

A Letter from W. F. Sudds.

Gouverneur, N. Y., October 5, 1882

Dear Sir:—Were it not that I am a firm believer in the old saying that "figures cannot lie," and especially yours I could hardly credit your statement of the sales of the "National School for Piano-Forte," for the past twelve months. What, then, may we not expect when the editions in foreign fingering, and the abridged edition, are also in the field? You see by the enclosed that heartiest endorsements from our most prominent musicians continue to pour in.

Very truly, etc.

W. F. Sudds.

NOTE.—Both of the editions mentioned above (Complete copy in foreign fingering and the Abridged Edition) are ready, and now that we are enabled to supply the demand for this valuable work in so many different forms, we confidently anticipate a large increase of orders. Complete, \$3.25; Abridged, \$2.00.—THE PUBLISHERS.

—CORINNE is in the Northwest.

—MISS JULIA F. MAY is in Milwaukee.

—THE Acme Opera Company is in Texas.

—OSCAR RAIF, pianist, of Berlin, is to visit us.

—THE Wilbur Opera Company is in Washington.

—It is feared that Mary Beebe will never be able to sit again.

—MISS LOUISE MANFRED has joined the Jolly Bachelors' Opera Company.

—THE prospects of the Heimendahl Symphony, Chicago, are encouraging.

—Mlle. PAOLO-MARIE has been ill with typhoid fever, but is now convalescent.

—MANAGER John McCaul has accepted Ben Woolf's new comic opera, "Pounce & Co."

—MISS JOSIE BARTCHER has joined Lawrence Barrett's company, playing soubrette parts.

—NILSSON'S stage jewels were not destroyed by the Park Theatre fire in New York, as had been feared.

—MR. MAX VOORICH, formerly pianist of the Wilhelmj concerts, has married and settled in Australis.

—It is also thought probable that Mme. Nilsson's services may be secured for the Cincinnati Opera Festival.

—MR. GEORGE WEEKS and Miss Julia H. Earnest, of the Emma Abbott Company, were married recently in Cincinnati.

—CLEVELAND, Ohio, gave the Boston Ideals very large patronage. The advance sale was the largest of any company ever visiting that city.

—Mlle. BIANCA LABLACHE (Miss Blanche Davyport) has made quite a success in opera at Boulogne, if eighteen calls before the curtain be any criterion!

—ATKINSON'S "Jollities," No. 2, comprising Misses Florence and Lillie Bate, Messrs. Harry Haskell, James Dyer and Joseph Byrne, will go on a tour of New England.

—THE New York College of Music has issued a circular in which it states that it has enlarged its building in East Seventeenth Street, and also that it now numbers 4500 students.

—AT the third concert of the New York Chorus Society, on February 17th, Bach's Cantata, "My Spirit Was in Heaven," and scenes from Wagner's "Parsifal" will be given.

—FRANZ WETTER, of Courtwright and Hawkins' Minstrels, has received an offer from Emma Abbott's manager to sing in opera, at \$80 per week. Mr. Wetter refused, as he has not yet fully completed his musical education.

—VILLARET, the popular French tenor, who has just retired, forever, he says, from the opera stage, has been a public singer nearly twenty years, but has never sung elsewhere than in Paris. He was formerly a foreman in a brewery.

American Music.

American compositions are fast growing into favor; in fact it is becoming fashionable to sing and play the works of good native writers. This is right, and speaks well for the good sense of our countrymen. There is no reason why we should not produce as good music as any other nation. We have competed with the Old World successfully in everything else, and why not music? Surely we possess sufficient intelligence.

Evening Pleasures.

Tableaux and musical performances and games are in order during the long winter evenings that are upon us; and as many folks tire of too frequent repetitions, something new in the way of a means of amusement would no doubt be acceptable. As a means of innocent social pleasure, we suggest "The Secret," a cantata, that can easily be performed in a parlor or drawing-room. It is very beautiful, and the music is decidedly sweet, but not too hard for amateur voices. It is called a "cantata," but it might be called an "operetta" with equal propriety, for it is full of action. Sent to any address for 25 cts.

—THE Boston Glee Club announces that its first concert of the season will be given in Horticultural Hall on the evening of January 17.

—DR. DAMROSCH, since his production of "Parsifal" in the New York Academy of Music, has determined to make a tour of the principal cities of the West, and will take with him his orchestra, numbering some sixty pieces. His vocalist will be Isidora Martinez, a soprano.

—MISS CARRIE E. DANIELS, who went abroad with the "Fun on the Bristol" Company, has been very ill for seven weeks in London. At one time her friends feared she would die. She has, however, recovered, and will soon rejoin the company, which is now on a provincial tour.

—It is stated that at the termination of her concert tour Mme. Christine Nilsson will appear in the leading role of "Zenobia," to be produced in one of the eastern cities during the month of May. S. G. Pratt, the composer, is arranging the whole score of the opera for her voice.

—MR. MAPLESON'S new tenor is of Polish extraction and was educated at the Milan Conservatoire. He has sung in the chief opera houses of Europe, including the Paris Opera House and Covent Garden. He has a phenomenal tenor voice, a prepossessing stage appearance and full knowledge of the art of acting and singing. He is the first tenor who has sung here the heavy part of *Arnoldo* in "William Tell" without alteration or transposition.

