

Music and Musicians

AMID all the furor of preparation for the opera festival at the Tabernacle, it is pleasant to know that Salt Lake's fine orchestral body is not being lost sight of. Monday night's concert by the Symphony orchestra promises to draw the handsomest attendance yet. Certainly that will be the result if the high merit of the program counts for anything. Not only does the full membership of 40 men appear in a delightful round of musical numbers, but Mr. McClellan, the pianist, and Mr. Carlson, the baritone, will be the soloists of the occasion. Each will be accompanied by the full orchestra in at least one number. The orchestra features are Schubert's symphony, the Handel largo for strings and harp, two numbers by Rubenstein, and the Tannhauser March and Strauss' bewitching waltz, "Tales from the Vienna Woods." This will be third and last appearance but one during the present season of the favorite organization.

Three of the operas in the Savage company's repertoire are entirely new to Salt Lake Theater goers, and in response to many inquiries we give a brief description of the character of each. "Carmen," the only familiar opera in the list is, of course, too well known to need describing. "Lohengrin," which is to open the engagement Monday, the 27th, was composed in 1846, but not produced until 1850, when it was brought out at Weimar under the direction of the famous Liszt. Although Wagner was only 32 when he wrote "Lohengrin," it ranks as one of his most beautiful creations. It is based on a German legend and has a double motive, the triumph of the innocent, and the test of true love. The failure of the heroine to respond to the glowing test gives the track note of Wagner's musical drama, for such it is rather than an opera. It is filled with some of the most beautiful of Wagner's music, and has some rare orchestral parts. "Tannhauser," which is to be done for the only matinee, is another of Wagner's works, equally famous. Its great march, its "Pleitner" chorus, the "Evening Star" song, and Elisabeth's prayer, are known to every music student. The opera is preceded by one of Wagner's greatest overtures and the orchestra of 40 will do it ample justice. The story of "Tannhauser" is that of a wayward minstrel knight, his contest with the pure minded Wolfram, and his return from a crusade to Rome. The story is too elaborate to be told in a brief notice, but it is refreshing to know that the audience will for the first time hear it in English. "La Boheme," which closes the engagement, is a new opera—a story of Bohemian life in Paris—a music written by the famous Puccini in 1896. Ever since then it has rivaled in the mind of music lovers, even the popularity of "Cavalleria Rusticana." It is taken from Henry Murger's novel, "Life in Bohemia," written in 1845, and follows the adventures of a poet and a painter who live in poverty in Paris, their love episodes, the abduction of the heroine Musetta, and the death of Mimi, a heart of one of the students, from consumption. The music of "La Boheme" belongs to both the French and the Italian schools. It is modern in treatment, however, without being Wagnerian, and it is said to contain some beautiful quartets, quintets and duets.

While of course the public interest in the approaching concert to be given by the Corded Metropolitan Opera company of New York in the Salt Lake Tabernacle—the date is the evening of April 4—will center largely in the principal stars, Nona, Nabel, Homer, Journe, Allen and DeMacchi, there are many music lovers who will look forward with the most pleasurable anticipation to the orchestral and choral selections.

The orchestra has on its roster the names of 60 specially trained musicians, each of whom is an artist of high rank at his chosen instrument. Every one of these musicians will be heard here, and the ensemble work, especially in such selections as the overture, "L'italiana in Algeria," which is the first number on the program, cannot fail to excite the most cordial appreciation. Another number in which the orchestra will be heard to advantage will be in the accompaniment to the violin solo, "La Boheme," in which Nabel, Franko, who is acknowledged to be the greatest violinist in America today. The closing feature of the first part of the program will be a choral selection, "The Chorus of the Metropolitan Opera company has been a subject for many musical critics, and always their reviews have been of the most favorable character. They could hardly be otherwise, however, for the Metropolitan chorus, numbering nearly 200 voices, contains dozens of singers who would take rank as stars in lesser organizations.

Miss Ruth Wilson of the Clayton Music company has been ill this week and confined to her house.

Hugh Douglas, the baritone, will sing tomorrow evening in the Assembly hall the song, "Oh, Shining Light," by Spencer Adams, on the occasion of the M. I. A. conference.

The piano market continues lively, and collections good. The Assembly hall today 28 organs from eastern manufacturers, mostly of the six octave variety.

A new stringed quartet has been organized with Prof. W. C. Clive as first violin, H. D. Schettler, second violin, Claude Nettleton, viola, and C. D. Schettler, cello. The quartet meets Saturday evenings for practice. Judging from its composition, it ought to do good work.

