SCULPTURE AS AN EDUCATOR

Public Commemorative Statues Should Be Artistic as Well as Realistic.

SCRANTON'S MONUMENTS SCORED

One Critic Contends That Columbus Looks Like a Grandmother and Washington Like a Guileless Bucolic—Expression of a Hope That the Sheridan Memorial Monument May Escape One Common Fault.

For the Saturday Tribune.

Are the statues that adorn Scranton's court house square inartistic? How many have thought of this question?

In the mails that reach a daily newspaper office are many letters upon many subjects. Some of these letters are unsigned and some are signed, while others effect a compromise by attaching pseudonyms. THE TRIBUNE'S rule is to print no unsigned letters and no letters with a pseudonym merely, when the subject under discussion pertains to current events, involving personal criticism. But it's a poor rule that isn't broken once. "Citizen" writes so trenchantly upon a subject of current interest that "Citizen" must be heard. In a letter to the editor, under date of Aug. 24, this correspondent writes:

"The appended clipping from last week's 'Garden and Forest' expresses so wisely and forcibly the principles which should control the erection of statues in public places that I venture to ask a reprint of it in your columns for the benefit of Scranton. The lamentable and I suppose irretrievable misfortune which has befallen the future generations of our citizens from the granite invalid in a dressing gown reaching for a glass of Sanderson's soda water, on one corner of Court House square, and the decrepit and deformed old codger which degrades the name of Father of His Country on the other, is a fearful warning of what is likely to work inconceivable corruption in the community if a halt is not called in this stone-cutter's character-murder of the illustrious.

THE STATUE OF SHERIDAN.

"This publication is opportune in view of the proposal to erect a statue of General Sheridan on another corner of the square. Of the great names of American history none is more inspiring than his, especially in a community where so many may claim the kinship of the same national parentage. A poor Irish boy, who without influential friends rose by the sheer force of his genius in his opportunity, under the auspices of American freedom, to the highest rank and 'stood before kings' as a reward of patriotism and ability to render his country noble service, ought always to be so presented to his countrymen that he would be as living and potent an inspiration to succeeding generations through all time as he was to the soldiers he led to victory.

"Those who knew him would feel it to be no less an outrage upon the memory of a great and noble man than a public calamity if he should be perpetuated in caricature as Columbus and Washington have been here. Let not unholy hands profane the sacred figures which have made our nation great. If we are to have a statue of General Sheridan only a great artist should be permitted to attempt such a great subject. Indeed, no statue should ever be allowed to be placed in public except after study and approval by competent judges. Ignorant enthusiasm often defeats its own best intention."

USE OF NEW STATUES.

The clipping alluded to consists of an editorial in Garden and Forest of August 15, entitled, "New Statues in New York." It is as follows: "No one doubts that a fine piece of sculpture greatly ornaments an urban park, square or street, and benefits the public by giving pleasure and by increasing the desire and appreciation for art in general; and if it commemorates a citizen who deserved well of the republic, it may play a potent part in stimulating patriotism and all right ambitions. Unfortunately, however, it is not as yet generally recognized that the value of a statue as an educational influence in historical, biographical and patriotic, no less than in artistic, directions, depends altogether upon its right to be called fine—upon its excellence, its interest and its charm as a work of art. Individuality of conception and skill in execution are, not less, but more, important in works of portraiture intended for the public's gaze than even in so called idealistic works. In the latter the artist is sure to have had the wish to produce a beautiful result, for otherwise there would have been no reason why he should attempt his task at all; and even if he fails to conquer all difficulties, yet there will probably be something in his work that will please us if only by contrast with the monotonous aspect of the inartistically clothed people whom we meet daily in the flesh. But when a sculptor must reproduce one of these same people, his model, in the majority of cases, will lack all beauty except of that intellectual or spiritual sort which must exist in the facial expression of a man who has worthily risen to public eminence. Only the sympathetic eye of a really intelligent artist can see this sort of beauty, and only his skilful hand can translate it into artistic beauty; and then, as regards the remainder of the form, high artistic power is needed if the aspect of the average sedentary modern man and his ugly clothes is not to prove actually distressing to the eye when done in bronze. Imagination and technical skill are both needed for the production of really fine works of art of any kind: but, we are tempted to say, they are more needed in the case of a portrait-statue of a modern man than in any other task which could present itself.