—A VERY interesting and delightful concert was given at Decatur, Ga., recently, by Miss Archon Tillitt, a young lady of sixteen years, assisted by Master Amadeo von der Hoya Schultz, a young violinist, eight years of age, and of most astonishing ability. Without giving a critical analysis of the programme, the rendering of Mendelssohn's Allegro Gioioso, by Miss Tillitt, and selections from Tannhauser, by Master Schultz displayed artistic skill beyond their years, and gave assurances of future celebrity. These young performers are pupils of the Southern Conservatory, Atlanta.

—IN speaking of her diamonds, Patti says: "The impression that most of them were given me by the Czar of Russia or other sovereigns is quite wrong. The late Czar gave me a decoration, and when he came to hear me he would make me a present of a *parure* or something else. But generally speaking they are souvenirs contributed anonymously by my admirers before I left their town. Some one sets the ball rolling and gives so or so much, and others imitate the example till the souvenir can be purchased. Of course, in all these cases, I never know their names—if they sent their cards with the presents I should refuse them."

—THE Philadelphia Germania Orchestra, conducted by W. M. Stoll, Jr., began a series of six symphony concerts at the Academy recently. This was the programme: Symphony, op. 90, A major ("Italian"), Mendelssohn; air, "Und ob die Wolke" (Freischütz), Weber. Mrs. Georg Henschel, piano concerto op. 54, A minor, R. Schumann, Mr. Charles H. Jarvis and orchestra; overture, "Leonore" No. 3; Beethoven; air from the opera "Aclon," Auber. Mrs. Georg Henschel; piano concerto for two pianos, op. 81, E flat, Mozart, (cadenza by Moscheles), Messrs. R. Zeckwer, Charles H. Jarvis and orchestra, March Hongroise, "Damnation of Faust," Berlioz.

William T. Meyer.

Whose compositions, both vocal and instrumental, are so much admired in this country, is a comparatively young man. He was born September 20th, 1853, at Pleasant Hill Farm, near Aaronsburgh, Centre County, Pennsylvania, the residence of his father, who, at that time, was a prosperous farmer. Mr. Meyer's ancestors were Germans, and for generations back have been musically inclined—in fact, his great-grandfather was a noted singer, and later his grandfather and father gained considerable note as teachers of vocal music. Thus it appears that the subject of these remarks was a natural musician, by inheritance, before receiving any tuition. His first instructions in music were received from his father, and at the age of eighteen he was placed with Professor T. M. Carter, an efficient teacher, residing in Aaronsburgh. After studying with the latter gentleman, he took lessons from Mr. W. S. B. Mathews, of Chicago, and finished his musical education under Dr. William Mason of New York.

Some of Mr. Meyer's vocal compositions were written when he was but ten years old, and were published in a collection of church music. At eighteen he wrote several pieces, which became very popular. His latest and most successful compositions are "Moonlight in the Forest," nocturne, "Heavenly Musings," sacred reverie, "Laughing Brooklet Schottische," "Lantana Reverie," and others, which are contained in our catalogue.

—AN effort is being made to induce Mme. Nilsson to sing in Italian opera next spring, and to get her to give colat to the opening of the Metropolitan Opera House, New York. The effort is, however, not likely to be successful.

—JOHANN STRAUSS, the composer, is reported to have made his will, whereby he bequeathes the bulk of his property for the foundation of a college of music. He has no children. His estate is said to be worth about \$100,000.

—Mlle. RHEA has been offered the part of *Desdemona* to John McCullough's *Othello*, Lawrence Barrett's *Iago*, and Mary Anderson's *Emelia*, at the grand Dramatic Festival to be given at Cincinnati the week beginning April 23d next.

—MISS MARGERIE BONNIE has been a member of Mlle. Rhea's company for the last two or three months. She now proposes to star with a new combination. She is good-looking, talented and persevering, and her prospects may be considered good.

—ST. LOUIS—as well as Boston—is to have a Mendelssohn Quintet Club. Messrs. George Heerich, Val. Schopp, Isaac Schoen, Carl Froeblich and A. G. Robyn are the projectors. Their name will lead to confusion with that of the Boston organization, should they conclude to travel.

—"THE SECRET," a cantata, by Vickers and Geibel was sung in Philadelphia, recently, at a musical entertainment. The chorus of fifty voices did finely, and the composition was pronounced a decided success. Miss Minnie E. Vickers, soprano, as *Année Myrtle*, was repeatedly encored.

—A QUINTET CLUB, to be known as the "Beethoven Quintette," has just been organized in Detroit. They are to furnish the music for the series of chamber concerts given at the University of Michigan, under the direction of Mr. C. B. Cady, and they also contemplate a series of concerts.

—WE are happy to chronicle the debut at Florence of another American cantatrice. Miss Ida Myers, of Baltimore, appeared at the Niccolini in "Linda de Chamouni" with splendid success. A local paper writes: "No one probably ever entered upon an artistic career under more favorable circumstances or with brighter prospects."

—THERE is no doubt that everywhere far too much attention is paid to the private lives of artists. The attention, to a certain extent, may be flattering to a vain class, but it is really impertinent and, it may be said, insulting. Members of every other profession are judged by the public according to their public performance, but in the case of the actors every gossip-monger and paragraphist feels himself justified in bringing out every detail of their non-professional career, and in laying before the public all their sayings and doings, especially their foibles and vanities. If these narratives were true and genuine they would be bad enough, but in most cases they are the sheer offspring of the writer's brain, and published solely to gratify an idle curiosity. To art they are a degradation.—*Music and Drama.*