News of the Green Room and Foyer.

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

Frederick Febvre, of the Comedie Francaise, one of France's most distinguished comedians, is in this country and has submitted, with unusual patience, to be interviewed. His talk, of course, is principally about stage people. Of Ada Rehan he thinks she would be a greater artist if she were a little less anxious for effect and brought into her acting a little more feminine reserve. What M. Febvre does not like is the lack of details in our theaters. He does not like the way the actors cross each other's paths, objects to the way men walk into the drawing rooms on the stage with their canes in their hands and their hats on their heads. Then, again, he does not like the way the men strut around with their hands in their pockets when they assume the parts of society men. M. Febvre argues that they do not do that in drawing rooms when they try to be polite and he does not understand why they should do it on the stage.

* * *

Of Henry M. Dixie M. Febvre says he is simply charming, adroit, witty, elegant and comic without descending to buffoonery. He likes "Rob Roy," the "Case of Rebellious Susan" and "The Old Homestead." Denman Thompson's interpretation of the part of the honest old countryman pleased him immensely. When M. Febvre saw half a dozen other productions he says: "After having visited most of the principal theaters and after having heard the best comedians of the city, it appears to me that in the opinions of all real lovers of dramatic art—and everyone knows to what point the American loves this art—the establishment of a national conservatory of declamation—drama and comedy—must be a most imperious necessity. There is no art without its grammar. One does not catch the comedian's art as one does a cold. It ought to be the result of a vocation and not the mere choice of a profession. The young people who attack with such temerity a career which is so difficult and so interesting in this sense, that the last word in it is never spoken, make me think of those so-called musicians who play upon the piano waltzes and polkas without ever having practiced an elementary scale." In conclusion M. Febvre says: "Why should Americans, who are the first in many points, show themselves retrogressive or indifferent in a matter of art? If they wish to enjoy, in the pure acceptation of the word, the audition of the immortal William's masterpieces; if they wish to purify taste and the delicate pleasure which ensues in hearing a beautiful and virile language correctly interpreted by actors of education and training, let them create as quickly as possible an establishment of so great public utility—this conversatory, this refuge of a beautiful language, this last rampart of good style—and then little by little they will purify taste and the vulgar force will remain the property of the lowest classes. If not, in a few years, it may happen that, in order to provoke a laugh, one will see some evening Polonius and Ophelia, Othello and Desdemona give themselves up to the joys of a jig as untimely as it is out of place."

* * *

"Lightfoot's Wife," an original comedy of gay Parisian life, by Adrian Barbusse, recently received its initial performance at New Orleans. This comedy was written expressly for Stuart Robson, who was seen as Marmaduke, the Good. The character represents a good-natured and wealthy young fellow, whose wealth and kindness are much imposed upon by nearly all who know him. The character fits exactly Mr. Robson's quaint style and peculiar manner, and if the success of the first performance is a test of its merits, it will prove a very valuable piece of property. Mrs. Robson plays the beautiful Peppa, an ex-opera singer, and a satire on the conventional stage adventures, and met with flattering success.

* * *

FOOTLIGHT FLASHES:

George C. Jenks is writing a burlesque on a Hawaiian subject.

Eddie Foy will appear in "Little Robinson Crusoe" next season.

Andrew Mack, with "The Country Sport," will star next season in "Myles Aroon."

Mme. Cottrelly has been engaged to play the part of Mme. Pinard, the concierge, in "Trilby."

Continuous performance houses have been opened in Chicago, St. Louis and Cincinnati.

Cissy Loftus and Maggie Cline are giving private entertainments at receptions of the 400.

Charles Frohman will produce Oscar Wilde's latest farce, "The Importance of Being Earnest."

Lewis Morrison intends to appear as Hamlet. He says he has been studying the role for twenty years.

Carrie De Mar, with Hallen & Hart, is pronounced by western critics the cleverest soubrette seen in that section.

Beerbohm Tree is enthusiastic over his New York reception. He will produce Ibsen's "Enemy of the People" when he returns.

Mrs. Langtry has secured a new play, "Gossip," by Clyde Fitch, and has engaged Eben Plympton and Effie Shannon for her company.

