

In the World of Amusement

General Gossip

An incidental item which will be of special moment in the Elgar Choir festival to those interested in ecclesiastical music, particularly that of the early and modern mass, will be the performance of a celebrated Crucifixus from a Lotti mass on Feb. 1, followed by Verdi's Requiem Mass on Feb. 2. Lotti's work is one of the greatest of the schools favored by the church of Rome, and for overpowering ethereal grandeur attained by no other aid than that of the human voice, he has accomplished what all modern authorities are compelled to acknowledge at the last word in "a capella" church music. On the contrary, Verdi's great work—strikes straight to the human side of humanity, fires the elementary emotions and appeals with equal strength to the virtuosos and the average public. The colossal dramatic climaxes of the "Day of Wrath" are not surpassed in any of his greater works. It is doubtful if any work has aroused such tremendous opposition and been scathed by so much criticism, yet it has won its way and stands today one of the greatest efforts of the age. If worship is from the masses, then should Verdi's effort be proclaimed a glorious success, for he has clothed the Requiem in such a manner as to appeal at once to the great public and not alone to the fortunate few who are blessed with a fine musical conception.

These two great works are in preparation by the Elgar Choir.

Harry Lauder, best described as the "Robbie Burns" of singers, will appear at Massey Hall, Toronto, the entire week of Dec. 20 for six matinees and six evening performances. This will be the only appearance in Ontario of the great Scotch comedian, whose name is a household word wherever the Anglo-Saxon tongue is spoken. A large number of residents of this city will doubtless take advantage of the cheap railway rates to go to Toronto and hear Lauder. Mr. Lauder will be assisted by one of the best vaudeville companies to be found anywhere. His appearances will be so arranged that the performance will be finished for the afternoon or later evening trains.

Seats can be secured by writing the manager of Massey Music Hall, Toronto. The prices are on a thoroughly popular scale from 15 cents to \$1.

At the Grand

The Smart Set, consisting of S. H. Dudley and his company of colored folks drew a fair-sized audience last evening to the Grand. It will be on this afternoon and evening and is certainly worth seeing.

The singing of the chorus is especially good and the work of Mr. Dudley is very funny. There are some good solo singing and several catchy songs.

Farce-comedy of the jubilant kind is "The Arrival of Kitty," which will be seen at the Grand next Friday. From the rise of the curtain to the final drop one may be prepared to be amused to a point of hilarity. The comedy is of the rapid fire order. In addition to the farcical excellence it is replete with musical hits which give the piece zest and color. The opening scene is humorous, showing a familiar situation, but one which dramatists have never produced. "The Arrival of Kitty" will be one of the best popular price shows of the year, and should attract a good sized audience to see the dashing Kitty, the show girl, who leads a merry life herself and who persuades others to join her in her effervescent frivolities.

"Graustark," G. B. McCutcheon's story of love and romance, which proved so big a success in the book world, and has scored as a theatrical offering, will be the attraction at the Grand next Saturday matinee and evening. The popularity of Geo. D. Baker's dramatization of McCutcheon's novel is readily enough guessed at when one stops to consider the absolute lack of melodramatic features, and the presence of so much clean and wholesome dialogue and interesting stage pictures. The delightful love stories running throughout the play are bright and entertaining, and of as much interest to the male as the female sex. A company of strength and ability is said to be employed in the rendering of the different characters, and a feature of the entertainment is the magnificent



BERTHA GALLAND, in "The Return of Eve," at the Grand on Christmas Day.

societal investments, with old world costumes fitting the period and locale.

H. H. France, who presents "The Time, The Place And The Girl," which comes to the Grand next Monday week, is a firm believer in placing the prettiest girls in the most conspicuous places at the proper time to produce a counter irritant in the minds of those who think they are about to be disappointed. He believes that a song hit which can carry itself on its merits, is quadrupled by the swaying of a group of broilers in the foreground of an array of well-gowned show girls, and his experiences have taught him to pick winners in arranging his productions. The young women who constitute this section of "The Time, The Place And The Girl" possess all these qualifications so necessary to please the eye and charm the ear. There are ten musical numbers, which are given girls in timely action.

