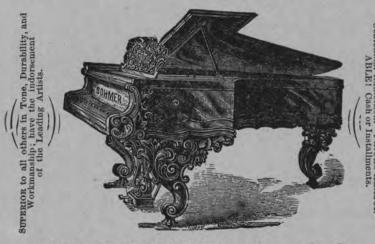
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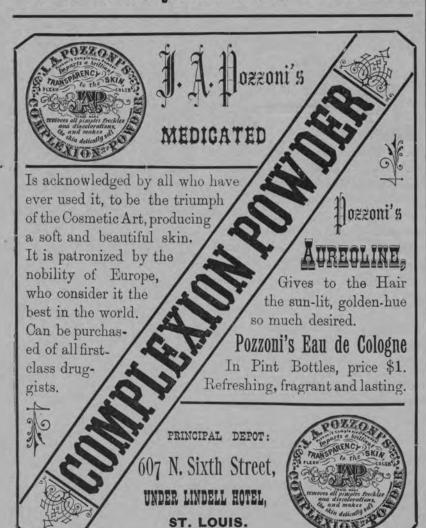
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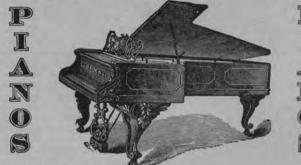
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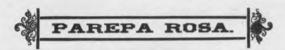
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THEODORE THOMAS.

HEODORE THOMAS was born in East an inferior place in the orchestra to that of the most eminent orchestra conductor in America. When the Cincinnati College of Music was established in 1877, he was

elected its director. Dissensions soon arose between him and the trustees of the institution, which and will last from June 18 to 23: seven concerts. culminated in his resignation in 1880. He then

place he had formerly occupied. He is a most thorough drill-master, demands thorough work from the forces under his command, and knows how to infuse his own enthusiasm into them. He has made several tours through the United States. On April 27th, Mr. Thomas will begin the greatest tour he has ever yet undertaken, under the management of Mr. Seymour E. Locke. The traveling forces will consist of an orchestra of sixty men, selected from the New York Philharmonic Orchestra; Mrs. Humphrey Allen, of Boston, and Mrs. Norton Hartdegen, of New York, sopranos; Mrs. Belle Cole, contralto; Mr. Fred. Harvey, tenor; Mr. Franz Remmertz, basso; Madame Rivé-King, solo pianist. The tour will open at Baltimore in a festival on April 26, 27 and 28. There will be four concerts, three evening concerts and one matinee.

From Baltimore they go direct to Pittsburgh, where a second festival will be given on April 30 and May 1 and 2, consisting of three evening concerts and a matinee.

The third festival will be given at Louisville, Kentucky, on May 11 and 12. There will be two evening concerts and a matinee.

The fourth festival, will be given at Memphis on May 14 and 15. This will consist of two evening concerts and a

A single concert will be given in Nashville on May 16. On the 17th "The Redemption" will be given in Cincinnati with the May Festival chorus and with the orchestra increased by local musicians to 100 men.

train will take the troupe to St. Louis, where the fifth festival will be given on May 18, 19 and 20.

The sixth festival will be given at Kansas City Missouri, on May 21, 22 and 23: four concerts.

After giving two concerts in Keokuk on May 24 and 25, the seventh festival will be held in St. Paul on May 28 and 30: four concerts.

The eighth festival will be at Minneapolis on May 29 and 31. It will comprise four concerts.

From St. Paul the troupe will go direct to San Francisco for the ninth festival, which will be the great event of the tour. They will arrive there on Frisia in 1835. He came to America while June 6, and the festival will open on the 7, and he was but a boy, and gradually rose from continue to the 13. There will be seven concerts.

On the return trip the first stop will be at Salt Lake City, where the tenth festival will be given on June 15 and 16, in the Mormon Tabernacle.

The eleventh festival will be given at Denver,

A single concert will be given in Topeka on June

and then will come the twelfth and final festival at Omaha on June 29 and 30.

THEODORE THOMAS.

A single concert will be given at Council Bluffs on July 2; three at Des Moines on July 3 and 4; one at Cedar Rapids on July 5; one at Waterloo on the 6; and the final one at Dubuque on the 7. Mr. Thomas will then go immediately to Chicago, where he will begin a six weeks' season of summer night concerts in the Exposition building, on July 9.

We intended to give a fuller biographical sketch of Mr. Thomas than we have done and wrote Mr. Thomas for material. He referred us to his manager, who referred us to Mr. Methudy, of St. Louis, who told us he knew Thomas used to play first violin in New York. Not to disappoint our readers, we add some details, for which we have drawn at sight on the bank of our imagination. If incorrect, Mr. Thomas has no one to blame but himself. We will call this: Biographical Sketch No. 2.

Theodore Thomas was born in Arkansas in the returned to New York, where he easily resumed the 25; one in Leavenworth on the 26; one in St. Joseph year of our Lord 1786. He was the first white (or at

> least partially white) child born in that country. His parents were "moon-shiners," which explains the fondness he has always had for the "moonlight sonata." At a very early age he used to pull the cat's tail in order to hear her sing, and to this early exercise may be traced his subsequent fondness for instruments with cat-gut strings. Young Theodore, when he was five years old cried for a moustache and a fiddle, but his hard-hearted father denied him both. One night, while his father was sleeping off the effects of moonshine dew, the child got into the old man's pocket-book and extracted from it a nickel. Most children would have invested the money in candy-not so young Thomas; he invested it in a Jew's harp, on which he practiced early and late. In this way he learned many operas. At the age of nine, with a hatchet and a pair of tongs, he made Stradivarius violin, manufacturing the strings from the material furnished by the wild-cats which then abounded in that section of the country. It was on this that he composed and played two tunes which will forever remain immortal. The first is known as "The Arkansaw Traveler," and the other "The tune the old cow died on." When Thomas visited Europe some years ago, he played these remarkable compositions to Richard Wagner. When he heard them, Wagner wept and said he had lived long enough. At sixteen Thomas could play "Money Musk," and at eighteen he could perform "Pop goes the Weasel." He was then employed by a speculator to lessen the value of real estate in a town of

After the performance in Cincinnati, a special on the 27; one in Lincoln, Nebraska, on the 28; one of the Eastern States by practicing on his fiddle for ten or twelve hours a day. The neighborhood soon became untenanted, and the speculator purchased the land at half its value. Then he gave Theodore a ticket to New York. He is now at the head of the biggest brass and string band in the country, which he will soon lead forth as knights errant in the holy cause of music, against the beer and sauer-kraut barrels of our once peaceful land. Thus is it again proven that virtue is its own reward

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EDITOR.

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HE remains of John Howard Payne, the author of the words of "Home, Sweet Home," have been brought to this country and are to be buried with considerable éclat, in Washington, on June 9th. We shall, of course, keep our readers informed of what will occur, but we may as well first

as last say that there is a great deal of unnecessary fuss made over the bones of a man whose sole claim to immortality is that he wrote very commonplace words to a Sicilian air that happened to be taking and became universally known. the "moonshine" has been taken out of all that has been or is being said about Payne, the one fact that remains is that Payne got all his abilities entitled him to during his life, and that he was a remarkably lucky dog to have stumbled upon the wishy-washy words of "Home, Sweet Home," and upon Sir R. Bishop, who arranged the air which we all know, and which has rescued his name from oblivion. The attempt to make a great man of Payne is simply absurd. He was no musician at all and his poetry is but one remove from doggerel.

s it not a fact that there is a great deal of needlessly dry teaching of music? Of course, there are many things about music which, in themselves, are dry, and yet must be taught, if any real progress is to be made. Even these, however, can be invested with some degree of interest for intelli-

gent students, if their ultimate purpose is explained and as far as possible exemplified. A student's "why?" is as fair a question in music as in mathematics, and should be answered, we shall not say with the same exactness, for that is not often possible, but with the same readiness. To answer a question concerning the wherefore of anything in music as if it were foolish or impertinent, is always to discourage a pupil, for he must put one of two constructions upon the answer: either that nature, strongly tend to show, if they do not posithere is no reason for the rule he is asked to obey, which will diminish his respect for music, or that his teacher is an ignoramus who does not know the reasons of what he mechanically teaches, which will lower the instructor and his instruction in his estimation. When, as is generally the case, the teacher's own ignorance is at the bottom of the neglect or refusal of explanations, it is perhaps as well that the latter conclusion should be reached by the pupil, since it is correct, and may lead him to change his incompetent instructor for a better one, but there are doubtless many cases where the instructor knows, but refuses an explanation because he thinks that it would be of no use at that should, however, probably have said that the degree stage. It should never be forgotten however, that when a pupil seeks information, then is the time art-growth, rather than as we did, "the degree of to give it, if at all possible, for then is the time when what is imparted will be retained. Even if many, if not most, understand material improvethe pupil is not sufficiently advanced to understand ment rather than intellectual progress, forgetful the explanation in all its details, it is better to give of the fact that, in the words of the poet:

it to him, and let him understand what he can of it, leaving to a later date a second explanation which will round out the knowledge already acquired, than to lose the opportunity to fix in his mind something of importance, at the time when the mind's receptivity is excited by curiosity.

CONDITIONS OF ART GROWTH.

ANKIND are universally endowed, in

some degree, with the art feeling, which is but another name for the sense of the beautiful, and with the art impulse, which is the desire to give expression to the conceptions of beauty, whether evolved from the soul, as in music and poetry, or constructed from the elements originally furnished by the perception of outward objects, as in painting and sculpture. There is, however, a vast difference between the coarse statuary of Egypt and the masterpieces of a Michael Angelo or a Praxiteles, between the gaudy and childish paintings of China and those which adorn the walls of European and American art galleries, between the rude song of the plantation negro and the works of a Beethoven, a Verdi or a Gounod. In other words, the difference between the potentialities of the seed and the realities of the full-grown plant, crowned with blossoms and nodding in the breeze and sunshine, is so great, that one has to stop and reason about the matter before he can convince himself that the disparity is one of degree rather than of kind, cf development rather than of intrinsic character. Indeed, there are those who, adopting the pseudo-philosophical method of explaining all diversities of tastes and intellectual development, by referring them to race or national characteristics, claim that the differences we have noted are differences of kind, based upon differences of blood. If, however, we examine the infant art of peoples widely separated ethnically and chronologically, we must be struck by the great similarity in the art-expression of tribes and nations which have no ethnical or known historical connection. The rude idols of uncivilized peoples, wherever found, have an unmistakable family resemblance; the strong contrasts of color, the startling and gaudy, with little regard to symmetry of form or harmony of color, characterize the pictorial art of barbarous nations of all ages and climes, and the irregular minor chants of the Indian, the Kaffir and the Malay bear so close a resemblance to each other that it is doubtful whether European ears could distinguish any difference in their respective styles. We are not here to deny that some races are more intellectual than others; that, for instance, the greatest artworks are the product of the Caucasian race, nor even to discuss how far this superiority may be due to the influences of heredity, but we think the facts we have alluded to above, and others of a similar tively establish, that the condition of art at any time, and among any nation, in other words, its rate of growth, is determined by the degree of civilization which the nation may have attained. say the nation, we mean by that either the nation as a whole, or the classes in which the artist moves, for no mere man has ever been far ahead of his time and associates. Even genius of the highest order is subject to the influence of its surroundings. Great artists are always the topmost flowers upon a blooming stalk, and the same forces that have produced them have also brought forth the less conspicuous blossoms which attend them. We of intellectual development determines the rate of civilization," for the reason that, by civilization,

"Never is a nation finished while it wants the grace of art,
Use must borrow robes from beauty, life must rise above
the mart."

Homer's contemporaries knew nothing about the telegraph, and, for that reason, some of our modern utilitarians might not consider them civilized; but they had sufficient cultivation of the mind, sufficient intellectual development, to enable them to appreciate, and preserve for future generations, the master works of his poetic soul.

If the feelings and powers from which art springs are universal, it cannot be denied that, even among the cultivated nations, art, even of the highest type, takes on a local coloring. That is another proof of the fact that great artists also are part and parcel of the place and age in which they live, and tends to establish the fact that art is, under proper conditions, the spontaneous outgrowth of intelligent society, and the expression of that society'sideas of beauty. Truly great art-works cannot, therefore, be the product of a society whose ideas of beauty lack intellectual and moral elevation. If sensuality surrounds the artist, his work will partake of its grossness and we will look in vain for grand, soul-inspiring results. We may have the finished frescoes of Pompeii, but not the madonnas of Raphael. The artist stands on the pinnacle of the intellectual life of the society to which he belongs, but if that "pinnacle" is a rotten stump in the midst of an intellectual bog, however tall he may be, his horizon will be limited, and his work will reproduce the scenery of the bog or reflect its influences. An artist is but a man, influenced by his surroundings; indeed, usually an impressionable man, more than ordinarily influenced by them. If, on the one hand, he lives among ideals, it must not be forgotten that, upon the other, his nature feeds upon the appreciation and sympathies of his contemporaries, whose tastes and feelings, thus necessarily, and even unconsciously, influence his own, and, through them, reproduce themselves in his work. This is particularly true of music, which, of all the arts, furnishes the most immediate expression to the sentiments of the soul. The painter, in copying some of nature's great works, may produce, or reproduce, works whose character shall not be greatly influenced by the intellectual and moral conditions in which he lives; but the musician, whose work has no prototype in nature, will necessarily put into his work what is in his soul. What we have just said explains why a nation's art becomes a criterion, not only of the degree of skill of its artists, but also of the intellectual and moral development of its advanced classes.

Art in general, and music in particular, then, demand for their best development, besides the technical skill which schooling and practice alone can give, an atmosphere of high intellectual and moral culture; of culture for culture's sake, and not merely as a means of obtaining material wealth. In this country, we have, as is probably natural in a new empire, a civilization that is utilitarian and materialistic in its tendencies. So long as this is so, it will be useless for us to expect the production of great art-works. There are, however, bright spots here and there, where a more elevated standard of civilization is established, and we think it will not be very many years before that higher standard shall have been generally recognized and adopted by our people. Our colleges and seminaries, a large proportion of the press and the intelligent portion of the pulpit are, in their several ways, creating an atmosphere in which the fine arts can live and thrive. We may yet live to see an era of American art that shall equal the best that Europe has seen. In the meantime, we shall go on, in our humble way, endeavoring to contribute our mite towards establishing the proper conditions for the development of art generally, and especially of the most refined and purest of them all-music.

