

HOWARD EDIE'S MISSION.

THE CLAIMS OF MUSIC.

Mr. Howard Edie, who has been strenuously engaged in Auckland in heralding the advent of an important musical event—the Cherniavskys—has found time to carry out one of his hobbies, and has given dramatic readings at the Theosophical rooms. His numbers were "Gitinzali" (The Song Offering) and "Chitra," a play by Rabindranath Tagore, the Indian poet, whose works have created tremendous interest. Tagore won the last Nobel prize, and is claimed by Yates to be the greatest poet of the day.

It is possible that on his return to Australia Mr. Edie and Miss Seaton, elocutionary teacher at the Melbourne University, will produce "Chitra" at the Auditorium, Melbourne. Mr. Edie will take the part of Arjuna, a famous character in "Bagvad Gita," the Scriptures of Yoga, while Miss Seaton will interpret Chitra.

The Cherniavskys could have no more ardent advocate to press the claims of music than Mr. Edie. To a "Review" representative he admitted that one of his great desires while in New Zealand would be to boom the International Society of Artists formed in London for bringing back to the crafts the art of our forefathers. Their idea is to bring into the poor man's home works of art in the form of utilitarian utensils—to transform the ugliness of the cottage into a little art gallery. And music will be the medium of development.

A TRIBUTE TO MADAME WIELAERT.

Madame Wieleart holds a pleasing remembrance of her recent visit to England, in the shape of a letter from Mr. Redgewell Dansie, F.R.G.O., of the Frangcon-Davies School of Singing, London, where Madame devoted herself to a course of study. The writer, after expressing enjoyment at teaching her, emphasises the fact that Madame's wide experience and exceptional natural gifts of temperament and voice made a rapid assimilation of ideas easy for her. Regret was conveyed at Madame's return to New Zealand, "as I am convinced that in more propitious times you could take your place among operatic artists of the front rank both on the Continent and in this country."

Chatting to a "Review" representative, Mr. Wieleart said their idea in going home was to brush themselves generally up, and to enlarge their knowledge by meeting the best known musicians in the Old Country. They were offered a splendid engagement by M. de Hondt, director of the Italian opera in Holland, and went over to England with a view of perfecting themselves.

Madame had lessons in Italian opera—in "Aida," Mimi in "La Boheme," Santuzza in "Cavalleria Rusticana," "Carmen," "Faust," "Il Pagliacci," etc., and was specially trained by Martinelli, principal tenor of Covent Garden, in Italian opera style. For dramatic art, Madame studied under Mr. Fairbairn, stage manager at Drury Lane for Sir Joseph Beecham's operatic season, while for the development of voice and oratorio work she took a course at the Davies school. "While working up for the Holland engagement, war broke out. Of course that settled everything," said Mr. Wieleart. "We were terribly disappointed. But we learnt much of new methods and systems, and we hope to utilise our experience in New Zealand."

It was fifteen years since Mr. Wieleart had been in Holland. He arrived home just in time to see his mother, who was then on her death bed. Only sheer force of will had kept her alive in the hope of seeing her son, and she died just four weeks after his return.

A real "matinee" performance of "Seven Little Australians" was given in Sydney. It began at 11 in the morning and filled the theatre even at that early hour. The usual afternoon matinee followed.

AN ECHO OF OLA HUMPHREYS.

IS SHE QUEEN OF EGYPT?

It has been left to "Chryssa" of the Christchurch "Star" to exploit the fact that Ola Humphreys, the well-known actress, is Queen of Egypt, the deposition of the Khedive Abbas and the creation of Ibrahim Hassan, his cousin, having brought this about. She works it out as follows:—

Three years ago the blonde Ola Humphreys, who is known to all New Zealand playgoers and to many socially, married Prince Ibrahim Hassan while she was leading lady at the Strand Theatre, London.

The Prince was much smitten, and she married him, left the stage, and went to Paris. Their married happiness did not last long, and two years ago she accused him of desertion and returned to her people in Oakland, U.S.A. She subsequently took proceedings against him for £50,000, and there have been various diplomatic differences in connection with her suit. It is said that under the Mohammedan law Ibrahim cannot divorce Ola, as

ion and to join his harem on his return to Cairo. Later she was deposed in favour of a newer favourite, and, considering herself spitefully used, she let the British authorities there know that Abbas was unfaithful to them as he was to her, and that he was intriguing with the Turks and the Germans to end the British occupation of Egypt. That is why the ex-member of the J. C. Williamson Company is now legally Queen of Egypt.

Rose Lee Ivy, who commences a starring engagement at the Auckland Opera House on Monday night, began life on a farm at Dakota, U.S.A., and confesses she found it drudgery. Taking a trip to New York on one occasion she studied music and dancing at an academy, and had not been going there more than a couple of weeks before she had shown so much promise that the instructor advised her to go on the vaudeville stage. Miss Lee agreed, and an engagement was secured, and so a remarkably clever comedienne was given the public.