Those who have seen "The Time, The Place And The Girl" will agree that there is not a single song in it that is not clever and catchy. Most plays of this sort have one or two breezy things upon which the entire production hinges, but the unceasing variety of melody and mirth of this production has gained for it an undying reputation.

Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto have passed judgment on Miss Bertha Galland's newest offering "The Return of Eve," and have unhesitatingly endorsed the verdict of New York that it is one of the most original and brilliant comedies of the day. Miss Galland will be seen at the Grand Christmas matinee and night. Local interest in the coming of the beautiful player has been strong since the announcement of her engagement. She has always been identified with success and since the days of her last Canadian tour in "Dorothy Vernon of Haddon Hall," she has been misapprehended by playgoers of the Dominion. Her new play is a brilliant modern comedy of unusually novel theme. "The Return of Eve," which the Shuberts are sending here for the first time, is a story of a twentieth century Adam and Eve, brought up in a fenced in Garden of Eden in the wilds of West Virginia. This circumstance comes about through the fact that an eccentric millionaire, wants to experiment over the possibilities of living as Adam and Eve did at the beginning of the world. The untimely death of the millionaire, however, caus-

At Bennett's

Another of the season's best vaudeville hits will be submitted for the approval of the Bennett patrons next week when Billie Burke's miniature musical comedy, "Models Jardin de Paris," is presented. The company, which is headed by Carroll Henry, a noted comedian, comprises a dozen clever and talented people. The offering runs about twenty-five minutes, and it is said to abound in sparkling dialogue and bright comedy situations. It is not a posing act, as one might suppose from the title, but a ludicrous picture of studio life. Mr. Henry, as "a wise fish," who helps Ida Marcie, a painter, to separate "Pop" White, a man about town, from considerable loose money, is very amusing, especially in the employment of a catch line. His style is original and his clever work keeps up an almost incessant flow of laughter. George R. Raymond and Harry H. Lamont, in the other male characters, give excellent accounts of themselves, and June May, a comely young woman, who looks trim and neat, sings with splendid results. She has a clear, sweet, strong voice and knows how to get a great deal out of a song.

An excellent musical offering will be presented by El Coto, the xylophone virtuoso, who has attracted wide attention since his appearance in this country. He is said to display remarkable skill, and his act is always in demand as a feature on the best vaudeville bills in the country.

"The Intruders," the comedy sketch in which Herbert Brenon, Helen Downy and company will appear, has many mirth provoking situations and complications that are brought out in an entirely original manner, and by a clever trio of farce comedy exponents as vaudeville has yet offered. Brenon is a natural comedian. Clure is a splendid foil for his comedy stunts, and Helen Downy contributes exceptionally good acting as well as a charming figure and personality.

Ethel Whiteside and her pickaninies will be seen in a lively dancing and singing number. Miss Whiteside is a charming comedienne, has an extensive wardrobe, and she and her little company work with snap and vim.

Jeann Robb and company, billed as "Canada's own entertainers," will pre-



HARRY LAUDER, who will be in Toronto during the entire Christmas week.

sent the original little comedy singing and dancing number, "Cute Comedy Courtships." Miss Robb is a London girl. She presented her elaborately staged act for the first time at the Bennett Theatre here recently, and made an instantaneous hit. The act has been completely revised, and considerably improved since then.

The comedy bar act of the three Ernests should make a corking good opening number for the bill. The work is very fast and the comedy pleasing. Hanley and Jarvis are conversational



MODELS OF THE JARDIN DE PARIS,

Billy Burke's latest miniature musical comedy, with Carroll Henry, at Bennett's Theatre next week

comedians, and they have a rapid fire of patter that is said to provoke hilarity. The kinoscope will show new pictures.

The Christmas bill at Bennett's will bring a great array of vaudeville talent to Hamilton. The chief attraction will be Charles Leonard Fletcher, the noted impersonator and entertainer, presenting artistic and realistic impersonations and character studies of stage and literary celebrities.

