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The present season of the Choral Symphony promises to be a great success, both financially and in an artistic way. The committee is encouraged by the present

outlook of subscriptions, to lay out a program which will comprise the bringing to the city, regardless of expense, artists of world-wide reputation. While the program is not yet complete, it can be said that two choral concerts. three symphony concerts and one miscellaneous artist concert will be give at the Odeon. The first concert will be in November, and will include the famous cellist, Mr. Gerardy. For the last concert, Sir Edgar Elgar's famous oratorio, "The Dream of Gerontius," will be rendered. Mr. Davies, of London, and Miss

Muriel Foster, for whom the solo parts practically were written, have been secured for this concert. This performance will be a revelation to the music loving people of St. Louis, as the Chorus has been entirely re-organized and every voice on the active list has been tried. New members of a like quality are being added, so that the Chorus will be composed only of trained singers.

HENRY W. SAVAGE this year is preparing for the most important season in the history of his English grand opera company. His "Parsifal" company that gave Wagner's masterpiece last year has been combined with the English Grand Opera Company that enjoyed enormous success on a transcontinental tour, giving him the most pretentious organization for presenting serious opera in English that he has ever brought together. His corps of principals will include the best singing artists on the American stage, while the chorus and instrumental forces will be largely augmented. An orchestra of forty symphony musicians will be an added feature, and these will be under the musical direction of the Chevalier N. B. Emanuel and Elliott Schenck.

Music lovers will be pleased to know that the chief new work in the repertorie this year will be an elaborate production of "The Valkyrie." This will be the first of the "Nibelungen Ring" operas to have a production in English, and will be followed later on with "Das Rheinand with the followed later on with "Das Kheingold," "Siefried" and "Gotterdammerung," The remainder of the repertoire will include Wagner's "Lohengrin" and "Tannhauser," Verdi's "Rigolette" and "Aida," Puccini's "La Boheme," and Gounod's "Faust."

The tenth season of the organization will open with a week in Newark, and a brief New England tour of two weeks before the annual engagement in Boston for two weeks at the Tremont. The company will then visit Montreal and Toronto, its itinerary including a second tour of the South and Western States as far as the Pacific coast

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THE POWER OF SOUND. The suggestion of objects and events, the awakening in the mind of definite concrete images, may take place two ways. First, the actual sounds and motion of the music may perceptibly resemble actual sounds and motions of other things. If we look down any list of titles of musical pieces, says Edmund Gurney, we are certain to find examples of this. Brooks, cascades, storms, bells, hammers, rides, gondolas, sources of sound, and moving things of all sorts are laid under contribution; while such titles as Restless Nights have a more remote but real connection with concrete images of movement. This kind of direct resemblance, aided greatly, of course, by actual association, has a place in dances and marches. And amid the variety of scenes and objects which these words might suggest the mind may be easily led more or less to define the image either by the pervading character of the music or by certain special points in it. Thus, of two dance pieces, one might be appropriated to nymphs, and another by giants, by flowing grace in the one case, and by more emphatic phrases and, perhaps, bass effects, like heavy steps, in the other. And we can easily realize the quaintness of turn or the solemn advance which would indicate a marionette or a hero as the subject of a funeral march. Such features, again, as blending or as hurry and confusion of strains easily suggest external analogies. It is obvious that such resemblances as these may present all varieties of closeness and remoteness, of reality and fancifulness. The fountain may truly suggest itself in the trickling passages of the music; the confusion of the carnival, though not thus self-evident, may be accepted as an image which, at any rate keeps easily parallel with the changing

maze of musical sounds. Purcell's indication of the fall of Troy by a descending scale, on the other hand, is not less uninteresting as illustration than as music.

The second way in which images of external facts may be suggested by music is by general qualities. Here, again, we might procure our the sea, evening, moonlight, sunny landscape, any scene or season with which we associate a distinct emotional coloring, may find in music its faint reflection. These more general analogies are often combined with the more distinct resemblances, as is natural, if we consider that definable qualities in music are mainly connected with distinct features of motion. The same calm and steady musical flow, which might suggest a quiet succession of waves, has naturally an expression of tranquillity corresponding with the same idea.