"If these facts were better understood by our municipalities and our generous fellow-citizens, our cities would hear of proposed new statues with constant pleasure, whereas now a feeling of dread is always excited until the name of an artist of recognized eminence is pronounced, or until the actual work has been seen; and in a very large proportion of cases this dread is more than justified by the outcome. For example, five new statues have recently been set up in the parks and squares of New York; the Columbus, designed by a Spaniard, in Central park; the Roscoe Conkling in Madison square, the Greeley at the junction of Sixth avenue and Broadway, the Ericsson in Battery park, and the Nathan Hale in City Hall park; and among these the last-named is the only one which can be called worthy of its cost and its place, either as giving pleasure to the eye or as likely to inspire imitative ambitions and passing thoughts in the minds of our fellow-citizens.

THE PUBLIC'S IGNORANCE.

"The general public is, indeed, ignorant with regard to all the canons and technicalities of art criticism, and can give no reasons why it prefers one thing to another. But in these cases it has utterly disproved the beliefs of those who say that the best art is therefore wasted on it—that, if it cares for a statue at all, it cares for it merely as it might care for a photograph explaining how a great man's features differed from those of his fellows. The lesson our public has thus taught those who think that less than the best art will please it, or that the best itself will not be appreciated, is all the more convincing because Nathan Hale was not a person age in whom, before it saw his statue, it took any interest at all. A year ago, we may safely say, Hale's name was probably unknown to our school children, or but vaguely remembered by them among the many minor names they had read in their American histories; and many of our most intelligent and well-educated citizens would have been puzzled to say just what his record was, and how he met his death, or why, or where. But now a little biography of Hale has been prepared for use in our public schools; the details of his execution have been discussed for months in the columns of our newspapers; every New Yorker has become familiar with his name and his title to fame; and, thanks to the example of New York, the place where he was captured—Huntington, Long Island—is erecting a memorial in his honor. And all this has been brought about simply and solely by Mr. McMonnies' figure, and because it is an impressive, an interesting and a beautiful work of art. There is no hour of any day when people, often of the lowest classes, may not be seen gazing at this statue; and the charm it has for them has been reflected through the mental atmosphere of the whole city.

"Thus a citizen who deserved well of the republic has, at once and for always, been assured his meed of popular recognition and admiration, and the education in patriotism of our citizens has been definitely advanced, while their eyes have been gratified and their taste for art has been stimulated. There is no citizen so dull but that he will perceive the difference between this statue and one lacking its good qualities. He may not be able to explain it farther than to say, or to feel, that the one interests him and the other does not. But he will always understand that some statues may please and interest him, whereas had he seen only poor works he would have remained forever indifferent to the claims of art, and skeptical as to its possibilities of affording him pleasure. Among the thousands of men and boys who find genuine pleasure every time they pass the Hale statue are many who, in future years, as private individuals or members of corporations, societies or civic councils, will have the power to influence the aspect of New York. Who can doubt that the lesson it has taught them with regard to the pleasure-giving power of works of art will then be remembered, and to our city's profit?

MONEY WORSE THAN WASTED.

"But there appear no such signs of popular admiration if one watches the other new statues we have named; and no signs of their having touched the imagination or the historic curiosity of our people if one studies the newspapers or other indications of the trend of popular thought. Yet Horace Greeley was a man in whom New York took great interest while he lived, and Ericsson's services to our country were not merely solid and serious, but picturesque enough in their manifestations to appeal to the imagination and the patriotism of our native and adopted citizens. Had the latter, at all events, been as artistically and forcibly presented to the public gaze as is the case with Nathan Hale, then we could rightly have looked for some patent manifestation of public interest in his personality and deeds. But his statue is a poor work of art, and therefore it does not attract the popular eye or touch the popular heart. It is as inefficient in historically educating the people and in really glorifying, spreading and preserving Ericsson's memory, as it is in delighting the eye and increasing appreciation for art in general. From every point of view the money paid for it has been wasted. Indeed, it has been worse than wasted, for if a statue or any other memorial does not advance the cause of true art, it must retard it.

