

MISS LIZZIE MACNICHOL.

Miss Lizzie Macnichol, the leading contralto of the company, was born in Washington, D. C., in 1866. She first studied the art of "Canto" with Dr. E. S. Kimball, of her native city. Afterward she placed herself under the tuition of Signor Agramonte, with whom she studied for several years. Her debut on the operatic stage took place in Philadelphia, in 1888, with the New American Opera Company, and she soon became a prime favorite with the *dilettanti* of the City of Brotherly Love. The talent and laudable ambition of this young American cantatrice are illustrated in the fact that, although she has been scarcely one year on the lyric stage, she has already sung most successfully the following roles: Azucena in "Trovatore," Nancy in "Martha," Queen in "Bohemian Girl," Frederic in "Mignon," Siebel in "Faust," the Page in "The Huguenots," Lazarillo in "Maritana," etc.

Miss Macnichol's voice is a pure and powerful contralto of great range, extraordinary brilliancy and eminently sympathetic quality, and if the work she has already accomplished so successfully may be taken as a criterion of her artistic abilities, she will soon occupy a foremost place in the galaxy of stars which already adorn the lyric stage of her native land.

In private life Miss Macnichol is the wife of Mr. Franz Vetta, the basso of the company, and their home is in Washington.

MR. ELVIN SINGER.

Elvin Singer was born in Vienna, Austria, August 24, 1862. His youth was spent in study, preparatory to entering upon a business career, which he successfully accomplished at an early age.

While occupying a prominent position in one of Europe's large insurance companies, his fine tenor accidentally attracted the attention of several prominent musicians. Advised and influenced by them, and prompted also by the ardent love which he had always possessed for the divine art of music, he gave up business and devoted six years to the cultivation of his voice.

His studies were ardently pursued under the careful instruction of the best masters of Vienna, Berlin, Paris and Milan. His celebrated Italian teacher, Signor Francesco Lamperti, said of his voice, that for a tenor robusto its capabilities for execution, and especially for thrilling, was truly wonderful, equal to that of the most accomplished prima donna. His voice ranges over two octaves, easily compassing high C, and is full, rich, even and sympathetic throughout the registers.

Mr. Singer has had flattering offers from Vienna, Berlin, Cologne and Leipzig, none of which he cared to accept before coming to the United States. America is now the chosen land of this ambitious, talented young tenor.

MR. FRANK PIERI.

Frank Pieri began his musical career when a boy of extremely tender age, at the world-renowned Convent Garden Theatre, London. He was at that period possessor of a marvelous high soprano voice that elicited the enthusiastic plaudits of all who listened to it. His fame spread, and before long young Pieri had accorded to him the distinction of being invited to appear before Queen Victoria and her family. He sang the famous "Una Voce" from the Barber of Seville, with such artistic delicacy and intensity of feeling that the delighted queen personally requested him to sing for her again at the Balmoral Castle. Mr. Pieri soon afterwards received his commission as midshipman in the English navy, where he served two years. On leaving the navy he studied at the Academy in Paris for some time, and thereafter was a prominent figure at all the principal musical festivals and concerts throughout Great Britain and Ireland. Mr. Pieri came to this country several years ago to take up his residence, and since then has been associated with the leading operatic and concert companies, his last engagement being with the American Opera Company. His tenor voice is one of great sweetness and compass, always skillfully handled and artistically controlled, while his histrionic ability is not in the slightest degree inferior to his vocalistic attainments.

MR. E. N. KNIGHT.

Mr. E. N. Knight, the basso buffo of the company, was born in Boston in 1854, and is an artist of considerable stage experience. He first embraced the lyric career in 1879, when he became a leading member of the Melville Opera Co., in San Francisco. While in the Golden City he studied for several years with Signor G. Mancusi, once a celebrated baritone and now a very popular teacher of the "bel canto" in that city.

Mr. Knight joined the National Opera Co. in 1886, and became a leading member of the New American Opera Co. in 1888. His repertoire comprises no less than eighty-four different operas, which fact speaks volumes in favor of his talent and versatility. In the long list of operas in which he has played principal and prominent roles are: Ermain, Lucia, Trovatore, Rigoletto, Faust, Linda, Ballo in Maschera, Martha, Sonambula, Maritana, Bohemian Girl, Traviata, etc., etc.

Mr. Knight is a conscientious artist, full of genuine mirth, and always very popular on the stage. He is one of the rare lyric comedians who can really sing, and his ability is proverbial in the operatic world.

The Celebrated Steinway Piano used by The Emma Juch Grand English Opera Company.