These suggestions, however, remain in al-

most all cases extremely indefinite. This is sufficiently clear, when we have only some very general quality to fix our image by; but even the more special points of motion or sound leave almost always a very wide latitude of choice. Given the title, of course all who are the least interested in having an image at will have the same image; but, left to themselves, they might each select a different one. will defer for a moment the disputed subject of what is known as program music, where the musical illustration which is attempted is of a much more elaborate kind, and where high æsethetic value is claimed for the perception of the correspondences. As regards the simpler suggestions which can be summed up in a title, there can be little dispute. They belong naturally rather to the slighter category of musical sketches and impromptus than to work of long labor and elaborate construction; and, however essential, they are at any rate convenient, inasmuch as the number of technical designations by which musical pieces can be distinguished is small, and persons who do not themselves perform the pieces cannot be expected to burden their memories with keys and opus numbers. The interest of the imagined resemblances even where strong enough to be worth taking into account, is not likely to be identified with the excellence of the work. The interest, for instance, which any one may derive

from reading the remarks on Mendelssohn's

visit to Italy, often found in programs, as an

introduction to his Italian symphony, is the in-

terest, not of musical interpretation, but of personal sympathy with the happy composer of the happy music. At the same time the confusion of the essential and the accidental is so apt to creep in, and to pave the way to further fallacies, that even on these outskirts of expression the independent impressiveness of music is worth defending. The very ease with which music lends itself to subjective association makes it the more necessary to notice how entirely subjective the association usually is. And when a composer, lovingly or humoroutward occurrence or the inward vision which, acting through hidden channels, may have stimulated his fancy, he sometimes innocently gives a handle to a misconception he would often be the first to disown. For instance, Schumann tells how a composer had been haunted, while writing, by the image of a butterfly floating down a brook on a leaf, with the result that his composition was characterized by a kindred simplicity and tenderness. Very likely it was : but Schumann would not have denied that, in the range of music, hundreds of equally simple and tender compositions might be found, written by writers who, as it happens, had not any such particular vision floating before their eyes, and, in conceding this, he would concede all for which I

Similar remarks apply to titles and pieces of suggestion of a less concrete kind. Schumann's own works present many titles, drawn both from visible realities and from more abstract conceptions, which are considered most happily characteristic, but which were actually thought of after the composition of the respective pieces. And his written criticisms are specially emphatic in respect of this very point. His imagination, indeed, suggested as humorous and interesting flashes of allowable subjective interpretation as can be anywhere found; and one is specially tolerant of such fancies when they come from a master; when wine is of fine flavor, one does not quarrel with the froth. But, while his images run riot in most graceful fashion, we feel that he is always estimating them at their true value; and he often puts in a word to warn us against mistaking the dream for the reality, the dim mirror of metaphor for the veritable region, "which," as he says, "we have never explored, and consequently can have no recollection of."

As regards ideas unconnected with concrete images and events, it might be at once sur-

mised that the only ones music might be thought capable of expressing or suggesting must belong in some way to definite qualities of the music and its emotional expression. For example, that while the idea of fervor and insistence which is a distinct mode of feeling associated with motion and gesture, is expressible in music by emphatic reiteration, there is no similar way of expressing an idea so withdrawn in the abstract intellectual region any other permanence must be a totally irreleas perseverance. I believe that such is the case, and that any analogies attempted outside this emotional class of ideas are of the most barren kind. A single example of an attempt of this kind will suffice. Professor Macfarren. in his critique of Brahms' "Requiem," says that in a pedal bass, continued with beautiful musical effect for a long period, we must conceive the composer to have "set down his thought of the Divine permanence." Such a

rabbrochement seems exactly as mechanical as that of the fall of Troy and the descending scale, noticed above. The perception of something going on for a considerable time neither makes us feel permanent, as, e. g., triumphant music makes us feel triumphant, nor wakens any feeling which corresponds with it in the any feeling which corresponds with it in the way that, e. g., the feeling of amusement corresponds with the perception of caprice or pursuit. The connection of the abstract quality of the musical feature with the Divine or vant and deliberate mental act; and Brahms here as much or as little expresses his "thought" of anything beyond his splendid musical effect as we should express our "thought" of the bottomless pit by playing a shake on the lowest notes of the piano.

