

herself; Boris, yes, Boris is a nice boy. Mark Hambourg was playing in a language I did not understand; rapid utterance seemed the ruling feature. If rapid execution is music—then we have had music to-night. There was quite a lot of it, which if I had heard a youngster at the piano, I would have been anxious for it to cease making a noise; I might have persuaded it to stop—somehow.

Some of his playing was like a musical box in marvellous execution, in the crispness of the fingering—but I prefer music of a sublimity sphere, something that I know, with associations—something that lifts one up somewhere within themselves. A lot of it was perhaps music—but I don't want to hear it, not again. I couldn't feel any angels hovering near; perhaps couldn't expect that for the money; nor could I imagine any purling brooks or birds singing, nor any of that kind of thing that seemingly musical people think they feel in that class of music. A lot of it to me was irritating noise, done at a rapid rate, and I would rather listen to silence.

Giddens, the versatile comedian of the Company, seems at home everywhere, for on the trip to Wellington he could be seen carrying luggage over a slip on the Manawatu Gorge, and a few days later dining at Government House. Dix's Gaiety Company are getting some splendid houses at the Theatre Royal, the Hill and Silvainy attraction being a splendid draw. "House Full" is posted up every night lately, and should assist the genial Percy's banking account considerably. The clever Williams quartette are doing some very neat song and dance work, and are ably assisted by Tod Calloway, whose songs are well chosen and well sung. Jim Marion, George Dean, Steve Adson, and Robin Hay, and Miss Jessie Thorne fill up an attractive evening. On Saturday night the Company will be further strengthened by the Steele-Payne Bell-ringers, who will appear in a drawing-room entertainment, in addition to the strength of the Company. Fuller's Entertainers are also doing splendid business at the Choral Hall, and it is really surprising where the people come from who regularly patronise the show. Fred.

Nordene, a L.R.A.M., has joined the Black Family for the Northern tour of this island, and is taking the place of Mrs Black as accompanist and solo pianist to the Company. The Company are working their way to Auckland, doing the smalls en route.

Sarah Bernhardt is at London Adelphi playing "Frou Frou," "Fedora," "La Tosca," and "Sapho."

Mary Van Buren, leading lady of the Daniel Frawley Dramatic Company, holds the proud distinction of being hailed as one of the three most beautiful women on the American stage, the other two being Lillian Russell and Maxime Elliot. She has been only five years on the stage, and is a well-known society belle in New York and Washington upper circles.

A maid servant had been sent by her mistress to see "Dante" at Drury Lane. When she returned she was asked how she enjoyed herself. "Oh, mum," she said. "it was so 'orrid to see such a nice lot of gentlemen all ot in 'ell!" This recalls the story of Sir Henry Irving's zealous stage manager in olden days who, during the rehearsals of "Faust," reproved his suppers for being too light hearted in Hades. "Gentlemen," he thundered, "kindly remember that you are not on Hampstead Heath, but in —!"

A Federal Judge in New York has decided that plays which deal with "questionable" situations cannot properly be copyrighted, and that even though their producers may bear certificates of copyright from the Librarian of Congress, those documents do not confer exclusive ownership such as to render infringements punishable by the law.

There is a probability (states the "Sydney Daily Telegraph") that Miss Stewart will go to America for a five months' tour through the States and Canada, an American manager having offered £800 for the season. If this arrangement is completed this would enable Miss Stewart to arrive in London in May next, and she will then appear under Mr Musgrove's management. The season, however, will not be played at the Shaftesbury, because Mr Musgrove is confident that in "Dahomey" he has a novel musical piece that will occupy the theatre for a long period.

The engagements of the Comic Opera Company will enable Mr Musgrove to keep Herr Slapoffski in Australia until the arrival of the new Grand Opera Company next year. It is Mr Musgrove's intention when he goes to England next year to begin selecting his company, which, in addition to reviving the three Wagnerian operas which were so successful during the last tour of his Grand Opera Company—"Tannhauser," "Lohengrin," and "The Flying Dutchman"—will also appear in "Tristan" and "Isolde and Siegfried," two other operas by Wagner not yet heard in Australasia.

is playing at Cove Garden.

The Daniel Frawley Company do a double tour through New Zealand, beginning at Auckland on October 12.

W. C. Field, Rickards' new juggler, is described by Melbourne critics as "one of the best."

Mr C. P. Hammond has left the Hawtrey Company to try his luck in South Africa.

