

# TIMELY MUSICAL COMMENT

**THE WEEKLY CALENDAR.**  
 Sunday—Hippodrome, 8:15 p. m., concert by the New-York Symphony Orchestra; Maestri Theatre, 8:15 p. m., concert by Victor Herbert and his orchestra; Carnegie Hall, 8:15 p. m., pianoforte recital by Alfred Reisenauer.  
 Monday—Metropolitan Opera House, 8 p. m., opening of the season of grand opera, Puccini's "Gloconda"; Mendelssohn Hall, 8 p. m., pianoforte recital by Miss Gertrude Metz.  
 Tuesday—Mendelssohn Hall, 3 p. m., pianoforte recital by Madame Olga Samaroff; 8:15 p. m., concert of chamber music by the Kneisel Quartet.

## Opening of the Opera Season—Music by the Kneisel Quartet—Beethoven's Great Mass—Notes and Programmes.

made for a production of this work which would challenge comparison with the most beautiful and artistic efforts on the lyric boards of Europe. The costumes, over twelve hundred in number, have been especially designed in Vienna by Professor Leder, of the Imperial Academy. Scenery in every way worthy of the costumes has also been ordered in Vienna, and rehearsals of an exceptionally thorough kind have now, as the management believes, assured a presentation of the opera which will be an event in musical annals. The story told by Mosenthal in the libretto is original, though based upon the Biblical tale and the Eastern legends concerning the visit of the Queen of Sheba to King Solomon. The hero, Assad, who is betrothed to Sulamith, the High Priest's daughter, falls victim to the charms of the voluptuous queen, and, as a punishment for his crime, is driven into the desert, where he perishes. The libretto lends itself to

2. Mr. Stojowsky, the Polish pianist, who has come to this country to be at the head of the pianoforte department in the Institute of Musical Art; Tuesday evening, February 8, Susan Metcalf, the popular soprano, and Wednesday evening, March 7, Mme. Olga Samaroff, the Russian pianist.

The much mooted question as to the date and place of birth of N. C. Hill, founder of the Philharmonic Society, has been settled by a letter from his son, who says that his father was born in Vermont on September 3, 1875.

Mme. Johanna Gadek will sing at the third public rehearsal and concert of the Philharmonic Society in Carnegie Hall on January 5 and 6, 1906.

The Oratorio Society's performance of Beethoven's "Solemn Mass in D," at Carnegie Hall on Saturday evening, December 9, under Frank Damrosch, will be only the tenth in the United States, so far as records can be found. Even European capitals heard it but seldom, owing to the excessive difficulty of the score. Thus England had only eighteen performances in the fifty-four years succeeding 1832, when it was first sung in London, in the house of an amateur named Alsager. Berlin first heard the "Solemn Mass" in 1857; to St. Petersburg belongs the honor of its earliest production, March 26, 1824, only one year after the manuscript score was delivered to the Archduke Rudolph, Beethoven's clerical patron and friend, to whom it was dedicated. The first American performances of the "Solemn Mass" were at Steinway Hall, New-York, May 2 and 3, 1872, by the Church Music Association. Dr. James Pech, who directed, is still an active musician in this city, being now organist and choirmaster at St. Bernard's Church, in 14th-st. Dr. Pech was an Englishman of ambition, but contemporary comment indicates that the chorus, in this public rehearsal and concert, was far from adequate. The soloists were Mme. Jaworska, catalogued by one critic as "very bad"; Miss Antonia Henne, pro-



HEINRICH KNOTZ. As Assad, in "The Queen of Sheba."

