



[By Amicus.]

BOOKINGS.

OPERA HOUSE, AUCKLAND:
 April 9—Ponsonby Naval Concert
 April 10—Steele-Payne Bell-ringers.
 April 11 to May 23—Anderson's Dramatic Company
 June 8 to 26—Geo. Musgrove's "Sweet Nell" Company
 June 27 to July 10—Harry Rickards Co.
 December 24 to January 14, 1904—McMahon's Dramatic Company

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, AUCKLAND
 April 18 to May 12—Anderson's Dramatic Company

OPERA HOUSE, WELLINGTON
 March 19 to April 9—Miss Fitzmaurice Gill's Company
 April 11 to May 2—J. C. Williamson Co.
 May 4 to 30—Hawtrey Comedy Company
 June 1 to 13—Rickards' Company
 June 17 to July 3—Musgrove Company
 July 11 to 25—J. C. Williamson
 September 9 to 29—American Musical Comedy Company
 October 30 to November 13—J. C. Williamson
 November 16 to 21—Willoughby-Geach Company
 November 23 to December 12—J. C. Williamson
 December 23 to January 23, 1904—Anderson's Dramatic Company

THEATRE ROYAL, CHRISTCHURCH
 April 11 to 25—Miss Fitzmaurice Gill's Company
 April 27 to May 9—Musgrove Company

PRINCESS THEATRE, DUNEDIN
 April 11 to 21—Musgrove Company
 May 1, 2, and 4—Westminster Abbey Glee Company
 May 6 to 18—Rickards' Company
 May 30 to June 13—McMahon's Dramatic Company

HIS MAJESTY'S, DUNEDIN.
 May 17 to 24—J. C. Williamson's Opera Company.
 April 27 to May 7—Miss Fitzmaurice Gill's Company
 August 6 to 15—J. C. Williamson
 November 4 to 14—J. C. Williamson

OPERA HOUSE, WANGANUI.
 April 11 to 18—Hawtrey Company;
 June 6 to 10—Musgrove Company
 June 18 to 20—Rickards' Company

OPERA HOUSE, HAWERA.
 March 25 and 26—J. C. Williamson
 June 23—Rickards' Company

THEATRE ROYAL, (NEW PLYMOUTH).
 April 8 and 9—Anderson's Dramatic Company
 June 24 and 25—Rickards' Company
 June 29 and 30—J. C. Williamson
 November 27 and 28—Willoughby-Geach Company

Dix's Galety Co. nightly at the CITY HALL, Auckland, and THEATRE ROYAL, Wellington.

Managers and secretaries of theatres in New Zealand would do well to keep the list of booking that is published at the head of this column up to date. Unless the dates booked at the various theatres are sent regularly the object of the column is entirely useless. If posted regularly it would prove of great value to managers looking for dates in New Zealand, and would save much annoyance and waste of time. A post-card or wire to "Amicus," "Review," Auckland, will receive prompt attention.

Molly Bentley, who made "John Bull, Jun.," famous through Maoriland, has joined Rickards' Tivoli Co. in Adelaide, where also are coloured comedians, Pope and Sayles; child wonder, Eileen Boyd; Wallace Brownlow, May Lewis, Malvena Moore, and others.

The following tour through New Zealand has been mapped out by Mr Robson for the Westminster Abbey Concert Party:—Napier, April 17; Wanganui, April 21; Wellington, April 23, 24, and 25; Christchurch, April 28 and 29; Oamaru, April 30; and Dunedin, May 1 and 2.

The performance of "Stabat Mater" at His Majesty's on Friday next (Good Friday) should draw a good house. In the miscellaneous part of the programme will be included the following items:—Gounod's "Ave Maria," Miss Lillian Tree (with violin obligato by Miss Doris Boulton); "If With All Your Hearts," Mr Frank Graham; "There Is a Green Hill," (Gounod), Miss Maud Tobias (a pupil of Miss Tree's, who makes her debut); "It Is Enough" (Mendelssohn), Mr Rupert Mantell; "Thou Art Passing Hence" (Sullivan), Mr Wilfrid Manning.

Particulars are now to hand concerning the death of Mr Chas. Lauri, which was cabled a week or two ago (says the Otago "Witness"). Mr Charles Lauri the famous animal mimic, died at Manchester after a short illness. He played the part of Man Friday at the Prince Theatre on the previous night, but after dressing at the theatre he returned to his lodgings, where he passed away. The dead actor's father was the famous clown, and he performed before Queen Victoria in 1861 on the last occasion she ever visited a theatre.

Mr Harcourt Beatty's performance of King Charles II. in "Sweet Nell of Old Drury" has won for this clever actor a big reputation with Australian theatre-goers. He is said to display unbounded versatility in every role that falls to his lot.

"Sweet Nell of Old Drury" will serve to re-introduce to New Zealand playgoers Miss Nellie Stewart, Australia's national artist, who, during her short but happy career has played many parts, none of them, however, being crowned with such great success as has attended Nell Gwynne. Miss Stewart's versatility is simply marvellous, ranging from comic opera to dramatic tragedy, and everything she plays is marked by careful study and attention to detail.



