

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

THE performance last night at the Stadt Theater was almost as much like a concert as an opera representation. The curtain rose upon the "Maid of Fiesco," and the first act of that most dramatic of works was rattled off with a considerable amount of spirit, and upon the whole with better effect than sometimes results from the efforts of a much stronger company. Madame Lucera's Fiesco was a course highly amusing, and if her supporters were not individually brilliant they profited as a whole by her success. But at the end of this first act there came a hitch. Mrs. Lichtmay was cast for the character of the Countess, and had refused to sing. Mr. Cariborg, who has succeeded Mr. Bergmann as conductor, made a statement of the case, and created considerable amusement by reading a certificate from Dr. Willard Parker, to the effect that he had visited the lady and found her able to sing. Some selections from "Don Giovanni" were then given. Mrs. Lucera appearing as Zerlina. She made a very deep impression in the "Batti, batti," and introduced into the scene the "Valse" which she sang with much effect. The mischance of the night was very much to be regretted. The evening was very much enjoyed.

MUSICAL NOTES.

Miss Kellogg's Opera Company will sing in Brooklyn on the 25th, 26th, and 27th of March.

A company of Swedish National Glee Singers has been organized in New-York, and will give a concert at Stuyvesant Hall, on the 27th, the programme consisting of the following:

The Fifth of the Thomas Symphonic Concerts will take place this evening, the principal works to be performed being the "First Symphony," and the "Minor Symphony" of Beethoven.

The New-York Musical Society gave a charming concert on the 19th inst., the first part consisting of the usual variety of glee and madrigals, and the second of Gade's cantata, "The Elf King."

The admirers of Mme. Lucera will be glad to know that she will shortly visit the city with the company of the Academy of Music, and that she will be heard there in "La Favorita," with Sign. Campanini as Ferrando.

The following is the programme for the triennial festival of the Boston Handel and Haydn Society:

Tuesday, May 5.—Evening, Handel's "Judas Maccabaeus."

Wednesday, May 6.—Matinee by the orchestra and chorists. Evening, Haydn's Ninth Symphony, and Mendelssohn's "St. Paul."

Thursday, May 7.—Opera matinee, Mendelssohn's "Christus," and Wagner's "Die Walkure."

Friday, May 8.—Matinee by the orchestra and chorists. Evening, Haydn's Ninth Symphony, and Mendelssohn's "St. Paul."

Saturday, May 9.—Matinee by the orchestra and chorists. Evening, Haydn's Ninth Symphony, and Mendelssohn's "St. Paul."

Sunday, May 10.—Handel's "Messiah."

THE DRAMA.

CLARITY AGAIN—THE GOOD WORKS OF THE STAGE. Another and a more extensive and brilliant dramatic effort than that which was lately consummated with such gratifying success at the Academy of Music will be made next week by a combination of theatrical managers in aid of the poor of New-York.

Thursday, March 20, is appointed for the performance, and these will take place at the Union Square Theater, the Lyceum Theater, Booth's Theater, and Niblo's Garden—simultaneously, in the afternoon. Mr. Howe's play of "The Geneva Cross" will be acted at the Union Square. Miss Clara Morris, Mr. Frank Mayo, and other popular favorites will come in a representation of "Camille," at the Lyceum. Mr. Booth will act in "The Two Orphans," and Mr. Booth will act in "The Two Orphans."

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ALBANY.

RAPID TRANSIT GRIEVANCES.

MR. EASTMAN ON THE BILL FOR THE LIFTING OF HIS OWN BILL, AND THE GOOD FORTUNE OF THOSE BACKED BY MONEY—MR. LINCOLN'S REPLY. [FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.] ALBANY, March 20.—The only feature of interest in the proceedings of the Assembly to-day was a speech made by Mr. Eastman of Poughkeepsie, on a question of privilege. Finding he was not going to get an opportunity to offer a resolution to take his quick transit bill out of the Railroad Committee, Mr. Eastman effected his object by rising to a question of privilege, which is always in order. He said that he held in his hand copies of nearly every daily newspaper printed in New-York, in most of which were articles reflecting on him for not pushing forward his bill introduced six weeks ago to bring about something practical in the way of quick transit for New-York City. He then read a long extract urging speedy action on his bill, and concluding that he had not used the efforts to advance it that he ought to have done, and suggesting the possibility of his having been bought off. He also read an extract touching the haste with which Vanderbilt's bill and that of the Third-ave. Company had been reported from the Railroad Committee, to the neglect of other schemes.

