

# Music and Drama.

Under the Distinguished Patronage and  
of the Presence of His Excellency the  
Governor, Lady Ranfurly, and Suite.  
**OPERA HOUSE.**

**AUCKLAND BANJO, GUITAR AND  
MANDOLIN CLUB.**  
(REGISTERED.)  
GRAND CONCERT.  
FRIDAY NEXT, MAY 30.  
VOCALISTS—Miss Maud McGuire, so-  
prano; Mr Hamilton Hodges, baritone;  
Mr W. Aspinall, tenor; Mr Hugh Ab-  
solum, humorist.  
INSTRUMENTALISTS—Miss Lily Bar-  
ker, guitar soloist; Mr J. Lawrence,  
banjo soloist; Mr F. Carter, harp  
soloist; Mr H. Fountain, banjo soloist.  
Selections by the Full Strength of the  
Club.  
Box Plan now open at Messrs Wild-  
man, Lovell and Arey's.  
Hooking Free.  
Admission, 2/ and 1/.

His Excellency the Governor, Lady  
Ranfurly and suite will attend the  
Auckland Banjo, Guitar and Mandolin  
Club's grand concert to be held at the  
Opera House on Friday next.  
Among the performers will be Misses  
Maud McGuire and Lily Barker,  
Messrs Hamilton Hodges, W. Aspinall,  
J. Lawrence, F. Carter, H. Absolum,  
and H. Fountain. The Club's playing  
members now number eighteen, and  
will contribute four choice selections  
during the performance.

Mademoiselle Antoinette Dobros  
concluded her brilliant New Zealand  
tour with a matinee in Auckland on  
Friday afternoon, and has now left  
for Australia, where a series of con-  
certs has been arranged. There was  
a large and brilliant audience, which  
listened in rapt attention to the mar-  
vellous vocalisation of the great  
soprano. It is the universal opinion  
here that no more finished or artistic  
singer has ever visited the colonies.  
Whether Mademoiselle will re-visit  
New Zealand seems doubtful, but to  
that hoped-for event thousands of  
lovers of music in all the cities where  
she has sung, will look forward  
with the greatest delight.

We often boast of the high stand-  
ard of taste in this colony in the  
way of entertainments, and Auckland  
in particular prides itself on its  
affection for high class music, and  
patted itself on the back very con-  
siderably over the splendid reception  
given to the Musgrove Opera Com-  
pany. But after all, what class of  
entertainment draws vaster audi-  
ences nowadays, than a variety show,  
providing—and the proviso is im-  
portant—that it is a good one. The  
audiences which packed the Opera  
House, Auckland, night after night  
during the Cinquevalli season were  
larger than the present writer ever  
remembers to have seen on any nine  
consecutive nights, and on Saturday  
last literally hundreds were turned  
from the doors, not even able to  
secure standing room. Of course, Cin-  
quevalli and Madame Titus were the  
attractions, the rest of the company  
were padding, and occasionally the  
house got very tired of them, and the  
pitties were not above voicing their  
weariness. We cannot often hope to  
see such stars as the two principals,  
but the extraordinarily lavish support  
accorded to Mr Rickards' company  
will probably result in his sending  
Sandow and other expensive star  
artists over here. As for theatro-  
goers in the South, the "Graphic"  
strongly urges no one who has an  
opportunity of seeing Cinquevalli to  
miss doing so. He is a genuine won-  
der, and well deserves his cognomen  
of the Incomparable.

Amateur musical societies all over  
the colony are now getting into full  
swing. Amongst other recent events  
the Remuera Musical Society held  
their first concert of the season on  
Monday. Part first consisted of  
"May Day" (McFarren), and the sec-  
ond portion was composed of miscel-  
laneous items. The affair was emi-  
nently successful, and much enjoyed  
by those present.

The last six nights of Wirth's cir-  
cus in Auckland are announced. This  
would seem to indicate that the  
negotiations for a permanent build-  
ing have not yet reached a satisfac-  
tory conclusion. The wintering of the  
circus in Auckland means the expendi-  
ture of a large amount of money  
there, and the money drawn in per-  
formances circulates freely in the  
town, so it is difficult to understand  
the attitude of those who have op-  
posed the granting of several sites  
desired by Wirth Bros. The circus  
itself has been attracting very large  
audiences. On Saturday afternoon a  
tremendous concourse of children fil-  
led the huge tent to overflowing. A  
kindly-hearted man can scarcely fail  
to extract the keenest pleasure from  
attending one of these matinees, the  
intense delight, the beaming appreci-  
ation of the children, and their  
boundless enthusiasm would rouse  
the most base or misanthropic in-  
dividual to a sense that there are some  
things in life worth living for. The  
show itself is an excellent one, and  
the trained animals—the tigers espe-  
cially—are as good as anything to be  
seen in any part of the world  
whatever.

