

MATTERS OF INTEREST TO WASHINGTON MUSIC LOVERS

Program of the second concert by the Symphony Orchestra of Washington:
 Overture, "Sakuntala".....Goldmark
 Concerto, D minor.....Rahmstern
 Nocturne, Op. 9, No. 3.....Chopin
 "Marche des Gnomes".....Debussy
 (From Suite E flat)
 Etude, B major.....Chopin
 "Si c'est un Fatale".....Henselt
 "Marche Militaire".....Schubert-Tassig
 Symphony No. 1.....Schumann

The Symphony Orchestra is an organization of which Washington may well be proud, and it deserves the liberal patronage of local musicians. All previous efforts to effect such an organiza-



ANGELO FRONANI.

tion as that now under the direction of Reginald De Koven proved vain, and it looked as if the Capital City would be without a symphony orchestra or even symphony music. Mr. De Koven, however, determined that if other cities could support high-class musical organizations the Capital of the nation could do likewise, and through his efforts the present Symphony Orchestra was organized.

For some inexplicable reason it seems that musical organizations must meet with dissensions, and upon the result of these, no matter how trifling, the future of the body often depends. The Washington Symphony Orchestra has already had its reverses, only to issue from them better in organization, both in harmony of purpose and association, and with a still firmer determination to show music lovers what can be achieved by such unity.

For some years local musicians felt the need of just such a society, but it remained for Mr. De Koven to prove what was wanted and how to go about getting it. Mr. De Koven has been ably assisted by Edward H. Droop, who devotes much of his spare time toward furthering the orchestra's success. Mr. Droop says that while a number of prominent men prove their concern in various ways, there is ample room for even greater interest, and he solicits the public's patronage toward sustaining this orchestra, which has started with such bright prospects.

The members of the organization have been working indefatigably, and Mr. De Koven expresses himself as highly pleased with the results.

An announcement interesting to music lovers is the appearance of Mme. Eugenia Mantelli this week at Chase's Theater. Mme. Mantelli is playing a short season in the principal vaudeville houses of the country prior to her departure for Europe, where she will bill



OSSIP GABRILOWITSCH.

an engagement in opera in Germany. The prima donna and her work are familiar to patrons of grand opera, for she has long been a valued member of Maurice Grau's company, and her engagement in this city is one for which the public will be grateful. It has been but a few weeks since Mme. Mantelli was here as a member of the Mascagni opera company, when the exorbitant prices asked were such that many music lovers were unable to hear the performance.

Just why she should be appearing in the "two a day" houses is regarded as something of an enigma. An experienced singer, an acknowledged artist and a favorite with grand opera audiences, Mme. Mantelli has won a prominent place in the music world of two continents. Several weeks ago in New York, Carrie Bridwell, who had been intrusted with the contralto role in one of the Grau productions, concluded that her throat, which had been giving her some concern, was not in good enough condition to continue in the part. Inasmuch as Miss Bridwell came to this decision after the first act of the opera the management was in somewhat of a predicament. No one was ready to replace the singer and there was much metaphorical "weeping, wailing and gnashing of teeth," when some one happened to leave the Metropolitan and met Mme. Mantelli, who was passing the house at the time. The prima donna consented to save the performance and was on the stage in twenty minutes. It is said that she sang gloriously and won not only the enthusiastic applause of the audience, but its unstinted admiration.

Mme. Mantelli's repertoire this week

will include selections from well-known operas, and she will wear the costume of the character. Her gracious personality and fine voice will add materially to the excellence of the current bill at the Chase house.

Kocian, the young Bohemian violinist, who played in Washington recently, has received a Moorish sultan from Abdul Muley Aziz, Sultan of Morocco. The latter is much interested in the career of the young musician, whom he heard shortly before Kocian's arrival in America. The violinist is anxious to sail for Gibraltar, and thence proceed to Morocco, but it is deemed advisable by his managers to wait until affairs there assume a more peaceful attitude, and the Sultan's position is definitely determined.

