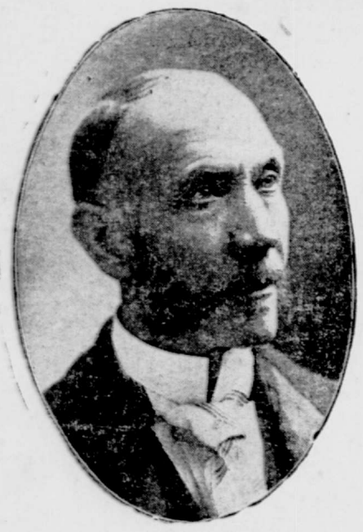
MUSICAL NOTES.

THE WEEKLY CALENDAR—ORGANISTS LONG IN SERVICE—G. F. LE JEUNE AND JOHN HYATT BREWER—EDWARD VII AND BOY CHOIRS—BLANCHE MARCHESI AS BRUENNHILDE.

Sunday—St. John's Chapel, Trinity Parish, 8 p. m., festival service to commemorate twenty-five years of service by G. F. Le Jeune, organist; South Church, 4 p. m., special choral service, Handel's "Messiah"; Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church, Brooklyn, evening special service to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of John Hyatt Brewer as organist.

Monday—Metropolitan Museum of Art, 2 p. m., opening of the fourth room of the Crosby-Brown collection of musical instruments of all nations; No. 26 East Twenty-third-st., 8 p. m., annual meeting of the Manuscript Society.

Thursday—Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church, Brooklyn, evening, concert of the Young People's Choral Society.



G. L. JEUNE.
For twenty-five years organist of St. John's Chapel, Trinity Parish.

To-day will be marked by interesting commemorative services in two of New-York's churches. At St. John's Chapel, Trinity Parish, there will be a celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of G. F. Le Jeune's connection with the chapel as organist and choirmaster; in the Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church, Borough of Brooklyn, John Hyatt Brewer's twentieth year of similar activity will be commemorated. Both celebrations will take place in the evening, and the programmes of exercises may be found on this page after the biographical notes and comments called out by the occasion.

Mr. Le Jeune came to St. John's Chapel in 1876. He is an Englishman by birth and studied music with Sir George A. Macfarren and Joseph Barnby. His work with the vested choir of the chapel attracted much attention, especially after he began a series of choral festivals, which for many years were given monthly from October to June. The amount of work which he managed to do with his choir with two or three rehearsals a week may be judged from the fact that within six years from the beginning the following oratorios and cantatas had been sung at the festivals—namely, "The Creation," "Elijah," "St. Paul," "The Prodigal Son" (Sullivan), "The Holy City" (Gaul), "Lauda Sion," "Abraham" (Molique), "The Last Judgment," "Jubilee Cantata" (Weber), "Gallia" (Gounod) and "Ruth" (Gaul). Mr. Le Jeune is himself a composer, and has placed to his credit many hymns and anthems, besides two communion services, a mass and two operas. Among his hymns the palm for popularity is shared by "Jerusalem the Golden" and "Light of Light." Long years ago, when the writer of this note was studying the vested choirs of New-York for the purposes of an article which appeared in Harper's Magazine for June, 1888 (it is reprinted in "The Review of the New-York Musical Season" for 1888-'89) he learned that Mr. Le Jeune's method of training the voices of his choir boys differed from that of the majority of the choirmasters of the city in that he forbade absolutely the use of the chest tones. This was not because he believed that boys' chest tones cannot be used effectively, but because he held it to be impossible to bridge over the break between the registers in the three or four hours of study each week permitted by ordinary church appropriations.

Mr. Brewer's work as organist and choirmaster has been done chiefly in the churches of other denominations, but he began as an Episcopal boy chorister and solo singer. He was born of Scotch-English parentage in Brooklyn on January 18, 1856. As boy soprano he first sang at eight years of age in St. John's Episcopal Church, Brooklyn, where Frank Gilder was organist. Two years later he went as solo soprano to Zion Church. The organist here was Dr. H. E. Cutler, whose name is closely identified with the permanent introduction of vested choirs in New-York, as shall appear later. He next went to Trinity Chapel, where, with Dr. W. W. Walter as organist, he sang a year, only to return to St. John's in Brooklyn, where he remained until at fifteen his voice broke. In this engagement he received $300 a year, which was then considered very high pay for a boy singer. A year after he quit singing he obtained his first position as organist. It was at Trinity Park Chapel, where he stayed two years, going thence to the Church of the Messiah for four years, thence to the Clinton Avenue Congregational, also for four years, and thence to the Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church on the first Sunday in May exactly twenty years ago. In these twenty years Mr. Brewer has been absent from his post three Sundays only—one when called out of town by a death in the family, and two when he was seriously ill two years ago.