Lola Farrell and Frank Otto will be seen in their comedy sketch "After the Shower."

Nellie Eltinge and William Keogh have a rollicking little farce, entitled "23 on the Red."

McDevitt and Kelly are clever comedians and dancers. Bardini and Arthur are noted travesty artists. The Ballots will be seen in novel gymnastics.

GOOD SHORT STORIES

Sir William Henry Perkins, the inventor of many coal-tar dyes, was talking in New York, says The World, before he sailed for England, about the Psychological Research Society.

"Crookes and some other scientists go in for psychical research," he said, "though I confess that to me the subject means no great appeal."

"Personally I have come in contact, during a fairly long career, with but one ghost story. It was a man whom I'll call Snooks."

"Snooks, visiting at a country house, was put in the haunted chamber for the night. He said he felt no uneasiness; nevertheless he took to bed with him a revolver of the latest American pattern. "He fell asleep without difficulty, but as the clock was striking two he awoke with a strange feeling of oppression."

"Lifting his head, he peered about him. The room was wanly illuminated by the full moon, and in that weird, bluish light he saw a small hand clasping the rail at the foot of the bed."

"Who's there?" he demanded, tremulously.

"There was no reply. The hand did not move."

"Who's there?" said Snooks, again. "Answer or I'll shoot."

"Again there was no reply, and Snooks sat up cautiously, took careful aim and fired."

"He limped from that night on, for he shot off two of his own toes."

BEFORE AND AFTER.

Colonel Peterby met his colored gardener, Jim Webster, a short time ago, according to the Baltimore News. Jim had been recently married.

"How do you like matrimony, Jim?" asked Colonel Peterby.

Jim shook his head dubiously.

"What's the matter?"

"Yer see, boss, before we were married, when I knocked at de dore she used ter say: Am dat you, honeysuckle?"

"Now, when I come home she bawls out: 'Clean off dem boote before you comes in dat dore, you black moke!'"

ALWAYS READY.

Of the culprits haled before a Police Magistrate there was one—a Irishman—who had caused no end of trouble to the police. The Magistrate regarded the prisoner with mingled curiosity and indignation.

"So you're the man that gave the officers so much trouble?" his Honor asked. "I understand that it took seven policemen to lock you up."

"Yes, yer Honor," responded the Celt, with a broad grin, "but it would take only one to let me out."

DOUBTLESS TRUE.

A teacher in a Birmingham school was endeavoring to explain the term "book-keeping," as applied to our railway system, says London Tit-Bits.

"Now," he was saying, "can any of you tell me the name of the office at which railway tickets are sold?"

"The booking office," replied one of the lads.

"Right," responded the teacher. At this moment his eye fell on a small boy at the end of the class who was evidently paying very little attention to what was said.

"Did you hear that, Spry?" he demanded.

"Wot sir?" asked that youth, innocently.

"As I thought, you were not listening. We will suppose your father decided to have a day's holiday and visit the seaside. What would he have to do before he could take his seat in the train?"

Without a moment's thought the boy replied: "Without a moment's thought the plying: 'Pawn his tools!'"

The five great original forests of the United States covered 850,000,000 acres and contained 52,000,000,000 feet of lumber.

GUELPH SHOW.

Success of Fair Exceeds All Expectations.

Dealers From Prairie Provinces Purchase Heavy Horses.

Guelph, Dec. 10.—It was 8 o'clock tonight when Guelph had had time to stop and take breath for a week. In former years the winter fair has practically terminated on Thursday night, but this year the judges did not finally get through their work until late to-day, when the various championship awards were made in the horse section. The horsemen, who were dubious as to the wisdom of transferring their winter show to Guelph, have all been converted, and when the judging was concluded this afternoon they attempted to lift the roof with their cheers for the Royal City.

One of the concluding features of the show, which is always of interest, was the judging competition for the students attending the Ontario Agricultural College. Holsteins, Ayrshires and Shorthorns, upon which the judges had already made their decisions, were turned into the ring without any identification marks to show how the awards had gone, and the students were not only called upon to place the animals, but to give written reasons for their decisions. This year an unusually large number of young men participated, and the percentage of those who lined the cattle up in the same order as had been previously done by the ring experts was very good indeed. As a matter of fact, it was with the greatest difficulty that the awards were made, the final decisions being based on points for the written reasons.