Mme. Roger-Mielos, the French pianist, will sail for America January 10. The artist will make her American debut in New York at the Waldorf-Astoria February 3. She will be assisted by an orchestra under the direction of Walter Damrosch.

Gabrilowitsch, who will be the soloist Tuesday afternoon with the Washington Symphony Orchestra, says that literature has more influence upon music than painting, for music and poetry are so closely associated. The study of Chopin, he asserts, is made clearer by a knowledge of the poems of Mickiewicz.

"How much better," says he "would these ballads help a man play Chopin than the continual practice of his scales by one who is anxious about his technique."

"It is a pleasant thing to know that the intellectual standard of the musician has been so materially advanced above that of fifty years ago. So much is demanded of the thoroughly equipped musician of today that I believe the world does not comprehend the scope of it. To the mentality of Liszt I believe a great deal of this intellectual advance is due today, and, once having attained it, retrogression as a class is impossible."

When asked how he studied composition, Mr. Gabrilowitsch replied: "Well, first of all by memorizing it. That in itself is an easy thing for me to do, for after reading a composition through a few times I remember it. I take out the intricate passages, studying them in the beginning very slowly. After that comes the most difficult part of all, the intellectual side. Often it is impossible to get at the idea of the beautiful things suggested, and then there is no other way but to put them aside for awhile. It may be away from the piano—and often it is—that I feel myself grasp the truth of those suggestions. With the passage of time one thinks differently in the matter of interpretation."

"Laying a composition aside, we take it up at the end of a year, and find that development and mental growth have altered our conception of it entirely. Especially is this the case with the sonatas of Beethoven, who presents to the musician the intellectual strength and finesse of Shakespeare. A great mistake with the pupil is the undertaking of compositions beyond his mental development."

"Another great mistake is that he holds too often to the point of mechanism. 'How many hours a day do you study?' is a question that betrays it. A student may practice four or five hours a day for a week and gain nothing. One may frequently learn more in thirty minutes properly directed than a whole week mechanically sitting at the piano. How to study is as important as natural talent, for, without knowledge of this, no gift will carry one far. A master cannot teach a pupil to play like a great artist, but he can give him a method and teach him how to use it."

"Therein lies the success of Leschetizky. He does not force his ideas of interpretation upon a pupil, but urges instead that the pupil show his own understanding and develop it. The entire class is assembled at times, and the way to interpret some composition of Beethoven or Chopin is discussed."

Miss Mabel Latimer is confined to her home in this city by an attack of typhoid fever, and will be unable to assume her duties as soprano soloist at St. Mary's Catholic Church until the first Sunday in February. Miss Latimer's position is

being ably filled by Mrs. Clara Baker Smith.

E. Haldemann Dennison, a highly esteemed member of St. Matthew's choir will sever his connection there, as he contemplates leaving the city. Mr. Dennison has been singing at St. Matthew's for the past two years. He possesses a fine baritone voice of good range, sings with ease, and is especially valuable to a choir as his repertoire of church music is an extensive one.

Mlle. Zelle de Lussan, the well-known prima donna, and member of the Maurice Grau Opera Company, will give a recital in Washington Wednesday afternoon at the Columbia Theater. She will be assisted by Angelo Fronani, of Washington, pianist. Mlle. de Lussan is celebrated on two continents as an opera star. Although she is an American this will be her initial concert tour in her own country. She has a brilliant mezzo-soprano voice which lends itself as readily to dramatic as to coloratura work. Beauty of face and figure, and undeniable personal attractiveness are added to her qualifications as a singer. She will present a specially prepared program at her local concert, which will include the "Tarrantella" and "Habenera" from "Carmen," the waltz song from "La Boheme," "Voi che sapete," from "The Marriage of Figaro," "Cornais tu le pays," "Mignon," "Le Nil," and a group of English, French, and German songs. Angelo Fronani, who has been engaged as soloist and accompanist with Mlle. de Lussan, will play Glazounov's "Capriccio." Mr. Fronani may expect a hearty welcome from his Washington friends.



