

THE BALL SEASON.

Brilliant Programmes of this City and Brooklyn.

Some of the Features of the Leading Festivities of the Winter—Political, Charitable and Social Balls—What it Costs to Get Up an Entertainment at the Academy—Facts Useful to Those Who "Trip the Light Fantastic Too."

The ball season has again returned, and already the "busy hum of preparation" for its festivities may be noted on every hand. Previous seasons have been fittingly called "brilliant," but it is believed that none will compete with the present in the amount of amusement afforded. The sister cities of New-York and Brooklyn vie with each other as to which will be most richly represented, and no pains will be spared by either of the rivals to bear off the palm of superiority. In order that our readers may know of all of the good things in store for lovers of the dance, we have prepared the following detailed programme of the Winter's entertainment:

Of course the leading balls of the season will take place at the Academy of Music, on Fourteenth-street. They always do. The number is comparatively few, however, and very select, the cost being too great for individual resources. It is a rare occurrence that an individual attempts, singly, to get up a ball at that establishment, the only instance in memory being the Connolly Reception, the expense of which was borne by Sheriff O'BRIEN. The ball committees who endeavor to secure the building are generally referred to RULLMAN, who, with supreme indifference as to whether they engage the house or not, after assuring himself of the character of the parties or association wishing to hire, informs them that \$1,100 is the price for one night; the proprietors reserving the right to all revenues derived from the hat rooms—the tax upon hats being fifty cents each. This right is sometimes partially waived in the cases of subscription balls, to which invitations are issued, like that of the Baxter Hop, where the "hat money" charged is one dollar, the Association dividing the profits with the Academy. The cost of a brass band and orchestra is the next considerable item, nothing less than \$1,000 securing the services of a first-class company of musicians. After that comes the printing and advertising, which draws out a full thousand more, and allows of only modest tickets and orders of dancing, and last in the list is the corps of attendants, who cost not a trifle in the aggregate. Besides those named, there are other expenses, known to committees as "incidental," which might be set down at about \$900, making the expense of a full-dress ball at the Academy, with but little attempt at display, about \$4,000. Out of this total there is, in the majority of instances, to be deducted from \$300 to \$600 paid for the privilege of selling suppers, and wines and liquors. Four thousand dollars as the pay of the fiddler to those who would dance at the Academy is, of course, an under-estimation of the expenses of many of the balls of the season.

Extensive alterations have been made in the bar, and the refreshment and other rooms have been thoroughly renovated. Engagements have been made for seventy balls from Nov. 22 to Feb. 28, as follows:

The charitable are:

- Nov. 22—Red Mens Lodge.
- Nov. 24—United Brothers, F. A. M.
- Nov. 28—New-York Ship Joiners' Benevolent Association.
- Dec. 6—Washington Chapter, F. A. M.
- Dec. 8—Post Cameron, No. 78, G. A. R.
- Dec. 12—Ossian Lodge, I. O. O. F.
- Dec. 13—Dry Goods Clerks' Association.
- Dec. 15—Thistle Lodge, F. A. M.
- Dec. 21—Copstone Lodge, F. A. M.
- Dec. 22—Scotia Lodge, No. 634, F. A. M.
- Dec. 23—Manhattan Commandery, F. A. M.
- Dec. 29—Independent, No. 99, I. O. B.
- Dec. 30—Sons of Liberty.
- Jan. 2—Journymen Tailors' P. I. B. Union.
- Jan. 4—Private Coachmen's B. A.
- Jan. 10—Excelsior Lodge, F. A. M.
- Jan. 25—Herald Lodge, I. O. O. F.
- Feb. 8—French Cooks' Benevolent Association.
- Feb. 9—B. P. O. Elks.

The social and pleasure clubs are:

- Nov. 23—American Association.
- Nov. 28—American Coterie.
- Dec. 1—H. N. Society.
- Dec. 3—Children's Matinée.
- Dec. 5—Terpichorean Social Union.
- Dec. 14—I. O. S. Club.
- Dec. 17—Children's Matinée.
- Dec. 20—Young Men's Roman Catholic Association.
- Dec. 23—Hendrik Hudson.
- Dec. 24—Children's Matinée.
- Dec. 26—Friendship Club.
- Dec. 27—Ballinaslar Social Club.
- Dec. 31—Children's Matinée.
- Jan. 6—Adams Express.
- Jan. 11—Knickerbocker Association.
- Jan. 12—Shanghai Hop.
- Jan. 13—Caledonian Club.
- Jan. 14—Children's Matinée.
- Jan. 18—Hoboken Turtle Club.
- Jan. 19—Company I, Twelfth Regiment.
- Jan. 20—Hessian Association.
- Jan. 26—United Association of Heavy Men of the State of New-York.
- Jan. 28—Matinée Ball.
- Jan. 31—B. H. P. Club.
- Feb. 2—Columbia Boat Club.
- Feb. 3—T. M. Association.
- Feb. 8—S. M. D.'s.
- Feb. 13—Mozart Verein.
- Feb. 15—Stuyvesant Club.
- Feb. 16—Anti Hagner Club.
- Feb. 17—Henry Clay Club.
- Feb. 21—H. U. C.
- Feb. 22—Washington Continentals.
- Feb. 23—Baxter Calico Hop.
- Feb. 25—Matinée Ball.