THE MASSACHUSETTS SENATORSHIP.

THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINEE—MR. DAWES'S CHANCES—BUTLER'S SUSPECTED INTENTIONS. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] BOSTON, March 20.—There are but few developments in the Senatorial question to-day. The Democrats surprised a good many people by nominating Judge B. E. Curtis, in caucus to-night, and saying with an enthusiasm not too common to the Democratic party when in a hopeless minority, that they can elect him. The nomination does not arouse any interest outside, and it is difficult to imagine a combination of circumstances which will result in his election. As to legal ability there can be no question, but as to read or strong debater, and has even less personal magnetism than Adams.

The Custom-house is still firm in its belief in Mr. Dawes's success, and Mr. Butler says that "it is his fight and that he means to see it out." It seems to be generally believed that there is no understanding between Butler and Dawes; but many who believe in Mr. Dawes do not believe that he will be a very vigorous opponent to the man of whom he must see his election if successful. There are so many men—three, at least, who think they can "denude" Butler's seat, that assistance in this direction into Mr. Dawes's seat, and the matter will not be settling in the camp from that reason. Mr. Dawes himself is determined to fight until the last. He has authorized his friends to say that he wishes to be "slaughtered in open battle," if at all.

Mr. Butler's friends are doing all they can to get him to Washington, having done all he could for Hearst while here. It should be added, however, that there are those who remember that Mr. Butler has captured the Democrats with the view of winning in the fight somehow.

POLITICAL NOTES.

Congressman Niblack is still writing letters explaining why he voted for the salary grab. It seems to rest heavily upon his mind. The best way to get rid of the burden, and render all further exertions unnecessary, is to return the money to the Treasury, where it will do no harm. It won't be necessary for him to explain that act at all.

Concerning the movement for an independent State ticket in Oregon, *The Portland Oregonian* (Rep.) says: "The movement for a State ticket independent of both party organizations gains strength and volume every day. The people who have gone into the independent county movements realize that if their rights are likely to be more clearly established in county matters as a result of selecting sound, practical men to serve the public, regardless of party machinery and party affiliations, it will be necessary for them to elect such men."

Gen. Barnard is the first candidate to take the field openly for Senator Sprague's seat in the U. S. Senate. An address setting forth his qualifications for the position is published in *The Providence Journal*, and is signed by a large number of the prominent Republicans of the State. The numerous family of Brown and Ives is largely represented among the signers, and with them appear the names of Col. T. W. Higginson and ex-Gov. James V. Smith. It is evident from the address that the General's friends rely chiefly on his military record for success, and do not think Rhode Island has a good many men who are in every way better fitted than Gen. Barnard to represent their State in the Senate. It is to be hoped that the friends of the other candidates will be able to do as well.

Several of the Democratic journals in this State have begun to discuss the prospects of the Fall campaign, confining their remarks chiefly to guesses as to what the Republicans are going to do. Thus, *The Syracuse Courier* is confident that there will be a battle between the Custom-house and Dix wings of the Republican party, and seems to think that the chances for success are about evenly divided between the two. It says the Dix men have decided upon the following plan to increase their strength: "They are proposing to put a ticket for Wm. H. Robertson of Westchester on the ticket for Lieutenant-Governor, and to put a ticket for the same party on the ticket for State Senator. The ticket for the Governor is to be a ticket for the same party, and the ticket for the State Comptroller is to be a ticket for the same party. It is to be hoped that the friends of the other candidates will be able to do as well.

Philadelphia people are beginning to be anxious about their finances. The debt of the city now amounts to \$20,000,000, more than double that of the entire State. *The Inquirer* says there are some present certain bills which are to be introduced into the Senate of the City and County, which will increase the debt of the city to \$20,000,000, including the amount of \$1,000,000 for Fairmount Park. *The Inquirer* enters a vigorous protest against the proposition, declaring that if the increase is granted it will place the property of the city in peril of being sold to pay the debt. It says the proposed increase of the stock of the city is entirely unnecessary, and adds: "The truth is that our municipal government is materially more embarrassed than it is generally supposed to be. There must be a less debt and lower taxes, instead of more debt and higher taxes." And yet there are people who are so stupid as to propose to increase the debt of the city to \$20,000,000, and to increase the taxes of the city to \$20,000,000.

