

MUSICAL MENTION

JOHN RANDOLPH

Miss Emily Perkins is studying this season in Chicago with Mr. Leopold Godowsky after a fruitless endeavor in Boston and New York to find exactly the artistic teacher adapted to her necessities, and she writes that Mr. Godowsky is as delightful a teacher as he is great as a pianist.

I am sorry that I was unable to hear the second musicale at the Plymouth church. I append the program which was given, no doubt as artistically as usual by that competent body, the faculty of the Nebraska Conservatory of music: Miss Hoover, pianist; Mr. Hadley at the organ, and Messrs. Movius and Lamprecht, the vocalist and violinist of the occasion, gave what must have been a delightful recital.

- Organ—Concert March Gilbert
- Piano—(a) Reverie Chelius
- (b) Gavotte and Musette ..D'Albert
- Trio—Intermezzo from "Cavaleria Rusticana," Mascagni, piano, organ and violin.
- Song—"The Two Grenadiers" Schumann
- Schumann
- Duet—Serenade Wider Piano and Organ.
- Violin—Andante from Concerto in E minor Mendelssohn
- Piano—(a) "Ich Liebe dich.....Grieg
- (b) Cavatina from "Figaro".....Mozart
- Trio—Meditation on First Prelude Bach-Gounod
- Bach-Gounod
- Organ, Piano and violin.

The Shaw grand piano was most welcome to the audience as well as the performers.

Mr. Martinus Sievking is making an unqualified success in the far east, in effete Boston and New York, judging by recent press reports. Of course the lustre of the great name of Rosenthal overshadows all other pianists at present, but so conservative an organ as the New York Sun accords Sievking very high praise. But, of course, they have in the effete east no such critical public as we have here in Lincoln.

Last Thursday evening at Boyd's theatre in Omaha the Mendamin Choral society gave its first concert this season. It was my privilege and pleasure to be there.

That Omaha appreciated the effort to cultivate the musical talent of the city was evident when one looked upon the large audience that greeted this chorus of 150 voices and the symphony orchestra.

While it was a critical audience, it was not cold and unappreciative, but in sympathy with the undertaking and inspiring the singers and orchestra to put forth their best efforts.

The first part of the program was miscellaneous and several beautiful numbers were given. Mr. Grafton Baker of Chicago, tenor soloist for the evening, sang that impassioned song, "Leaving Yet Loving," with fine effect. He has a magnificent voice and uses it in a style born in a true musician. Mr. Baker is a brother of the Mr. Baker who presented "Powhatan" so successfully here in September.

Miss Mae Robinson, an Omaha girl, delighted everyone in the tuneful and singable "Legend of the Chimes," from "Robin Hood," supported by the chorus.

Mr. W. A. Derrick of Chicago, at one time a resident of Omaha, sang the beautiful bass aria, "If Laws Severe," from "The Jewess," with a full rich voice and a vast amount of power. Mr. Derrick has been very successful in Chicago. He has a fine church position, and travelled with "Sherwood," the pianist, last year. I understand he expects to go into grand opera soon.

The chief interest of the concert centered in the rendition of Dudley Buck's wierd imaginative music set to Longfellow's beautiful poem, "The Golden Legend."

The story is based upon that never tiring theme of the conflict between the personification of evil, "Lucifer," and of weakness, "Fleury," and of innocence, "Elsie." It is a panorama of the human emotions, and Dudley

Buck has given it a realism and power that appeals to everyone.

Mr. Derrick as "Lucifer" proved himself a finished singer, but the work was a little high for his voice and was therefore somewhat of a disappointment.

Mr. Baker as Prince Henry sustained his part so well and sang with so much expression everyone was enthusiastic in praise of this young artist.

Miss Lillian Terry as "Elsie" did the most artistic work of the evening. That she is thoroughly appreciated in Omaha was evidenced by the prolonged applause accorded her when she accosted to sing that beautiful prayer, "My Redeemer and My Lord," and it was a prayer. She put into it that holy fire that cannot be cultivated, only given to some. The closing duet, "O, Beauty of Holiness, between Prince Henry and Elsie was particularly fine, and those who heard it will remember it.

The orchestra was hampered by the sudden illness of Hans Albert, the director, and the calling away of eight prominent members to the Creighton theatre orchestra. However, they did acceptable work and much credit should be given Mr. Earnest Wardin, who directed them so skillfully on a few hours' notice. The chorus gave evidence of the most careful training. The voices were well balanced and responded to every movement of the baton wielded by the director, Mr. Thos. J. Kelly. Mr. Kelly deserves the greatest credit for a performance which is not only an honor to the city of Omaha, but to the state.