Mr. Brewer's forces consist of a solo quartet and chorus choir. In the course of his term of services the following singers have been members of the solo quartet: Sopranos: Mrs. E. J. Grant, 1881; Miss Hattie W. Schroter, 1882; Miss Alice M. Whitacre, 1883-'85; Miss Marie Van, 1885-'95; Miss Ethel Anne Chamberlin, 1896; Mrs. Lillian Sherwood Newkirk, 1897; Miss Mary H. Mansfield, 1898; Miss Lida Frank Price, 1899 to date. Contraltos: Miss Emma Wilkinson, 1881-'90 (died in November); Miss Tirzah Hamlen (now Mrs. Ruland), 1891 to date. (Miss Hamlen was one year in Europe, her place being supplied by substitutes.) Tenors: Charles H. Thompson, 1881-'85; Eugene Clarke, 1886; William R. Williams, 1887-'96; Vernon Hughes, 1897; Barclay Dunham, 1898 to date. Basses: Mr. Hyman, 1881; John F. Saunders, 1882-'83 (E. S. Chapin, six months); Mark H. Burch, 1884-'88; Frederick Reddall, 1888-'97; Hugh Williams, 1898 to date. Since 1883 Mr. Brewer has maintained bi-monthly services of song, the original suggestion having come from Dr. Cuyler, the last decade of whose services at Lafayette Avenue Church coincided with the first decade of Mr. Brewer's. At these services cantatas and voluminous selections from oratorios are given, the list thus far numbering over thirty works. Upon succeeding Dr. Cuyler, Dr. Gregg, who came from Boston, instituted an annual forefathers' service on the Sunday evening falling nearest to forefathers' day, December 21. At these services music of the olden time is sung. Mr. Brewer has been member and conductor of many musical organizations. His education is wholly American, his teachers having been Dr. William H. Walter, Dr. H. E. Cutler and James H. Wilder, voice; Rafael Novarro, pianoforte and harmony; Dudley Buck, organ, counterpoint, fugue and composition, and W. A. M. Diller, V. W. Caulfield and S. B. Whitely, organ. His compositions number about one hundred.

Reference having been made to Dr. H. E. Cutler's connection with the introduction of vested choirs in New-York, the story is here retold from the essay, which, as has been mentioned, appeared in "Harper's Monthly Magazine" in June, 1888. It acquires some appositeness and curious value from the fact that Dr. Cutler's ally in what was then not altogether an innovation was the present King of England. For nineteen years before 1858 Dr. Edward Hodges was organist of Trinity Church. In that year he went to England, in the hope of recovering from a stroke of paralysis, and Mr. Cutler was invited to come from Boston to act as substitute during his vacation. He had been in charge of a vested choir in the Church of the Advent, in Boston, and the ritualistic party, already strong in Trinity, found in him an enthusiastic leader. While he was Dr. Hodges's substitute he could not effect a change in the constitution of the choir; but, it being found in 1859 that Dr. Hodges could not resume his duties, Mr. Cutler was appointed to succeed him. There were boys in the choir at the time, but none capable of singing the solos, and until such were secured Mr. Cutler continued the mixed quartet to whom Dr. Hodges had been wont to intrust the solo work. Not long afterward, however, Mr. Cutler found two capable boys named Robjohn (now Caryl Florio) and Henry Eyre Browne, dismissed all his women singers, and the first decisive step toward a surpliced choir had been taken. The next step followed quickly: With the consent of the vestry he moved his choir from the organ gallery to the seats reserved for the scholars of the Sunday school, and when they were found to be in the way there they were moved into the chancel rather than back to the gallery. A "pious member of the congregation" now presented a set of choir vestments to the vestry, but the opposition to everything that savored of Romanism was still too strong to justify an attempt to put the boys into them, and they were stowed away.

Now it was that Mr. Cutler found a powerful, if unconscious, ally. In the fall of 1860 New-York prepared to receive a visit from the then Prince of Wales, now King Edward VII. He was to be in the city from the 11th to the 15th of October, and, the 14th being Sunday, he accepted an invitation to attend services at Trinity Church. Mr. Cutler's opportunity was arrived. Without delay he and his associates in the cause laid before the church authorities a request for permission to use the idle vestments. Their argument was as simple as it was effective. They represented that the spectacle of a lot of boys sitting in the chancel, in roundabouts and assorted neckgear would surely be disturbing to the Prince's sense of propriety. Forthwith Mr. Cutler was instructed to put the boys in the newfangled frocks for the edification of the Prince, and, lest the wearers should mar the solemnity of the occasion by awkward movements in them (they were plain robes of white, reaching to the floor, with black ribbon ties for the neck—"very like a nightgown," said one of the choir, in relating the story to the writer, "and we were afraid we would stumble in them"), they were donned two or three Sundays before the Prince's visit for rehearsal. It had taken a long time to get the choir into vestments, but, once in, it was not taken out. Surpliced choirs had come to stay in Trinity parish.

MADAME BLANCHE MARCHESI.
As Brünnhilde.