Queenie Vassar has resigned temporarily from Harrigan's company, and her husband, Jeweler Lynch, is making a small silver spoon and porringer for use in the near future.

Sardou's latest play, "Don Quixote," has been harshly treated by the French critics, and to their great glee the dramatist has been unwise enough to express vehement disapproval of their competency.

A New York correspondent of the Salt Lake Tribune says: "Drama in New York is a dead letter, and if the rest of the country is going to follow the fashion set here, actors without song and dance abilities may as well consider their vocation gone. The only kind of play recently successful for any length of time is the erotic or 'smut' drama. It is impossible now to get a legitimate run out of anything but comic opera, farce, vaudeville or burlesque. This is the cold truth. New York is the greatest variety show town on earth."

VARIED COINAGE.

Norway Has the Greatest Number, with England a Very Close Second.

The European country with the most varied coinage is Norway, having eighteen pieces, of which eight are different kinds of bronze. In England, which stands next, there are seventeen coins, including the Maundy money. If the guinea, half guinea, and seven shilling piece, which have never been called in, and which if struck after 1816—the year of the coinage act—are still current, are included, the total will be increased to twenty.

Coins for the whole of the British empire, excepting Australia and India, are made at the London mint, and, if these are taken as circulating more or less in the various parts of the kingdom and empire, England has a more varied coinage than any other country in the world. Coins of the value of a third of a farthing are struck at the mint for circulation in Malta.

The life of one of Englands' coins averages twenty-five years, and it has about 1,230,000,000 of them in circulation, weighing 4,750 tons.

WELSH JOTTINGS.

Sir E. J. Reed, M. P., is to receive the freedom of the borough of Cardiff.

Rev. L. Pugh Lewis, of Dolgelly, has accepted a call to become the minister of the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist church at Neath.

Still another argument for Welsh home rule is furnished by the astounding fact that the Bangor corporation have been put to the enormous expense of nearly £2,000 in promoting an unopposed bill in parliament, empowering them to borrow £14,000 for the construction of a pier.

During the past few days the secretary of the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Missionary society (the Rev. Josiah Thomas, M. A., Liverpool), has received £700 towards the work of the society in Khassia Hills, India, £500 from a donor whose name is only known to his wife and the secretary of the society, and £200 left under the will of the late W. Williams, Llewesog Hall, Denbigh.

There is a storm brewing at Wrexham. The colors of the Forty-first Welsh regiment have since 1862 been given the place of honor in the magnificent pile known as Wrexham Parish church, but recently they were removed in order to be hung in Llandaff cathedral. The whole of North Wales are angrily inquiring why this should be so.

The following account was presented in 1736 by Richard Foulkes, a tenant of Sir John Myddleton, of Oswestry, to his landlord, and as it gives some important particulars of the wages then paid in North Wales to artisans and laborers it will be interesting: Edward Isaac, the carpenter, 26 days at 1s 2d per day, £1 10s 4d; Richard Roberts, 19 days at 1s 1½d; Gabriel Lee, David Edwards, Thomas David, Edward Ambrose and Richard Edwards were paid 10d a day, and Hugh Morris, 15 days at 8d a day. The whole of the work, which altogether occupied 116½ days, cost £5 8s 5d. The job done was to erect a fence on the River Chirk to prevent the flooding of the farm.

In the course of his report for 1893 to the local government board, F. T. Bircham, inspector for the district comprising North and South Wales and Monmouthshire, states that the increase in pauperism which he had to report in the previous year had continued to augment steadily. "This increase," Mr. Bircham add, "is mainly confined to those unions containing a mining or manufacturing population; and it cannot be a matter of surprise when the state of some of the staple industries of the district is taken into account. The tin plate trade, for instance, has never perhaps passed through a worse year than the one just ended, while the iron and steel works for the most part can scarcely claim any brighter record.