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THOPIN "Chopin's predilection for the fashionable salon society led him to neglect the society of artists. That he carried the 'odi profanum vulgus et arceo' too far cannot for a moment be doubted," says F. Nieckson in his "Chopin." "For many of those who sought to have intercourse with him were men of no less nobility of sentiment and striving than himself. . . Musicians, with a few exceptions, Chopin seems always to have been careful to keep at a distance, at least after the first years of his arrival in Paris. This is regretable, especially in the case of the young men who looked up to him with veneration and enthusiasm, and whose feelings were cruelly hurt by the polite but unsympathetic reception he gave them.

"I venture to make the sweeping assertion that Chopin had among his non-Polish friends none who could be called intimate in the fullest sense of the word. . . Of all his connection with non-Poles there seems to be only one which really deserves the name of friendship, and that is his connection with Franchomme. Even here, however, he gave much less than he received. Indeed, we may sayspeaking generally, and not only with a view to Franchomme-that Chopin was more loved than loving. But he knew well how to conceal his deficiencies in this respect under the blandness of his manners and the coaxing affectionateness of his language. There is something really tragic, and comic, too, in the fact that every friend of Chopin's thought that, he had more of the composer's love and confidence than any other friend, . . Of Chopin's procedures in friendship nuch may be learned from his letters; in them is to be seen something of his insinuating, cajoling ways, and of his habit of speaking not only ungenerously and unlovingly, but even unjustly, of other persons with whom he was apparently on cordial terms. In fact, it is only too clear that Chopin spoke differently before the faces and behind the backs of people. . . . Taking a general view of the letters written by him during the last twelve years of his life, one is struck by the absence of generous judgments and the extreme rareness of sympathetic sentiments concerning third persons. As this was not the case in his earlier letters, ill-health and disappointments suggest themselves naturally as causes of these faults of character and temper. To these principal causes have, however, to be added his nationality, his originally delicate constitution, and his cultivation of salon manners and tastes. His extreme sensitiveness, fastidiousness, and irritability may be easily understood to derive from one or the other of these conditions."

PROBBLY the first of the "European invasion" of musicians for the coming season will be Harold Bauer, the pianist. He comes in September for the Worcester, festival, after which he proceeds direct to the Pacific coat where the real work of his fourth American tour will beet.

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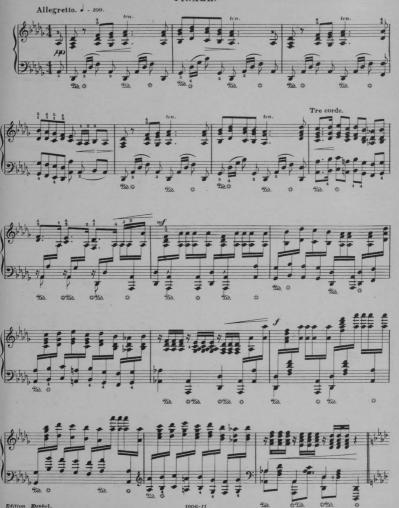
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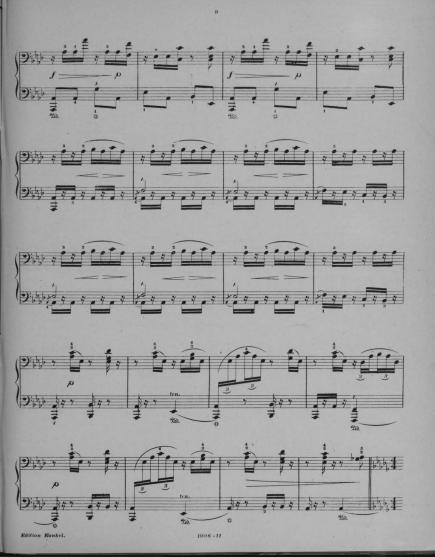