Following is the service list arranged for the festival service at St. John's Chapel this evening:

Hymn, "See the Conqueror Mounts in Triumph."
G. F. Le Jeune
Preces and Responses.....Tallis
Lord's Prayer.....Le Jeune
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis.....Marks
Anthem, "The Transient and the Eternal".....Romberg
Hymn, "Nearer, My God, to Thee".....
Choral march, "Light of Light".....Le Jeune
Recessional hymn, "Sion, the Marvellous Story"..Le Jeune
Organ Postlude, Fugue, E minor.....Bach

Programme of the anniversary service of Musical Director and Organist John Hyatt Brewer in Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church, Brooklyn, this evening, solo quartet and choir:

Organ Prelude:
Invocation.....Salome
Andante (with 'cello).....Brewer
Anthem, "The Lord Is My Light".....Parker
Hymn, "Holy, Holy, Holy," tune, "Nicæa".....
Duet, "My Song Shall Be Always".....Mendelssohn
Anthem, "The Morning Star".....Prætorius
Offertory solo, "Judge Me, O God".....Buck
Hymn anthem, "O Lamb of God".....Brewer
Solo for contralto, "Like As the Heart".....Allitsen
Chorus, "Unfold, Ye Portals".....Gounod
Hymn, "Rise, My Soul," tune, "Amsterdam".....
Benediction, sentences from "Elì".....Costa
Organ Postlude.....Brewer

For his reproduction of "Coriolanus" in London Sir Henry Irving commissioned Sir Alexander Mackenzie to write the music. The outcome was a prelude, two pieces for between acts and a quantity of more or less fragmentary incidental music. Concerning these compositions a musical critic wrote:

The music to "Coriolanus" has nothing of the archaic about it. But, equally, it is free from the undue complications that a too modern touch might have given it. Sir Alexander's themes are strenuous, severe or gracious, just as the occasion demands, while his treatment is always that of one who respects his art as sincerely as he loves it. The prelude is quite an important piece in its way, the most engaging of its subjects being one that is constantly associated with the women of the play. To this, as well as to the two entr'actes—the first entitled "Voces Populi" and the second a very characteristic march—the outside hearing will, we hope, soon be given.

There is a picture on this page which shows what Mme. Blanche Marchesi looked like when she effected her operatic debut in Prague a few months ago as Brünnhilde in Wagner's "Walküre." Some of the incidents of that debut are told in a recent article and interview, printed in "The Pall Mall Gazette." The following is one extract:

Only one complete rehearsal of such a tremendous work seems incredible. But Marchesi's faculty for acting had its drawbacks. The manager took it quite too much for granted that she was au fait with every detail of stage business, and only by a narrow chance was a tragedy averted. Even at the very commencement of the opera there arose a question: Had Madame made the ascent of the mountain? Well, Madame had not, and it was considered imperative that one attempt in private should be made, and so, although the fanfare had resounded throughout the house to herald the rising of the curtain, Marchesi had to rapidly go up the mountain side, and she found that the green cloth that represented a grassy path concealed many a trap for an unwary step in innumerable ledges of wood that could not have failed to trip her up if taken unawares.

"And this was not the worst," said Madame, "for conceive my sensations at that moment in the second act when Sefgmund is discovered fighting up in the clouds, and it dawned on me that in an instant I was to be there with him. But how? I had really no conception of the way in which I was transported from earth to sky. I rushed to the back of the stage, for not a minute had I to lose. I found four workmen waiting for me. 'Stand here at once, madam!' they called to me, and I stepped on a small elevator that was nothing but a square board, just large enough to stand upon, and with one iron support at the back. It rose immediately, but horror! what had I to do when it should stop? I knew nothing of the business. Happily at that moment Wotan appeared, and hastened onto another elevator.

"'Wotan, Wotan!' I screamed, for I did not know his name, 'tell me what it is I do when I reach the top. Do I get off this board and go to Siegmund's side?'

"'For heaven's sake, madam,' he shouted back, 'do not move a step from where you stand. If you do you must fall to the bottom and be crushed to death. Hold on with one arm tight to the iron rod.' By that time we had reached the top, and as I sang I looked down and shuddered as I saw the fall I might have had. Never shall I forget the last scene! As I lay on my couch with the fire flaming all around me, the exquisite music dying away, I felt that everything was finished. The happiness was too great, and I only wished to rest. The curtain rose three times again, but still I could not move."

It is a whole year before the spring of 1902, and many things have been promised in Paris that are yet to be given. Nevertheless, it is interesting to note that the representative of Mme. Wagner and the Wagner family, Herr von Gross, of Bayreuth, has been in consultation with Director Gailhard touching a production of "Siegfried" in Paris next year, with the parts distributed as follows: Siegfried, Jean de Reszke; the Wanderer, M. Delmas; Alberich, M. Renaud; Mime, M. Lafitte; Brünnhilde, Mlle Akté.

Mr. Alexander Lambert and his pupils of the New-York College of Music will give their last concert at Mendelssohn Hall on the evening of May 24.

