

FOR MUSICIANS.

Odd Items in the Musical Line From Different Parts of the Country.

Musicians in New York are somewhat interested and considerably more amused by an invention which is brought to their attention which has in view the strengthening and improvement of the human voice. It is purely a mechanical contrivance, and is called the "resonator."

They were talking of music and musicians, when she incidentally remarked: "What a composer Weber is! How lively the air in the 'Fischel's' are!"

I dropped into St. Andrew's church on Sunday evening last, and was hardly comfortably seated when Prof. Max Sterne mounted the organ stool and gazing at the gas light above him proceeded to make the fine organ over which he presides speak in unmistakable and thundering tones to the congregation who sat listening.

The choir of this church is very good; but not so good but that there is room for improvement. However, there is no doubt but that the necessary improvement will be made, and that in the near future too.

The Italian papers, which ought to know, declare that Puccini is writing a new oratorio for the Birmingham (England) festival, and Mandelli a requiem mass for the Leeds festival.

The members of Mr. D'Oyly Carte's "Mikado" company recently made their appearance at the Grand Theatre, Amsterdam, this being not only the first appearance of this company, but the first time that an English operatic company has appeared in that city.

St. Luke's Church in Portland had their little fete on Wednesday evening, the occasion being a high tea and concert. As a newspaper man of course the high tea had no charms for me, but the concert was very enjoyable.

The St. Andrew's Society of this city are to give a grand concert in the Mechanics' Institute on the evening of St. Andrew's Day.

Oh, my! but you should see the gaudy uniform of the band formed at Marysville, York Co., the performers in which are principally employees of Mr. Gibson's cotton mill.

Prof. Thos. Morley gave his organ recital in St. Luke's church on Thursday evening, by kind permission of the Rector and congregation.

Of concerts and musical entertainments there has been no end this week—space forbids me to speak of one in Union Hall, Portland, under the auspices of St. David's church, the fraternal visit between Carleton Presbyterian and Saint Jude's churches, the musical and literary entertainment in Calvin church and others.

I need not say that the Salvation Army has a brass band—oh, no! everyone knows that, for they are constantly before the public. But I might remark that there is a very marked improvement in their playing during the last three months.

Even musicians are known to get into trouble. They are usually a passive lot of people; but when they mix too freely with the "great unwashed" of the world they are likely to get into a fuss. The New York Herald of Monday last says:—The Musical Mutual Protective Union was expelled from the Central Labor Union yesterday at its meeting in Clarion Hall.

Next week we expect to have some band and other musical items from St. Stephen, Moncton, Hampton, Fredericton and other places. We have a valuable corps of correspondents in these places.

A FLAT.

Musical Notes and Gossip.

Josef Hofman, the boy pianist, arrives in New York on the 25th inst., and appears for the first time in America, under Manager Abbey's auspices, on the 25th inst., in that city.

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Mr. F. H. Cowen has been appointed conductor of the London Philharmonic Society, in succession to Sir Arthur Sullivan, who resigned owing to ill-health, and has formally accepted the post. The popular English composer has thus become the sixth of the line of eminent musicians who have filled this honorable but difficult office.

M. Ambroise Thomas, the veteran composer, has completed a ballet on the subject of "The Tempest," to be brought out at the Grand Opera, and is working hard on an opera to be entitled "Circé." The ballet is founded on Shakespeare's play, and it will have a new feature, inasmuch as some of the dances will have a choral accompaniment.

The "Pinafore" revival in London shows that Messrs. Gilbert and Sullivan can improve even upon their own stage settings for this opera. The scene was set for and aft, instead of across the stage, as it was originally, and Mr. Gilbert suggested the employment of a real yacht deck of splendidly clean boards instead of the customary painted cloth.

Oh, pa, isn't this funny. What is funny. This paper says a New York furniture man has invented an electrical lounge. Indeed! That will fill a long-felt want, if it can be worked by pressing a knob in some other part of the house. I will get one.

Oh, my! but you should see the gaudy uniform of the band formed at Marysville, York Co., the performers in which are principally employees of Mr. Gibson's cotton mill. They are fully equal to the best and most showy worn by any American band.

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HOUSEHOLD.

Dish Washing.

Of all the duties that engage the attention of the housewife few of them are more important than the washing of the dishes. In the majority of homes this work is gone over three times a day, and in others even more, according to the number of meals made ready.

The first thing to be done after a meal is finished is to clear off the table. Many women, in doing this work, remove the dishes first, leaving the victuals until the last thing. This is a poor way, for the victuals should always be the first things removed. Even though there should be bread and butter on the table, butter will not improve by being left on a table in a close room, and bread will dry up soon enough without being kept in the air to hasten the process.

When there are many dishes to be washed, such as usually follow the dinner hour, it is best to have two pans of hot water, one for soaking and the other for washing. As the dishes are removed from the table they should be put into the water and allowed to soak, so that when the table has been cleared, the silver-wiped and put away, they shall be ready to go into the second water for a thorough washing.

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Where there is a large family, and only one pair of hands to do the work, an excellent way of getting through the dish washing is to put in the bottom of a good-sized pan one or two (according to the size of pan) dry crash towels, and after washing the dishes out of hot water, place them in the pan to drain. Being so, the pan does not leak, put it on a table or shelf and leave it while you finish up the sink.

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WITH THE CHILDREN.

Some of the Things the Little Ones Love to Say.

VIEWED ANATOMICALLY.

Little Edna is a Bangor young lady and her Auntie Alice would teach her a useful lesson: "Now, Edna, you must always obey your parents, for there was a disobedient man once who was turned into a four-footed beast and made to eat grass like an ox."

BOBBY PLAYS A TRUMP. Father—Come, Bobby, you are all tired out; so hurry off to bed. Bobby (with a slow and reluctant movement)—Pa, you oughtn't to tell a boy to hurry up when he's all tired out. [Philadelphia North American.]

Mrs. Natick went up to put her youngest and liveliest son to bed a few nights ago and found herself invited to dictate an uncommonly full number of prayers. "Say 'Gentle Jesus,'" demanded her son. She said it.

YOUNG AMERICA HAS SUBSTITUTIONS. A travelling man, upon arriving home from Kansas City, where he had been for the past year, carelessly pulled a vest out of his trunk, and from one of the pockets dropped a lady's ring. His seven-year-old boy picked up the ring, and papa told him he could have it.

Captain Warren, the owner of the seized Canadian sealers estimates his loss at \$150,000.

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