

THE HAMBURG PIANOS.

The Old "Out of the Bag" Steinsway. Thrown up the sponge—He Acknowledges that he has been supplying his Canadian Agency from Hamburg.

DEAR SIR.—I have been informed that before leaving Montreal for New York on Friday last, Mr. Nordheimer, who came here on business connected with the exposure of the Hamburg pianos, induced the publisher of the Canada First to print for him a dozen slips of Canada First, which he wrote, as he stated, for the purpose of showing to Steinsway and others in New York that the parties who venturist the matter in the New York and Canadian papers had backed out, were sorry, and daily apologized, etc., etc.

THE "MUSIC AND DRAMA" PIANO ARTICLES. AN EXPLANATION WITHDRAWAL OF THE IMPUTATIONS AGAINST THE MESSRS. NORDHEIMER. In our last issue, dated the 27th of January, an article appeared, copied from the Music and Drama of New York, which was written by the Montreal correspondent of the Canada First, and in which the various charges therein mentioned, which so seriously affected the reputation of the well-known firm of Nordheimer, have naturally been the subject of much comment.

The above article looks incredulous in the light of the acknowledgments made by Messrs. Steinsway in the New York papers this morning, that he has been shipping pianos from the Hamburg factory to A. & S. Nordheimer, of Toronto. After explaining the whole business in his own satisfaction, Mr. Steinsway goes on to say that his pianos "having been partly made in the Steinsway factories of America, they would stand the effects of the American climate; but the import duty of 30 per cent is an insuperable barrier, and thus far not a single specimen has been imported into the United States. A few of them, however, have been imported into Canada by Messrs. A. & S. Nordheimer, of Toronto."

The italics are mine. In the face of this statement, Mr. Nordheimer wishes Canada First, who reproduced most of the article from Music and Drama, to apologize, and throw the blame of its insertion on the N. Y. Piano Co. This Canada First declines to do. Had Mr. Nordheimer known at the time that Steinsway, being pushed to the wall for explanations, had made a confession of the who's business in New York, he could have saved all that trouble and expense. Mr. Steinsway says that "30 per cent duty is an insuperable barrier" to the importation of their Hamburg pianos into the United States. How is it that the higher duty of 35 to 40 per cent imposed by the Dominion Government is no barrier to those same Hamburg pianos being imported into Canada? The disposition to drag the N. Y. Piano Co. into the controversy is easily explained. They are the agents of Weber, who is the real competitor of the Steinsways on this continent. Put the statements of Steinsway and this agent together, and we have the admission brought out by the Herald business that the Steinsway pianos sold in Canada are "partially made in New York, put together in Hamburg and varnished in Toronto."

TO THE EDITOR OF CANADA FIRST:

DEAR SIR.—The article referred to by your correspondent, "More Light," having appeared in the issue of Canada First, published yesterday, I have thought it necessary to write to the editor of that paper to correct a mistake, and to state to my own satisfaction in the matter. As you have published the article in your paper I shall ask you to give the same publicity to my letter.

FRATERNALLY, ARTHUR J. GRAHAM.

TO THE EDITOR OF CANADA FIRST:

DEAR SIR.—You publish in your last issue an article upon the Nordheimer piano difficulty, in which you make a statement with reference to myself, which needs correction. I have never acknowledged to Messrs. Nordheimer or any one else that my statements in the letter to Music and Drama were "rash and unfounded," inasmuch as they were neither one nor the other, the foundation being the detailed account given me by Mr. Howard himself, and the rashness not entering at all into the question.

I did write a letter to Messrs. A. & S. Nordheimer at their request, saying that Steinsway & Sons's letter and Mr. Howard's withdrawal of his charges put a new aspect on the matter, and I further acknowledged myself satisfied by the evidence produced that the pianos in question were made and recognized by the Steinsways as the genuine article, and that I regretted having done thus any injustice in suggesting that the Steinsways knew nothing of their importation. It now appears from Mr. Steinsway's own acknowledgment that the pianos are partially made in New York, finished in Hamburg, shipped thence to Toronto and varnished in this country. Now that the facts are fully acknowledged it seems that this curious feature of the piano trade belongs to the Steinsways, and that the Nordheimers as their agents are entitled to place the onus upon the shoulders of their principals. This and this alone is the true interpretation of the ground I have taken in the matter, a fuller exposition of which will appear in next week's issue of Music and Drama.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your obdt. servt. ARTHUR J. GRAHAM.

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O. E. Comstock, Caladonia, Miss., writes: "I was suffering the most excruciating pains from inflammatory rheumatism. One application of Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil afforded almost instant relief, and two bottles effected a permanent cure."

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A Georgia couple waited over four years for a good opportunity to elope, and just as it came the girl's father took the young man by the hand and said: "Speak up to her, Thomas! I know she loves you and I'd be tickled to death to have you for a son-in-law!"—Oglethorpe Echo.

"I have you evaporated apples?" she asked of the grocer. "Not any on hand just now, ma'am," he replied. "Don't you keep them?" "Well, I set out to buy 'em, got discouraged. I rolled a barrel of Baldwin out in the morning, and before noon half the lot had evaporated and disappeared. I prefer to deal in the solid fruit."—Chicago Tribune.

LETTER FROM MEMBER OF CONGRESS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Washington, D. C., Feb. 12th, 1883. Gentlemen—Enclosed find one dollar, and will you send me some of N. E. Downs' Vegetable Balsam Elixir, by express. I have a bad cold, as has almost everyone else here, but cannot find the Elixir, which I use frequently at home, and consider a most valuable medicine; in fact, the very best remedy for a cough that I ever used.

CONSUMPTION CURED. An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure for consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows.

Mrs. Ryan of Philadelphia has brought up her sons in a correct knowledge of pronouns, and so, upon hearing somebody open the window in the night, and replying to her question, "Who's there?" "It's me, mother," she knew that the intruder was none of her offspring. She gave an alarm, and the ungrammatical burglar was captured.

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