It is only natural that the proposed disestablishment of the church in Wales should still receive attention in the Welsh newspapers, and it will no doubt continue to receive such notice as its importance in the minds and hearts of the Welsh people demands for it. The Cymro discusses the situation, and first of all condemns the Tory party for their schemes to waste the time of the government since the commencement of the session so as to prevent it from bringing its measures before parliament. The Goleuad looks upon the debate on the address as mere waste of time, and experiences some trepidation lest some unforeseen accident may cause the dissolution of parliament before the Welsh disestablishment bill is passed. The Genedl observes that a number of the Welsh members who are learned in the law were absent on legal business in South Wales, and warns them that Wales will watch their conduct with more than usual vigilance during the stirring times which are to come. The Herald Cymraeg compares the Welsh bill introduced last session by Mr. Asquith with what is termed the Bangor disestablishment bill. There are two points in which the Herald thinks the latter bill is preferable. Under the government bill the church would retain possession of the churches and parsonages, and in the second place they would still be under the control of the Archbishop of Canterbury, whereas under the Bangor bill such would not be the case.

The following stanzas have been written by Rev. D. P. Jones, Hyde Park avenue, to be sung as a communion hymn at the Tabernacle church, tomorrow. They were written for the well known tune, "Lausanne:"

Cofio'r Iesu, Geidwad tirion,
Gynt fu'n rhodio'n dasar ni;
Cyfaill anwyl, perffaith galon,
Awdwr iachawdwriaeth gu.

Cofio ei weithredoedd nerthol,
Cofio'l eiriau, cofio'l ddawn;
Cofio'l gur a'l angau lawnol,
Cofio'l lef "Gorphenwyd" wnawn.

Da yw genym gofio'r Iesu,
Yn gorchfygu uffern gref;
Ac yn esgyn i deyrnasu
Byth ar orsedd fawr y nef.

Yn ei gofion mae goludoedd,
O rasusau dwyfol rin;
Cariad fel tragwyddol foroedd,
Duwdod cyflawn yn y dyn.

Red Snow Banks of Greenland.

One of the most conspicuous landmarks, or, rather, snowmarks, in the whole of the arctic regions is the red snowbanks discovered near Cape York, Greenland, by Captain John Ross in the year 1818. For miles and miles the hills are covered with snow that is as red as though it had been saturated with blood. Lieutenant Greely, who visited that region while on his famous arctic expedition, miscroscopically examined these blood-stained cliffs and reports the color due to a minute organism which he calls Protococcus nivalis.

To See one's Own Eye.

"Did you ever see your own eye?" asked an unscientific person. "It is a very simple matter. The most satisfactory view is obtained by shutting, say, the left eye and pressing gently upon the right side of the righteye. You will then see, apparently at the right side of the nose, a round, dark object about the size of the apple of the eye. That is what I take it to be, and I suppose the retina is made in some way to reflect the outer portion of the eye, though the phenomenon may be only an optical delusion."

Electrical Headlights for Horses.

Electricity has been required to pay another tribute to human demands. In Berlin incandescent lamps are now used as headlights for horses. The lamp is placed within a silvered reflector, and is fed from a small battery carried on the vehicle. Then the horse, converted into a cyclopean monster, roams the streets in safety, wearing a cynical "lookout-for-the-engine" cast of countenance.

Ann Arbor in the Lead.

From the New York Tribune.

It is claimed for the University of Pennsylvania that for the second time in its history it is the third largest university in America, the University of Michigan being first, with something over 4,000 students; Harvard second, with about 3,200; Pennsylvania coming next with about 2,389, and Yale coming fourth with 2,350.

Glass Used on Sandpaper.

Sandpaper is made with powdered glass instead of sand. Glass is readily pulverized by heating it red-hot and throwing it into water, and finishing the powdering in an iron mortar. By the use of sieves of different sizes of mesh, the powder can be separated into various grades of fineness.

Spectators May Legally Hiss.

Judge Logue, of Cleveland, has declared that a boy has a right to express his approval of a play by whistling, or his disapproval by hissing.

Gathered in the World of Melody.

Interesting Notes About Musicians At Home and Abroad.

Joseffy appeared with Theodore Thomas at an Auditorium matinee in Chicago, the other day, playing Johannes Brahms' No. 2 concerto in B flat, op. 83. The Herald says: "Joseffy was far from the completion of this (the third) movement alone before he had sufficiently demonstrated his right to be considered one of the most brilliant pianists now before the public. Here he was absolutely convincing in his masterly technique, overcoming the great technical difficulties with perfect ease, and displaying in the rapid passages a perfect technical skill and mastery of the keyboard. The tone produced from his instrument was crisp, clear as crystal, and sparkling with life. Every note, no matter how rapid and difficult the run, was clear cut and distinct. It was in the close of the finale movement, the allegretto grazioso, that he so convincingly showed himself to be a perfect technician, his work in the final passages being of marvelous brilliancy, and showing great virtuosity. Long before he had come to the end of the movement he received enthusiastic applause from the entire audience, who recalled him repeatedly."

