

## Music and The Drama

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

The events of the week in musical circles were the two concerts of the Vocal Society on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. In the Vocal society St. John has an organization of which it may be justly proud. The programmes for both concerts were given in this column last week, and that the society's rendition of its various selections met with the approval of the audience of both evenings can best be judged from the enthusiastic reception accorded every one of them. The fact that the conductor Mr. Buck has drilled this large society for only a few months, and has in that time succeeded in producing such excellent results speaks highly for his ability and unwearied energy as a conductor. The choruses were sung with much precision, due attention to shading, and something unusual in large choruses, every word was distinctly enunciated. The madrigal "Matons, Lovely Maiden" seemed to be the most popular of all the choruses, and this, as well as all the others called for a most enthusiastic encore. The great attraction of the concerts was of course William H. Rieger. The anticipations regarding him were quite fully realized, and those who heard him were much pleased with his clear tenor voice. It was wonderfully smooth and musical, meeting fully all demands of the varied programme. Mr. Rieger is further assisted by a very agreeable personality. His recitatives and arias were remarkable for beauty of tone, graceful delivery and refined phrasing but perhaps the audience showed a deeper appreciation of "Athore" and "Resolution" than any of his other numbers. His natural voice is of excellent quality rather than quantity, and as a whole his hearers were pretty nearly unanimous in their expressions of approval.

Mr. Buck's debut was an event of much interest, and though he was suffering from a severe cold he succeeded in creating a decidedly favorable impression. His solos were given with great precision and effectiveness. His methods are a trifle different from those to which local music lovers are accustomed but his voice is large, vibrant and strong. His enunciation is excellent, and he was received with marked appreciation.

The piano duet "Improvisata" by Miss Holden and Mr. Athos was very finely rendered; and as an accompanist the latter proves himself inferior to none who have filled that important position here.

The society meets again in a fortnight for further practice. The same class of music will be studied and another concert will likely be given in the late spring. I understand there have been many new applications for membership to the society.

Next week the Jaxon Opera Company open a weeks engagement here. This is their first visit to the provinces, and from the favorable press notices received everywhere they seem to have made a good impression wherever they have appeared.

Damrosch and Ellis bring their aggregation of Grand Opera stars to Portland, Maine, early next month. Melba and other famous singers are in the cast.

Mr. Fred G. Spencer is working energetically for the success of his Maine concerts and is everywhere receiving assurances of success. In Bangor great enthusiasm is being manifested and the prospects of success are most encouraging. In this city deep interest centres in the two concerts to be given in March. No singer ever made the same impression here as did Evan Williams, and he will be warmly welcomed when he returns next month. Mary Louise Clary will share the honors of the occasion with Mr. Williams, and the distinguished vocalists will without doubt draw immense audiences both evenings.

Tones and Undertones.

The baritone George W. Ferguson has postponed his visit to America this season owing to the numerous demands made upon him for a series of recitals in England and Germany.

F. Frangcon-Davies, will arrive in America about the middle of March and

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will make his first appearance with the Boston Symphony Orchestra. After that he will sing in a number of song recitals in New York, Boston and the West.

Madame D'Alvigny who sang recently in Montreal is the daughter of George E. Fugh of Ohio.

Madame Verdi's will has been proved at Rome. The deceased lady saved a modest fortune before her marriage to Verdi while she was still a popular operatic prima donna. Of this about £1,500 now goes to build a hospital at Villanova and the balance in smaller sums is devoted to various charities.

Zoltan Dolme, Nordica's husband arrived in New York last week from Europe.

Renand, the favorite tenor of the Paris Grand Opera, has been re-engaged for three seasons at a salary of \$17,000 per year. During the same period he will sing two months each year at the Covent Garden in London, receiving \$9,000 for these eight weeks.

It is expected that the new opera in which Sir Arthur Sullivan and Messrs Carr and Pinero are collaborating, will be produced in London about Easter.

De Wolf Hopper and John Philip Sousa are going to Europe to give American comic opera and American band music. All the members of Hopper's 'El Capitan' Company and all the members of Sousa's Band are booked for the trip. The start will be made in the fall, and both companies expect to be away the entire season of 1898-9.

"The Queen of the Ballet," a musical comedy by R. A. Barnett, author of "1492" was produced in Boston last week by the Cadets. It is said to be a thoroughly up-to-date comedy, satirizing modern financial methods, golf and everything else imaginable. There is the young hero, heir to a fortune, but doomed to lose it temporarily, while the victim of conspirators. Then there is the lost heiress, with lockets around her neck to be stolen by the arch villainess so as to complicate matters, but all ends happily in Venice, which affords abundant opportunity for picturesqueness of scenery and costuming. Of the performance the chief hit was made by A. C. Stone. His female impersonation was, says the Mirror correspondent, simply perfect, and was all the more remarkable, for on the day of the dress rehearsal his sister died, and yet he went through the part rather than ruin the performance.