"The lesson which, above all, we wish to enforce is that no public monument has an excuse for existence unless it is primarily and essentially a work of art. The subject may be worthy, the purpose of its erection may be commendable, but it will miserably fail to come up to the measure of its highest usefulness unless it makes a commanding appeal to the imagination of the beholder, and through this to his nobler passions. A thousand monuments have been erected all over the country to celebrate the heroism of our soldiers during the civil war. How many of them set forth with any living force the elevated patriotism which they aim to illustrate and typify? The fail because they are not instinct with the poetry which idealizes every genuine work of art. They move no one; they inspire no one. Instead of adequately commemorating the patriotic ardor of a past generation, they simply testify that the generation which erected them lacked all proper appreciation of art and its highest functions."

Li's Garments in Danger.

Washington Star.

Now that seven Chinese war vessels have been sunk by the Japanese we may expect to hear that Li Hung Chang has been divested of his sky-blue overshirt.

Gilmore's Aromatic Wine—A tonic for ladies. If you are suffering from weakness, and feel exhausted and nervous; are getting thin and all run down, Gilmore's Aromatic Wine will bring roses to your cheeks and restore you to flesh and plumpness. Mothers, use it for your daughters. It is the best regulator and corrector for ailments peculiar to womanhood. It promotes digestion, enriches the blood and gives lasting strength. Sold by Matthews Bros., Scranton.

Social and Personal

The wheel of Scranton's society has been turning most slowly for the past few weeks, owing to the absence from the city of so many of its prime movers. Pleasure seekers are, however, beginning to return home after having spent a most delightful vacation at the seashore, lakes or mountains, and we may expect soon to see social affairs begin to claim their due share of attention. During the next few weeks a decided revival is promised in a social way, as various receptions, dances and afternoon teas are on the tapis, which will add greatly to breaking the monotony of the past month or two.

"One of the prettiest home weddings of the season," says the Wilkes-Barre News Dealer, "was that of John J. Booth, of Binghamton, N. Y., and Miss Edith H. Lewis, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. J. S. Lewis, which took place Tuesday evening at the home of G. N. Lewis, brother of the bride, at 306 Luzerne avenue, West Pittston. The ceremony was performed by J. S. Lewis, the bride's father, assisted by Rev. F. H. Parsons, of Waverly, Pa. The bride, a most charming and accomplished lady, was attired in a cream silk, trimmed in antique lace, and carried white roses. She was attended by Miss Anna Lewis, her sister, and Miss Mame Pierce, of Pittston. The bridesmaids were dressed in white and carried white roses. The groomsmen were: Verg. Tabor, of Kirkwood, N. Y., and J. Lewis, brother of the bride. The house was artistically decorated with ferns and water lilies, and the effect was very pleasing. The guests from abroad were: Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Booth, parents of the groom, and Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Booth, of Kirkwood, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Keeney, Laceyville; Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Barber, Forty Fort; Mr. and Mrs. Montanye, Wilkes-Barre; Rev. and Mrs. F. H. Parsons, Waverly, Pa.; Miss Ida Sheets and Miss Sadie Davis, Miss Mattie Cronk, Fairdale, Pa.; Lynn, Pa. Mr. and Mrs. Booth will make their future home in Binghamton.

The amusement season has started in with unusual vim and vigor. The Frothingham opened its season on Wednesday evening with the production of "Richard III" by Owen D. Jones, a talented young artist, who was well supported by a company of clever players. Last evening "Hoss and Hoss" held the boards and delighted a large audience. The Academy of Music will begin the season of '94 and '95 on Monday evening. The Academy, during the summer, has undergone a great change, which has improved it wonderfully and former patrons will now find a very pretty and well appointed little playhouse. George Thatcher, of minstrel fame, and his company of merry-makers, will be the attraction on Monday evening, and will present "About Gotham," a clever mixture of comedy, catchy music, and bits of burlesque humorously performed. For Tuesday evening Manager Burgunder has secured DeKoven's "Fencing Master," which will no doubt attract many of Scranton's best people to the Academy.

An event that is looked forward to with much interest is the annual tennis tournament of the Scranton Lawn Tennis club, to be held on Sept. 7 and 8, at its grounds on Platt place. A large number of entries have already been made, and from letters received by the secretary it is thought that some of the best players in the country will compete. The tournament will consist of singles and doubles, and will be open to all comers. A long list of valuable and beautiful prizes for each event has been secured. The tournaments of this club are always interesting and awaited with much anticipation by the young society people of the city.

