

# SOCIETY EVENTS

BY CHADDIE

Of course you were at the opera. Everyone was, at least, everyone who is anyone, and those who missed the first two nights will certainly be there this evening. Grand opera in Dawson! Shades of the immortal Bethoven, who would have thought a year or so ago that such in our time at least would ever be heard. When the project was first announced by Director Scarelle those familiar with the gipsy legend which Balfe has set to music so tuneful were more than skeptical at the outcome of such a hazardous undertaking. It was pointed out that in order to render "Bohemian Girl" without committing absolute murder and causing Balfe to turn over in his grave trained voices in a goodly number were needed for the chorus and artists for the principal roles, conditions impossible to fulfill in Dawson. For amateurs "Bohemian Girl" is heavy, notwithstanding the reference made to it by a distinguished conferee on an evening contemporary as a "sparkling light opera." The three acts are full of dramatic climaxes, close harmony and brilliant recitatives with cadenzas ad lib. "Arlino" was one of the favorite roles of Emma Abbott in the days when her company was considered the highest exponent of English grand opera, "Bohemian Girl" in her repertoire taking rank with "Hil Travolta," "La Traviata," "Ruy Blas," "Martha" and "Marta." Emma Juch did not consider it beneath her dignity to sing "Arlino" nor did Madame Tavary and other equally notable prima donnas. So it would seem that Mr. Scarelle must have left an abundance of confidence in the timber at his command, otherwise he would have hesitated before attempting a work so ambitious.

But I enjoyed the opera, enjoyed it immensely, and "The Chappie" desires to extend his felicitations on the success achieved. Viewed from the standpoint of a severe critic or compared with performances given by professionals, the presentations naturally would be considerably battered, but that would not only be unjust but unkind as well. One thing I must refer to. The chorus was very slow in making the attack and in the opening number of the first act on Thursday evening the director had to pull them together by sheer force of strength. It was nervousness, probably. The dance of the gipsies was very pretty, particularly the solo of Mrs. Dr. Wharton, who possesses a sweet figure and is lithe and graceful. A little more ginger on the part of the coryphees would have been an improvement. The dances of the Romy people are noted for their wild abandon with which they enter into that form of amusement, their limbo, swaying bodies seeming free from ossified formation moving in perfect cadence with the wild, weird music heard only in the land of the cordas. While the dance was going on a friend who occupied an adjoining seat called my attention to one of the dancers who at the moment with the others was resting with one knee on the floor and swaying about, only instead of the supple body describing the most graceful curves there was only a visible bending at the hips and the effect was not such as would have proven an irresistible temptation to St. Anthony. Mr. Hulme, who made such a hit as "Ko-Ko" in the "Mikado," duplicated his success as "Devilshot." When the practice of law fails to prove remunerative Mr. Hulme should adopt the stage as he has in him the budding genius of Francis Wilson, Jeff de Anglis and De Wolfe Hopper combined.

It is a pity that the orchestra could not have been made more effective by the addition of instruments so sadly needed. A second violin, viola, cello and a couple of French horns would have made all the difference in the world, but as they can not be gotten here what is one to do. A propos of the orchestra, I happened in the theatre during one of the rehearsals and was shown the scores in use by Mr. Fremuth. The wonder is that anything could be done with them at all, so mutilated, cut, penciled and interlined are they. To look at them one might imagine them to be the original productions of Balfe which had passed through the hands of every company singing the opera, each cutting and slashing the music to fit their own ideas of the proper adaptation. It is fierce and positive cruelty to expect an orchestra to do justice to themselves with such a conglomeration in front of them. In the language of Chimmis Padden I think Mr. Scarelle was given "de book" by the enterprising individual who sold him the scores in San Francisco.

