

Mr George Tallis writes: To-night (Saturday, September 1st) Mr J. C. Williamson's new dramatic company begins a brief dramatic season at Adelaide, after a most successful tour of the Victorian country districts, which embraced several of the more important inland towns. The public support accorded to this company, following as it does on a similar gratifying state of affairs in the case of the Tittell Brune and the Royal Comic Opera Companies, has convinced Mr Williamson that the State of Victoria has definitely entered upon an era of prosperity which will find one of its expressions in increased theatregoing. As a consequence he has decided to so arrange matters in the future that all his big organisations will as a matter of course, spend a portion of their touring time at Bendigo, Ballarat, and elsewhere, and their movements will be adjusted so that, for instance, they may delay their journey from Sydney to Melbourne or from Adelaide to Melbourne, in order to put in appearances at the country centres. The latter may therefore confidently anticipate a more or less regular succession of all the best plays and players who happen to be in Australia.

There can be no doubt that the better class of light or comic opera music to which playgoers were introduced with "Veronique," and with which they were made further acquainted in "The Little Michus," has definitely caught the public taste. The latter opera, full as it is of delicate melody, bright comedy, and all round excellence of acting and singing, has captivated Melbourne as it did Sydney, and each evening Her Majesty's Theatre is filled with a thoroughly appreciative attendance, who revel in the multitude of good things in Messenger's charming opera. Mr J. C. Williamson has in fact been so much impressed with the way in which the piece has been received that he has determined to give West Australia the benefit of hearing it long before the date of the next visit of the Royal Comic Opera Company to that part of the Commonwealth. He has, therefore, added it to the repertoire of the Gilbert and Sullivan Company, who will rehearse it steadily all through their Sydney season.

Mr Charles Frohman has been so much impressed with the attractiveness of "The Dairymaids," that he has not only secured the American rights of the musical comedy, but he has also engaged Mr Malone J. Mr J. C. Williamson's London representative to go over and personally superintend the New York production of the musical comedy.

For Children's Hacking Cough at Night—Woods' Great Peppermint Cure, 1s 6d and 2s 6d per Bottle.

SMOKE Old Judge TOBACCO & CIGARETTES.

Arrangements are being made for the early production of Bedford's Hope, an exciting melodrama of great popularity on both sides of the Atlantic, which Mr J. C. Williamson has just secured.

Everybody who has seen both the Australian and London productions of "The Little Michus," declares that Mr George Lauri and Mr Willie Edouin might be twins, so closely does the former follow the make up of the latter, who created the part of that peppery "war office scandal" General des IIs. Though the relationship is perhaps not quite so close, still it is a fact not generally known that the two comedians do possess a family connection.

The competition for the prizes of £5 5s and £2 2s offered by Mr J. C. Williamson for the best and most original designs of the Gazeka, closed at Her Majesty's Theatre on September 1st, and the drawings of which a goodly number have been received, will be judged forthwith by Mr George Lauri and Mr W. R. Coleman. After the awards a selection of designs will be exhibited for public inspection, and in all probability the prizewinners will be turned into postcards, which, by the way, has already been done in the case of the Sydney competition.

Mr Julius Knight is at present in Scotland on a visit to his mother, whom he has not seen for many years. While there he will, of course, prepare his part of King Polixenes, which he is to play in Mr Beerbohm Tree's production of "The Winter's Tale."

Two Australian favourites, Miss Henrietta Watson and Miss Elly Malyon, have been engaged by Mr Arthur Collins for this year's Drury Lane production, "The Bondman," in which Mrs Patrick Campbell will play the leading part.

Mr Charles McNaughton writes to the "Referee" from London: "Just a line to let you know we arrived safe after a good trip. The weather here is splendid, 87 degrees in the shade yesterday, but a lot of the theatres are shut, and things in the theatrical world will be quiet for another month. I have just been engaged by Frohman to play the principal comedy part in Leslie Stuart's new piece, the 'Belle of Mayfair,' in which Edna May is starring at the Vaudeville Theatre. We open at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, September 10. I was told things were very bad here, but I have had plenty of work offered me. May Beatty has also had some good offers, one a very good one to open at the Empire, Leicester Square, but I don't think she has decided yet.

A sort of miniature exhibition is to be held next Christmas by a syndicate of English and American showmen in the big London building known as Olympia. Streets typical of the various countries of the world will be laid out, and one of the principal side-shows will be an illusion by which visitors may take a trip from New York to San Francisco in 10 minutes, witnessing all the objects of interest on the journey.

Mr O. P. Heggie, of New South Wales, has been engaged by Mr Arthur Bourchier for his new piece, "Handsome Jim," by Mr Malcolm Watson, which will presently be staged at the Garrick.

Make never mock of cold or cough—
They danger spell however slightly;
Nor e'er esteem it quite enough
To treat the primal symptoms lightly.
Consider, ere you money spend,
To buy but mixtures safe and sure—
Remember one—and recommend
The worth of Woods' Great Peppermint
Cure.

