

Music and Musicians

All music lovers here remember the visit of Dr. J. Lewis Browne of Atlanta, Ga., and his fine performance at the Tabernacle. At the time of his visit, it was stated that he had decided to enter the world competition in Italy for a new opera. The following clipping from a paper published in Atlanta, shows how near Mr. Browne came to reaching the goal. Had he been successful, he would have secured a prize of \$25,000.

The Musical Courier, in its last issue, calls special attention to the honorable mention which the opera, "La Corsicana," by Dr. J. Lewis Browne, of this city, received at the recent Bergamo competition in Milan, Italy, of two hundred and fifty operas which were submitted by almost every known musician in the world. The composer, Dr. Browne, was awarded seventh place, receiving the unanimous recommendation of the judges for honorable mention.

The Sonzogno contest was inaugurated by Sonzogno, a publisher of Milan, and the lessee of the famous theater of Milan, for the purpose of promoting the highest class operatic compositions and for the recognition of all the world's operatic talent. The last contest was held ten years ago, and was won by Mascagni with his "Cavaleria Rusticana." In this contest, entries were limited to musicians of Italy only, but the recent competition was open to all of the world, and it was in this contest that Dr. Browne's opera secured honorable mention and seventh place.

The opera, "La Corsicana," submitted by Dr. Browne, is a one-act play, with inter-mezzo, and received the unanimous vote of the judges for honorable mention.

The first M. E. Sunday school under the direction of Prof. C. J. Nettleton, is preparing Merced's popular Christmas cantata, the "Koronation of King Kris Kringle," to be presented on the evening of Wednesday, December 23rd. In addition to the cantata, orchestral selections and several other popular features will contribute to making a very pleasing and attractive program.

Miss Anna Rogers is the soloist at the first M. E. church tomorrow morning, and Mrs. Bessie Browning in the evening. The choir is preparing an elaborate program of music for the Christmas service next Sunday evening, in which they will be assisted by some of the leading musicians of the city.

A musical bureau has been organized during the past week, which will cut quite a figure in the musical circles hereabouts. It is a band together several of the leaders in their lines for professional engagements. J. J. McClellan has assumed the management of the "Cah Musical Bureau," the name of the organization, and will endeavor to create an interest in musical work this season.

The artists so far enlisted are as follows: Willard E. Welthe, violinist. Miss Arvilla Clark, mezzo-soprano. Miss Agatha Berkhoel, contralto. Mr. Chas. Kent, baritone. Mr. Fred Graham, tenor. Kelly Mr. J. J. McClellan, pianist.

The office of the bureau will be with the Clayton Music Co.'s store, and parties desiring to give "Musicales" or concerts will not be glad to hear of the organization.

The following program will be given tomorrow evening by Held's concert band in the Grand theater: Overture, "Daughter of the Regiment." Donizetti Caprice, (a) "Laughing Water," Hager (b) "Sunrise on the Mountain." Medley Overture, "The Voice of the Hudson." Dresser Esterpe quartet, "Loch Lomond." Misses Larsen, Hatley, Clayton and Rogers.

Grand selection, "The Mocking Bird." Selected. Roberts Caprice, (a) "Peaceful Hazy," Kelly (b) "Spring Song." Mendelssohn Corset solo. Selected. Prof. Zierke.

Grand descriptive selection, "The Warbler's Dream." Voelker Overture, "Hungarian Comedy." Keler-Bela.

The popular old time Harmony Club has reorganized, and chosen the following officers: W. C. Castleton, president; A. E. Braby, vice president; J. S. Morgan, secretary and treasurer; A. A. Bosley, director; Joseph Pohl, assistant director; G. H. Timpane, chairman; J. D. Owen, business manager. The club is composed of some of the most prominent young singers of the city, and they are at work on some very taking selections.

There is a good trade in pianos this week, also a better trade than common in cabinet organs. Since manufacturers of the latter began extending the keyboard to six octaves, the trade has brightened appreciably. There are six piano houses on East Temple street between First South and South Temple streets, which is pretty good for one block.

Antonio Zierke is solo cornet player from Liberti's band, has removed to this city, and is playing cornet with Held.

Grau as manager of the tour. Particular trouble set in on Friday, when Madame Patti declined to give an announced concert at the West End theater until the guarantee of \$5,000 should be paid in hand.

