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Gathered in the World of Melody

Interesting Notes Concerning Musicians at Home and Abroad.

SEASON OF WAGNER OPERA

Carbondale Is Charmed by Mr. Carter. Scranton Is Again Threatened with an Infliction of "Esther"-Will Mac-Farlane's Contemplated Visit.

The Carbondale Herald pays the following deserved compliment to a well known Scranton musician: "Seldom, if Carbondale had the privilege of listen-Episcopal church last evening. Profescity. The programme for the evening Essy's ghost remain undisturbed. was furnished by three gentlemen who are the best talent which this valley affords. Professor George B. Carter, the organist of the Elm Park church, of Scranton, is a man of pleasing apwhich were brought forth last evening under his skilled fingers, were wonderful and evidenced of what may be accomplished in this direction. His manipulation of the ponderous organ reached. with his feet was most remarkable. The eighth number on the programme "Fugue," written in C Major by Bach was one of the most difficult, nearly all of the work being done by the foot pedals. At the conclusion of this number he received hearty applause. In the rendition of the "Third Overture and Wedding March from Lohengrin,' by Wagner, Mr. Carter's ability was tested and he delighted his listeners to guch an extent, that he was obliged to respond with that well known favorite, 'Home Sweet Home." During each of that by the perfect silence which reigned the audience was perfectly delighted. Professor Carter won the admiration of his hearers in the interpretation of that old familiar theme. "Annie Laurie," at the conclusion of which he received prolonged applause which he gracefully acknowledged."

be given during the season of Wagner opera in New York are "Tristan and Isolde," "Die Walkure," "Siegfried," "Die Gotterdammerung," "Lohengrin," "Tannhauser" and "Die Meistersinger." The artists who have been engaged are Sopranos and contraitos, Frau Rosa Sucher, Fraulein Johanna Gadski, Fraulein Elsa Kutscherra, Miss Marcella Lindh, Fraulein Marie Brema, Miss Marie Maurer; tenors, Herr Max Alvary, Herr Nicolaus Rothmuhl, Herr pleted. Paul Lange, Herr Paul Siegel; baritones and bassos, Herr Franz Schwarz, Herr Pudelch Oberbasses, Herr Franz Schwarz, Herr Pudelch Oberbasses, Herr Franz Schwarz, Herr Rudolph Oberhauser, Herr Emil zetti at Bergamo. Fischer, Herr Conrad Behrens, James F. Thomson, Herr Adolph Dahm-Peterson. The New York Symphony orchestra of eighty-five musicians will supply the instrumental portion of the performances, with Damrosch as leader. The season will begin on Feb. 25.

A thousand years ago secular music consisted chiefly of folk-songs, which January. might, according to Dr. Mackenzie, be divided into six classes, viz.; (L) Minmelieder, or love songs; (2) satirical songs; (3) songs of loose character (not allowed in the vicinity of churches, but not forbidden by law); (4) Lob, or Ehrenlieder-songs in praise of deeds of honor or of prowess; (5) Teufelslieder version are retained, while the second act,

night in or about graveyards, to frighten away evil spirits who came to disturb the peace of the dead; (6) war songs-among the most celebrated of which was the Song of Roland.

A correspondent at Munich thus describes the new machinery for producing the motions of the Rhine daughters in Wagner's "Rheingold:" Each of the three singers stood in a sort of cornucopia, hung from pulleys and trolleys by nearly invisible wire ropes; each of these three appliances required for its manipulation the aid of thirteen men, and every movement, up or down, to the front or back or side, was controlled by a separate rope; while one man of each thirteen acted as director, indicating each movement as called for by text or

Scranton has again been threatened with a production of "Queen Esther." ever, have the music loving people of and considerable apprehension has been felt among musical people over ing to such a musical treat as was given the threatened outbreak. It is to be in the auditorium of the Methodist | hoped that the effort to review the old chestnut will be nipped in the bud. sor George B. Carter's organ recital "Esther" has served her time as an was a grand success. The audience was instrument of torture in the hands of a large one and was composed of the ambitious amateurs and is entitled to most attentive and intelligent of the an unbroken rest. By all means let

The members of the chorus in the Imperial opera at Vienna are in no sudden danger of becoming millionaires. During the first two years they are regarded pearance, and the harmonious strains, as students and receive no compensation. The next three years they get 25 florins (about \$10) a month, to which \$2 a month is annually added, till, in eight years, the maximum of \$28 a month is

> Johann Strauss seems to be indefatigable. He has already completed the first act of his fifteenth operetta, while his "Jakuba," produced during the jubilee in Vienna, has hardly had time to reach other German cities. It has now been given in Berlin with even more brilliant success than in Vienna, while Hamburg and other cities will hear it soon.

Will C. Macfarlane, the talented young organist, who opened the new organ at Penn Avenue church two his selections it was a noticeable fact in New York, at All Souls' church. years ago, is giving a series of recitals The twenty-sixth recital of the series will be given on Tuesday afternoon next. It is probable that Mr. Macfarlane will be again heard in Scranton during the present season.