Madame Albani is to sing in Melbourne Saturday.

Miss Queenie Baird, a god-daughter of Adelina Patti, will be one of the debutantes of the London spring season. Adelina Patti is reported to be taking great interest in the development of her god-daughter, who is present on tour with Miss Fortes cue's company.

"The Beggar Prince," a comic opera, is to be shortly produced at the Knickerbocker Theatre, New York.

New York's Italian theatre has closed its doors owing to the lack of support.

DeWolf Hopper announced last week that he would engage Miss Percy Haswell, now with William H. Crane, in 'A Virginia Courtship,' to replace his wife, Edna Wallace Hopper, as the prima donna of his company when he produces Sousa and Klein's new opera, 'The Charlatan,' early in the summer.

### TALK OF THE THEATRE.

Fanny Davenport has finally shelved "Joan"

Julia Marlowe in a new play at the Hollis this week.

Della Fox has denied her rumored marriage engagement.

Flo Irwin is coming to Boston soon in "The Widow Jones."

Cora Tanner will start out in "Alone in London" next month.

J. Aldrich Libbey has joined "A Trip to Chinatown" company.

Robert Hilliard has closed his season. "A New Yorker" wasn't a success.

James A. Herne of "Shore Acres" fame occupied a pulpit in Chicago last Sunday.

Julia Arthur will dedicate the new Detroit Opera house in September. She was burnt out in the old house.

Clyde Fitch's new comedy for Herbert Kelcey and Effie Shannon has been christened "The Moth and the Flame."

Grace Atwell is reported as having made an emphatic hit at Columbus, Ohio, as a member of the leading stock company there.

Camille Darville is said to have made an unmistakable hit in the title role of "The Highwayman" at the Broadway, New York.

Ida Conquest is going to London with William Gillette in April to play in "Too Much Johnson" and the new comedy which he may put on there.



Joseph Jefferson will use "The Rivals" all next season and Elsie Leslie, the original Little Lord Fauntleroy will return to the stage to play Lydia Languish in the revival.

E. H. Sotom's new play, "The Head of the House," based upon Thackeray's novel, "Henry Esmond," by Glen McPonough and Louis Evan Shipman, will have its first production in Rochester Feb. 24.

Minnie Dupree is going to London in April to play the ingenue role of "The Heart of Maryland."

Jack Mason and his wife, Marion Manola, are to separate. The separation is to be for their mutual benefit and for an indefinite time. Mrs. Mason is at present a physical wreck, and will retire from the stage for a long rest, probably in some secluded sanatorium. Her husband will re-enter vaudeville.

It turns out that Henry Guy Carlton did not let himself down in writing a play for James J. Corbett, but pulled the pugilist up. "The Adventurer," as described in Western cities, where Corbett is acting in it, is a polite comedy, with no prize fighting and no rowdy element. It is said that Corbett aspires to become a quite legitimate actor.

Rev. James H. W. Harris, fully ordained minister of the High Episcopal church, late pastor of the church of the Holy Redeemer, San Francisco, will make his debut in vaudeville at one of the Proctor houses in New York during the last week of February, appearing in a one-act burlesque by Charles Ross, of Ross & Fenton, entitled "Anthony and Cleopatra."

The last number of the New York Clipper says that Arthur J. Coglier late leading man with the "White Slave" company has been engaged to play the heavy in John E. Miles' production of New Mexico.

Mrs. Robert Mantell whose stage name is Charlotte Behrens who was reported to be dying of peritonitis at Port Huron, Mich., is getting better and there is every hope of her recovery. Mr. R. B. Mantell who has been with his wife through her illness joined his company at Boston the beginning of this month.

Rumor comes from England that Lawrence Irving, son of Henry Irving, and Ethel Barrymore will not marry, the engagement having been broken off, without causing, however, any breach in their friendship.

Modjeska played "Measure for Measure," "Magda," "Macbeth" and "Camille" in New York last week.

Next season James A. Herne will add to his repertoire "The Reverend Griffith Davenport" and an Irish drama.

Duse may play "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray" in England next season if the matter of rights can be straightened out.

In St. Louis last week Margaret Mather produced "Leah," "The Honeymoon," "Romeo and Juliet" and "Cymbeline."

Mark Twain has written a comedy entitled "Is He Dead?"

"The Belle of New York" will be seen in London on April 9.