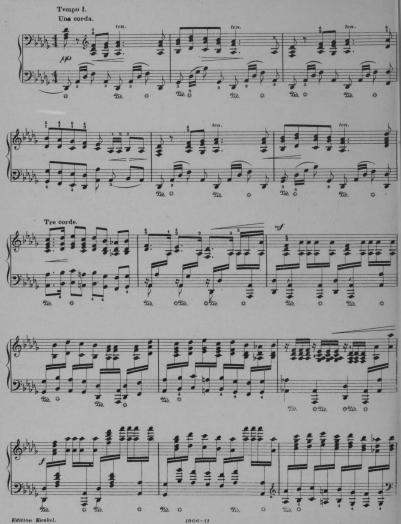


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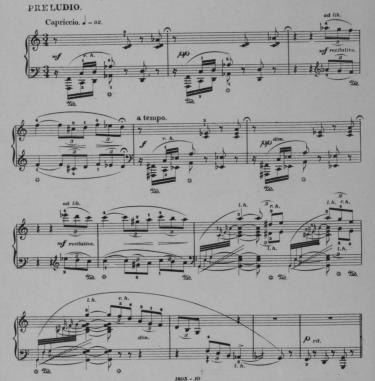




SEXTETTE.

From Donizetti's
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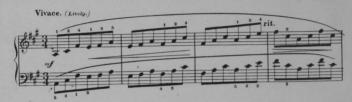


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RENÉ L. BECKER.

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Poco marcato la melodia. (The metody wett marked.)



Players preferring not to cross the hands may play the melody given in small notes with the left hand and the chords with the right hand.











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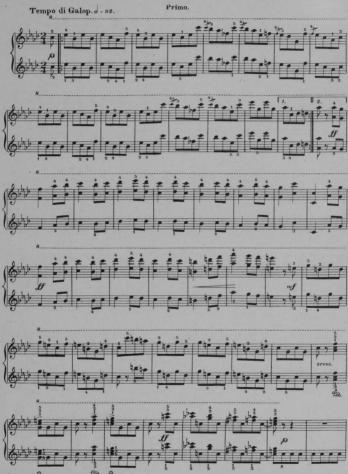
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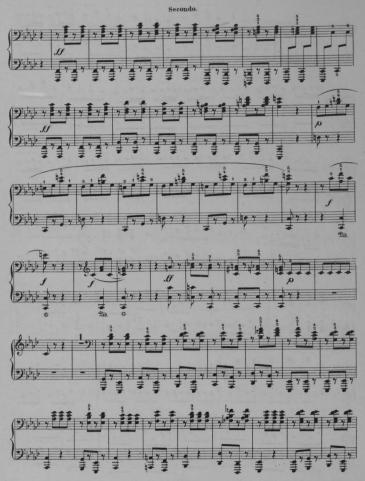




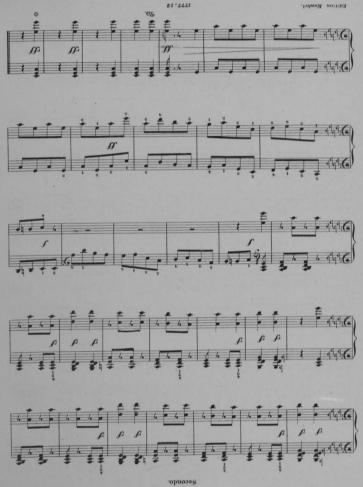














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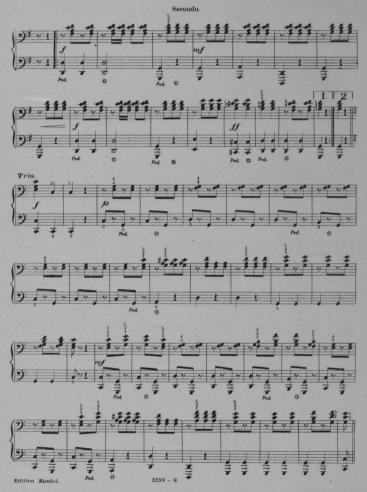
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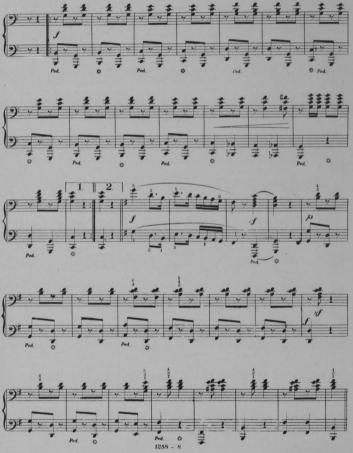


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(ICH LIEBE DICH, NUR DICH ALLEIN.) Words by I. D. Foulon.

Music by A. G. Robyn.



