

## MUSIC AND DRAMA

MISS AUGUSTA COTTLOW, who will make her first appearance in Toronto under the auspices of the Mendelssohn Choir on Saturday, February 13th, is one of the most brilliant pianists on the continent. Her greatest triumph was won at the Worcester Festival and by some critics she is classed with Madam Fanny Bloomfield-Zeissler. Miss Cottlow has played in concert with most of the orchestras of the United States, and her coming to Canada is anticipated eagerly by the musical public. The choral work for that evening will be unaccompanied and will embrace a wide range of the noblest compositions, from the Italian of the sixteenth century to the most modern Scandinavian school. The Saturday concert in the Mendelssohn Choir cycle has come to be regarded as a "home" event, when the old days of a capella work have come back and the audience "settles down" to the choir and the assisting soloist. The orchestra is admittedly an artistic feast, but, last year, not the least enjoyable event was the closing night when Mr. Josef Hofman and the Mendelssohn Choir divided honours and doubled musical delights.

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THE most interesting announcement for the theatrical season is that Mr. Henry Miller and his Associate Players are coming to the Princess Theatre, Toronto, for a fortnight, opening January 25th. Mr. Miller is a Canadian by birth and both his art and his personality make him welcome in his native province. Mr. Miller and Miss Anglin won a remarkable New York triumph in Mr. William Vaughn Moody's play, "The Great Divide," a drama which is a picturesque and almost tragic presentation of the rough life of the Southwest and its effect upon the conventional Eastern type. This drama will be given during the first week of the engagement in Toronto. Miss Anglin is away in another continent this year but the part of *Ruth* is taken by an actress of considerable temperamental charm. Mr. Miller will appear as the strenuous young hero, a part in which he has been most successful, as two New York seasons attest. During the second week, the play by Mr. Charles Rann Kennedy, "The Servant in the House," a unique spiritual drama, will be offered for the first time in Canada. Miss Edith Wynne Matthison, wife of the dramatist, played the feminine role on its first presentation. That a play with deep moral and spiritual significance should have won such general favour on its appearance in the most materialistic city of the continent is a proof of its penetrating appeal to human needs. The players in Mr. Miller's company have an excellent reputation and Toronto is fortunate in this prolonged engagement.

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THE Toronto Festival Chorus and West Toronto Festival Chorus, under the direction of Dr. F. H. Torrington, are progressing with the rehearsals of Gounod's "Redemption," which will be given in Massey Hall, Toronto, on the night of Good Friday, April ninth. A general rehearsal, with both choruses and orchestra, will be held in Victoria Hall on Tuesday, January 26th.

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READERS of modern magazines and novels are acquainted with the work of Anne Warner, as of pleasing and wholesome texture, Miss Warner, like every other successful romancer of these days, has made a

contribution to the drama in a comedy, "The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary," a delightfully entertaining play in which Miss May Robson will appear at the Royal Alexandra Theatre, Toronto, during the week of February 1st. The recent attractions at the Royal Alexandra have been most acceptable, judging from the crowds which greeted "The Warrens of Virginia." There will be a Mephistophelian interlude next week when Mr. George Arliss will appear in "The Devil"—just as if poor Toronto had not suffered enough from Satan at the Princess Theatre during the Christmas holidays!

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ON Monday night, January 25th, the famous singer, Madame Blanche Marchesi, will be heard in concert at Massey Hall, Toronto. The well-known prima donna will doubtless attract a large audience and an interesting feature of the event will be the introduction to a Toronto audience of Miss Gertrude Huntley, the St. Thomas pianist and violinist, of whose foreign study and subsequent home triumphs much has been heard. It is interesting to notice that Miss Huntley gave her second recital since her return from Paris in her home town last week and the "house" was sold out three days before the event. Toronto has the reputation of being somewhat slow to recognise youthful talent among her own people, but it is to be hoped that Miss Huntley's first appearance in that city will prove a brilliant success.

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MR. FRANK S. WELSMAN, conductor of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, has just returned from New York, where he heard Mischa Elmar, the young violinist who has aroused unusual interest in the musical world of Gotham. Mr. Welsman has been so fortunate as to secure this artist for the next orchestra concert and is confident that this event will be no less enjoyable than the "Gadski" success.

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MR. WILLIAM SAUTER and Mr. Robert Stuart Pigott will give an evening of "Dramatic Episodes" on Thursday, February 4th, in which they will be assisted by Miss Brenda Smellie, Miss Laura Hughes, Miss Jean Kenny, Miss Margaret Pigott and Mr. Russell Marshall. The episodes will include a Pierrot play by Mr. Pigott and a farce by Mr. Sauter, also a tableau vignette, in which the latter will appear as *Sidney Carton*. This unusual dramatic entertainment will be given in the Margaret Eaton School of Literature and Expression.

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IT seems to most theatre-goers, says the *Argonaut*, to be but a few years since Mary Anderson, now Mme. de Navarro, in all her fresh youth and beauty, was one of the most prominent figures on the stage. But recently she celebrated her fiftieth birthday. She is now living on a pretty farm in Worcestershire, England. Before leaving the stage she had wearied of it, and no inducements have since availed to cause her to return to it. She has had many flattering offers from managers of public entertainments, but all have been rejected. Even so late as four years ago she declined an offer of \$200,000 to come to the United States and give a course of readings from the poets. For a time she was disposed to accept this proposition and to devote her earnings from the readings to charity, but her profound dislike for renewed publicity made her refuse it.



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