

che at the Bath. There is an old French phrase "honi soit qui mal y pense," and perhaps the originators of this daring representation of Leighton's great picture based their resolve on a recent magisterial decision that there is nothing vulgar in the beautiful. Anyway, it would have been interesting to know what thoughts would have possessed the sensitive minds of Sergt. Hendry, or the lady secretary of the Y.M.C.A., had they seen the delinquent in real life of the picture to which they took such exception as a post card. The Psyche of Monday night was no doubt as beautifully moulded as the maid who loved Cupid but the question arises, would the Psyche of old have disrobed so innocently had she known a pair of masculine eyes stared at her from some hiding place? Enough to say that had the "Robing of the Gods" been reproduced on Tuesday night, there would not have been standing room in the theatre. Mr Ward also did some lightning sketches in black and white, drawing with a few strokes of the pencil characteristic cartoons of leading Auckland people. An excellent item on this week's programme is that provided by Victor the Great, whose humorous interlude as a ventriloquist is exceptionally clever. The audience left no doubt as to their appreciation of Victor's efforts. The Quealy's are having a very good run at

The Charles Holloway Dramatic Co. left Auckland for Sydney by the Waikare on Monday afternoon. They open in Newcastle next Monday for a two weeks' season.

A few weeks ago Madame Clara Butt and her husband, who will be in Australia in September under engagement to Messrs J. and N. Tait, sang at Liverpool, and so great was the rush to hear them that every seat in the hall was bought up two days before the concert. The two great concert stars give their farewell to England concert on June 29th, leaving with their three children a few days later for the Antipodes.

This year promises to see Mr Percy Grainger, the brilliant young Australian pianist, at a far higher position in the musical world than he has hitherto attained. Last month he won six recalls for his performance with the London Philharmonic, and the papers spoke enthusiastically about the refined brilliance, the virility, the insight and the charm of his playing. He is now due for a tour of Denmark, where he is universally popular, and among other important engagements are appearances at the Albert and the Queen's Halls.

The Fuller Proprietary have secured a

Mr Archibald Gunter, whose death is announced in New York, was better known in England as a popular and sensational novel writer than as a dramatist. Adaptations of his book, "Mr Potter of Texas," and one or two of his other plays, were seen on the English stage, but had not the attraction over the public exercised by his novel. His plays produced in America include:—"After the Opera," "Courage," "Crazy Patch," "D.A.M.," "The Deacon's Daughter," "The Dive Novel," "Florida Enchantment," "Fresh the American," "Little Puck," "Mr Barnes of New York," "Mr Potter of Texas," "My Official Wife," "One Against Many," "Polly Middles," "Prince Karl," "The Soul of an Actress," "Two Nights in Rome," and "A Wall Street Bandit."

The tour of the Besses o' th' Barn Band throughout New Zealand is now drawing to a close, and they are due in Australia next month, beginning on May 11th at Sydney. A trip to Brisbane and other Queensland towns will then be undertaken, and in July they will appear in Melbourne.

