

THE WEEK

The musical season in Lincoln opened after the torpor of the summer months with a performance of the opera "Powhatan" presented at the Lansing theatre by the "Home Opera company," directed by Wm. A. Baker of Chicago, and under the auspices of the Woman's Christian association. Opera, even of the lightest nature, is distinctly an exotic in Lincoln and is to be welcomed almost in any guise; nevertheless entertainments of a theatrical description given by amateurs are prone to be of more interest to the friends (and enemies) of the participants than to the general public, and I was present merely as an unit of that public, not as an ardent partisan pro or con. It is a distinct relief to one who does not wear the red badge of courage where the malice of critics and indignant sopranos and other con-professional vocalists is thickest to be able heartily if reservedly, to praise this performance. Weak spots there certainly were, but the opera itself, while distinctly of the class opera, *bouffe* and not opera *comique*, was tuneful and pleasing and the melodies were not compiled from more sources than, say the average De Koven, opera, moreover, except in the last act, one could almost always detect a distinct plot and the thread of a story. I grieve to be compelled to say that the orchestral accompaniment—not the orchestration of the opera which was purely good—was wretched beyond anything I have heard before either here or elsewhere. It must have seriously hampered director and soloists. I presume that lack of rehearsal was responsible for this defect. It speaks well for the drill of chorus and soloists that they were able to do so well under the circumstances. In the cast of characters the title role was assumed by Mr. Clemens Moviuss, the other important parts were assigned as follows: "Pocohontas," Mrs. C. S. Lippincott; "Laughing Star," Miss Maud Oakley; "Oquaka," Miss Agnes Sewell; "Captain John Smith," Mr. Harry A. Reese; "Captain Rolfe," Mr. Haydn Myer. Besides these characters less prominent roles were assumed by Messrs. C. W. Kettering, Mr. Fred Cooley and Mr. Arthur Walsh. The "Powhatan" of Mr. Clemens Moviuss was as good as one would expect from this sterling singer and actor; as an impersonation it belonged really to the plane of opera *comique*, and was permeated with a dry humor somewhat unexpected but wholly delightful. Of course Mr. Moviuss sang the music with ease. Mrs. Lippincott as "Pocohontas" was piquant and pleasing, a decidedly coquettish Pocohontas, and her clear soprano was heard to good advantage. Miss Agnes Sewell in the ungrateful part of "Oquaka" displayed a mellow contralto voice and a certain amount of genuine histrionic ability. Miss Maude Oakley made a decided hit in the part of "Laughing Star." The music was well within the range of her voice and her singing was at all times agreeable. Moreover her appearance was extremely attractive and her impersonation vivacious. I am inclined to believe that Miss Oakley would succeed as a professional in this line of work. The same appreciation may apply to the "Captain John Smith" of Mr. Harry Reese. It seems a pity that a young man whose temperament is so evidently suited to opera *bouffe* should be wasted upon "Old Father Antick," the law. Gilbert and Sullivan's "Trial by Jury" might, I should think, be an ideal legal part for Mr. Reese. Jecting aside, Mr. Reese is a born light opera singer, he has the voice, presence, temperament. Mr. Haydn Myer was evidently suffering from a cold and did not appear to his best advantage, but this part, as well as

the several minor parts, were acceptably filled. The chorus was tuneful and attractive in appearance (although Indian girls with blond hair and eye glasses are rare upon most reservations of the present day) and in the last act the ballet—warranted not to bring a blush to the cheek etc—was not bad if a trifle long drawn out. Upon the whole the performance was very acceptable and no doubt netted a substantial sum for the benevolent association which brought it about.

The first of a series of six concerts to be given in Lincoln this season, to be known as the "Artist Series Popular Concerts," under the direction of Bernhard Ulrich, was presented at the Lansing Theatre on Tuesday evening, Sept. 24. The Chicago Festival Orchestra conducted by Adolph Rosenbecker and assisted by a lyric soprano, A. Sophu Markee appeared in a popular program. Extended comment is impossible at this time, but I shall endeavor to illuminate this topic next week with my critical head light.

"In Old Kentucky" played to good business at the Funke on Thursday and Friday nights. It is an excellent troupe.

The first faculty concert of the season 1896-1897 was given at the Chapel of the State University by the teachers of the School of Music of that institution the evening of Wednesday, September, 23rd. A program of modern compositions was performed. The occasion was interesting chiefly as introducing to musical circles Miss Harriet E. Reynolds, a pianist who has recently returned from a five years course of study in Germany. Miss Reynolds was heard in three numbers: a Polonaise of Chopin, a Tarantella of Moszkowski and a rarely heard transcription by Liszt of a Polish folk song of Chopin. Miss Reynolds' playing was unaffected and artistic and I believe her later appearances will deepen the impression of developed ability already made upon this occasion.

