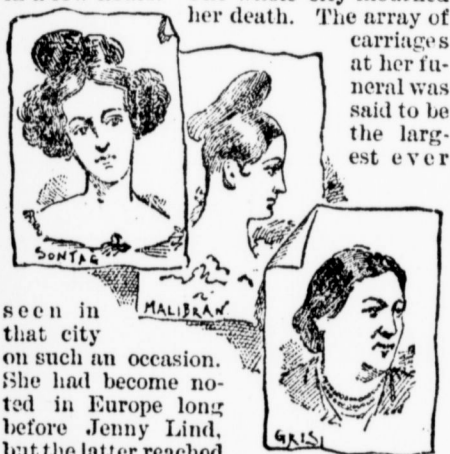


battle of Marengo, but when he sadly gave her up for political reasons, she resumed her brilliant reign on the stage. At the age of 85 she was still beautiful, and her voice retained much sweetness to the day of her death. Angelica Catalini was placed in the choir of an Italian church in 1790 when but 12 years of age, and soon complaint was made to the bishop that all the neighboring churches were deserted, the people crowding to hear her sing. So she was removed, and at the age of 16 made her debut in opera. From 1805 till 1830 she was considered the "sweetest voiced woman in the world." Giuditta Pasta reigned from 1820 to 1840, and was succeeded by Henrietta Sontag, whose sudden death in New Orleans so saddened the American public. She came to America in 1852 and two years later, while filling an engagement in New Orleans, was stricken with cholera and died in a few hours. The whole city mourned her death. The array of



seen in that city on such an occasion. She had become noted in Europe long before Jenny Lind, but the latter reached the United States two years the earlier. Maria Felicia Malibran had come to America in 1823 with her father, the noted Manuel Garcia. Her life was one long tragedy. Her father, despite his talent, was a domestic tyrant of the worst sort, using the whip and cane on his daughters without mercy. Robert Dale Owen has recorded one such scene on the vessel in which they crossed which so enraged the captain that he threatened to put Garcia in irons. She

married Eugene Malibran, and was more miserable than ever. She secured a separation, formed an attachment to De Beriot, a Belgian violinist, whom she married in 1836, but in a few weeks she was thrown from a horse and only lingered in misery a few weeks longer. Her sister, Pauline Viardot, was equally talented, but more fortunate, and remained upon the stage till 1862. Giuletta Grisi and Marietta Alboni were the great favorites in the United States in 1852-5, both Italians and both beautiful, though

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