THE OLD COMP.

Gray was his hair, and his form was bent, And his shoulders were round and high, As he leaned o'er the 'case' with a dreary look, And the 'stick' in his trembling fingers shook, As he said with a weary sigh:

"I am not so young as I once was, boys,
And it seems to me in my gloom,
That life after all, in its motley ways,
In its lights and shadows and whirl of days,
Is one big Composing Room.

"One man gets the 'fat,' and fills up his stick With double-leads and quads, While another's 'copy' is 'solid' cast— 'Runs on' without breaks from first to last, As his way through life he plods.

"There's poor Jack Smith, who died last week, All fortune's favors missed; His happenings e'er were—sad to tell— Set up in Agate and Nonparell, And Captions barr'd from his 'list'

"While O. P. Jenkinson, look at him! Gone now to Congress I hear. All leaded-pica his line of life— A friend to back him—a rich, young wife— And forty thousand a year.

"Did Jenkinson know more than poor old Jack When he sat by us at the case?" Was Jenkinson honester, braver, more true, More staunch to bis friends like me and you, That he should win in the race?

'Not a bit! 'Twas just as the Foreman of Life Gave him easy copy to make; He'd but to go straight and he couldn't fail To reach the haven, to weather the gale, While Jack's was a different 'take.'

"In life, events are the letters we set
In the sticks of daily cares,
Till the 'galley' is full, and the 'proof' is made
And Conscience 'reads' it—the sorry jade,
She seldom an error spares!

"And then we revise—there is last week's lie
Crops up in a battered way—
Our habits have got somehow upside down,
We have to 'transpose,' to 'indent,' to crown,
To dele, as best we may.

"Let us hope, when the 'form' has gone to Press And the serried columns stand. In their proud array on the big broad sheet Of the Book of life, we may chance to meet Our reward from the Master's hand!"

-BERNARD BIGSBY.

THE SCIENCE OF SOUND.

**SKETCH of the origin and genius of "Russian Horn Bands" has, of late, been going the rounds of the musical press, which conflicts with the facts of science in one point, but is so plausible that it tends to obscure and misguide the minds even of fine musicians whose branch of the art is not connected with the science of tubular acoustics. I allude to the assertion of an utter impossibility, indicated by italics in the quotation: "He (Maresch) ordered forty horns to be made—each capable of producing only one note. These horns were distributed among forty players, who were taught to play pieces of music by sounding, at the proper time, the single note which each horn produced."

the proper time, the single note which each horn produced."

This statement evinces more of sentiment than investigation of the laws of sound, particularly tubular acoustics, which furnish no basis whatever for such a romantic superstructure as the above neat but specious mystification. The science of sound, including all phases of speech and music, is the most wonderful, profound and potential of all the sciences; and yet, among the typical savants and professors of natural philosophy, there is seldom found one who knows anything of its immutable laws and symmetrically beautiful complications, although most of them can expatiate glibly on its surface manifestations, such as detonations, reverberations, rate of travel, etc.

The only true science that could rationally be termed "occult," and which continued to be so until a comparatively recent date, was that of sound; and the credit of bringing the master science and art out of chaos and utter darkness into cognizable order and clear light, is wholly due to the patient perseverance and experiments of musicians.

No course of education, however thorough in its specific bearings, is liberal and complete, which does not embrace a fair knowledge of musical theory; and every man of education who lacks this knowledge, whether by his own neglect or that of his Alma Mater, should at once take measures to remedy the defect, instead of stultifying himself by affecting contempt for and pronouncing trivial an elegant and philosophic branch of knowledge of which he is densely ignorant.



and so on.

Not one of the long hidden marvels of the science of sound is more wonderful than this revelation, in which we find no intermediate tone in the first or lower octave; but one, the fifth, in the second; and three in the third—the third, fifth and minor seventh; while on the fourth octave are registered all the tones, almost as on a string or voice, subject only to the volition, power and skill of the performer.

Before drawing conclusions from this acoustic phenomenon, it is best to settle the "Russian Horn" question. The sketch is doubtlessly true in every detail except that of the one note horns, which is simply one of the many pleasing canards that easy credulity or misconception picks up and circulates. That only one note on each horn is used, can easily be; and that either G or upper C in the second of nature's tubular octaves is the note, there can be no doubt, because these are the most firmly fixed, accessible and easily hit; and while the players are all, necessarily, in the natural scale, the horns—like the key-board of a piano—are pitched in all the gradations of the chromatic scale.

are pitched in all the gradations of the chromatic scale.

In former times—not very remote—all horns, except the slide trombone, were crooked to every key necessary to keep the players in the natural scale. This is not now—nor ever can be—entirely dispensed with, but is much narrowed and improved in its application to valved horns; all of which are merely trombones with mechanical facilities for bridging over the onerous work of mastering the slide. This cunning circumvention works well at the start; but nature takes its revenge on the valves and favors the slide as they respectively advance among the complex tortuosities of tubular acoustics. The slide trombone, in itself—like the voice and "string quartette"—is a perfect instrument; and besides these, there are no others that, strictly, are so. One of the insuperable causes of this is the immutable law of "enharmonic differences," by which the pitch of tones is lowered by progression into sharp keys and raised by progression among the flat keys; for instance, C sharp is higher than D flat, but on fixed instruments the same key must be used for both.

A glimpse of the wonderful results obtained from a scientific arrangement and combination of seven of the phenomena of nature's tubular scales of sound is all that is needed, or can be presented, in this connection; and any seven, in juxtaposition, half a tone apart, will give equally available and complete results. I will illustrate by the B flat tenor trombone—in bass clef—because it is most in use.

*This is substantially but not strictly true; strings and bells

*This is substantially but not strictly true; strings and bells have one fundamental sound, but they also give harmonics, or upper-partial tones, although, unlike in tubes, the harmonics of strings and bells cannot generally be given predominance over the fundamental tone. That is doubtless what our contributor means.—Editor.



It is to this class, then, that I will now present facts to contravene the fiction in the "Russian Horn" matter. Nature furnishes horns, conch shells, etc., and man fashions grand improvements on nature's models from metallic, mineral, vegetable and animal substances, severally and in combinations; but that nature or art does or can produce a tubular wind instrument, "capable of producing only one note," is not—even in any approximate degree — among the possibilities.

In order to guard against misapprehension, it is proper to state that the province of tubular acoustics referred to, is the exclusive property of the resonant horn species, having cup mouthpieces into which the wind column is injected and propelled, by the tongue tip, clear through the horn. Tabular wind instruments, with reed, whistle, or pan-pipe mouthpieces, and with —or without —wind escapes on the sides of the tube, such as flutes, clarionets, bassoons, flageolets, organ-pipes and the like, are in principle, though not in practice—exactly those governing bell bands — "Swiss bell-ringers." But the fact is that amy horn-shaped tube, with a cup mouthpiece, from the finest modern cornet to the crudest, old, tin dinner-horn—or even rude fabrications of pot-metal, sheet-iron, wood, paper, clarious the fact is that amy horn-shaped tube, with a cup mouthpiece, from the finest modern cornet to the crudest, old, tin dinner-horn—or even rude fabrications of pot-metal, sheet-iron, wood, paper, clarious in the hands of an expert, produce three octaves and enough of a fourth octave to show its resources. Thus:

First octave. Sec. oct.

First octave. Sec. oct.

The pitch of tubes, like strings, is lowered by engthening. The trombone, with slide full up, is one tube; then there are six other tubes; then the table fine the bilde to the best of each is relatively identical with the others, and and so on

The scale at the second position is that of A—three sharps; the third is A flat—four flats; the fourth is G—one sharp; the fifth is G flat—six flats (or F sharp—six sharps); the sixth is F—one flat, and the seventh is E—four sharps. These seven different lengths of tube fill the whole requirements of every shade of perfectly attuned sound from low E to any height the player can go, and with much choice of position or location of identical notes in different scales; a great boon denied to the fixed, or valve horns, by the principle of "enharmonic differences." One instance will suffice for clucidation: G, the minor seventh of the third octave of the scale of A (three sharps), is a shade lower than the same note in the scale of G (one sharp) on fourth position; while G, the second in the fourth octave of the scale of F (one flat), on the sixth position, is higher than the standard G of the fourth position. To an accomplished slide trombone player these discrepancies are easy of adjustment, but impossible to a valve operator. This will be more clear to most of the latter by putting the instanced note in treble as upper A, which, taken relatively in the second position, would be through the middle or half-tone valves; and, on the sixth position, through the first and third valves. This is the chief reason, of several, why a valve trombone can never take rank in a first-class orchestra.

What has been presented comprises the merest fraction of a full digest; it is simply an indication of the wealth that is stored in the inviting mines of acoustics. The dictum of Lord Kames, in his "Elements of Criticism," published over a century ago, and accepted as indisputable by all the broadminded ever since, that "hearing is the master science.

I may remark that most musicians—and "professionals they are," if living by music confers that "trade-mark"—are only fairly fluent readers and creditable performers of musical compositions. Few know enough of theory to enable them to improvise a correct—not to say tasteful—a

of this love and admiration of the O. M's is somewhat on a par with the like sentiments which they entertain for their "Father who is in Heaven, whom they have not seen," as evidenced by the love and respect they evince for their fellow musicians—in the same line—"whom they have seen." Some of them have a vague idea that the O. M's—"ever so long ago"—meaning the Mozart or Beethoven epochs—erected a net-work of sharps and flats—from pure "cussedness"—as a sort of Cheval de frise to impede progress, make music seem grand and cost ever so much time, brainwork and money to learn it. How few, comparatively, even fully comprehend and properly appreciate the great phenomenon that is encountered at the very threshold of theory, namely, the two half tones incorporated by the inscrutable wisdom of the Divinity into the scale of sound? The thoughtless see in this only a freak of nature, while the thoughtful know and feel that all the difficulty and beauty in music hinges on these two half tones. They may also be likened to the keystone of a bridge, whose withdrawal would wreck the whole fabric.

W. H. Neave.

"Is anybody waiting on you?" said a polite dry-goods clerk to a young lady from the country. "Yes, sir," replied the blushing damsel; "that's my fellow outside; he wouldn't come into the store,"

THE "LONDON TIMES" ON WAGNER.

ALLING upon Richard Wagner for the first

ALLING upon Richard Wagner for the first time without having been informed of his peculiarities was to experience a mild shock. Entering the room where his visitor was seated, he would throw the door wide open before him, as if it were fit that his approach should be heralded like that of a king, and he would stand for a moment on the threshold, a curious medieval figure in a frame. The mystified visitor, rising from his seat, would behold a man richly clad in a costume of velvet and satin, like those of the early Tudor period, and wearing a bonnet such as are seen in portraits of Henry VI. and his three successors. Buffon used to put on lace ruffles and cuffs when he wrote, and Wagner had his composing costume—that of a Meistersinger—or rather several costumes, for he would vary his attire not only according to his own moods, but according to the faces of people who came to see him. He would not commit the incongruity of sitting down in scarlet to converse with a man whose features denoted that he was in a "brown study," as we say; he would prefer to leave such a one for an Augenblick, while he hurried out to slip on some "arrangement" in subfuse hues. Dress was of real help to Wagner in composition. Genius often has recourse to mechanical appliances for stimulating thought, and there was nothing more laughable in the German musician's slashed doublets than there was in the monk's robe and cowl which Honoré de Balzac always sported when he sat down-for a spell of hard work. It was a pity, however, that Wagner should have allowed an action to be brought against him a few years ago by a Parisian Milliner, who made charges (resisted as exorbitant) for "pink and green jackets." This action set all Paris laughing, and confirmed the French in their unkind opinion as to the composer of Tannhäuser being a mere eccentric poseur.

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wagner could never make friends in Paris; his character would not dovetail with that of the French; and he hardly understood the importance of conciliating those literary and musical coteries

sort, of which Wagner encountered many—rankled deep in his mind and made him say that the French were Vandals, whereas, in truth, their quarrel was not so much with his music as with him personally and with his uncivil followers. An influential critic, who recognized Wagner's genius, was asked to say a good word for him. "No," he answered; "half-a-dozen of us might put him in fashion, but we refuse to try because the public taste is not vet.

and with his uncivil followers. An influential critic, who recognized Wagner's genius, was asked to say a good word for him. "No," he answered; "half-a-dozen of us might put him in fashion, but we refuse to try because the public taste is not yet refined enough to appreciate what is good in him. If his music should become popular merely as a novelty before being understood, we shall have a weary time of it with young eccentrics claiming to be his disciples. We have our Parnassiens (French esthetics) who give us novels without plots and verses without metre. We do not want to start a school of brayers on the horn and cymbal-clashers who will persuade us that melody is a weakness." It is not generally known that Wagner was nearly being asked to set the libretto of Aida to music. The scenario of that opera emanated from Mariette Bey, who requested M. Camille du Locle to write a libretto on the plot which he supplied. A new opera being required for the inagguration of the Grand Theatre at Cairo, a composer was sought who, for an honorarium of £6,000, would undertake to be ready with his music in three months if possible, and in six months at farthest. Félicien David was first asked to do the work, but declined, saying he could not bind himself to a time engagement. Mariette then wished to put the libretto into Wagner's hands, and hoped to tempt him with the promise that the opera should be set on the stage with unparalleled magnificence, as it eventually was. Meanwhile, it had been ascertained that Verdi, who is a quick worker, and can summon inspiration almost at his pleasure, was willing to compose the music of Aida, so that the offer was never actually made to Wagner. One must rejoice that it was not, for even in his happiest vein the author of Lohengrin could not have excelled the work which ranks highest among Verdi's compositions. But, in any case, it is doubtful whether Wagner would have responded to Mariette's appeal, for he liked to work at his own time, in his own way, and to be his own librettist. He was Wagner could never make friends in Paris; his character would not overail with that of the French; and he hardly understood the importance of conclining those literary and musical coteries which are all-powerful in recommending innovation of the commending innovation of the co

built Wagner reigned there as a Pope. The glories of that unique opera house had drawn the eyes of all mankind towards Bayreuth. Hans Richter's orchestra, the singing of Frau Materna, the Sisters-tehmann, and Niemann, the tenor, the laxury of the costumes and scenery provided at the expense of King Louis, elated the Bayreuthers, and social ostracism would have been the punishment of any townsman who failed in proper enthusiasm for all that the composer said, did, or invented. When Wagner showed himself at Angermann's the clinking of Schoppen on the marble tables ceased; officers and students, desirous for more beer, realled to the Kellme in an undertone; the familiar sausage was mittened with a sofem unoverneed of the jaws, white each with a sofem unoverneed of the jaws, white each with a sofem unoverneed of the jaws, white each with a sofem unoverneed of the jaws, white each with a sofem unoverneed of the jaws, white each with a sofem unoverneed of the jaws, white each with a sofem unoverneed of the jaws, white each with a sofem unoverneed of the jaws, white each with a sofem unoverneed of the jaws, white each with a sofem unoverneed of the jaws, white each with a sofem unoverneed of the jaws, white each with a sofem unoverneed of the jaws, white each with a sofem unoverneed of the jaws, and terrorized everybody down to the call-body into perfect discipline, it must be admitted that he reduced such results as London admired last season in the performance of the Meistersinger. Nothing better could be imagined than the end of the second act, with its crowd of journeymen and merry prentices, its intimitable watchman and comic Beckmesser, each and all playing and singing their parts with most life-like art. The admirable coordination of sounds in the choral clamor to which the crowd disperses could only have been attained by dint of arduous rehersals, superintended by amasterfal spirit.