Comedian Percy, of the Pollard  
Opera Company, was married yester-  
day (Tuesday) to Miss Ramsay, for-  
merly of the same troupe. The  
"Graphic" once again wishes Mr. and  
Mrs. Percy all possible health and  
prosperity in their life, both on and  
off the stage. Accounts of the mar-  
riage are not yet to hand, of course,  
but will no doubt be available for our  
next issue.

Mr Dix's variety shows in Auckland,  
Christchurch, and Wellington con-  
tinue to do very good business. In  
Auckland, the Company suffered  
somewhat last week from the im-  
mense strong counter attraction of  
Cinquevalli and the Harry Rickards'  
Variety Show, but business recovered  
last evening, when the Allison's (song  
sketch artists), just out from Eng-  
land, and who come with a big rep-  
utation, made their first appearance.  
In Christchurch Lizzie Kirk has  
scored a great success, being vocifer-  
ously ecored five and six times  
nightly. Mr Frank Leon also did well  
for Mr Dix in the City of the Plains.

Rehearsals of "The Yeomen of the  
Guard" by the Wellington Amateur  
Opera Club are exceedingly sat-  
isfactory, and it is hoped that all  
previous records will be beaten in the  
matter of artistic—and, indeed—fin-  
ancial success. From a musical point  
of view, "The Yeomen" is by far the  
finest of all the Gilbert and Sullivan  
operas, and will probably live the  
longest.

The Auckland Amateur Opera Club  
are putting into rehearsal Mr Alf.  
Hill's opera, "Hinemoa." It will be  
remembered that in Sydney this work  
created great enthusiasm, and was  
likewise very warmly received in  
Auckland itself some years ago, when  
produced on the occasion of the tour  
of the Ovide Musin Co. Owing to the  
alterations at the Opera House the  
Club have not been able to secure  
dates for an operatic performance  
this year, so "Hinemoa" is to be  
given in concert form. Every effort  
is to be made to make the affair a  
success, and it is hoped the rehar-  
sals will keep the Club members well  
together, when it is probable "Lady  
Dolly" will be produced on a scale  
hitherto undreamed of even in the  
history of the Auckland Amateur  
Opera Club, which has never erred on  
the side of parsimony in staging its  
productions.

The William Anderson Co. com-  
mence the season of the adventures  
of bold bad men and beautiful and  
virtuous heroines at Auckland on  
June 5. The ultra-sensational type  
of melodrama which this Company  
serves up, "hot and hot," has tickled  
the palates of theatregoers in every  
city where the Anderson Co. have ap-  
peared, as, as the vast bulk of

playgoers in Auckland prefer dramas  
of this lurid and well-spiced descrip-  
tion to drawing-room comedy of the  
Brough order, or area farce, big runs  
may be predicted in the Northern  
capital. If not, Auckland will be an  
exception to every other town of  
note in this colony. "The Downs Ex-  
press" and "The Ladder of Life" are  
certain to prove big draws.

Mr. Musgrove's new comic opera  
company, which visits New Zealand  
shortly, commenced its Australian  
season on Saturday in "The Thirty  
Thieves." Herr Slapoffski conducted,  
and, according to a cable received in  
town yesterday, the production was  
a tremendous success.

Details concerning the success of  
"The Thirty Thieves" in Melbourne  
last Saturday night will be awaited  
with additional interest in New Zea-  
land, as Miss May Beatty, so long a  
favorite here, was to take a leading  
part. Miss May Beatty will also play  
lead in "The Chinese Honeymoon,"  
and several other novelties which are  
included in the company's repertoire.  
Since her arrival in Australia Miss  
Beatty has been studying under M.  
Slapoffski, and has done remarkably  
well. As was recorded in these col-  
umns a few weeks ago, her voice is  
said to have recovered all its fresh-  
ness and beauty of tone.