An amusing incident happened to Mr Walter Slaughter and Mr Maurice Jacobi, who were on a cycling tour of England recently. As they were passing through the main street at Lowestoft, they heard an organ grinding out one of Mr Slaughter's most popular songs from "Bluebell." The music was so devoid of any expression that Mr Slaughter immediately jumped off his bicycle and seized hold of the handle of the organ, and showed the "grinder" how the work should be played, with the proper pauses, etc. This caused the greatest amusement to the passers-by, and to the shop-keepers around, who recognised Mr Slaughter as a musician who is equally well-known in Lowestoft as in London. To witness the distinguished composer playing his own music on a street organ was indeed a novelty.

At the 700th performance of "Raffles" at Cincinnati recently a silver loving cup, subscribed for by every member of the company, was presented to Mr Kyrle Bellew, in honour of a record tour.

BOARD AND RESIDENCE.

Visitors will find every comfort at any of the following well-known houses.

Advertisements under this heading are charged at the rate of One Shilling each insertion of twenty-four words.

BRITANNIA HOUSE, Upper Vincent-street, Auckland. Professionals will find every comfort and convenience. Good Table.—Mrs. D. Baxter (late of Christchurch), Proprietress.

CAMBRIDGE HOUSE, Lower Vincent-street, Auckland. Second house from St. Matthew's parsonage. Sea view, overlooking Albert Park. Hot and Cold Baths.—Mrs. Woods, Proprietress.

ASSEMBLY HALL, ROTORUA.

Seating Accommodation for 600 people.
Fitted with Electric Light.
Charges Moderate.

For terms and full particulars, apply to
STEELE BROS., Rotorua.
Or "Sporting and Dramatic Review"
Office.

EGMONT STABLES.

Proprietors: MESSRS. CLARKE AND
W. J. HIGGINSON.
Mountain Trips and Picnics arranged.
Letters and Telegrams receive instant attention.
Cabs meet all trains. Ladies' Waiting Room.
Telephone No. 20.

BOVRIL

Bovril is a splendid nourishing food, especially in these days when care of health is of the very first importance.

Spencer Pianos.

JOHN SPENCER & CO.

By Special Appointment
Pianoforte Makers to H.R.H. the
Princess of Wales.

OVER 3,000 SOLD
IN NEW ZEALAND.

New Models, just landed, from \$40,
on.

On the Hire System of Purchase, from
\$1 4s. a month.

SOLE AGENTS—

London and Berlin
Piano Co.,
SHORTLAND STREET.

SANFORD, Ltd. (A. SANFORD, Managing Director.)
FISH AND OYSTER MERCHANTS,
AUCKLAND AND THAMES.

Regis.  Trade Mark.

Fresh and Smoked Fish, Oysters, Rabbits, and Poultry daily, at SANFORD'S FISH MARKET, CUSTOM-STREET (opp. Custom House). Brown Paper Parcels Retail. Retail Tel. No. 658. G.P.O. Box 443.

JAMES DRAKE & CO.,

WINE AND SPIRIT
MERCHANTS,

Cellars: COLWILL'S BUILDINGS,
SWANSON-STREET.

Phone 257. P.O. Box 178.

"TEN" WINES.

Claret, Port, Sherry, Frontignac,
Burgundy, Hock, Chablis, Whisky,
Cigars.

Sparkling: Champagne, Chamber-
tin, Burgundy, Brandy, Ale, Cordials.

Agents for Swan Ale and Stout.

YOU SAVED ME
 Many Mistakes
my clients are constantly writing me
To introduce my famous system
I will send you

FREE
A WRITTEN CHART OF YOUR LIFE
as a test of my ability. I was consulted by Miss Alice Roosevelt and her brother Theodore (daughter and son of the President of the United States) in America last August. Mrs. Kendal, the great actress writes: "You have astonished me with your accuracy. It is marvellous." Rub a little stove blacklead over your thumb and press on piece of white paper. Send this with birth-date, and nine stamps to cover postage, etc.
YOU WILL BE AMAZED. DO IT NOW.
Prof. W. L. KEIDAL (of New York),
146, Edgware Rd., London, England.

GREENMEADOWS VINEYARD, N.Z.

This Vineyard has been nearly fourteen years in cultivation. Only those Grapes are grown that produce first-class Wines, and the utmost care has been taken in their preparation.

The following sound and well-matured
Wines may now be procured:—

BURGUNDY CHABLIS
CLARET HOCK

THESE WINES ARE DELIVERED
FREE OF CHARGE ON BOARD
TRAIN OR STEAMER.

ADDRESS—
THE MANAGER,
GREENMEADOWS VINEYARD,
GREENMEADOWS, HAWKE'S BAY.

BIOSCOPES & FILMS.

We are direct Selling Agents for the leading makers of the world, including Pathe, Urban, Hepworth, Paul, and Edison.

New subjects by every mail. Complete outfits supplied. Write us.

N.Z. ACETYLENE GAS CO.,
KING'S CHAMBERS, WELLINGTON.

DRINK! DRINK!

GREY AND MENZIES'
FERMENTED GINGER BEER
(In Stone Bottles).

Manufactured by
GREY AND MENZIES,
AERATED WATER MANUFACTURERS,
Eden Crescent, Auckland.