By en at home in his villa Wahnfried, Wagner could neever quite unbend. He expected every visitor to give him a tribute of wella

ner, who had an ear for the murmurs of the multitude, must have mused uncomfortably on the fate which is apt to overtake Royal favorites in times of popular commotion. Baron von Pfretzchner, the Premier and Minister of the King's Household, once wrote to him peremptorily, "I must see the King this afternoon, so arrange the matter, without fail," but Wagner had no more power to contrive an audience with the King than he had to bestow a lock of the Monarch's hair. A little adventure which once cost him a bad ducking, and might have had still worse results, illustrates the precarious footing on which favorites stand with a Sovereign highly sensitive as to his dignity. A water party by moonlight had been organized on the lake near King Louis's summer palace, and a celebrated prima donna had been invited to sing some of the duets from Tristan und Isolde with the King. Wagner, in his fancy dress, and a page, who sculled, completed the quartette in the Royal boat. It was all very poetical, and the lady, carried away by the romance of the occasion, made so bold as to administer a gentle caress to the King who resented this breach of etiquette by a push which sent her overboard. Wagner plunged after the soprano, whose tuneful voice was being raised with rare force, and succeeded in rescuing her; but it was a doleful party that presently stepped on shore—Isolde sobbing and wringing out her clothes, the Meistersinger creaking in his shoes, Tristan murmuring as he stalked away with an injured air, and the page, no doubt, laughing in his sleeve, after the manner of his irreverent kind. Wagner used to say that the King had always given him more than he should have dreamed of asking; but that he had been cured of proffering requests by the significant tone in which his Majesty said "Nein" the first time he was asked for something that he had been cured of proffering requests by the significant tone in which his Majesty said "Nein" the first time he was asked for something which it did not suit him to grant.

THE ORIGIN OF NEGRO MINSTRELSY.

The origin of Negro Minstrelsy.

T was in the year 1830, that a young man of about twenty-five years of age, of a commanding hight, and dressed in scrupulous keeping with the fashion of the time, might have been seen sauntering idly along one of the principal streets of Cincinnati. To the few who could claim acquaintance with him he was known as an actor, playing, at the time referred to, an engagement as light comedian in a theatre of that city. He did not seem to have attained to any degree of eminence in the profession, but he had established for himself a reputation among j lly fellows in a social way. He could tell a story, sing a song and dance a horn-pipe in a genuine style.

If it must be confessed that he was deficient in the more profound qualities, it is not to be inferred that he was destitute of all the distinguishing, though shallower virtues of character. He had the merit, too, of a proper appreciation of his own capacity, and his aims never rose above that capacity. As a superficial man, he dealt with superficial things, and his dealings were marked by tact and shrewdness. In his sphere he was proficient, and he kept his wits upon the alert for everything that might be turned to profitable use.

Thus it was that, as he sauntered along one of the main thoroughfares of Cincinnati, as has been stated, his attention was suddenly arrested by a voice singing clear and full above the noises of the street, and giving utterance in an unmistakable dialect, to the refrain of a song to this effect:

"Turn about at" wheel about, an' do jis so, An' ebery time I turn about, I jumps Jim Crow."

"Turn about an' wheel about, an' do jis so, An' ebery time I turn about, I jumps Jim Crow."

Struck by the peculiarities of the performance, so unique in style, manner and "character" of delivery, the player listened on. Were not these elements—was the suggestion of the instant—which might admit of higher than street or stable-yard development?

As a national or "race" illustration, behind the

development?
As a national or "race" illustration, behind the footlight, might not "Jim Crow" and a black face tickle the fancy of pit and circle as well as the "Sprig of Shillallah" and a red nose? Out of the suggestion leaped the determination; and so it chanced that the casual hearing of a song trolled by a negro stage driver, lolling lazily on the box of his vehicle, gave origin to a style of music destined to excel, for the time being, all others, in popularity and to make the name of the obscure actor, W. D. Rice, famous.

Rice, famous.

As his engagement at Cincinnati had nearly expired, Rice deemed it expedient to postpone a public venture in the newly projected line until the opening of a fresh engagement should assure him opportunity to share fairly the benefit expected to grow out of the experiment. This engagement had already been entered into, and accordingly shortly after, in the autumn of 1830, he left Cincinnati for Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh.

The old theatre of Pittsburgh was an unpretending structure, rudely built of boards, and of moderate proportions, but sufficient, nevertheless, to satisfy the taste and secure the comfort of the few who attended. Entering upon duty, Rice prepared to take advantage of his opportunity. There was a negro in attendance at Griffith's Hotel, on Wood street, named Cuff—an exquisite specimen of his sort—who won a precarious subsistence by letting his open mouth as a mark for boys to pitch pennies into, at three paces, and by carrying the trunks of passengers from the steamboats to the hotels. Cuff was precisely the subject for Rice's purpose. Slight persuasion induced him to accompany the actor to the theatre, where he was led through the private entrance and quietly ensconced behind the scenes. After the play, Rice having through the private entrance and quietly ensconced behind the scenes. After the play, Rice having shaded his own countenance to the "contraband" hue, ordered Cuff to disrobe, and proceeded to invest himself in the cast-off apparel. When the arrangements were completed, the bell rang, and Rice, dressed in an old coat, forlornly dilapidated, with a pair of shoes composed equally of patches, on his feet, and wearing a coarse straw hat in a melancholy condition of rent and collapse, appeared and produced an instant effect. The crush of peanuts ceased in the pit, and through the circles passed a murmur and the bustle of the liveliest expectations. The orchestra opened with a short prelude, and to its accompaniment Dan Rice began to sing:

Ob, Jim Crow's come to town, as you all must know, And he heel about, he turn about, he do jis so, An' eb'ry time he turn about, he jump Jim Crow.

The effect was electric. Such a thunder of applause as followed was never heard before within the shell of that old theatre. With each succeeding couplet and refrain the uproar was renewed, until presently, when the performer, gathering courage from the favorable temper of his audience, ventured to improvise matter for his distich from familiarly known local incidents, the demonstrations were

to improvise matter for his disticutured incidents, the demonstrations were deafening.

Now it happened that Cuff, who meanwhile was crouching in deshabille under concealment of a projecting flat behind a performer, by some means received intelligence at that point of the near approach of a steamer to the Monongahela wharf. Between himself and others of his color in the same line of business, and especially as regarded a certain formidable competitor called Ginger, there existed an active rivalry in the baggage-carrying business. For Cuff to allow Ginger the advantage of undisputed descent upon the luggage of the approaching vessel, would be not only to forfeit all considerations from passengers, but by proving himself a laggard in his calling, it would cast a damaging blemish upon his reputation. Liberally as he might lend himself to a friend, it could not be done at that sacrifice. After a minute or two of fidgety waiting for the song to end, Cuff's patience could endure no longer, and cautiously hazarding a glimpse of his profile beyond the edge of the flat, he called in a hurried whisper, "Massa Rice, Massa Rice; must hab my close! Massa Griffif wants me—steamboat's comin'."

The appeal was fruitless. Massa Rice did not

hab my close! Massa Griffif wants me—steamboat's comin'."

The appeal was fruitless. Massa Rice did not hear it, for a happy hit at an unpopular city functionary had set the audience in a roar in which all other sounds were lost. Waiting some moments longer, the restless Cuff, thrusting his visage from under cover into full three-quarters view this time, again charged upon the singer in the same words, but with more emphatic voice, "Massa Rice, Massa Rice! must hab my close! Massa Griffif wants me—steamboat's comin'!"

A still more successful couplet brought a still more tempestuous response, and the pleadings of the baggage carrier were unheard and unheeded. Driven to desperation, and forgetful in the emergency of every sense of propriety, Cuff, in a ludicrous undress as he was, started from his place, rushed upon the stage, and laying his hand upon the performer's shoulder, called out excitedly, "Massa Rice, Massa Rice! gi' me nigga's hat—nigga's shoes—nigga's coat—gi' me nigga's tings! Massa Griffif wants me—steamboat's comin'!"

The incident was the touch in the mirthful experience of that night that passed endurance. Pit and circles were one scene of such convulsive mer-

The incident was the touch in the mirthful experience of that night that passed endurance. Pit and circles were one scene of such convulsive merriment that it was impossible to proceed in the performance, and the extinguishment of the footlights, the fall of the curtain, and the throwing wide of the doors for exit, indicated that the entertainment was ended.

Such were the circumstances, authentic in every particular, under which the first work of the distinct art of negro minstrelsy was presented.

AUGUST WILHELMJ.

at Usingen, an old town in the duchy of Nassau, about twenty miles from Frankfort-on-the-Main. His father, a barrister and doctor at law, now living at Wiesbaden, has an extended reputation as one of the most important wine-growers of the Rhine country. His mother was formerly a distinguished singer and pianist, and a pupil of Chopin. His first master was Conrad Fischer, of Wiesbaden, under whom he made extraordinary progress. He could play almost before he could talk. He began to use the violin at the age of four. At seven he exhibited his accomplishments for the entertainment of Henrietta Sontag, who was on a visit to his family, and she was so

of four. At seven he exhibited his accomplishments for the entertainment of Henrietta Sontag, who was on a visit to his family, and she was so charmed with the exactness of his execution and the purity and beauty of his tone that she embraced and kissed him, and predicted for him a splendid future. At the age of eight he played in quartets of Haydn, showing already a natural talent for chamber music, which he has since cultivated with rich results. In his ninth year he appeared for the first time in public. In March, 1856, he played at a charity concert in the theatre at Wiesbaden, and is said to have made a great popular sensation. Notwithstanding the evident bent of his genius, his father insisted upon training him for the law. August remonstrated for a long time in vain. At length Dr. Wilhelmj agreed that the boy should devote himself to the violin provided some high authority found in him the promise not merely of a clever musician, but of a great artist. And so in the spring of 1861, young August set out for Weimar to submit himself to the baydgement of Franz Liszt.

And so in the spring of 1861, young August set out for Weimar to submit himself to the judgment of Franz Liszt.

We can imagine the picture of the handsome, bright, earnest lad of sixteen, standing beside the piano at which the white-haired master, hero of a thousand triumphs, opened Spohr's Eighth Concerto and began the test. The concerto was followed by Ernst's variations on Hungarian airs, Liszt playing the accompaniment. Then Wilhemj played some shorter pieces at sight. When he paused, Liszt rose from the piano and exclaimed: "What! they thought of making you a lawyer? You were born for music. A few days later Liszt went with the boy to Leipsic, and placed him under the care of Ferdinand David. Three years at the Leipsic Conservatory laid the solid foundation of his greatness. Hauptmann and Richter gave him a sound training in the theory of music. (Joachim Raff afterward instructed him further in the same branch at Wiesbaden.) David taught him the technique of the voolin, and exerted a fortunate influence in the development and fixing of his style. This eminent master was the best pupil of Spohr, who is commonly regarded as the founder of the modern German violin school. The breadth and smoothness of Wilhemlj's cantabile playing might thus seem to have been transmitted to him in a direct line from the famous virtuoso and composer in whom these qualities were so much admired. But in Spohr's case there was a tendency toward the weakness of over-refinement from which Wilhelmj is entirely free. is entirely free.

NO KEY-NOTE.

A venerable colored man invested in a watermelon at the Central Market, and walking off to find a re-tired spot in an alley when a brother of color hail-

"Yes, I know, but watermellyons and politicks doan run togeder."
"I to long to your church, too."

"I belong to your church, too."
"Dat all may be, but dis am no general love "Say, Uncle," continued the other as his mouth

"Say, Uncle," continued the other as his mouth continued to water, "we am of de same race?"

"Sposin' we am. Does de white folkses whack up 'kase day am all white?"

"I lent you half a dollar once,"

"Dat's so, but I paid it."

"Won't you divide on de groun' of charity?"

"Look a-beah sah!" said the old man, as he turned around, "you can't strike the key-note, no way you can fix it—not on dis watermellyon! If you'll see me later—catch on some time when ize luggin' home a mushmelon wid one side caved in—sunthin' werry cheap an' soft—an' you'll put in on de groun' of your ole wife havin' de whoopin' cough an' my ole wife havin' de measles at de same time, we'll sot down an' devour de business in company. Go back, sah—go right back!"

AUTHORS AND STIMULANTS.