It will interest Salt Lake musicians to know that one of the clarinet players in the orchestra of the Savage company is Lorenzo Engberg whose home is in this city. He played years ago in the orchestra which appeared at Lake Park under Kent and hands but went to the New England Conservatory of Music at Boston to perfect himself on his instrument. He has since played with Sousa and other noted organizations.

Prof. Shepherd's orchestra has no warmer friend in the community than public schools. He has just sent out a letter to the teachers of the city, calling the attention of all music lovers to the

high class program to be rendered at the next concert, and urging everyone to encourage the event with their patronage.

Mrs. Wetzel, wife of the supervisor of music in the public schools, has a chorus of 25 young ladies preparing to give a pretty little operetta entitled "The Crowning of the Gipsy Queen." But she finds double that number of voices is needed, and is on the lookout for them.

Prof. Thomas Radcliffe, organist of the First Congregational church, will introduce his pupil, Miss Edna Coray in an organ recital in the First church on the evening of March 24. The debutante will be assisted by Mrs. Florence Macdonald Snyder, contralto, and by Miss Rosa Teresa Radcliffe, youngest daughter of Prof. Radcliffe.

Fred Graham gave a song recital last Wednesday evening at Park City, assisted by Miss Sadie Rashband, a pupil of Prof. McClellan. The attendance was good and the enthusiasm was marked and gratifying. Mr. Graham will spend two days in the week, at Park City, giving instruction in vocal music.

Mr. Carlson, the baritone, leaves for Boston immediately after Monday's concert. His visit to Salt Lake has been rarely enjoyable and he has made many friends.

The Street Car Union band is practicing diligently in the room over Ferguson Coater's music store, preparatory to appearance on the street next Tuesday at 2:30 p. m. In advertisement of the union's excursion on the 22nd inst., to American Fork. The boys are practicing under the leadership of Thomas Boyes, formerly a cornet player in the Sixteenth infantry with the following instrumentation: five cornets, four alto, three trombones, one baritone, tubas, one piccolo, three clarinets, two drums.

Messrs. J. J. McClellan, pianist and organist, and Willard Weihe had a profitable trip, artistically and financially in southern Idaho. They were particularly impressed with the good work of the Idaho Falls choir under the able direction of Joseph Morley who was formerly a resident of this city and a member of the Salt Lake Opera company; and at Rexburg, Oscar A. Kirkman was found to be accomplishing much good in the same line. At both of these places suppers and spreads were given after the concert in honor of the visitors, and the general social festivities were very agreeable. Messrs. McClellan and Weihe visited the lava beds in the Snake River valley, and were shown as much of the scenic attractions in the country as the limited time would allow.

S. Molyneux Worthington is arranging for a recital of his advanced students in the First Congregational church early in April. The participants will include John Robinson, Thomas Aeshworth, Willard Squires, John Bowman, Hamilton Park, Jr., Miss Julia Jones, Mrs. Saunders and Miss Bruce.

Tracy Cannon has written a musical score for the hymn, "Peace Troubled Soul," to be found in the Latter-day Saints' hymn book. It will be sung next Sunday, at the public conference of the Salt Lake Stake choir, and a number of ward choirs in the city will also render it.

The many friends of Mrs. Martha Royle King are congratulating her on being able to resume her musical work in which she had become so deeply interested when sickness in her family interrupted.

Mrs. Agnes Osborne and a number of associates are holding musical evenings every second and fourth Sundays in the month; last Sunday night they gave up their entire time to Wagner from historical musical and literary standpoints.

Miss Aratha Borkhoel will sing at one of the recitals to be given by Prof. Rubin Goldmark this spring. With Mr. Douglas she is working up Lahman's "Song Cycle" for presentation later.

SHARPS and FLATS.

Felix Weingartner of Berlin has been offered the leadership of the Chicago orchestra to succeed Theodore Thomas, and asks \$25,000 a year for his services.

Mr. Emma Eames, who will not be a member of the Corded Metropolitan Opera company this season, ended her New York engagement March 4, and sailed immediately for Europe.

After a somewhat prolonged absence from the stage Camille D'Arville, the former popular comic opera prima donna, is announced to make her re-entry, and will be heard in vaudeville shortly in the east.

