

MUSIC AND DRAMA.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

Lessee..... Mr. C. R. Bailey.
S.M. Director..... MR. GEO. MUSGROVE.
Manager..... Mr. C. B. Westacott.

LAST 10 NIGHTS

of the
NELLIE STEWART'S SEASON.
MISS NELLIE STEWART.

AND
MR. GEO. MUSGROVE'S
NEW ENGLISH DRAMATIC CO.
WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY,
CAMILLE.

FRIDAY, JUNE 18.
(For the First Time in Australasia.)
O' O' ME TUM,

AND
THE MARQUIS DE TREVILLE.
(A Three Act Romantic Farceful Play.)
BOX PLAN at Wedman and Arey's for
Six Nights in Advance.

A MOORISH MAID.
"A MOORISH MAID."
An Original Romantic Comedy Opera in
Two Acts; Music by
ALFRED HILL,
ALFRED HILL
Lyrics and Lyrics by
J. YOUNG BIRCH.
Will be presented for the first time on
any stage at
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
AUCKLAND,
ON MONDAY, JUNE 26th,
AND FIVE FOLLOWING NIGHTS.
A Costly and Magnificent Production.
With a Truly Great Cast.
THE THEATRICAL EVENT OF THE
YEAR.

Box Plan at Wedman and Arey's from
SATURDAY, 17th Inst.
Watch Future Advertisements.

On this Wednesday and Thursday
evenings "Camille" is to be given, and
amongst old play-goers expectation is on
tip-toe to see how Miss Stewart will
compare with the other artists of repute
who have essayed the great part in these
colonies.

"Music" writes to us to say that a
very old and popular musician in Auck-
land is by an illness of over ten weeks
placed in very straitened circum-
stances. This is Mr. Chas. Waud, who has
on numerous occasions given his
assistance to charities and benefacts. It
is now the occasion to give him some
assistance in return. Mr. A. Eady will
be pleased to acknowledge any contribu-
tion or other assistance.

Madame Modjeska received a benefit of
a remarkable nature at the Metropolitan
Opera House, New York, recently, when
Mrs. Patrick Campbell, Miss Ada Rehan,
Madame Ella Russell and M. Vladimir de
Paschman were among the contributors
to the performance, while Miss Loftus
sold flowers at exorbitant prices in the
lobbies. Before the box-offices opened
over £200 had been received. Mr. Paue-
rewski, who was among the first to offer
his services, sent a sympathetic letter
declaring himself increased and humili-
ated by his inability to attend. From
Madame Modjeska he had received the
first encouraging words in his career as
a pianist.

Mr. W. S. Gilbert proved himself once
again a Solomon in judgment at the
Edgware Court, London, when a chauff-
eur, charged with travelling at exces-
sive speed, pleaded he was not aware
he was driving at 20 miles an hour. "If
the driver of a motor-car," said Mr. Gil-
bert, "does not know the difference be-
tween going at 20 and 20 miles an hour,
he is not justified in being a driver." The
defendant was fined 40, and costs.

The grave of the late Dan Leno, the
King's Jester, in Lambeth Cemetery,
Tooting, is now marked by a hand-some
monument. It is in the form of a white
marble cross entwined with ivy, and
bears the following inscription: "In lov-
ing memory of my dear husband, George
Galvin, 'Dan Leno,' who fell asleep Octo-
ber 31, 1904, aged 43. Here sleeps the
King of Laughter Makers. Sleep well,
dear heart, until the King of Glory
awakens thee."

The Auckland Shakespeare Society
will give their first reading of the pre-
scent season on Thursday evening, 22nd
instant, when "Othello" will be presented
by a carefully selected cast. Mr. J. M.
Clark, of Wellington, will assist the so-
ciety on this occasion, and will read the
name-part. Among others taking part
will be Mr. McVeagh ("Iago"), Mr. Jellie
("Cassio"), Mr. Singer ("Roderigo"),
Miss Bruce ("Emilia"), Mrs. Kekwick
("Desdemona").