All the dressed poultry and carcasses were auctioned off to-day. The poultry was bought in large lots by dealers, and they immediately commenced to drive a brisk retail trade at slightly advanced prices. It may be mentioned that the champion beef animal, a steer owned by Mr. Jas. Leach, of Greenbank, was sold for \$225. At the auction sale of carcasses fair prices were realized. Pork fetched 11½ cents per pound, beef 9½ to 10 cents, yearling sheep 7 to 10 cents and lambs 12½ to 13 cents.

In the horse section the championship for hackney stallions was carried off by Messrs. Graham & Renfrew's Brigham Radiant. Yet another success was achieved by Plymouth Horse, the gallant little animal also owned by Graham & Renfrew, which was declared to be the champion pony stallion of the Show. In Clydesdale stallions, Cowden Prince (Graham & Renfrew) carried off the championship, with Smith & Richardson's Commodore as runner up, while the last mentioned breeders won the championship for Clydesdale mares with Queen Minnie. In the champion class for

Canadian-bred Clydesdale-shire mares, Messrs. Geo. Davidson & Sons' Queen Boss was given the red rosette, with Smith & Richardson's Bell Prim in reserve. Royal King III, owned by John Gardhouse & Son, was declared to be the champion shire stallion of the Show, the second place going to Sand Boy, owned by F. Drury & Son, of Charing Cross. Mr. T. A. Cox, of Brantford, won the championship for pony mares, with Tiny Kit, and Mr. J. M. Gardhouse that for shire ares with Blue Bell.

It is of interest that a very large number of the horses at the Show found purchasers. Several buyers were in attendance from Manitoba and Alberta, and some of the choicest stock on exhibition will as a result go west at prices ranging from \$500 to \$800, most of the purchases belonging to the heavier type.

Mr. J. A. Fletcher, of Valetta, carried off the Steele-Briggs trophy for the best bushel of Alsike clover seed, the Bate cup for the best twenty-five ears of Flint corn, and the Hodgson cup for the best collection of grain.

Perfectly Passive.

"Jed Blake to the bar," ordered the Judge in a rural Alabama Court. A big, hulking negro ambled up to be arraigned for murder.

"Jed," began the Judge; "you are charged with the gravest crime known to the law, that of taking the life of a fellow-man. One of the forms of punishment for murder is death. Have you made any arrangements for your defence in this case, Jed?"

"No, sur, Judge. I ain' done nuthin'."

"Have you a lawyer, Jed?"

"No, sur, Judge. I ain' got no lawyer. I ain't got nuthin', Judge."

"Well, Jed," said the Judge, showing a little impatience, "have you talked to anybody about this case?"

"I talked to de sheriff some dat night when he come after me, Judge; but you knows dat didn't do no good."

"For your information, Jed, I will state that it is within the province of this court to appoint counsel to any defendant who has none. I am now ready to appoint you a lawyer. Do you want one?"

"No, sur, Judge. I don' want nuthin'," replied Jed rather dolefully.

"See here," snapped the Judge, "I won't have any more of this foolishness. You say you don't want any lawyer. Well, then, what do you intend to do about this case?"

"Well, I tells you, Judge, I ain't 'tendin' to do nuthin'. Ef it's jes' de same to you, Judge, as far as I's concerned I's 'willin' to let de whole matter drap right here."—Everybody's Magazine.

Following Orders.

Charlie—What have you been doing to your face, dear boy?

Percy—I tried to shave myself this morning.

Charlie—What on earth for?

Percy—The doctor told me that I ought to take more exercise.—Illustrated Bits.

No one can give what he has not.—Latin.



SCENE FROM GRAUSTARK,

To be seen at the Grand Saturday afternoon and evening next.



AMADA HENDRICK,

at the Grand Christmas week in "The Time, the Place and the Girl."