

MUSIC.

IN India the belief prevailed that music was a divine gift and that Brahma first revealed its beautiful and mysterious influences to mortals. His son Nared having inherited a spark of the celestial flame gave himself up to a study of the phenomena, and is said to have invented the vina, a stringed instrument, from which the modern guitar has evolved.

Christian analyzes the artist as comprising four elements: "Talent, emotion, intelligence and technic." Musical talent in the pianist implies a good musical ear, memory and a gift of a firm, natural inborn sense of touch. Emotion is sometimes called a sixth sense, namely: The power of conceiving and devining the beautiful. The perfection of these elements depends upon intellectual training. Technic involves mechanism, and where thought is added to mechanism, technic begins.

The pipes are a peculiar sort of instrument, requiring the "guid auld Scot" to interpret their music. It was the pipes that raised the martial ardor and fearless valor of the Highland regiment at Waterloo. When news reached Wellington that the Highlanders were returning he said, "Give them music." The order was carried back and the pipers instantly broke into the wild strains of the "slogan." Retreat ceased and the word, "Forward" was given. The onslaught was resistless; the foe gave way, and though many brave hearts ceased to beat, Waterloo was made safe.

An Irish band, while in England refused to play "God Save the Queen" and when returning home played "God Save Old Ireland." This act of course attracted much attention and the Cork band was lionized. Politically we have nothing to do with this, but it shows what significance there is in a simple tune.

SHARPS AND FLATS.

Agnes Huntington is in Montreal this week.

The Duff Opera Company have been doing good business in Montreal.

Mr. Victor Austin, who will

teach in the Conservatory of Music, has arrived from San Francisco.

It is understood that the opera of the Mikado is under preparation and will shortly be produced by C. A. Lombard and Mr. Clement Rowlands. Mr. Rowlands for a long time played a leading role in this charming opera in one of the D'Oyley Carte companies. With such an energetic companion in the work as Mr. Lombard, there is every prospect of a crowning success. Mr. Rowlands will be assisted by the best local talent.

The Mendelssohn Quintette Club that will appear at The Victoria, Friday, December 18, have always been great favorites in this city. This year they seem to have excelled themselves, and in Spokane Falls they played two extra nights to crowded houses. Miss Marie Barnard is still with them as prima donna, and amongst their company are Mr. Eugene Boegner, violin virtuoso and concert master; Mr. Max Adler, America's greatest violinist; Mr. Paul Henneberg, solo clarinet and viola; Mr. Hermann Diestel, solo violincello, and that old friend, M. Thomas Ryan, solo clarinet. Never has the company been so strong and well may the music-loving public of Victoria look forward to a grand treat. The club appears here under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A.

This issue of THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL will be a valuable one to send to friends in the east. It contains valuable statistics of the trade of Victoria, that will give eastern people some idea of the importance of this great trade centre.

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The words "Merry Xmas" made with ginger root together with the tasty display of fruits, bon-bons and fancy groceries make the window of Munroe & Hughes, 82 Douglas street, quite attractive.

The British Columbia Poultry, Dog and Pet Stock Association will hold their annual show on January 12, 13 and 14. Arrangements are being made for a first-class exhibition and persons interested in this kind of live stock may be assured of a fine display. The catalogues will be issued about December 15.

The hammer-throwing contest at Beacon Hill on Wednesday afternoon was a very tame affair, McLeod defeating his opponent, Dunbar, with ease. There is a great contrast between the two men. Dunbar stands about 6 feet, 3 inches, well proportioned and a fine physical specimen of an athlete, while McLeod is short and very thick set, apparently all muscle. Those who claim to know say Dan could have thrown the hammer fully ten feet further.

Messrs Cavin Bros., well known in this city, have opened a first-class boot and shoe store in the new Doane block, on Douglas street, near Johnson. Mr. George H. Cavin, the senior partner, has eleven years experience in the business. Mr. T. A. Cavin was formerly in the printing trade, and has just completed a four-years engagement in a well known grocery house. A fresh stock of English, Canadian and American lines of boots and shoes of the latest design has just been imported and having been bought at low prices will be sold very reasonable. A specialty will be made of the celebrated mens' and boys' shoes from Hanan & Son, New York city. An experienced cutter has taken charge of the custom department and the best work will be turned out on the premises.