The political are:

- Nov. 30—Richard O'Gorman Association.
- Dec. 7—M. T. Brennan Association.
- Dec. 16—Cummings Association.
- Dec. 19—John Galvin Association.
- Jan. 9—Thomas Kivlen Coterie.
- Jan. 16—Thomas Conan Reception.
- Jan. 17—Blair Association.
- Jan. 23—N. O. Y. B. (Pony Hartman.)
- Jan. 24—John Scott Coterie.
- Jan. 27—Thomas F. Daly Coterie.
- Jan. 30—E. L. Shandley Association.
- Feb. 1—William Walsh Association.
- Feb. 6—Walter Roche Club.
- Feb. 10—James O'Donnell Club.
- Feb. 28—Charles Connell Association.

APOLLO HALL.

Apollo Hall has been refrescoed by GARIBALDI, and the supper-rooms have been enlarged to 118 by 160 feet, and will now seat 800 persons at table. The hall is always rented with the understanding that the proprietor is to reserve to himself the right to sell suppers. The fact that this hall is under the personal supervision of Gen. FERERO is a sufficient guarantee of everything being of first-class character. Thirty-five engagements for balls have been made, extending from Nov. 21 to Dec. 31.

The charitable are:

- Nov. 21—Long Shoremen's Benevolent Association.
- Nov. 22—Ladies' Bicken Kohler (Jewish.)
- Nov. 25—Horse-choers' Benevolent Protection Society.
- Nov. 28—Morocco Dressers' Union.
- Nov. 30—Engineers' Protection Association.
- Dec. 2—Ancient Order of Hibernians.
- Dec. 5—United Butchers' Association.
- Dec. 6—Father Mathew No. 1.
- Dec. 7—Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.
- Dec. 8—Columbian Lodge F. and A. M.
- Dec. 9—Plate-Printers' Union, New-York.
- Dec. 13—Manhattan Chapter F. and A. M.
- Dec. 14—Journymen Plumbers' Benevolent Union.
- Dec. 15—Montefiore Benevolent Union.
- Dec. 16—Alpha Chapter, Eastern Star.
- Dec. 18—Coach-Drivers' P. B. Association.
- Dec. 23—Ladies' Hebrew Sewing Society.
- Dec. 30—Bricklayers' Union No. 2.

The Social and Pleasure Clubs are:

On the 30th inst., a grand reception will be given by Prof. MARTIN'S Dancing Academy. Indeed, the entertainments that have taken place under the auspices of the military in former years have been of the first order, and it is probable that those to be held during the coming Winter will furnish plenty of enjoyment to those who attend. "The Sawyer's Assembly Rooms" will be opened on the evening of December the 8th, by the patrons, students and trustees of the "Packer Institute." To those who know anything about this institution the name will be a sufficient guarantee for the good management of the reception. Several of the young ladies belonging to the Institute have expressed themselves as delighted with the arrangements for the reception.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians will occupy Brooklyn Hall on the same evening. For several years past these worthy sons of the Green Isle have mingled in the "witoheries of the dance." Last year their "annual" was attended by any number of Irish girls.

At "Sawyer's," on the 15th of the same month, the La Favorita Association will occupy the floor and "trip the light fantastic too."

The Sunny Side Literary Association will hold their annual ball on the 13th prox. at Brooklyn Hall, and on the 20th the employes of the Union Ferry Company will show themselves at the same place. With January, however, the principal balls of the season will be ushered in. Of these the Schuetzenkorps comes first in order; it will take place at Brooklyn Hall on the 11th of the month.

The event among the Scottish residents of the City—the Caledonian Ball—will take place on the 17th. What attractions the Caledonian festivities have for the sons and daughters of the land of "cakes" can only be appreciated by those who visit one of their balls.

Until the middle of February the attention of dancers will be almost constantly occupied by hops and private receptions. On the 13th of the latter month the Academy of Music will be reopened, and the feet of merry dancers will trip across its ample floor under the genial auspices of the Twenty-first Regiment. This is expected to be the finest affair of the season. On the 20th of the same month the Academy will be again occupied by the Saengerbund Association.