On the opening night nearly all the boxes were filled and there was scarcely a seat to be had either in the balcony or the dress circle. Many of the ladies were in evening toilette and the conventional swallow-tail

was visible everywhere. Last night the crowd was even larger, a number of extra chairs having been placed in the aisles. The play went with more vim, too, than on the opening night, there was more precision and greater harmony between the orchestra and the singers. It is doubtful, though, in my mind if the enjoyment derived from the production of "Bohemian Girl" was as keen as that furnished by "Pinafore" and "Mikado." Arias full of counterpoint, fugue movements, and long drawn out recitatives do not appeal to the popular fancy, no matter how divinely beautiful the composition may be, unless the patrons of the opera have lived their lives amidst a melody of music or have some sort of musical education. It is largely a matter of attuning the ear, naturally musical, to grasp the intricacies of complex harmonies. I well remember nearly twenty years ago when the introduction of the Wagnerian trilogy, "Der Ring des Nibelungen," was attempted in New York, an opera or rather a series of operas requiring four nights for the complete production, and it was anything but a success. People laughed at it and the newspaper humorists caricatured it horribly in their paragraphs. It remained for Herr Anton Seidl, the greatest operatic conductor America ever saw, to make Wagner popular. Speaking of Seidl reminds me of a little performance he once indulged in at the old Metropolitan, and the effect produced was more than efficacious. I assure you. He could not accustom himself to the incessant chatter of the society folk while the opera was going on. It was the bane of his existence and he had complained to the directors times without number, but all to no avail. Finally on the evening in question the climax arrived. "Die Gotterdammerung" was being sung and the orchestra was in the midst of the entr'acte marking the beginning of the second act when a large party occupying the promenade box and the one adjoining arrived. They paid no attention to the music but immediately began a most animated conversation quite audible to the entire front of the house. Seidl glared, looked furious and finally topped the orchestra, laying down his baton. Turning to the offenders, he said in a voice that could be heard all over the huge barn-like structure, "When you have finished your conversation we will resume the opera." During the remainder of the performance the silence that came from those boxes was oppressive. Poor Seidl! He died from ptomaine poisoning caused by eating tainted sturgeon, and the western hemisphere has never yet seen his equal. His orchestra of six pieces was a wonderful organization, and illustrative of the cosmopolitan character of the inhabitants of the Klondike it might be said that one of Seidl's men, a trumpeter, has been in Dawson and vicinity ever since '98 and is now mining on lower Sulphur. He was occupying a chair in the Metropolitan when the boom of '98 spread over the States and he who had known nothing but music all his life dropped his instrument and joined the procession headed for the land of gold.

I am told it is Mr. Scarelle's intention to produce two more operas this season, "Pirates of Penzance" and "Maritana." The former is a light, frivolous work full of catchy airs and rollicking comedy, easily within the range of the operatic society, but the latter is just the reverse. "Maritana" is inclined more toward the classical, is even heavier than "Bohemian Girl" and I much fear the results of attempting it. The "Pirates" will be put on in February and "Maritana" if it is attempted, in April.

Society folk occupying the boxes during the performances I notice have brought with them from the east the pretty custom of exchanging calls between acts. On the opening night all the loggias on the balcony floor were occupied. In one on the right side were Dr. and Mrs. J. S. Sulphur and Miss Mackay and in another were Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Cole, Mr. Percy Hope and Miss Ralcliffe. On the opposite side Mr. C. W. Theobald entertained a large party filling two of the loggias and including Mr. and Mrs. George Byrne, Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Craig, Mrs. Ashby, Miss Theobald, and Mr. Sidney Bell. Mr. Harry Lawrence had as his guests Mrs. George Brimston and Miss McCormack. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Brown were in the box next the stage.

Upstairs in the large box is the center Mayor Macaulay was the host of a stag party. His guests were Mr. Justice Macaulay, Mr. H. E. A. Robertson, Mr. C. W. C. Taber, Mr. Wm. McKay, Mr. H. M. Martin, Mr. V. Keenan, Mr. Hubert Macaulay and Mr. R. S. Buesberry. Mr. and Mrs. George M. Allen entertained Mrs. Latimer and Miss Latimer. Mr. H. Pittsmons had a jolly party in

Mr. J. S. Cowan, Mr. Paul Forest, and Mr. Frank Johnson.