Miss Anna Gorman gave a duplicate whist party at her home on William street, Pittston, Tuesday evening, in honor of her friend, Mrs. W. W. Patterson, of Scranton. The following were present: Mrs. Patterson, of Scranton; Miss Mills, of New York; Miss Ward, of Baltimore; Miss Bird, of New Jersey; Miss Morris, Miss Lacoe, Miss McMillan, the Misses Phillips, Miss Mulligan, Mr. and Mrs. Trumbower, Mr. and Mrs. Northup, Mr. McMillan, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Morris, Mr. Hughes and Mr. Antrim.

Among the interesting social events that will take place in Honesdale during September is the marriage of W. H. Malia, the well-known journalist, to Miss Julia Drumm. Mr. Malia's home is in this city, but his journalistic labors have for some time caused him to make his home in the picturesque Maple City, where he met Miss Drumm, who is one of its most charming young women. Sept. 4, at 1 p. m., is the day and hour at which the important ceremoney will be performed at St John's church.

On Thursday evening a select social was given at Keystone hall, Olyphant, in honor of Miss Bernardina Corrigan, of McSherrystown, this state, who was the guest of Miss Lynch. It was a delightful affair, and the forty couples that attended spent a most enjoyable evening. There were many guests from this city, Carbondale, Archbald and other points along the valley. Yesterday Miss Corrigan returned to her home.

Mrs. W. H. Gearheart gave a most delightful tea in her new home on Monroe avenue yesterday afternoon from 4 until 7 o'clock. It was given in honor of the Misses Warner and Miss Fretz, who are the guests of Miss Gearheart. The house was most tastefully decorated with cut flowers and potted plants, while the music rendered by Bauer was most enchanting.

Society was not a little surprised the past week, by the marriage of Miss Adelaide Miller to George S. Mott, in Philadelphia, on Monday last. Miss Miller is the charming daughter of Charles Miller, of Adams avenue. The affair was a very quiet one, witnessed only by the bride's parents. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. A. J. Boyle.

The bicycle races held under the auspices of the Green Ridge wheelmen at the Driving park last Wednesday, were most interesting, and succe ded in drawing a large audience, composed of many of Scranton's society people. In the evening a smoker was held at the club house, at which a large number of members of the club and their friends were present.

Invitations have been issued by Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel Hallstead, of Mifflin avenue, for the wedding of their granddaughter, Miss Anna May Downing, to Walton Wilde Mitchell, of Utica, N. Y. The event will take place on the evening of Sept. 5.

Mrs. Lewis Jones, of West Pittston, gave an enjoyable dry whist party at her home yesterday afternoon. The prizes were carried off by Mrs. Voorhees and Miss Dean, of Wilkes Barre.

PERSONAL MENTION.

A party of Scrantonians that left yesterday for Lake Carey, where they will remain for a week under the chaperonage of Mrs. R. M. O'Brien, is composed of Misses Nellie La Gorce, of Washington, D. C.; Elizabeth Leonard, Mary Marks and Anna Conwell, and R. M. O'Brien, Charles P. O'Malley, John J. Loftus and John J. Barrett.

Some of the Scrantonians who are summering at Block Island are: Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Storrs, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Langstaff, P. B. Finley, Mrs. L. T. Mattes, Mrs. M. A. Friedlander, Arja Powell, Miss Josephson, Miss Mulley.

Rollo G. Jermyn, secretary and treasurer of the Tonkin Boiler and Engine company of Oswego, N. Y., who has been spending the past week with his parents in this city, returned to Oswego yesterday.

Mrs. William Kendell and daughter, Carrie, assistant secretary of the Young Women's Christian association, left this morning for Philadelphia, Doylestown and other places where they will visit friends.

James C. Davis, proprietor and manager of a farce comedy company entitled, "A Crazy Lot," goes to New York this morning, where his company is rehearsing for their opening, which occurs Sept. 1.

A party of Scranton young ladies who are spending their vacations at Delaware Water Gap is composed of the following: Misses Maggie Gibson, Susie and Lena Penser and Kate and Mazie Davis.