Wednesday—Metropolitan Opera House, 8 p. m., German opera, "Die Königin von Saba"; Carnegie Hall, 8 p. m., recital of violin music by Miss Marie Hall; No. 116 West 59th-st., 8:30 p. m., song recital by Miss Marguerite Fiska.  
 Thursday—Mendelssohn Hall, 3 p. m., pianoforte recital by Raoul Pugno; 8:15 p. m., recital by Karl Grienerauer, violoncellist; Hall of Cooper Union, 8:15 p. m., concert of the People's Symphony Society; Association Hall, Brooklyn, 8:15 p. m., concert of chamber music by the Kneisel Quartet.  
 Friday—Metropolitan Opera House, 8 p. m., Italian opera, "Rigoletto"; Grand Central Palace, 8:15 p. m., concert of the People's Symphony Society.  
 Saturday—Metropolitan Opera House, 2 p. m., German opera, "Hänsel und Gretel"; 8 p. m., German opera at popular prices, "Tannhäuser"; Carnegie Hall, 2:30 p. m., concert of the Young People's Symphony Society; Ardley Hall, 11 a. m., illustrated lecture by Mr. and Mrs. Krehbiel on "Folk-song in America."

To-morrow evening at 8 o'clock a third season of grand opera at the Metropolitan Opera House under the management of Heinrich Con-



MARCELLA SEMBRICH. As Mimi, in "La Boheme."

ried will be ushered in. It was originally Mr. Conried's intention to begin this season with a revival of Goldmark's "Queen of Sheba," but Mme. Nordica's refusal to learn the part of Sulamith, which she had undertaken last spring, compelled a change. Mme. Rappold, a Brooklyn amateur, who is said to have a beautiful voice, but is now acquiring her first stage experience at the rehearsals, has been intrusted with the character. It would scarcely have done to begin a season without Sembrich, Nordica or Caruso, and so "La Gioconda" was chosen. The cast will differ in two points from that of last year. We shall hear and see Mme. Nordica again as the street singer, Mme. Homer as Laura, Signor Caruso as Esio and M. Pianon as Alvis; but in place of Edyth Walker as the blind woman we shall be regaled by Josephine Jacoby, and Signor Scotti will replace Signor Grimaldi.

So many years have now elapsed since the last performance of "Die Königin von Saba" ("The Queen of Sheba") in this city that the revival of Carl Goldmark's masterpiece on Wednesday evening, November 22, will have to most the interest of a complete novelty. For months past, says the management, preparations have been



MAUDE POWELL. She will play at the Young People's Concert next Saturday.



BERTA MORENA. As Brunnhilde.

gorgeous settings and pompous musical treatment. Miss Edyth Walker will appear in the important part of the Queen of Sheba. Miss Bella Alten should give a graceful interpretation of the role of Astaroth. Sulamith, the heroine, will be impersonated in a singer already mentioned, Marie Rappold. Heinrich Knotz will interpret the role of Assad. The Solomon will be Mr. Van Rooy, while Robert Blass, as the High Priest, and Mr. Mühlmann, as Baal Hanan, will complete the cast. A marche fantastique and an important divertissement, known as the "Danse de l'Abelille," will be prominent features of the production. Miss Bianca Froehlich will be the premier danseuse and Alfred Hertz will conduct.

Mme. Sembrich and Mr. Caruso, together with Mr. Scotti, Mr. Journet, Mme. Jacoby and Mr. Mühlmann and others, will interpret "Rigoletto" on Friday evening, November 24. Arturo Vigna will be at the conductor's desk. On Saturday afternoon, November 25, the second novelty of the season will be presented in the shape of Engelbert Humperdinck's delightful fairy opera,



ANTONIO SCOTTI. Barytone in the Metropolitan Opera Company.

"Hänsel und Gretel." Special interest will be given to the occasion by the presence of the composer, who has crossed the seas on purpose to attend this performance. "Hänsel und Gretel," as few need to be told, marked a new departure in opera. Mme. Lina Abarbanell will make her first appearance at the Metropolitan as Hänsel. Those who have seen and heard her at the Irving Place Theatre in light opera know how unusually gifted she is, both as a comedian and as a singer. The Gretel will be Miss Bella Alten. Mme. Louise Homer, as the Witch, will reveal herself in an entirely new light, and Miss Marjorie Weed will doubtless make an agreeable Gertrude. "Tannhäuser" has been chosen for the first of the popular Saturday evening performances at the Metropolitan this season. It will reintroduce to us Miss Olive Fremstad, as Venus, and a new Elizabeth, Mme. Jeanne Jomelli, who hitherto has been best known as a concert singer. Heinrich Knotz will repeat his performance of Tannhäuser, Mr. Van Rooy will be Wolfram, and the cast will include MM. Blass, Bars and Mühlmann. In the bacchanale Miss Bianca Froehlich will appear. The conductor will be Alfred Hertz.

