

Music and The Drama

TONES AND UNDETONES.

Florodora is making a big success at the New York Casino.

Mme Lillian Blauvelt after a most successful western tour has returned to Europe, but will visit America again in March.

The hundredth anniversary of the death of Cimarosa on Jan. 11 was celebrated at Vienna by a performance of his Matrimonio Segreto.

Charles Frohman is giving a burlesque festival in New York with Edna May and a great array of talent in a musical comedy entitled "The Girl from up There."

Johann Strauss, a grand nephew of the original Strauss, has composed, in aid of the fund for monuments to Strauss and Lanner a piece which shows the history of the waltz, the quotations being from the works of three generations of the Strauss family.

The Paris Grand Opera gives 190 performances a year, four of them free. The government pays \$160,000 to cover expenses yet there is always a large deficit.

Edward Macdonald is the only American composer whose works have received general recognition in Germany. England, too, is now paying attention to his compositions.

Paderewski is about to undertake a tour through Germany, followed by tours through Spain and Scandinavia. His long expected new opera "Maura" will be produced in early spring at Dresden.

A western music teacher commenting on the assertion made in "Songs and Song Writers," that Beethoven failed to be a great song writer because he was not a born vocal composer and because he reserved his best ideas for his larger works, gives the following information which will doubtless interest singers:

"One can sing ten or more Schubert songs with less effort than is required for one of Beethoven's, because the latter are mostly instrumental in character, and consequently, very tiring to the voice."

TALK OF THE THEATRE

The Valentine Stock Company opened its third week with a production of Romeo and Juliet.

Miss O'Brien made an ideal Juliet, her dainty, girlish loveliness enabling her to fill the role in a pleasing manner.

Mr. King made a very good Romeo, though he was not nearly so good in this role as in Hamlet.

Last season Miss Kate Blancke played the nurse and received due credit at the time. She was seen again in the role on Monday night, throwing into it all her heart and soul and winning golden opinions on every hand.

It was a pleasure too, to see Mr. Hagar in the part of Mercutio, so thoroughly good was he in every particular.

The Institute was occupied in the earlier part of the week by a comic opera company who essayed to sing Prince Pro Tem,—but didn't.

Clyde Fitch's new play, "Captain Jinks of the Horse Marines" opened in Philadel-

phia last Monday. A number of well known people are in the cast.

Lady Huntsworth's Experiment is making a hit in New York.

Maude Adams' Boston engagement in L'Aiglon begins next Monday.

Viola Allen has made a distinct success in "In the Palace of the King" at the Theatre Republic, New York.

Ellen Terry has once again taken the trouble to deny the oft repeated rumor that she is meditating early retirement from the stage.

Marie Dressler's new production "Miss Printz," is a happy burlesque that is making money for the actress and her managers.

Wilson V. Bennett, here upon several occasions with Price Webber, died recently while the company was playing in Maine.

Chauncey Olcott, a great favorite at the N. Y. Fourteenth Street Theatre, will be seen there next week in a new play called "Garrett O'Magh."

Mary Manning's success in Janice Meredith is justifying all predictions. The star herself appears to be a special object of popular admiration.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell expects soon to appear in a version of Echegaray's "Marians" prepared for her by Arthur Symonds.

Henrietta Crosman has decided to take "Mistress Nell" on tour somewhat earlier than was expected considering the unabated popularity of the piece and the crowded houses at the Savoy, New York.

The House That Jack Built, in which Tom Wise of pleasant memory is playing, is to be withdrawn from the Madison Square theatre, in favor of Madeline Lucette Ryley's comedy "My Lady Dainty."

"Herod," is still running strongly in London and it is expected to last until the middle or end of February, but Mr. Tree is completing his cast for a revival of Twelfth Night.

In the Dane's Defence, Margaret Anglin has scored one of the great triumphs of her successful career.

The listener in the Boston Globe has the following about a couple of young vaudeville people well known here, viz; Jack Tucker and Eva Williams:

"One can see 'Skinny's Finish' if not, lose no time it is one of the few character sketches that combine farce and pathos naturally and without effort. Eva Williams is as clever an artist as steps, and she gets under the skin of the poverty-stricken belle of tough New York in a style that captivates me."

The Paris correspondent of the London Times writes: "The Odeon Theatre some time ago instituted a practice which deserves mention. During the entr'actes of the plays produced here the band of M. Colonne plays in the magnificent and spacious galleried foyer on the first floor, classical authors or modern authors destined to become classic. The innovation is very welcome, for the prolongation of the entr'actes in the Paris theatres is one of the great drawbacks to theatre going in Paris, half of the three or four hours spent at the theatre being absorbed by these intervals, during which the foreigner whose acquaintances are limited is bored to death."

Says the New York Mail and Express editorially: Clement Scott, who is developing into a most inclement person, and who is missed in yellow journalism as sadly as is John L. Sullivan, is in a tree again and hoping that nobody will discover his hiding place.

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phia last Monday. A number of well known people are in the cast. Mr. Scott's opinion has been taken as to heart by the British actor who, deputed by Mr. Beerbohm Tree as his spokesman, has begged to remark that the British actor is as great as ever.

