



In the hope that the readers of The Observer may find some pleasure and profit in it, we have today a department of music and drama along lines not pretentious, but designed to give our readers each Sunday a more comprehensive idea of things dramatic and musical than hitherto has been given in The Observer.

Locally Charlotte theatre-goers have not a large number, nor an especially attractive lot of offerings during the fall season. This season there will be two things worth seeing. "The Message From Mars," to-morrow, and "Sergeant Kitty," on Thanksgiving. The one is a play along melodramatic lines; the other, a comic opera along conventional lines. Both have a record of success behind them and there is every reason to expect that the productions will be first-class in every particular.

Three years ago, "A Message From Mars" was presented at the Clark Theatre, New York, and won instant and enthusiastic favor on account of its refreshing novelty, thoroughly wholesome tone and delightfully amusing qualities and the brilliant acting of Mr. Hawtrey and his company. It was no small triumph for American playwrighting, as Richard Ganthony, the author, is a native of this country, although he had to go to an English actor-manager to find recognition for his work.

That "A Message From Mars" ran some 500 nights in London and 200 nights in New York is a matter of history, and the run in the latter city was ended only because Mr. Hawtrey had made arrangements long before to appear in London during the vacation time, and since then Mr. Hawtrey has given the play two revivals at Broadway theatres and with undiminished success, and there is scarcely room for doubt that its previous successes and the individual "hit" of Mr. Hawtrey will be repeated here. A play that is strong without touching several problems, that has no villain, that is funny without being coarse, that while pure and sweet in theme and development is free from mawkishness and sentimentalism, and which above all teaches positive

should be addressed to Mr. C. Whitworth Ames.)

Of all the fine arts music exerts the greatest influence on the emotions; in fact, it is considered the true and only perfect language of the emotions. Perhaps this is because the fundamental principles of music are less capable of explanation, less tangible, more difficult of comparison. In the other arts, the basis of conception and expression is more easily recognizable in sculpture, painting, or in the sense of beauty, and attempts to perpetuate such forms of beauty as are peculiar to a conception of the imagination. The same may be said of architecture and likewise to a certain degree, of painting. In painting, however, the range of expression is wider and more subtle through its variegated color effects and its possibilities of suggestion; a sentiment or emotion of such striking forms of beauty as are familiar with or can readily imagine. Poetry for its emotional effect, depends so largely upon an intellectual understanding that it belongs in a different category. The music, which is the attempt at a rational explanation of its influence, its effects are incoherent, undecipherable and irreducible of definite analysis. The secret of its power is not to be discovered, nor philosophy, nor science an explanation of its genesis. Off the arts, music, by which is meant modern music, is the strongest, but already it exerts a world-wide influence, the nature of which is to create and foster the spirit of brotherhood throughout the world, regardless of local feeling, of political dissension, or of any other artificial barrier. His fiancée asks him to take her to a ball. He would. She goes with a young millionaire, and before he comes back he is married by the fellow that he has just lost. Then comes a worthy member of society and he is married a second time. It is "A Message From Mars" that Mrs. Parker of his criticism. He sits at a table and reads a magazine article about astronomy until he falls asleep. He dreams that a Martian visits him in the night and tells him that he is to be married to a young millionaire, and before he comes back he is married by the fellow that he has just lost. Then comes a worthy member of society and he is married a second time.

Big musical productions are probably the most expensive and not infrequently dangerous in the spirit of economy make the serious mistake of sending out on the road small companies headed by inferior talents and comedians arranged with in age, a status and ability. Theatre-goers resent this baby production and in the South, where they are keen critics and lovers of good music, they especially resent it. The result is that when a really good musical production is announced they show their appreciation to the credit of the management by attention to the performance in great numbers. Just at present it is announced that a musical production, a comic opera called "Sergeant Kitty" will be seen at the Academy for two performances, the first time in this city on Thanksgiving day with a special matinee. This production comes with the endorsement of the critics of music of the play of the larger cities in this country, including New York, Washington, Philadelphia and Baltimore. The

CONFERENCE AFTERMATH.

THE ATTENDANCE A FEATURE. The Delegates Constrained to Accept Charlotte's Invitation but for Existing Conditions at Greensboro—Comment on the Appointments—Tendency to Disparage and Experience Two Sides Which Can be Ever-given Preachers—To Get Old or Get Sick.

