The principal members of that well-known combination, the Pollard Opera Company, are somewhat scattered. For instance, Maud Beatty is in 'Frisco with Sandford's American Opera Comwith Sandford's American Opera Company; May Beatty is touring in England in musical comedy; Marion Mitchell in Auckland; Cissy Stephens in Christchurch; Nellie Wilson and Zoe Karkeek in South Africa; Wilmot Karkeek, after touring South America with an opera company, sailed for England; W. S. Percy with the Royal Comics in Adelaide; Alf Stephens and Dave O'Connor touring India with Bandmann's Opera Company; Eddie Nable with MacMahon's Dramatic Company; and Harry Quealy in Auckland at the Opera House. Auckland at the Opera House.

Writing of the Grand Opera Company in Melbourne the "Australasian" says:— Formerly when an operatic tenor met his beloved he put her in a corner, and, turning his back on her, told the audience in dulcet tones how much he adored her. When he had finished, he went to the corner, and she in her turn came to the corner, and sne in ner turn came to the footlights to make a similar confession, with disaster to the natural exigencies of the action. Thanks largely to the convention-upsetting ideas of Wagner, this lovers' puppet-show has become a thing of the past. Herr Oeser, the principal teners of the company makes quite the tenor of the company, makes quite the ideal stage lover. His gestures are invariably appropriate, he moves with the ease of one born on the stage, and, best of all,. he abjures utterly the fetish of the "top note."

There was an exciting finish to a performance of "The Belle of Mayfair" at Daly's Theatre, New York, the other Miss Surratt, the principal Gibson girl in the piece, was so enraged be-cause Miss Horton, a new show girl, wore a dress of similar cut to her own, that she attacked the girl, ripped the dress off her, and tore it into ribbons. The curtain was quickly lowered, but the fight continued to the accompaniment of shrieks from the remainder of the com-The stage-manager was only able to restore peace with much difficulty.

"Maritana" is to be put on to-night by "Maritana" is to be put on to-night by the Dunedin Choral Society. The following is the cast:—Miss Amy Murphy, Maritana; Mrs Forbes Williams, Lazarillo; Mr F. Graham (Christchurch, late of the Royal Carl Rosa Grand Opera Company), Don Caesar; Mr James Jago, Don Jose; Mr P. J. Blackman, King of Spain; Mr W. Thomson, Alcade; Mr S. Thomson, Captain of the Guard. Thomson, Captain of the Guard.

Miss Eugenie Duggan has had some notable experiences as a heroine in melo-drama. The other week she had a bad fall from the spirited horse. This accident was caused by a faulty adjustment to the girths, and when the horse can-tered on to the stage briskly, the audSMOKE

Old Judge

TOBACCO &

and the saddle precipitated violently into the wings. On one occasion the actress was accidently stabbed by the villain, for-tunately without any serious result. Still another mishap occurred in a play into which a real tree was introduced. This toppled over and fell in the direction of Miss Duggan, the top branches striking her, and bearing her to the stage, twigs tearing strips of skin off her face.

A six weeks' revival of Mr Bernard Shaw's fantasy, "You Never Can Tell," was commenced at the Court Theatre, London, on the 11th February. The following artists who are well known in New Zealand were in the cast: Miss Henrietta Watson, Miss Lillah M'Carthy, Mr Norman Page, and Mr Athol Forde.

The MacCallum family of musicians and vocalists will shortly visit New Zealand. They are five in number, these being Mr H. Scott MacCallum, violinist, recently with Andrew Black's Concert Company in Australia; Mr L. Herbert MacCallum, flautist; Miss Ruby Mac-Callum, accompanist and soprano; Miss Emiline MacCallum, contralto; and Mr A. Hopkin MacCallum, baritone. Mr H. Scott MacCallum is the talented young violinist in whom Mr Hugo Herrmann, the world famed violinist, took such great interest. On hearing Mr L. Herbert MacCallum, flautist, play, Herr D. E. Chaneot, the well known composer and musician, said—Mr MacCallum's interpretation of the work left nothing to be desired. The ringing, resonat tone which he obtains from his silver flute is superb. His phrasing is artistic and his execution is what I call brilliant. Summed up it was a masterly performance. Miss Ruby MacCallum, soprano, has been very successful in competition work in Australia, and has several times won prizes at the South Street competitions in Ballarat. The Company are expected in Auckland early in October. Mr R. Robertson is the advance manager.

The Misses Amy and Dulcie Murphy, of Dunedin, have accepted engagements with Mr J. C. Williamson, and will be appointed to one of the Australian manager's opera companies. It is just possible the Misses Murphy will be members of the new musical comedy company which Mr Williamson is at present organising to play "The Blue Moon," "My Lady Madcap," and other pieces. The new company will commence the season in Melbourne in June next.

Ellen Terry is still a name to charm with in the United States. She appeared lately in a three-weeks' season at the Empire Theatre, New York, and for one week of seven performances the takings were nearly £7000.

Miss Kitty Gordon, a London actress, has succeeded in an action for the recovery of £1000 from an insurance company. This was the amount for which a sable coat lost in crossing the Atlantic was in-

The morning performance which was given at Drury Lane on Tuesday, March 5, by permission of Mr Arthur Collins and the directors of the theatre, on behalf of the Lord Mayor's Cripples' Fund. presented some features of particular inpresented some features of particular in-terest to playgoers. Lady Bancroft made a short speech, and Miss Winifred Emery recited an address. The last act from "Macbeth" was rendered by Mr Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh; the trial scene of Barbell v. Pickwick, by Mr Edward Terry and company; the second from "Beauty and the Barge," by

Manda and company; a "Pot Mr Cyril Maude and company; a "Pot Pourri" from the Pantomime "Sinbad" and leaders of the musical comedy world and leaders of the musical comedy world in "A Prehistoric Lord Mayor's Show," by Mr E. T. Reed, of "Punch." Others who promised to appear were Mr H. Beerbohm Tree, Mr Lewis Waller, Mr H. B. Irving, Mr George Grossmith, junior, Miss Gertie Millar, Miss Denise Orme, and Miss Queenie Leighton.

The we'l known English actress, Miss Maud Hillyard, and a first-class dramatic company with a repertoire of four or five pieces, will arrive from England in Australia about the end of July, and after playing a season in Sydney, will come on to New Zealand, under the direction of Mr Allan Hamilton, in conjunction with Messrs Meynell and Gunn. The tour Messrs Meynell and Gunn. The tour will take about three months, and will open in Her Majesty's Theatre, Auckland, on Monday, 16th September, for three weeks, all the principal towns being afterwards visited. The principal pieces in the company's repertoire will be "A Beautiful Fiend," and "The Great Awakening."

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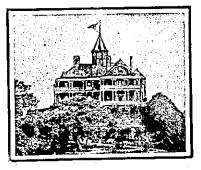
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