ARK TWAIN finds two glasses of champagne admirable for loosening the tongue, and a happy inspiration for an after dinner speech; but his experience has been that wine clogs the brain for mental work, and he can never write to his own satisfaction after drinking even one glass. He likes tobacco as a stimulant. Oliver Wendell Holmes prefers an entirely undisturbed and unclouded brain for mental work, unstimulated by anything stronger than tea or coffee, unaffected by tobacco or other drugs. His faculties are best under his control in the forenoon, between breakfast and lunch. The only intellectual use he can find in stimulants is the quickened mental action they produce when taken in company. He thinks ideas which thus reach the brain may remain after the stimulus has ceased. W. D. Howells never uses tobacco, except "a self-defensive cigarette" where a great many others are smoking, and when he takes wine it weakens his work and his working force next morning. Lyman Abbott uses neither alcohol nor tobacco. and when he takes wine it weakens his work and his working force next morning. Lyman Abbott uses neither alcohol nor tobacco. Matthew Arnold drinks claret habitually, and it suits him. The late George M. Beard found alcohol benumbing and stupefying, but tobacco, opium, tea and coffee had an effect precisely the reverse. Professor Blackie takes wine to sharpen his appetite, but never as a stimulant for intellectual work. Wilkie Collins says he is nerved and composed by tobacco. Thomas A. Edison is too violently excited by smoking or drinking, but gets inspiration from chewing tobacco. Gladstone regards wine, in moderate quantities, as necessary to him at the time of the greatest intellectual exertion, but he detests tobacco.

JOINING A BAND.

BRASS band, composed of good players, is a thing all enjoy; but the playing of a single horn by a beginner is about the most mournful and nerve-shattering experience that the world can produce, if we except a baseball nine composed of cats practicing in the night. It beats all, how few persons who begin to play a horn hold out faithful to the end, and eventually become members of a band. There is a time in the life of every young man when he has an ambition to belong to a brass band, and he never rests contented until he has borrowed or owns a brass horn. A boy goes to a county fair and sees a band, hired from a nown, as hears band, and he newer rests contented until he has borrowed or owns a brass horn. A boy gost to a county fair and sees a band, hirefu from a same with a here in the cyes of the boy. He sees the black onto taken the trouble to ascertain whether the trouble of lace, the speakets, the cap, with its musical front-piece, and the yellow stripe down to taken the trouble to ascertain whether the trouble of the proper construction of the beard of the table, near the restriction of the beard of the table, near the reflects that it only takes mused to play a horn, as hears agrees that playing the drum gives one abetter opportunity to look around; but when he reflects that it only takes mused to play the drum, and the near the proper than t

mule had kicked him, and he hears the horses down stairs kicking in the stalls, and the cows are lowing as though they had heard bad news. and the faithful dog that he has left out doors, begins to howl as though there was going to be a death in the family. Then the beginner begins to realize that he is making a sensation, and he looks out of a crack in the barn towards the house, and he sees his mother standing on the porch with her apron over her head looking at the barn as though it was on fire: the hired man, who is pumping water. his mother standing on the porch with her apron over her head looking at the barn as though it was on fire; the hired man, who is pumping water, stops with the pump handle in the air; and he sees his father, in his shirt sleeves, pick up an ax handle and start for the barn, spitting on his hands and looking savage. He sees a neighbor, who is driving by, stop his team in front of the house and ask if there is anybody sick, and he realizes that it is impossible to keep his secret longer, and he comes down out of the hay mow, with his brass horn under his arm, sheepish, and confesses to his outraged family that he is learning to play a horn so he can join the band. His father tells him he is a blasted fool, but his mother and sister take his part, and argue that it will be a great honor to have him wear brigadier-general clothes in the band and the matter is compromised by allowing him to practice on his horn out in the south lot, and for a week or two, at intervals, mournful sounds are heard from that direction, and then they suddenly cease, and when his father finally asks the boy how he is progressing as a hornist, he tells his parent that he has traded off his horn for a fiddle or an accordion, and explains, by showing his upper lip, which is swelled up to twice its natural size, that he is not cut out for playing a wind instrument. That horn will be traded all over the neighborhood, and will finally be found in a garret, jammed out of shape, and the brass band fever will have passed away. Among the greatest failures of the world there are none that are sadder than the failure of a boy to learn to play a brass horn.—Milwaukee Sun.

"TRADE NOTES"-ANNOTATED.

OT long since we published "some lies of our own," and we have been told by many that they were very much like the truths to be found in certain other journals. It now occurs to us to dash off a few "trade notes" in the style of the music-trade papers, accompanying them in each instance with a brief explanation of their wisdom and effect. If the trade give us proper encouragement, we may continue this column. We have not taken the trouble to ascertain whether any of the statements that follow are founded in fact; the truth is that we have evolved them from our inner consciousness, very much à la trade jour-

rather than our imaginative reporter. That will make Waters a reputation for truth and veracity which will greatly assist him in subsequent trans-

Trade Note No. 6—Geo. Steck & Co. lost \$50,000 by the failure of Catchem & Co., of Chicago.

Annotation—This announcement will have the double effect of adding great lustre to the reputation for good judgment of the firm of Steck & Co., and of increasing their business credit.

Trade Note No. 7—A Review reporter dropped into the office of Decker Brothers and found Mr. Charles Decker busily engaged clipping off coupons from a pile of government bonds the size of a hay-stack. [Annotation No. 1. The ambiguity here is intentional; it is a special merit in a trade note to be susceptible of two interpretations. In this case it was the bonds and not the pile that were of the size of a hay-stack]. The following conversation ensued:

Reporter—Good morning, Mr. Decker, how do you

Reporter-Good morning, Mr. Decker, how do you

Mr. Decker—Oh, so-so.
Reporter—How is business with you?
Mr. Decker—Well, so-so!
Reporter—Is this work of clipping off coupons very laborious?
Mr. Decker—Just so-so!
Reporter—How would you like to keep it up the balance of your life?
Mr. Decker—Only so-so!
Reporter—How do you like my frequent visits?
Mr. Decker—Oh, well—so-so!
Annotation Na. 2—The impression produced by this characteristic trade interview will be that Mr. Decker is a brilliant conversationist, and that the reporter has given to an expectant world much valuable information.
We stop with this sample half dozen. If our

valuable information.

We stop with this sample half dozen. If our advertisers wish us to give them such notices right along, we repeat it, we can dash them off with the greatest ease as long as the ink in our stylographic pen holds out. We think we could run a trade paper on the New York plan quite easily. Whether we would do our advertising patrens any good in that way is quite another question; and it is for that reason mainly that we have chosen to make our trial batch of trade notes "out of whole cloth."

Trade journals in general and The Courier in particular, will please refrain from quoting any portion of the above article. We cannot afford to spend untold wealth in securing such valuable information for the benefit of the music-trade and then have our less enterprising contemporaries reap the benefit of our arduous labors.

but as the vessel ascended the river the sounds diminished in strength and altogether ceased. Humboldt was a witness to a similar occurrence in the South Sea, but without suspecting the cause. Toward seven in the evening the whole crew were astounded by an extraordinary noise which resembled that of drums which were beating in the air. It was at first attributed to the breakers. Speedily it was heard in the vessel, and especially toward the poop. It was like a boiling, the noise of the air which escapes from fluid in ebullition. The sailors began to fear there was some leak in the vessel. It was heard unceasingly in all parts of the vessel, and finally, about nine o'clock, it ceased altogether. The interpreter belonging to Lieut. White's ship stated that the marine music which had so much surprised the crew was produced by fishes of a flattened oval form, which possessed the faculty of adhearing to various bodies by their mouths. This fish might have been the Pogonia.—All the Year Round.

MUSIC IN ST. LOUIS.

The fifth concert of the St. Louis Musical Union occurred on March 29th, just too late for notice in our April issue. The night was rainy and dismal, and yet a good audience assembled to listen to the following programme:

Park First.—I. Overture, "Taonhauser," R. Wagner, Orchestra; 2. Good Friday Charm, (Char Freitags Zauber), from R. Wagner's last work, "Parsifal," Orchestra; 3. Ah! Non Credea. Ah! Non Giunge—"Sonnambula," Bellini, Mrs. M. E. Latey, with Orchestra accompaniment: 4. (Suite Algerienne, St. Saens, Impressions pittoresques upon a voyage in Algiers, No. 1. "Prelude;" No. 2. "Rhapsodie Mauresque;" No. 3. "Reverie du Soir;" No. 4. "Marche Militaire Française," Orchestra.

Park Second.—5. Ball scene from the Dramatic Symphony, "Romeo and Juliet." (Op. 17, H. Berlios; Romeo alone, sadness, distant sounds of Music and Dancing, Grand Fete at Capulet's house, Orchestra; 6. Rondo for two Flutes, Fuerthena, Messrs. Dabney Carr and E. Buechel; 7. Waltz—"On the Wings of Song," Ernst Schuetz, Orchestra; S. Ballad—"Maying," Rudersdorff, Mrs. M. E. Latey; 3. Overture—"William Tell," Rossini, Orchestra.

A glance at the programme will show that Mr. Waldauer is rapidly increasing the repertoire of his orchestra, which, on this occasion, plaved four (to it) entirely new compositions, three of which were very difficult to execute. To say that all these were perfectly rendered would be to claim for the orchestra what its leader would certainly not assert, but that, with the material in hand, the conductor accomplished better results in this instance than anyone had a right to expect. is only to do him justice. Humboldt is reported to have said, once upon a time: "The Germans value a man for what he knows, the English for what he owns and the French for what he does." The American measure of merit is much like that which Humboldt attributed to the French, and, measured by that standard. Mr. Waldauer is 68. Louis one of its most valuable musicians, for to him (and to Mr. Dabney Carr) we are indebted for our only oppor

portant requisite, be as good as the best, we shall perhaps close our eyes more tightly than ever and be more exacting still.

The playing of the rondo for two flutes by Messrs. Carr and Buechel was universally admired. Mr. Waldauer has been criticised in certain quarters for having placed upon this programme a waltz and Mrs. Laitey's ballad. We must say that, in our estimation, Mr. Waldauer did just right, in both instances. The waltz "On the Wings of Song" is an excellent composition of its class, which was beautifully arranged for the orchestra by Mr. Louis Mayer, and offered a pleasant relief to the heavier compositions that preceded it. If the applause it received is to be a criterion of popularity, it was the most popular orchestral number played. If we had, like Boston, several series of orchestral concerts, it might be well enough to strictly confine one or more of these series to symphonies and the like, but as it is, the Musical Union catering to our general musical public, if there is any mistake in its programmes it is rather that they overshoot than undershoot the mark. The ballad, we have already said it, was ordinary, but it was not bad; the people liked it and, considering the excellent way in which it was delivered, they did right in liking it. This may seem heterodox, coming from a musical journal, but be have often said, and we now repeat it, that there is more credit to the performer in doing a simple thing well than in doing a complicated one badly, and also that the musician who wants everything learned forgets that musical education is no exception to the rule that growth must be gradual.

The following are the programmes of the three concerts to be given at Armory Hall by the Thomas orchestra and auxiliary forces on the 18th, 19th and 20th instant and which have, jointly, been dubbed "a massical festival:"

FRIDAY, May 18th—"Simponia Eroica," Beethoven; Song, "Am Meer," Schubert, Mr. Franz Remmertz; "Siegfried's Death" (Götterdammerung) Wayner; "Concerto No. 1 in Effat." Liet, Mme. Rivé-

binstein.

SATURDAY, May 19th—"The Redemption," Gounod. Chorus of 300 voices, composed of St. Louis Choral Society and members of other societies and church choirs. Soloists, Mrs. E. Humphrey Allen (Boston), and Mrs. Norton-Hartdegen (New

York), soprani; Mrs. Belle Cole (New York), contraito; Mr. Frederick Harvey (New York), tenor; Mr. Franz Remmertz

Frederick Harvey (New York), tenor; Mr. Franz Remmertz (New York), basso.

Sunday, May 20th, 3 p. m.—"Symphony in B minor," (unfinished) Schubert: Recitative and aria from "Ruins of Athens," Beethoven, Mr. Franz Remmertz: "Concerto in G minor, No. 2, op. 22" "Saint-Saens, Mme. Rivé-King; "O Fatima," aria, Weber, Mrs. Belle Cole; Scenes from "Die Walküre," Wagner, a "Introduction to Act I," orchestra; b" "Siegmund's love song," Mr. Fred Harvey; c" "The ride of the Walkyries," orchestra; d" Wotan's Farewell to Brunnhilde, and Magic Fire Scene," Mr. Franz Remmertz. "Damnation de Faust, "Berlioz; a "Invocation—minuet of the Will-o'-the-Wisps;" b "Dance of the Sylphs;" c Rakoezy March.

Sylphs; "c Rakoczy March.

A Subscriber informs us that a certain "professor" of music on 2d Carondelet Ave. makes it a practice to speak disparagingly of the music which the Review contains, and asks the reason. If the subscriber in question will get the "professor" to attempt to play at sight, or even after a week's study, any of the piano pieces which have appeared in our paper, he will have a more satisfactory answer than any we could give him. There is such a thing as differences of tastes, and good musicians may not like some of the compositions we publish; it is also possible that a teacher may not find some of our selections suited to some particular pupil, but whenever any one speaks of our Music as "trash" he "writes him down an ass" in the estimation of all connoisseurs. With that brief statement we leave the subject for the present. Should we hear of any more such talk from that quarter, we may have occasion to show the gentleman up in his true light.

The following excellent programme was that which was

Single particularly the property of the property of the property of the present of all commonstates we leave the subject for the present. Should we hear of any more such talk from that quarter, we may have occasion to show the gentleman up in his true light.

Tits following excellent programme was that which was offered by the Philharmonic Quintette Club at its last concert April 28d. It was rendered in prime sychogenetics; (a) Adaptic (b) The Charactette—(in P) Op. 37, Xarder Schogenetics; (a) Adaptic (c) Charactette—(in P) Op. 37, Xarder Schogenetics; (a) Adaptic (c) Scherzo, presto, (d) Allegretto, for two violins, viola and two violoncellos. By members of the club, assisted by G. Anton, Jr. Goldmark; (d) Scherzo, allegro cen spirito, (b) Allegro Vivace, alla breve, for plano, two violins, viola and violoncello.

