



[BY AMICUS.]

BOOKINGS.

OPERA HOUSE, AUCKLAND:

October 13 to December 4—Pollard Opera Company
 December 17 to 20—Auckland Dramatic Society
 December 23 to January 21—Geach-Willoughby Co.
 January 23—Madam Melba Concert
 February 9 to March 4—Miss Fitzmaurice Gill's Co.
 March 16 to April 4—Hawtreys Comedy Co.
 April 11 to May 2—Holloway Dramatic Company
 June 8 to 26—Geo. Musgrove's "Sweet Nell" Company
 June 27 to July 10—Harry Rickards

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, AUCKLAND

December 28—Opening night, J. C. Williamson Com
 pany, 4 weeks
 January 27 to February 14, 1903—Frank Thornton
 Comedy Company
 March 16 to April 4—Hawtreys Comedy Company.
 April 13 to May 12—Holloway Dramatic Company

OPERA HOUSE, WELLINGTON:

November 24 to December 6—Geach-Willoughby Co.
 December 8 to 17—Rickards' Company
 December 18 to 24—Majorin Dramatic Company
 December 26 to January 2, 1903—Chas. Holloway Co
 January 19—Madame Melba
 January 23 to February 21—Pollard Opera Company
 February 24 to March 14, 1903—Frank Thornton Co.
 April 11 to May 2, 1903—J. C. Williamson Co.
 May 4 to 30, 1903—Hawtreys Comedy Company

THEATRE ROYAL, CHRISTCHURCH

November 24 to December 1—J. C. Williamson Co.
 December 2 to 18—Musgrove's Pantomime Company
 December 18 to 28—Harry Rickard's No. 2 Company.
 December 28 to January 8—Frank Thornton Comedy
 Company
 January 28 to February 7—C. Holloway Dramatic Co.
 February 19 to March 7—Hawtreys Comedy Company.

PRINCESS THEATRE, DUNEDIN

November 10 to 29—Musgrove Company
 December 1 to 18—Frank Thornton Comedy Company
 December 26 to January 23—Pollard Opera Co.
 January 24 to February 14—Hawtreys Comedy Co.
 Feb 14 to March 13—Holloway Dramatic Company

Dix's Gaiety Co. nightly at the CITY HALL, Auckland
 ALHAMBRA THEATRE, Dunedin, OPERA HOUSE, Christ-
 church; THEATRE ROYAL, Wellington.

The Auckland Liedertafel have announced their last concert of the season, for Friday (to-morrow) night, at the Choral Hall. The programme arranged is a very attractive one, including solos by Mrs A. G. Lee, Miss May Day, and Mr Wilfred Manning, with several part songs by Liedertafel, which are becoming so popular with Auckland's musical enthusiasts. The secretary, Mr S. J. Harbutt, is untiring in his efforts to make the concert a success, and this function promises to be even more successful than former ones, a bumper house being predicted.

Quite a number of first nights are announced for December 26 (Boxing Day), in fact it will be a record opening of seasons. The following are the principal ones announced:—In Auckland Mr J. C. Williamson's Musical Comedy Company open His Majesty's Theatre with "A Runaway Girl," Messrs Willoughby-Geach Company in the Opera House with "The Wright Mr Wrog." At Wellington: Mr Holloway's Dramatic Company in the Opera House At Christchurch; Thornton's Comedy Company in the Theatre Royal. At Dunedin: Pollard Opera Company in the Princess Theatre, and J. C. Williamson's Dramatic Company in His Majesty's Theatre.

Mr J. C. Williamson has definitely decided to tour New Zealand with his English Dramatic Company. The pieces to be played are Sherlock Holmes' "If I Were King" and "Secret Service." The combination will include several artists of repute, headed by the clever American actor Mr Culer Hastings, who has been creating a great sensation throughout Australia. The following dates have been arranged:—Dunedin, December 26th to January 8th; Christchurch, January 9th to January 22nd; Wellington, January 23rd to February 5th; Palmerston North, February 6th and 7th; Wanganui, February 9th and 10th; Hastings, February 11th; Napier, February 11th and 13th. Auckland, February 16th to March 7th.

Mr Charles Carter was tendered a complimentary benefit by the Pollard Opera Company last night, the piece chosen was the favorite opera "Maritana." Mr Carter taking the role of Don Cesar, in which he has every opportunity to display his excellent voice. The remainder of the cast was as follows:—Don Jose, Mr D. O'Connor; King of Spain, Mr J. Ralston; Alcade, Mr G. Young; Captain of the Guard, Mr E. Wiseman; Marquis de Montefiore, Mr W. Percy; Marchioness de Montefiore, Miss A. Curtice; Lazarillo, Miss Nina Osborne; Maritana, Miss Agness Smith.