MISCHEL CHERNIAVSKY, the 'cellist of the talented trio who will give a series of concerts in the Auckland Town Hall on February 16, 18, 24, 25.

she was legally married to him, and is therefore still his wife and Queen.

With regard to her matrimonial experiences, she has written this:—

"The Oriental husband is the kindest husband in the world, but I advise American girls not to marry one. The reason is that the Oriental is the only man who understands women. His strong point is love. He knows its ethics from A to Z. The result is that his wife is not the mistress of his home, but its plaything. Oddly enough, he makes her like it. But in some incomprehensible manner he reverses the custom of love-making. The woman becomes the suitor; man the pursued. He keeps you guessing all the time. You run after him. You cry at night. You are always in a flutter. He is not a tyrant. He is your king. You are forever trying to please him."

If Ibrahim could do that with a cute American actress he ought to be able to govern Egypt.

It seems that the change from Abbas to Ibrahim was another case of "cherchez la femme." On one of the Khedive's visits to Europe he induced a Viennese girl to become his compan-

ence with "The Glad Eye," which was first produced in England at the London Globe on the 4th November, 1911. At the present time two companies are playing it in America, one in Canada, one in South Africa, and three in the English provinces. Miss Ethel Dane (Mrs. Cyril Keightley), who is at the head of the company, was the Kiki in the original London production, and is a popular English comedy star. Mr. Frank Bradley, the leading male member of the combination, is a South Australian by birth, and returned to his native country after scoring a series of successes with Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, George Edwardes, Cyril Maude, and Granville Barker. Miss Alice Hamilton, who has been described as the "best-dressed woman on the Australian stage," is a musical comedy actress from the leading London theatres. The Wellington season will be a short one, as it will only extend over ten nights.

The Wellington season of the Gilbert-Sullivan Repertoire Opera Company is "panning out" highly satisfactorily. Large audiences have witnessed every one of the performances, and the enthusiastic applause accorded the work done by the principals, chorus and orchestra must be very gratifying to all concerned in the productions. The season will be brought to a close on Saturday evening with a performance of "The Pirates of Penzance," the company leaving the same night for Lyttelton, being due to open in Christchurch on Monday, the 15th.

Mr. Harry Cohen, who acted as treasurer for the Australasian tour of the Maud Allan-Cherniavsky combination, returned to the Dominion from Sydney by the Moeraki last week.

A very successful concert was given in the Town Hall on Sunday evening in aid of the Italian Earthquake Fund. Several of our leading artistes generously gave their services.

The programme at His Majesty's Theatre this week is an excellent one, though not quite up to the high standard which the Brennan-Fuller management have in recent weeks given us. Of course it is a hard job for any management to week in and week out always give a programme of "stellar" attractions, so that we have to be thankful to this enterprising management for the almost continuous high-grade programmes they present to the patrons of this popular vaudeville house.

Some forty members of the young Australia League arrived from Sydney by the Maitai last Wednesday, en route for San Francisco, where they are to give a series of entertainments in the Exposition Buildings. It is also intended to visit the principal cities of America, giving concerts and exhibitions of the Australian game of football. Judging by the concert they gave in St. Peter's Schoolroom last Wednesday night, the combination in-

SOUTHERN STAGE NOTES.

(By "Lorgnette.")

WELLINGTON, February 8.

Amongst the passengers who arrived from Sydney by the Moeraki last week was our old friend Mr. Charles B. Westmacott, whose mission this time is to complete arrangements for the forthcoming tour of the Beaumont Smith-Louis Meyer London Comedy Company with "The Glad Eye," "Who's the Lady," and "The Chaperon," the pronounced English, American and Australian successes. The tour opens in the Grand Opera House, Wellington, on Wednesday, the 17th, the first production being "The Glad Eye." The company engaged to interpret these three comedies was specially engaged in London by Mr. Louis Meyer, and is headed by Mr. Frank Bradley, Miss Ethel Dane, Mr. Tom Shelford, Mr. H. J. Ford, and Miss Alice Hamilton. "The Glad Eye" is an adaptation of "Le Zebre," from the French of MM. Armont and Nancey, two popular Parisian farceurs. Mr. Jose G. Levy, the adapter, is the writer of a number of successful plays and sketches, and leapt into promi-



MISS FLORENCE WEST, of the Randell-Jackson Concert Party, one of the principal attractions at the Auckland Opera House.

SMOKERS! TRY

"BONNIE DOON"

TOBACCO.

Its Extra Special Quality and Like the old Song, its RICH MELLOWNESS appeals to all.