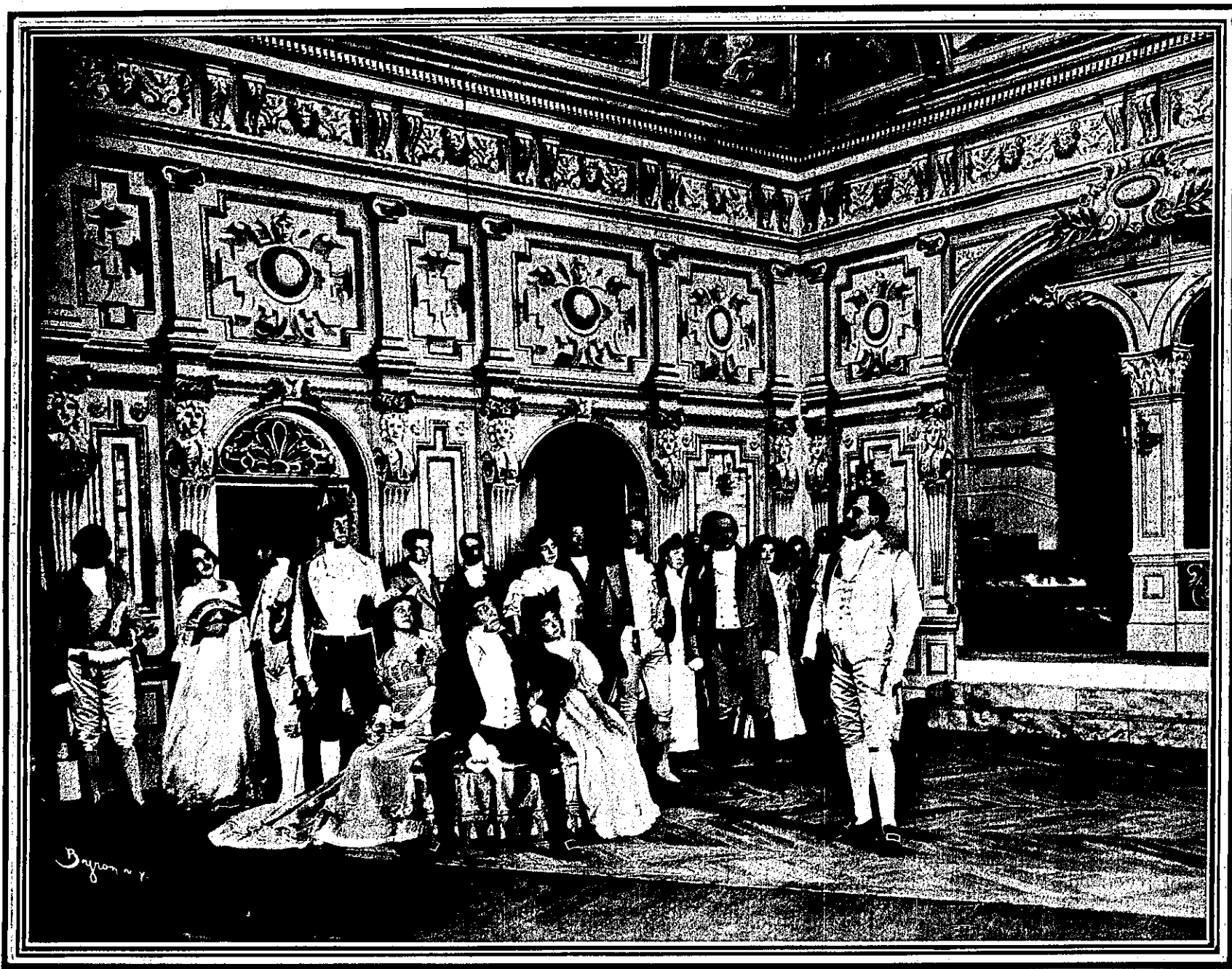
Madame Albani and the other artists of her concert company were to leave London for Australia by the Marmora on April 26. The tenor is Mr William Green, who

kindness, and say they will always remember their pleasant stay in Tasmania, and will look forward to another visit in the near future.

One can scarcely realise that no fewer than 3500 women are required at theatres within the four-mile metropolitan radius, to figure as chorus girls, show girls, and "extra ladies" generally in the Christmas pantomimes in London.

The largest sum which has probably ever been offered to an artist for a long engagement was one which was made to Miss Mary Anderson only a very few years ago. A certain American manager sought to induce her to go back to the United States for a tour for a season of thirty weeks. He resolved to do the thing handsomely, and his offer was £2000 a week, or £60,000 for the season. In South Africa recently Miss Ada Reeve received £5000 for a nine weeks' engagement.

