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PERSONALS

A Great Teacher of Singing.

From the New York Sun.

In the death of Mathilde Marchesi, the world has lost its greatest pedagogue in the field she had so long adorned. She was 87 years old when she died, and in spite of her unusual activity the most brilliant examples of what her training accomplished belong probably to the generation which produced Mme. Melba and its predecessors. Her career extended from the days of Liszt and she had studied under no less a teacher than Nikolai, who composed an opera which still possesses popularity, at least in its own country. "The Merry Wives of Windsor." For this woman who had trained so many singers in what has been called, ever since the preponderance of the music dramas of Richard Wagner, the Italian school of singing, was a German. But nobody ever heard that she thought of Wagner's music when she was training her pupils.

Madame Marchesi was, through Manuel Garcia, with whom she studied, a legitimate descendant of the great teachers of the eighteenth century. It was difficult during her lifetime to name her peer. It is no easier today to say that this teacher or that is her successor. Although she sang in concert with success, her public career was not brilliant in the same sense as that of Jean d. Reszke and later of Marcella Sembrich, who have followed her into the educational field. It is scarcely conceivable that her appearance on the concert platform should have been satisfactory, else she would not have accepted so readily the proffered post in the Vienna Conservatory. There she trained some of the singers who did most to advance her fame, among them the American Emma Nevada.

But her sojourn in Paris, where she taught first at the Conservatoire, was the golden period of her long career. She liked to see changes in the tasks for which she had to prepare her pupils. They were able to shine in the masterpieces of Rossini and Donizetti when she was active with them first. When the earlier works of Verdi were in their flower her pupils revelled in the difficulties of ornamentation with which that composer enriched the possibilities of the singers. It was in the power to train them in the mysteries of coloratura rather than impart to them the secret of a faultless legato that Mme. Marchesi was most admired always. But she lived to see the triumph of the Wagnerian operas and then to learn what Puccini required from the singers of his music. It is not probable, however, that she ever departed from the principles which were always the foundation of her skill. They remain the same whatever the prevailing style of singing may be. Mme. Marchesi, who was the most interesting old woman of modern music next to Cosima Wagner, had penetrated the science of bel canto to the heart. So she knew that her pupils, once they had conquered its rules, need not be limited in the style of the music they could safely attempt to sing.

Levy Bullard spent Sunday in Kansas City.

A New Cure For Drink—Fruit As A Substitute For Liquor.

In the December American Magazine Henry Detmers writes a little article entitled "A New Cure for Drink." Mr. Detmers says that he has been in the saloon business for twenty years. He is not a drinker himself and none of his sons drink. Out of his experience he recommends the following cure for the liquor habit:

"I found early in my experience that as a general rule—there are exceptions of course—a regular consumer of fruit was not a very good customer of my business. On the other hand, a typical 'booze fighter' seldom touches fruit. I always kept some apples behind the bar for my own use, and I often experimentally offered one to a 'star customer,' who almost invariably refused. The more I looked into this matter, the more firmly I became convinced that these two habits clash. Not caring to have my boys acquire the one I inoculated them with the other, and I have found that the fruit habit early acquired acts as a perfect antidote to the liquor habit.

"I mention apples especially because they are something like bread, one never tires of them, which is more than can be said of peaches, pears, and oranges. And apples, thanks to cold storage, can be had every day of the school year.

"Why shouldn't the apple habit be cultivated in the public expense? School trustees could advertise for bids to supply the school. Then by means of a push-the-button contrivance placed at the boys' and girls' exits each child could get his apple as he marched out to play at recess time. Two apples a day would do the work. Children have a veritable craving for fruit. I have often heard our victims beg another for the 'core.' And if it happens that I have merely imagined that the fruit habit offsets the drink habit, I know that two apples a day will have a valued influence on the health, good temper, and morals of any child.

"Please understand I have no axe to grind, I do not own a single apple tree.

"I have never claimed to have discovered that fruit juices act as a liquor antidote, although I have talked it for twenty-five years.

"Some three years ago an article appeared which claimed a Nebraska physician as the discoverer of the theory. The good doctor and I will never quarrel over it. He can have the glory. I do not need it. I am only too glad to see that my views have gained some scientific backing.

"If you remove the desire for drink, the liquor question will solve itself, and while poverty may not be banished the general welfare of the people will be much improved; and even if my scheme is never adopted I will feel a thousand times repaid for my pains if I can only convince the mothers of our country, those who have the means to do so, that to implant the fruit habit in their children is the best assurance for a temperate life."

Miss Roberta McDonald returned to her home in Kansas City Thursday evening after an extended visit here with relatives. Miss Katie Martin accompanied her home for a visit.

Coleman Eckle went to Columbia Thursday evening to attend the Missouri-Kansas football game.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

Oscar Graendorf went to Kansas City Friday to spend the day.

Mrs. J. M. Poage went to Kansas City Friday to spend the day.

Mr. and Mrs. Karl Rostagno of Kansas City spent Sunday here with homefolks.

Dr. Z. M. Williams accompanied by fourteen Central College girls, went to Kansas City Saturday to attend the Melba-Kubelik concert in Convention hall.

Dr. A. W. Hawkins returned to his home in Glasgow, Mo., Saturday after a visit here with Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Hopkins.

Miss Lillian Burton of Kansas City arrived Saturday to attend the funeral of Mrs. Laura L. Young.

Mrs. E. J. McGrew and Mrs. J. C. McGrew went to Kansas City Saturday for a few days' visit.

Miss Matt Kinkead went to Kansas City Friday evening for a few days' visit.

COMFORTING WORDS

Many a Lexington Household Will Find Them So.

To have the pains and aches of a bad back removed—to be entirely free from annoying, dangerous urinary disorders, is enough to make any kidney sufferer grateful. The following advice of one who has suffered will prove comforting words to hundreds of Lexington readers.

W. D. Rice, farmer, Richmond, Mo., says: "I had trouble from my kidneys and had long looked for relief. My back hardly ever stopped aching and the pains extended up into my shoulders and through the back of my head. Another of my family also had a bad back. We were advised to use Doan's kidney Pills and did so. They promptly strengthened my kidneys and removed the lumbago that had hindered me from working. The other one of my family who took them was also helped. We can still endorse Doan's Kidney Pills."

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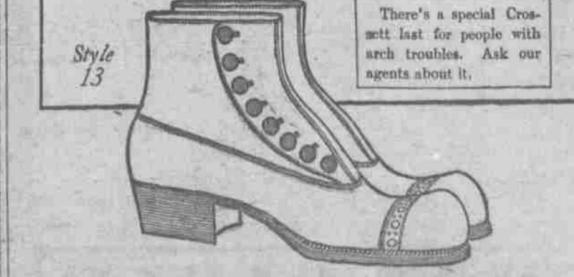


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Are You Going To School?

The Fall Term at the Warrensburg State Normal School will begin Tuesday, September 9th. The catalog will be sent on request.

The State has invested \$475,000.00 in this Normal School Plant. The School prepares teachers for all the needs of all the schools.

Every Department is well organized and well equipped. Of the Library Dr. Suzzallo, Columbia University, New York City, said, "This is the best Normal School Library I have ever seen."

The standards of work in this school are high, and the cost to students less than in any other school of same rank. Last year was the best in the existence of the school, but not as good as the next will be. Laws enacted by the last Legislature give the people of Missouri new opportunities in education. Schools will mean more. Teaching as a profession will mean more to Missouri's young men and young women. Crops may fail, and business may fail, but the demand for well prepared school teachers will never fall. Through scholarship and a preparation to do some one thing well is always a sound proposition. That is our proposition.

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