

MIND WRECKED BY DISSIPATION

Carlton Kershaw Claims His Brother Was Incompetent.

Contestants Seek to Prove That His Will Is a Forgery.

The inordinate desire that it is alleged Max Kershaw had for alcoholic stimulants and the alleged effect of those stimulants upon his mind were the subjects of the inquiry yesterday in the contest over the will of the deceased in Department Nine of the Superior Court.

Carlton Kershaw, the brother to whom Max Kershaw bequeathed but \$5000 of his \$100,000 estate, occupied the stand almost the entire day. His testimony was offered to prove that Max Kershaw, who was a Harvard graduate, was a wreck, mentally and physically, when the will was drawn up leaving the bulk of his property to Rhea Gettings.

The witness testified that when he came to this State in the fall of 1900 he found his brother living at the Maison Riche and indulging to the full his craving for whisky, claret, beer and champagne. He claimed that at that time he discovered that his brother, by reason of the enormous quantity of liquor that he had imbibed, had become mentally incompetent.

The witness testified that he went back to his home in Philadelphia in November, 1900, and that when he returned to this city again in June of this year, two weeks before his brother's death, he found his brother perfectly imbecile.

The deceased was confined to his bed, the witness said. Alcoholic stimulants, morphine and strychnine had to be administered to him in order to keep in operation the machinery of life. His mental incapacity manifested itself in the incoherency of his speech, the lapse of his memory, and in the mental visions which continually troubled him.

An attempt was made on the part of the contestants to prove that bitter enmity existed between Max Kershaw and Morgan Smith, the man who wrote and witnessed the signing of the contested will. Carlton Kershaw testified that his brother had had Smith ejected from his room on one occasion. The court, however, refused to allow evidence of this nature to be introduced.

The contestants will seek to prove that the entire will is a forgery. When the signature on the will was shown to Carlton Kershaw he declared that it did not accord with the signature usually executed by his brother. Just before the court adjourned a photographic copy of the will, together with a number of verified signatures of Kershaw, were introduced for identification. The contest will come up again for consideration Monday morning at 11 o'clock.

Special Agent McCabe Leaves. Special Revenue Agent John A. McCabe has been transferred to duty in Milwaukee, Wis. He leaves for that city today. Agent McCabe came hither several months ago and proceeded to Honolulu for the purpose of installing the internal revenue system in the Hawaiian Islands.

Entertainment at Sunnyside. The Sunnyside Dramatic Association, which has been organized as an auxiliary to the Federated Improvement Clubs, will give its first entertainment Saturday evening at Sunnyside Hall. Careful preparations have been made and a large attendance is expected.

Calve's Carmen is wonderful, but not more so than the Pianola. She has purchased one and says every one who loves music should have a PIANOLA, of which there is no more sincere admirer than she.

W. T. HESS, NOTARY PUBLIC AND ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. Tenth Floor, Room 1015, Claus Spreckels Bldg. Telephone Main 952. Residence 523 California St. Below Powell. Residence Telephone James 1901.

W. T. HESS, NOTARY PUBLIC AND ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. Tenth Floor, Room 1015, Claus Spreckels Bldg. Telephone Main 952. Residence 523 California St. Below Powell. Residence Telephone James 1901.

CROWDED HOUSE HEARS "DIE MEISTERSINGER" AND ENJOYS ARTISTIC WAGNER PRODUCTION

Bispham and De Reszke Receive Rounds of Applause.

Singers and Orchestra Interpret Music Superbly.

By Blanche Partington.

WAGNER in cap and bells is a new Wagner to most of us here, and to judge by last night's reception of "Die Meistersinger" at the Grand Opera-house bids fair to rival the master in his more familiar heroic mood. There was another huge audience, and between its delight and surprise—in the rollicking and jovial humor of the opera and the beauty of its interpretation—did itself in the way of applause, succeeding in getting the very unusual concession—in Wagnerian opera—of an encore, for the stately quietest at the second act's close.

"Die Meistersinger" is a cruel joke on the critics, consisting in the fact that Wagner was fully capable of writing all the contrapuntal and other platitudes that they had accused him of being unable to conceive. First one threadbare phrase and then another in the Handel manner, according to Bach, a Haydn scrap, a bit of Corelli's quaint archaism, make their appearance in the score with simply imitating one another at times.

The individual success of the evening was Mr. Bispham's Beckmesser, a superb effort. It is not often the humorous side of Mr. Bispham gets a chance, but in the soured and crabbed master singer he has an opportunity to show what the mischievous twinkle, in what is sometimes Wotan's off eye, means. It means for Beckmesser a readiness to meet the part that could not be bettered, with a beautiful unconsciousness of his humor.

His talent is wholly imitative, and his particular pleasure to blast the heterodox genius in the bud. Mr. Bispham paints every phase of the character with brilliant phrases and in rows about the beauty, the pompous consequence of the burgher, the vain, meddlesome, snarling, whimsical character of the poet-shoemaker of Nuremberg, also was of the glorious, the magnificent, the superbly and his noble characterization of the part set it with the long gallery of masterpieces that he has furnished for our pleasure.

