Two Genuine Comedy Operas Reveal the Weakness of the Usual Spectacular Farces and

MARIE TEMPEST'S STRENGTH.

The Amusing Possibilities of Oratorio in Costume Rival the Medimval Miracle Plays.

GOSSIP FROM LONDON'S FOYERS.

News and Comment of General Musical Interest Pur gently Paragraphed.

The week of light opera at the Grand Opera House by the Duff troupe has been exceptionally meritorious both as to matter and manner. It is a pity that such names as Francis Wilson, De Wolf Hopper, Aronson or "Casino" should be able to draw to their farcical and spectacular shows considerably larger houses in Pittsburg than were present last week to hear these legitimate

comedy-opera persormances. "The Red Hussar" is by no means a great or a profoundly original work, but it is an exceptionally pleasing specimen of its class. Mr. Edward Solomon here shows in many ways a decided improvement over his earlier success, "Billee Taylor." There is more pabulum in the first act "Hussar" than in the whole of of the "Paul Jones," to cite a glaring instance of misplaced popularity. Solomon's work-manship in general is good; there are well constructed ensembles and broadly written choruses that bespeak the craftsman's hand. The duet, "How d've Do." is an exceed-ingly happy effort, both in conception and execution, quite worthy o Gilbert and Sullivan at their best. Excepting the regimental song, "Steady, Boys, Steady," however, there is a lack of melodic invention and spontaneity that reveals Solomon's chief deficiency for this form of composition.

Right here is one of the leading qualities in which Alfred Celiter's "Dorothy" surpasses the former work. "Dorothy" is full of graceful, fluent melody. It has, moreover, the great merit of individuality; there is a certain demure, pastoral character, which the composer has succeeded in main-taining admirably throughout the score. It is very English, this opera-like its pretty, old-fashioned name-and what could be pleasanter in such a work than that same rural anglicism? Cellier's scoring is especially clever and dainty, nor are there lacking many instances of good musicianship in concerted work and finales.

The performance of this troupe deserves particular credit for keeping pretty faithfully to the book and score and within the legitimate bounds o respectable musical comedy. That is a great point in these degenerate days. The very unusual size and efficiency of the chorus, too, merits cordial recognition. Conductor Julian Edward and the local players dis about all that could be expected with the score under the present system of no rehearsals and every man for

Miss Marie Tempest is certainly one of the best comic opera singers on the stage to-day She, too, has the great merit of individual-ity, her methods are refined, but sure, and she speedily captures her audience without having to stoop to it. Miss Tempest sings remarkably well, moreover; her voice, while not large, is distinctly pleasing in quality and is under good control. Mr. Bassett, after his grand opera experience, found this music like child's play and thereby gained at case and freedom in both singing and acting which in harder roles he frequently larged. Most of his work was these walls lacked. Most of his work was thoroughly admirable of the kind. Miss Snyder and Mr. McLaughlin did some fairly good singing, while Mr. John A. Mackay was exceedingly funny and original along the low

### A Discussion on Costuming.

down the self-evident proposition that the recent concert performance of "Parsital" in New York was less effective than if the work had been given all the dramatic accessories, and offers this argument for the "Kundry represents Mary Magdalen, and the title role is typical of the Savior. How ridiculous it is, therefore, to see the latter represented on the stage by a clean-shaven man in a clawhammer coat, and the former dressed in the latest Parisian costume with bustle and bang at-How much worse than ridiculous it is to

attempt a stage representation of the Savior and His associates, with traditional costumes and all, was one of the things that Mr. Salmi Morse found out as the act result of his ill-advised "Passion Play" experiment some years ago. The full dramatic persome years ago. the lun dramatic per-formance of "Parsifal" would hardly be permissible even at Bayreuth, if the roles were in fact identical with, instead of being very remotely "typical" of, the personages that all Christendom reveres.