The most interesting of Mr. Conried's new engagements at the opera is that of Mme. Berta Morena, a dramatic soprano, who is to supply the place left vacant by Mme. Terina. Berta Morena was born at Mannheim, of poor parents, and it seemed for years as though her talents and her extraordinary beauty would be known only in her own home world. Thanks to the influence of the great painter Franz von Lenbach, however, she obtained an introduction to Ernest Possart, then director of the Munich Court Theatre, and was presented to the Bavarian management for the Munich Opera House. Her debut was made as Agathe, in "Der Freischütz," and the promise it revealed was so brilliant that the new singer was at once hailed as a rising star. In turn she scored new triumphs as Selika, Senta, Elisabeth, Elsa, Santuzza, Brünnhilde, Sieglinde and Isolde.

Mme. Campbell, vocal teacher, has removed her studio to No. 415 Carnegie Hall, where she will be every Monday and Thursday.

Mme. Luisa Cappiani has returned from her villa in Rodi-Plesso, and has resumed her vocal teaching at the Gosford, No. 235 West 55th-st. Mme. Cappiani, who was elected first vice-president and a member of the board of directors of the Women's Philharmonic Society,

## STUDIO NOTES.

The New-York Institute of Music, at No. 569 West End-ave., on Friday, November 17, gave the third of a series of faculty recitals. Felix Henik, the head of the Department of Interpretation, arranged and executed a highly instructive and interesting programme.

A woman's string octet has been organized and will be heard later in the season under the direction of Carl V. Lachmund, in octets and double quartets, by Mendelssohn, Spohr and other well known composers. The members of the new octet are Mrs. Dora Valeska Becker, Mrs. Janet Allen Friedberg, Miss Maerta Yall, Miss Irma Schuler, violin; Miss Lucie E. Neidhardt and Miss Florence Visanska, violas; and Miss Mathilde Dressler and Carrie Neidhardt, violoncellos. The club has also been enrolled in the personnel of the Women's String Orchestra.

Mrs. Beatrice Eberhard, the American violinist, whose studio is at No. 68 West 83d-st., gave the first of her cycle of sonata recitals last evening in Mendelssohn Hall.

William C. Carl will deliver a course of lectures on the "Oratorios and Their Traditions," at the Gullman Organ School. The principal oratorios ("Messiah," "Elijah," "St. Paul" and "Creation") will be treated first, and illustrated by distinguished vocalists.

The Metropolitan School of Musical Art, Louis Arthur Russell director, will give a public recital in the school studios, Carnegie Hall, on Tuesday evening. The Misses Myra Lyle, Gertrude Savage, Norma Whitfield, Ethel Pursel, Jeanette and Helan Halsey and James Duane will be the pianists, and the Misses Marguerite Steinberger, Elizabeth Van Ness, Marjorie Foe and Alexander Whyte the vocalists of the occasion. A varied programme of classical and modern music will be presented.

Gustave L. Becker opened the eleventh season of his lecture musicals on Saturday afternoon, November 11, by a reception with music at his home, No. 1 West 104th-st. Six of his advanced pupils gave a programme of piano music in the afternoon, assisted by Miss Claudia Hatch, soprano.

Walter Randall Clark, teacher of the Delle Sedie art of singing, offers special inducements to a young pupil with contralto voice to study for the profession and complete quartet of present pupils. Free hearing daily from 12 to 1 o'clock at studio, No. 207 West 56th-st.

The second of the series of five "cello recitals" by Karl Grienerauer will take place on November 23, at 8:15 p. m. in Mendelssohn Hall, at which he will be joined by Marguerite Hall. The new "Cello and Piano Sonata, Op. 123, by Saint-Saens, for the first time in New-York, and three movements of the great sixth cello suite (with-out accompaniment), by Bach, never before played in America, are announced as part of the programme.