After a successful season in Dun-  
edin the World's Entertainers opened  
in Christchurch on Monday, and, ac-  
cording to private wires received  
both in Wellington and Auckland,  
were enthusiastically welcomed. The  
show is stated to be one of altogether  
exceptional merit in vaudeville.

The Orpheus Liedertafel, Wellin-  
gton, gave the first concert of the pre-  
sent season on Monday last, when a  
very successful rendering of Dudley  
Buck's beautiful work, "Spirits and  
Hours," was given. There were other  
very successful items of a miscel-  
laneous order.

Mr. Maughan Barnett and Herr Max  
Hoppe are giving a series of high-  
class chamber concerts in Wellington,  
the first of which eventuated last  
week. It is to be doubted if finer per-  
formances than these—judging by the  
first—are to be secured in the colony.  
The concert included a trio by Rhein-  
berger, for violin, cello and piano,  
and Hauber's "Sonata" in B flat, for  
violin and piano; besides violin solos  
of exceptional interest by Herr  
Hoppe, so it will be seen that these  
chamber concerts are quite out-of-  
the-way in the matter of musical and ar-  
tistic excellence.

## The Auckland Dog Show.

The Auckland Kennel Club have de-  
cided to hold their annual Show on  
August 8th and 9th (Friday and Satur-  
day). These dates are a week later

than the Hawke's Bay Kennel Club's  
date.

We understand that Auckland, in  
conjunction with Hawke's Bay, have  
secured the services of that eminent  
judge of dogs, Mr Court Rice, of Syd-  
ney, who will, after attending the  
Show to be held at Napier, come on  
to Auckland, and judge the local  
canines. It must be great satisfac-  
tion to the "fancy" in New Zealand  
that the services of such a good man  
in "dog" circles are available. No  
doubt every fancier will put an extra  
polish on his pets, knowing what  
scrutiny his hobby will have to under-  
go. Roll up, you prize-winners, and  
let the best dog win!

## WORRIES IN WELLINGTON

CAUSED BY A DISORDERED LIVER.

### DISPELLED BY BILE BEANS.

The liver is accountable for more  
misery in this world than anything  
else. As has often been stated, too  
much importance cannot be placed  
upon the functions of this organ. It  
is to the human system as important  
as air is to life. It must be kept in a  
clear condition, the arteries therein  
must do their work, systematically  
and independently, for upon the  
liver's action depends the condition  
of the other organs of the body. The  
best known medicine for keeping the  
liver in a healthy state is unquestion-  
ably Bile Beans for Biliousness, for  
they have been essentially prepared  
for this purpose. Among the thou-  
sands who have written complimentary  
letters to the proprietors is Mr  
John Stacey, of 131, Cuba-street, Wel-  
lington. This gentleman writes:—  
"For years I was a sufferer from  
biliousness and sick and nervous  
headache, during which time I tried  
many so-called remedies, but without  
receiving any benefit. At times I be-  
came very ill and depressed, and was  
unable to properly attend to my work.  
Two years ago I commenced taking  
Bile Beans, having been induced to  
give them a trial, and am pleased to  
be able to testify that they have done  
me a great deal of good. As they are  
the only medicine from which I have  
ever received any benefit I am never  
without them, and have much pleas-  
ure in recommending them to all who  
suffer from a disordered liver. If  
used according to directions and given  
a fair trial I am satisfied that patients  
will derive great benefit from their  
use." If your liver is out of order  
and you are suffering from any of the  
complaints arising from such com-  
plaint, viz., Biliousness, Indigestion,  
Constipation, Flies, Bad Blood,  
Pimples, Sick and Nervous Headaches,  
Female Weaknesses, Debility, Dyspep-  
sia, etc., take a fellow colonist's ad-  
vice and be cured. Bile Beans are  
obtainable from all chemists and  
stores, or from Kempthorne, Prosser  
and Co., New Zealand agents.

A  
**PROPOSAL**



TO EVERY LADY TO MAKE  
DELICIOUS CUSTARD  
WITH  
**BIRD'S  
GUSTARD  
POWDER**  
A DAILY LUXURY!

BIRD'S Custard Powder makes a perfect High-Class Custard at a minimum  
of cost and trouble. Used by all the leading Diplomats of the South  
Kensington School of Cookery, London. Invaluable also for a variety of  
Sweet Dishes, recipes for which accompany every packet.

NO EGGS! NO MISAL! NO TROUBLE!

Stockholders can obtain Supplies from all the leading Wholesale Houses.