Mr J. C. Williamson's Musical Comedy, which opens here on Boxing Night, at His Majesty's, includes the following performers:—Fred. H. Graham, Maurice Dudley, C. Trood, Charles Lyding, Arthur Crane, Arthur Lissant, Robert Needham, Fred. Leslie, and Claude Bantock; and Miss Rose Musgrove, Lillian Digges, Blanche Wallace, Elsie Moore, Hetty Muret, Aggie Kelton, and Grahame Newton. "The Runaway Girl" and "San Toy" are the new pieces to be played.



LITTLE VERA KEARNS, a City Hall Favourite.

The promoters and performers at the Sacred Concert held last Sunday afternoon in the Opera House for the benefit and in aid of the sufferers by the wreck of the ill-fated Elingamite, are to be congratulated on the success of the function. The generous manner in which both professional and amateur artists offered their services, and the able and liberal support accorded by the Auckland public, must be gratifying to all concerned, and the proceeds will help to swell the Relief Fund.

The Auckland season of Mr Harry Rickards No. 3 Vaudeville stars was brought a close on Saturday night. They played here for five nights and two matinees, all of which were well attended. The Auckland theatregoers have both seen and heard the wonderful Sandow, and are able now to expound by personal knowledge on his feats and benefits of physical culture. The great athlete claims the secret of his system is the influence of mind over muscle, and certainly the series of exercises he showed whereby each group of muscles in the human body may be developed bore out his theory. Mr and Mrs Sydney Drew made numerous friends by their clever acting, the one act comedy entitled "When Two Hearts are Won," which they presented fairly caught on and took the town by storm. The Concertina King, as Professor Maccan is called, more than came up to expectation, his items and musical imitations were exceedingly good, clever and entertaining. As a story-teller, Mr Mark Anthony earns warm applause for his turn. He is a clever comedian and keeps his audience convulsed with laughter the whole time he is on. Miss Ray Jones and Miss Nita Leete contribute songs which are always well received. Little Fanny Powers captured the hearts of the City Hall patrons with her sweet singing and clever dancing. The pictures by the Bioscope are extremely clear and bright, and form an interesting and instructive finale to a good programme.

Mr George Abbott, proprietor of the Opera House, is in Sydney, making arrangements for the tour of several companies in the near future through New Zealand. The first of these will be a dramatic company, headed by Miss Fitzmaurice Gill and Mr Charles Blake, and will comprise some of the leading talent of Australia. The company will open Auckland on February 9 with a strong repertoire, including "Man to

Man," "Work and Wages," "Fedora," "Harbour Lights," and others.

Messrs Wirth Bros. (says the "Canterbury Times") have completed the purchase of another dapple-grey thoroughbred steeplechaser from Mr A. M'Lelland, Northcote Road, Papanui. The animal, which competed at a recent meeting, will be trained in what is known in circus parlance as "school riding." This is the third purchase which Messrs Wirth Bros. have made from the same owner since their arrival in Christchurch.

Our Wellington correspondent writes, under date November 20th, that J. C. Williamson's Comedy Company are having a splendid time at the Opera House. "San Toy" was first played on Monday last in New Zealand, and was received with general satisfaction. The piece is full of good things in the way of music, song, and patter. The lady members of J. C. Williamson's company organised a costume cricket match here, which took place yesterday. It was held at the College Ground in aid of the Elingamite disaster. The cricket match would be absolutely too funny to record, but it resulted in a sum of over £320 being collected for that fund. No only did the ladies do their very best at the wicket, but a bevy of youth and beauty dispensed afternoon tea in pleasant style. The frolics of a monkey (Mr Leslie) caused a lot of fun for the younger folk, though many a parent enjoyed the fun also. George Dean's Waxworks were also there, and many people visited the figures during the afternoon. Mr Jimmy Pethe- rick would make people visit the exhibition whether they wanted to or not. His ability outside a tent is great. Another concert is being held to-night in the Choral Hall by Wellington amateurs in aid of the same fund. Mr J. W. Harrison's school of physical culture provide eight items, and the second half will be contributed to by Misses Phoebe Parsons, Holt, and Mrs B. M. Wilson, and Messrs G. and H. Parsons, W. D. Lyon, and the Chieftain Rangiuia. A very large number of tickets are already sold. Dix's Gaiety Company are doing the usual good "bis" at the Royal. Callahan and Mack's is a splendid turn. Another good interesting turn is that of Brown Parker, the ball puncher. Frank M. Clark and Miss Olive Lenton give a decidedly clever burlesque imitation of the Darto dance, and are making a hit of it. Ernest Fitts is with us again, and is up to the usual standard. Miss May Lewis, Joe Cowan, Sam Rowley, and Jen Johnstone also add their quota to a lengthy



MISS ALICE CORRICK, the New Zealand Soprano, who took the Solos at the Opening of the Federal Exhibition.