Mr. F. T. Congdon on Monday evening, prior to his departure for Ottawa was tendered a dinner by Mr. R. P. McLennan at the latter's residence on Fifth avenue near Harper street, which was quite an enjoyable event. Nothing pretentious was aimed at; it was merely a gathering of convivial spirits assembled for the purpose of enjoying the good things of life, felicitating Mr. Congdon on the active work he had performed in the late campaign and wishing him a safe and pleasant journey to the city from whence comes all good and perfect gifts for the Yukon. Besides the host and guest of honor there were present Acting Commissioner Major Wood, Mayor Macaulay, Dr. Alfred Thompson, Mr. Hugh MacKinnon, Mr. D. A. Cameron and Mr. W. H. McKay.

A propos of Mr. Congdon it is said he is slated for being the successor of Mr. Ross as commissioner of the territory with a good chance of being successful in his ambitious efforts. Should his appointment be made I know of no lady in the land who would grace the executive mansion with more dignity and composure in that sphere would do much toward dispelling the gloom that has constantly hovered over the official residence since the sad fate that befell Mrs. Ross. It would, too, doubtless mark the beginning of a new era in the social functions connected with official life.

I dropped in the rink Monday evening and for a few moments was highly entertained by the efforts of a young man endeavoring to waltz on skates. He looked very awkward and instead of taking the step to every bar of the music he only did so every alternate bar. Then, too, he was unable to reverse which in a few moments made his fair partner so dizzy she could scarcely stand up.

The dance of the independent steamship men which takes place Friday evening at the A. B. hall bids fair to be one of the most enjoyable of the season. Elaborate preparations are being made for the affair.

The scenes depicted in "Bohemian Girl" have been made immortal by their transfer to sensitized paper. Two flashlight photos were taken Wednesday during the dress rehearsal.

The A. B.'s are arranging a smoker to be given at their hall Tuesday evening next. An impromptu programme will be rendered and there will be eatables and drinkables in unlimited quantities.

The many friends of Mamie Holden (Mrs. Charles Murphy), the clever little ingenue who was such an attraction with the Bittner company last season, will be delighted to learn of the arrival of a little daughter at her household recently. Mr. and Mrs. Murphy are spending the winter with friends and relatives in Seattle.

Since when has that bon vivant, Mr. Charles Macdonald, he of the silver tongue, ceased to be clerk of the court? I was positively startled to see in a recent issue of the Sun an article made conspicuous by being enclosed in a border signed J. N. E. Brown, clerk of the territorial court.

The costume worn by Mrs. Boyes in the last act of "Bohemian Girl" is a very elaborate affair, one well calculated to excite the envy of many of the ladies. The material is of white moire silk, the front panel being appliqued by a hand painted and quite intricate floral design.

THE CHADDIE.

Settle in Canada. Seattle, Nov. 24.—For the season of 1903 the Canadian government expects to handle more immigrants to northwestern Canada than for any year in the past. If the figures of 100,000 settlers for last year, carried over the Canadian Pacific, are to be accepted as correct, and present plans do not miscarry, the number is to be doubled next year.

Louis Hadd, immigration agent for the Canadian government in London, arrived in the city yesterday from Vancouver. He is on his way east to return home, and availed himself of the opportunity of going over the American lines.

"We expect to make a record that has not been equaled in any country in the world," said Mr. Hadd last night, "and our plans are such that we feel sure they will not miscarry. A large share of the business we expect to get will come from the old world. For the past year we have been booking for next season, and in all probability we will get at least 75,000 to 100,000 from Hungary, Switzerland, Germany and France. The largest contingent to the present time is from France. There are in that country a very great number of peasants who want to come to Canada, and where they are known to be good farmers and hard working people they will be assisted.