That Mr. Scott might possibly be right is not to be thought of for an instant. All but three or four of the English actors are in America, and the others have declared their intention of coming over here to live—not that American dollars enter into the consideration, but they like our various climate.

Neighborhood Kindness.

Mrs. Potter is a woman of sterling worth and simple piety, but she has a way of expressing her opinions which sometimes gives offense to sensitive people.

A neighbor's daughter, an excellent but unusually plain young woman, was about to be married, and Mrs. Potter went to see her a few days before the wedding.

"Well now, Mary Ann," said Mrs. Potter, as she sat looking at the bride elect, "it's a good thing you and James have decided not to wait any longer. Both of you are getting on, and besides that, nobody knows when a man may be turned aside from the path of duty by a pretty face."

"White silk," responded poor Mary Ann, endeavoring to look comfortable.

"Ah, my dear, white's pretty trying, I think," said Mrs. Potter, faithfully, "though of course it's common for brides to wear it, and all things considered, looks don't matter much in your case."

"Yes'm," said Mary Ann, with due meekness.

"And besides," added the comforting visitor, with a smile of great benevolence, "if you were to wear a color, Mary Ann, it would look to any stranger that might happen into the church as if you'd been married before, and it's better to sail under your own flag at times like this, no matter if 'tis unbecoming, for of course you aren't a widow, though there's been plenty of time for you to be."

Postal Matters in Hungary.

Some ten years ago three American travellers visited a country post office in Hungary for the purpose of posting letters and buying stamps.

After the postmaster and his wife had carefully read all the addresses, and had marveled long at the range of our correspondence we succeeded in communicating to their dazed senses the fact that we wanted to buy a stock of stamps of various denominations.

"What! So much money for stamps? Impossible!" protested the old man and his echoing wife.

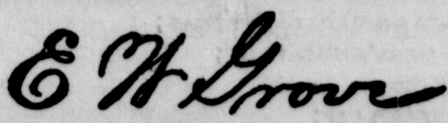
"But we want a stock of stamps to keep for our convenient use," we urged.

"Yes, yes, you want to use them, but why don't you buy them as you need them?" was the reply, as he shut the drawer under his elbow, apparently loath to part with any of its precious contents.

Arguments were useless, and we gave up the notion of securing a variety. We reduced our demand to a humble request for a few ten kreutzer stamps for foreign postage.

"Ah, no!" he said. "I can't let you have any ten kreutzer stamps, for the sheets haven't been broken into yet, and it is near the end of the month, when I make up my books, and I can't have my accounts confused by selling ten kreutzer stamps to any one."

We compromised on a double number



This signature is on every box of the genuine Laxative Bromo-Quinine Tablets the remedy that cures a cold in one day

of five kreutzer stamps, the ones in use for local postage.

Financial Jugglery.

Some months ago a United States commissioner, taking a house in Porto Rico, hired a man to wash the windows and another to scrub the floors.

"Ob," came the courteous reply, "of course I only expect a dollar and a half for myself, but that is the way we always made out bills for Spanish officers."

While such an incident warms the pride of the United States, the honest reader cannot ignore the current outcrop of great embezzlements in our own banking-houses, nor certain less important incidents of the past week.

Three clerks were recently dismissed from a prominent savings-bank. They were neat, accurate, prompt, and in no case had tampered with accounts.

Some months ago a young man in the office of a New York banker consulted him about the collateral of a loan he proposed to make at twelve per cent interest.

"Don't do it!" said the banker.

"Why not? The interest is high and the security ample."

"No," was the reply; "there is only one better rate than six per cent., and that is seven. When you get above that in this state the security is never good."

Periods of financial prosperity offer perhaps greater temptations to young men than times of general economy, but the principles of honorable finance are unalterable.

Why He Sang.

"Isn't it a grind, Phil?" asked one member of a college glee club to another.

"It is exciting," replied Phil, "and at first I thought it a burden, but to tell the truth I've come to like it."

"Oh, I don't doubt it does good, but the thing that would trouble me most would be the character of their music—that cheap, commonplace sort of stuff, you know."

"Well," said Phil, "it isn't classic, I know but it seems to be the kind that reaches those men and does them good, so I go ahead."

"I wonder at it, Phil, for your taste isn't of that sort."

"Phil was silent a moment, and then, with heightened color and a lower tone, he said: 'I'll tell you what helped me to get over that. You know Professor Mason? Well, he plays for them. That man who has won honors at the conservatories abroad, and whose appreciation of good music is as much finer than mine as mine is than some of the men in the mission—'

"I had some fine ideas about the sacredness of art and all that, and was tempted not to go there and sing; but when I saw that man and heard him there, I gave it up. If he can stand it for the sake of the good he is doing, I guess I can."

And so Phil sang on. No one who knew him ever suspected that he had lost his love of good music.

There is a cheap and thin culture which educates one above the needs of other people; a deeper, truer culture brings a heart sympathy which puts one in touch with them without condescension.

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