Reverence of The Observer. That Charlotte was pleased with the presence of the Western North Carolina Conference during the past week was evidenced by the cordial second given to the invitation extended by Trinity Methodist church for the session of next year to be held in that church. No doubt this invitation would have been accepted by unanimous consent of the conference but for the peculiar circumstances surrounding Greensboro College at this time. The Conference feels that its annual session in Greensboro next year will be an inspiration and a help to those who have been in the lead in re-building the college.

The sessions of the Conference in all probability, have not been more successful since the first session in Charlotte. The auditorium and galleries of Tryon street church were filled at almost every session, and very often the aisles had to be filled with chairs to accommodate the congregation.

At the dedication service of Trinity church on last Sunday morning, the congregation was large, almost every available space in the church and Sunday school room being occupied, and this notwithstanding the inclement weather, rain and snow falling almost the entire morning. This congregation is but nine years old, and has had service all of these were present.

The appointments as announced at the closing session of the Conference caused some surprise, and much comment, but many expressions of dissatisfaction have not yet been heard. It is only natural that all the preachers were not pleased with their appointments, and no doubt some of them in the city with disappointed eyes and sore hearts concerning their fields of labor for another year.

One of the saddest features of this Conference, and it is no doubt just as true of other conferences of the same kind, which is growing rapidly, and which has grown rapidly for the past few years to press out of active service Godly men, men of ripe and rich personal experience and successful exponents of the work of the church, if such men have been so unfortunate as to have had an attack of illness, or have reached the point where gray hair indicates the approach of old age, for in this case men have usually recovered from illness and its effect, and the fact that approaching age has in no way enfeebled them does not keep them from being "pushed aside" and out of active service, "retired" from the field of active usefulness.

Of course the words of the above paragraph do not apply to the "ring" of any conference, or to the "line" as it is designated by some. The "ring" exists in solitudes, in business circles, and in the different phases of professional life, and unfortunately has come to exist in the church. The "ring" has grown rapidly in the church during recent years, but the nemesis which is sure to follow is that it will react upon itself, and in time will result in a revolution which must and will bring a reformation. Somewhere wherever it exists, may and does often thrive for a time, but as sure as God is true and as justice is right it finally cuts out its own throat.

It is said that in some conferences the antipathy against gray hair is so great that in some instances "silver threads among the gold," or brown, or black, which were in evidence a few years ago, are now disappearing. It is said that in some conferences the "clippers" or "waxing hair dyes," or similar forms of "dixie of youth" are the cause of this transformation.

However much of truth or fiction is expressed in the above, certain it is that the tendency to discount age and experience that is not hampered by feebleness is growing too rapidly in the church. The time has come when too many Godly men are "pushed aside" who are neither sick or too feeble to be yet engaged in the active work of the ministry, and whose labors would be crowned with an even larger success than in the past, because with God experience, rise and rich, in the lives of His true followers counts for much.

Moses was an old man, and yet not a feeble man, when he did much of his greatest work for the children of Israel; it may be his hair was covered with the snow of age and care, consequently upon the discharge of faithful service, but God did not "superannuate" him because of this.

When on the Isle of Patmos, St. John was an aged preacher, but the revelation of the wonderful vision God granted to him there was perhaps his greatest work for the church. He was old, and had wrought well in the service, but God did not "side-track" him and refuse him the honor of the revelation because time stamped him as an old man.

When in prison St. Paul was an old man, but God did not "push him aside" and forbid his ministry; on this account, St. Paul did by far his greatest work for the church as an old man. The same is true of other Bible characters who did the largest work for the church in the early centuries, and even down through the years, for it is only recently that the crusade against age has begun, and of necessity it must and will be of short duration.

When a man is really enfeebled by age or when sickness has so depleted his strength as to render him unable for "full work" he should rest, but no cabinet can be too careful in its investigation before its recommendation that a brother minister is "disabled." Too much light cannot be thrown upon any case before decision is reached, for above all else it is never right for truth to be sacrificed to expediency, and who therefrom is to reap the benefit, for in the end truth will stand when all else succumbs.

It has even come to be said it seems that with some in authority there are two sins for which a preacher never can be forgiven—the one for him to get sick, the other for him not to remain young. It is to be hoped that this spirit is not widespread, and that wherever it exists its decrease will soon occur. It is only right and simple justice that to every man should be

accorded the privilege, at least, of getting well. And every one should remember that age is creeping upon all men with equal rapidity, for time is no respecter of persons, and no man's opportunity of usefulness should be circumscribed on account of age until feebleness results therefrom, and nature impedes his progress.