2. Wa rum ich trau-rig, bist du fern, Und warum mich die Freude flieht! Wenn 1 Ich weiss nicht warum ich dich lieb. Warum nach dir mein Herz sich sehnt, I I do not know why I should love Thee, on ly thee, and wish thee mine; But 2. Why far from thee are days so long! Why does my spir _ it droop and pine! Why 4. \$0.



2. mag nun hah_nen, ba _ se sein, Mein Le_ben denk' an dies al _lein: Ich 1. weiss nicht wa_rum diess mein Herz Ist oh _ ne Dich so od' und leer; Doch 1. do not know why 'tis my life Seems to be but a part of But 2. some may smile and some may blame, But sweet my love bear this in Though 1283 - 2

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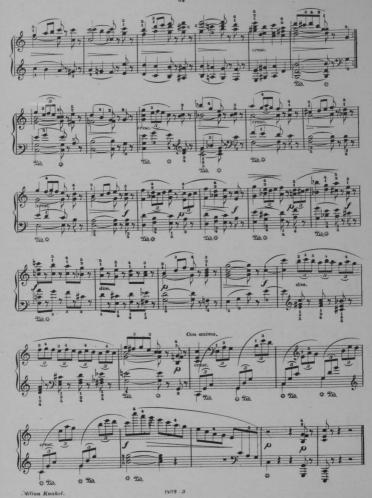
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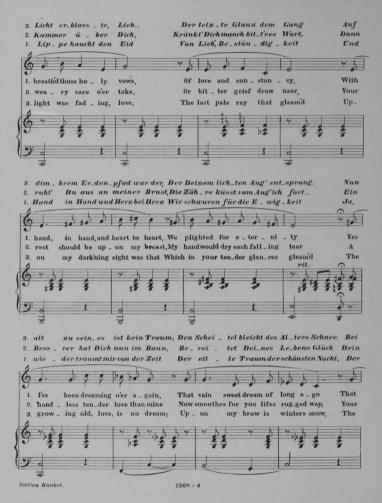
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- 3. Lie_bes_licht be_glänzt den Pfad, Der Strahl am A . bend_himmel blinkt_
- 2. die_ser Arm Dich schützt und trägt; Dein Glück und meins zu_sammenrinnt
- lie _ be _ hold, Die mir ge _ lob _ te: scho _ ne Braut Die 1. Glanz des Au _ ges



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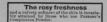
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HAT is it to play Beethoven, and how did Beethoven play his music? Who knows? Who sets the pace and the style and the ex-

pression for this great master's compositions?

Are great artists (who have doubtless made much study of the works in question, the traditions concerning them, and contemporary artistic performances) to be bound down to the technique and say so of a distant past in the performance of works like those in question? Of how much value would a performance be to-day carried out according to the manner and methods of fifty years ago?

and methods of my years age.

If imitation is wanted, and that only, why
will not an electric piano or an æolian attachment answer the purpose? The expense
would certainly be much less, and the performance would be mechanically perfect.

Is it desirable, if it were possible, to bring all "interpretation" to the dead level of any one model, no matter how good it may be?

Trained imitation is, doubtless, more to be desired than crude originality and weak individualism, but in the case of real talent, and more especially in the case of undoubted genius, the player's indidividuality is desirable.

The critics say the "thought" of an author is lost in a player's individualism. Who knows the "thought" of Beethoven in this matter? It is not thought he seeks to express no thought. It is a medium for expressing feeling and emotion, and that is never twice alike in any human soul.

If Beethoven was the genius he is acknowledged to be, did he ever play any of his compositions exactly twice alike? No. The great
master, like his music, was a thing of moods
and emotions, and the interpretation of any
composition was according to the mood or
state of feeling in which he happened to be
at the time. He could not do otherwise, except by becoming a mere automaton, and he,
of all men, would be the last to submit to any
such condition of things.

The liberty Beethoven would claim for himself in the matter of interpretation he certainby would allow to others. And we have not the least doubt but that if he could have heard Reisenauer play his C-minor Sonata he would have highly approved of it, and very possibly have expressed a wish that he could have played it half so well.

Modern technique, modern instruments, modern culture require modern interpretation, and this calls for intense individualism. Would Beethoven play his music now as he did when it was composed? Why, even in those days he laughed at the "meanings" the program-makers put into his compositions, claiming that each performer should, and, if he were an artist, would put his own personality into his playing.