Some of the Pittstonians who called on Scranton friends during the week were: Misses Nellie Cummings, Margaret Martin, Alice Maloney, Annie Clark, Josephine Powers and Kittie Jordan.

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. McAnulty and daughter, Anna, who have been the guests of Mrs. McAnulty's sister, Mrs. C. W. Fulton, of Boulder, Col., are expected to return home today.

Frank McCawley, of the clerical force at the Lackawanna Iron and Steel company's South works, returned last week from a visit to New York, Newburg and Fly Mountain.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Bagley and daughter, Mertice, of Green Ridge, have returned from a visit to the Thousand islands, Saratoga Springs and Montreal.

Mrs. M. W. Torry and Misses Jessie Torry and Margaret Torry, of Clinton place, returned last evening from a two weeks' sojourn at Block Island.

Among the Scrantonians who are spending a portion of the heated term at Dalton, are Major and Mrs. Everett Warren and Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Kingsbury.

Mrs. Stephen Chapell, of Hagerstown, Md., who has been visiting her mother, Mrs. M. E. Thomas, of West Market street, returned home on Wednesday.

Mrs. Judson and Robert T. Black, jr., will sail for Europe on the 15th of September. They expect to spend the greater portion of the winter in Paris.

Editor E. J. Lynett of the Free Press is at the sea shore. Tomorrow's issue of that paper will be under the editorship of R. J. Beamish, of the Express.

Mrs. P. J. Sanford and daughter, of Waterburry, Conn., were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Parton, of Madison avenue, during the week.

Mrs. William Murphy and daughters, Nellie and Minnie, of Providence, R. I., were the guests of Dr. J. R. Murphy, of Dunmore, last week.

Mrs. Kate Wilcox, the well known vocal instructor, has returned from Wilmington, Delaware, where she has been spending the summer.

Frederick J. Davis of the government printing office at Washington is spending his annual vacation with relatives on the West Side.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Scott Inglis and Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Kellum visited Boston, Nantucket and Newport last week on a pleasure jaunt.

Colonel H. M. Boies and family returned to their Clay avenue residence early in the week after spending a season at Shelton island.

Miss Nellie Beamish and her guest, Miss Rebie Nogle, of Hollis, L. I., are visiting friends at Plymouth and Wilkes-Barre.

Miss Atkinson, of Hawley, and Miss Pollock, of Philadelphia, who have been visiting friends in this city, returned home.

Miss Reilly, of Mill Creek, who has been the guest of Miss Nellie Richards, of Second street, returned to her home yesterday.

Miss Nellie Kramer, who has been spending the past five weeks in Philadelphia and Atlantic City, returned home last evening.

Mrs. John Quinn, of Dunmore, accompanied by Miss Tessie McGee, of Cedar avenue, are visiting relatives at Baltimore.

Arthur Vance, of the Binghamton Republican reportorial staff, was in the city this week, a guest of E. E. Southworth.

Miss Anna Devanney and Miss Lizzie Gannor, of Wilkes-Barre, are the guests of Mrs J. F. Connolly, of Madison avenue.

Dr. and Mrs. S. Galeski and family, of Richmond, Va., are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Gallen of 326 Monroe avenue.

Miss Gertrude Jones, of New Vienna, Ohio, is now visiting her sister, Miss D. Alice Jones, of 642 Washington avenue.

Miss Florence Hartsman, of Linden street, has returned home from Atlantic City, where she spent several weeks.

Miss Nettie Nye and her friend, Mrs. Will Strouse, of Harrisburg, spent Thursday in Pittston and Wilkes-Barre.

The Misses Harris and their guest, Miss Helen Pifferling, of Washington, D. C., spent last evening in Pittston.

Miss May Jurisch has returned to her home in Green Ridge after visiting friends at Buffalo and Niagara Falls.

Samuel J. Sparkes, of Montrose, was in the city yesterday, a guest of Deputy Prothonotary Myron Kasson.

Miss Margaret Gibbs, of North Main avenue, is visiting Miss Eva Kays at her summer house in Waymart.

Morris Goldsmith and family, who have been spending the past month at Elmhurst, have returned home.

Miss Sara McLane, who has been enjoying the sea breezes at Asbury Park, will return home Monday.

Will Krotusky, who has been spending the past two weeks in Atlantic City, returned home last evening.