Knight Ashton, of "Boccaccio" fame, is in London. He recently underwent an operation for appendicitis.

"When Knighthood was in Flower" is one of the pieces in the Daniel Frawley repertoire. The locale is laid in England during the time of Henry VIII.

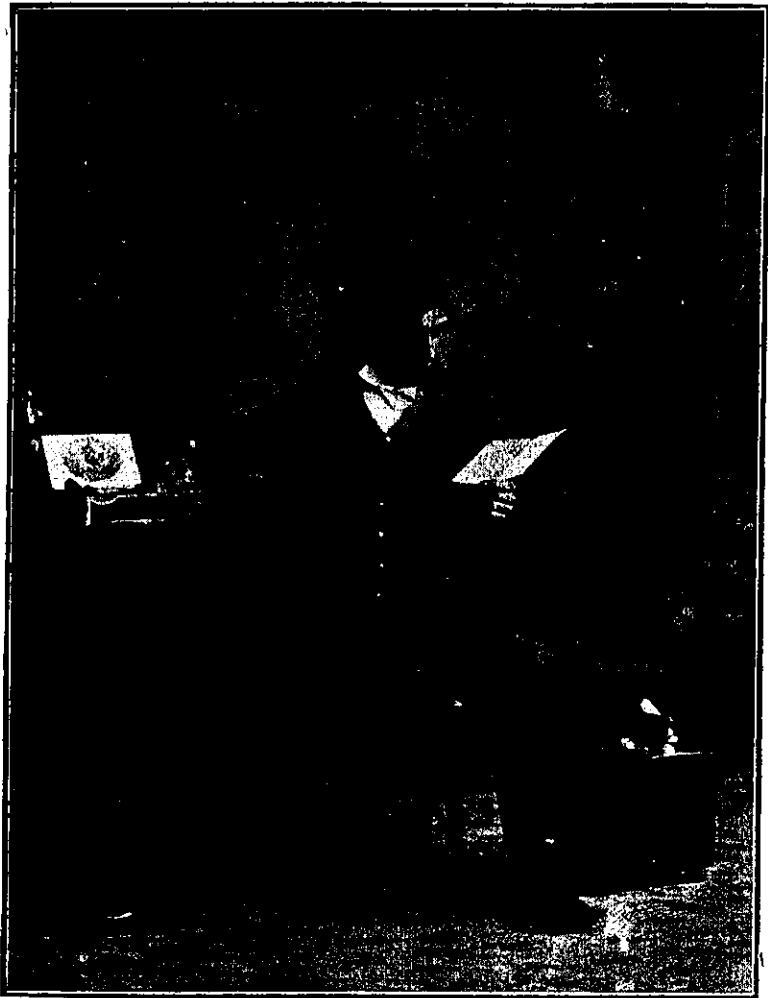
Miss Knight Mollison has got her heart's desire at last. She plays the big part in "Madame Butterfly," at the opening of Her Majesty's, Sydney.

At a recent meeting of the managing committee of the Comedie-Francaise, Paris, it was announced that the profits for the year 1902 amounted to 400,000fr. The share of each societaire was fixed at 19,000fr.

"Her Second Time on Earth" is the startling title of a new play secured by William Anderson, while "Strangers in a Strange Land" is the name of a new acquisition to the repertoire of Willoughby and Geach.

The "Pelican" says that M. Rostand, who has just been elected to the Academie, is apparently so delighted with his official uniform that he is showing it in a shop window in Paris. The get-up seemingly cost a good deal of money, the embroidered coat being priced at £18, the white waistcoat at £1, the embroidered trousers at £3, the cocked hat £2, and the sword £2 2s.

According to "The Era," one of Miss Olga Nethersole's special traits is her generosity and kindness to the sick and suffering, and no one ever pleads his cause in vain to her. During one of her tours in America, the matron of one of the hospitals which was sorely crippled with debt wrote to Miss Nethersole and asked if she would help them. Miss Nethersole immediately went down to the hospital, saw all the patients, and gave such a splendid entertainment for them that the hospital was not only cleared from debt but was set on a firm financial basis, and has flourished ever since. The patients were overwhelmed by Miss Nethersole's kindness, and the flowers which she used to take to them on her visits were cherished long after as mementoes.



Lafayette, photo.

MR O. P. HEGGIE,
Of the Hawtrey Comedy Company.