Nor does Editor Quigg stop here; he pro-"I am a believer in the theory that not only Wagner's religious drama, but even all the other great oratorios would be more dignified and impressive if the characters and choristers were to appear in the costumes of the period instead of evening dress. The experiment is certainly worth a

Of course "Parsifal," which Wagner specifically designed for dramatic action, can be properly given only in that way. Such words, too, as Rubinstein's "Paradise Lost," which he entitled "a sacred opera," may properly be given in dramatic form-though in that case the "costumes of the period," for which the Musician pleads, would have to be amplified to an extent for which even the "breeches" Bible would not

afford historical authority.

As to the other great oratorios, it would be manifestly impossible to give complete stage representations of the largely super-natural episodes set forth in the texts, even if the latter had been at all cast in a dramatic form. And how utterly in an would be a performance in which the characters and populace were dressed up with historical correctness (supposing that to be possible), and then obliged to stand still in stiff rows along raised platforms at the end of an open concert hall.

Where the Thing Would Lead.

But there would be fun enough merely in the attempt to secure the "costumes of the period." Take for instance the greatest of all oratorios, "The Messiah." Would you have the singers rigged out in bearskins worn bias and with bare feet bound on wooden sandals like the prophets of old whose words they sing part of the time—or would they be fitted with patent automatic wings and diaphanous draperies according to the accepted pictures of the heavenly host that appeared to the shepherds of Galilee? Or would the costumes be changed to suit each period on into eternity when the great chorus of the redeemed is

or in the "Creation," the costume of what

the demons at such times as these gentle-men were not acting the buffoon on one of the upper floors of the flat. The costumes were claborately designed upon the same scale of 'historical" accuracy. The action suited

these surroundings.

Until we are ready to go the full length of these oldest and most authoritative precedents, we had better leave the simpleminded peasants of Ober-Ammergan in possession of their present monopoly of the dubious privilege of representing sacred characters in the "costumes of the period" or with any other dramatic accessories.

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The Gondollers for Victoria.

The following bits of musical gossip came by cable to The Disparch from London: By special request of Queen Victoria, Gilbert and Sullivan's comic opera, "The Gondoliers," will be produced in grand style before Her Majesty and her guests at Windsor Castle on Friday evening, March 6. D'Oyley Carte's English opera venture can handly be said to be successful as he can hardly be said to be as successful as he and his friends hoped it would be. It is reported that D'Oyley Carte has purchased the English rights for Messager's new comic opera "Basoche."

The 12-year-old violincellist, Jean Gerardy, continues to be the musical sensa-

tion of London, the ability of this precociou genius being the main topic of conversation in musical circles. Henry Lee, of New York, has finally decided, after considerable hesitation and contradictory announce-ments, not to produce "The Henrietta" at the Lyceum until March 23. He will devote the interval to the new burlesque of "Cleopatra." Miss Floy Vita, a young American, will make her debut in this

version of "Cleopatra."

Miss Ella Russell, of Cleveland, was one of the artists who sang at the first concert of the "Famiglia Artistical" at Milan last week, and she scored an enthusiastic suc-cess. Signor Bennedetto Cairat has pre-sented Miss Russell with a valuable painting as a token of his appreciation of her ar-tistic efforts. The newspapers of Milan were unanimous in their laudatory comments upon Miss Russell's success.

Crotchets and Quavers.

WAGNER'S "Siegfried" is having extraor-dinary success in Brussels, the miniature Paris. THE Apolio Club, which comprises a round dozen male voices, conducted by Mr. A. H. Boyd, and assisted by Mr. John J. Isensee, solo bass, gave an entertraining programme at the Western Pennsylvania Hospital last Friday

THE musical portion of an entertainment to be given next Tuesday evening in the Ames M. E. Church, Hazelwood, will be in the hands of Mrs. Dr. T. J. Leak, the Misses Helen Grimes, Etta Mitchell, Carrie M. Angell and Rosa Bossinger and Messrs. J. E. Eyth and W. H. Ott.

THE Church Choral Society, of New York, gave a second musical service at St. George's Church, Stuyeesant square, Thursday even-ing, February 19. The works performed under the direction of Mr. Warren were Gounod's "De Profundis" and Dyoras's "Stabat Mater." The Thomas Orchestra assisted.