The humorous element in the life of Manuel Garcia, whose hundredth birthday is to be celebrated in London next May, is that he cut the operatic stage in 1823, because "his physique was not equal to the strain."

All the managers under whom Lillian Russell has sung are dead or out of the business save one. This one is Tony Pastor, who first presented Miss Russell to a New York audience, and he is still doing business at the same old stand.

The Grand Opera Festival

NEWS OF THE LONDON STAGE

Special Correspondence.

LONDON, Feb. 25.—It was the touch of sincerity, of honest conviction, and homely virtue that suddenly boomed Alfred Sutro up from the position of a struggling in Greenwich street to the place of one of the leading dramatists of the day. "The Walls of Jericho," the play that did this kindly business for its author, is running yet at the Garrick, and now he has two more plays going at the same time at the St. James'. In the first of them, the curtain-raiser, called "A Maker of Men," the homely virtue comes in strong again—so strong in fact that the little play is scarcely a drama at all, but a homely, a bank clerk is expecting a letter announcing his promotion, and tells his wife how much he is going to do for her with the increase in salary. Then the letter comes—bringing the news that the poor fellow has not received the promotion. His wife says she's happy anyway, and believes in him and loves him, so what does it matter? Nothing happens, and the dialogue makes no pretence of being brilliant, but it is simple and sincere, and makes a certain appeal to the average audience.

Then comes Sutro's latest play, promisingly entitled "Molltrave On Women." This work turns out to be comedy, and is a rather unimpressive glimpse of the Roman despot, and that he is laying particular stress on the poetic and artistic side of his character. He will try to show that Nero's cruelty sprang from an aesthetic source rather than from any real love of brutality. As a successor to "The Cingalee," which has run at Daly's for over a year, George Edwards has selected a piece by Henry Hamilton which is called provisionally "Two Little Darlings." Hamilton was responsible for most of the "School Girl" and also furnished the libretto of "The Duchess of Dantzig" and the English setting of "Veronique."

Coleridge Taylor, the English composer, who has negro blood in him, has been spending the winter in America for the most part in Washington and the south. Of course, he has been asked his opinion of the "coon songs" that pass for negro melodies, and he gave it frankly: "The worst sort of rot. In the first place, there is no melody, and in the second place there is no real negro character or sentiment in these coon songs. However, I will not object to the terra coon songs; they may be that; but they are not the negro melodies. Few negro melodies have ever been heard in this country or in England, for that matter. Of all the alleged negro songs with which you Americans are so familiar, I doubt if any have not been adulterated, as it were. Something has been added or something forgotten."

Six of the greatest musical artists of the twentieth century, including Paderewski, declined to accept engagements in the German capital at any terms. Gorlitz says that when Paderewski played at the Philharmonic hall in Berlin, opponents of the great pianist bribed members of the orchestra. He declared that the horn deliberately played out of tune, and when an encore was given, the conductor spent most of the time in sneering. So Paderewski has refused to visit the Kaiser's capital again, declining a recent offer of \$7,000 for two concerts. Gorlitz says that since Paderewski was insulted the two last years, he has declined offers from Berlin, and that Melba, Caruso and Kubelik all have received such unfair treatment from musical critics in Berlin that nothing will induce them to visit the city.

Sardou and Mascagni have met and formed a friendship, and as a result the composer is going to make an opera out of one of the dramatist's works. Mascagni is now in Paris, where he is being feted in a way that is making him forget his rather tragic experience in the United States last year. The other day, it having come to his ears that Victorien Sardou wished to meet him, Mascagni went to the playwright's house, to be received with open arms, Sardou declaring that he was the first to applaud "Cavalleria Rusticana" in France. After a while the dramatist said: "How would it be if you, young and I, should work together? If to the author of your youth I should unite my long experience of the theater? What do you say?" "I shall be only too honored and happy," was the prompt reply. "Then," said the other, "choose! With the exception of 'Hated,' which I dream of having acted in France just as I wish, choose from all my works, they are at your disposal!" Mascagni named one—which, he will not say, but it is one of the older of Sardou's works—and hopes that it may inspire him to great things.

Cured Consumption.
Mrs. E. W. Evans, Charwater, Kan., writes: "My husband lay sick for three months. The doctors said he had quick consumption. We procured a bottle of Ballard's Horshoorn Syrup, and it cured him. That was six years ago and since then we have always kept a bottle in the house. We cannot do without it. For coughs and colds it has no equal." 50c and \$1.00. Sold by Z. C. M. Drug Dept.

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