"In all of these countries we have agencies, and have had them for the past twelve months. We also have a number of agencies in the United States, and expect to get a large number from here. We got what we considered a good share this year, but will double the number next.

"The Canadian government has determined to settle up the western part of Canada with farmers, and that as soon as it can possibly be done. Every opportunity in the way of getting cheap land and a long time to pay for it, as well as have it stocked, will be given the newcomers, and all that is asked is that they put in the crops and reap the harvest."

Killed a Moose Cow. Mr. Jackson of this city and his dog "Cap" returned Thursday night from Montana creek. Mr. Jackson, Mr. Murphy and Ed Corkish were hunting and they succeeded in slaying a moose cow. The other members of the party did not return.

Mr. Jackson says no pay has ever been struck on Montana, though some gold is found there. No pay worth mentioning was ever found on Conglomerate creek or any of the pups of Montana. But all of the claims in the promising portions of these creeks are being represented.

Bonanza Record.

Beggar—Help me, mister, I haven't a cent for me name.  
Crazy Man—Huh! That's exactly how much I had when I started in life, and I'm well off now. Let me congratulate you on your bright future.—Boston Post.

**Pacific Packing and Navigation Co.**  
Successors to Pacific Steam Whaling Co.  
FOR  
**Copper River and Cook's Inlet**  
YAKUTAT, ORCA, VALDEZ, HOMER.  
FOR ALL PORTS In Western Alaska Steamer Newport Sails From Juneau on First of Each Month  
OFFICES SEATTLE Cor. First Ave. and Yale Way. SAN FRANCISCO No. 30 California Street

**Japan American Line**  
Carrying U. S. Mails to Oriental Ports.  
**Steamer Every 2 Weeks**  
For Japan China and All Asiatic Ports.  
Ticket Office 612 First Avenue, Seattle

**Unalaska and Western Alaska Points**  
U. S. MAIL  
**S. S. NEWPORT**  
Leaves Juneau April 1st and 1st of each month for Sitka, Yakutat, Nutehek, Orca, Ft. Licium, Valdes, Resurrection, Homer, Soldovia, Katmai, Kodiak, Uyak, Korluk, Chignik, Unga, Sand Point, Belkofsky, Unalaska, Dutch Harbor.  
FOR INFORMATION APPLY TO  
Seattle Office - Globe Bldg., Cor. First Ave. and Madison Street  
San Francisco Office, 30 California Street

**FOUR CARLOADS OF**  
**JOB PRINTING MATERIAL**  
The finest and Largest Assortment Ever Brought to Dawson.  
**DO YOU NEED PRINTING?**  
IF SO THESE PRICES WILL GET YOUR WORK:  
Letterheads . . . \$6. PER THOUSAND  
Business Cards . . . 3. " "  
Meal Tickets . . . 4. " "  
Dodgers . . . 4. " "  
Jobs Promised Tomorrow  
Delivered Today.  
**THE KLONDIKE NUGGET**  
JOB PRINTING DEPARTMENT.

...MAS  
both beauti-  
oods special-  
trade.  
ELL 117  
2nd Ave.  
...L CARDS  
...Advocate  
...Oboe Bile  
...Hotel  
...ORE  
...Creek, Alaska.  
...eds, good bar.  
...roprietor, Tak  
...of Lost Children  
...the door and  
...travel on the  
...hip  
...mplete ser-  
...vance,  
...hington  
...ia, Mexico.  
...med by the  
...vignette, the  
...Rule  
...Both  
...Passengers  
...50  
...E  
...ehorse  
...18, 1 p.m.  
...GERS,  
...GEN. AGENT  
...ny  
...roats,  
...Com-  
...Tower  
...es  
..."  
...9  
...eastern  
...be des-  
...should  
...gton.  
...E, W.N.  
...h  
...Boiler  
...ngine  
...ICE