PROGRAM.

- Piano solo—Polonaise op. 74.... Chopin
- Chant Polonaise (from Polish songs) Chopin-Liszt.
- Miss Harriet E. Reynolds.
- Vocal solo—Recit: "Sperate O figli." Verdi
- Cavatina "D'egitto la sui lidi." Mr. John Randolph.
- Violin solo—Faust Fantasia.... Sarasate
- Mr. August Hagenow.
- Piano solo—Tarantella.... Moszkowski
- Miss Reynolds.
- Vocal solo—To Sevilla..... Dessauer
- Mr. Randolph.
- The Brook } MacDowell
- Winter } Scherzino
- Hungarian } Miss Susie Scofield

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Mr. M. J. Murphy arrived in town today, in advance of the Chauncey Olcott company. To most of the Celtic portion of our population, Mr. Murphy's name is a household word, he having achieved considerable reputation in the lecture field and in journalism as a lecturer and writer on Irish subjects. For some time past he has been associated with the Hon. John F. Finerty, of Chicago, in giving joint lectures on Irish history and music. Mr. Murphy is very enthusiastic over the merit of Chauncey Olcott, for whose appearance here next week he is now making arrangements. He claims that Chauncey Olcott is the first Irish comedian since the days of the famous John Collins, who is capable of being thoroughly refined and graceful, interpreting the character of an Irishman with all his native gentility instead of the stable boy type so generally portrayed as specimens of Irish manhood. Being a man of extensive musical education and experience, Mr. Murphy's opinion means something when he says that Mr. Olcott is the only real singer who has starred in Irish drama in many years. At the Lansing, October 1. Seats on sale Tuesday morning, Sept. 29th at 10 a. m.

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J. FRANCIS, G. P. A. OMAHA, NEB.

First pub. Sept. 26. SHERIFF SALE.

Notice is hereby given, That by virtue of an order of sale issued by the clerk of the district court of the Third Judicial District of Nebraska, within and for Lancaster county, in an action wherein Jane E. Chamberlain, et al., is Plaintiff, and Milberry H. Lincome et al., Defendant. I will, at 2 o'clock p. m., on the 28th day of October, A. D., 1896, at the East door of the Court House, in the City of Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska, offer for sale at public auction the following described real estate to-wit:

Southeast quarter [s e ¼] of section

thirty-two [32], town eleven [11], range five [5], east of the 6th p. m. all in Lancaster county, Nebraska.

Given under my hand this 23rd day of September, A. D., 1896.

John J. Trompen, Sheriff.

Oct. 24 - C

A comfortable California trip can be taken every Thursday at 10:30 a. m. in a through tourist sleeping car, Lincoln to Los Angeles without change via the Burlington. Remember this when arranging for your winter trip. Depot ticket office, 7th street between P and Q streets. City office, corner Tenth and O streets.

SULPHO-SALINE BATH HOUSE AND SANITARIUM



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- 8 1/2c yard 28 in. half wool serge, worth 15c.
- 11c yard 30 in. half wool Scotch mixtures, worth 19c.
- 18c yard 36 in. all wool serge black and colors, worth 29c.
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- 55c, all wool 40 in. crochet chantilly—extra heavy goods for jackets and suits, worth 75c.
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- 55c, all wool 40 in. Chevron worsteds, worth 75c.
- 55c, all wool checked Czarinas, worth 75c.
- 55c, all wool 54 in. Scotch tailor checks, worth 83c.
- 75c, 50 in. real shell Czarina, worth \$1.00.
- 75c, 48 in. real German boucles, worth \$1.00.
- 75c, 46 in. wool and mohair novelties, worth \$1.00.
- 98c, 56 in. black cravenette, reduced from \$1.35.
- \$1.25, Priestley's 60 in. black cravenette, real value \$1.65.
- \$1.40, Priestley's navy and black cheviot cravenette, real value \$2.00.

98c. Large creton sateen lined bed comforts, regular price \$1.50. The biggest, by far the biggest; the most economical, by far the most economical

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\$8.48. Double plush cape, silk serge lined throughout, 27 by 125; thibet edged front, collar and top cape, high storm collar. Regular price, \$12.50.

\$4.08. Fine tailor made double Kersey cape, black only, very full sweep, 24 in. long. Regular price, \$7.50.

\$4.08. Fur collarettes at less than half price. Fine curled Astrachan, full skins, handsomely finished.

\$3.48. Special bargains for this sale in ladies' heavy twilled cheviot jackets, smooth finish and strictly all wool; black and navy; high button; wide box front; storm collar. Regular price, \$6.

\$4.98. Extraordinary sale of fine all wool rough cloth jackets; high button front; new storm collar; new sleeve; new back. Regular price \$8.00.

\$4.98. French Coney fur capes, 30 by 100; silk serge lining. Worth \$8.50.

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