De Reszke's Hans Sachs, the poet-shoemaker of Nuremberg, also was of the glorious, the magnificent, the superbly and his noble characterization of the part set it with the long gallery of masterpieces that he has furnished for our pleasure.

The orchestra was at its best and Mr. Damrosch was, as usual, hailed out to bow acknowledgments.

Celrichs Entertains New Yorkers. The members of the New York delegation of the Traveling Passenger Agents' Association who did not go East with the rest of the party Wednesday night were entertained yesterday at a luncheon at the Cliff House by Heiran Celrichs.

Ernst Van Dyck and the Weber Pianos. "Perfect for accompanying the voice." ERNST VAN DYCK. Used exclusively by Grau Opera Company's artists.

CLARK WISE & CO., 41 GEARY ST., Cor. Grant Ave., SOLE AGENTS.

SEYCARD WILL REPLACE CALVE "CARMEN."

By Bizet. Carmen... Mme. Camille Seygard... Micaela... Mme. Suzanne Adams... Don Jose... Mr. de Marchi... Zuniga... Mr. Declery... Morales... Mr. Dufliche... Dancario... Mr. Glibert... Remanillo... Mr. Reiss... Escamillo... Mr. Scotti... Conductor, Mr. Flon.



DAVID BISPHAM AS BECKMESSER.



ERNESTINE SCHUMANN-HEINK.

First Production of the Opera and Great Cast Fills the Grand Opera-House.

The big audience that filled every nook and corner of the Grand Opera-house last evening had the extreme pleasure of hearing for the first time in this city—Wagner's "Die Meistersinger," that is to—any thing associated with the ordinary conception of music of the famous composer.

Fancy a Wagner composition with an absolute comedy element all through it. Yet that is what the audience enjoyed for almost four hours last night.

The audience was as big as the one that listened on Tuesday evening to "Le Nozze di Figaro" and as fashionable as that which greeted Calve on Wednesday night in "Carmen."

There was a repetition of the gay scene enacted during the hour previous to the commencement of the performance. There was the long line of those waiting to secure "standing room" in the theater and dozens of carriages with exquisitely dressed women and men in evening garb arriving at the entrance to the opera-house.

Not only the novelty of a new opera, but the superb cast put forward by Manager Grau served to attract a throng. Many scores were seen in all parts of the house and the grandeur of the orchestra was closely followed.

Story of "Die Meistersinger." The story of "Die Meistersinger" does not deal with mythological characters. The men and women are of flesh and blood and for that reason are more interesting.

New Council Formed. A new council of the National Union, which has been named El Capitán, has been organized by Deputy J. N. Bunting, with twenty-eight members.



MR. DUFFEL AS WALTER.



MRS. GADSDILL AS AIDA.



CAMILLE SEYCARD AS CARMEN.

Three Principal Characters Who Appeared Last Night in Wagner's "Die Meistersinger."

Audience Enjoys Fine Presentation.

close of each act. There was considerable promenading in the foyer and lobby last night between the acts. There were hundreds of men and women in the spacious balcony and parlors on the dress circle floor and it is quite the fashion to meet one's friends there during the intervals.

The merits of the opera and the effective work of the singers and orchestra were generally discussed, but there was a tinge of disappointment hovering in the air. It was soon known after the second act that the diva Calve would not sing this evening in "Carmen."

Every dark cloud, however, has a silver lining, and while the audience discussed the unfortunate indisposition of Calve for this evening, Manager Grau was busy telegraphing to Los Angeles and other points, canceling engagements in order to give six extra performances in San Francisco, so that Calve might be heard in her favorite role.

On all sides expressions of sympathy with Manager Grau and his associates were heard last night and, judging by the remarks made, there will be no reason for Grau to regret giving the extra performances.

Camille Seygard singing "Carmen." The opera season is a big success, despite the change in programme caused by the non-appearance of Calve. Those who have purchased tickets for the nights she was announced to sing are the first to tender their sympathy to the singer and the management.

The opera season is a big success, despite the change in programme caused by the non-appearance of Calve. Those who have purchased tickets for the nights she was announced to sing are the first to tender their sympathy to the singer and the management.

The Borromean Entertainment. The entertainment that was given by Borromean Council of the Young Men's Institute in Mission Opera Hall last night was well attended and a decided success.

Raises Question of Jurisdiction. When the case of Michael Welch and W. H. Frazer, ticket scalpers, charged with false personation by the Southern Pacific Company, was called in Judge Fritz's court yesterday, Attorney Murphy, for the defendants, raised the question of jurisdiction. Attorney Frank Kelly appeared for the prosecution and after argument both sides were granted a week to submit authorities on the point.

Calve Unable to Sing Role of "Carmen" To-Night.