For rich and truth eternal are And ready more than ready state, And though like heaven art content, The world is for thee as before made.

Charlotte, Nov. 19, 1904.

REGISTER - FOR STIEFF'S - Christmas Piano. When you are in Charlotte or send 4 cents in stamps for return of name and let us register for you. Read Carefully. so you will fully understand who gets this piano. On our books, opposite name, is duplicate of number given or sent to person registered. On December 24th, four business men will see that these duplicate go into a box, are thoroughly shaken and a little child blindfolded will take out one number. The person holding the original will receive the piano provided they do not own an upright piano. If you buy from us and should hold a duplicate number, we return money. If you buy elsewhere, your ticket is void. Write at once. ONLY ONE MEMBER OF A HOME WHERE THERE IS NO OTHER GIFT PIANO CAN BE REGISTERED. Write at once.

CHAS. M. STIEFF, Manufacturer of the Piano with The Sweet Tone. Southern Warerooms 211-213 N. Tryon St. Charlotte - N. C. C. H. VILMOTH, Manager.

IF WE ONLY KNEW Stomach Trouble Could be Cured. Four years ago my general health gave way. I was afflicted with a distressing stomach trouble, and could not touch solid food of any kind. For one year I would vomit everything I would swallow, even down to medicine, and water. My stomach would not retain a thing. No one could know what I suffered from weakness, dizziness, shortness of breath and nervousness. I often felt like it would be so much better could I die and get out of my suffering. On and on I was under doctor's treatment for three years, and I can only say that doctors' medicine did me no good. Then some good fate put one of Mrs. Joe Person's pamphlets in my hands, and I read where so many had been cured that were as bad off as I was. I got a bottle of the Remedy, and from the very first dose I took I knew I had struck the right thing. It was the first medicine I ever took that did the first dose did me good. For the first time in a long time, I was not nauseated after taking it. I continued it and continued to improve until I took thirteen bottles, and it made a perfect cure of me. It has been a year since I was cured, and I know I am well. I recommend it to every one who has stomach trouble, and to all who have rheumatism, as it cured my brother's rheumatism. He tried to get me to take the Remedy long before I did, but I thought because it cured rheumatism was no reason it would cure stomach trouble, and I had no faith in anything. It was as a last resort I tried it. How much suffering it would have saved me had I tried it three years before. (MISS) REBECCA TROLLINGER, Newton, N. C., Nov. 11, 1904.

ACADEMY MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21. -MR. CHAS. HAWTREY IN- "A MESSAGE FROM MARS" As played 500 times in London, 250 Times in New York. PRICES \$2.00, \$1.50, \$1.00, 75c, 50 and 25 cents. Reserved Seats now on sale at Jordan's.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC THANKSGIVING DAY Special Engagement. Matinee and Night. Geo. P. White presents the comic opera success of New York "SERGEANT KITTY". Pretty Girls, Elaborate Costumes and Scenery. Full New York Company of Sixty.

DR. H. FRAY Osteopathy. Graduate Southern School of Osteopathy, suite 3, Hunt building. Office hours 9 to 12; 2 to 4 Sundays and Thursday afternoons by appointment Phone 330; residence 874.

WADSWORTH TRANSFER CO. Baggage and Transfer Service. Phone No. 24.

A WEDDING Present. There is scarcely anything which would be more appreciated as a wedding Christening or other gift than a nice carving set. We have a number of beautiful sets, in different trimmings—our prices are not exorbitant. See them and you'll appreciate them. J. N. McCausland & Co. SOUTH TRYON STREET We give Library Voting Tickets.

PARKER'S HAIR BALM. Cleanses and beautifies the scalp. Promotes a luxuriant growth of the hair. Removes dandruff. Cures scalp diseases & hair falling. 25c. etc. \$1.00 at Drugstores.

Standard Ice & Fuel Co.