A new choir will begin its activities under the direction of J. Warren Andrews at the Church of the Divine Paternity this forenoon. The choir is composed of Miss Estelle Harris, soprano; Miss Cornelia Marvin, contralto; Albert Quesnel, tenor, and Gwilym Miles, barytone.

At South Church this afternoon will be begun a series of four special choral performances, to be given on the Sunday afternoons in May. They will be devoted, in order, to Handel's "Messiah," Gounod's "Redemption," Mendelssohn's "Elijah" and Haydn's "Creation."

The annual meeting of the Manuscript Society, for the election of officers, etc., will take place at the society's office to-morrow evening. It seems likely that the meeting will decide, temporarily at least, the question of the continued existence of the society; at any rate, it will consider the report of the special committee appointed to consider and submit a plan for the reorganization of the society.

JOHN HYATT BREWER.
Twenty years organist of Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church, Brooklyn.

Mr. Hermann Hans Wetzler will enter upon his service as organist in the Collegiate Church, Fifth-ave. and Forty-eighth-st., to-day. The choir, solo quartet only, will be composed of Marie Kunkel Zimmerman, soprano; Gertrude May Stein, contralto; Ion Jackson, tenor, and Julian Walker, basso.

Personal gossip from an English journal:

Apocryphal daughters for two eminent musicians have just been found by the Italian papers. One is supposed to be the daughter of Berlioz, who recently came a long journey to hear M. Alvarez sing at Monte Carlo, in Berlioz's "Faust." She is eighty-five, and was carried in a chair. If this interesting lady really is eighty-five, she must have been born when Berlioz was twelve. As a matter of fact, Berlioz's only child was a son, a naval officer, who predeceased him.

The other story is stranger still. It is told by the Genoa "Secolo," and is to the effect that Verdi left a daughter, Maria, the mother being (of all persons in the world) Malibran. Considering that Malibran died at the Manchester Musical Festival in 1836, when Verdi was a half starving organist at Busseto, the whole affair seems preposterous. The lady is said now to be a shopkeeper at Rio, and, according to the same authority, she came to Busseto in 1898, and was received by Verdi with great affection. But the composer seems to have made no mention of her in his will.

The Young People's Choral Society, assisted by the quartet and chorus choir of the Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church, Brooklyn, will give a concert in the church on next Thursday evening. John Hyatt Brewer will direct.

"The Daily Mail," of London, endures a Vienna correspondent who sent a dispatch last Friday stating that beginning in October Mascagni would give concerts for eight weeks in the United States with an orchestra of eighty players and receive $10,000 a week.

The fourth room containing the Crosby-Brown collection of musical instruments of all nations will be opened at a reception to-morrow afternoon at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Under the direction and with the authorization of Mrs. Brown the museum recently issued a handbook covering the instruments in Gallery 27. An introduction to the neatly printed pamphlet discusses the origin, history, scope and arrangement of the collection, and there are a number of illustrations. The instruments in Gallery 27 are specimens from China, Japan, Corea, Siam, Burmah, India, Asiatic Russia, Persia, Turkey, Arabia, Syria and Palestine, besides European instruments with keyboard. Similar handbooks will deal with the remaining sections devoted to instruments from Africa, America, Oceanica and Europe.

STUDENTS MEET THEIR NEW DEAN.

PRESENTATION OF BOOKS TO THE RETIRING ACTING DEAN OF BARNARD.

Considerable social activity attended the installation last week of the new dean of Barnard, Miss Laura D. Gill. Immediately after the formal ceremony on Wednesday, which has already been described in The Tribune, Miss Gill held an informal reception at which most of the undergraduates had an opportunity to meet their new head. Refreshments were served in the various reception rooms of Fiske Hall, where the throng of black gowned students and brilliant hooded professors remained until 6 o'clock. On Friday the undergraduates gave a reception to their friends. The academic stateliness of Wednesday contrasted sharply with the fluttering, white gowned sprightliness which filled Brinckerhoff Hall on this occasion. The rooms were decorated with nets, rackets, golf sticks, foils and other sporting paraphernalia, while in the theatre the musicians kept the dancers going at a brisk rate. The receiving committee consisted of Miss Hudson, '01; Miss Pollak, '01; Miss Totten, '02; Miss Allen, '02; Miss Skinner, '03; Miss Spencer, '03; Miss Embery, '04, and Miss Stobo, '04.

Though gratification at the prospect of having a permanent dean was universal at Barnard, the retirement of Professor Robinson, acting dean for many months, was deeply regretted by all the students. And in order to show their regard for him, on Tuesday, the last day of his administration, at a meeting of the Undergraduate Association, the students presented him with an Elzivir edition of Cicero. Professor Robinson made a farewell speech, in which he declared his pleasure at having had an opportunity while acting dean to know more of the students than his position as professor of history had allowed him.

TAMMANY SOCIETY MEETING.