The chorus choir at the First Presbyterian church will be increased to forty voices when the programme of The operas that have been selected to Ohristmas music is rendered. Director Morgan announces that the Christmas music at First church this year will be the finest ever heard in that edifice.

Taillie Morgan, the well known musical director, has been made representative of the Musical Courier for northeastern Pennsyvania.

SHARPS AND FLATS: "The Trial Kiss" is the name of the new operetta which Milloecker has just com-

In his thirty hours' planoforte perform

ice in London it is estimated that Herr Berg struck the instrument 1,836,000 times. The last composition of the late Hungarian composer Czibulka is a "Waltz-Serenade" for plano numbered as opus 390. There is no chorus and no ballet in Mascagni's opera "Ratcliff," which is to have its first performance in Berlin next

Hans Sommer's opera, "St. Foix," recently had its first representation at the Court theater, Munich. He calls it a "hu-morous music drama."

Sir Arthur Sollivan has finished all the music for the new version of the "Contrabandista," which will be almost a new opera, as only five numbers of the original len Co., 365 Canal St., New handsome, the stage setting is superb. (devil songs)-sung by the people at words and music, is entirely new. Sir Vork.

Arthur is now at work on the incidental music for Henry Irving's production of "King Arthur" at the Lyceum.

At a recent performance of Wagner's "Tristan" in Vienna the Isolde was a singer with the musical name of Ida Doxat Krzyzanowski. She halls from Saxony.

"Jeanle Deans," by Hamish McCunn, a Scotch grand opera with a thoroughly Scotch libretto by a Scotch composer, has ust been given at Edinburgh with great

Being asked in Paris if it was true that he was writing a symphonic poem entitled "Death," Verdi replied with a smile, "Death is perhaps thinking of me, but I am sure I am not of it."

A London violin-maker has offered as prizes new violins worth \$150 each to the best violin-pupils in the three leading conservatories of that city. An example worth imitating elsewhere.

Sir William Robinson, governor of Western Australia, has given birth to a grand opera, called "Predatoros," which, when produced recently at Melbourne, was received with enthusiasm

Sir Arthur Seymour Sullivan, born in 1842, knighted in 1883, is said to have realized \$50,000 from sales of his song, "The Lost Chord." Balfe received \$40,000 for 'I Dreamt I Dwelt in Marble Hall "

Frau Materna has announced her retirement next month from the Vienna Opera. A grand farewell performance is to be arranged for her. She has amassed great wealth since 1876, when Beyreuth made her world-famed as a Wagner singer,

The name of the celebrated violinist, Ysaye, who has taken New York by storm, should be pronounced "Esa" with the ac-cent upon the first letter. It will be seen that Ysaye is easy when one knows how

A prominent solo singer of one of our churches was overheard to say: "Yes, we singers get criticised every Sunday, but the sport is not all one-sided; we know how little the average critic knows of singing, and while he criticises the gloves, hats, etc., we hear his bad English: see his unblacked shoes, and note his unchristianlike air. Oh; we have our fun, too." While musical New York is listening to

Melba and Nordica in general opera, it is pleasing to note that Mme. Blauvelt, who has so many admirers in Scranton, still holds her own. In speaking of a recent appearance of Blauvelt, the Musical Coursays: "Her voice has grown bigger, but she retains the same luscious freshness and has the same spontaneous ring in her utterance which first made her here a marked soprano. She is indeed our little concert Patti, and not unlike the diva in her pretty, piquant personnel."

The Rotation Folly. From the Washington Post.

The national house of representatives often loses a member, just when he is entering on a career of usefulness and honor, because a rival county thinks his county "has had it long enough." Those, districts and states that give no en-couragement to such narrow notions are those which take the lead in national af-

An Opportunity of Intimacy.

From Pearson's Weekly. Creditor (determinedly) —I shall call every week until you pay this account, sir. Debtor (blandly)—Then, sir, there seems every probability of our acquaintance rip-ening into friendship.

ousness, bilious headache, dyspepsia, heartburn, torpid company. They do the very best posliver, dizziness, sick headache, bad taste in the mouth, coated tongue, loss of appetite, sallow skin, when caused by constipation; and constipation is Cecil York, Mr. Harry Courtaine and by H. J. W. Dam, has made a hit in the most frequent cause of all of them.

drugstores, or write B. F. Al- Miss Coghlan. The women in "To

News of the Green Room and Foyer

Some of the More Important Doings of These, Our Actors.

ROSE COGHLAN'S LATEST PLAY

The Critics Agree That It Was Magnificently Presented but That It Was In-

trinsically Not Much of a play,

Other Dramatic Notes.