Diva Must Rest, but Is to Appear Later in the Season.

MME. EMMA CALVE will not sing to-night. The exertion of the great Carmen performance on Wednesday night overtaxed the strength of the diva and her weakened condition demands a week of rest before she sings again.

Calve leaves this evening for Pasadena, where she hopes a week of perfect repose will restore her to health. Her physicians assure her that eight days spent in the balmy southern land will rid her of the last touches of the aggravating bronchitis attack that has incapacitated her during the past month. The great singer is confident of this and feels all she needs is an equable climate and a short period of repose.

Calve is not seriously ill. The fact of the matter is, she should not have sung on Wednesday evening, and she is suffering now from the effects of the exertion of a performance while in a weak physical condition.

Late last evening the great singer sent for Manager Grau and placed the facts of the case before him. The impresario readily recognized the truth of Calve's argument and felt the results of taxing the singer in her present weakened condition would be as disastrous for her as for her. So it was arranged that Calve have her eight days of repose and return singing "Carmen" on Saturday evening, November 30.

Calve is not only desirous but anxious that San Francisco should see her at her best and in the operating manager originally announced she should sing. Manager Grau is just as anxious as the great diva that San Francisco should see her at her best, and to make this possible the impresario has canceled the engagements of the company in Los Angeles and Dallas and arranged for the Grand Opera-house management to remain here until and inclusive of Thursday evening, December 2.

The repertoire for the extra performances has not yet been fully decided upon. This much, however, is understood: On Monday evening, December 2, Calve will give her incomparable impersonation of Santuzza in "Cavalleria Rusticana," and on Wednesday evening, December 4, she will make her farewell appearance here in an opera yet to be decided upon.

Prima Donne Come to Rescues. Calve's illness, naturally, has necessitated the impresario making different arrangements. Mr. Grau's other prima donnes have come gallantly to the rescue and the repertoire for next week will not be materially disarranged. "Faust" will be given as announced on Monday evening, November 25, Mme. Eames sustaining the role of Marguerite, in which she has given the most brilliant performance of her career. Mme. Eames came with the best of grace to the rescue of her impresario's most arduous engagements. The role of Marguerite, though not obliged to do so.

Tuesday evening "Die Walkure" will be given, with Mme. Gadsdill in the role of Sieglinde. Mme. Gadsdill did not wish to be outdone in courtesy by Mme. Eames and kindly consented to sing the role of Sieglinde.

On Wednesday evening "Don Pasquale" will be given, with Mrs. Gadsdill in the role of Elmira. Mrs. Gadsdill will be given with Mrs. Gadsdill in the role of Elmira. Mrs. Gadsdill will be given with Mrs. Gadsdill in the role of Elmira.

Eames Will Sing as Aida. On Friday evening "Aida" will be given, with Mme. Eames as Aida. It is in this role that Mme. Eames achieved her greatest triumph in New York, where she sang it for the first time two years ago and made it the feature of the season there.

On Monday evening, December 2, as has already been stated, Mme. Calve will appear as Santuzza in "Cavalleria Rusticana."

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY EXTRA CUT PRICES. NO DISAPPOINTMENT. GOODS AND PRICES EXACTLY AS ADVERTISED.

GOLDEN GATE CLOAK AND SUIT HOUSE. 150 RAINY-DAY SUITS, the very latest styles, newest material. Cut Prices \$10, \$12.50, \$15 and \$17.50.

75 HIGH-GRADE TAILOR SUITS, elegantly trimmed, some with taffeta silk drop skirts. Cut Prices \$25, \$27.50 and \$30.

140 RAGLANS and THREE-QUARTER COATS, new back, first-class tailoring, very fashionable. Cut Prices \$10, \$12.50, \$15 and \$17.50.

DYSPEPSIA My DYSPEPSIA CURE positively cures all forms of indigestion or stomach trouble. It rejuvenates worn-out stomachs. It builds up stomachs that have been weakened by powerful cathartics and old-fashioned nostrums.

SCHOOL ROAD ON THE GARRET Grand Jury Investigates Overcrowding of Classes. A committee of the Grand Jury, consisting of J. M. Ellis, chairman; John Kennedy and S. C. Irving, had the Board of Education "on the carpet" yesterday regarding the overcrowded condition of classes in the public schools.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY EXTRA CUT PRICES. NO DISAPPOINTMENT. GOODS AND PRICES EXACTLY AS ADVERTISED. GOLDEN GATE CLOAK AND SUIT HOUSE. 150 RAINY-DAY SUITS, the very latest styles, newest material. Cut Prices \$10, \$12.50, \$15 and \$17.50.

75 HIGH-GRADE TAILOR SUITS, elegantly trimmed, some with taffeta silk drop skirts. Cut Prices \$25, \$27.50 and \$30. 140 RAGLANS and THREE-QUARTER COATS, new back, first-class tailoring, very fashionable. Cut Prices \$10, \$12.50, \$15 and \$17.50.