OLA B. CAMPBELL.

The next musical event to occur in Lincoln in the regular course of entertainments provided by Prof. Kimball, of the University School of Music, will be the appearance of the great Russian pianist, Leopold Godowsky, whose splendid exhibition of technique and clear interpretation on the occasion of his concert in this city last season is still remembered by the music lovers of Lincoln. Since that time, Godowsky has rapidly advanced toward recognition as one of the really great pianists, until his position is now everywhere acknowledged. His playing of the Chopin E minor Concerto with the Boston Symphony orchestra at the Worcester festival the 24th of last month, gave him a standing second to that of no pianist of the present day in the estimation of the leading critics of New England. Philip Hale, music editor of the Boston Journal, and a scholarly musician as well, wrote in the warmest and most unqualified praise; while Ben Woolf, of the Boston Herald, an equally eminent and exacting critic, spoke in glowing terms of Godowsky's artistic and masterly rendering of the concerto. In January next, Godowsky is engaged to play as soloist with the Chicago orchestra in the Auditorium, in Chicago, and on that occasion will play the Tchaikowsky Concerto, one of the most difficult works in the entire range of piano music.

Godowsky is to be heard in Lincoln October 31, and will for this recital present a program of the most interesting character. This is to be his last tour in America, as at the close of the present season he returns to Europe for a permanent residence. His final visit to Lincoln will therefore be one of especial interest.

The following program will be interpreted upon this occasion:

- Saturday evening, December 12.
- Haydn—Andante con Variazioni F minor.
- Shumann—Fantasie opus 17 C major (three movements.)
- Schubert-Liszt—Three songs:
 - (a) Hark, Hark, the Lark.
 - (b) The Wanderer.
 - (c) Barcenolle.
- Chopin—
 - (a) Nocturne opus 62, No. 1, B major.
 - (b) Impromptu opus 36, F sharp major.
 - (c) Sonate opus 35, B flat minor.
- Wagner-Bulow—Quintet from 3rd act of the "Meistersinger."
- Godowsky—Concert Paraphrase on Chopin's Valse, opus 18.
- Liszt—
 - (a) Ballade in B minor.
 - (b) Two concert studies: F minor and D flat.
 - (c) Spanish Rhapsody.

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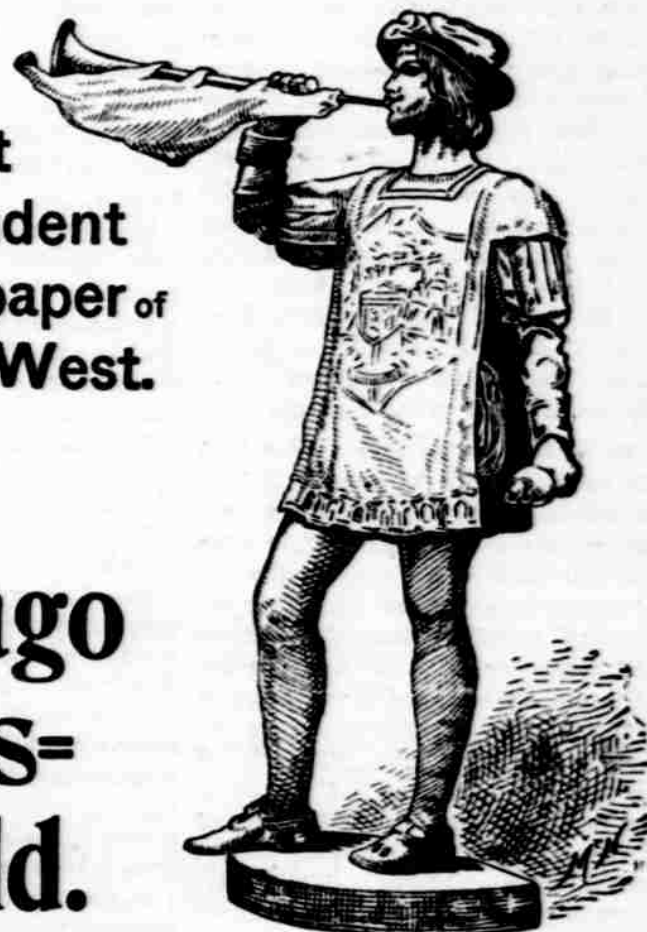
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