Affached to the programme was a coupon containing the following information: "It is proposed to continue the Philharmonic Concerts next year if sufficient embergitions are strictly as the concert. Collections will be made next Fall after the course is decided upon;"—Here followed blank son correctly and the concert. Collections will be made next Fall after the course is decided upon;"—Here followed blank for name, address and number of tickets.—We think it is an abiginity of the concert of the concert. Collections will be made next Fall after the course is decided upon;"—Here followed blank for name, address and number of tickets.—We think it is an abiginity was not is accompany and not leaves the concert. Stripping and the support of the concert. Collections will be made next Fall after the course is decided upon;"—Here followed blank for name, address and number of tickets.—We think it is an abiginity was not be asset it in doubt whether it will be kept up for another year. We have not heard what was the response at the door, but it was probably not very large. Our music-loving cities and the control of the c

a large number of tickets, exchangeable at the door for admission tickets at half price, i.e. twenty-five instead of fifty cents. Twenty thousand tickets, with programmes, etc., announcing "America's Greatest Pianist" were distributed. There were between seventy-five and a hundred persons at each recital, including dead-heads. Mr. Sherwood played with all the finished technique for which he is famed. His programmes were not of a popular character and therefore it is not to be wondered, at that he failed to create enthusiasm among those present. The music-teachers were conspicuously absent. They rave about classical music, but they dodge classical programmes with an ease and definess which it is a pity they do not, as a rule, give any signs of in their musical performances. Doubtless the charlatanry of advertising Mr. Sherwood as "America's greatest pianist" kept away some who would have attended had a more dignified form of announcement been chosen.

On page 300, will be found the advertisement of "The Authors' Bureau" of Philadelphia. The idea seems to us a good one and entirely practical. We know the manager to be perfectly competent for the work he proposes to per

The first performance at Hamburg of M. Massenet's Opera "Hérodiade" appears to have been a complete success. The Hamburg correspondent of the Allgemeine Deutsche Musik Zeilung says: "It is a pleasure to meet again, at last, with a really dramatic musical talent such as Massenet undoubtedly possesses. . . . The applause, the laurel wreaths, and other ovations whereof the modest, retiring composer was the recipient, were, indeed, well merited, and will not be grudged to one who, in his own country, does not yet appear to have been recognized as a prophet."

AUGUST STENGLER.

Mr. August Stengler, the excellent clarionetist, Mr. August Stengler, the excellent clarionetist, who has for the last two years delighted St. Louis audiences, has been tempted away by offers of a larger salary than any that he could get here, and has become a member of Michael Brand's Cincinnati Ochestra, which is to play at Brighton Beach this summer. Mr. Stengler is not a journeyman musician, as are so many members of orchestras, but a real artist, whose loss we sincerely regret. Our best wishes accompany him, and will continue to follow him wherever he may go. We shall be extremely well pleased, if, in their course, the seasons bring him back again.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"ONOR," Vincennes.—Crescendo il tempo means a gradual hastening of the time. Accellerando is the more common term to express the same idea.

"PARTHENIA," Boston.—"Who is the greatest pianist is America?" Mr. Sherwood, of your city claims that proud title for himself. If he does not suit you, there are a dozen others at least who pretend to have attained that great distinction. We agree with them all.

AUGUST S., St. Louis.—The statement in our last month's sketch of Mozart, that his requiem was unfinished when he died, was entirely correct. The requiem is finished now, it is true, but it was completed after Mozart's death by his favorite pupil and friend. Süssmeier, to whom he had given full and explicit directions for accomplishing the task in accordance with his plan.

ANNIE M., Memphis.—You can rest assured that there is but one price for subscriptions to Kunkel's Musical Review. If any one, teacher or not, tells you that he or she gets our paper at a discount of even one per cent, you can put the statement down as a — mistake. There is, of course, a liberal commission allowed to persons who desire to go seriously into the business of soliciting subscriptions, but it is not intended that they shall donate their commission to any one. What is theirs we appear control but all subscriptions sent us direct their commission to any one. What is theirs we cannot control, but all subscriptions sent us direct must be, have been and will be paid for at our advertised rates.

vertised rates.

"GOGO." Burlington.—The Skalds were the Norse bards or troubadours. The names of about 230 have come down, and among them are the names of princes and nobles, showing that the office was held in high honor. The ancient kings of Norway and other Scandinavian countries were always attended by their Skalds, and when King Canute went to England, it is recorded that his chief Skald always occupied the highest place at every banquet. The office is said to have been lucrative as well as honorable. Their poems are known as Drapas, Eddas and Sagas. The Drapas were a species of lengthy historical ballad, the Eddas a more dignified or pretentions sort of production somewhat in the nature of epics, while the Sagas are, or pretend to be versified history. The poetical merit of these productions, as far as can be known from those which the Icelanders have preserved, was of a very modest order; at least, when judged by our standards.



OUR MUSIC.

"MARCHE DES ADELPHIENNES," J. T. Coley. We think one would have to go over many marches to find one so well written and so pleasing as this. True, it has not the classical twang which is so dear to many, but it is a very good composition of the modern school of pianism, and not very difficult of execution.

"LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR" (Fantasia), Sidus. This arrangement of Sidus' is a gem of musicianly simplicity. It is easy to miswrite a simple piece, but all composers agree that to make a piece at once simple and musically correct is a difficult feat. This, Sidus has successfully accomplished in this little fantasia.

"Andante" from Haydn's Sixth (The Surprise) Symphony, reduced for piano by Carl Sidus. Dulness and complication are not, as many think, characteristics of classical music. We have here a piano arrangement of a portion of a classical composition, which is as bright and melodious as anything that can be found in the operas of the modern Italian school. Haydn's mirthful vein is visible throughout. The name of "Surprise Symphony," by which this symphony is known in Europe, is due to the startling effect produced upon listeners, who are unacquainted with the work, by the sudden fortissimo reinforced in the orchestral score by the drums, etc. We think Sidus has surpassed himself in this beautiful arrangement.

Studies.—Duvernoy — Loeschhorn.—Duvernoy and Loeschhorn furnish the studies for this number. The studies selected from Duvernoy's Ecole du Mécanisme, which have already appeared in our Review, and which are all revised and annotated, are now complete and published in one book, and may be had of the publishers, or of any music dealer, for 75 cts. A second book will be published later on

"SLEEP THOU, MY CHILD," (Slumber Song), Foulon. Our readers will not expect us to say any harm of our own work, and they must excuse us from any commendatory remarks. We feel very much flattered by the fact that Mr. George Sweet, the excellent barytone, has, unsolicited, already made the song part of his repertoire, and we trust that some, at least, of our readers will be as well pleased with it as he. Close attention to the words, so as to get the true shade of sentiment, will be necessary to enable singers to get the best results. The accompaniment should be played in such a way as to preserve throughout a cradle-like, rocking movement.

"I DINNA KEN THE REASON WHY," Foulon. How well or ill we have succeeded in writing a Scotch ballad on Missouri soil, our readers must determine for themselves. We do not ordinarily think Scotch, and will not swear that we have caught the breath of the Scotch heather in either words or music. Whatever the verdict of our readers may be, we shall be satisfied that it is right.

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NEW MUSIC.

Among the latest of our issues we wish to call the special attention of our readers to the pieces mentioned below. We will send any of these compositions to those of our subscribers who may wish to examine them, with the understanding that they may be returned in good order, if they are not suited to their taste or purpose. The names of the authors are a sufficient guarantee of the merit of the compositions, and it is a fact now so well known that the house of Kunkel Brothers is not only fastidious in the selection of the pieces it publishes, but also issues the most carefully edited, fingered, phrased, and revised publications ever seen in America, that further notice of this fact is unnecessary.

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	Gavotte in A minor, as performed by Julie Rive-King at		-
Ч	her concerts F. Brandeis		75
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The Royal edition will eventually comprise all the classical as well as modern compositions, and its numbers will be advertised in the Review as they are published.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.

A full line of the pieces included in this edition is kept by the houses mentioned below, who are our agents for its sale. Teachers and others can examine them there, and both they and the trade will be supplied by these firms at precisely the same rates as by us:

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I Love But Thee (English and German words)Robyn.
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Leave Me Not Lonely Tamburello.
The Wedding Day (English and German words) Bidez.
Angels' Visits
The Stolen Kiss (English and German words)Epstein.
The Penitent's Prayer Kunkel.
The Brightest EyesStigelli.
Why Are Roses Red? (Eng., Italian, and Ger. words) Melnotte.

Norma (operatic fantasia, with lesson) Paul.
Il Trovatore (operatic fantasia, with lesson) Paul.
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Love's Devotion (romanza, with lesson) Goldbeck.
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Lucia di Lannermoor

(Donizetti.)



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HAYDN

Andante from Haydn's Surprise Symphony

Carl Sidus Op. 84.



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. 23



Practice with a loose, yielding wrist. Avoid rocking of the right hand from side to side and do not force the keys in striking. The strength of the touch must come entirely from the fingers, without the assistance of the arm. Few players heed this most important rule, although no one can play the piano well otherwise.

GENERAL REMARKS.—In the following studies, all notes or chords marked with an arrow, must be struck from the wrist, otherwise the attack (attaque French ansotz German) will be clumsy, stiff and hard. After the notes or chords so marked have been struck, a strict legato must be preserved throughout, as indicated. By legato is meant the keeping down of each key during the full length or time-value of the note, and until the following note is struck. It often occurs that the second of two chords which immediately follow each other should be connected with the first almost legato.

To accomplish this, all the fingers of the first chord which are not used to strike the notes of the second chord, should be held down on the notes of the first chord, until the second chord is struck. The fingers so held down form a sort of pivot or fulcrum for the other fingers, which can then strike the following chord with freedom and elasticity. In order to assist the student to distinguish the notes which are to form the pivot and which must be played absolutely legato, they have, in these studies been connected by dotted lines with the following chord. Strict attention to these general remarks, and to the notes accompanying each study will lay the foundation of correct and elegant piano playing.



STUDY.

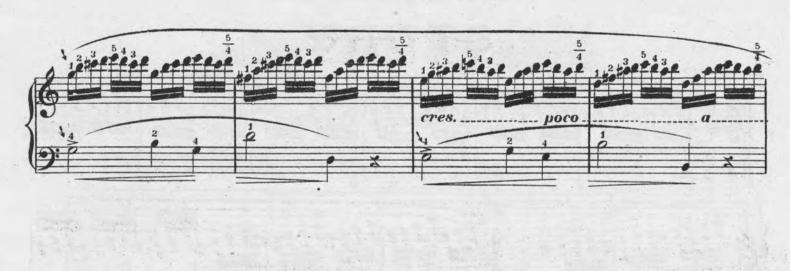
Allegro moderato . - 80 to - 152







Annotations to the preceding studies apply to this one. Passages marked \(\pi\) need special attention in reference to the striking of the keys with rounded fingers. If thus is not done, the large intervals which they offer to the 3d 4lh and 5th fingers will lead the student, unconsciously, to flatten out the hand in reaching the keys. The ossias introduced will enable small hands, by the careful substitution of the fingers as marked, to play the melody legato. See General Remarks under Study No. 1.







Repeat from the beginning to Fine

STUDY.



A. Hold the hands very quiet throughout while practicing this study, and strike the keys with rounded fingers, well raised from the knuckle joints.



B. Observe very carefully the phrasing, dynamic marks &c. The chief purpose of this little Waltz, study, is the opposite of the preceding whose object was to develop the technique of the fingers, while the aim of this one is style, expression and elegance of execution.

See General Remarks under Study No. 1.

Sleep thou my Ghild

As sung by the eminent Barytone, George Sweet.



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Idinna ken the Reason why

ICH WEISS NICHT WAS DIE URSACH' IST

Words and Music by

I. D. Foulon



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CORRESPONDENCE.

BOSTON.

BOSTON.

Boston, April 17, 1883.

At last the orchestra players have closed their grip-sacks and ceased. Symphonies have subsided. The Bostonian who has become accustomed to at least two symphonies a week, is a little stunned by the sudden cessation, but on the whole appears to like it. The list for five months foots up thirty-three symphonic concerts.

pears to like it. The list for five months foots up thirty-three symphonic concerts.

The Boston Symphony Orchestra closed its series with a very fine performance of the ninth symphony of Beethoven. Of course the usual movement was rather perturbed, but that is always to be expected in a work which does such unsingable deeds. The first movement was somewhat hurried, and the delicate phases for the wood wind in the scherzo were conspicuous by being inaudible,—crushed by the power of the strings.

course the usual movement was rather perturbed, but that is always to be expected in a work which does such unsingable deeds. The first movement was somewhat hurried, and the delicate phases for the wood wind in the scherzo were conspicuous by being inaudible,—crushed by the power of the strings.

But need the work Beethoven has given to them in this symbony. Every part was well performed, and for once their times were free from raspiness. Part of the raspiness that has characterized their work has been due to the fact that they have been placed in the front part of the orchestra instead of at the back, where they ought to be. On this occasion they were in their proper place in the rear. The contra-bassoon and the strength of the proper place in the rear. The contra-bassoon was the strength of the services of the servi

CINCINNATI.

CINCINNATI.

CINCINNATI, April 23d, 1883.

Entror Kunkel's Musical Review:—There are so many things that are musical and unmusical here that I will only touch lightly upon some of them. The Cincinnati Orchestra having an offer to play at Brighton Beach this Summer, steps have been taken to raise a guarantee fund to keep them here. This is as it should be, for this organization rendered the May Festivals and the Thomas Orchestra Concerts as given here, possible. There is also a project on foot to give to our city one of the largest and finest brass bands in the country. This is to be done by placing the band on a solid i.e. money basis.

The College of Music intended giving "The Redemption" at Music Hall with Dr. Damrosch and his famous New York Orchestra. The May Festival Association intended giving the same with Mr. Theo. Thomas and his famous New York Orchestra. That is, they both intended giving the same thing in the same place, about the same time. Twas impossible.

The May Festival Association carried the day; so "The Redemption" will be given under their auspices at Music Hall on May 17th, in a style that it has not yet been given in this country. Not content with their victory, the May Festival Association resolved to rent Smith & Nixon's Hall, the next best place in the city, again thwart the College of Music and prevent them from giving their concert.

