

THE CRITIC TALKS TO MUSIC LOVERS

Weekly Comment on Things Musical in Discriminating Philadelphia

A LETTER received by the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER, evidently written by a musician of taste and discrimination, although unsigned, calls attention to what is termed "a lack of melody" in most modern works.

The same is true, but in a less degree, of the instrumental compositions of Sebastian Bach, but does not apply nearly so much to the vocal works of other composers.

It is true that some of Bach's instrumental works, such as the fugues for organ, the six sonatas for violin and the six sonatas for cello alone, still demand the full modern technical equipment in spite of its advancement.

Of the later great composers, Brahms, notably in his instrumental compositions, is now adjudged to have been one of the finest of melodists, and yet the charge was made against him more than twenty years ago that "he couldn't write a melody."

So it is in the apparent weakness of the melodic thematic material that the weakness of our modern extremists seems to lie.

Speaking of modern music, here is an interesting letter received this week: Editor Evening Public Ledger: Sir—I was much interested in your criticism of Leo Ornstein's concert a few days ago.

We do not know just how closely to the actual melody of the nightingale Mr. Ornstein adhered in his accompaniment.

Young women with grand opera aspirations should take heart from the development of the present season. For the uttering eye, or shall we say ear, of General Manager Gatti-Casazza, of the Metropolitan Opera Company, has, not once, but twice, located future prima donnas in more lowly musical circles and he has brought them forth to enter his great company.

The first of these is Rosa Ponselle, who graduated to an amazing short time from the vaudeville stage to that of the Metropolitan Opera.

The Choral Society has announced its annual production "The Messiah" on the basis of Henry Gordon Tuckwell's Monday evening, December 30, at the Academy of Music.

Musical Events Set for Christmas Week

SUNDAY—Free concert Academy of the Fine Arts at 3 p. m. May Hotz, Henry Hotz and Domenico Bove, soloists.

THURSDAY—Vocal recital by John Charles Thomas, Witherspoon Hall, 3 p. m.

FRIDAY—Philadelphia Orchestra, Academy of Music, 3 p. m. Captain Fernand Pollain (cellist) soloist.

SATURDAY—Philadelphia Orchestra, Academy of Music, 8:15 p. m. Captain Fernand Pollain (cellist) soloist.

SATURDAY—Matinee musicale, Bellevue-Stratford, 2:30 p. m. Children's party.

made such a success in the light opera, "Maytime" will appear in the Metropolitan Opera House on Wednesday evening, December 26.

The Philadelphia Operatic Society has found it necessary to change the date originally set for the production of "The Bohemian Girl" to take place at the Metropolitan Opera House on Thursday, January 16, instead of Tuesday, January 14.

At the free concert tomorrow afternoon at the Academy of Music at 3 p. m. the artists will be: Max Ebray, alto; Sophie Henry, soprano; and Domenico Bove, violinist.

Tocha Sidel, who recently appeared in the Brahms concerto with the Philadelphia Orchestra, will give a recital at the Metropolitan Opera House on Wednesday evening, January 15, under the auspices of the Friends of Music and Art.

Robert Armbruster, the well-known young pianist, who has been serving in the United States Navy, has been released from active service and will resume his teaching position at the College of Music of Temple University, where he has been a member of the faculty for several years.

The Philadelphia Music Club announces with much regret that one of the main attractions of its midwinter concert and reception has had to be unavailably canceled.

In his new comedy, "The Saving Grace," from the pen of C. Haddon Chambers, Cyril Maude will appear at the Broad Street Theatre on Monday night, January 14.

He comes of a family of soldiers, his father having been General Maude and his uncle a soldier who won the V. C. in India.

December 30 ACADEMY OF MUSIC Sale of tickets at Home's, 1117 Chestnut St. Subscribers and numbers may secure tickets Dec. 18 and 19 from Mr. Haley.

INA CLARE ENTERS DRAMA

Musical Comedy Star Coming in "Polly With a Past"

Ina Claire, who, as Polly, in "Polly With a Past," will make her first appearance in Philadelphia in a strictly dramatic role at the Garrick Theatre Christmas afternoon, speaking of her ability to imitate other persons on the stage, says:

"The point is to bring out, if possible, the characteristics of those imitated in such a way as to suggest their methods and not only to give their mannerisms, in many cases I have never seen those

GEORGIE O'RAHEY RETURNING

Comedienne Here for Second Time This Season in "Velvet Lady"

The chief bid for popularity by "The Velvet Lady," the musical production which will have its premiere at the Forrest Theatre Monday night, will be along the lines of the comedy which its producers have endeavored to infuse into it.