Somewhere down in Texas there is a prima donna named Yaw. She recently gave a concert, concerning which one true son of the soil afterward penned the following luminous criticism: "The first stroke of the baton brought out a crash of complex melody, and the seance began. The number seemed to have the spirit of Beelzebub in it. Up this little dream figure started, and away went her voice, skimmering through the immense auditorium like a pistol ball. It lingered a while, searching all the corners of that huge theater until it struck the elevator, where it took passage for the next flight. From gallery to gallery it went, touching here, there and at all places the heart of every listener, breaking away only to run into some hidden nook, where she dwelt on a tone of liquid sweetness. This was her famous E flat in alt, which she simply caressed, and then with a bound, beyond all human comprehension, took a complete octave above and held it. * * * A short symphony follows, and here she comes tumbling down steps in cadenzas at breakneck speed, one note rolling over another with utter recklessness; you wonder where she will light, but a soft tone in her lower register serves as a cushion, and away she goes again with the agility of an acrobat and soars to heights unknown."

Mr. George B. Carter has been invited to become one of the 100 representative American organists who sail for a tour of England, France, Belgium and Holland June 26. The party is to be entertained by the organists of all the great cathedrals and their choirs, and musical unions. The advantages of such a trip to an organist cannot be estimated, and we are pleased to state that Mr. Carter has accepted the invitation. Mr. Carter will sustain the reputation of Scranton, both musically and in the debates which are to be a feature of the trip.

Miss Margaret Nevin, the Philadelphia soprano, who assisted at Mr. Carter's recital on Tuesday afternoon, captivated the audience by her artistic work. Miss Nevin's visit to Scranton has caused considerable speculation among those interested in musical matters who were in hopes that her voice might again be heard in Elm Park church. It has been announced, however, that Miss Nevin is not a candidate for a church choir position in Scranton, as she already has a lucrative engagement in a Philadelphia church.

Miss Amanda Meiss and her vocal pupils will give a song recital at Young Men's Christian Association hall on March 29. Miss Meiss will be assisted by Alfred Wooler, solo tenor of Elm Park church choir, and Professor Richard Lindsay. A pleasing programme has been arranged and the entertainment promises to be among the most enjoyable of recitals of the season.

Soon after the close of Lent a rendition of "Pinafore" will be given by a children's chorus under direction of Professor Richard Lindsay. One of the principal female characters of the opera will be interpreted by Miss Mary Niland, of Green Ridge, who possesses a remarkably fine soprano voice.

Miss Katherine Bloodgood, the famous New York contralto, is creating a furore at each appearance. It is to be hoped that Scranton people can hear this famous singer before she leaves the concert stage.

Miss Lillian A. C. Hammet, the brilliant pianist, has gone to New York city, where she will receive additional instruction from the well known artist, T. Reeves Jones, formerly of Scranton.

Miss Gertrude Morris has removed her musical studio to rooms in the Jewell building on Spruce street, formerly occupied by Mrs. Kate Wilcox, vocal instructor.

Miss Winifred Sullivan, of New York, will be one of the soloists at the vocal recital to be given at Elm Park Methodist Episcopal church about March 18.

SHARPS AND FLATS:

Stanislaus Stange and Julian Edwards are at work on a new comic opera for Miss Camille d'Arville. It is to be called "The City of Truth."

Baby opera having proved successful, Herr Humperdinck, the composer of "Haensel and Gretel," has just completed another fairy tale called the "Royal Infants," after a story by E. Rosmer, in which, as in his first opera, the two leading parts are written for women, who represent children.

During the Paris exhibition of 1900 it is proposed to give a cycle of Wagner opera with a German company in Paris. Meanwhile "Tannhauser," the "Meistersinger," "Tristan and Isolde," and the Nibelungen trilogy will be given at the grand opera. It is now definitely arranged that "Der Ring des Nibelungen" will be presented at Bayreuth once more in 1896.