The Queen of Italy recently gave a private audience to Duse.

W. H. Crane will probably produce "A Virginia Courtship" in London.

Beerbohm Tree's next production in London is to be "My Lady Virtue."

"Frau Odilon" will play in English when she comes to this country in April.

Miss Grace Henderson may star next season under the management of Charles Young.

Annie Ward Tiffany will appear in the vaudeville theatres in the "Duchess of Dublin."

Daniel and Charles Froham are bachelors.

Chicago is to banish immoral performances.

Duse is said to pay her entire company all the year round, although during the last eighteen months she has given only twelve performances.

The dramatization of Ian Maclaren's "Beside the Bonnie Briar-Bush" will have its first presentation at McVicker's Theatre, Chicago, on Easter Monday.

Mrs. Potter and Mr. Beilew will fill in the interval at London's historic home of

melodrama, the Adelphi Theatre, between the withdrawal of Mr. Gillette's "Secret Service" and the production of Mr. Belasco's "Heart of Maryland," in their Charlotte Corday, which lately secured some sort of approval in one of the London suburban theatres.

## Health Lost and Found.

### THE STORY OF A YOUNG BOY'S TRIALS.

Was Growing Too Rapidly and His Health Gave Way—General Moseley's Doctoring Did Him No Good—His Parents Almost Discouraged.

From the Napanee Beaver.

It is truly pitiable to see boys just beginning to realize the possibilities of life stricken down with disease, the escape from which is sometimes thought to be little short of a miracle. Hearing of such a case a reporter called on Mr. J. J. Smith, living near Fredericksburg Station, in Lennox Co., and interviewed him regarding the cure of his son who was in bad health and regained it by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Mr. Smith is one of the oldest residents in the locality, of direct U. E. Loyalist descent, and has resided all his life on the farm on which he lives. He is consequently well known throughout the district. In reply to the scribe's query he gave the details of the case. "My son, Stanley, was taken sick about the first of February, 1895. He became very weak and had a dull constant pain in his head. He grew very weak, such a condition being more properly described by the term 'general muscular weakness.' He was troubled with severe pain in the back and had no appetite, continuing to steadily grow weaker and finally lost all ambition. He had little more color in him than a bit of white paper. A physician was consulted on the first appearance of the trouble. He carefully examined the case stating that the hearing was affected by catarrhal deafness, the pains in the back originating from muscular rheumatism and the constant tired feeling and general weakness was caused by over growth. These difficulties together with the after effects of la grippe left him a physical wreck. He had the benefit of careful medical attention for four months. The doctor had carefully treated him for the deafness and succeeded in restoring his hearing, but in other respects was no better. He ordered that he should be carefully nursed which was about all that could be done. To make things more clearly understood I might say he was at this time past twelve years of age, having grown very fast, was large enough for one six years his senior. The doctor said medicine could not benefit him and all that could be done must come by nursing. We naturally felt greatly discouraged at the prospect not knowing what course to pursue.

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sue in the future. At this juncture one of the druggists of Napanee who had previously compounded many prescriptions recommended a trial of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. It was then the first of June when we purchased three boxes and commenced the treatment. When he had finished the second box his appetite previously fickle and unsteady, had wonderfully improved. He continued taking the pills until seven boxes had been used. His strength returned with renewed vigor, and all signs of muscular rheumatism had vanished and he steadily regained a strong healthy color, and was able to do considerable light work in the harvest field such as riding the mower, reaper or horse rake. He has since attended school regularly and though a year has elapsed, he has had no symptoms. Mrs. Smith spoken to about the matter readily concurred in all that had been said relative to her son's case, and was very decided in her views regarding the health giving properties contained in Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

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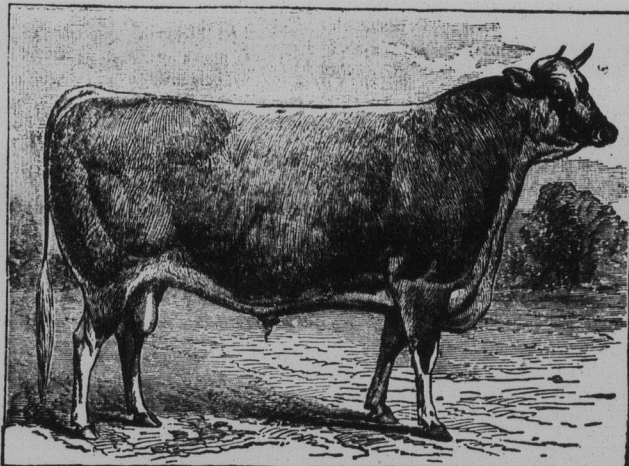
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