

MUSIC AND MUSICIANS

Mrs. Saltzman-Stevens, Mrs. Rachel Green, and Clarence Whitehill are crowding out the British singers.

Adelina Patti is 65 years old, yet she sang the other day for charity in London. Not only that, but, in the words of the London World, she "becomes more marvelous every year. Everybody noticed that since her retirement her voice, while its velvet softness and roundness have not been touched, has gained considerably in volume. This is partly due, of course, to the fact that formerly she used to have to think of future concerts, and now she can be prodigal of all her resources; still it is a fact which physiologists and voice specialists will find it hard to explain. Her interpretations of 'Angels Ever Bright and Fair,' of 'The Duet,' and 'Volche Sapete,' remain models of every possible perfection of style."

Mr. Florencio Constantino, the well known Spanish tenor who sang last season with the San Carlo Opera com-

splendid reputation it has earned at home and abroad, but like it a still stronger credit to the community it represents.

During the rehearsal President Win-

Franco-British Exhibition Causes a Boom in London Theatrical Circles

Special Correspondence.

LONDON, Nov. 26.—At the beginning of the present theatrical year London managers were viewing with apprehension the opening of the Franco-British exhibition and the threatened inroads into their business. Now that it is all over the same managers are wearing smiles that won't disappear. The cause of this strange change of front is that the year now drawing to a close has in the words of one of them, been "one of the best years I have ever known from a box office viewpoint." And after all what other viewpoint worries a manager of today? With a very few exceptions all the London houses are doing a "house full" business and in many cases the advance bookings extend far into February.

As an evidence of this general prosperity take the case of the Drury Lane pantomime, the first performance of which does not take place until the day after Christmas. Tickets, however, have been on sale for about a week and already more than \$30,000 worth of them have been disposed of. Advance bookings for "Peter Pan," which is to be the special Christmas attraction at the Duke of York's, amount to \$15,000, while \$2,000 worth of seats were sold in advance for the two recent performances of "The Only Way" which Martin Harvey gave at the Adelphi.

So exceptionally good is the business that almost anything goes, especially in the way of musical comedy. "The Belle of Brittany," which is now playing to big houses at the Queen's, was unanimously condemned on the first night as a footless, aimless, meritless sort of thing, yet the various libraries in London who deal in theater tickets

der spoke a few words of appreciation and encouragement to the choir, and assured them there was nothing that he or his associates could do to aid in upbuilding the choir that would not be done.

The rehearsal was chiefly spent in mastering a beautiful new anthem "The Holy City," the latest composition of Prof. Joseph J. Daynes.

NEW MALE CHORUS.

Prof. Stephens has selected 230 names of non-members, basses and tenors, desirable for the Tabernacle choir, a list fully showing that if brought together and kept together Salt Lake could have the largest and best male chorus in America, as the lesser half of the evidence points to this 230 of the best available sopranos and altos now available and where in the world could be found a Church choir equal to it?

was written by P. J. Barrow and Leedham Bantock, the lyrics by Percy Greenbank, while Howard Tabbot and Miss Marie Horne confess to having composed the music.

From the latest information which has reached me, poor "Salome" appears to have had a very rough time of it in Russia. One would suppose that Russia with its snows and its ice would have been the last place in the world for "Salome" and her pocket edition costume. But she bobbed up in St. Petersburg and had a tussle, not with the head of John the Baptist, but with the holy synod. That body on first consideration forbade the performance on the ground that it was blasphemous, but upon more mature thought, involving, I should say, no little mental gymnastics, it relented and gave permission for the production if Salome were transformed into an Indian queen, if John the Baptist's head were made the corpse of a king and if Salome's dances were performed by the queen and her dames. Some alchemist of the drama duly accomplished these miracles and the first public performance was well under way when the holy synod changed its mind again. The police marched into the theater, stopped the play and turned the audience out without, I may add, returning their money.