PUBLIC OPINION.

We warn the Republican leaders and all the organ-grinders of the party that they cannot much longer count upon a mere prejudice to keep them in power. [—Boston Herald.]

The system of motiety needs reformation. It can be done without abusing the Government, or the informer, made necessary by the dishonest practices of merchants, so long as merchants are honest and upright. If the country is to be rid of this despised creature, the merchants must do it. [—Utica Herald.]

The testimony which has been adduced before the Committee on the Judiciary in Congress, tells a story of corruption practiced and wrong inflicted by the agents and officials of the city of New-York, and by every agent of the city in any civilized country. [—Louisville Courier-Journal.]

The idea of the Government employing spies and informers to try into the affairs of the country, and to enforce enormous power to detect and punish, is a most odious and oppressive device for alleged violation of the Revenue law which has been divided between the Government and the informers, each taking a share of the proceeds. [—Indianapolis Journal.]

THE FIRE RECORD.

A fire broke out early yesterday morning in a stable owned and occupied by James Kelly, at the corner of Broadway and Nassau-sts., in Clinton, N. Y., which was entirely consumed, with their contents, including carriages, wagons, harness, hay, &c. The flames also communicated to the three-story frame building adjoining, also occupied by Mr. Kelly as a grocery store and dwelling, and which was entirely consumed. The loss on the stable and contents is estimated at \$7,500; insured for \$1,000 in the City Insurance Company, and for \$1,000 in the City Insurance Company. The stock of groceries was insured for \$1,000 in the same company, and was also the furniture, and the loss on the property is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

ON STATEN ISLAND—\$100,000.

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THE NEW-YORK STATE GRANGE.

ALBANY, March 20.—At the meeting of the New-York State Grange to-day, Mr. Babcock of Niagara, from the Committee on Resolutions, reported a series, which were adopted. Among them are resolutions approving the declarations of the National Grange at St. Louis, demanding legislation which will open and improve the avenues of traffic and produce cheaper transportation; urging the immediate repeal of tonnage laws, and a pro rata freight law; favoring the enactment of a law to regulate the business of insurance companies, and the banking laws, and approving reasonable temperance reform legislation. The following resolutions were adopted: Resolved, That the Grange of the State of New-York, do hereby endorse the resolutions of the National Grange at St. Louis, and do hereby urge the passage of the same by the Legislature of this State.

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ALBANY.

THE CONGRESSIONAL CONFERENCE.

THE ATTITUDE OF PLYMOUTH CHURCH—AN INVITATION TO BE PRESENT AT THE APPROACHING COUNCIL PROMPTLY DECLINED. At the conclusion of the usual Friday evening meeting at Plymouth Church last evening, which was much shorter than usual, an adjourned annual meeting was held, nearly all remaining. T. O. Sherman, the clerk of the church, stated that he received on Saturday, a week ago, two communications, one from the Church of the Pilgrims, and the other from the Clinton-ave. Congregational Church, containing each an invitation to Plymouth Church to be present at the Executive Council of Congregational Churches and Ministers, which will meet in the Clinton-ave. Church on Tuesday evening, these Mr. Sherman read to the members. They are almost entirely alike in form, and the resolutions adopted by the two churches, contained in the communications, have already been published in THE TRIBUNE. The latter-mentioned church, which is a Unitarian church, states that it received on Saturday, a week ago, a communication from the Moderator of the Council, in compliance with a rule adopted at the last meeting, that communications were referred to a committee, which was now ready to report.

Mr. Raymond, ex-chairman of that committee, said: Mr. Chairman, on the reception of the invitation from the two churches, your committee took the same into consideration and agreed upon the following report: Whereas, Communications have been received from the Church of the Pilgrims, and the Clinton-ave. Congregational Church, containing each an invitation to Plymouth Church to be present at the Executive Council of Congregational Churches and Ministers, which will meet in the Clinton-ave. Church on Tuesday evening, these Mr. Sherman read to the members. They are almost entirely alike in form, and the resolutions adopted by the two churches, contained in the communications, have already been published in THE TRIBUNE. The latter-mentioned church, which is a Unitarian church, states that it received on Saturday, a week ago, a communication from the Moderator of the Council, in compliance with a rule adopted at the last meeting, that communications were referred to a committee, which was now ready to report.

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