MR. R. T. TREGASKI, Touring Manager Steele-Payne Bell-ringers.

By no means an unimportant character in "Sweet Nell of Old Drury" is the part played by Little Marquis, the King Charles spaniel. It is a rare specimen of its breed, and is the winner of nine Champion prizes. It was purchased at considerable expense by Mr Musgrove and presented to Mr Harcourt Beatty, who has contracted a great fondness for the dog.

Our Wellington correspondent writes, under date April 3: "Fuller's Entertainers continue to pack the Choral Hall nightly. The roster remains the same as when I last wrote you. . . . The Grattan Dramatic Company will inaugurate a season of 'Popular Drama at Popular Prices' on Monday, April 6. The grand opening production is to be one of the finest of modern comedy dramas, entitled 'Mr Potter of Texas,' interpreted by Mr J. H. Grattan and his famous dramatic organisation. . . . The Fitzmaurice Gill Company have so far played twelve nights at the Opera House. 'Man to Man' ran five nights, 'Harbour Lights' four nights, and 'Worv and Wages' three nights. 'Dr. Bill' was produced to-night, 'East Lynne' goes up to-morrow night, and on Saturday 'The French Spy' is to receive its first production in this city. . . . Mdlle. Dolores sang to packed houses at the Theatre Royal on Wednesday and Thursday nights. . . . Professor Smidson (right name Smith, he comes from Honolulu), who opened at the City Hall this week, can congratulate himself on having a live act. This 'one-man orchestra' plays no less than five different instruments at one time—bass drum, kettle drum, cymbals, cornet and piano—giving a cornet solo with practically a full band accompaniment. Smidson, who can play on any instrument, from a Jew's harp to a church organ, in his act calls to memory Dick Kohler, of thirty years back, who was a whole hand in himself."

The Williamson Musical Comedy Company that had such a successful tour through New Zealand, is now in Victoria, playing at Bendigo and Ballarat. On Easter Saturday the company will open a three weeks' season at Adelaide with "A Circus Girl," afterwards proceeding to Western Australia.

"The French Spy" was staged by the Fitzmaurice-Gill Dramatic Company, at Wellington, on Saturday evening last. The play is a new one to New Zealand theatres, Miss Gill having bought the rights from Mr Charles Holloway, and has added it to her already large repertoire. The first scene of the drama takes place in the Cafe d'Europ, in St. Petersburg, and serves to introduce Andre de Loric, an

adventress employed by the French Government to procure political secrets from the English Embassy. The papers are stolen at the instigation of her accomplice, Count Romanoff, from Captain Vivian Somers, of the British Embassy, and in the struggle for their recovery Somers strangles young Petros Romanoff, in whose possession they are. Andre swears a vendetta against the (to her) unknown murderer of her accomplice. She decoys Somers to her room, and working on his infatuation for her, worms from him the acknowledgement that he strangled young Romanoff. In the court-martial scene, when commanded by Romanoff to identify the murderer, he says: "Remember your oath to point him out when you see him," the unhappy woman reaches the climax of self-abnegation by throwing vitrol in her eyes, and closes the act with a passionate declamation, "I cannot see; I am blind." The third act finds Andre in a condemned cell of a Russian prison, from which she is rescued by Captain Somers and Terry, his servant, and escape on a British gunboat after various hairbreadth escapes. The following is the full cast of characters in the play:—Captain Somers, Mr Chas. Blake; Lord Aynesley, Mr J. Martin; Lieutenant Maxwell, Mr Chas. Lawrence; General Treppoff, Mr Gus. Neville; Count Romanoff, Mr Wilton Power; Petros Romanoff, Miss Dina Cooper; Alexis Treloff, Mr R. Julian; Terry O'Fritz, Mr Leo de Chateau; Nicholas Knibbs, Miss Gertrude Esdaile; Mark Revelski, Mr Robert Redet; Alexandroff Sobifski, Mr Raoul Rossmore; Carl Schwartz, Mr George Sharland; Conrad Negale, Mr C. Reid; Gustave Tolski, Mr Reg. Anderson; Servant to Count Romanoff, Mr F. Rossmore; Olga Romanoff, Miss Nellie Mylrea; Julie Simmonds, Miss May Roberts; Andre de Loric, Miss Fitzmaurice Gill.

An exchange says:—"Upon the eve of Mr Edward Lloyd's departure for Australia, a few of his personal friends, members of the 'You Be Quiet Club,' entertained him at a dinner to celebrate the event. The toasts, although brief, were full of good wishes for the success of Mr Lloyd's tour and safe return, and the company had the pleasure of presenting Mr Lloyd with a silver flask engraved with the autographs of all present, amongst whom were Mr Michael Maybrick (the well-known song writer), Mr Kennerley Rumford, Mr R. E. Villiers, Mr N. Vert, Mr Phil May, Mr Fred Walker, and Mr Archibald Ramsden. Towards the close of the evening Mr Edward Lloyd sang a new song (written by Mr Maybrick), accompanied by the composer, and, with his usual good nature, sang two or three old favourites."



MISS OLGA BEATTY KINGSTON.