Mlle. ZELLE DE LUSSAN.

Miss Mary A. Cryder announces a gala performance of Gounod's opera, "Philemon et Baucis," by artists from the Metropolitan Opera House in New York, under the direction of Maurice Grau, for the benefit of the Co-operative Sewing Society, at the Lafayette Opera House, Tuesday, January 26.

The cast will be as follows: Jupiter, Mr. Jurnet; Philemon, Mr. Silignac; Vulcain, Mr. Gregory; Baucis, Mme. Seygard. The conductor will be Mr. Flon and the stage director Mr. Almamy. Miss Cryder is producing the opera here by special arrangement with Mr. Grau, and it will be presented in artistic style.

Of the thirty-one boxes at the Lafayette twenty-six are sold for this performance. Some of the patronesses are Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Ashton, Mrs. Francis B. Austin, Mrs. H. S. B. Beale, Mrs. Boardman, Mrs. Henry Corbin, Mrs. Cowles, Mrs. Alberton Cushman, Mrs. Reginald De Koven, Mrs. Depeux, Mrs. Draper, Mrs. Glover, Miss Gwynn, Mrs. Hale, Mrs. Hay, Mrs. Archibald Hopkins, Mrs. George Howard, Mrs. Harriet Lane Johnston, Mrs. Lodge, Miss Lovell, Mrs. Macomb, Mrs. Maguire, Mrs. McClellan, Mrs. McClintock, Mrs. John R. McLean, Mrs. Clarence Moore, Mrs. Newlands, Mrs. Nott, Mrs. Olmsted, Mrs. Thomas Nelson Page, Miss Josephine Patten, Mrs. R. Patterson, Mrs. Payne, Mrs. Postlethwaite, Mrs. Rockhill, Mrs. Corcoran Thom, Mrs. Ward Thoron, Mrs. Herbert Wadsworth, Mrs. Wallach, Mrs. Walsh, Mrs. Warner, Mrs. Wetmore, Mrs. Charles B. Wheeler, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Horace Wylie, Miss Molly Elliot Sewell.

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HEATH AMONG VISITORS AT EXECUTIVE MANSION

Perry S. Heath, who was First Assistant Postmaster General in the first McKinley Administration, called to pay his respects to President Roosevelt yesterday. He left Washington two and one-half years ago, and became interested in a newspaper in Salt Lake City. He expects to be in town for several weeks.

JOE GRANT TO MEET ALL COMERS IN BALTIMORE

Joe Grant, the local wrestler, is in demand these days. For the week which opens tomorrow he will meet all comers in fifteen minute wrestling bouts at a Baltimore theater. Any man who succeeds in staying that time will be awarded \$15. The terms under which he agreed to wrestle were drawn up by himself.

LOCAL MENTION.

Harvey's Stands unrivaled in the preparation of the three most delicate dishes of the American continent—Oysters, Diamond-back Terrapin, and Canvas-back Duck. Broiled Live Lobster and Sea Food of every variety are served at this establishment, always fresh, and in the selection of this class of goods Mr. Harvey gives his personal attention. **GEORGE W. HARVEY,** Originator of the Celebrated Dish, "Steamed Oysters," 1016 Pennsylvania Ave. N. W.

OBJECTION FILED AGAINST RATES ON LIVE STOCK

The exaction of unreasonable and unjust tariff on live stock is the charge made by Gilbert Barr, of Kearney, Neb., in a complaint against the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad, filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission. The complainant, who is a live stock shipper, says that the company has compelled him to pay a higher rate than has been exacted from other shippers. He says that he was forced to pay for transportation of stock in carload lots from Kearney to Chicago 2 1/2 cents per hundred pounds, although a reasonable charge is 1 1/2 cents per hundred pounds.

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