The Society of Tammany will meet at Tammany Hall to-morrow night. Several new members will be initiated. The usual committee to take charge of the Fourth of July celebration will be appointed. The anniversary of the society falls on May 12. This is Sunday this year, so the occasion will be celebrated on the 13th. The newly elected officers will be installed at this meeting and a grand sachem will be selected. It is probable that Thomas L. Feitner, the present incumbent, will hold over.

STUDIO NOTES.

Albert Mildenberg, composer and pianist, will produce his new romantic opera, "The Wood Witch," on May 29 for the benefit of the International School for Girls, in Madrid.

The New-York School of Expression gave a recital last evening at the West Side Branch of the Young Men's Christian Association, No. 318 West Fifty-seventh-st. The graduating exercises of the school will be held on the evening of May 15 at Carnegie Lyceum. Invitations may be had by applying to the school, No. 318 West Fifty-seventh-st.

S. G. Pratt's pupils gave their fourth concert of the season on Friday evening. Miss Nellie Yale, of Norwich, N. Y.; Miss Vivian Pratt, of Brooklyn, and Mrs. B. H. Lewis made first appearances. Miss Anna Strothman, Miss E. B. Southwick, Miss Nellie E. Andrews, Lulu Eggleston and Master Thibault also took part.

F. W. Riesberg has been busy of late as accompanist, among his engagements being: April 13, musical at Brady Mansion, in West Eighty-sixth-st.; April 15, at Sorosis, musical; April 22, at the Montclair Club; April 23, lecture recital at Public School No. 61; April 25, same at Public School No. 82; April 26, Stender vocal recital, Mendelssohn Hall; April 29, lecture recital, Columbus Hall, under the auspices of the Board of Education; April 30, Beardsley concert, Pouch Mansion, Brooklyn; May 4, Brounoff concert, Educational Alliance.

NOTES OF THE STAGE.

The five hundredth performance of Miss Anna Held in "Papa's Wife" will be given at the Grand Opera House on Tuesday evening, when souvenirs and photographs of the actress will be distributed. The opening performance will be given to-morrow night, at which time the Century Wheelmen's Club is to attend in a body.

Miss Henrietta Crosman in "Mistress Nell" has been greeted by crowded houses at Wallack's since her return to this city last Monday. Her management has now decided to continue the run of the play at Wallack's well into the summer.

"In a Balcony," with Otis Skinner as Norbert, Eleanor Robson as Constance and Sarah Cowell Le Moyne as the Queen, will have a single presentation to-morrow afternoon at the Knickerbocker Theatre. This will be preceded by "The Land of Heart's Desire," by W. B. Yeats. Harold Russell, Mabel Tallaferro, Ada Dwyer, Nora O'Brien, Frank Conner and Oscar Eagle are in the cast of "The Land of Heart's Desire."

Charles Frohman is still negotiating through his representative here for the cancellation of all out of town contracts calling for "Diplomacy" engagements after the limited run of the piece at the Empire Theatre. It is not yet known whether he will succeed in transferring the production to London, as is contemplated. The play is still enjoying full houses.

Ethel Barrymore and "Captain Jinks of the Horse Marines" are to remain at the Garrick Theatre until the house closes for the season. "Captain Jinks" has already had a very long run, its 150th performance being only two weeks off.

Mme. Odilon, who has been playing at the Irving Place Theatre, will sail for Europe on Thursday next on the Hamburg-American liner Fuerst Bismarck. On Monday and Tuesday evenings the last performances of Fulda's comedy "The Twin Sister," with Mme. Odilon in the title role, will take place, while at the extra—Wednesday—matinee "Faithless" will be produced.

This is the last week at the New-York Theatre of "The Giddy Throng," which will be followed by "The King's Carnival." The former will then open at the Boston Theatre on May 13. The book of "The King's Carnival" is by Sidney Rosenfeld and the music by A. Baldwin Sloane. Those included in the cast are Marie Dressler, Adèle Ritchie, Laura Burt, Harry Bulger, "Dan" McAvoy and Jessie May. Travesties will be introduced on current plays such as "In the Palace of the King," "When Knighthood Was In Flower," "Under Two Flags" and "The Climbers." The programme for this week includes "After Office Hours," with "Dan" McAvoy and Jessie May; "The Devil's Dream," "The March of Old Glory," the Aklos Family and an olio. To-night there will be a concert.

A series of three farewell matinees will mark the close of Julia Marlowe's New-York season, which ends Friday evening, May 31. The dates set for these special matinees are Wednesday, May 22; Tuesday, May 28, and Thursday, May 30. Seats for the entire month of May are now on sale.

Amelia Bingham and her company, in "The Climbers," to-morrow night will inaugurate the fifth month of their stay at the Bijou Theatre. No date has been fixed for the termination of the run.

The Drury Lane melodrama "The Price of Peace," will begin its last week at the Broadway Theatre to-morrow night, the final performance being scheduled for next Saturday night. After this date the Broadway will remain closed until fall.