"The best laid plans of mice and men gang aft agley"

"The best laid plans of mice and men gang aft agley"
for Col. Geo. Ward Nichols' henchmen smelled a great big
mouse ferreted it out and gave the Association a black eye by
renting Smith & Nixon's Hall before they had finished chuckling. The Damrosch Orchestra concerts will therefore be given
at Smith & Nixon's on May 8th and 9th. The distinguished
contraito Mad. Schalchi will take part, immediately after which
she will start for Europe. Miss Gaul of the College and Miss
Harris of Osceola, Mo., will assist. Certain it is the hall will
not hold the half who will asply for admission. St. Paul's
Episcopal Church Choir has lost its old tenor Mr. Geo. Bowen
who has gone to the church of the Advent. Mr. Stewart Colville, a fine high tenor, takes Mr. Bowen's place. This is the
best quartette choir in the city. If they had an organist instead
of an amateur who tries to play, the music would be very fine.

"Trial by Jury" with other musical attractions under the
leadership of our talented pianist and composer H. J. Schonacker was creditably rendered at Glendale last week. The
duet "Ella's Eyes" by Kunkel and rendered by Miss Lillian
Plat and Prof. Schonacker was rapturously received by the
audience.

Messrs. Geo. D. Newhall & Co. have lately published a Can-

audience.
Messrs. Geo. D. Newhall & Co. have lately published a Cantata by Prof. Otto Singer of the College of Music. The Cincinnati Männerchor has it in active rehearsal and will give it at an early day. The Commercial Guzstle has quite a lengthy criticism of the Cantata and speaks of it as a work of high order and great variety.

The Dramatic Festival is now the theme of the day. Already over \$70,000 have been realized from sales and still 3000 seats remain unsold. Speculation has been rife. It remains to be seen what shade of blue—if any—the speculators will wear. "the day after the fair." Prof. Wm. Sherwood favors us with a piano recital here to-night. It remains to be seen how many will attend. We have some fine pianists here, but a malady vulgariy called "swelled head" is not uncommon in the city and as a consequence few, if any, save Rubinstein have received proper recognition. Josie Jones York and Julie Rivé-King, natives, find it more profitable to go where brains, labor and talent are appreciated and recognized.

Wurlitzer now represents the Miller piano. F. W. Helmich has made an assignment.

CAMELOT.

PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA.

Preparations for the first May Musical Festival in this city are progressing finely. It is under the management, financially and musically, of some of the most substantial gentlemen, who are not aiming to make it a monster convocation of voices and instruments, but an artistic performance of noble music. It cannot be denied, and it is somewhat singular that it is so, that the second city in the Union is so far behind in the matter of musical festivals.

The scheme contemplates the use of a chorus of five hundred voices, and an orchestra of one hundred, the music to be given in that noble building, the Academy of Music. As there are yet quite a number of points unsettled in regard-to the soloists, the conductor, etc., further details may be relegated to a future letter.

Philadelphia ought to boast much more of the "Germania Orchestra" than she does, and the silm patronage which she bestows upon a really fine organization is discreditable to the musical taste of her people. The Germania is composed of nearly fifty members, under the direction of quite a young man, Wm. Stoll, Jr. Aside from weekly performances at the Academy of Fine Arts, the Germania gives a series of symphony concerts during the season.

Mr. Stoll came into prominence after the public recognition he received from Mme. Patti on the occasion of one of her visits to this city four or five years ago, when he was but a mere lad. The great vocalist sang the mad scene in Lucia with such fervor, and so nearly perfect that the house rose at her with one consent and thundered forth its applanuse. Mme, was delighted, and looked around for the young musician who had followed her singing with such wonderful artistic comprehension. Young Stoll, bashful before such a star and modest as to his own merits, was just escaping at the wings. Patti sped after him with light foot and brought back the lad, all blushing, to receive part of the honors of the triumph, for the storm of voices and hands was rolling along continuously. She made him "stay the

"made musician" so tar as tame goes. He has certainly prospered from that day to this. This is not one of those aneedotes which imaginative correspondents supply to order, but a boan fide occurrence.

Levy, the great "tooter," is engaged to play the cornet this summer alternately in the Männerchor Garden and Belmont Mansion. This is a great "come down" in point of salary from last season. It is quite likely he plays just as well now as he did then, but the honorarium is not nearly so great. I much doubt if he will receive more than \$50 or at most \$200 per week for his work in this city, although, I suppose he can exhibit a contract in which the figures named will be twice or even three times the sums named. Last season he had a contract for \$650 per week with board for two, and I think horse and carriage. He did receive \$500 and some perquisites, and it was a salary over which to boast. The story goes, that he went back to the manager of the Seaside Hotel, asking, "I suppose so! What salary did yon get last time?" Levy promptly named the princely terms, rejoicing over the ease with which he was to settle himself for the summer. Imagine his surprise, when the proprietor quietly rejoined, "consider yourself engaged at \$50 a week and board." The great artist turned on his heel, and left in deep disgust. Speaking of cornet playing, I may say that there is an Italian engaged in Mark Hassler's Ochestra, Haverly's Theatre, whose execution is equal to Levy's and so considered by all who have heard him. It is asserted by some that he excels the famous artist, and can perform feats on his instrument which Levy cannot execute. In tone, however, he is far behind, and that bane of artists, liquor militates against his getting high-class salaries.

Your correspondent has the pleasure of the acquaintance with Mr. Henry Distin, whom Dr. Hawais, in his book "Music and Morals" pronounces "the cornet-maker of the world." Mr. Distin some years ago owned and operated a large establishment in England, and was universally accorded th



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to part with his large plant, and hoping to retrieve his fortunes, he came to America. Until recently he has been rather adrift, but he is now engaged in establishing a large factory for the manufacture of all brass musical instruments. Although nearly sixty, he possesses an amount of Yankee pluck, ingenuity, and "go-ahead-a-tiveness" that is surprising, to put it mildly. I looked over his book of autograph letters from scores of princes and princesses, from great composers and talented executants, all testifying to his integrity, skill and artistic value, and then I looked over his book of autograph letters from scores of princes and princesses, from great composers and talented executants, all testifying to his integrity, skill and artistic value, and then I looked at the man, who according to these letters, had stood before the great ones of the earth! A man of modest mien, one who did not seem to know in how high estimation he was held! The enterprise in which he is backed by capital and experience is at the corner of Eighth and Loonst streets, and is already pressed with orders. I believe the day is dawning again for Mr. Distin, and America will reap the benefit of a phenomenally skilled English inventor. But it is to a musical paradox I chiefly wish to draw the attention of the reader, and one which plays havoe with the wave theory of sound. Mr. Distin is able to produce all the notes of the scale on the tuba without using a single valve. Morover, and still more wonderful, he makes the shake or trill without them. It is a recognized fact, among all who have any knowledge of accustics that the brass tube will give one fundamental tone, and then a succession of harmonics without the use of the valves. It was a fact, until Mr. Distin disproved it, that this fundamental tone and its four or five harmonic notes comprised all the tones possible without the valves, which are used to shorten or lengthen the tubing. The theory was that the air column in the brass was broken up into suitable lengths to produce the

Engish musical savants said, "Henry Distin has a marvelous understanding of the philosophy of brazen musical instruments."

There is quite a general flurry here among the musical merchants over a report that Wannamaker, the great dry goods and clothing man, intends to carry a stock of musical instruments, which, if done, will paralyze fancy prices in pianos, organs and the like.

This week has been a gala one, musically speaking, for we have the Mapleson and Grand Opera Companies both in full swing. The former with two such stars as Patti and Scalch, is an event of itself, while the operatic list does not include a single opera not well worth hearing.

"N. W. "Nore.—Our correspondent is mistaken. There is theoretically no limit to the number of upper-partial tones which can be produced on a tuba. The higher one goes from the fundamental tone of any sonorous body, the nearer the harmonics approach each other, so that they eventually furnish complete chromatic scales. Unless Mr. Distin furnishes complete scales beginning with the fundamental tone of the tuba he does nothing which the science of acoustics has declared impracticable or has not fully explained. The article on "The Science of Sounds," on pape 269, states correctly the facts to which we allude, and substantially explains Mr. Distin's performance.—Editor.]

WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON. D. C., April 23, 1883.

EDITOR KUNKEL'S MUSICAL REVIEW:—In my last I wrote you the substance of an interview with Mr. Ernest Gye, in which he stated that he had a contract with Madame Christine Nilsson for the season of 1883 and 1884, which contract he claimed was signed in May last, in London. Madame Nilsson's presence here afforded me an opportunity of inquiring more closely into a subject which is of such interest to the musical public of this country—for while it was a dixed fact that the great Diva is to appear in this country in grand opera, there was room for speculation as to her probable surroundings. Accordingly I called on the Madame at the Arlington Hotel, and from her learned that she had that week signed the contract whichbinds her to Mr. Abbey, her present manager, for the coming season. Referring to the paper that Mr. Gye claimed to have, she explained that it was nothing more than a letter, written him, at his request, offering to sing under a contract to be prepared by her lawyers. The object of the letter was to aid Mr. Gye in securing the management of the new Opera House in New York City. The Madame further stated that she had consulted the best legal talent in this country as well as in England, and was advised that the paper was of no legal value, and that thereupon she had signed with Abbey, whom she extolled very highly as a business-like and conscientious manager. The chief point of difference between her and Mr. Gye, on the contract offered him, was the deposit of \$30,000 as a guarantee with her bankers in London. Personally she likes Mr. Gye, but has no use for Mapleson. The prima donna was very complimentary in her comments about our beautiful city, The Nilsson concert was well attended, and had the immediate effect of inspiring the desire of seeing the fair Swede on the operatic stage, which is her proper place.

John McCullough, Raymond, Maggie Mitchell, and Rice's "Iolanthe" party have all done a good business here during the past few weeks. The one matte



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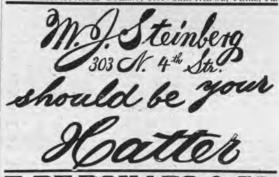
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But the "Smugglers" is strong enough to stand on its own merits. Already preparations are being made to bring it out under the eyes of the metropolis, after which it will, no doubt be carried through the country.

I saw a letter this morning from Little Rock, Arkansas, inviting Mr E. J. Whipple, of this city, to sing the barytone solos at the May festival of the Little Rock Oratorio Society. The "Prodigal Son" is to be given. Mr. Whipple is a man of robust build and has a powerful, smooth barytone voice, ranging nearly two octaves in compass. His upper register is very effective, and he uses his voice with good judgment. His enunciation is very distinct, and although only an amateur, is accounted the foremost of the barytones of this section. I understand he is to visit friends in St. Louis on his way to fill his engagement in Arkansas, and I hope you will have an opportunity to hear him.

CHICAGO.

Chicago, April 22th, 1883.

Editor Kunkel's Musical Review:—I will break the sad news to you gently: "Zenobla" died after a week's vain struggle to live and the author's remarks, (from the stage on the first night) to give American authors a chance," which the public has done, have been made for those, I presume, who choose to be his successors in a grand lyric opera. Poor Pratt! The bad men on the newspapers have built a tomb for "Zenobia" and have quietly and unostentatiously laid her away. It is not the fault of the work itself, so the folks say, but of the bad men above referred to. Miss Dora Henninges the lady, who made such a favorable impression in the title role, will be tendered a complimentary in Central Music Hail April 25th.

Apollo Club Concept.—The third and last appoint the sade of the sade of the same and last appoint the same and the same and last appoint the same and the same applications.

lady, who made such a favorable impression in the title role, will be tendered a complimentary in Central Music Hall April 25th.

Apollo Club Concert.—The third and last concert was given last evening to a large audience. The programme contained numbers from "The Damnation of Faust" and "St. Paul." Madame Hastreiter sang finely though a trifle nervously. Mr. Eddy was at home on the organ, as usual, and Mr. Tomlins, the conductor, has scored another success, and the society looks back with pride on the club's doings—musically ano financially.

Mozart Society.—The event of the season will take place May 3d. It is unnecessary to state, that all these concerts take place in Central Music Hall. Mme. Scalchi, the famous contraito and Mme. Schiller, planiste, are engaged and it is expected to be a brilliant concert. Dr. Maas, from Boston, gave two plano recitals at Hershey Hall, Friday evening and Saturday afternoon last, playing Beethowen (Valse E minor) Schumann, (Novellette, D major No. 5) Chopin (Grand Polonaise, A flat major, op 58) Liszt and some compositions by himself in an artistic and finished style, to a good audience.

Mr. Emil Liebling's pupils' soiree took place a few days ago at which Miss Adele (eiser, quite a young lady, played the 2d Rhapsody and E flat concerto with remarkable technique and expression. Miss Annie Rommeis sang and Mr. Liebling accompanied with 2d plano to two movements from Henselt's concerto, played by Miss Geiser.

Mr. Oesterle, our Chicago prodigy flutist had a testimonial at Turner Hall last Sunday prior to his joining Theo. Thomas' Orchestra as "first flute," and he is only 22 years old.

I have to chronicle the arrival of two musical personages, whom I had the great pleasure to hear play a few evenings ago, Mrs. De Horvat, a Hungarian, a very excellent planiste and Mr. Emil Seifert, late from the Peabody Institute of Baltimore, and for many years Concert-master at Berlin (Kullak's famous school); a violinist of rare ability and a writer of note on musical art. Assisted by Mr. W

he also played; "Spinnerlied" (Hollander) with great skill. Both artists intend remaining here and will doubtless meet with success.

Miss Jenny Dutton, of this city, traveling with Remenyi, has created a furore in Iowa towns. At Davenport Mr. R. presented Miss Dutton with a fine bouquet on the stage.

Dr. Damrosch will visit us May 18th and 19th with an orchestra of 55, Miss Martinez and Teresa Carreño.

Comic opera writers are numerous among us; "the woods are full of them." "The Missing Link;" by Edwards (a shorthand reporter) librettist, and W. C. E. Seeboeck, the well-known planist, composer; and "Cupid, Hymen & Co." text and music by a Mr. DeKoven, are mentioned in our papers as the coming events. More anon, if any of them ever sees daylight, so to speak. I have heard the music of the former, which, is in Seeboeck's best style and will no doubt please. This makes three in as many months—whither are we drifting? The one I wrote up fully in my last letter: "Rosita" has already found a publisher and will doubtless find a manager; it is complete and "ready to play" while the former are "on the way." We have also had a mass composed by Mr. F. Rohner, a well-known organist here. It is spoken of highly, full of melody and dramatic power.

