked the Czar for permission to make a tour through Russia.

Messengers at Omdurman declare that the Madhi has vanished, and that famine is raging throughout the Soudan.

Sir Provo Wallis entered the hundredth year of his life a few days ago. He was, as is pretty well known, born in Nova Scotia.

Advices from Mozambique are that Portugal has despatched an armed force up the Shire River with the intention of attacking Mpanda. The expedition is supplied with artillery.

A luminous projectile to be fired from a gun is the idea of a Russian officer. He claims great usefulness for it in discovering the movements of hostile vessels in a naval contest at night.

Emperor William's riding horse is shod with a new shoe. It is in two parts, and has on its lower surface a rubber-like composition, the object of which is to prevent the horse from slipping.

A pair of bantam chickens were sold at the London Crystal Palace for \$500, which was almost exactly twice their weight in gold. This is believed to be the highest price ever paid for a single pair of fowls since the days of extravagant and luxurious Rome.

Queen Victoria is very careful of her diet at Aix-les-Bains. Her dinner consists of clear soup, rare beef, chicken salad and claret. She is not allowed to eat vegetables or drink champagne or beer. She takes tea and toast for breakfast and a chop and stale bread for luncheon.

The cause of the accident to the *City of Paris* has been discovered. The steamer was in the dry dock at Birkenhead, and the water gradually run off. As she was raised the starboard propeller dropped off, showing the shaft broken close to the blade of the propeller. The sudden relapse of the strain thus occasioned caused the collapse of the starboard engine.

The arrival of the Carlist leader, the Marquis Curalbo, at Valencia, was made the occasion of an anti Carlist demonstration. The mob did much damage to the hotel where the Marquis was, and invaded the Carlist club and set fire to the furniture. The troops charged and dispersed the mob, and many were wounded. The military authorities have taken possession of the city.

Extensive floods have done great damage in New South Wales and Queensland. A large part of Brisbane was inundated, wharves submerged and railway traffic stopped. Hundreds of families are homeless and many fatalities are reported. Many losses of life and great destruction of property are reported. At last accounts the floods were subsiding and communication between the different points was being restored.

The *Freeman's Journal* says.—"LeCaron, who became notorious because of the testimony given by him for the *Times* before the Parnell Commission, is living in a suburb of London. He has grown a grey beard and moustache, which has so completely changed his appearance that his most intimate friends could not recognize him. The *Journal* says he has been promised a further Government engagement in Australia."

It seems to be decided that the Duke of Cambridge will shortly relinquish the position of Commander-in-Chief of the British Army. It is stated that Queen Victoria will not exercise the prerogative of appointing her son by patent, and that the Duke of Connaught will be made General Commanding-in-Chief for a term of five years, with provisions in a royal warrant which may be held to give that term a definite character.

Preparations are being made to render the opening of the exposition of local industries at Rome next month a very notable affair. There will be a national rifle contest and a race, open to the horses of all countries, at which the grand prize of Rome, amounting to 100,000 francs, will be open to contest for the first time. In connection with the opening steps are being taken to arrange for a series of *fetes* which promise to be of great interest.

#### CITY CHIMES.

The fourth subscription concert of the Orpheus Club took place in Orpheus Hall on Thursday evening of last week. There was as usual a large and brilliant audience present. The programme comprised twelve numbers, five of which were by the Club with Ladies' Auxiliary. No. 1, "Hymn of the Apostles," from Gounod's *Redemption*, was fairly good, but the tenors were rather too pronounced. No. 4, "Unfold, Unfold Ye Portals Everlasting," also from the *Redemption*, was better than the first chorus, and was sung with much spirit. No. 7, "The Flight of the Holy Family," by Bruch, was the best chorus of the evening, being sung with great beauty of expression. No. 9, air and chorus, "Inflammatus est," (Stabat Mater,) by Miss Laine and Orpheus Club with Ladies' Auxiliary, was

beautifully rendered, the Club and Ladies' Auxiliary singing with more harmony than in their first numbers. No. 12, "The Feast of Adonis," was by no means new to Orpheus concert-goers, but was not less appreciated on that account. Miss Laine and Mr. Gillis took the solo parts, the latter was not in very good voice and appeared to be suffering from a cold. The chief interest of the evening was centered in the appearance of Herr Ernst Doering, the new violoncellist, and his wife. They were greeted with a storm of applause when they made their first bows to a Halifax audience. Great things were of course expected, and the audience was not disappointed. It did not take long to decide that Herr Doering is a master of his instrument, and that Frau Marianna Doering Brauer is a perfect accompanist. At the conclusion of his solo, "Fantasie Variationen," by Servais, Herr Doering received a rapturous *encore*, to which, however, he only responded with bows. Herr Doering's second number, "Berceuse," by Ernst Doering, and "Spinning Song," by D. Popper, was even more delightful than his first solo, his sweet-voiced *cello* fairly entrancing his hearers. The audience were more fortunate on this occasion in obtaining a response to their vociferous applause. Frau Marianna Doering Brauer's piano solos, "Impromptu," by Schubert, and "Regolillo-Fantasia," by Liszt, were beautifully rendered, and were thoroughly enjoyed by all present. Frau Doering's greatest strength is, however, as an accompanist, her work in this line leaving nothing to be desired. Miss Laine sang her number, "Lo! the Heav'n-Descended Prophet," perfectly, and received an *encore* to which she responded with "Home Sweet Home." Mrs. George Campbell's rendition of "Kathleen Mavourneen" delighted her audience, and "Bennie Prince Charlie," brought down the house—to use a hackneyed phrase. She gave in response to an *encore* to the latter, "Whistle an' I'll Come to Yo, My Lad," which, in the opinion of many in the hall, was the gem of the evening. Mr. J. B. Currie sang "Ecco Homo" magnificently, securing an *encore* to which he did not respond. The concert was a great success so far as the solos were concerned, but the choruses were not up to the usual high standard of the Club. A few of the lady singers were absent owing to the sad death of Mrs. Boileau, and many who are usually to be seen in the audience were also absent on this account.

The Orpheus Club intend giving a season of opera about the middle of next month. "The Ducor of Alcantara" and "Trial by Jury" will be given on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 13th and 14th, and "The Bohemian Girl" on Friday and Saturday, May 16th and 17th. The principal parts will be taken by Miss Laine, Mrs. Harty and Mrs. Taylor; and Messrs. Gillis, McDonald, King, P. Joy, Curry, Bask and Norman. Mr. A. D. Johnston will be stage manager, and the orchestra will be comprised of members of the Hayden Club, including Mr. Klinglefeld and Mr. Doering, Mr. Payne, accompanist, and Mr. C. H. Porter, conductor. The proceeds of the performances are to be devoted to the fund for seating the hall.

After the Orpheus Club practice on Wednesday of last week Dr. Slayter was made the recipient of a handsome crayon portrait of himself, the gift of the Club, in recognition of his great interest in and efforts for the success of the Club. Dr. Slayter was much pleased, and in thanking the donors expressed his intention of continuing the interest which he had always taken in the Club.

The officers of the Halifax Provisional Battalion, which went to the Northwest in 1885, held their fifth annual dinner at the Queen Hotel on Thursday of last week. A very pleasant evening was spent.

The next (5th) subscription concert of the Orpheus Club will take place on Tuesday, April 29th, and the sixth and last, it is expected, will be given early in June.

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