At Koster & Bial's this week "Nell Gwynne" will be produced by the Maud Daniel Opera Company, and new scenery and costumes have been provided for the occasion. There will be vaudeville performances in conjunction with the opera.

Nat M. Wills heads the bill at Pastor's the coming week, followed by Miss Hilda Thomas, who will be assisted by Lou Hall; Harry C. Stanley and Miss Doris Wilson, in their musical comedy entitled "Before the Ball"; Fox and Foxie, "The Clown and His Dog"; the Crane Brothers, the original Mudtown Rubes, in a comedy of rural character; McBride and Goodrich, singers, dancers and character changes; Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Darrow, novelty art illustrators; the Two Cyrenes, acrobatic dancers; the Razarfs, introducing magic and illusion; the Brooks Brothers, singing and dancing comedians; Harry and Rhetta Deaves, miniature theatre manikins, and Keene, comedy juggler.

Among the new moving pictures that will be shown at the Eden Musée the coming week are a number of foreign scenes. One is of the Ganges River, in India, and another of the Great Wall in China. New mysterious pictures will be shown and additions made to the wax groups. In the afternoon and evening are concerts.

At Proctor's One-hundred-and-twenty-fifth Street Theatre the three act comedy "Pink Dominos" and the curtain raiser "Our Bitterest Foe" will be produced this week. The variety specialties between the acts will be O'Meer Sisters, acrobats; Jess Dandy, in Hebrew parodies, and the three De Rigney Sisters, comediennes. The comedy "Confusion" will be presented for the week of May 13.

"Cissy" Loftus will be the headliner at Keith's this week. There are also two sketches on the bill—"Captain Impudence," presented by Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Milton Royle, and "Dickey," presented by the Clayton White and Marie Stuart Company. Others are Harry Gilfoil, as "The Baron;" the Willis family, with their musical instruments; Vernon, the ventriloquial comedian, and Galetti's troupe of performing monkeys. There are fifteen other numbers on the programme, including Barney and Kelly, Irish comedians; the Herald Square Quartet; Trask and Gladden, dancing artists; Hill and Whitaker, banjoists, and Arvello, equilibrist.

This is the last week of the run of "Madame Butterfly" at Proctor's Fifth Avenue Theatre. Those who figure in the variety performances for the week are "Billy" Clifford and Maud Huth, in a farcical singing skit; Joseph Hart and Carrie De Mar, their second week, in a new farce; Prelle's talking dogs; Jules and Ella Garrison, in "A Bit of Nonsense;" the Keatons, acrobatic comedy; J. H. McCann, concertina soloist, and the kalatechnoscope. On May 13 F. F. Proctor's stock company opens at the Fifth Avenue Theatre with Roland Reed's comedy, "The Woman Hater."

F. F. Proctor's stock company will give its first performance this week at Proctor's Twenty-third Street Theatre with the production there of the musical comedy "Cinderella at School" and several variety features. On the vaudeville programme appear the names of Lillie Western, the musical artist; the Doherty Sisters, comediennes; Tegge and Daniels, Dutch comedy, and Kathryn Pearl, vocalist. Sunday concerts are given in all of the Proctor houses from 1:30 to 10:30 p. m.

The eighth performance of the Harlem Wheelmen's Minstrel Troupe will take place on Monday evening, May 13, at the Harlem Opera House.

Leo Ditrichstein's adapted comedy, "Are You a Mason?" is to be presented at the Harlem Opera House to-morrow night. The run of this play at Wallack's was ended by the introduction there of "Mistress Nell."

The summer season of the Metropolis Theatre opens to-morrow night with James Tillotsin's drama, "Queena, the Actress." The leading rôle is taken by Miss Belle Stevenson. "The Fatal Card" will be produced next week.

The main comedy to be produced by the stock company at Proctor's Fifty-eighth-st. theatre this week will be the three act farce, "Confusion." The curtain raiser, "In Honor Bound," will precede the main comedy, and the variety specialists listed include J. K. Murray and Clara Lane in "Heart and Hand," Clemart, the English ventriloquist, in "On the Sands," and Forman and Howlete, banjoists. "Cinderella at School" is the underline for the week of May 13.

The last but one of "Ted" Marks's popular sacred concerts takes place to-night at the Grand Opera House. Among those who will take part are Mr. and Mrs. Augustine Neuville, Frank and Don, Clarence Wilbur, "Fred" Rose, "Dan" Regan, Lillian and Minnie Anderson, Madge Fox, Master Howard, Murtha and Le Roy, Henry and Gallott and the Dixey Comedy Four.

The White Rats have arranged to give a matinée and evening concert at the American Theatre to-day.

"Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," with Daniel G. Bandmann in the title roles, will be produced by the Donnelly stock company at the Murray Hill Theatre this week.

Miss Clara Bloodgood, who is with Amelia Bingham in "The Climbers" at the Bijou Theatre, has been engaged by George W. Lederer as a member of the company he is securing to support Elsie De Wolfe next season in "The Way of the World," the new play written for the Lyceum Theatre by Clyde Fitch.