ORGANIST L. C. WEBSTER and his admirable quartet, at St. Andrew's P. E. Church, will this evening give the third instalment of Dr. J. F. Bridge's oratorio, "Mount Moriah." These special musical services are held in high regard by the authorities of the church named, and are largely attended by outsiders as well. Let the good work go on.

THE Dutch concert at Paris was quite an inthe Dutch concert at Paris was quite an interesting affair; the programme contained works by 20 Dutch composers, which were interpreted by 14 soloists and a choral society known as the "Union Neerlandaise;" the soloists were 4 violinists, 5 pianists, 2 violoncellists and 2 vocalists. The works of the Dutch composers showed more equilition and talent than originality or inspiration,—American Musician,

It is a curious coincidence that the two best known operetta composers of the period have simultaneously turned their attention to grand simultaneously turned their attention to grand opera. Sullivan has already produced his "Ivanifoe" in London, while in Vienna Strauss hauded in the scare of his opera "Ritter Pasmann" to the director of the Imperial Opera House on February 5. The date of its production is not yet decided upon.—New York Post. MR. BEVERIDGE WEBSTER has undertaken

the programme for the next reception of Art Society to be given Thursday evening, the 12th inst. Mr. Webster will talk on "Musical Motives and Their Manipulation," illustrating his remarks upon the piano, Miss Elizabeth Webster will also contribute piano solos and Mrs. Kate Morgan Smith, accompanied by her daughter, Miss Sybil Smith, will supply the vocal divertisement.

ISCHAIEOWSKY is coming to New York after at the Oratorio Society's festival, opening the new Music Hall at Fifty-seventh street An amusing non sequifur is perpetrated by the American Musician, which lays found that the distinguished Russian would not play himself, that it would not be worth much to have him come here merely to swing the baton over an orchestra that someone else had drilled. For the New York festival the following soloists have aiready been engaged: Antonia Mielke, Clementina De Vere, Marie Ritter-Gotze, Italo Campanini, Andreas Dip-pel, Theodor Reichmann and Emil Fischer.

MR. CARL RETTER leaves to-night for New York in order to make more definite arrangements with Mr. Seidl for the programmes of the May Festival. In addition to the artists already named in this column, Mr. Retter has already named in this column, Mr. Retter has engaged for the festival Fursch-Madi, the eminent dramatic mezzo-soprano, and Clemente Bologua, the basso cantante. Franz Rummel has been engaged as piano soloist in place of Joseffy, who could not be allured from his retirement. Mr. Rummel will be gladly heard, and, with the two singers named, will materially strengthen the forces for this most promising event.

It is pleasant to note the great success of Reginald DeKoven's "Robin Hood," now running in London under the title, "Maid Marian." The American verdict on the American operetta, as produced by the Bostonians, has been amply confirmed at the headquarters of the Gilbert and Sullivan school, to which this work so clearly belongs. That need not surprise us, however. Since quite a number of operas of this class, after notable London successes, have been weighed in American scales and found wanting, it would be strange that if a work that has been pronounced up to American standards should fail of London's approval, But why doesn't Chicago crow louder over her Regie's triumph? The American verdict on the American operet-

Regie's triumph? THE Juch Opera Company has scored a great success in San Francisco with Wagner's "The Valkyries," which, if memory serves, has been given in this country by but one other com-pany, that of the Metropolitan Opera House, pany, that of the Metropolitan Opera House, New York. As one result of the success achieved out there by Conductor Neuendorf, and his present forces, it is stated that a num-ber of wealthy 'Friscans have subscribed a guarantee fund for a permanent orchestra, on a scale similar to those of Buston, New York and Chicago, with Mr. Neuendorf as conductor. If the proposed return engagement of the Juch thouse at the Grand is made, we will want to hear 'The Valkyries."

