

MUSICIANS' ASSEMBLY AT WANAMAKER STORE

Philadelphia Orchestra Assists Two Great Organists in Interesting Program

The second association of the Philadelphia Orchestra and the great organ in the Wanamaker store attracted at least 10,000 persons to the musicians' assembly last evening, and they heard a program of merit and novelty.

The opening number on the program was the first performance of a concerto for organ and orchestra by Pietro A. Ton, a young New York organist, whose compositions for this instrument have become familiar both in this country and in Europe. The solo part of the concerto was played by Mr. Ton. It was entitled "Concerto Gregoriano," but in spite of the name it is not based upon Gregorian melodies, as all the themes are original. The program notes said that the Gregorian modal schemes formed the basis of the harmonization, but this was apparent only infrequently, and the entire treatment of the concerto is on a modern basis, being thematic development in sonata form throughout all four movements.

The concerto is an excellent work. It is dignified in its themes, as befits the character of the organ, and is musically in treatment. Technique has been relegated to a secondary place and the best use of the solo instrument with the orchestra appears to have been Mr. Ton's aim, as it should be in a serious work. It is in the use of the orchestra, however, that Mr. Ton has excelled. He has avoided the pitfall into which Widor and other French composers fell in their compositions for organ and orchestra, and has used the orchestra as a medium of contrast without attempting to obtain overwhelming ensemble effects, which simply cannot be done, as the full tone of one nullifies and renders indefinite the tone of the other.

In his orchestration, Mr. Ton has

carefully maintained the tonal qualities of the great solo instruments of the orchestra without sacrificing in any way the characteristics of the organ, to which, in the orchestral solo parts, he has given carefully voiced accompaniments. If any criticism of the work as a composition could be made, it is that the finale is a little too long. Mr. Ton played the work finely, and received a well-deserved ovation at the close.

After this Mr. Courboin was the organist of the evening. His interpretative work is too well known to require comment, further than to say that he played in his usual style. He gave a group of four numbers for organ alone, compositions by Bach, Widor, Alexander Russel and Gigout, and afterward played with the orchestra the second Brandenburg concerto of Bach, and three pieces by Franck and Saint-Saens. In the first of these works, Franck's "Piece Heroique," Mr. Courboin made the arrangement for organ and orchestra, and in the last, Saint-Saens's "Marche Heroique," he added the organ part to the original orchestral version. The middle number, the Largo from Saint-Saens's Third symphony, was scored by the composer for organ and orchestra.

The Brandenburg Concerto, given for the first time in Philadelphia in its original form, marked the artistic climax of the evening. The marvelous art of Sebastian Bach, whether dealing with large or small forms, has rarely been set forth more clearly than in this great work, although the resources employed are of minute dimensions when compared with the B minor mass, the Christmas oratorio or many other of the works by which the concertgoer knows the Leipzig master. It is the perfection of the organ in its most rarely employed capacity, that of chamber music.

The orchestra also played the "Entrance of the Gods into Valhalla" and the prelude to "Lohengrin," with its customary tonal beauty and precision of execution.

\$30 Rise for Teachers in Butler
Butler, Pa., March 25.—(By A. P.)—Teachers in the public schools here were notified yesterday that a \$30 monthly salary increase will be granted to those who contract to continue work during the next school term.

DREAMLAND ADVENTURES PLEASANT VALLEY
By DADDY

(Peggy and Billy, taken back to the long ago by a charm given them by the Wild Geese, go with the wild bears to Pleasant Valley. They are chased by Watapoo, the Indian medicine man.)

Wild Cat Grows Angry
Father Bear and Mother Bear with their bodies, no one was hurt when Peggy, Billy, Bally Sam and the bear cubs came to the end of their wild slide to Pleasant Valley. But if it hadn't been that Father and Mother Bear had stopped them just in time, they surely would have gone plunging into the river and been carried over the waterfall.

"Er-umph! Er-umph!" sniffed Father Bear, trying to catch the breath which had been knocked out of him. "Well, this is Pleasant Valley, and as long as we obey its laws we shall all be happy."

"Hee-haw, I'm happy now," snorted Bally Sam, lifting up his nose. "This is the finest air I ever breathed." Then Bally Sam took a drink from the rushing river. "Hee-haw! This is the purest water I ever drank," Bally Sam

drilled at the grass on the shore. "Hee-haw, this is the sweetest grass I ever ate." Then Bally Sam began to eat as fast as he could for he hadn't had a meal since supper the night before.

"What are the laws of Pleasant Valley?" asked Peggy and Billy, because they didn't want their happiness spoiled.

"Er-umph! Mind your own business and do no harm to others. Those are the laws of Pleasant Valley," answered Father Bear.

"Sniff! Sniff! Those laws are easy. We will keep 'em," sniffed the cubs, Major and Minor, beginning to look for grubs on which to feast.

"Hee-haw! It isn't hard to be happy here," brayed Bally Sam. But both Bally Sam and the cubs were to learn before long that the laws were not so easy to keep as they thought.

"Let's explore," cried Billy to Peggy, and away they went dancing along the banks of the stream.

Pleasant Valley was rightly named. It was very, very pleasant. A soft breeze blew through the trees carrying sweet perfumes. Under foot was a soft carpet of velvet grass and pretty wild flowers. Overhead in the trees the birds sang charming songs. Here and there strange animals scurried off among the bushes, but they all obeyed the laws of Pleasant Valley—they minded their own business and they did no harm to others, so every one was happy.

"My, isn't it lovely here. I don't see how any one can break the laws

of this delightful valley," cried Peggy. Before Billy could answer, there came a growling, a sniffling and a snarling from the bank of the river near by.

Hurrying toward the sound they came upon Major and Minor. The bear cubs were teasing an angry animal perched on a branch of a tree below the bank.

"Why, it's a big cat," cried Peggy. "A wild cat!" exclaimed Billy quickly. "Stop teasing it," he said to the cubs. "You are breaking the laws of Pleasant Valley, and you are making the wild cat wilder still."

"Er-uff! Sniff! Um-crow! We're having fun!" snickered the young rascals, who had forgotten all about their promise to keep the laws of Pleasant Valley. They were teasing the wildcat by growling and sniffling and making faces at it. Then they turned around and began to kick dirt and stones at it.

"Look out!" warned Billy, but quick as a flash punishment came to the cubs. The wild cat gave a sudden leap and landed on the back of Major. My! how the fur flew, and how Major howled. From Major the wild cat leaped to Minor, and again the fur flew and Minor howled.

"Yow! Yow! Help!" yelled the cubs. "The fierce wild cat is tearing us to pieces!"

And it seemed as if that is just what the wild cat was bound to do. Billy saw that something had to be done quickly to stop the furious beast. He seized his lasso and hurried the noose over the wild cat's body. In an instant the wild cat

whirled around and sprang at Billy. Just one thought popped into Billy's head—that thought was that cats don't like water. In an instant Billy acted on that thought—he jumped out into the raging river and dragged the wild cat after him.

My, but that wild cat was surprised

and upset and scared when it hit the water. All the wildness went out of it in a second and it became only a wet, bedraggled pussy, anxious to escape with its life.

(Tomorrow will be told how Bally Sam breaks the law.)

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