At a dinner party given in honor of Miss Sybil Sanderson the other night the hostess turned to the prima donna and remarked: "Do you know, Miss Sanderson, the jewels you wear in 'Manon' are the most beautiful I have ever seen." "Oh, but these are stage jewels," cried Miss Sanderson. "Good heavens! You surely didn't think they were real, did you? I should have had to be dreadfully naughty to have earned all those."

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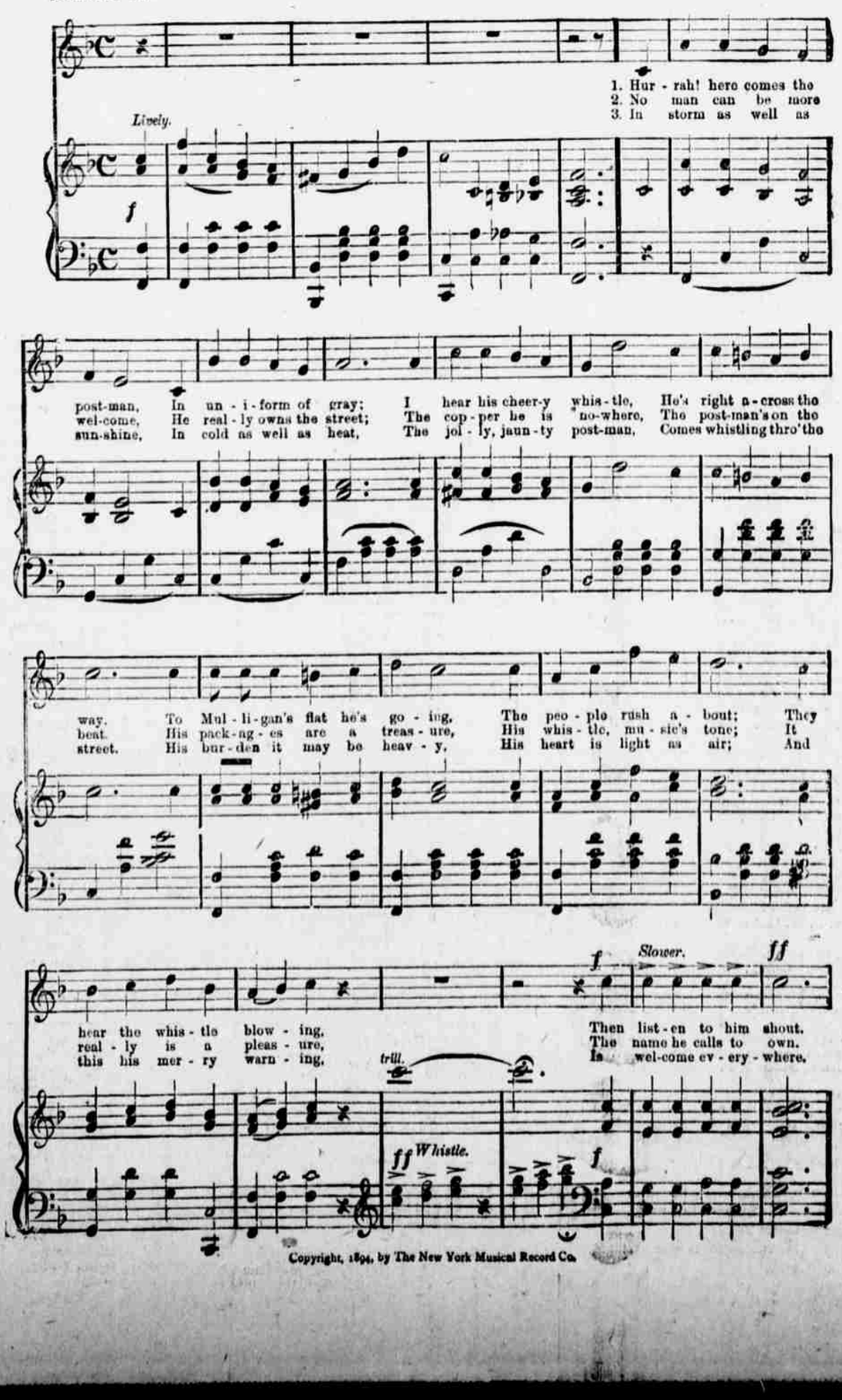