I suppose since Frank Gotch has become an actor, he is a legitimate subject for the attention of a dramatic correspondent. At any rate here goes. He opened at the New Cross Empire last week and this week is at the Shepherd's Bush Empire. He got a much better reception than I thought possible in view of the opinion on this side of the merits of his match with Hackenschmidt. "Jack" is more or less of an English idol and you cannot convince a Britisher that Gotch really licked him fairly and squarely. But they seem determined to give the Iowa man a fair hearing and while no wild enthusiasm greeted his appearance here, at the same time he got a good reception. His idea of appearing in a sketch instead of in a series of wrestling bouts, as Hack and Zuyso have been doing, struck the English public as a novelty and pleased them accordingly. Gotch is booked for 18 weeks and will travel to the north of England before making his appearance in the heart of London.

Carrie De Mar is booked for the Coliseum in the near future. It is announced that she will appear in both "Lonesome Ploss" and "Winking Winnie." Cissie Loftus is still topping the bill at the same house with her imitations. The management is paying her a big price but as she is filling every seat in the enormous theater there is probably a feeling of satisfaction on both sides.

John Powell, the young American pianist, who has lately returned from a vacation visit to his home on the Shennandoah, seems to be carrying everything before him in London. He played with the Queen's Hall Orches-

tra at the Promenade concerts the other day, and succeeded in violating all the rules by getting an encore—something wholly out of keeping with the strict traditions of the Promenade concerts. The audience refused to let the program proceed until Henry Wood, the conductor, marched off to the artists' room and brought the American musician, willy nilly, back to the piano stool. Powell is giving recitals on Nov. 16 and Dec. 7 with Francis Harford at the Aeolian hall, and has enough other engagements to keep him pretty busy here until spring, when he goes to Paris for a series of concerts. He says he is succeeding far better than he dreamed would be possible in so short a time. He is still in his early twenties.

CURTIS BROWN.

INTERESTING MUSIC FEATURES FOR THE CHRISTMAS NEWS

All lovers of music, and choir leaders and singers in particular, will note with interest several special features which will be presented in the CHRISTMAS NEWS on the 19th.

First, will be a carefully prepared article on Representative "Mormon" Hymns, when, by whom, and the circumstances under which they were written. This will be accompanied by some rarely interesting old-time photos.

Second, will be the music of the Funeral Hymn of President Brigham Young, by Prof. Geo. Careless, the words by C. W. Penrose. Both music and words are now reprinted for the first time since the memorable event for which they were written, in 1877. Choir leaders will be interested to know that this music, entitled "Parting," can be effectively rendered as a Sacramental hymn.

Third, will be a special article on "Pioneer Music and Musicians in Utah," a reproduction of the address recently delivered before the Daughters of the Pioneers, by Mr. H. G. Whitney.

Hoarse coughs and stuffy colds that may develop into pneumonia over night are quickly cured by Foley's Honey and Tar, as it soothes inflamed membranes, heals the lungs, and expels the cold from the system. F. J. Hill Drug Co., "The Never Substitutes."

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ADELA VERNE.

English Pianist, Who Appears at the First M. E. Church on Friday Evening Next.

her if his other engagements had allowed. Miss Verne's parents were Bavarians, but she herself was born in England, where her father was a professor of music.

Seats for the Verne event are on sale at the principal drug stores.

Tomorrow evening at the Thirtieth-third ward chapel, the pupils of Hugh Dougall will provide the music, for the occasion, which will be entitled "A Song Service." There will be solos and quartets, in which the following will participate: Edna Evans, Hazel Barnes, Ross Beattie, Lou Halsett, M. B. Hepworth, Grace Murphy, Ruth Trowell, Edward Rich, John Aird, May Brown, J. S. Cornwall, Mrs. Estelle Waters, George W. Keddington, Margaret Summerhays, and John W. Summerhays.

Church choirs are beginning to "study up" on Christmas church music. The most pretentious will be, of course, in the Catholic and Episcopal churches, but the non-ritualistic bodies are making advancement in that direction. With Mr. Brines in charge of the singing at the First Congregational church, and Tracey Cannon at the organ, there is sure to be fine music there next Christmas Sunday.

Mr. Brines sang before the Gordon Academy alumni last Thursday night, in Hammond hall.

Local music houses report a very fair business during the week in pianos and other classes of instruments. The sheet music trade, too, has been fair, but with the popular taste not running to songs of the very highest order.

The Salt Lake Choral society held one of the most enthusiastic meetings in its history last Monday night, when the session was devoted to the oratorio of "Elphig," that lasted until 10:20 o'clock, at the request of the singers themselves. Good progress is being made.