Mrs. George H. Scott, jr., and son are spending two weeks with Mrs. W. A. Lowry at Green Grove.

Miss Louise Barnes, of Adams avenue, leaves on Tuesday for Mansfield, where she will resume her studies.

Professor L. A. Lange, who has been summering at Lake Winola, returned home on Tuesday last.

Mrs. Philip Doersam and daughter, Mary, of Penn avenue, are spending a few weeks at Mt. Pocono.

Harry Carling, the well known electrician, has gone to Pittsburg to work with one of the long distance telephone company's corps.

Mrs. John Purcell, of New York, will arrive in this city today and spend some time visiting friends.

Mrs. Patrick Conboy and her daughter, Nellie, of Moscow, were visiting friends in the city yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Kingsbury and Judge and Mrs. H. A. Knapp are enjoying life at Sargentville, Me.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Brown have returned from Far Rockaway, where they spent the past two weeks.

Miss Lillie Bergman, of New York, who has been the guest of the Misses Moses, has returned home.

Patrick Golden, of Gibson street, is on the ocean en route for Ireland to pay a visit to friends.

Attorney S. W. Edgar returned Wednesday from a week's sojourn in Paupack, Pike county.

S. C. Hessler and family have returned home after spending several weeks at Ocean Grove.

Misses Alice and Margaret Comerford, of Penn avenue, returned from a visit to Atlantic City.

Mrs. M. H. Burgunder, of Wilkes-Barre, visited her mother in this city during the past week.

John O'Mara left on Thursday for Rochester, where he will remain for several days.

Miss Grace Bailey, of Waverly, spent the past week in the city as the guest of her father.

Miss Kathryne Nolan, of Wilkes-Barre, called on friends in this city during the week.

Franklin Howell was among the Scrantonians who visited Lake Winola this week.

Miss Kate McCracken, of Mulberry street, is spending her vacation in New York.

Mrs. D. B. Hand and family are members of the Scranton colony at Asbury park.

E. F. Smith, of Plymouth, spent the forepart of the week with relatives in this city.

Miss Grace Harah, of Uniontown, Pa., is visiting Miss Allis Dale, of Jefferson avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Raynsford are spending two weeks with relatives at Montrose.

Miss Retta Meyers, of Wilkes-Barre, visited relatives in this city during the week.

Albert Post, of the Lackawanna hospital medical staff, is sojourning at Montrose.

Miss Winifred Lake, of Boston, is the guest of Misses Boyce, of Jackson street.

Mr. and Mrs S. T. Jones, of Jefferson avenue, are sojourning at Asbury Park.

Miss Mary Shaw Mason, of Sanderson avenue, is visiting friends in Honesdale.

Miss Susie Matthews, of New street, was in New York last week visiting friends.

Thomas Moore is expected home from his European trip within a day or two.

John P. Connolly is spending his vacation with his parents at Trenton, Ont.

John Davis, lieutenant of police, is enjoying his annual ten days' vacation.

Miss Gould, of Flint, Mich., is being entertained by Mrs. James H. Torrey.

Miss Lena Sissenberger, of Penn avenue, is spending her vacation at Calcoon.

Miss Jennie Andrews has resumed her duties in the city treasurer's office.

Miss Cora Williams has returned from a visit with Wilkes-Barre friends.

Miss Josie Mahon, of Mulberry street, is visiting friends in Wilkes-Barre.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Brundage spent the past week at Tunkhannock.

P. A. Barrett, of the Elmira Telegram, is visiting friends in Pittsburg.

Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Willard spent last week in the White mountains.

Miss Honnie Ripple is the guest of Mayor Stuart of Philadelphia.

Miss Lillie Lauer is spending a few days at the Delaware Water Gap.

Mrs. J. R. Cohen and Mrs. L. Maix are at the Delaware Water Gap.

Miss Martha Freeman, of Plymouth, spent Thursday in this city.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Snover are making a tour of the eastern states.

E. T. Stover has returned from a visit with Philadelphia friends.

William McBride was in New York for a portion of last week.

Bert Wormser spent Sunday in Wilkes-Barre and Plymouth.

Miss Sue Pyle, of Moscow, visited friends in the city this week.

Mrs. Al Brown, of Pittston, was in the city during the week.