An interesting programme was given by Frederick Schlieder and Charles Searle on Thursday afternoon in Mrs. Mann's Carnegie Hall studio. Miss Lillian Vernon Wait, soprano, sang Mr. Schlieder's songs, the composer acting as accompanist.

A large audience was present at the Severn Studios, No. 131 West 50th-st., to hear the analytical performance of Beethoven's "Kreutzer Sonata."

Lawrence Potter, of Fort-Branch, Ind., one of the piano and harmony pupils of F. W. Riesberg, writes his former teacher of his success in that field. Mr. Riesberg is at Steinway Hall Mondays and Thursdays, and at No. 954 Schave, on other days.

A. H. Wilson, bass barytone, is kept busy with pupils in tone production and interviewing prospective ones, the hours from 11 to 1 o'clock daily being set aside for free interview and voice culture.

Susan Douglas Edson, assisted by William H. Barber, pianist, is to give a song recital on Tuesday, November 28, at 3:30 o'clock, in the Hotel Castleton ballroom. The programme will include a number of songs and ballads by Mrs. Edson, including a love song composed specially for her, and several piano solos by Mr. Barber. Carolyn Beach Taylor will be the accompanist.

George Lydecker, a recent graduate of the Walter John Hall studio, is reported to be making a fine reputation for himself by his singing in "The Chaperons." Mr. Lydecker is the leading barytone in this organization, now on tour in the West.

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has accepted two free scholars from that philanthropic institution.  
 Miss L. Seney, piano teacher, formerly of Boston, has opened a residence studio at No. 333 West 40th-st., and is now ready to receive applications for lessons.

Mme. Fornier has organized a class, which meets at her studio, No. 138 5th-ave., on Wednesdays for the performance of ensemble music, four and eight hands, two pianos, after the renowned Marmontel method.

Savinac Brothers have opened a studio for the teaching of piano, violin and vocal music at No. 270 West 118th-st. Henry Savinac is a graduate of the French Conservatory, where he won a first prize medal for piano playing.

Rudolph P. O. Gricks, at his studio, No. 133 West 125th-st., is giving daily demonstrations of the use of his pedal extension footstool.

Maestro Giacomo Minkowski is giving daily voice instruction to Miss Edna May, preparing her for a new musical production in which she is to appear in London this season.

R. Thomas Steele has opened a studio at the Morningside Conservatory of Music, No. 261 West 125th-st. Mr. Steele has made a special study of the voice, both in singing and speaking, for many years, and bases his teaching upon scientific investigation and knowledge of the vocal organs.

S. C. Bennett, assisted by his pupil, Mrs. Walter Hubbard, gave a lecture-musical at Red Bank, N. J., on Thursday evening in the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Hubbard sang a programme of twelve numbers, and Mr. Bennett gave his lecture in three readings, as follows: "Involuntary Muscular Action," "Concentration," "Breath Control in Co-Relation with the Emotions."

The announcement of Signor Randegger's musical at the studio of J. William Foodick on November 23 is full of promise. Mr. Randegger's friends and pupils are aware how his strong points are emphasized in suitable environment.

Louis Norman Cullis, specialist in voice production, is kept busy coaching members of the Metropolitan opera company in English and instructing directors of church choirs.

Miss Alice L. Ward receives her pupils at No. 824 Carnegie Hall on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Friday afternoons and at her Newark studio on Mondays and Thursdays. Miss Ward teaches singing at St. Agatha School on Tuesdays, Wednesday and Friday mornings.

Margaret Goetz has started her busiest season of teaching and concert work. November engagements include recitals and concerts as follows: November 2, 6, 9 and 10, in New-York; Brooklyn, November 13; Women's Philharmonic Concert, at Waldorf, November 14; Cleveland, November 15; MacDowell Club, Conneaut, Ohio, November 20; Buffalo, Sangerbund, November 21, and New-York, November 24.

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