Mr. Will J. Davis, formerly manager of the C. C. C. C. will start with a company of his own soon; he has secured a number of the best-ladies and gentlemen from various troupes and will bring out a new comic opera, so they say. Mrs. Jessie Bartlett Davis has returned from the East and will give a concert May 8th.

Among the music dealers several events of importance did and will happen. Julius Bauer & Co. have removed to the new and elegant building No. 156 & 158 Wabash Ave., their factory is in running order and turns out a fine instrument. Chickering's people (Cross, and Whitney of Detroit) will occupy Bauer's old place at 182 Wabash Avenue, and there is a rumor of the Chicago Music Co.'s moving next door thereto. The Webers are safely stowed away three blocks south from there

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FIDDLE STRINGS.

HE name "catgut," as applied to the animal-fibre strings used on musical instruments, is altogether a misnomer. The cat is in no wise responsible for the string, and, much as the fact is to be deplored, the manufacturers of such strings refuse to the discovery of the cat is in no wise responsible for the string. That disposes of the last excuse for the existance of the cat. Aminado Sleek, amended to accuracy, should speak of "they who scrape the hair of the horse upon the bowels of the lamb"—not the "bowels of the cat." Catgut is of no use to anybody but the cat; hence no consideration of damage to valuable raw material need hereafter stay the hand that hurls the avenging boot-jack at the nocturnal serenader on the back fence. Violin, giatra, and banjo strings, and in fact all sorts that come under the general head of gut, are made from the entrails of lambs and cattle, from the delicate threads used for sewing racket-ball covers up to the half-inch thick round belts. After a lamb is seven months old its entrails are no longer it for making strings of the cat." Whether it can or not is about to become a matter of indifference as far as the industry in this country is concerned, for the only man who now carries it on says that he cannot, without tarifi protection, compete with the cheap labor of Germany and France, and he is going to give it up. Mr. Blumenthal, a leading importer, who has sought to build up this industry here, went before the roving Tariff Commission to plead for a duty on gut strings for musical instruments, but did not succeed in having it recommended. Some fourteen years ago there was a duty of 35 per cent, but for a dozen years there has not been any. In that time a number of Germans have come over and tried to start the manufacture. They could get their raw material cheaper here than in Europe, but the work admits of no mechanical aid, must be done wholly by skilled hand labor, and the men they could have hired for \$3 per week in Germany or France they here had to pay \$15 or \$16 awe. That b

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secret process of his own, secures and guarantees perfect accuracy throughout for every string he makes. He does not make more than 60 or 100 bundles a year, but the strings command \$10 per bundle here—cost that to the importer—while other Italian strings are worth only \$3 or \$4, and others only \$1.50. The Italian makers have one great advantage—that the raw material is thin, fine, free from fat, and evenly smooth all around, so that they can use the whole, instead of having to split it, as we must. That gives to their completed strings a durability and evenness that we cannot attain. No gut harp-strings are made in this country. secret process of his own, secures and guarantees

attain. No gut harp-strings are made in this country.

"A good many E strings now used on violins in this country are made of steel wire. That is the finest string and most liable to break. The wire is, of course, the most durable by far, but it lacks the tone of a gut string. Perhaps the strongest recomdation for wire strings is that they can be furnished for about fifteen cents a dozen. The frequency with which gut strings are softened by perspiration on the fingers and broken during play in the summer time has caused the very general adoption of silk strings for use during the months of July and August. They have not so good a tone as the gut, but are better for use in that season. The manufacture of them is protected by a 40 per cent duty, but a great quantities are imported as gut. You could hardly tell them from gut. Indeed, I don't know that I myself could with certainty.

"Heavy belting string is made from beef entrails, and some of it brings as much as fifty cents per foot. In that we are not required to be so particular about getting a fine light color as we are when making musical instrument strings. Musicians cannot be made to understand that the dark strings are the most durable and best, but such is the fact. Perhaps some of them may know it, but, all the same, they have the common American preference for the prettiest thing, whether it is really the best or not."—N. Y. Sun.

VERDI RESCUES WAGNER.

AX Maretzek, the veteran manager, tells the following good story of his connection with the Pappenheim and Adams "Wagner German Opera Company." "The company" says he, "had been formed with the intention of producing only Wagner's operas, with the exception of Meyerbeer's 'Huguenots,' which was allowed to be served as a side-dish in that Wagnerian feast. After two weeks in Philadelphia and Baltimore, where the success was more flattering to the ambition of the singers than to the expectation of the treasurer, we arrived in Boston, and performed 'Lohengrin,' 'The Flying Dutchman,' and 'Tannhäuser' to small houses. The company was bound to appear in Cincinnati the next week, and money was needed to carry things farther. At a consultation of the managers and artists to devise means of relief, I dared to advise to put 'II Trovatore' on the bills for next Friday, and would guarantee a relief fund of three thousand dollars as the result. Mme. Pappenheim got an attack of hysterics after hearing such a sacrilegious proposition; the other singers were dumbstruck with in dignation; but Charles Adams, more practical than the rest, said, that 'virtue might be slightly sacrificed to absolute necessity;' and 'Trovatore' was announced, and played the following Friday, and brought thirteen hundred dollars to the treasury. After the opera I went, hat in hand, to Mme. Pappenheim and to each of the singers, and asked them of a contribution of a dollar each, to make up a collection of ten dollars for a praiseworthy musical object. Having obtained the necessary sum, and being hardly pressed to tell the object of my collection, I said: "I intend to send a cablegram to Verdi, to inform him that his 'Trovatore' has saved Pappenheim's Wagner Opera Company." Mme. Pappenheim would not speak to me for some time for playing such a joke on her; but when the same stratagem had to be repeated, with the same result, in Cincinnati, Chicago, New Orleans, and Memphis, she forgave me; fully agreeing that a good manager ought to understand how to bl

"On, pa," said a young lady, "why don't you get a fir tree? it would be so economical to raise our own furs, and then we could raise whatever kind we wish."

LITTLE RUSSIE was watching the gathering of a thunder-storm. At first, he seemed to think the sight a very pretty one, but, as a vivid flash of lightning streaked the sky and a heavy bolt of thunder crashed above him, he sprang back from the open door exclaiming: "Don't, Dod! I'll be dood now!"



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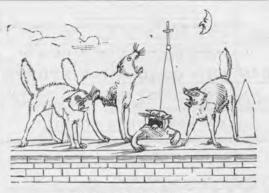
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COMICAL CHORDS.

JOAQUIN MILLER says he would like to bide in glory in Mrs. Langtry's hair. What would he do when she took it off at night?

A GLASS coffin is the latest invention. This will give the deceased a chance to see what kind of a procession he has.—Oll City Blizzard.

GRACE: "I am going to see Clara to-day. Have you any message?" Charlotte: "I wonder how you can visit that dreadful girl. Give her my love."

"The couple resolved themselves into a committee of one with power to add to their number," is the way a Sioux City paper chronicles marriages.

"STAND back, ladies!" said a St. Louis fireman at a recent fire. "Stand back, or the hose may be turned on you!" "I don't care." replied a gentle maiden, "Mine are alike on both sides."

"I AM a native American citizen, born, bejabers, in this country," said Mr. Muldoon, at a recent political gathering, "and if ye disbelieve it, come around home and I will show ye me naturalization papers."

"Do you know why Madame Bernard always puts me in mind of a bill sticker?" 'said Alphonso at a recent levee. "The lady blazing with diamoud's ? Can't say," "Because she is covered with paste, you idiot."

EVERYTHING seems to move in a circle. While, for instance, the lawyers are looking up the authorities, the authorities are looking up the criminal and the criminal in his turn has to look up the lawyers.—Boston Transcript.

A ROMPING four-years-old boy had been denied some trifling gratification by his mother, but it did not seem so trifling to him as to her. So striking an attitude before her, he said, with the utmost gravity; "Mother were you ever a boy?"

" PA, said a bright little fellow, "does you know mos' ebery-

"No, my little man, not everything; but I guess I can tell you what you want to know. What is it?"
"Well, I—I want—want t' know where a fire goes when it goes out," said the little fellow.

Brown went home the other night afflicted with double vision. He sat for some time with his sleepy gaze riveted on Mrs. B., and then complacently remarked: "Well I declare, if you two gals don't look 'nough 'like to be twins."

An Indiana man who had a voice like the scream of a buz zard cut his throat, and the doctors not only saved him, but he now has the sweetest tenor in the West. We recommend the treatment to our popular singers.—Detroit Free Press.

"Madam," he began, as he lifted his hat at the front door, "I am soliciting for home charities. We have hundreds of poor, ragged and vicious children, like those at your gate, and our object is—"
"Sir! those are my own children!" she interrupted, and the way that front door slammed his toes jarred every hair on his scalp-lock,—Detroit Free Press.

It is related of an exford theological student who was asked by one of his professors whether he could think of any good reason why the grave of Moses should be so strictly concealed, he replied: "Because they would take him up and stuff him!"

A CERTAIN Austin man-was not expected to live. He had a neighbor with whom he had been on bad terms for several years. This neighbor asked a mutual friend how the first party was coming on.
"I am glad to see you have done away with your feeling of resentment toward that poor man. He is sinking rapidly," was

resentment toward that poor man. He is sinking rapidly," was the reply.
"He is, is he? Well, I am not surprised. I always thought that was the direction he would take when he died."—Texas

"Oh! why art thou not near me? Oh! my love!" sung a serenader in Glasgow, the other night; and yet when the girl, who was leaning too far out of the window, lost her balance and dropped right on him, the fellow acted as confused as could be. Some men cannot stand success.—Saturday Night.

An exchange tells of a girl who had just returned from college. She was witnessing a fire engine work. After watching it for some time in mute astonishment she said: "Who would evah have dweamed such a yewy diminutive-looking apawatus would hold so much wattah!"

THE belief that the people of Pompeii cultivated watermelons is strengthened by the discovery, in the course or recent excavations there, of the remains of a man with the hands clasped across his stomach. There was nothing, however, to indicate that he was of African descent.—Brooklyn Eagle.

"Bettie" is scrutinizing intently a visiting card. Underneath the name is inscribed: "U.S. Marine Corps." "Mamma," she says, suddenly: "Does Colonel B. make corpses?" "I suppose so, dear," says mamma; "when he goes to war." "That's the reason he has corpses on his card. It's his business card; I see,"—and Bettie is satisfied.





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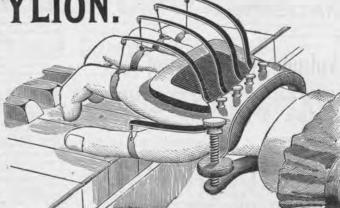
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"A Horse at Craigville took fright at a colored man playing a fiddle and ran away and smashed a lamp-post." The animal evidently had a good ear for music, but why he didn't run away and smash the fiddler is the strangest part of the incident. The lamp-post was innocent —Norristown Herald.

dent. The lamp-post was innocent—Norristown Herald.

Signor Arbiti, the well-known leader of the Mapleson Opera Company's orchestra, having recently heard for the first time that all the hairs of his head were numbered, has offered a liberal reward for the back-numbers. This is no advertising dodge. The Signor needs them to complete the files of the last fifty-eight years.

A MAN was quietly munching on a piece of pie in a saloon Friday morning, when a look of distress suddenly displaced the serene expression on his face. Taking something from between his teeth and looking at it, he cried to the waiter: "Here, you! there's a stone I found in this pie!" The waiter took it, glanced at it critically, and, handing it back, briefly said: "It's no good to us. You can have it."—Danbury News.

WE learn from the *Philadelphia News* that it "takes four ladies of the bed-chamber and twelve bed-chamber women to put Queen Victoria to bed." This implies a terrible state of affairs in the royal palace. In this country it seldom takes more than three policemen to put a man to bed, no matter how copiously he may have imbibed at the banquet.—*Norristown Heroid*.

Herald.

Tim's teacher was trying to initiate him into the mysteries of fractions. Said she: "If a thing is divided into eight parts, what portion of the whole do we call each part?" Tim didn't know. "Why," said the teacher, "if your mamma where to cut a pie into eight pieces, what part would your piece be?" "The smallest!" shouted Tim, triumphantly.

"YAAS," exclaimed honest old Johann Kartoffelsalad "yung beebles half got into extrafagunt noshuns. Ven I vas young I rote on blane foolishness gap baper. Now my poys rites on schmall, golt-edge little schraps, yot gost five times so mooch as a pig foolishness gap, und don't give you quarter so mooch room for ritin' as dot good, ol'-fashun foolishness gap."

ENTHUSIASTIC Professor of Physics, discussing the organic and inorganic kingdom: "Now, if I should shut my eyes—so—and drop my head—so—and should not move, you would say I was a clod! But I move, I leap, I run; then what do you call me?" Voice from the rear: "A clod-hopper!" Class is dismissed. missed.

MAJOR AND MINOR.

THE cut of Thomas, which appears in this issue, was made at the establishment of Mr. Howard Lockwood, New York, and is the best wood-cut portrait ever engraved of the eminent conductor.

THE London Musical World speaks of a concert which took place on March 9th, "at Kansas (America)." What would they think of us-if we should chronicle some event as having occurred "at Scotland (Great Britain)?" Perhaps they meant Kansas City, Missouri.

MME JULIE RIVÉ-KING, the great planiste, who is now playing in the Thomas concerts, uses the Decker plano, and this although Thomas is understood to be backed by the house of Steinway.

"LE PUITS QUI PARLE," a one-act comic opera, has been successfully brought out at the Caen Theatre. Arthur Mancini's music is said to be bright and appropriate, and the libretto, by an anonymous writer, very amusing.

An article in the February number of MacMillan, entitled "Churchyard Poetry," contains several curious epitaphs collected by Mr. Harrison. On a tombstone in the Isle of Wight is inscribed;

To the memory of Miss Martha Griu, She was so very pure within, She cracked the shell of her earthly skin, And hatched herself a cherubim.