E. M. Weil, of Wilkes-Barre, was in the city on Thursday.

Arja V. Powell, is spending his vacation at Block Island.

S. Samter and family are stopping at Hotel Elmhurst.

Fred E. Stevens is spending a brief vacation at Foster.

Walter Price was in Wilkes-Barre during the week.

Architect and Mrs. E. L. Walter are at Ocean Grove.

W. G. Parke and family are summering at Montrose.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Bernstein are at Mt. Pocono.

Richard Burke spent yesterday at Lake Ariel.

Miss Mary Richards is in New York city.

Adel Moore is in Port Jervis.

How to Treat a Cook.

"Into no department in life," says Yuan Mei, a Chinese authority on cooking, "should indifference be allowed to creep; into none less than into the domain of cookery. Cooks are but mean fellows, and if a day is passed without either rewarding or punishing them, that day is surely marked by negligence or carelessness on their part. If badly cooked food is swallowed in silence, such neglect will speedily become a habit. Still mere rewards and punishments are of no use. If a dish is good, attention should be called to the why and the wherefore. If bad, an effort should be made to discover the cause of the failure."—Temple Bar.

Some of the designs in use on the oriental carpets that are so attractive to western ideas of taste have a history that reaches back to the days of Xerxes and the early Persian kings. They are handed down from generation to generation of rugmakers, mothers transmitting them to daughters, for most of the carpet weavers of the orient are women.

THE RAIN IS FALLING GENTLY.

The rain is falling gently on the brown and dewy sod,
And tiny blades are springing along the walks we've trod;
The little birds are reaching out to greet the warm soft air,
For the gentle rain is urging them to make haste and do their share.

The rain is falling gently on the maple and the pine,
As well as on the oak tree, with its clinging ivy vine;
It's falling on the apple trees, beyond the garden wall,
And on the robins, flying forth, as to their mates they call.

The rain is falling gently on the rose tree, bending low,
And the lilacs stand so stately, one can almost see them grow;
They seem to know that the warm, soft rain, will burst their buds anew,
And flowers will bloom, and birds will sing, another summer through.

The rain is falling gently on a new grave, bathed in tears,
And oh! on one beside it where the grass has grown for years;
But naught here can disturb them, those babes we loved so well,
They have reached that blessed country, of its splendors who can tell?

—Mrs. Alice Ingersoll.

CONCERNING MUSICIANS

Plans for the Winter Season Prepared in Midsummer Days.

THE MOVEMENTS OF OUR LEADERS

Richard Lindsay's Plans for the Organization of an Oratorio Society. Tallie Morgan's Scheme for Future Entertainments—Local Composers to the Front—General Notes.

The announcement that the "Fall of Babylon" is to be repeated at the Frothingham this coming winter has already aroused a great deal of interest, especially in outlaying towns. It is the intention of the management to run excussion trains from every section, and the house can easily be filled for six nights. The wonderful success of the production of the oratorio last June has made the next performances a certain success. John T. Watkins will take the part of Belshazzar, in place of Mr. Burns, and Mr. Warren will take the part of Daniel. Mr. Watkins will make a fine king, and the part will suit him better than Daniel, which character he took at the last performance. Those who witnessed the production last June will surely want to see it in revised and improved form. Rehearsals will be resumed next month.

JOHN T. WATKINS.

Musical Director Richard Lindsay, late of the Mackay-Kenney Opera company, has located permanently in Scranton and will have headquarters at 822 Mulberry street, after Sept. 1. Mr. Lindsay proposes to organize an Oratorio society from Scranton vocalists, and hopes to secure a chorus of at least 300 voices. The society will be governed by rules similar to those adopted by the musical societies of Boston, Mr. Lindsay's old home. Full rehearsals it is expected will occur as often as once a week, and from eight to twelve evenings per month will be devoted to rehearsing chorus parts separately. Honorary membership to the society entitles members to tickets for all concerts and social events under auspices of the Oratorio society. Mr. Lindsay's plan is in many respects different from any heretofore adopted in this city, and it is probable that his enterprise will add to Scranton's wide reputation as a musical city. He will be pleased to more fully explain his his contemplated enterprise to all who are interested in musical matters who will make themselves known to him. Mr. Lindsay brings first-class recommendations and is evidently competent to succeed in his undertakings.