The Spring Festival chorus has secured quarters on the second floor of the Utah Gas & Coke Co.'s building, where they will hold their future rehearsals. Mr. Graham, the manager, has moved the office of his music bureau from the Templeton building to the new quarters.

This has been a very quiet week in the music world, with no recitals or concerts. However, there have been several church weddings at which there was excellent organ playing by Prof. Peabody of St. Mark's cathedral. A church wedding can at any time be made also an affair of no small musical execution on the organ seat.

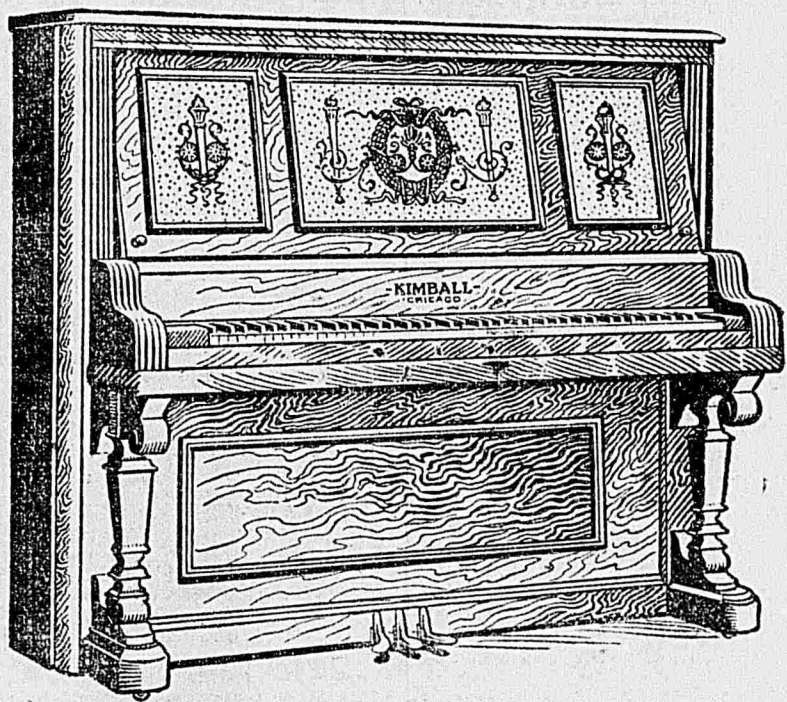
SHARPS and FLATS

Pure journals note that the second performance of Wagner's "Götterdämmerung" at the Grand Opera brought in the highest receipts on record at that old and famous institution—23,146 francs.

The forthcoming season of opera in English at Covent Garden will include not only "The Ring," but also "Die Meistersinger," "Faust," "Madame Butterfly," and Dr. Naylor's long-deferred prize opera, "The Angelus," and at least a substantial proportion of the artists appearing will be native-born. There is some complaint, however, in London journals, that not only Germans but Americans (among whom are

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PRESIDENT WINDER TO PRESIDE OVER CHOIR

The Tabernacle choir, at their last rehearsal, had the pleasure of electing President John R. Winder as their president. Prof. Evan Stephens has long desired to bring the choir into even closer touch with the leading authorities of the Church, and Thursday night, under the authorization of the following letter from the First Presidency his desire was consummated:

Salt Lake City, Utah, Dec. 1, 1908.
Elder Evan Stephens, Leader of the Tabernacle Choir.

Dear Brother:—We are just now in receipt of your letter of even date, requesting that we give our consent and approval for the choir to appoint or elect President John R. Winder as their president.

We have only to say in reply to this request that we heartily concur in your wishes, and will approve the action of the choir in so selecting President Winder to preside over them.

With love to yourself, and choir, and wishing you continued and increasing success, and the compliments of the season, we are, your brethren,
JOSEPH F. SMITH,
JOHN R. WINDER,
ANTHONY H. LUND,
First Presidency.

President Winder's acceptance of this appointment, allied to the endeavors of the Presiding Bishopric, who are trying to make arrangements so that choir members' other duties will not conflict with the choir, should enable this great musical organization of the Church, not only to maintain to the full the