A VERY successful soirce musicale was given Friday evening at the Pittsburg Female given Friday evening at the Pittsburg Female Cellege under the direction of Mr. Theodor Salmon. Miss Blanche Newcomb, a recent Joachim pupil, said to have exceptionable talent and some idea of locating in Pittsburg, was programmed for Vieuxtemps' Ballade and Polonaise, the adagio from Ries' third Sicite and Sarasate's "Habanera." Mr. Salmon's piano selections embraced Schumann's "At Evening," Chopin's Etude, op. 25, No. 2, and Fartalsite Imprompts, Foerster's melody, "Eros," and a Liszt Rhapsodie. Miss Mary Bankerd, contraits, was set down for songs by De Koven and Norris. Miss Mary B. Kier contributed some elecutionary selections.

MR. ETHELBERT NEUN'S "Wynker Riyn.

MR. ETHELBERT NEVIN'S "Wynken, Blynken and Nod," for chorus and soprano solo, was given at the last concert of the Washington (D. given at the last concert of the Washington (D. C.) Choral Society. "Doris," Mr. Nevin's song for soprano with orchestra, which Miss Agues Vogel sang at Pittsburg's last May Festival, was heard at the recent concert of the Apolio Club in Boston Music Hall, and so pleased at least Jone auditor—Mrs. Emerson, the well-known singer—that she requested the composer's permission to make copies of the score and parts and to use them in concerts at London, Berlin, Paris and Vienna. Mr. Nevin has recently appeared as pianist in Cleveland and other Northern cities with marked success, and has concert engagements booked up until May.

SPEAKING with hearty approbation of the

SPEAKING with hearty approbation of the

Or in the "Creation," the costume of what period would fit Him who said "Let there be light" or, for that matter, any of the characters in that immortal epic whose earlier scenes no mortal eye beheld and in which even the last scene ended before mankind discovered the need of any costume whatever?

If the Musician yearns for historical accuracy in such matters, it will scarcely be able to find earlier authority than in the miracle plays of the Middle Ages, some of which are still extant. Those precursors of the modern drama were enacted upon a three-story staze—for angels, saints and mrn, respectively—with a flaming pit at the side whence issued the hideous howlings of

TURN ON THE LIGHT.

A Bill Is Taken From the State Capitol Befere Enrollment.

BOODLE CHARGES ARE PREFERRED

All in Connection With an Indianapolis Street Car Measure.

DOINGS OF THE STATE LEGISLATURES

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 28 .- In the Senate this morning there was a warm fight over what is known as the suburban street railway bill-a measure which provides that street railways from the suburbs may enter the city over the tracks of the existing line. Some weeks ago the bill passed the Sepate, but a reconsideration of the vote was ordered, though not taken. After the bill had passed the House it became necessary for the Senate to either expunge from the record the order for a reconsideration or pass

the bill anew. On the motion to expunge, the fight of this morning occurred. During the discussion, Senator Hudson stated that an undue effort to influence his vote by the street railway company had been made. Senator Burke, who was opposed to the bill, charged that ex-Governor Gray and County Attorney Spencer had taken the suburban street railway bill and carried it about town vesterday after it had passed the House and before it came back to the

The motion to expunge finally carried by a vote of 27 to 9, and the bill now goes to the Governor for his approval.

The Senate ordered an investigation of Senator Burke's charge that the bill had been taken from the Senate. Mr. Spencer says: "Mr. Gray and I had heard that the street railway company's lobby intended to get the bill and carry it away or change it in enrollment so as to run its value. Accordingly yesterday afternoon we took a copy of the bill, which we knew was correct, and went to the enrolling room of the House to compare it with the bill in the clerks' hands. We got the bill and compared it with the one we knew to be correct. pared it with the one we knew to be correct. We had it only a few minutes, and did no take it away from the State House at all. It will give us great pleasure to be investi-gated, and have the investigation presented

to both sides in this matter. During the entire time this bill has been under consideration each side has been charging the other with corruption. The other day a sensational story was sent out to the effect that the McCormick Harvester Company, of Chicago, which is a large stockholder in the Citizens' Street Railway Company, had brought its influence to bear on Senator Magee, one of its attorneys, and that President J. C. Shaffer, of the Street Railway Company, had tried to influence Senator Magee by telling him that he could make himself solid with the McCormicks by voting against the bill. Little credence was placed in the story here, where Mr. Shaffer is known.