Probably few of the thousands who enjoyed Verdi's masterpiece, "Aida," at the Metropolitan Opera House last Monday, or of the thousands who will enjoy it there tonight, says the Evening Post of New York, are aware that the excellence of this opera is partly due to the Franco-Prussian war. "Aida" was written for the Cairo opera house, Verdi having been offered \$20,000 by the Khedive of Egypt for an opera specially written for his house, and \$10,000 more if he would superintend its production. Verdi wrote the opera, but had no use for the extra \$10,000. He had once experienced the terrors of seasickness, in crossing the English Channel, and that sum was not big enough to tempt him to cross the Mediterranean. He had agreed to have "Aida" ready to be produced before the end of 1870, but it was not till Dec. 24, 1871, that it was actually given. This delay was caused by the siege of Paris, where the scenery was being painted. Verdi utilized the extra time in improving his score. As late as Nov. 12 he wrote to a friend at Milan: "If only I had a piano and a metronome I would send you the third act tonight. As I have already told you, I have substituted a chorus and a romance for 'Aida' in place of another chorus for four voices, composed in imitation of Palestrina, which might have made me aspire to the post of contrapuntist in some conservatory. But I have had scruples about fare alla Palestrina, about harmony, about Egyptian music. At last it is written! I shall never be a learned musician," he adds with fine irony: "I shall always be a guastamisteri" (bungler).

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MADAM EMMA CALVE. At her Chateau de Cabrieres at Aveyron, France, the great singer plays a part in real life even more admirable than that she enacts on the lyric stage. She sings for the peasantry, has established a dispensary for them, and is charitable to a degree. She is the idol of the simple rural folk near her romantic home.

White Diamond Cider. All fountains.

How Ezra Kendall's Face "Slipped."

(Being a stenographic report of Mr. Kendall's curtain speech made nightly at the Grand in Chicago after the second act of "The Vinegar Buyer.")

My friends, I thank you from the bottom of my heart, and from the sides and ends thereof, for your generous appreciation of our efforts to amuse or entertain. I wish to say that we aspire to no literary heights or dramatic flights—we simply aim to come back to Chicago and deliver a good show. This is no night school. We have troubles enough of our own during the day without coming here at night to worry about someone else's. We want to bring happy smiles to your faces, and sweet laughter to your lips, and to do it without compromising you.

You will notice that in this play no one is running away with somebody else's wife. It seems to be a hard thing in these days of swift theatricals to construct a play without something of that sort. We hope we have a good play for good people. We know we have a bad play for bad ones. It has been 20-odd years ago since I first tried in this theater and on this stage to make an impression in a theatrical way. I was a thin, big eared, long-legged youth then, wearing green whiskers and carpet slippers. Many of you who are downstairs now were upstairs then. I am glad to see you here with your families. I don't expect to live forever, but I hope to come back some day and see you who are upstairs, and some day and see you who are downstairs.

Won an Indian Bride With a Racehorse.

The story of "Old Ace" has found its counterpart among the Osage Indians in Northwestern Oklahoma, where a racehorse, famous for his speed and beauty in the tribe, was a factor in winning for Arthur Bonnicastle, an Osage graduate of the Carlisle Indian school, a pretty, intelligent Indian bride whose hand was sought by many suitors. Bonnicastle recently returned from serving a three-years' enlistment in the Philippines and China.

Ange Penn, a full-blooded girl of beauty, was courted by many. No one, however, seemed to have the lead until when the relatives of Arthur Bonnicastle decided to the list of gifts for her presents the racehorse "Hoodlum." Other suitors offered as high as 20 to 30 horses for her hand, animals, too, of exceptional beauty, but when the relatives of Bonnicastle, or Wah-ne-a-tah in the Osage tongue, came forward with the racehorse they played a card that won both the day and the bride.

Thursday morning people from Pawhuska began arriving at the Indian camp, and from then on until 4 in the afternoon all were invited to partake of a feast, served by Labon Miles, a tribesman.

At 4 o'clock the bride was taken to a small hut, where her 15 or 20 attendants clothed her in a costume that for decorations exceeded that of an admiral.

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Enjoy yourselves during the Christmas Holidays and make a visit with the old folks at home. The SALT LAKE ROUTE make this possible by selling tickets to all points on their line at ONE FARE FOR THE ROUND TRIP. Tickets on sale December 24th, 25th and 31st, also January 1st. Limit returning January 4th, 1904. For further information see Agents Salt Lake Route or address J. L. Moore, Commercial Agent, Salt Lake City.

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MEHESY THE FURRIER

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SHARPS AND FLATS. With the Brooklyn Academy of Music fell a noble structure. Madame Adelina Patti was the last one to sing there, having made her appearance on the evening of November 17th to an audience that crowded every bit of the vast auditorium. But Madame Patti had often been there before and she was accustomed to say that the Brooklyn academy was the best house to sing in in all America. It was a complete sounding board and this fact was the immediate cause of its rapid destruction for the entire auditorium was of wood. When it is thought, it will be with iron, cement and stone. It may then be a good deal safer but it will never possess the acoustical it did. When Madame Patti signed her contract with the late Henry E. Abbey in 1881 it was at the Brooklyn Academy that she first sang, and it was her appearance that made the musical farewell of the house a few days ago. More wars and rumors of wars shared the serenity of Adelina Patti's four last week. Robert Grau retired from management of the tour, and Grau, Incorporated, announcing that he had wearied of being worried by the constant small claims made upon the tour, which involved no end of complications, and which, Mr. Grau says, in no wise concern Madame Patti or her husband, Marcus Mayer succeeds Mr.