Mr. Hammerstein announces the opening of his new roof garden for May 27. It is virtually an entire new construction, taking in two roofs, that of the Victoria and Republic theatres, and covering an area of 25,000 square feet. The new roof garden is to be known as The Paradise.

TOPICS IN CALIFORNIA.

MUCH BENEFIT TO THE STATE FROM RECENT RAINS—THE FAIR ESTATE SETTLEMENT.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

San Francisco, May 4.—Heavy rains fell throughout the State in the early part of the week. The rainfall varied from less than an inch in the southern counties to three and four inches in the north. Wherever the rainfall exceeded one inch good crops of all kinds are assured, as no other moisture will be needed. The rain saved the wheat crop on the dry lands of the San Joaquin Valley, and it also helped hay in many districts. Apricots and almonds have been so seriously hurt by frost that the crop will be small. Prunes, peaches and cherries will also be a light crop. But all other fruit looks well, and the general crops, such as wheat and barley and sugar beets, will be larger than for several seasons. The rain and snow in the mountains also have had an excellent effect on the mining, for they assure the miners at work along the mother lode of the Sierra Nevada that they will have ample water for operating their mines this summer. For the last two years there has been much lost time at these mines because of the lack of water due to the light snowfall in the higher Sierras. To the State the rain was worth many millions of dollars.

The Supreme Court decision declaring the Fair trust clause will invalid, is looked upon as the forerunner of a speedy settlement of the costly litigation over the $18,000,000 estate. The big estate will now be distributed according to natural succession between the two daughters, Mrs. Hermann Oelrichs and Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt, jr., of New-York, and the one son, Charles L. Fair, of San Francisco. The executors of the will may make a fight against the division of the property, as this will deprive them of fat fees, but it is not expected they can keep the estate in court much longer. The fees of the lawyers who have fought the case for the three children, with the costs of the litigation for five years, will amount to $2,500,000, or about one-seventh of the value of the estate.

The closing of the new Southern Pacific Coast line between here and Los Angeles until certain parts of the track can be relaid with heavier rails was a wise move by President Hays, as it was impossible to make the schedule time without great danger of accidents. It is expected that the new road will be put in perfect order within a few weeks. The work is being rushed on the double tracking of the road between San Francisco and San Jose, a distance of fifty miles. A tunnel will be bored through the San Bruno Hills to shorten the route and reduce the present heavy grades. The new line will give all the suburban stations between here and San José a greatly improved service. This will stimulate the building of suburban homes at Burlingame, San Mateo, Belmont, Mento Park, Palo Alto, Main View and other places. The peninsula has great advantage over Oakland, Alameda and Berkley in that no steamer ride is necessary.

E. O. McCormick, passenger traffic manager of the Southern Pacific Company, was appointed this week to relieve William H. Mills of press advertising and transportation on this coast. This change was made at Mr. Mills's request, as he felt he could not do justice to the work when he was away for months at a stretch. Recently Mr. Mills returned from the Paris Fair, where he had charge of the Southern Pacific exhibit, and he is to have charge of the railway company's fine display at the Buffalo Fair. Earl H. Fitzhugh, who recently resigned as vice-president and general manager of the Vermont Central, is here and is to take the place of assistant to President Hays, of the Southern Pacific. Mr. Fitzhugh held for several years the position of superintendent of the middle division of the Grand Trunk Railway when Mr. Hays was its president, and it was through Mr. Hays's influence that he secured the place as general manager of the Central Vermont.

The necrology of the week includes a number of well known Californians. Among them were Charles B. Darwin, for ten years the leading criminal lawyer of San Francisco, with a large practice throughout the State; John F. English, a produce merchant and Democratic politician; General Josiah Howell, who for years was manager of the New-York Life Insurance Company in Australia, and Dr. Julius Boushey, assistant with Dr. Wolsey at the railroad hospital in Oakland.

The James Neil company has begun a successful engagement at the California Theatre, playing in "A Bachelor's Romance." In the company is Julia Dean, whose mother was so great a favorite here in the pioneer days. At the Central Theatre that venerable relic of other days, "Ten Nights in a Barroom," has been revived, and is actually doing as large a business as this house recently did with "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

Mrs. Robert Arthur Macondrey secured her divorce here this week quietly on the ground of cruelty, and she was permitted to resume her maiden name of Madge Richardson. She gave strong testimony showing the insane jealousy of young Macondrey, his excessive drinking and his failure to keep any employment, which left him dependent for support on his family. Macondrey did not appear in court, and his lawyer made no defence.

Gaston Deschamps has been delivering a course of lectures on French literature and dramatic art at the University of California to appreciative audiences.

An old State law is to be revived to close the disreputable houses in Chinatown and compel the owners of the property to see to it that their premises are cleared of these objectionable tenants. Many of the owners of the property are French people, who are now in Europe, and whose property is looked after by agents.

