



John Philip Sousa is the new musical Joan of Arc. He has started a crusade against the hackneyed themes and names utilized by composers. In order to show proof to be used in his reform movement he has quoted statistics which are now made public for the first time. According to his records there are:

Songs about spring 1,263,842, about love 954,626, about bygone days 823,437, about flowers (pansies, roses, hyacinths, daisies, forget-me-nots and lilies) 749,211, about romanzas 672,843, about cradle songs 547,738, nocturnes 521,266, reveries 479,143, songs with violin obbligato 422,001, serenades 366,242, aeolian murmurs 133,009, rippling cascades 102,112, variations on Yankee Doodle 96,424.

A Scottish Concert was given in the Liberal club, Winnipeg, May 10. Miss Tina Crawford, and Miss Agnes Hyde were great successes.

The Musician says—"It seems to us the time has come for music teachers to take the stand that pupils must pay for lessons missed. As long as the pupil's name is on the teacher's time book he should be compelled to pay for his lesson hours, no matter whether he takes the lessons or not, for what reason he has remained away. Illness is no excuse for not paying for the teacher's time. If anything of a serious nature should arise, the pupil should write the teacher and simply say, "I shall discontinue my lessons, for the present." Then when he or she is ready to assume instruction, let new arrangements be made therefor."

The great organ pealed forth. The leader of the choir waved his baton with great energy, his head and his whole body assisting in keeping time and giving expression to the noble anthem. And the choir sang, in full chorus:
"Aw maw O waw maw raw yaw jaw.
Woe yo baw ho raw law aw waw,
Law jaw O baw maw raw
Yo haw hee aw baw jaw O baw
Woe haw daw maw aw daw raw aw,
Baw waw shaw law O maw!"

Favorite hymns:
The automobilist's—"Oft in danger, oft in woe."
The dentist's—"Change and decay in all around I see."
The multi-millionaire's—"Ten thousand times ten thousand."
The bookkeeper's—"A charge to keep I have."
The hypnotist's—"Art thou weary, art thou languid."
The divorce lawyer's—"Blest be the tie that binds."
The boaster's—"Blow ye the trumpet, blow."
The life-saver's—"Breathe the wave."
The pugilist's—"Fight the good fight."
The Esquimaux's—"From Greenland's icy mountains."
The Chicago girl's—"How firm a foundation."
The engaged girl's—"Shout the glad tidings."

Wagner not a Jew.—The London "Telegraph" has this in its musical column: "The statement to the effect that Wagner was the illegitimate son of a Jew, named Geyer long ago attained wider circulation than belief. Such support as it had was chiefly due to the fact that it was entered in the books of the St. Nicholas School at Dresden under the name of Geyer. Just recently a book written by Mme. Burrel, and devoted to recollections of the childhood and youth of Wagner, has considerably weakened the force of this testimony. Mme. Burrel sets herself to destroy the Geyer legend, and points out that it was at the time a custom in Germany to enter in the school registers, not the proper names of the children, but the name of those who paid the fees. This seems to be a curious custom, but, of course, it is easy to prove or disprove by reference to the registers. Mme. Burrel has, furthermore, compared the portrait of Richard Wagner with that of his elder brother, Albert, whose paternity was never in doubt. The resemblance is said to be most striking, and the conclusion is described as important, because showing that Wagner was a Christian and not a Jew; as showing, too, that his 'Judaism in Music' is only a work of a vehement pamphleteer and not that of a renegade."

A correspondent of the Pittsburgh "Index," writing of the recent Mendelssohn Choir concerts, says: "As to the singing of the Mendelssohn Choir during the week, words utterly fail me to express the half I feel regarding it. It is beyond anything now to be heard in two hemispheres, in point of tone quality and technique. The master mind of the Choir, Mr. A. S. Vogt, the conductor will certainly have a place in musical Valhalla with the best (who are personally the humblest) of his class who are gathered there; and when he starts he should be borne by two white horses, not one. The most modest man in Canada, he deserves a monument (and a ribbon, or is it a garter?) if any one does of his contemporaries living and working in wholesome, moral, hospitable and sincere Canada."

In view of the fact that there are so many brass bands being organized in the West, the following tips from the Musician may be timely:

Tips.—Frequently we hear the remark made in the following vernacular, viz.: "Let me give you a tip," or "let me give you a pointer," or "that's a straight tip," etc. Now, bandmen, let us give you a few "tips," "pointers," or whatever you may call them.

1. If you are a member of a brass band and in good and regular standing, endeavor to keep so, and thereby furnish an example worthy of being copied by other members.

2.—Do all you can at all times to promote and advance peace and good-will among the members.

3.—Use your influence in keeping perfect harmony of feeling and action between leader and members.

4.—Study for the future welfare of the band.

5. Never be late at properly called or regular rehearsal.

6. Never "talk back" to a leader or director in the rehearsal room, only in the way of gaining information. It only breeds ill-feeling and arouses bad dispositions.

7. Always allow a leader to be considered right in public, however much you may think he is in the wrong. Take some other opportunity of making an explanation, if you see fit to do so at all.

8. Never criticize publicly another's performance.

9. Do not shirk.

10. Do not have the cognomen of being a "chronic kicker."

11. When engaged to play an engagement have your instruments and accoutrements looking as nice as possible, and be on time.

12. Be known as a reliable bandsman.

13. Do not worry the life out of a leader by trying to get "full" when you are doing an engagement.

14. As far as lays in your power keep your bandroom looking neat and clean. Make it a desirable place to go to.

15. Remember, that no matter how well you can play, there are others.

16. Jealousy is the worst evil among musicians.

17. Do not say you will be at a rehearsal or engagement unless you mean it. We have known cases where this promising to do a thing as a "matter of course" has caused lots of trouble. If you make a promise keep it.

18. A member is made most conspicuous by his absence.

19. Pay particular attention to the twentieth tip.

20. Try and make yourself the most conscientious and painstaking member of the band.

21. Always be pleasant and cheerful at band meetings of any kind, and if at a business meeting always consider yourself as of as much importance as any other member.

22. Practice on your instrument and on any parts that may bother you to play at sight every chance you can get.

23. Remember, that what is seemingly an unimportant part or instrument in a band should be studied and practiced as much as any that are generally considered more important. If you are playing the third B Flat Cornet, you must appreciate the fact of its importance, else why should all first-class writers use this instrument in their compositions?

24. Do not allow yourself to be influenced or led by anyone or by any set or "fellow" against your judgment.

25. If you wish to rise, strive to keep in the way of promotion.

Announcement!

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Owing to the increased demand on their present business, Messrs. Turner and Co., music dealers, located at the corner of Portage Avenue and Garry Street, have decided to incorporate under the Joint Stock Companies' Act of Manitoba.

Mr. W. Tees Curran, late of the firm of Curran, Goulding & Skinner Co., Limited (known as the New Scale Williams Piano Business), having severed his connection and withdrawn his interests therefrom, has purchased an interest in the Turner Co. business and will be one of the principal members of the new firm. The business will be carried on along the same lines as heretofore, and with an increase of capital and help, the new company will be able to give the best attention to its ever increasing business.

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