Extended repairs are being made upon the organ at the Second Presbyterian church, and alternations will be made in the choir loft that will produce a marked improvement in the music. At the Second church as well as at several other houses of worship in this city, the acoustics were sacrificed by the architect in order that more pleasing effects might be produced in the construction. By the repairs that are now being made it is thought that the difficulty can be remedied.

We have been permitted to see the advance proof sheets of the Fall announcements of the Scranton School of Sight Singing, so successfully conducted last winter by Mr. Tallie Morgan. The names of over six hundred pupils appears in the list, and Mr. Morgan assures us that the number will be larger this winter. It is admitted by musicians everywhere that the great need of the times is a better class of music readers. This department of the art has been very much neglected in this country, and the cities of the nation are just awakening to the fact. Children and young people especially, should avail themselves of the opportunities that offer themselves for the mastering of sight reading, and in this way they will have a thorough musical education.

The "Fencing Master," De Koven and Smith's second opera, which will be given at the Academy next week, has had a fitful career. The scene opera was first located in Turkey, but upon consideration it was feared that the opportunities for attractive costuming were not sufficient if a Turkish plot was followed very closely; and at the suggestion of managers the libretto was rewritten to fit the ideas of the scene painter and costumer. Although not as successful as "Robin Hood," the "Fencing Master" is an excellent opera and has made money for author and managers.

"Told at Twilight," the beautiful ballad by George Noyes Rockwell and E. A. Niven, will be published immediately. Vocalists in two or three different companies now on the road are anxious to add the song to their repertoire, and there is no question that it will have a large sale as soon as placed within reach of music buyers.

During the past six weeks there has been quietly formed in this city an opera company composed of some of the finest voices among the young people. The class will number when completed 180 young ladies, divided into three choruses, and one chorus of men, numbering about forty voices. The company will be under the direction of Tallie Morgan, and will give "The Tyrolians" at the Frothingham on Christmas day and evening, to be followed by other performances during the week. The opera will be elegantly staged and the voices will be first class. The marches and drills in the play will equal anything ever seen on the metropolitan stage. Rehearsals will begin about the middle of next month.

Among the latest compositions by local talent, on sale at our music stores, is a charming song entitled "Nancy Flannighan." Music by J. J. Lawler, and words by Hon. John E. Barrett, editor of the Truth.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

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Saturday Evening, August 25.
EUGENE O'ROURKE
In the Comical Irish Farce,
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Also a Strong Vaudeville Company, direct from New York City.
Tickets now on sale at Powell's Music Store.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.
OPENING OF SEASON,
MONDAY, AUGUST 27.
George Thatcher's Minstrels
AND
FARCE COMEDY COMPANY
In the New Minstrel Farce Comedy in Three Acts,
About Gotham
ACT I—Interior of Gladison Ave. Hotel.
ACT II—Fete room of Seventh Reg. Armory.
ACT III—Club Rouse and Grounds of Sly Sports Club.
Sale of seats opens Friday, Aug. 24, at the box office. Prices, 25, 50 75 and $1.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.
TUESDAY, AUGUST 28.
THE FIRST OPERA OF THE SEASON.
The Highly-Successful and Melodious Opera Comique,
The Fencing Master
By DeKoven & Smith, authors of "Robin Hood," "Rob Roy," etc., presented in magnificent manner by the
WHITNEY OPERA COMPANY.
Large and Strong Company, Gorgeous Costumes, Special Scenery, Superb and Complete, and Brilliant Ensemble.
Prices—25, 50, 75 and $1. Sale of seats opens Saturday.

THE FROTHINGHAM
Two Grand Festival Concerts.
THURSDAY, AUG. 30, 2.30 AND 8 P.M.
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AND HIS
FAMOUS
New York Band
Best in the World

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Producing "Trip to the World's Fair," and the greatest historical musical spectacle,
War and Peace
The event of the present season, with the assistance of
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MISS LOUISE ENGEL, Contralto.
MR. C. C. FERGUSON, Tenor.
MR. BOWMAN RALSTON, Basso.
Marching Veterans of Griffin Post, G. A. R., fife and drum corps, etc., etc., and the

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Complete battery of rapid, electric-firing artillery, in perfect time with the music.
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