"Blind Man's Buff" has proved more
to the taste of Aucklanders than "Pret-
ty Peggy," which, though a pretty play,
has little stability in it. Its first scene
is frankly ludicrous, and absurd, and it
is really only Miss Stewart herself who
redeems the others from commonplace.
In "Blind Man's Buff" we have a good
wholesome play, with striking dramatic
points, of which Miss Stewart takes the
fullest advantage. The first act is per-
haps a little spun out, but thereafter in-
terest holds the audience absorbed to the
end.

On Friday a double bill will be pre-
sented at His Majesty's Theatre, Auckland,
when Miss Stewart and her company
will produce "Up o' Me Thumb," and
"The Marquis of Treville." The former
play is a London success, purchased by
Mr. Musgrove at the height of its popu-
larity. "The Marquis of Treville" has
never yet been played on any stage. That
shrewd and capable judge of plays, the
late Mr. Charles Arnold, submitted it to
Miss Stewart at the author's request.
Very great curiosity and interest natu-
rally surround the production.

"Leah Kleschna" is a "safe success,"
says the London "Era." It combines all
the strong, close construction, and least
sensationalism of a melodrama with the
deep human interest of a modern "social
realistic" play. The union is irre-
sistible. At the end of the fourth act
you could have almost heard a pin drop.
Cynical theorists, scornful of mere melo-
drama, held their breath for a while,
and even the ranks of Tuszany—that is
to say, the jaded, hack first-nighters, in
whose breasts every spark of enthusiasm
has long died down, could scarce forbear
to cheer. As for the popular parts of
the house, they shouted at the conclusion
till they must have been almost hoarse,
and remained for many minutes, getting
certain up again and again on the
three leading artists, and going home re-
luctant at not having seen the author.

The play-going public will very soon
be given the opportunity of seeing the
much-talked-of Hill-Birch comic opera,
"A Moorish Maid." The premiere is
fixed for June 26, and the season will
last for six nights. I hear most favour-
able accounts from well-informed
quarters of the way in which the new
work is developing at rehearsal. The
cast of principals alone should go a
long way to inspiring confidence in the
result of the production. Madame
Lilian Tree (backed by an operatic
career at Covent Garden, London), Fred
H. Graham is grotesque comedian, as
well-known here as in Australia and
London, Mr. Archibald Taylor (our old
friend of the amateur opera days),

Misses Marion Mitchell and Sissie
Sandford, Lucie Ehrenfried, Mr. M.
Hamilton Hodges, and Mr. H. R. Coney
—these constitute, surely, as strong a
cast of principals as the colony could
well produce.

A striking feature in "A Moorish
Maid" will be the introduction into the
beginning of the second act of a Moor-
ish carpet dance, pas seul by Miss Rose
Lennard and an auxiliary pas de deux
by Misses Clarke. This dance, which
has the accompaniment in orchestra
and chorus of a remarkable Arabic
musical number, has been taught by
Mrs. Malcolmson Boulton, who has
the stage direction of the opera. It is
said of it that it gives that peculiar Oriental
atmosphere to the work that is so suit-
able to it. Other features I hear spoken
of as very likely to catch on are a
double sextet, a topical trio by the
two comedians and soubrette, and,
amongst others, a musical sketch writ-
ten for Mr. Graham and Miss Sissie
Sandford. Mr. Birch's lyrics by no
means stop at the humorous kind, there
being several of a light sentimental
type. As for Alfred Hill's music, I am
told that for variety and sweet melody
he has never excelled it. Throughout
not only Auckland, but the whole
colony, "A Moorish Maid" is being
awaited with quite remarkable interest.

Mr. Ben Greet, who is at present en-
gaged in a series of Shakespearean re-
vivals in America, has been offered the
Chair of Dramatic Literature in the Uni-
versity of California. This is probably
the first time that an actor has been
honoured in this particular way in Amer-
ica. It is not an infrequent thing for
prominent players to be called upon to
address classes at the great universities,
and both in America and England the
custom of inviting members of the the-
atrical profession to lecture upon the
drama has long been a part of the pro-
grammes of the leading institutions of
learning. Sir Henry Irving first delivered
his famous lecture on "The Art of Act-
ing" to the students of Harvard in 1885,
and he has been heard on various occa-
sions in other American colleges. Mr.
Greet is generally recognized as an au-
thority on early and Elizabethan drama,
and when his company was in California
the university people insisted upon a re-
turn appearance of himself and members
at the university theatre. In all he was
three months on the Western coast.