It seems to be the pretty unanimous verdict of the New York critics that Rose Coghlan's new play, "To Nemesis," produced in Gotham for the first time last Monday night, will not The Commercial Advertiser says of it: "The play is new, very new, and most probably will never become stale through wear. As for its originality, the least said the better, Mrs. Pacheco has jumbled up a lot of foreign people in a manner that might be called outre. She puts fine speeches in their mouths, every speech accentuated with a Bowery fervor, and puts fine clothes on their backs. The regality of Miss Coghlan is well set off by the author's costuming, and she provides her with language commensurate with the costumes, showy but substanceless, "To Nemesis" has a plot that requires the most assiduous attention and a fair stretch of the imagination to comprehend. There are kangaroo leaps in it, chaotic lapses and sudden bursts of effulgence that bewilder. The heroine, Mile. Walanoff, marries a man who wronged her, only to leave him immediately, and then in some unaccountable way comes into the possession of a fortune in Russia, where fortunes for peasant girls are picked up by Mrs. Pacheco with astonishing ease, regardless of paternity. Then she goes to in brightening the lives of people whom Paris and meets her husband's twin brother whom she mistakes for the man upon whom she has sworn revenge. The kangaroo begins to leap, Never was there such a frisky kangaroo. A duel is brought about, and that we have grown indifferent to the just as the Nemesis is beginning to higher form of the drama? Nothing of chuckle and gloat over acquired revenge she learns that the wrong man patronize the very best plays, but we is to be killed-that the real man has been dead a long time. A carriage is right there at the boudoir door, and ner. Whenever Shakespeare's plays the kangaroo horses make one long are put on with anything like the sumpget-there-or-die leap, and, presto! there is a climax, a denouement for the gallery. On the Bowery or Eighth ave-

plaudits of the house. With the atmosphere of the Star theater it is a precision of a delineator upon a pected to appear, and then she ham-Beecham's pills are for bili- mered away with clangs and clangs worthy of any blacksmith. Miss Coghlan is surrounded by a very capable sible with the material at hand and present some really pretty scenes. There are Mr. Frederic de Belleville as the Count Ogareff, the unfortunate twin who escapes a colleward puncture through the dexterous manipulation of the playwright; Mr. Henry Jewett, Mr. other worthy actors, who, with commendable exertion, aided the movements of the kangaroo. Then there are Effic Shannon, and Miss Maxime Elli-Book free; pills 25c. At ott, an unusually handsome woman, in

costumes are exquisite and gorgeous. and adorned by her splendid personality charm and please, while the words she has to speak mystify and torture.'

Those who love comic opera-a large element, by the way, of every community, even of Scranton, with all the latter's fondness for blood-and-thunder border heroics and slugging matcheswill mentally applaud Mrs. D. P. Bowers for saying, as she does in a recent article: "The large majority of our public is composed of hard-working people-people who probably work at a DECKER BROTHERS higher pressure than their fellows of KRANICH & BACK other nations. When evening comes STULTZ & BAUER they are tired; they want to be amused; they want to be lifted for a time out of themselves, and they go where they will

be. Surely these people are not to be taken to task for their taste in prefer ring a light amusement to one which presents the serious side of life and works up their emotions. There was a time when audiences reveled in the woes of 'The Stranger'; in the remorse of Sir Edward Mortimer, and the agonies of Jaffleri and Pierre in 'Venice Preserved' but that time is passed, and happily, I think. Our people seem to have unconsciously come to the doctrine of Epicurus, who held that the chief purpose of life was the pursuit of happiness And the fact that they now shrink from witnessing the harrowing scenes of the old-fashioned, gloomy dramas seems to me to speak for their refined and kindly natures."

And vaudeville, the bugaboo of so many good people, of this she says: "Its popularity proves nothing against the good taste of the great majority of our intelligent play-goers. This is the entertainment of our work-people, and the large number of play-houses devoted to it shows that our workers have a universal love for the theater. In no other country in the world does this class begin to patronize it so liberally as in this. The good variety show has its own field and does its own good toil and hardship continually oppress. It gets them into the habit of theater going and gradually educates them to something better." And she adds: "Does this condition of affairs prove the kind. We are only too eager to demand that those plays shall be produced in an adequate and proper mantuousness of comic opera we give them our undivided support. Witness the recent success of Augustin Daly and nue 'To Nemesis' is sure to arouse the Henry Irving. The day is past when Shakespeare, with a good star and indifferent company and setting, is potent little incongruous. The author has just for the sake of Shakespeare. Richmanufactured climaxes with a sledge ard, with a half dozen lean aud hungry hammer. She apread out a roll of sin supers conquered at last by Richmond in the first act, demonstrating with the with a similar warlike contingent, no longer convinces even the 'groundings,' blackboard where crinkles might be ex- and I think it is to our credit that it is so. The true reason for the decline of the poetic drama in this country in the last few years is that we have not de-

> FOOTLIGHT FLASHES: The "In the Name of the Czar" company

this direction."

William Mestayer and Ella Proctor Otis

veloped players of unusual merit in

are joint stars in "Oliver Twist."
"The Shop Girl," the new comic opera London. The music is by Ivan Carwil. Jane Hading has withdrawn from the Theater Francais, and will probably play the role of Doreathen Morch in "A Woman's Silence," at the Gymnase.

ott, an unusually handsome woman, in roles fully as unconscionable as that of Miss Coghlan. The women in "To Nemesis" are beautiful, the men are handsome, the stage setting is superb, and the play is trash. Miss Coghlan's edy) is truly golden.—New York Times.

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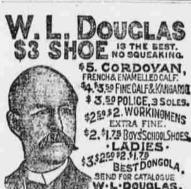
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