THE LATEST SENATORIAL CANDIDATE. Illinois Republicans Will Probably Try

Director General Davis. CHICAGO, Feb. 28 .- A. M. Jones, chairman of the State Republican Committee and a number of Republican members of the State Legislature are in the city endeavoring to complete an arrangement by which it is intended that the Republican party will take up Director General Davis, of the World's Fair, as its candidate for United States Senator next week. This much is ad-

It is further known that nothing is lacking to complete the plan unless it is the con-sent of Colonel Davis, and it is believed that this has been secured. On this point neither Colonel Davis himself nor the other parties in interest will talk. It is given out that seven Democrats have pledged Colonel Davis their votes.

MUST BE A NATIONAL AFFAIR.

Fair Bill With a Proviso. DENVER, Feb. 28 .- The World' Fair bill

came up in the Senate to-day, which was passed unanimously with an appropriation of \$150,000. Senator Steek offered the following amend-

ment, which was unanimously adopted: "Provided, further, that no part of the appropriation authorized shall be audited, allowed or paid by the Treasurer of the State unless the said Columbian Exposition shall be under the entire control of the United States, and be an international exposition, and not under the control or management of the local officials of any one or more States of the United States."

Will Have Quarters in the Postoffice.

The Second Pension Examining Board was given an office in the jury room on the third floor of the Government building yesterday. The members of the board are: Drs. D. G. Foster, C. P. Seip and J. A. Holmes. They will hold their first examinations next Wednesday. The second board was appointed because the first could not do all the work.

IT would make a good sized book to tell you in detail the many advantages you would gain in patronizing the long established and well merited drug house of Jos. Fleming & Son, 412 Market street. Their stock embraces a full line of drugs, proprie-tary medicines, paints, oils, dye stoffs, per-fumery, rubber goods, Bethesda, Silurian, Bedford and many other waters, hair, nail and tooth brushes, etc., etc., all of which they sell at prices that will repay you by giving them a call when in need of any-thing in the drug line.

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An Interesting Letter The following letter is splendid evidence of the merits of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for the relief of any case of colds:

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WATERLOO, ILL., Jan. 30, 1891, Messrs. Chamberlain & Co., Des Moines, Ia.; GENTLEMEN—Your letter of recent date received to-day. Your remedies have given my customers good satisfaction, especially Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, which is considered better than any other. Respectfully yours, W. E. EILBRACHT, Druggist,

A FEATURE

Of Great Interest to Renters. The special rent lists appearing Mondays Advance Samples for Spring and Thursdays in this paper are very help-ful to home hunters. Look at them.

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House Hunters

Will find excellent lists of houses for rent in The Dispatch to-morrow. Mondays and Thursdays are special rent days.

You Should Read the Rent Lists To-morrow in The Dispatch if you are looking for a house. Mondays and Thursdays

| are special rent days.   | _   |
|--|---|
| Marriage Licenses Granted  | Yesterday.  |
| Name.  | Hesidence.  |
| William F. Rosensteel Mary C. Parsons Sydney S. Sheppard Clara M. Kurtz William A. Fetter Catherine Hashley Berman Feith Dora Wolft James C. Tuskey Margaret S. Russell William H. Justice Margaret L. F. Walker | Alleghen Alleghen Alleghen Alleghen Irwi Irwi Pittsbur Pittsbur |
| MARRIED.   |   |

BEATTY-HINDS-The marriage of Miss DA R. HINDS to Mr. HENRY H. BEATTY OF turred on the 25th at the residence of the bride's parents. Rev. J. W. Witherspoon being

the officiating clergyman. SPERRY-SMITH-Thursday evening, Feb. rnary 19, 1891, by Rev. L. N. Hayes, Allegheny, Mr. CLARENCE E. SPERRY, Manager Western Union Telegraph Company, Wilmerding, Pa. and Miss HATTIE E. SMITH, of Boyle street,

DIED.

