

MR. FRANZ VETTA.

Mr. Franz Vetta, the leading Bass of the company, although comparatively a young artist, has a record second to none among the basses of the age. He was born in Camden, N. J., in 1862, and the marked success he has achieved since the beginning of his lyric career, in Europe and in the United States, has placed him in the front ranks of American operatic singers. A brief sketch of his artistic life will show in a conclusive manner that Mr. Franz Vetta has already been heard at some of the principal theatres of the world in connection with lyric artists of the highest reputation and standing. He commenced his vocal studies with Mr. Aaron Taylor, of Philadelphia. Later on he went to Paris and placed himself under the tuition of the famous contralto, Mme. Lablache, daughter of Luigi Lablache, one of the greatest basses (if not the greatest) that ever lived. He continued his studies—vocal and dramatic—with Mme. Lablache until 1884, when he became a member of Her Majesty's Opera Co., under the direction of Col. Mapleson, at Her Majesty's Theatre, London, where he remained until 1886. During that year he sang Mephistopheles, the night of the memorable performance of Faust, in which Patti, Trebelli, Mme. Lablache and De Anna took part, and which created a furore in London. In 1887 he was engaged as leading basso with the National Opera Co.

Mr. Vetta's Repertoire is very extensive, comprising Mephisto in Faust, Casper in Freischutz, Sarastro in Magic Flute, Marcel in the Huguenots, Leporello in Don Juan, Balthazar in Favorita, King in Lohengrin, Daland in Flying Dutchman, etc., etc., forty in all, and in each of his roles he has invariably received the emphatic endorsement of the audience.

His voice is of extraordinary power, round and brilliant in quality, and it can be emphatically affirmed that Mr. Vetta is to-day the representative basso-profundo of the American lyric stage.

MR. ADOLF NEUENDORFF.

This eminent Musician, Composer and Musical Conductor has had a long and varied experience. He was born in Hamburg, Germany, June, 1843, came to the United States in 1855, and has since grown up with the musical life of New York city in the distinguished company of Bergmann, Anschutz, Theodore Thomas, etc. Has been Musical Director and Conductor of the principal German Opera Companies since the year 1864. His first experience as conductor was with Mr. Leonard Grover's German Opera Company, which was the first organization of the kind that made the tournee of the United States; was manager for many years of the New York Germania Theatre; conductor of the New York Philharmonic Society during the season of 1878-79, and was the manager who introduced the famous German Tenor, Herr Wachtel, to the American public; and in conjunction with the late Carl Rosa, piloted that very popular artist through the United States with considerable eclat, the season being brought to a triumphant termination by Wachtel appearing in conjunction with Parepa-Rosa, Santley and Adelaide Phillips at the Academy of Music, New York, in the most memorable operatic season of the period. In the year 1877 he was the musical director and conductor of the Wagner Opera Festival which created such a stir in the musical circles of New York and Boston. He inaugurated and has conducted for the last five years the Summer Promenade Concerts at the Boston Music Hall. His operatic experience and his eminent position as a musical conductor renders him a valuable acquisition in every department of opera, and the management of the Juch Opera Co. congratulates itself in securing the services of so able a coadjutor.

GIOVANNI TAGLIAPIETRA.

Signor Tagliapietra, the famous Italian Baritone, is too well and favorably known to need but a brief introduction. His name has been a household word in America since his debut here with Albani, under the direction of Max Strakosch in 1875. During the fifteen years of his operatic career in this country, Tagliapietra has been associated and shared honors with nearly all the great artists who have been heard here in that period, including such names as Tietjens, Belloc, Litti, Albani, Patti, Gerster, Nilsson, Di Murska, Phillips, Cary, Scacchi, etc. He has sung with unwavering success in nearly every city in America, South America and Europe. Tagliapietra is not only renowned for his magnificent baritone voice, but for his histrionic talents as well. An eminent critic writing of one of his recent impersonations, says: "He is a born actor and a natural one. It is in the role of Rigoletto that he shows his wonderful powers to best advantage, and as far as acting is concerned, no one save Edwin Booth in the 'Fool's Revenge,' can approach his masterly and consistent portrayal of this character. To him belongs the honor of being the finest actor on the lyric stage." His repertoire includes nearly all the leading standard baritone roles belonging to the Italian and English Grand Opera stage. His accession to the ranks of the Emma Juch Company is but of recent occurrence, and has been attended by the heartiest of appreciation from the patrons of this successful organization.

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