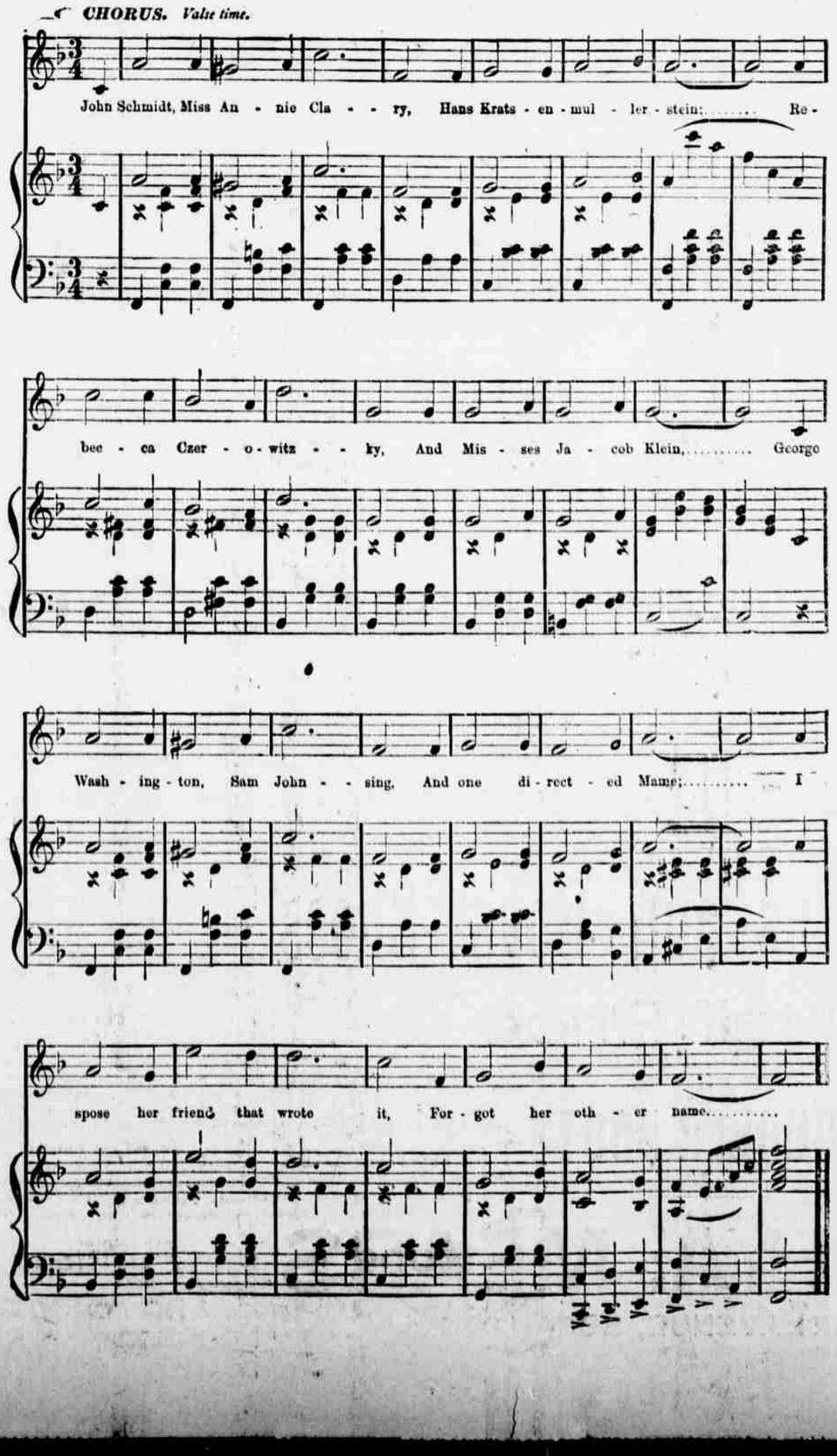

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