Nowadays, when nearly everything is tech-

nique and pace, the true artist is soon recognized. One will instance, without trying to be exhaustive, a few different styles of pianoplaying. First: there is playing with technique and nothing else; merely the playing of certain notes as quickly as possible with certain accents. Let us rid ourselves of this method at once. Secondly: there is playing with technique, and certain musicianly accomplishments and with taste. This is very acceptable for a student affecting the so-called Classic School. But is this enough? Should not the emotional side of music predominate? Thirdly: there is playing not only with musicianly accomplishments, taste and technique, but with passion, sorrow and joy that thrills one through and and carries one for away into the fairyland of light and shade, the roaring of mighty waters. the land of the glowing East, and to nature itself where all is truth and perfection. Is not this what we are seeking? True Art at its greatest! Let us prize it as we should.

OPULAR AIRS
PLEASE SOUSA.

John Philip Sousa, who from his
experience as composer and conductor, extending for more than twenty years,
and gained in all parts of this country and
Europe, is better qualified than any one to
speak on popular music, believes that simplicity
is the greatest element of popularity in music.

"There is probably no term," said he in Music Trade Review, "more absurd and more often mistaken in its real meaning than 'popular mistaken."

"To the average mind and very often to the professional musician 'popular' music means only the lightest and most ephemeral of compositions, banal and vulgar in conception and common place in treatment. And yet in reality there is nothing so absolutely incorrect as this view of the question. If we take the music that has been performed the most by orchestras, hand, operatic company, or piano, we will find in every instance that the most meritorious of inspired compositions, whether based on complex or simple tunes, have survived the longest.

"There certainly is no composition in the world to-day that has enjoyed greater vogue and popularity among the widest range of listeners during the last decade, from the technical musician to the uneducated and merely sympathetic auditor, than the "Tannhauser" overture.

"For spontaneity, brillianey, and melodic charm, most musicians will agree that the 'Poet and Peasant' overture is the master work of Suppe, and that composition has been drummed and hammered for these many years.

"A melody happening to catch the fancy of the public becomes momentarily popular, but unless it bears the absolute signs of eleverness, if not genius, it soon palls and situs into deepest oblivion. I do not think that any one will question that Faust' is the best opera that Gounde ever worte—melodically, dramatically,

and from the technical point of orcheatration it stands above the others, and beyond all doubt it is the most popular of the great Frenchman's compositions. The same argument can be used with equal force for 'Carmen, 'Bohemian Gitl,' 'Maritana,' and other operas that have won and still maintain the popular favor.

"Annog shorter compositions, such as marches, waltzes and songs, the very same condition exists. I recall that when I was in Vienna two years ago, I asked Emil Lindau, the famous Austrian libretitist, if the 'Blue Danube Waltz' was played out, and received the terse reply that 'so long as Vienna endured, so long would the 'Blue Danube' live."

"My theory is that any melody with sufficient intrinsic merit to catch the popular taste, and capable of being harmonized by strict rules, is worthy of consideration. Such a melody, badly harmonized and crudely notated, only appeals to me as would a pretty child of the slums, badly dressed, slipshod, and with disheveled hair. But place the same girl under the skilful ministrations of the hairdresser and the modiste, and mark the change. The girl of the alley may be transformed into a radiant beauty. And so the original melody may undergo a like metamorphosis and emerge from the chrysalis of the commonplace to the effugent beauty of the butterfly.

"I fear that the professional musician, and the dilettante as well, allow their prejudices to warp their judgment very often, in their estimate of a musical composition. The poet or lover of poetry would never denounce a poem like "The Skylark' as trilling merely because it is short and simple, but I think that sometimes we of the musical profession are apt to think that the mastodonic symphony, the elephantine overture, or the leonine prelude are entitled to all our consideration; while the skylarkist's valse, march or ballad wins no place in our affections.

"There are times when the simpler and plainer-spoken themes appeal more potently. I agree with Longfellow when he says:

> Come read to me some poem, Some simple and heartfelt lay That shall soothe this restless feeling And banish the thought of day. Not from the grand old masters. Not from the bards subline, Whose distant footsteps echo Through the corridors of time. Read from some humbler poet. Whose songe grashed from his heart As showers from the cluds of summer Or tears from the eyelids start.

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