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SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1894.

PERSONAL GOSSIP.

Mr. W. F. Alloway, of Alloway & Champion, bankers, Winnipeg, visited Victoria this week.

Mrs. Uriah Nelson, Oak Bay Avenue, gave a pleasant "progressive hearts" and dancing party, last Monday evening.

The Knights of Pythias of this city will give a ball for the benefit of the poor of this city on Wednesday, Jan. 31.

The Foresters gave a grand ball in the Assembly Hall last Tuesday evening. Richardson's orchestra furnished the music.

A pleasant dancing party was given at the school house, Cedar Hill, Thursday evening. Bantly's orchestra furnished their usual excellent music.

Mrs. Dixi H. Ross entertained a number of friends last Friday evening. Cards and dancing helped the evening to pass quickly and afforded much enjoyment to her guests.

Mrs. Simons, of Vancouver, has been visiting Victoria for a couple of days, and previous to her return home was entertained at a party at the residence of Mr. J. Kendall. Friends to the number of 40 were present.

An enjoyable masquerade ball was given by Mrs. Spring, at her residence, Belleville street, Thursday evening. There were about thirty couples in attendance and the ball was a great success. Richardson's orchestra furnished the music.

Mr. J. H. Falconer was married to Miss Orvilla Northcott, by the Ven. Rev. Archdeacon Scriven, last Wednesday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Falconer will take in Seattle, Portland and other coast cities during their wedding trip.

The programme of the social given by the Y. L. I. last Thursday evening was as follows: Comic song, C. J. Wilkes; vocal solo, Mrs. Laing; recitation, Mrs. Wilkes; song, Mrs. J. A. Geporten; duet, (guitar and banjo), H. McDowell and W. Agnew; solo, F. Sehl; and recitation, Miss Collins. After the concluding number, the hall was cleared for a dance, the Bantly family orchestra furnishing the music.

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MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

Patti Rosa comes to Victoria Feb. 23.

Fanny Rice wants an early date at The Victoria.

Bert Coote and Julia Kingsley have joined the Patti Rosa Company.

The Spider and Fly company will be seen at The Victoria some time about the middle of February.

Col. M. J. Fife, of Tacoma, has thrown over law and journalism, and will adopt the stage as a profession. The Colonel is a native of Meaford, Ontario.

Laura Clements, the prima donna of the Calhoun Opera Company, achieved distinction last year as the prima donna of D'Oyle Carte's Company, London.

The Victoria Choral Society mustered fifty voices at their rehearsal on Wednesday evening, in the large room of the Y. M. C. A., Broad street, which has been engaged for the weekly practices of the Society.

Mr. James Tees, of Winnipeg, was in the city during the week. Mr. Tees is a prominent figure in musical circles in the prairie capital, being choirmaster of Grace Church and an active member of three musical organizations.

Charles Riggs was in the city last week, having been engaged by James T. Shunk, to represent the popular Calhoun Opera Co. Mr. Riggs is one of the most genial advance men on the continent. His friends yearn for his coming as the robin longs for spring.

Next Thursday being Burns' anniversary, the choir of the First Presbyterian Church, assisted by outside talent, will

give a concert in the school-room. These concerts for years have been under the supervision of Mr. J. G. Brown, which fact is in itself a guarantee of the merit of the entertainment provided.

Mr. George Pauline, organist of Christ Church Cathedral, intends giving a grand organ recital at the Cathedral on Sunday, January 28, after the evening service. The well known ability of Mr. Pauline will doubtless attract a large number of lovers of music of the king of instruments.

No one can tell exactly who made the first piano, for the reason that it has gradually "evolved" from an instrument as much itself as one could well imagine. In the twelfth century it appears to have been a gigantic dulcimer, which was merely an oblong box holding a series of strings arranged in triangular form across the centre. In the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries the "clavichord," another musical monstrosity, had developed from it, and was used well up in the eighteenth century. About 1711 Cristofori of Padua invented a new piano, but it is said to remind one of a coal box, when compared with the elegant and perfect toned instrument of to-day.

Lynnwood has been the bill at the Theatre Royal since Thursday night. Miss Browne in the leading role, gave a good representation of her part, as did also Miss Marshall, as the female spy. Miss Underhill was seen at her best; Mr. Chapman had a difficult role, but succeeded admirably in holding the interest of the audience; Mr. Dunsdale, as usual was very funny; Mr. McAllister was conscientious in his part as was Mr. Moore; Kiersky was very good and except that Mr. Wybert did not speak his lines half loud enough, no fault could be found with him. The houses have been good all week. Lynnwood will be seen at the matinee this afternoon and again to-night.