Miss Dina Cooper, who is at present in Auckland with the Meynell and Gunn Dramatic Company, has a financial interest in the venture. She purposes, about the end of the year, bringing out a company of her own to tour Australia



A STRIKING SCENE FROM "TOM MOORE," IN WHICH THE ANDREW MACK COMPANY OPEN NEXT MONDAY AT HIS MAJESTY'S.

the Opera House. Their dancing is really good, while their singing and laughable skits send the house into ecstasies. Likewise there is no room for doubt as to the popularity of the Ahlbergs. As acrobats and hand balancers they move the audience to genuine outbursts of applause. "The Wig Chase" is the tremendously funny biograph film which terminates an enjoyable programme.

THE ST. PATRICK'S OPERATIC SOCIETY.

Before long Aucklanders will have an opportunity of hearing the favourite opera "Maritana." This will be staged at the Opera House by the St. Patrick's Operatic Society on July 9, 10, 11 and 12. Mr John Fuller having very kindly granted the Society the use of the theatre for those dates. The difficult role of Maritana will be undertaken by that accomplished artist Madame Slapoffski, while the full grand opera chorus will be led by Mr Colin Muston. Every member of the Society is working hard to make the production a huge success.

Madame Blanche Arral, who has been successfully touring the South, is this week visiting the Hawke's Bay district.

long lease of the Wellington Theatre Royal, together with the Commercial Hotel and adjoining properties, and Mr C. T. Natusch, architect, has been commissioned to prepare plans for a new theatre and other buildings, to cost £40,000.

Mr Alfred Sutro's new comedy, "John Gladys Honour" was produced at the St. James's Theatre, London, on the 8th March by Mr George Alexander.

Miss Beryl Faber, at one time associated with the Brough and Boucicault Company in Australia, has temporarily entered the musical comedy ranks in order to play a part specially suited to her style in the new Seymour-Hicks production, "My Darling."

For some months it has been known that Mr Tom Pollard, supported by two well-known gentlemen who are interested in theatrical matters, would, at the conclusion of his term at the New Zealand International Exhibition as Director of Entertainments, launch out once more at the head of a juvenile opera company. It is understood that Mr Pollard will pay a visit to Australia shortly in search of talent.

occupies a very high place in the English musical world. Miss Mildred Jones, a contralto, is coming in the place of the American contralto, Miss Spencer. The pianist is Miss Myrtle Meggy, a Sydney young lady, who has won high honours in Europe. Mr Haydon Wood, a talented violinist, and Mr Theodore Flint, conductor, complete the party.

Hugh Buckler, a young Australian actor, has joined Mr Beerbohm Tree's company. He is playing the part of Eros in "Antony and Cleopatra" at Her Majesty's. This is the third Australian playing a prominent part with this company, the others being Miss Alice Crawford and Miss Wanda Radford.

The Black Family, who have established themselves as popular favourites in Tasmania, have just concluded their tour of that State, and have gone to Victoria. Their tour, which has been most successful in every way, consisted of 12 weeks, and during that time 70 concerts were given, 51 towns visited, 1672 miles travelled by rail, 348 by coach, and 317 by steamer; grand total, 2337 miles. The family where everywhere greeted with splendid houses, much enthusiasm, and

and New Zealand, and negotiations are now in progress for several high-class plays from America. Miss Cooper is a niece of Sir Pope Cooper, Chief Justice of Queensland.

It is difficult to find a company in London to which some Australian has not won admission. Mr Cecil Ward and Mr Edward Hocking—formerly of Bland Holt's company—are appearing in "The Four Just Men," a revolutionary melodrama of some distinctive merit.

Mr G. W. Titheradge is still playing in America.

The news that Miss Marie Lohr, daughter of Mr John Lohr, has returned to the Kendalls to play the heroine in "The Melcombe Marriage," indicates that this young lady is making a rapid advance in the profession.

Frank Thornton has secured the Australian rights of "When Knights Were Bold" a piece in which James Welch, one of the best of English comedians, has scored a distinct success. The title suggests chivalry, but the play is pure comedy.