

another factory girl, she is about to be imprisoned ; but she so fascinated Jose, sergeant of dragoons, who is ordered to conduct her to the goal, that he connives at her escape, and is himself imprisoned for his breach of duty. *"On regaining his liberty he seeks Carmen at a low pasado outside the walls Seville, where the bewitching gipsy draws the soldier into her net, and induces him to fly with her to the mountains and become a smuggler. He succumbs just at the moment when the bugle sounding the night retreat is heard in the distance."* Here he quarrels with a rival, his captain (Zuniga), upon whom he draws his sword, and, as death would be the penalty, he is tempted by Carmen to join the smugglers. The bull-fighter, Escamillo, who has fallen in love with Carmen, comes to the smugglers' retreat in search of her, and a combat ensues between the rivals. Carmen saves Escamillo from the dagger-thrust of Jose, who is furious with jealousy, having previously discovered that Carmen's love for him had grown cold. Micaela, a peasant girl, who had once before brought him a loving message from his mother, arrives with the tidings that his mother is at the point of death, and Jose departs, threatening Carmen with his vengeance if she proves unfaithful to him. Carmen accompanies Escamillo to a grand bull-fight, and while awaiting for him outside the Plaza de Toros, she is met by Jose, who vainly implores a renewal of her former love for him, and maddened by jealousy he stabs her to the heart.

II. TROVATORE.

In Act I, (The Duel), we learn that the father of the Count di Luna has burned, some time ago, under the belief she had set a spell on one of his children, an old gipsy, for witchcraft. Azucena, the daughter, to revenge her mother's death, steals the Count di Luna's younger brother names him Manrico, and brings him up as her son, keeping him in ignorance of his parentage. The Count di Luna and Manrico both become enamoured of Leonora, who favors Manrico. The act terminates with a duel. In Act II, (La Zingara), we are introduced to the gipsy's camp. Manrico learns that Leonora, supposing him dead, is that night about to take the veil, and at once sets off with his followers determined to prevent that act. The Count has also collected his followers with the intention of carrying off Leonora. The two bodies meet at the convent, Manrico's party overcomes that of the Count, and Manrico bears off Leonora. In Act III, (The Gipsy's Son), Manrico, on the point of being united to Leonora, learns that Azucena is about to be burned by Count di Luna. In attempting her rescue, he is himself taken prisoner. In Act IV, (The Punishment), Leonora, after imploring the Count in vain to spare the life of Manrico, offers him her hand as the price of Manrico's liberty. He consents, but Leonora to evade her promise, secretly poisons herself. Manrico, upon being told that he is free, refuses to depart unless Leonora accompanies him. Meanwhile, the poison does its work, and the Count orders Manrico to execution. Only when the blow has fallen does he learn, from the lips of Azucena, that he whose life has just fled was his lost brother.

 The portions printed in italics will be performed to night. 