PHILADELPHIA'S FOREMOST THEATRES

GARRICK SAM'L NIXON, Business Manager

BEGINNING XMAS MATINEE MATINEES ALSO NEW YEAR'S AND SATURDAYS DAVID BELASCO PRESENTS

JOLLY PAST WITH A PAST LAST SEASON'S BELASCO THEATRE COMEDY SUCCESS WITH ENTIRE ORIGINAL NEW YORK PRODUCTION AND CAST—INCLUDING: INA CLARE, CYRIL SCOTT, H. REEVES SMITH, LOUISE GALLOWAY, HERBERT YOST, GEORGE STUART CHRISTIE, THOMAS REYNOLDS, ADAM BARTON, BETTY LINLEY, FRANCIS VERDI, LLOYD NEAL, INEZ SEBRING.

FORREST THOMAS M. LOVE, Business Manager

MONDAY NIGHT XMAS AND NEW YEAR'S WEEKS MATINEES NEXT WEEK, THURSDAY AND SATURDAY WEEK END, NEW YEAR'S & SATURDAY THERE'LL BE A NEW KIND OF GIRL IN TOWN!

KLAW & ERLANGER'S NEWEST MUSICAL RENAISSANCE VICTOR HERBERT AND HENRY BLOSSOM'S LAUGHTER-SHAKING MUSICAL COMEDY

THE VELVET LADY CHIC & SMOOTH! ORIGINAL BOOK BY FRED JACKSON STAGED BY EDGAR MACGREGOR AND JULIAN MITCHELL

BROAD FRANK NIDDLINGER, Business Manager

MONDAY NIGHT MATINEES XMAS, NEW YEAR'S AND SATURDAYS CHARLES FROHMAN PRESENTS

CYRIL MAUDE IN C. HADDON CHAMBERS' COMEDY MASTERPIECE THE SAVING GRACE DIRECT FROM NOTABLY SUCCESSFUL ENGAGEMENT AT THE EMPIRE THEATRE, NEW YORK CITY

PHILA'S LEADING THEATRES Direction LEE & J. J. SHUBERT

Metropolitan Opera House Wednesday Evg., Jan. 8th, 8:15 Concert by JOHN COCCARDO

MAYTIME with JOHN CHARLES THOMAS, Dorothy Higdon and John T. Murray

McCORMACK "The people's King of Song" Tickets 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50 and \$2.00

ADDELPHI Evenings at 8:10

W.M. PENN Lancaster Ave. bet. 40th & 41st

Oh, Lady! Lady!! Absolutely & positively identical N.Y. Cast

TROCADERO HOME OF REFINED BURLESQUE

WITHERSPOON HALL, Thurs. Afternoon, Dec. 26, at 3

THE FROLICHS of the Nite The Show With Snap and Speed

John Charles THOMAS BARITONE

Metropolitan Opera House Wednesday Evening, January 15

GARRICK Last Mat. and Night

MITZI IN HEAD OVER HEELS

CASINO WALNUT Above 8th St.

BEN WELCH AND HIS BIG SHOW

GAYETY Eighth below Vine

SEIDEL Latest Violin Renovation

Stanley 11:15 A. M. to 11:15 P. M.

NORMA TALMADGE In First Showing of "The Forbidden City"

LOUIS BENNISON A Brand New, Pleasantly Original Production

GLOBE MARKET STREET AT JUNIPER

MR. INQUISITIVE A Musical Tragedy That Abounds in Laughter, Comedy and Freely Given

HERE THEY COME With JOE LANGTON

BROADWAY JOE LANGTON Presents the Most Staggering of all Musical Comedies.

THE MIMIC WORLD A 1918 REVUE OF ALL GREAT STARS AND SHOWS

GERALDINE FARR In "The Turn of the Wheel"

CRISS KEYS THEATRE MARKET BEL 60TH

TOMMY ALLEN With a Host of PRETTY GIRLS

MABEL NORMAND Today—Last Time

WALLACE REID "Too Many Millions"

Palace 1214 Market St.

B.F. Keith's CHESTNUT BELOW TWELFTH STREET A CHRISTMAS FEAST OF VAUDEVILLE GOODIES!

THE GARDEN OF ALLAH NINE SCENES 100 People

RIVOLI SEND & SANSON STREETS Under New Management

COLONIAL German's & Madewood Ave.

STRAND German's & Venard, E.

NIXON SEND BELOW MARKET

GRAND BROAD & MONTGOMERY

LOUISI SEND AND LOCUST STREETS

BELMONT SEND ABOVE MARKET

RACHMANINOFF SATURDAY AFTERNOON, JAN. 4, at 2:30

METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE

John Charles Thomas, the shortest man...