The largest real estate transaction this week was the sale of the Tocker property, at the northwest corner of Kearney-st. and St. Mark's Place, for $215,000. John Rosenfeld's Sons have bought a lot, 95½ feet front, on Montgomery-st., near Sacramento-st., for $94,000, an advance of $8,000 in thirty days, as the property last month was bought by Douglas S. Watson for $86,000. The Rosenfelds have bought the adjoining lot, which runs through to Sacramento-st., so that they now have a fine lot for a new building.

REPUBLICAN CLUB HOUSE MOVEMENT.

The movement for a new house for the Republican Club has been revived. General Henry E. Tremain, president of the club, and several other influential members are working on a plan. This work is expected to take some tangible form within a short time. The club at present occupies quarters at No. 450 Fifth-ave., but this building is leased.

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which operate to make the product of one piano factory excel that of another are perfectly definite,—real improvements in construction, special facilities for manufacturing. That the

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excel for both these reasons can hardly be proven in the small space of an advertisement. A perusal of our catalogue or a visit to our warerooms will not only convince you that our pianos *do* excel, but show you the reason *why*.

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AMATEUR ACTORS TO AID CHARITY.

PROCEEDS OF THE ENTERTAINMENT TO PAY SALARIES OF PROBATIONARY OFFICERS.

A worthy object is to be benefited by an entertainment to be given next Monday evening, May 6, at the Berkeley Lyceum, No. 19 West Forty-fourth-st., by members of the Amateur Comedy Club. The proceeds will be used to provide salaries for the two probationary officers recently appointed to care for juvenile criminals convicted for the first time in the Court of Special Sessions. The work to be done by these officers will be supervised by the Children's Aid Society.

The entertainment will be directed by a committee which includes Mrs. Robert Abbe, No. 11 West Fiftieth-st.; Miss Kobbe, No. 52 East Twenty-fifth-st.; Mrs. Willard Parker, No. 8 West Ninth-st., and J. Graham Phelps Stokes, treasurer, No. 229 Madison-ave.

The programme will begin with the comedietta, "A Game of Cards," presented by Miss Evelyn Harris, Harry S. Blake, James S. Cushman and Evert Jansen Wendell, the latter appearing in this play for the sixtieth time. Mrs. James Duane Livingstone will be heard in songs and Edward Fales Coward in monologue. The final number will be the comedy "Withered Leaves," with the following cast:

Sir Conyers Conyers.....Arthur M. Blake
Tom Conyers, his son.....Evert Jansen Wendell
Arthur Middleton.....Jacob Wendell, jr.
Cecil Vane, an adventurer.....Harry S. Blake
Lady Conyers.....Miss Mildred Eytinge
May Rivers, engaged to Vane.....Miss Pauline Cory

TO CRUSH THE "VAMPIRE SYSTEM."

ORGANIZATION OF HOTEL KEEPERS FOR MUTUAL PROTECTION.

The hotel and restaurant keepers have undertaken a fight against the "vampire system" of engaging waiters and cooks. The "vampire system" is that under which cooks and waiters out of employment are compelled to go to a saloon and spend their money. When the saloonkeeper thinks that this is gone, he finds them places with head waiters whom he pays for the privilege of furnishing his help. The restaurant keepers declare that this system is responsible for much of the pilfering and petty dishonesty of which hotel and restaurant employes are guilty.

The Association of Licensed Restaurant and Hotel Keepers has been organized, and a house rented at No. 30 West Twenty-ninth-st. Amandus Meyer, of Holz & Freystedt, is president of the association; Henri F. Mouquin, secretary, and August L. Janssen, treasurer.

EXHIBITION AT NATIONAL ARTS CLUB.

An exhibition of artistic glass is now in place in the galleries of the National Arts Club, and will remain until Monday, May 20. It consists of antique and modern glass, Chinese and European pieces and a large showing of modern American ware. Among those who exhibit stained or leaded glass in windows are John La Farge, Mrs. Henry Whitman, of Boston; Miss Oakley, of Philadelphia, and E. D. Sperry, of this city. From the La Farge workshops comes a large memorial window for Harvard. Mrs. Whitman shows flower pieces, among which is a water lily design. The Tiffany favrile glass is well represented by three large cases full of the "peacock" pieces, as well as the lighter toned jars, vases and bowls. A large selection from the glass collection of A. W. Drake, of "The Century" magazine, comprises many pieces—glass tankards, with holes in the sides for the fingers; Dutch bottles, with sea fights of the seventeenth century, and flasks in animal forms. Another case is full of the old Greek and Roman glass, together with dark blue old Chinese vases of thick glass and cameo snuff bottles of glass imitating porcelain, pottery and jade. The slender plant forms that Professor Köpping, of Berlin, used to evolve before he stopped his experiments in small glass are present in a few examples lent by Cottier & Co. They are specimens of Venetian and English glass, as well as modern French. Cards may be obtained from members or by writing to the secretary of the club.

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