MAKING AND SELLING GOODS. The manufacturer who makes and sells his product to the user is a merchant as well as a manufacturer. Most of the cotton mills have commission merchants to sell their products. In our business we must make the goods and also sell them. It is for the selling of our products that we pay for this space. It is worth our good money to reach the purchaser with printer's ink in this way. It certainly ought to be worth the while for those who want machinery, or machine work done, to come, without any cost, when in Charlotte, to see our machine shop, pattern shop and foundry. We make things and these products of ours must be sold. There are cases where we could save more than half of your repair bill. There are times when we could fix you to run in a day, where it might otherwise require several days. The D. A. Tompkins Co. CHARLOTTE, N. C.

Lamsdown Blankets. On our Bluegrass Ranch in the Alleghany Mountains, near our mill, we are raising some of the finest sheep grown in the world, and from the wool of these sheep we are making LAMSDOWN BLANKETS, which are so beautiful and good that we are using them to advertise our business by selling them at a very low price. Ask your dealer for Lamsdown Blankets. If he does not have them we will introduce them, sell them direct from the mill, charges prepaid, at the following prices per pair: Size 60x75 inches, \$7.00; 70x90 inches, \$8.50; 80x100 inches, \$10.00. Such Blankets would retail in New York for \$12.00 to \$15.00 per pair. Made in White with Red, Pink or Blue border; in Solid Red with Pink border, and in Solid Pink with Light Blue border. You could not make a Lamsdown nor more appropriate wedding or holiday gift. Order a pair and see. Little Bopeep Child's Blankets. From the first clippings of the Little lambs we are manufacturing Little Bo-Peep Child's Blankets, an exquisite conception for baby's comfort and health. Made in White, Light Blue and Light Pink with pretty borders. Price: 30x36 inches, \$3.00; 42x54 inches, \$4.00; 48x60 inches, \$5.00; 54x66 inches, \$6.00; 60x72 inches, \$7.00; 66x78 inches, \$8.00. All put up in handsome packages and every pair warrants to please or may be returned at our expense and money refunded. Samples and descriptive circulars mailed on application. Chatham Manufacturing Co. ELKIN, N. C.

Presbyterian COLLEGE For Women Charlotte, N. C. A high-grade College for Women. Equipped with every modern improvement. Fine Building, rooms limited to two, perfect sewerage, electric lights, fire escapes. Standard high work thorough. REV. J. R. BRIDGES, D. D., President.

J. W. Wadsworth's Sons Co. LIVERY, FEED and SALES STABLES. Dealers in Buggies, Carriage, Wagons, Harness, Horses, Mules, etc. Applying Rubber Tires a specialty. Carriage and Wagon Builders. General Repair Work a specialty. WADSWORTH TRANSFER CO. Baggage and Transfer Service. Phone No. 24.

FREE The Great Library Contest. We give tickets with all receipted coal bills. Coal. Best Grade Domestic Steam. Blacksmith. Wholesale and Retail. Standard Ice & Fuel Co.



Helen Byron and Frederick Kniglus in "Sergeant Kitty."

erful, though incidentally and unobtrusively a strong moral lesson should certainly be firmly greeted and liberally attended. In it will be found, according to the most reliable authority, novelty to whet the appetite of the most jaded theatre-goer, and entertainment that will appeal to all. The play is not so much of a fantastic fable as might be presumed, but a comedy of modern London life, suggested, as the author says, by Dickens' "Christmas Carol." The same kind of lesson in good will is taught, but instead of an old Scrooge to be battered by a dream we get a young Horace Parker. This embodiment of selfishness is a rich and lazy lover of himself regardless of others. He is to marry a fond and true girl, and his heedlessness is extended to even her. He will make no sacrifice of his own convenience to gratify her, but readily lets her defer to him. He is indeed an ungracious fellow. But at length he gets his come-uppances, as they say down Long

production is under the management of Mr. George R. White, one of the best known producers of New York, and the music is by A. Baldwin Stone, whose reputation was added to materially by his useful "Mocking Bird." Critics say that in "Sergeant Kitty" Mr. Sloan has surpassed all his previous efforts. The company numbers more than 50, the costumes are costly and artistic and true in detail to the period in which the scenes of the play are laid and the scenery is painted by the best artists and faithful to the locale. In every way in the power of the management the production has been made the best that money and managerial brains can devise. The cast is a notable one, including Helen Byron, Edith Blair, both with well established reputations, Virginia Palmer, Charles Wayne, Sylvian Langlois, Frederick Kniglus and a long list of others also in the first rank. (Items pertaining to musical matters