The Criterion (Sydney) was packed in
every part when Mr. George Stephenson's
brilliant musical comedy company ap-
peared in "Bill Adams" or "The Bloke
Wot Won Waterloo"—a musical and
terpsichorial extravaganza of the most
popular order. Mr. Edward Lauri, as
Bill, caused shrieks of merriment. May
Beatty ("Margot") looked good enough to
eat as Lady Bingo Barr. Miss Roland
Watts-Phillips was a strong pillar of
power; while Charles McNaughton was
excellent as Major Brussels Sprouts, Ar-
thur Lissant, Harold Reeves, W. and C.
Bovis, Roy Sydney and Sutton filled the
various parts ably; and May Garstang
and Alice Nixon did good work. In his
songs, "I Am Mr. William Adams" and
"The Fighting Things-ny-bobs," and
dances, Lauri was grotesquely funny.
Miss Beatty has no less than six chances
to air her splendid voice and style; both
artists being repeatedly recalled. Miss
Garstang was immense in her songs,
"Honey-moon" and "Honey-suckle Island."
"Bill Adams," whether he won the battle
of Waterloo or not, certainly won Syd-
ney outworks, ramparts and citadel. It
was an unconditional surrender! "Bill
Adams" comes to New Zealand anon.

The Miss Rose Yates, whose portrait
appears on page two of this issue under
the mistaken title of Miss Maud Yates,
is a daughter of Mr. R. Yates, one of the
"old time" musicians of the colony. Mr.
Yates is a most admirable violinist, and
has proved a most valuable member of
local orchestras for many years past,
having taken the important position of
leader of both first and second violins in
some of the most notable concerts and
operatic performances given in Auck-
land. He has a genuine love of music,
and is perhaps as shrewd a judge of or-
chestral work as could now-a-days be
found. An older sister of Miss Rose
(winner of the Trinity College Senior
Exhibition), Miss Ada Yates, is also
very well known in musical circles, both
as a teacher, pianoforte soloist, and an
exceptionally able accompanist. In the
palm days of the Auckland Amateur
Opera Club, Miss Yates invariably acted
as accompanist, and in that capacity
brought an amount of enthusiasm and

hard work to bear, and a good nature and
good temper under difficulties, which
earned the hearty goodwill and respect
of all brought into contact with her, and
contributed not a little to the many suc-
cesses scored by the club years ago. Miss
Rose Yates, who was taught entirely by
her sister, is evidently endowed with
the family talent for music, and her
early success as recorded on page two
will bring many congratulations, and
good wishes for further advancement.

FRY'S "FIVE BOYS" Milk Chocolate

Guaranteed to be Manu-
factured from the Purest
Chocolate and the Purest
Milk.....

OBTAINABLE EVERYWHERE.
IN THREE SIZES, viz.
1d. Cakes, 3d. Cakes, and
6d. Cakes.

MANUFACTURED SOLELY BY
J. S. FRY & SONS
(Established 1720.)

The Oldest and Largest Manufacturers
of Coconuts and Chocolates.

Mr W. H. Webbe's
School of Music
Grafton Road.

Open Musical Evenings
— and —
Pupils' Pianoforte Recitals

MAY 4
Miss Maud Anderson's Pianoforte
Recital.

JUNE 1
11th Open Evening for Visitors.

JULY 6
Miss Madeline Webbe's Piano-
forte Recital.

AUGUST 3
Miss Gertrude Spooner's Piano-
forte Recital.

Town Studio:
SHORTLAND STREET, London and
Berlin Piano Co.

Epsom Studio:
Miss SPOONER, Ranfurly Road.

Card of Terms on application.