A Mr. Charles Lamb, not Elia, sleeps beneath the words: Here lies the body of poor Charles Lamb, Killed by a tree that fell slap bang.

A churchyard near Bury, St. Edmunds, has the following couplet:

Here lies the body of Deborah Dent, She kicked up her heels and away she went.

Devonshire supplies another equally good:

Here lies John Meadow, Who passed away like a shadow. N. B.—His name was Field, but it would not rhyme.

The force of advertising, as Mr. Harrison says, could no fur-ther go than here:

Here lies the landlord of the Lion, He's buried here in hopes of Zion; His wife, resigned to Heaven's will, Carries on the business still.

From a letter recently written to a St. Louis musician by a gentleman who was for many years connected with orchestras in Cincinnati, we are permitted to copy the following extract: "It is queer that a large city like Cincinnati, and called 'the great art centre of the United States,' should not be able to support some good talent; as it is, good musicians are obliged to seek engagements elsewhere, in order to make a comfortable living. Cincinnati people manage to support an opera festival once a year and a music festival every two years, and then call themselves the greatest art patronizing people of the United States; but musicians who have to make a living by their art cannot see that point." The writer, although an excellent violinist, has abandoned the profession for mercantile pursuits. He might have gotten along better had he been an universal musical genius like Mr. Louis G. Wiesenthal, also of Cincinnati, whose card is before us, and announces that he plays "violincello, contra basso, fagotto contra fagotto and flute." Here is a question which we will have to refer to our Cincinnati correspondent: Must a musician be a whole quintette club in himself in order to succeed in Cincinnati?

GARDINER, ME.—Mr. Daniel Gray, a prominent lumber merchant writes that his wife had severe rheumatic pains; so severe as to render her unable to sleep. From the first application of the famous German Remedy, st. Jacobs Oil, she experienced unspeakable relief, and in two hours the pains had entirely gone.

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MAJOR AND MINOR.

A Branch Berlioz-Monument-Committee has been formed in Brussels.

ETELKA GERSTER is engaged by Merelli for his Vienna sea-on, commencing on the 1st of April.

A COLORED vocalist will, it is said, make her debut as Selika in L'Africaine, at the Stadt Theater, Frankfort-on-the-Maine.

CERALE, prima ballerina at the Imperial Opera House, Vienna, has composed the music of a fairy ballet, La Dea delle Isole.

GOUNDD will deliver the address at the inauguration of the Monument to the composer, Henri Reber, who was a member of the French Institute.

At Wagner's funeral, the coffin was borne to the grave by Herren Albert Niemann, August Wilhemj, Hans Richter, Anton Seidl, Feustel, Groth, Porges and Krolop.

A TESTIMONIAL concert was given in Newark, N. J., on April 12th, to Mr. H. H. Duncklee, musical critic of the Newark Sunday Call. The best musical talent of the city participated.

The Harmonic Society of Newark, N. J., recently gave Berlioz Damnation de Faust under the conductorship of Mr. Wâlter Damrosch, in capital style. The audience is said to have been the largest ever in attendance at any of the society's concerts.

Society papers, so called, are usually unendurably stupid and snobbish. The Boston Saturday Times is a notable exception to the rule. however, and an ever welcome visitor to our sanctum. It is in every respect a readable paper; one prepared by intelligent men for intelligent readers.

MR. GEORGE T. BULLING says that music lessons by mail, which he has extensively tried, are "a delusion and a snare," save so far as harmony is concerned; but even for this he recommends oral instruction whenever practicable. This is common sense, and just what we have always believed.

WE are indebted to the "New York Life Insurance Co." for a plate entitled: "Origin of the Stars and Stripes." This chart, prepared by Root & Tinker, New York, shows by heraldic and other documents that the "stars and stripes" were evolved from the coat of arms of the Washington family.

Are you not a little bit selfish in neglecting to make all your musical friends acquainted with the good qualities of Kunkerl's Musical Review? If you are, mend your ways and do a little missionary work. We would just as lief print a few thousand more papers each month as not, while we are at it—in fact we'd rather, so don't be afraid of overtaxing our subscription list.

Musical People speaks of the Athenian philosopher Zeno as "Signor Zeno." Kyrios Daniell, its editor, must not fail to tell us at an early day something about Monsieur Demosthenes, Herr Cicero and Dominus Paris. Probably our brother editor cannot say with Ducis:

"Et je me vis fessé pendant six ans et plus, Graces à Cicéron, Tite et Cornélius,"

and it may not be fair for us to poke fun at him for the neglect or oversight of others.

MR. T. LEEDS WATERS has become a member of the firm of Horace Waters & Co. His business was extensive and so was that of Horace Waters & Co., and with forces joined they will present a very strong front to all possible competitors. The new firm of Horace Waters & Co., have leased the elegant store at 124 Fifth Avenue, near Eighteenth Street. The location they consider central and convenient for the majority of their customers, and the large warerooms are already rendered necessary by the increasing demands of their business.

MR, C. E. WOODMAN, of the rising Boston firm of C. C. Briggs & Co., of Boston, and Mr. F.W. Lohr, representing the Behning pianos. of New York, made us a pleasant call early in April. They were both on their way home from an extensive western trip, and report business, for their respective houses excellent and getting better. Mr. Lohr is the patentee of a "chin and shoulder rest" for violinists which is certainly a good thing, and obviates the unsightly use of handkerchiefs, etc, which is so commonly resorted to by players of all grades.

commonly resorted to by players of all grades.

Liebling, the eminent planist writes to the Chicago Indicator an original and not untrue definition, or rather description, of classical music. He says: "As far as my own; limited observation is concerned, classical music is that which remains longest on the shelver of the music house, puts people to sleep the quickest, makes parents growl when they pay the bills for tuition, empties music halls in cases of fire, and is the cause of abject poverty on the part of those who actively fight its cause. The most indispensable condition and that by which it is most easily recognized is its age. The best advice to give to young and ambitious composers, desirous of achieving fame as classical composers, is to die at once. The sooner they die the sooner does their music get a chance to become old, for the first birthday of a really classical piece is coincident with the date of the obituary notice of its composer. The usefulness of this advice will at once become apparent to the friends of the young composer for more reasons than one. This condition seems a little hard, but must be complied with to insure success. And with these sad reflections I will leave the subject. I have perhaps not dealt with it as thoroughly as some of my confrères, but I am willing to leave the honor of displaying rash knowledge and historical research to those who are the happy possessors of "Moore's" voluminous Cyclopedia of Music. But please do not ask any more leading questions, for where would they lead to?"



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MARENCO, composer of the ballet, "Excelsior," which met with such success in Paris some three months ago, and one of whose charming songs "Believe Me," was published in our February Review, is writing an opera for the Bouffes-Parisiens.

Messes. Field, French & Co., have just removed to No. 1100 Olive Street. (southwest corner 11th and Olive) where, with larger and better rooms, they hope to be able to accommodate their increasing custom to their own satisfaction as well as to that of the public.

WM. SCHAEFFER of New York makes a good, honest piano. We are glad to see from a recent circular of his that he has removed his factory to more commodious and larger quarters, the five-story building, No. 456 W. 37th street, New York. The prosperity which this move indicates is one to which Mr. Schaeffer's work entitles him, and we hope it will increase and be permanent.

M. Gounod recently sent to the French choral society L'Espérance, of New York, a new cantata, "La Statue de la Liberté," written for male voices with accompaniment for a military band. The work is now under rehearsal by several French societies, and will shortly be performed under the direction of M. Vicarino at a concert of French music given exclusively by French artists for the benefit of the pedestal fund of the Bartholdi statue of Liberty.

The second volume of Mr. Goldbeck's paper will be called Goldbeck's Musical Art. The number of pages will remain the same as in the Musical Instructor (24), but the pages have been enlarged, so that the new paper will contain nearly double the amount of matter of the old. The subscription price has been raised to two dollars a year. We wish Mr. Goldbeck success in this modification of his journal.

MR. CHARLES KUNKEL has recently adopted into his family, a three-legged baby. Notwithstanding its youth, it has a remarkable capacity for music and a voice of unusual sweetness and brilliancy. It is quite large of its age, weighing several hundred pounds. It was sent him from New York. It is not known who its mother was, and it is said to have at least two fathers. It is a Chickering Baby Grand. If the Chickerings have any more like it lying around loose, they know the editor's address.

THE Detroit Evening News says: "The world will be startled to learn that Mons. S. Mazurette, the celebrated composer, has at last taken off his coat and started in on a full-fledged opera; name not yet announced. It is understood that Detroit will be favored with its first production."

Our Detroit contemporary would much more startle the world, or at least the musical part of it, by mentioning any "celebrated composer" who has not written or is not writing "a full-fledged opera." We would also suggest that Mons. is not the proper abbreviation of Monsieur; Mons. being always, in French, used in a derogatory way. Custom may be considered to have made it allowable on circus bills, but when speaking of a gentleman such as we believe M Mazurette to be, it would be in better taste, if Mr. will not do, to use the proper French abbreviation, which is simply M.

In the issue of the Review for July last, in a brief review of the libretto of Mr. Pratt's "Zenobia," we said: "In fact, the libretto is written in two different styles, and, we believe, is the production of two persons, one of whom should never have attempted writing. Whether this one be Mr. Pratt, who appears as sole author of the book, or his co-worker, we cannot tell." And now comes the Chicago Evening Telegram, which relates that Mr. Pratt was recently sued for services rendered by one F. B. Wilkle, and one of the items in said Wilkle's bill runs as follows: "To services in revising and condensing the manuscript of the opera of "Zenobia" for said Silas G. Pratt, alias the "American Wagner," disarming one of the Grecian characters of a revolver, reducing somewhat to shape the false quantities of club-footed rhythm and other curiosities and peculiarities of the marvelous production. \$25"

The question now is: Was Mr. Wilkie the second person, or even a third?

"The New York press," says "Gath," in a letter to the Cincinnati Enquirer, is becoming a Western press. The Times is run by Reed, of Wisconsin; the Herald by Nordhoff, of Indiana, and Ballard Smith, of Kentucky; the Tribune by Reid, of Ohio; the Sun by Dana, who came here from Chicago; the Post by Schurz, of Missouri, and White, of Illinois; the Associated Press by William Henry Smith, late of Chicago. Yet it is a singular fact that a month or two after these Western corn-fed men came here they began to talk about the West as an inferior quantity, and patronize it, like the New York street car horses, which are heard to whinny to each other as they come from Ohio up the Eric ferry, five minutes after they land: "We metropolitans must hide the hair of our fetlocks, as they might mistake us for those horrible Western animals." The fact is that there is nothing like the West and its social atmosphere to develope that independence of character and clearness of views that fits man for leadership anywhere. We have already called attention to the fact that the best musical papers are all published in the West.

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SMITH AND JONES.

Smith—Do you know, Jones, one of the weeklies has been trying to get up a little breeze by inquiring who was the best tenor in St. Louis?

Jones—No, I hadn't heard of it. Did they settle it?

Smith—Not yet, I think; although, with the modesty characteristic of tenors in general, several gentlemen wrote, under assumed names, that they themselves were the local Campaninis.

Jones—What constitutes "best" in tenors, anyhow?

Smith—You've got me, I guess; though I think it is popular doctrine that he who can reach the highest note is the best tenor.

Jones—Then I can settle that question in instance.

doctrine that he who can reach the highest note is the best tenor.

Jones—Then I can settle that question in just one second. Poindexter is the best tenor in St. Louis.

Smith—Has he been taken in hand by Bowman and North? Did it hurt him much? Has he fully recovered? Wonderful, this change from a basso to a tenor!

Jones—Change from nothing. Poin. has always been the best tenor in St. Louis. He can reach a higher note than any singer of either sex in this village.

Smith—You astonish me. How do you make that out?

Jones—Nature has made him six feet two in his socks, and that enables him to reach higher than all other singers.

Smith—Now, you think that's a joke, don't you? It's a very old joke, and it's no joke at all. You're like a donkey, the older you grow the greater ass you become.

Jones—Never mind, Poindexter is the best tenor in St. Louis. Rivet, who knows everything, can tell you who is the next best.

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How do the Steinways like the idea of having their pet conductor—Thomas, assist indirectly in advertising the Decker piano?

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Does any one know of any one who considers himself a composer who has not an opera or two on hand or in course of preparation? If so, won't the person possessed of that knowledge impart it to us? Would it not be worth one's while to walk ten miles to see such a prodigy?

Why do the members of the music trade who have written us letters commendatory of our outspoken statements in reference to the music-trade journals, always couple their statements with the request that we should consider the communication strictly private, etc.? Are they afraid of their shadows?

BOOK NOTICES.

Richard Wagner and his Poetical Works, from "Rienzi" to "Pavsifal;" from the French of Judith Gautier, by L. S. J. Boston: A. Williams & Co. Madame Gautier is a hero-worshipper, and Wagner is for her the hero of heroes. The first sixty pages of this little book of 175 pages are devoted to a rhapsody on Wagner, such as only a woman, and a French woman at that, could have written without seeing that it bordered, nay, trenched upon the ridiculous. The balance of the work is occupied with descriptions of the plots of Wagner's libretti. These descriptions are interestingly written. Wagnerians will hail the book as one which does justice to the great master, and anti-Wagnerians will not fail to read it with interest. The work of the translator has been excellently done, and the typographical appearance of the book is at once neat and elegant. A good photographic portrait (three-quarters view) of the dead composer serves as a frontispiece.



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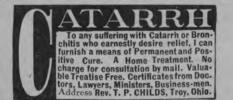
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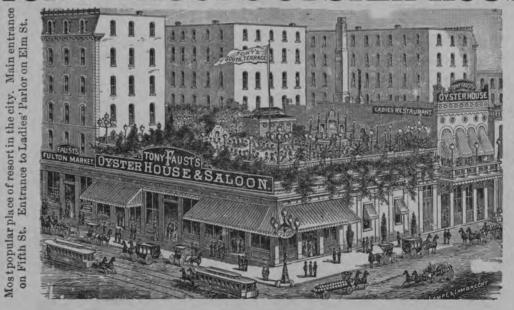
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