

Amusements.

TWO PERFORMANCES BY THE SWISS BELL RINGERS.

The famous Peak family, Swiss Bell Ringers, well known in this city, will give two performances at the Grand Opera House on Friday and Saturday evenings next. They will be accompanied by Mr. Ernest Byne, of whose performance an exchange speaks as follows:

"We have had a long experience of assumptions of female characters by males, but none approach within a thousand miles the exquisite and transforming art which Mr. Ernest Byne commands and employs. Each detail necessary to the perfect representation of a woman has been elaborated by Mr. Byne with such a thoroughness that one doubts the male prefix to his name upon the programme a typographical error. To facilitate the illusion which he would create, Mr. Byne possesses the important physical advantages of a slender frame and a feminine cast of face. Thus endowed, his talent has done the rest. A falsetto voice, attuned to a female tone, heightens and confirms the effect. Evidently Mr. Byne has studied woman physically and socially with a critical and observant eye, and he has caught their personal habits and peculiarities with rare precision—their little affectations and mannerisms. For instance, he must have spent hours in watching a lady sewing, for he handles a needle precisely as she does. The graceful carriage of the hands, which is natural to a lady, he reproduces with surprising ease. In toilette, too, he shows the taste of the lady. Last, though not least, he accomplishes the most ungraceful and amusing act which no lady can manage to her own satisfaction—that of running—in the same ungainly and ridiculous fashion. This piece of supreme imitation must have cost Mr. Byne very many tedious hours of practice.