DONNELLY—On Thursday evening, February 26, 1891, at 9:45 o'clock, in New York City, ROSELIA, wife of Charles Donnelly. Services at the Sacred Heart Church, East End, MONDAY MORNING at 10 o'clock. Inter

GLEASON—At his residence, 719 Forbes street, on Friday, February 27, 1891, at 6:35 A. M., MICHAEL GLEASON. Funeral on SUNDAY at 2 P. M. Friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend. 2 JAMES-On Thursday, February 26, at 8 P. M., DAVID JAMES, in the 67th year of his age. Funeral from his late residence, 1425 Liberty street, SUNDAY AFTERNOON at 2 o'clock. Friends of the family are respectfully invited

MAYER—At New Brighton, Pa., on Friday, February 27, 1891, at 4 P. M., EMILY OAKLEY TOWNSEND, daughter of Ernest and Emily O. T. Mayer, agod II weeks. Funeral services on SUNDAY at 3 P. M. In-

McLAUGHLIN—On Thursday, February 26, 1891, at 11:15 P. M., JAMES, son of Margaret and the late Edward McLaughlin, aged 16 years, at the residence of his mother, 58 High streat, Funeral from the residence, on SUNDAY, at 2 P. M. Friends of the family are respectfully

SPENCER—At the family home, Spencer avenue, Twenty-first ward, on Friday, February 27, 1891, at 1:20 P. M., JOSEPH SPENCER, aged 77 Funeral services at Calvary Episcopal Church, Penn avenue, East End, on Monday, March 2 at 1:30 P. M. Friends of the family

are respectfully invited to attend. STAFFORD—February 26, 1891, at 8 A. M., WILLIAM H. STAFFORD, aged 37 years 11 months 25 days.

ULRICH—On Friday morning, February 27, 1891, at 385 o'clock, WILLIAM ANTHONY, only son of William and Josephine Ulrich, aged 2 years, 5 months and 24 days.

Funeral will take place from the parents residence. No. 238 Fifth avenue on Sunday AFTERNOON at 1:30 o'clock. Friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend. 2
VOGEL—On Friday, February 27, at 9:15 P.
M., RAYMONE WARD, only son of Louis H. and the late Annie C. Vogel, aged 18 months and 19 days. Funeral will take place from residence of his

grandmother, Mrs. C. Sauth, 177 Forty-second street, SUNDAY AFTERNOON, at 30'clock. WAHL—On Friday, February 27, 1891, at 1:20 A. M., Louis Wahl, in the 51st year of his age, WALKER—On Friday, February 27, 1891, at 8:30 P. M., at his residence No. 88 Ann street, FRANCIS G. WALKER, father of Mrs. P. Dunn and Mrs. Mary Dengel.

Funeral on MONDAY, March 2, at 8:30 A. M., sharp. High mass at St. Paul's Cathedral, at 9 A. M. Friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend. WHITE-At his residence, 268 Sandusky street, Allegheny, DAVID WHITE, in his 92d

ANTHONY MEYER.

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3—Carriages for visiting and shopping, \$2
for first hour, \$1 for each additional
hour. It used a half day not exceeding five hours. 5 00

4—Carriages for operas and concerts, city
proper After 12 o'clock, midnight.....

5-Carriages for parties. 5 00
81 additional for each hour after 3 A.M.
6-Carriages to depots, city proper. 2 00
7-Carriages for church trips. 3 00
8-Carriages per hour, \$2 for first hour, \$1 for each additional hour. FUNERALS.

## WATCH BULLETINS.

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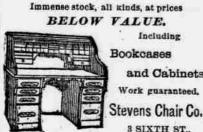
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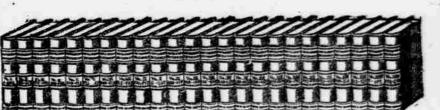
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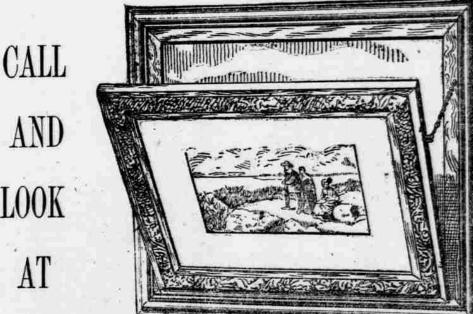
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